

## PARISH CALENDAR

**Third Sunday  
of Advent**

December 17, 2017

Rejoice the Lord is near!

Saturday, December 16	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, December 17	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... <b>10:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Religious Education Classes (Gr. 1-8) Confirmation &amp; Youth Ministry</b>
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, December 18	..... <b>5:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass - Misa de Gallo - Breakfast Potluck</b>
	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Closed
Tuesday, December 19	..... <b>5:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass - Misa de Gallo - Breakfast Potluck</b>
	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
Wednesday, December 20	..... <b>5:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass - Misa de Gallo - Breakfast Potluck</b>
	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Closed
Thursday, December 21	..... <b>5:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass - Misa de Gallo - Breakfast Potluck</b>
	..... <b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Funeral Service - Mervyn Kauhane (+)</b>
	..... 7:30 p.m.	Prayer Meeting - Church
Friday, December 22	..... <b>5:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass - Misa de Gallo - Breakfast Potluck</b>
	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Closed
	..... <b>6:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Christmas Decorating - Church</b>
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, December 23	..... <b>8:00 a.m.</b>	<b>Mass - Misa de Gallo - Breakfast Potluck</b>
	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

### NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

**2 Sam 7:15, 8b-12, 14a, 16: Promise of an heir from the house of David**

**Rom:16:25-27: Everyone is offered salvation through Christ.**

**Lk:1:26-38: the angel Gabriel announces the prophecy's fulfillment.**

### AN UPSIDE DOWN WORLD

The Church has just celebrated two great Marian feasts: the Immaculate Conception and Our Lady of Guadalupe. It is appropriate in this Advent time that we look to Mary's great song, the Magnificat, as a lens for today's readings, and to her life as the first of faithful disciples. In her canticle, Mary describes a world similar to the one for which Isaiah tells us the Spirit anoints the prophet: where the mighty arm of God scatters the proud and lifts up the lowly (the Lectionary, unfortunately, omits this verse today), where the hungry are filled with good things and the rich are sent away empty. This world is upside down from the one most of us experience. But if we are to follow our call to be disciples of Jesus, as Mary did, we must be committed to believing in and proclaiming a world like this.



The Spirit of the Lord  
is upon me  
because the Lord has  
annointed me.  
He has sent me  
to bring glad tidings.

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o come,  
**emmanuel**

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

**RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: Religious give thanks.** “A religious sisters writes, “When we see the generous response of so many thousands of persons in order to help us, religious men and women, we are left speechless.” Senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests across the country send heartfelt thanks and prayers for your donation to last week’s Retirement Fund for Religious collection

**WORD OF LIFE:** “He is always with us. Jesus promised this when he gave the disciples the same mission he gives to each of us: Go. . . . Walk with each other. Do not be afraid to embrace God’s gift of life. Whatever storms or trails we face, we are not alone. He is with us.” **USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities 2017-18 Respect Life Reflection,:** [www.bit.ly/2x31e1X](http://www.bit.ly/2x31e1X)

## WEEKLY READINGS

**Dec 17 Sun: Third Sunday of Advent**

Is:61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk:1; 1 Thess:5:16-24; Jn: 1:6-8, 19-28

**Dec 18 Mon: Advent Weekday**

Jer 23:5-8, Ps:72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt:1:18-25

**Dec 19 Tue: Advent Weekday**

Jgs:13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps:71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk: 1:5-25

**Dec 20 Wed: Advent Weekday**

Is:7:10-14; Ps:24: 1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk: 1:26-38

**Dec 21 Thur: Advent Weekday**

Sg:2:8-14; Ps:33: 2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk: 1:39-45

**Dec 22 Fri: Advent Weekday**

1 Sam:1:24-28; 1 Sam:2: 1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk: 1:46-56

**Dec 23 Sat: Advent Weekday**

Mal: 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps:25: 4-5ab, 8-9, 10 & 14; Lk:1: 57-66

**Living Catholic in the 808:**

**2<sup>ND</sup> Joyful Mystery: The Visitation**

Luke 1:49(NAB): “The Might One has done great things for me and holy is his name.”

How do we evangelize? **BE READY TO SHARE OUR PERSONAL CONVERSION STORY**

Mary humbly recognizes the importance of her own “lowliness,” which will bring exaltation in the ages to come because of God’s favor and not her initiative. Like Mary, our overwhelming attention is on the wonderful works of God. Our own personal conversion.

Evangelization is the invitation; conversion is the response.

Evangelization is the invitation to accept God’s love through the paschal mystery of Jesus Christ. Accepting the good news eventually lead to conversion. Though it is personal (between God and the individual), conversion is never private, it is communal. The human person is a social being-one lives and is part of a family, community, society and workplace. We, who aim to be more Christ-like, can impact others.

USCCB’s Go and Make Disciples document states that “we can understand evangelization in light of how we have been changed by the power of Christ’s words and the sacraments; and how we have an essential role in sharing that faith through our daily lives as believers.”

**Be joyful in declaring what God has done in our lives**

By: Rafael Mendoza  
Business Manager

Co-Cathedral of St. Theresa

## NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

In today’s second reading Paul concludes his letter to the Christian community at Thessalonica by providing it with actions to take as they wait for the return of the Lord. The first action is to rejoice always and give thanks in all circumstances. This sounds easy but it’s not. The two words that make this task difficult are “always” and “all”. This means giving thanks and rejoicing even when our circumstances are not always moments of joy and thanksgiving, or when we are confronted with broken world. Prayerful stewards rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances because they are a people of hope. A good reflection this week would be how the season of Advent can give you reason to hope. (International Catholic Stewardship Council e-bulletin)

## SENT IN THE SPIRIT

Today we hear from John’s Gospel, which serves as the first of a number of interjections during this year of the proclamation of Mark’s Gospel. (This is because Mark’s is the shortest of the Gospels.) John the Baptist once again speaks of his role as the forerunner, the herald of the light. He himself is not the light, but the one who “makes straight” the way before the Lord. John is describing our own vocation, the one given to us when we were baptized in water and the Spirit. We proclaim the coming of the light by living out our own Spirit-anointing to bring glad tidings to the poor, to strive for the world God desires, the one described by Isaiah. As Paul tells us today, it is through our witness that we do not despise the prophetic utterances of John, Mary, and Isaiah, and that we do not quench the Spirit. As we prepare for the coming of the light in whatever vocation God has anointed us for, we must live as Paul insists: in continual prayer, and always rejoicing!

**GIVING ELECTRONICALLY:** There are now two ways to give electronically to St. Rita’s you can give via on-line giving at [www.striananakuli.org](http://www.striananakuli.org) (on-line giving) by using your credit or debit cards. Or you can give after Mass to our parish volunteers using our credit/debit card reader. Mahalo for your generosity!



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