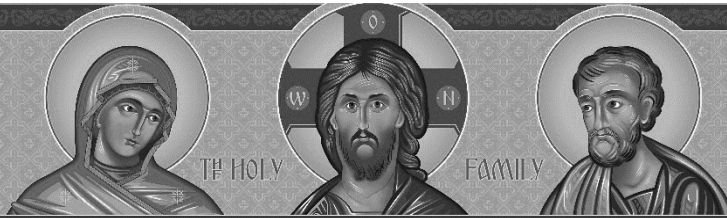


Holy  
Family



Catholic  
Parish

## 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR A – 18<sup>th</sup> of DECEMBER 2022

### FIRST READING : Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord spoke to Ahaz and said, 'Ask the Lord your God for a sign for yourself coming either from the depths of Sheol or from the heights above.' 'No,' Ahaz answered 'I will not put the Lord to the test.' Then Isaiah said: 'Listen now, House of David: are you not satisfied with trying the patience of men without trying the patience of my God, too? The Lord himself, therefore, will give you a sign. It is this: the maiden is with child and will soon give birth to a son whom she will call Immanuel, a name which means "God-is-with-us."'

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM : Psalm 23(24):1-6



℟. *Let the Lord en-ter, He is the King of glo-ry.*

*The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world and all its peoples, It is He who set it on the seas; on the waters He made it firm. ℟.*

*Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in His holy place? The man with clean hands and pure heart, who desires not worthless things. ℟.*

*He shall receive blessings from the Lord and reward from the God who saves him, Such are the men who seek Him, seek the face of the God of Jacob. ℟.*

### SECOND READING : Romans 1:1-7

From Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus who has been called to be an apostle, and specially chosen to preach the Good News that God promised long ago through his prophets in the scriptures. This news is about the Son of God who, according to the human nature he took was a descendant of David: it is about Jesus Christ our Lord who, in the order of the spirit, the spirit of holiness that was in him, was proclaimed Son of God in all his power through his resurrection from the dead. Through him we received grace and our apostolic mission to preach the obedience of faith to all pagan nations in honour of his name. You are one of these nations, and by his call belong to Jesus Christ. To you all, then, who are God's beloved in Rome, called to be saints, may God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send grace and peace.

### GOSPEL : Matthew 1:18-24

This is how Jesus Christ came to be born. His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph; but before they came to live together she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph; being a man of honour and wanting to spare her publicity, decided to divorce her informally. He had made up his mind to do this when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because she has conceived what is in her by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son and you must name him Jesus, because he is the one who is to save his people from their sins.' Now all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the Lord through the prophet: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son and they will call him Emmanuel, a name which means 'God-is-with-us.' When Joseph woke up he did what the angel of the Lord had told him to do: he took his wife to his home.

### LORD HAVE MERCY

III. Musical notation for the 'LORD HAVE MERCY' section, consisting of two staves. The first staff begins with a large decorated initial 'I' and the text 'Y-ri-e \* e-lé-i-son. iij. Christe e-lé-i-son. iij. Ký-ri-e e-lé-i-son. ij. Ký-ri-e \* e-lé-i-son.' The second staff continues the melody.

### HOLY HOLY HOLY

VIII. Musical notation for the 'HOLY HOLY HOLY' section, consisting of four staves. The first staff begins with a large decorated initial 'S' and the text 'Anctus, \* Sanctus, Sanctus Dóminus De-us Sá-ba-oth. Pleni sunt cœ-li et terra gló-ri-a tu-a. Ho-sánna in ex-cél-sis. Bene-díctus qui ve-nit in nómine Dómi-ni. Ho-sán-na in excél-sis.' The following three staves continue the melody.

### MYSTERY OF FAITH

III. Musical notation for the 'MYSTERY OF FAITH' section, consisting of two staves. The first staff begins with a large decorated initial 'R' and the text 'Mortem tu-am annunti-á-mus, Dó-mi-ne, et tu-am re-surrecti-ó-nem confi-témur, do-nec vé-ni-as.' The second staff continues the melody.

### LAMB OF GOD

VIII. Musical notation for the 'LAMB OF GOD' section, consisting of four staves. The first staff begins with a large decorated initial 'A' and the text '-Gnus De-i, \* qui tollis peccá-ta mundi: mi-se-ré-re no-bis. Agnus De-i,\* qui tollis peccá-ta mundi: mi-se-ré-re no-bis. Agnus De-i,\* qui tollis peccá-ta mundi: dona no-bis pa-cem.' The following three staves continue the melody.

