



## First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.

-- Mark 13:33



### Daily Mass

#### Week of December 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>

Monday:	8:00	Leo Loh+
Tuesday:	8:00	Intentions: Santiago Munoz
Wednesday:	8:00	Christopher Westover+
Thursday:	8:00	June Giard+
Friday:	8:00	Della Roberts+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Marian Flandrick, Mike Abell, Sunny Ray, Tara Singh, Kerrie Roye, Mark Lutz, Michael Carter, Rufus Smith, Peggy Delson-Rini, Frank Rini, Pamela M., Rita Jurin, Julia and Cecilia Uyeda.

Weekly Collection	November 26 <sup>th</sup>
Plate	\$7,393.00
Plate -- November 19 <sup>th</sup>	\$9,123.00
Human Development	\$1,028.00



### Religious Retirement Collection!

Next weekend, December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, is the annual Retirement Fund for Religious appeal. Almost 33,000 religious women and more than 5,500 religious men are past the age of 70. Though they may withdraw from compensated, full-time ministry, the religious continue to visit the sick, tutor children, and volunteer in parishes and among refugee populations. Thank You for caring!



### Special Thanks!

The Living Our Faith Ministry would like to thank everyone for your continued donations to the Alameda County Community Food Bank. For the month of November, ACCFB has received \$165.00 from the Corpus Christi Church donation link for a total of \$422.40 since online donations began last month. Additionally, the barrels in the Gibson Center are filling up with non-perishable items. Please remember that this food drive (including both canned food and online donations) will be ongoing and you are welcome to continue to make donations throughout the year. See the flyers on the credenzas in the Church on how to donate online. Thank You very much for your generosity!

From  
Father Leo



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we begin the Season of Advent, I want to share with you some thoughts that I read about this period of anticipation and preparation offered by the noted Jesuit, Walter J. Burghardt:

"Advent can be confusing. What are we about in the liturgy -- in this liturgy that is supposed to symbolize what goes on in the rest of our lives? The Lord has come, and yet we prepare for his coming. He is risen, and still we ready a crib for him. We rejoice that he lives within us, and we cloth ourselves in purple. Has 'the day of the Lord' dawned or hasn't it? Is Advent make-believe? Are we pretending that the Lord has not yet come?"

The fact is, Advent expresses in symbol and ritual three stages in the human journey, in the Christian journey. Christ has come; Christ will come again; and Christ is here now. We remember the first; we look to the second; we live the third. All three are part and parcel of our lives; so all three have to find expression in our liturgy."

Love, Fr. Leo

### Join Us! Everyone is Welcome!

#### As We Await The Coming Of Emmanuel...

**\*\*Visio Divina Prayer Service** -- Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Church.

**\*\*Advent Reconciliation Service** -- Wednesday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Church.

**\*\*Taize & Adoration Service** -- Wednesday, December 20<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.



### An Evening of Caroling!

Christmas Caroling returns! We'll be singing all the Yuletide favorites on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 4:30 p.m. We will sing for roughly an hour, assuming that Fr. Leo finds our efforts of, *The Twelve Days of Christmas* satisfactory! Consider bringing a dozen cookies to share with your fellow singers and/or an unwrapped toy for Oakland's disadvantaged kids. The need for toys is especially acute this year. Flyers are available at the entrances to the Church. Please come join us!

### Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, is the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The Immaculate Conception is the patron saint of the United States. This feast day **is** a holy day of obligation. The Masses are at 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. There is also a School Mass at 10:30 a.m.



