

From the Desk of the Pastor

December 7, 2025

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
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SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prophet Isaiah is instructed to comfort Jerusalem. He foretold the coming of God's redemption to the ancient Israelites and its manifestation in terms of an imminent end to the exile.

He proclaimed the advancement of redemption in terms of 'comfort' and 'consolation' as a direct response to their prayer in last Sundays' readings.

He preached that the Hope of Israel was being fulfilled right before their eyes. God's salvation is dramatic, imminent and even happening right here and now!

The impact of the message is perhaps best explained (in terms of) when someone comes to tell prisoners (not knowing how) that their sentence has been commuted, and they are free to go home. God's reign is about to establish itself.

To that end, the metaphorical usage is captivating. "Every valley shall be filled in, and every mountain and hill shall be made low". The reading ends with a familiar and tender image of a shepherd caring for the lamb in his arms.

This Sunday presents John the Baptist. His message becomes the link between the expectations of Christmas, celebration of the birth of Jesus in the flesh, and the anticipation of the celebration of the sacrament of Baptism in the Church, where we find new members of the Church also in the flesh.

The juxtaposition of John's Baptism "with water" and Jesus' Baptism "with the Holy Spirit" brings the Gospel proclamation to a close for his weekend.

Something spectacular has begun to take place and more is yet to come.



SEGUNDO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

El Profeta Isaías es instruido a consolar a Jerusalén. El predijo la venida de la redención de Dios a los Israelitas antiguos y su manifestación en términos de un final inminente al exilio.

El proclamó el adelanto de la redención en términos de 'comodidad' y 'consuelo' como una respuesta directa a su oración en las lecturas del Domingo anterior. Predicó que la Esperanza de Israel se estaba cumpliendo ante sus ojos. ¡La salvación de Dios es dramática, inminente e incluso pasando aquí y ahora!

El impacto del mensaje quizás es mejor explicado (en términos de) cuando alguien viene a decirle a los presos (sin saber cómo) que su sentencia ha sido reducida, y son libres de irse a casa. El Reino de Dios está a punto de establecerse.

Con ese fin, el uso metafórico es cautivante. "Cada valle deberá ser rellenado, y cada montaña y colina se rebajará". La lectura termina con una imagen familiar y tierna de un pastor cuidando del cordero en sus brazos.

Este Domingo se presenta Juan el Bautista. Su mensaje se convierte en el vínculo entre las expectativas de la Navidad, la celebración del nacimiento de Jesús encarnada y la anticipación de la celebración del Sacramento del Bautismo en la Iglesia, donde encontramos nuevos miembros de la Iglesia también encarnados.

La asociación del Bautismo de Juan "con agua" y el Bautismo de Jesús "con el Espíritu Santo" lleva la proclamación del Evangelio a un cierre para este fin de semana.

Algo espectacular ha comenzado a tomar lugar y más aún está por venir.

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation / Dia de Precepto - Monday, December 8, 2025

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA November 29 – 30, 2025

Weekday Masses Offerings.....\$ 211.75
Thanksgiving Day Mass.....\$1,720.00
Weekend Mass Offerings.....\$2,260.26
St. Vincent de Paul.....\$ 663.00

UPCOMING 2nd COLLECTIONS

December 7: Reserve Fund

December 14: Archdiocesan Annual Appeal

December 21: Retirement for Religious

A A A 2025 Archdiocesan Annual Appeal We urge you to help us meet our goal:

Parish Assessment:	\$31,021.00
YTD we paid:	\$23,974.82
Balance we owe:	\$ 7,046.18
Pledges Balance	\$ 150.00

Thank you for your generosity!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 6 TO DECEMBER 13

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
December 6, 2025	December 7, 2025	December 8, 2025	December 9, 2025	December 10, 2025
9:00am ✠ David Flynn	8:00am Parish of St. John	9:00am ✠ Eduardo S. Genoves ✠ Matthew Kirkendall	9:00am Young Men's Institute	9:00am ✠ Manuel Neves
4:30pm ✠ Alberto Borvice ✠ Victor Arroyo	10:00am ✠ Melencia Barrera Elauria ✠ Bonifacia Quezon Magpantay ✠ Julie Piwowski ✠ Deceased Members of the Ventura Family	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		December 11, 2025	December 12, 2025	December 13, 2025
	12:00pm Parish of St. John	10:00am ✠ Gualberto Espino, Sr.	9:00am ✠ Guadalupe C. Parayo ✠ Maria de la Paz Avila ✠ Mary Redubaldo Conchita Berry	9:00am Parish of St. John
				4:30pm ✠ Rufino Labari ✠ Benny Falcon ✠ Amado S. Pinlac, Jr.

