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Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

Blessed are you among women, and
blessed is the fruit of your womb.

-- Luke 1:42



Daily Mass

Week of December 24th – 29th

Monday: 8:00 Teve Martinez+
 Tuesday: **Christmas!**
 Wednesday: 8:00 Gary Nelson+
 Thursday: 8:00 Mary Gomez+
 Friday: 8:00 Isaac Gomez+
 Saturday: 8:00 Mr. & Mrs. George Connell+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Michael Echaniz, Tina Chaix, Fr. Dan, Samantha Winterer, Carol Cullinane, Thomas Lee, Michael Kluziski, Sebastian Romeo, Louise Ahern, Owen Burns, Bernice De Vries, Paul Cummings, Patricia Dombrink, Laura Pierce, Marvin Johnson, Cora Rose, Tom Reid, Henry Souza, Alexis Walker, Michael Bozman and Dori McGee-Lundy.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Centuries before the birth of the Messiah, the Prophet Isaiah proclaimed:

*"For a child is born to us, a son given us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests.
They name him Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero,
Father-Forever, Prince of Peace."*

At Christmas, we celebrate and marvel at the depth of God's love for us. The miracle of the Incarnation proclaims the great truth of all times: We are loved by God because we are His sons and daughters.

This love permeates our very being; it defines who we are and gives our lives meaning. This Season of Joy is a perfect time to share this gift of love with others.

On behalf of the Parish Staff, I would like to thank you for the gifts of love that you have shared with our Parish Family. During this Christmas Season, may the peace of God be with you and fill your lives with joy.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Fr. Leo, Fr. Basil, Katie
 Joe, Sam, Lori, Vince, Catherine
 Ann, Rebecca, Karyn, Gail & Judy



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Christmas Services

Christmas Eve – Monday, December 24th

5:00 p.m. – Family Mass
 10:00 p.m. – Christmas Carols
 10:30 p.m. – Mass

Christmas Day – Tuesday, December 25th

8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Mass

Feast of the Holy Family – December 29th

5:00 p.m. – Family Mass
 Sunday, December 30th
 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

New Year's Day – January 1, 2019
 9:00 a.m.



Parish Office Holiday Hours!

In celebration of Christmas, the Parish Office will be closed on Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24th; Christmas, Tuesday, December 25th; Monday, New Year's Eve, December 31st; and New Year's Day, January 1, 2019. Happy Holidays to everyone!



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An Evening of Caroling!

Please join the Corpus Christi Parish Family for sing-a-long caroling today, December 23rd, featuring Fr. Leo's [in] famous "Twelve Days of Christmas!"

Singing begins at 4:30 p.m. sharp. From 5:30 p.m. on, the Men's Club will be providing holiday cheer in the Gibson Center, including hot mulled wine and assorted treats. Consider bringing an unwrapped toy to be delivered to St. Vincent's day home, and/or a dozen unwrapped cookies to share with your fellow singers.

The Twelve Days of Christmas!

*When Christmas tide
comes in like a bride
with holly and ivy clad,
Twelve Days in the year
much mirth and good cheer
in every household is had.*

Christmas is not a day but a season! It lasts from Christmas Day until the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In the year 567, the Church Council of Tours called the 13 days between December 25th and January 6th a festival season. Up until that time, the only other joyful Church season was the 50 days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost.

Almost everyone knows the carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." In England, they begin counting the twelve days on December 26th, making January 6th the 12th day. The stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve is the center point. In most of Europe, they begin counting the twelve days on December 25th. That makes January 6th the 13th day. Either way, we have a "baker's dozen" of days for announcing the good news of the birth of Christ.

Christmastime is meant for hospitality, gift-giving, caroling and storytelling. We set this time aside to relax and be merry after weeks of preparation. We do only the work that is absolutely needed so that we can enjoy these festive days with our families and friends, and so that we can make sure that everyone is able to take part. Some families make it their custom during this time to cluster around the Christmas crib for prayers each evening. The Christmas tree is lighted each night while folks pray and sing carols. On Christmas day, the figures of the Magi are placed far away from the crib and then moved a little closer each day until Epiphany when they arrive in Bethlehem. Then, the Christmas story can be told and retold.

Christmas Children!

It is good to be children sometimes, and never better than at Christmas.

-- Charles Dickens



Memories and Dreams!

Throughout our lives, we retain the language and habits of our native region and family of origin. Should we return to our home after a long absence, we quickly revert to its familiar speech and practices. Our deep memory is reflected in old stories and words and speech patterns. This familiarity runs like an underground river and accompanies us wherever we go.

Not only do we remember, we are incorporated into and made part of a greater memory. In remembering and recollecting, we are in turn gathered up and re-collected.

Today we remember Mary, a small figure traveling the country roads to visit Elizabeth. All the great pronouncements and dreams of the prophets point to this time when the Lord's words to Mary would be gathered and fulfilled. The memories of her people are alive in her, and memories of her nourish our own living faith.

Boy Scout Tree Lot!

The Boy Scouts, including Corpus Christi's Troop 6, are operating their Christmas Tree lot located at Coaches Field, 890 Moraga Avenue, Piedmont. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 4:00 to 7:30 p.m., and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., until Thursday, December 20th or until all the trees are sold. The Scouts can assist you with selecting a hard-to-find Silvertip, Noble or Douglas fir tree, as well as wreaths and garlands, and load in onto your vehicle. Local home delivery is available for a fee on Tuesdays, Thursdays and weekends. All proceeds benefit the Piedmont Council of Boy Scouts. The Boy Scouts wish the community of Corpus Christi a Merry Christmas and joyous holiday season!

Christmas Decorations!

This is your invitation to become part of a beautiful tradition by giving toward the Christmas decorations for our church. It is also a loving way to remember or honor someone for whom you care.

Enclosed is \$ _____

From: _____

In honor/memory of: (Circle One)