### Christmas Giving Tree!

'Tis the Season...the Giving Tree is back! Please consider selecting an ornament or two off the tree. Ornaments will be available on the Giving Tree in the Gibson Center on November 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. There is an ornament customized for each member of the 50 families at The Oakland Catholic Worker and for those from St. Mary's Center. Please purchase one \$25.00 gift card per ornament from either Target or Walmart. You can purchase the gift cards yourself, attach them to the ornament and return them either by giving them to a member of the Living Faith Ministry in the Gibson Center after all the Masses each weekend or dropping them off at the Parish Office during the week. If you prefer, you can write a check to Corpus Christi Church or donate online through your bank and the cards will be purchased for you. **Please write or type "Giving Tree" in the memo line for either of these options.** These must all be in by Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. As Fr. Leo reminds us often, we are our brother's and sister's keeper. Let's ensure that these families have a joy-filled Christmas!

### Boy Scout Tree Lot!

The Boy Scout Christmas Tree Lot is now open! Piedmont Scouts, including Corpus Christi's Troop 6, are again operating a Christmas Tree lot located at Coaches Field, 890 Moraga Avenue in Piedmont. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., and on Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., until all the trees are sold. A great selection of Silvertips, Noble and Douglas firs, as well as wreaths, garlands, mistletoe and tree stands are available. The Scouts and volunteers can help you select a tree and load in onto your vehicle. Home delivery is also available for an additional fee. You can also shop online at: [www.scouttreelot.org](http://www.scouttreelot.org) and pre-order a tree, then schedule a delivery or come to the lot for pick-up. This is the Scouts biggest fund raiser of the year. The Boy Scouts wish the community of Corpus Christi a Merry Christmas and joyous holiday season!

### Japan Discovery Cruise!

St. Anne's Society in Walnut Creek is sponsoring a fourteen-night cruise on the beautiful Holland America Westerdam. The dates are April 13<sup>th</sup> through April 27<sup>th</sup> of 2024. The trip highlights are: Sail roundtrip from Yokohama with port stops in Omaezaki, Kobe (Kyoto), Kochi, Fukuoka, Kanazawa, Sakata Otaru, Aomori and Hakodate. The cruise includes all meals and entertainment, a private cocktail party onboard and a Bon Voyage Orientation party. The cost begins at \$2,459 per person, double occupancy. Single rates upon request. Port taxes are \$250.00 per person. For more information about this fabulous cruise, contact Gale Lydecker at (925) 937-7748.



### Readings For The Week December 4<sup>th</sup> -- 9<sup>th</sup>

Monday: First Reading Isaiah 2:1-5;  
Psalm 122;  
Gospel Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday: First Reading Isaiah 11:1-10;  
Psalm 72;  
Gospel Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday: First Reading Isaiah 25:6-10a;  
Psalm 23;  
Gospel Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday: First Reading Isaiah 26:1-6;  
Psalm 118;  
Gospel Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday: First Reading Genesis 3:9-15, 20;  
Psalm 98;  
Second Reading Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12;  
Gospel Luke 1:26-38

Saturday: First Reading Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26;  
Psalm 147;  
Gospel Matthew 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8



### Today's Readings!

**First Reading** -- We are the clay and you, O Lord, are the potter: we are the work of your hands (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7).

**Psalm** -- Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** -- God is faithful; by God you were called to fellowship with the Son (1 Corinthians 1:3-9).

**Gospel** -- Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come (Mark 13:33-37).

### Watch!

"Watch!" This word occurs three times in today's Gospel passage. Moreover, it is placed at significant points: the beginning, the center and the end. Though this is technically a parable, it is quite short (four verses). The three-fold repetition of "watch" leaves no doubt as to what the story is about. We often think of Advent as a time of waiting, but it truly is a season of watchfulness, a very active form of waiting for the coming Day of the Lord. It is that day, more than Christmas day, that the Christian community faithfully expects, using all of our gifts and talents for this purpose, as Paul reminds us in the Letter to the Corinthians. When we use these gifts in faithful watching and expectation, we become like the servants of the parable, set to their tasks, not waiting around idly, but engaged in the master's work until his return. May our Advent be a time when we return or rededicate our lives and our communities to this work -- the active and diligent faithfulness that the Lord will expect to find.

