



Saint Anne and Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church

December 23, 2018
The Fourth Sunday of Advent

<https://www.sasjrcc.org>



Saint Anne
216 East Liberty St.
Fax: (803)778-1644
Confession:
Sat:3:00-4:00pm
(or by appointment)
Mass Times
Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday:8:00am,12:00noon



Saint Jude
611 West Oakland Ave
Confession:
Sat: 4:30-5:30pm
(or by appointment)
Mass Times
Saturday: 6:00pm
Sunday: 9:15am, 5:00pm
12:00pm (Spanish)

**Diocesan Office of Child
Protective Services**
Bonnie Sigers
843-261-0430



Question: With Christmas fast approaching, can you give me some practical tips to prepare myself and my family that will help us stay grounded in what this holiday is really about?

With all the commercialism, it's easy to stray.

Answer: Happy times and events bring fond memories and a renewed sense of love and kinship with others. The anticipation is half the joy of the event itself. The coming of the Lord is that kind of event that people have been looking forward to for generations with fervent hope and desire. It gave them strength and courage as they waited for the coming of the Lord.

We know that Christmas is rushed. Sales begin in August, and carols blare long before the season begins. Everyone laments the commercial aspects of the season. But as Advent begins, do something to help you be more mindful of the Lord's coming. Use an Advent wreath, enthrone the Bible prominently, read the readings from the Bible assigned to each day. Postpone the tree and decorations until closer to Christmas. Establish new family rituals, customs, and prayers that help remind everyone we are preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Fasting, attending daily Mass or a special celebration of reconciliation, reaching out to those alienated from family or society, and visiting the homebound manifest the love of the Christ Child and the Holy Family. Resist the temptation to rush the season. In His own time and in His own way, God will come.

Our task is simply to be watchful and ready.

Pastor : Rev. Giovannie Nunez, CRM
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Rufino C. Madrideo, Jr., CRM
Deacon Stephen Frye

Sacramental Emergency Contact Number (803) 934-1204

St. Anne & St. Jude Catholic School Principal:
Mrs. Kristi Doyle - kristidoyle@sasjcs.com (803) 775-3632

Dir. of Faith Formation: Nicole Macedo Nicole@sasjrcc.org

Youth Minister: Frank Costas Frank@sasjrcc.org

Parish Receptionist: Tina Couture Tina@sasjrcc.org

Ministry Coordinator : Donna Kearney Donna@sasjrcc.org

St. Lawrence Cemetery - John Macmaster (803) 968-3466

The Parish Office (located at St. Anne) (803) 773-9244 (803)773-3524
Mon-Thurs 9:00am - 4:00pm Friday 9:00am - 12:00pm

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

The RCIA, the process for welcoming adults into the Catholic Church, has started for St. Anne & St. Jude and Our Lady of the Skies (Shaw AFB). We meet Wednesdays, 7 to 9 PM in the St. Jude Parish Center at 611 W. Oakland Ave. Please call Jackie Francis, our RCIA Coordinator, at 803-469-4584 if you have any questions. The doors are open to all who want to know more about the life and teaching of the Catholic faith. Come and join us!

Wednesday – December 26: Christmas – No Session

A sincere thank you to Catherine Kapi for providing delicious refreshments or RCIA hospitality on Dec 12.

¡El Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos (RCIA)

Comenzará! ¿Has pensado en completar tus sacramentos para tener participación plena en la Iglesia Católica? ¿Quieres saber más sobre la Fe? ¿Fuiste bautizado en la Iglesia Católica pero has recibido la Eucaristía ni la Confirmación? RICA, el Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos, proceso que da la bienvenida a adultos dentro de la Iglesia Católica, El curso se lleva a cabo cada domingo antes de la Misa en español, empezando a las 10:15 a.m. y terminando a las 11:45am, diez minutos antes de la Misa, en la última aula del pasillo exterior del Centro Parroquial de San Judas. Si estás interesado o sabes de alguien que se interese por favor llama a Ma. Elena Ferrell, nuestra coordinadora de RICA en español, al 803 840 5149, o habla con alguno de los Padres.



The next Women's Guild Meeting will be **Sunday, January 13**. All Ladies of the parish are welcome. We meet in the Saint Anne Parish Center 1:30pm to 3:00pm!

YARD SALE

The Women's Guild will hold it's annual YARD SALE on January 19th from 7:00 am – 11:00 am. Donations can be dropped off at St Anne Parish Hall **starting January 12th**.

Thank you for your support!

Saint Anne Sunday Adult Education

Join the St. Anne Sunday Adult Ed group as we explore various aspects of our incredible faith. We meet after the 8:00 am Mass in the Adult Ed room (the old Kindergarten). Come by and be enriched by the faith, fellowship, and our donut ministry. For info contact Charley Francis at cfrancis@ftc-i.net or 803-469-4584.

December 30 – Bernardino of Siena

SASJ Bible Study

Mission: To bring the Scriptures to life for our parish community. Come journey with us as we discover who Jesus was and is. All are welcome.