## FAMILY PRAYERS FOR ADVENT WREATH

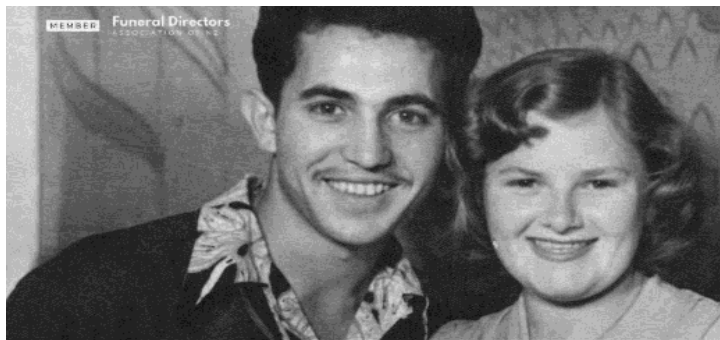
### What to do?

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross
2. Light Candle
3. Say Antiphon of the Day
4. Say the Advent Prayer of that week
5. say Gospel of the Week
6. Finish with Grace before Meals.

**4th Week Prayer:** Stir up your might, we pray You O Lord, and come; rescue us through Your great strength so that salvation, which has been hindered by our sins, may be hastened by the grace of Your gentle mercy. Who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

### 4th Week Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

"Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."



Look after them the way  
they looked after you.

There are certain people in life who shape who you are. Special people who were always there to give you advice, support, comfort and love. When the time comes to bid them farewell, make sure you farewell them properly.

Talk to us, we'll help you do just that.

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YOU ARE REWARDED NOT  
ACCORDING TO YOUR WORK  
OR YOUR TIME BUT ACCORDING  
TO THE MEASURE OF YOUR LOVE.  
- ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

*Let nothing trouble you,  
let nothing frighten you.  
All things are passing;  
God never changes.  
Patience obtains all things.  
He who possesses God lacks nothing:  
God alone suffices.*

WORD  
ON FIRE

-ST. TERESA OF AVILA

## Fourth Candle and Week 4 of Advent

**Monday:** "O Wisdom, you come forth from the mouth of the Most High. You fill the universe and hold all things together in a strong yet gentle manner. O come to teach us the way of truth."

**Tuesday:** "O Adonai and leader of Israel, you appeared to Moses in a burning bush and you gave him the Law on Sinai. O come and save us with your mighty power."

**Wednesday:** "O stock of Jesse, you stand as a signal for the nations; kings fall silent before you whom the peoples acclaim. O come to deliver us, and do not delay."

**Thursday:** "O key of David and sceptre of Israel, what you open no one else can close again; what you close no one can open. O come to lead the captive from prison; free those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death."

**Friday:** "O Rising Sun, you are the splendour of eternal light and the sun of justice. O come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death."

**Saturday:** "O King whom all the peoples desire, you are the cornerstone which makes all one. O come and save man whom you made from clay."

**Sunday:** "O Emmanuel, you are our king and judge, the One whom the peoples await and their Saviour. O come and save us, Lord, our God."

**"Oh my God,  
forgive what I have been,  
correct what I am,  
and direct what I will be."**

*St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*

"When we  
must do  
something we  
dislike, let us  
say to God:  
'My God, I  
offer You this  
in honor of  
the moment  
when YOU  
died for ME.'"

**-St. John  
Vianney**

"Abandon yourself  
into the hands of Mary.  
She will take care  
of you."

*- St. Padre Pio*

**"Remember that one does  
not win the battle without prayer.  
The choice is yours."**

**Saint Padre Pio, Catholic mystic and priest**

# St. John of the Cross

**H**is life of poverty and persecution could have produced a bitter cynic. Instead it gave birth to a compassionate mystic, who lived by the beliefs that “Who has ever seen people persuaded to love God by harshness?” and “Where there is no love, put love — and you will find love.”

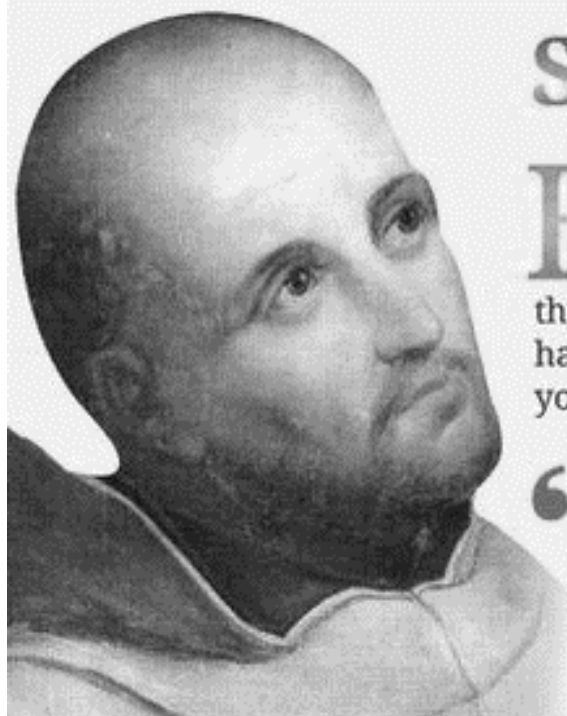
**“***The Lord measures our perfection neither by the multitude nor the magnitude of our deeds, but by the manner in which we perform them.***”**



