

**DECEMBER 2 & 3, 2023**  
**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



*We begin Advent by lighting a candle to banish the darkness in our lives and in our world and to symbolize our hope in God's continuing presence and love.*

**SEE +** (Our reflection begins with a challenge from the Gospel for the First Sunday of Advent - to be alert and open our eyes and ears to the movements of the Spirit in our lives and the lives of others. It involves awareness, openness, observation, listening, recognition, being fully awake, and remembering. God is coming to us this Advent. Are we awake and alert for the encounter with God's love and mercy?) +

**Encounter (Encuentro):** The First Sunday of Advent challenges us to prepare for fresh encounters with God. What are the new ways God is breaking into our lives and our world? What are the invitations to "find God in all things" that we have overlooked or failed to notice?

Where do we encounter God? The meaning of the term "encounter" is more than just an unplanned meeting with someone unknown. This term is perhaps better captured in the Spanish word Encuentro. Encuentro means "heart-seeking" or authentic human interaction where there is a deep awareness of God's presence in the other. Encounter is a verb defining a practice that moves us out in compassion toward others and creates what Pope Francis calls "a revolution of tenderness."

Beginning in the daily renewed personal encounter with Jesus and nourished in our prayer and reflection, Encuentro simultaneously moves us out to encounter and love our neighbor. Pope Francis writes: "I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unflinchingly each day." (EG 3) Pope Francis suggests that we focus on Jesus' encounter with his people; the encounter with Jesus who serves, helps, humbles himself, and is compassionate to all those in need. This focus on Jesus as servant challenges us to do the same – reach out to encounter others as humble servants, especially those most in need.

Pope Francis often speaks of developing a "culture of encounter." It is the cornerstone of his understanding of the first step in responding to our call to be missionary disciples. A culture of encounter denounces exclusion and isolation of any kind. To exclude someone would be to refuse the invitation to find God's presence in them. To remain isolated would be to ignore the challenge to reach out in love and mercy as Jesus did. Our encounter with Jesus and our ongoing relationship with him moves us out to do what Jesus did - reach out in ministry to those most in need, those most overlooked. We are called into relationship with others, especially the poor and discarded in our world, with authentic, "heart-seeking" encounters. How do we do that? We look to our scriptures and the witness of others.

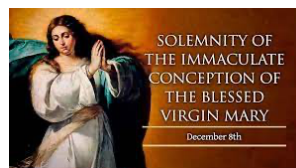
**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Dear parishioners,

As we begin this season of Advent, we look forward to the celebration of the great Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord. This is a sacred time given to us to strengthen our trust that God always provides for His people, and to prepare anew the way for the Lord in our hearts. Advent is also the beginning of the new liturgical year, and I would like to take this opportunity to introduce a small liturgical change. This year, we will be using new hymnals from Ignatius Press, a Catholic publishing house based in San Francisco. It has been a challenge to find hymnals that provide acceptable options for sacred music as well the readings in both English and Spanish. Happily, Ignatius Press offers this in both the *Pew Missal* and the Spanish version, *Canta la Misa*. It is my hope that these new hymnals will be well received, and I would like to reiterate the expression of my gratitude to the Knights of Columbus for sponsoring the new missal racks for each of the pews.

May God bless you abundantly during this holy season,

Fr. Pacheco



**ON DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup>, WE CELEBRATE THE SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY. THIS DAY IS A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. MASSES WILL BE AT 12:05PM IN ENGLISH AND 6PM IN SPANISH.**

**TEMPORARY TUESDAY MASS TIME**

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, MASS WILL BE AT 5:30PM.



**EVERY THURSDAY @ 11:00AM, WE HAVE THE EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT, FOLLOWED BY MASS AT 12:05PM.**



DURING THIS ADVENT SEASON, YOU WILL FIND THE BOOKS FROM THE WORD AMONG US IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH. PLEASE TAKE ONE.



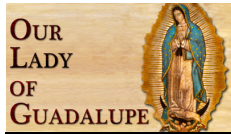
THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>TH</sup> FOR THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

**ATTENTION**

REMEMBER THAT THIS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, THERE WILL BE CONFESSIONS AT 6:30PM, FOLLOWED BY EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND PRAYER GROUP.

**Help Support Our Parish Catholic School  
This Advent Season**

The families of SJS DR Catholic School will be selling Christmas Mystery Packages after the Masses during Advent. Help support our parish school and the students' hard work by buying a gift for someone you love! Prices range from \$1-\$15. Have a blessed Advent!



**FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

DECEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup> IS COMING UP AND WE WOULD LIKE YOU TO MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE FEAST OF OUR PATRONESS OF THE AMERICAS, OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE. THERE WILL BE A NOVENA (SPECIAL ROSARY) FROM DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 6PM IN THE CHURCH. OUR LADY'S FEAST WILL START WITH THE MAÑANITAS AT 5AM, FOLLOWED BY THE ROSARY. AFTER, WE WILL MEET AT THE PARISH HALL TO ENJOY SOME HOT CHOCOLATE AND PASTRIES. AND, THERE WILL BE A SPANISH MASS AT 6PM. ALL ARE INVITED!

*"Let not your heart be disturbed. Do not fear that sickness, nor any other sickness or anguish. Am I not here, who is your Mother? Are you under my protection? Am I not your health? Are you not happily within my fold? What else do you wish? Do not grieve nor be disturbed by anything."*

**MAY OUR MOTHER'S MANTLE OF LOVE BRING BLESSINGS OF PEACE AND HARMONY TO FAMILIES IN OUR FAITH COMMUNITY.**



**WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT:  
Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish now provides  
"ParishSOFT Giving," an online giving software!**

To get started, you can go to [olgcinfb.org](http://olgcinfb.org).

From this link you will be allowed to manage your own account online, set up gifts on a schedule that you choose or a one-time donation, and can be set up with a credit card, debit card, checking or savings account!

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office at 964-0229.

**MASS INTENTIONS  
DECEMBER 2 - 8, 2023**

Saturday (02)	9am	Gerardo Ojeda Ramirez †
	5:00pm	Fred & Clara White † Thomas Galemba †
	6:30pm	Juan Bermudez † Felipe Chi † Ignacio, Angeles & Ignacio Rentería † Ramiro & Ligia Soto † Maria del Refugio Rodriguez † Silvia Durán † Mauricio Escobedo † Victor Martín & Raquel Dzul † Gerardo Escobedo (healing)
Sunday (03)	8:00am	Cuco, Gabriel, Isidro & Patty Yáñez † Ezequiel, Rafael & Cynthia Cruz †
	10:00am	Missa pro populo
Monday (04)	—	NO MASS
Tuesday (05)	5:30pm	Souls in Purgatory
Wednesday (06)	12:05pm	Rev. Nicholas Rausch, OSB. †
Thursday (07)	12:05pm	Sould in Purgatory
Friday (08)	12:05pm	Roger Ek †
	6:00pm	Fidela Yáñez Sánchez (healing)

**WEEKLY COLLECTION**

NOVEMBER 25 & 26, 2023...\$2,512.00  
MAINTENANCE FUND – CHURCH...\$891.00  
THANKSGIVING DAY...\$628.00

**THIS WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR LIABILITY INSURANCE  
NEXT WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR MAINTENANCE FUND**

**THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT & CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY!!**

**LET'S PRAY FOR ALL OUR FAMILY MEMBERS  
AND FRIENDS IN THE MILITARY**

Jovany Baez, Justin Mertle, María de la Luz Ramirez, Rebeca Sánchez, José Araiza, Jr., Marina González, Alondra Jara, Sonia Jara, Matt Mills & Jared Schroeder.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS**

Bertha Valenzuela, Carole Shoptaw, Gina Pivrotto, Antonia Rentería, Angie Gómez, Judy Halren, Rose Cortez, Fidela Jara, Felix Santillán, Martha Sánchez, Gerardo Escobedo, Angie Freitas, Russel Bryant, Derrick Heater, Ann Gallagher, Brianna Lopez, Margaret Milliken, Gina Pivrotto, Nick Quin, Mary Servis, Matty Walker, Ofelia Ybarra.



**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

When a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized and would like Father Pacheco to pay them a visit to receive Holy Communion and/or Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office at 707-964-0229 and after office hours, please call 707-813-4188.



IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH, ON THE SOUTHERN  
WALL IS A BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL TREE.

ITS BRIGHT LEAVES REPRESENT PERMANENT MEMORIALS TO THE  
DEPARTED OF OUR PARISH. FOR THE SUM OF \$200.00, YOU CAN GIVE  
TO THE PARISH SECRETARY, THE CORRECT SPELLING AND DATES OF THE  
DEPARTED AND IN DUE TIME THE LEAF IS PRINTED AND ATTACHED TO  
THE TREE, AS A PERMANENT REMINDER OF A LOVED ONE WHO IS  
GONE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE AT 707-964-0229.