

The First Sunday of Advent - November 29, 2020

Gifts for God – November 22

Immaculate Conception

General Collection - \$ 1,512.10
Weekly Budget Needs: 1,700.00

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

General Collection - \$ 290.00
Weekly Budget Need: 475.00

Saint Joseph

General Collection - \$ 265.00
Weekly Budget Needs: 375.00

BUILDING FUND

Immaculate Conception \$ 300.00



Stewardship Reflections

"Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come." - Mark 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. We make our lives too busy. We plan our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to how God is calling you right now to help build His kingdom on earth.



Mass Intentions:

Immaculate Conception

December 5 – 5 p.m.

For the spiritual benefit of the People of God of Immaculate Conception, Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton and Saint Joseph parishes.

December 6 – 9 a.m.

None scheduled as yet.



A Time for Church Restoration

Two years ago, we improved our facilities at Immaculate Conception by adding modern restrooms. The cost: about \$65,000, all of it from the parish.

Earlier, nearly eight years ago, the church underwent a facelift inside and out: a new roof, new heat and air, new wiring and restoration of the wood of the walls. The cost: about \$50,000.

Untouched were the floors, pews and the sanctuary. Another time, it was then decided.

That time is here.

After feedback from parishioners, Father Jim has authorized a pledge drive to secure part of the money needed to replace the dilapidated carpet, the worn pews and upgrade the sanctuary. The goal is to add both durability and beauty to our church that would last for a century.

Based on estimates of materials and labor, the project will cost \$70,000. We need to raise at least \$20,000 in pledges and donations to bridge the difference between available resources and what we will need to make it happen. Pledges can be made monthly or quarterly over the next two years. With our online giving platform, they can be set on autopilot, if preferred. More information on the pledge drive is forthcoming.

Prayerfully consider what you can pledge. Just as those who came before us rose to the challenge to rebuild Immaculate Conception after the fire of 1945, so now it is our turn to ensure that future generations are inspired by our commitment to the future.

Nine Angels await gift fulfillment

There are 9 angels on the Angel Tree this weekend at IC, each representing a child who needs help to have a good Christmas. If you take an angel, please be sure to sign the form by the tree, and return the gifts by December 6, preferably at the Parish Office. Gifts should be left unwrapped and with the Angel.

Major Upcoming Parish Events

A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is every Dec. 8. Vigil Masses will be held at Saint Joseph parish at 5 p.m. and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 7. Three Masses will be held at Immaculate Conception on Tuesday: 8 a.m., 12 noon and 6 p.m. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there will be no celebratory dinner.

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE: Bishop David Konderla will help celebrate this special Mass and celebration on Dec. 12, at 6 p.m. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, there will be no celebratory dinner.

Prayers for Our Sick & Shut-ins

"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well." (James 5:15)

Let us pray for: Josefina Estrada, Katie Malone, John Harris, Stan Floyd, Liz Lopez, Roger O'Hara, Beverly Mazikowski, Johnny & Josephine McMahan, Brandy Beane, John Worton, Robert Green, Chet & Paula Gorgas, Bill Burwell, Donald Hargrove, Dorothea Willis, Barbara Morris, Marianne Young, Howard Bryant, Susie Hawkins, Nanette Johnson, Mary Smith, Rita Thompson, Susan King, Hilda Culver, Violet Ray, and all our hospitalized and shut-ins.

Daily Mass Readings

30 Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle (R) / Romans 10:9-18 / Psalm 19:8, 9, 10, 11 / Matthew 4:18-22

1 Tuesday of the First Week of Advent (**P**) / Isaiah 11:1-10 / Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 / Luke 10:21-24

2 Wednesday of the First Week of Advent (**P**) / Isaiah 25:6-10A / Psalm 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6 / Matthew 15:29-37

3 Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest (W) / Isaiah 26:1-6 / Psalm 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27A / Matthew 7:21, 24-27

4 Friday of the First Week of Advent (**P**) / Isaiah 29:17-24 / Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 / Matthew 9:27-31

5 Saturday of the First Week in Advent (**P**) / Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 / Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 / Matthew 9:35 – 10:1, 5A, 6-8

6 The Second Sunday of Advent (P) / Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 / Psalm 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14 / 2 Peter 3:8-14 / Mark 1:1-8

SPECIAL NOTE for Saint Joseph
Because of Covid-19 diagnoses in the Stigler schools, RE classes will be postponed until January.

Financial Freedom class offered online

A virtual "Financial Freedom" class on stewardship will be offered online by Andrea Gutierrez in both English and Spanish. (Last year, pre-Covid, she taught classes here in person.) If interested, please call Nora at 210.714.1334.

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Our Catholic Community Calendar

Monday, December 30

– Nothing scheduled.

Tuesday, December 1

– 8 a.m. Daily Mass in the I.C. Chapel

– 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Food Pantry open. Masks are required.

– 7 p.m. Spanish RCIA, Parish Hall.

Wednesday, December 2

– 8 a.m. Daily Mass in the I.C. Chapel

– 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Food Pantry open. Masks are required.

Thursday – December 3

– 8 a.m. Daily Mass in the IC Chapel.

– 6 p.m. Father Jim's Scripture Study, IC Parish Hall.

Friday, December 4

– 8 a.m. Daily Mass in the I.C. Chapel

– 9 a.m. First Friday Adoration begins in the Chapel.

Saturday, December 5

– 9 a.m. Adoration ends with repose of the Blessed Sacrament.

– 9:15 to 11 a.m. – Father Jim hears confessions.

– 11:15 a.m. English RCIA meets.

– 3:30 to 4:30. Father Jim hears confessions.

– 5 p.m. Vigil Mass at I.C.

Sunday, December 6 – The Second Sunday of Advent

– 9 a.m. Sunday Mass at I.C. in English

– 10:30 to Noon – Religious Education classes continue.

– 11 a.m. Sunday Mass at I.C. in Spanish

– 12:15 to 2 p.m. – Confirmation classes at IC.

– 1 p.m. Sunday Mass at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Spiro

– 5 p.m. Sunday Mass at Saint Joseph, Stigler.

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