**Date of birth:** June 24, 1542  
**Birthplace:** Fontiveros, Avila, Spain  
**Died:** Dec 14, 1591 **Age:** 49

**Feast day** Dec 14

**Patronage:**  
 Contemplative life, contemplatives,  
 mystical theology, mystics,  
 Spanish poet



St John of the Cross who is well known for his mystical writings and poetry, was closely associated with St Teresa in her work of founding the reformed Carmel.

**1542**

John was born Juan de Yepes. His father gave up wealth, status, and comfort when he married a weaver's daughter and was disowned by his noble family.

**1543**

Death of John's father, leaving a young widow with three starving children.

**1552**

John's first education was at Medina del Campo a school for poor children.

**1559**

John took a job caring for hospital patients who suffered from incurable diseases and madness.

Studied at a Jesuit school.

**1563**

John the quiet, shy, intensely pious young man entered the monastery of the Carmelites at Medina del Campo.

**1564**

Made Profession as a Carmelite, then entered the University Salamanca to study arts.

**1567**

Ordained a priest. Then returned to University at Salamanca to study theology.

**1577**

Teresa of Avila asked him to help her reform movement. John supported her belief. On the night of Dec 2, a group of Carmelites opposed to reform broke into John's dwelling in Avila, and kidnapped him.



John of the Cross with Teresa of Avila.

He was imprisoned at Toledo, lived 9 months in a cell 6 feet wide by 10 feet long and beaten three times a week. There was only one tiny window high up near the ceiling.

During this imprisonment he composed some of his great poems.



Monastery of the Incarnation in Avila today. The Convent houses a Teresian museum. One of the most outstanding works is a drawing by John which portrays Christ on the Cross.



**1578-91**

In Aug 1578, John escapes from prison to the convent of the Discalced Carmelite nuns in Toledo.

John spends these years actively involved in the Order, serving on the government for the friars, holding a variety of offices, and he served and assisted the Nuns in their newly founded monasteries.



**Christ crucified:** This drawing was made by John. He was praying in a loft overlooking the sanctuary at the Monastery of the Incarnation in Avila. He received a vision and then sketched what he had beheld.

John falls victim to severe fever. John dies at Ubeda on Dec 14.

**1726**

Canonized by Pope Benedict XIII on Dec 27.

**1926**

Proclaimed a Doctor of the Church by Pope Pius XI on Aug 24.



John left us many books of practical advice on spiritual growth and prayer that are just as relevant today as they were then.

**1952**

The Spanish Ministry of National Education names St John of the Cross the patron of Spanish poets.

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN:**

O Come, O come, Emmanuel  
 Redeem thy captive Israel,  
 That doth in exile homeless mourn  
 Until her Saviour Christ be born.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel.  
 Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come thou day star seen on high  
 with healing for our hearts draw nigh:  
 Do thou the mists of night dispel and  
 death's forboding darkness quell.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel.  
 Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come of Gentile hearts, the King.  
 A world that needs thee ransoming  
 And save thy Servants who confess  
 with humbled hearts their faithlessness.

*Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel.  
 Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**OFFERTORY HYMN:**

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
 the Lord is with thee.  
 Blessed art thou amongst women,  
 And blessed is the fruit of thy womb.

But Mary said to the angel,  
 "How can this be, since I have no relations  
 with a man?"

And the angel said to her in reply,  
 "The holy Spirit will come upon you,  
 and the power of the Most High will  
 overshadow you. Therefor the child to be  
 born will be called holy, the Son of God.

And behold Elizabeth, your relative,  
 has also conceived a son in her old age,  
 and this is the sixth month for her who  
 was called barren; for nothing will be  
 impossible for God."

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of  
 the Lord. May it be done to me according  
 to your word."

