

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 5, 2021 ~ Bulletin No. 49 Vol. XXXVII

CALENDAR ~ December 4-12, 2021

Sat 4	5:00pm	Mass for ROS Beverly Axline by Don Axline
Sun 5	9:00am 11:30am 3:00pm 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Marvin & Simone Bivens by Maxie & Joannie Jolley Mass for ROS Romilda Polinari by Giuliana Riley Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information
Mon 6	9:00am 7:00am	Mass for Deceased Members of the Ricci Family by Andy & Joann Cilone Men's Prayer Group
Wed 8	12:10pm 7:00pm	Mass for Sister Theresa Scheuren by the Benedictine Sisters Mass for ROS Moe Daigle by Raphael Lugo
Thurs 9	12:10pm 1:00pm 7:00pm	Mass for ROS Bob Giggie by Michael Giggie Eucharistic Adoration, Chapel Rosary and Benediction, Chapel
Fri 10	12:10pm 7:00am	Mass for the Smith Family by Dianna Pendleton Men's Prayer Group
Sat 11	5:00pm	Mass for the Gilbert Family
Sun 12	9:00am 11:30am 3:00pm 7:30pm	Mass for ROS Father Gabriel Meehan by Maxie & Joannie Jolley Mass for ROS Moe Daigle by Claire Daigle Mass for the Parish AA Meeting, call Floyd Kunkle at 289-6336 for information



From the Holy Father

"Peace, it is peace which must guide the destinies of people and of all mankind."

~ Saint Pope Paul VI ~

Wisdom of the Saints

"The church of the Lord is built upon the rock of the apostles among so many dangers in the world; it therefore remains unmoved. The church foundation is unshakeable and firm against the assaults of the raging sea."

~ Saint Ambrose ~
Feast December 7



For Annulment Information Contact:

Rachel Harrill 1-828-447-1908 or
Email: reharrill@rcdoc.org.



NEXT WEEK: Collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious
Elderly religious need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes—often for little to no pay. Now, many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your gift to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Please be generous.

Knights of Columbus meeting is Sunday, December 5 at 7 pm. Adoration at 6:30 pm in the Chapel.

The Annual Christmas Dinner, Coat and Toy Give-Away

Donations are still needed to help support the joint effort between the Knights of Columbus and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. **For the Knights**, here's what we need: food needed that would make up a Christmas dinner such as green beans, cranberry sauce stuffing mix, turkey, gravy, canned pumpkin, pie crust mix...you name it. Then, toys for boys and girls from 1-16. **For the Saint Vincent de Paul Society**, we need children's coats, new or gently used, from sizes 4T to size 14/16. We need all donations by December 11th. Of course, your financial donations are always welcome.

The **Hands of Hope Tree** in the narthex is for gifts for babies and children up to 5 years old, or for a Mother. Do not wrap the gifts, but they may be put in a gift bag, and placed under the tree. The deadline is December 19.



NOCTURNAL ADORATION

Saturday

December 11th ~ 10:00pm

Through Sunday

December 12th ~ 6:00am

Contributions from November 28, 2021

Regular Collection: \$5,107.00



Congratulations to

Father José Antonio Juya Vargas on the
40th Anniversary
of his Ordination to the Priesthood

NEXT SUNDAY: December 12th is HOSPICE Sunday. Our item to donate is Ensure, any flavor.

March for Life. January 21, 2022 : The bus for the 49th Annual March for Life, held in Washington DC on January 21st, 2022, has a couple of seats available. For more information please call Tim Will at 828 447 2660.

Submit information for the bulletin to Penny Watkins, at pjwlmg@gmail.com; Deadline: 12:30pm, Wednesday before the bulletin comes out.

THE BOOK OF PSALMS

The Book of Psalms is also called the Psalter. It is a collection of 150 sacred prayers and songs. It is the longest book in the Old Testament and is the most widely read book in the Bible. It is the only book of the Bible used daily in our liturgy between the use of the Lectionary and the Liturgy of the Hours. It is the most popular prayer book and songbook of Jews and Christians alike. Bergsma and Pitre write "The psalms continue to be the living heartbeat of the Church's prayer to the present day."

In the psalms we unite ourselves in praying the same prayers that Jesus and his apostles prayed. Peter Kreeft wrote: "If we had none of the rest of the Old Testament, but only the psalms, we would still be able to "check it out" and see that Christ fulfilled the Old Testament patterns and predictions."

A Little Bit About the Psalms

The psalms are all Hebrew poetry, not prose. They include several literary "genre", or subject matter and style.

The **Lament Psalms** are cries or petitions to God to come to the aid of the psalmist. Psalms 22 and 38 are good examples. "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (Psalm 22)

Todah or Thanksgiving Psalms are almost the opposite of the Laments. These psalms were performed afterwards in thanksgiving and gratitude to God.

Hymns are similar to *todah* psalms but are more general.

Royal Psalms are distinguished by their subject matter- the King, the Son of David. Royal Psalms include 2, 45, 72, 89, 110 and 132. Psalm 72 holds a special position in the Psalter. In it Solomon is crowned as king. It ends with "The prayers of David, the son of Jesse, are ended." David is now dead. (72: 20) These psalms not only describe the history of the kingship of David and his heirs; they point to the Son of David who is to come.

Mt. Zion Psalms focus on the holy city of Jerusalem, the seat of David, and the holy Temple. Jerusalem is on a mountain. Throughout salvation history, "the mountain" was significant. Adam had Mt. Eden; Noah has Mt. Ararat; Abraham had Mt. Moriah; Moses had Mt. Sinai; Joshua had Mts. Gerazim and Ebal. But in the case of Zion, it becomes more than just a place. It is a sign or sacrament of God's covenant with David.

Wisdom or Torah Psalms share the themes of the wisdom literature, and emphasize the wise or righteous behavior expected. They give God's instruction on how to live.

Messianic Psalms of course prophesy or foreshadow the Messiah. All the royal psalms are also messianic. Others are as well, including Psalms 22, 31 and 41.

There are other sub-categories of psalms as well, and certainly there are overlaps. One interesting sub-category is that of the "**imprecatory**" or **cursing psalms**. These psalms include curses against enemies and evildoers. Three psalms, in fact, are not used in the liturgy of the Catholic Church because they are contrary to the teachings of Jesus (psalms 58, 83 and 109) Plus, there are fifteen other psalms that have lines restricted from the liturgy as well. We must hate the sin, but not the sinner. The Old Testament was a time of an "eye for an eye". Not so in the New Testament. Peter Kreeft writes "Everything in Scripture is for our instruction, but not everything is for our imitation."

Authorship

Logically speaking, since the psalms tell of the rise, fall, exile and return of the Israelites, then the psalms could not have all been written by King David. In fact there were several authors of the psalms that were written over the period of 1000-400 BC, that's 600 years. In fact, the oldest of the psalms, Psalm 90 was written by Moses, who lived somewhere between 1500-1200 BC depending on which Scripture scholar you're reading.

David is responsible for somewhere between 70-80 of the psalms. Others were written by people appointed by David to prepare music for liturgies. And many of the psalms were anonymous and written long after King David.



"Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky."
(Psalm 85:10--11)

Advent Prayer For Peace

Prince of Peace, we seek you. In far off lands, your children flee their homes pursued by violence. In our community, we know not all our neighbors are safe from brutality. Prince of Peace, we seek you. You sent your son, Jesus, to bring your peace and comfort to the world. In this season of Advent, renew and strengthen us in a commitment to your peace that surpasses all understanding. Prince of Peace, we seek you. May your peace fill our hearts and grace our lips so that we might be agents of your peace in the world.

Amen.