**COMMUNION HYMN:**

Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
 Born to set thy people free;  
 From our fears and sins release us,  
 Let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
 hope of all the earth thou art:  
 Dear desire of ev'ry nation,  
 joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,  
 Born a child, and yet a king,  
 Born to reign in us forever,  
 Now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal Spirit  
 Rule in all our hearts alone;  
 By thine all sufficient merit  
 Raise us to thy glorious throne.

*Alma Redemptoris Mater  
 quae pervia caeli porta manes  
 et stella maris, succurre cadenti,  
 surgere qui curat populo:  
 tu quae genuisti, natura mirante,  
 tuum sanctum genitorem:  
 Virgo prius ac posterius,  
 Gabrielis ab ore sumens illud ave,  
 peccatorum miserere.*

**RECESSIONAL HYMN:**

O come, divine Messiah;  
 The world in silence waits the day  
 When hope shall sing its triumph  
 And sadness flee away.

*Sweet Saviour, haste!  
 Come, come to earth.  
 dispel the night and show thy face,  
 and bid us hail the dawn of grace.  
 O come, divine Messiah; the world in silence  
 waits the day when hope shall sing its  
 triumph and sadness flee away.*

O thou, whom nations sighed for,  
 Whom priest and prophets long foretold,  
 wilt break the captive's fetters,  
 Redeem the long lost fold.

*Sweet Saviour, haste!  
 Come, come to earth.  
 dispel the night and show thy face,  
 and bid us hail the dawn of grace.  
 O come, divine Messiah; the world in silence  
 waits the day when hope shall sing its  
 triumph and sadness flee away.*

Shalt come in peace and meekness  
 And lowly will thy cradle be;  
 All clothed in human weakness  
 Shall we thy Godhead see.

*Sweet Saviour, haste!  
 Come, come to earth.  
 dispel the night and show thy face,  
 and bid us hail the dawn of grace.  
 O come, divine Messiah; the world in  
 silence waits the day when hope shall sing  
 its triumph and sadness flee away*

**REMINDER:**

Parish activities that  
 take a break during January,  
 Please make a note on your calendar the  
 starting dates for 2023

**Monthly Adoration** - starts 3 February 2023  
**Sunday Cup of Tea** - starts 5 February 2023  
**Catechism Classes** - starts 12 February 2023  
**Rosary for Life** - starts 5 February 2023  
**Parish Newsletter** - starts 5 February 2023  
**Hall Bookings** - starts 5 February 2023  
**Church Cleaners** - starts 11 February 2023  
**Thursday Night Formation** - starts  
 February

The Parish Office will be **CLOSED** from  
 the 24th December till 24th January.  
 Fr Jeremy will be away at Hearts Aflame  
 from the 30<sup>th</sup> Dec to the 9<sup>th</sup> Jan.

**NEXT SUNDAY:**

**25<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

**The Nativity of the Lord (Yr A)**

**Night:** Is 9:1-7; Titus 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14;

**Day:** Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18;

**LITURGY ROSTER****Christmas Night Mass:**

**Readers:** J. Brodie, L. Ahio

**Prayers of the Faithful:** C. Tagiilima

**Offertory:** Leifi Family

**Special Ministers:** P. Capundag

**Christmas Day:**

**Readers:** M. D'Souza, R. Cardoza

**Prayers of the Faithful:** R. Lopez

**Offertory:** Hatzaw Family

**Special Ministers:** S. Molloy

**CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER**

on break till 11th February 2023

Please keep the Church tidy.

**SUNDAY CUP OF TEA ROSTER**

on break till 5th February 2023

**ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

**18 Dec:** Mary Scanlon, Myrtle Goudie,  
 Oliver Bray - Taylor

**19 Dec:** Fonofale Endemann

**20 Dec:** Peter Somerville

**21 Dec:** Ronald Gander

**22 Dec:** Ante Katavich

**23 Dec:** Michelle Bryan, Michael Atkinson,  
 Margaret Finn

**24 Dec:** Freeth Herbert, Margaret  
 Bartocci

**PARISH FINANCES**

<b>Parish</b>	<b>\$1,882.33</b>
<b>Priests</b>	<b>\$941.17</b>
<b>Total Cash and AP's</b>	<b>\$2,823.50</b>

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH NOTICES****CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE****CHRISTMAS EVE**

Christmas Night Mass  
 Saturday 24th December

**11:00pm**

Carols from 10:00pm

**CHRISTMAS DAY**

Sunday 25th December  
 8:00am (Latin)

**10:00am(English)**

**BOXING DAY**

Monday 26th December  
 9:00am

**Please see: the foyer door  
 for changes in Masstimes  
 from the 27<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
 to 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023**