We will begin a series on catholic beliefs, a deep look at the Nicene Creed

We meet on Sundays at 10:30 am in St Jude Conference Room.

Facebook: SASJ Bible Study

questions? Please contact Greg at (803) 406-0201 or gtavarez@sc.rr.com



May your hearts be filled with joy,
contentment and peace as you celebrate
the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior!
Merry Christmas!
From Fr. Gio and Fr. Rufino



Saint Anne and Saint Jude Roman Catholic Church
Sumter, South Carolina

CHRISTmas & new YEAR Mass Schedule

December 24, 2018 - Monday

7:00 AM at Saint Jude's

5:00 PM at Saint Anne's (Children's Vigil Mass)

choir c/o Anne Marie

8:00 PM at Saint Anne's (Christmas Vigil Mass)

choir c/o Raymond

12:00 AM at Saint Jude's (Christmas Midnight Mass)

choir c/o Anne Marie

December 25, 2018 - Tuesday - Christmas Day

8:00 AM at Saint Anne's
choir c/o Ann

10:00 AM at Saint Jude's
choir c/o Anne Marie

12:00 NN at Saint Jude's (Spanish)
choir c/o Ann

December 31, 2018 - Monday

7:00 AM at Saint Jude's

7:00 PM at Saint Anne's (Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)

choir c/o Raymond

January 1, 2019 - Tuesday - New Year's Day Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

8:00 AM at Saint Anne's
choir c/o Ann

10:00 AM at Saint Jude's
choir c/o Shirlyn

12:00 NN at Saint Jude's (Spanish)
choir c/o Shirlyn



Tuesday Adoration at the Saint Jude Location

Weekly Adoration is open to everyone. If you would like to sign up for specific time slots, the points of contact are Calvin Glisson (803) 521-3812 and Ray Blanchette (803) 481-5690.

First Friday Devotion / Adoration will begin at 6:30pm in St. Anne's Little Chapel January 4th.

Rito del Martes de Adoración al Santísimo

La adoración semanal está abierta a todos. Se expone el Santísimo Sacramento del Altar todos los martes en San Judas dependiendo desde las 8am a las 6:30 después de rezar el Rosario. También los animamos a participar en la adoración mensual que se hace cada Viernes primero del mes de 6pm-8am. Se les invita a todos a asistir. Adquirirán gracias especiales por sus esfuerzos. Demos le gracias al Señor!!



Knights of Columbus

In solidarity with our priests; supporting our parish and community through works of charity. Help us to help others by becoming a Knight. Call Chris Hilditch, Grand Knight, 803-316-6283 for more information. www.sumterkofc.org. Council meetings take place the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM Council Hall located at 2325 Camden Hwy.

The Sumter Cursillo Movement

Interested? Contact Noreen Wall 803-506-4408 Or Andrea Marcella 803-481-4269

Charismatic Prayer Group

Meets every Wednesday from 7:00pm-8:30pm in the Library at Saint Jude. Everyone is welcome!

Prison Ministry Interested?

Contact Richard Boisvert 803-406-0653.

Ministerio de la Prisión

¿Estás interesado en servir en este ministerio? Llama a Ma. Elena al 803 773 5606.

Knights of Peter Claver And Ladies Auxiliary

Your Invitation to Catholic Action To support parish and community activities. To provide charitable support to worth while causes. To provide social and intellectual fellowship. If you are interested, then become a Knight or Lady of Saint Peter Claver. For information call (803) 883-7113.

Baptism: Please call the Parish office to make instruction arrangements for parents & godparents.

Baptism in English Usually available on the 4th Saturday of the month

Baptism in Spanish usually available on the 3rd Saturday of the month

Matrimony: Couples planning to marry in the church should contact the Pastor at least six months in advance.

Reconciliation (Saint Anne) : Saturday 3:00-4:00pm prior to the 4:30pm Vigil Mass and by appointment.

Reconciliation: (Saint Jude) : Saturday 4:30-5:30pm prior to the 6:00pm Vigil Mass and by appointment.

Sacrament of the Sick: Please contact the Priest if you are admitted to the hospital.



PARISH YEAR FOR PASTORAL CARE

**Christ's Mercy & Charity
in works of pastoral ministry**

**Launches: First Sunday of Advent 2018
Culminates: Solemnity of Christ the King 2019**



www.adornofathersfoundation.org

Adorno Fathers Foundation

Sumter Catholic Young Adults: Flock17

Who's it for: Basically anyone 18-39ish, Single or married, Student, Professional, Military, or between jobs. Doesn't matter

keep up with us on Facebook: **FLOCK17**

contact G reg at (803) 406-0201 or
gtavarez@sc.rr.com



THURSDAY GAME NIGHT

December 20, 2018 & January 3, 2019

WHERE: ST JUDE LOCATION

STARTING AT 6:30PM AND ENDING 8:30PM.

(Adults Only Please)



Gifts for the person who has everything are available on the Lighthouse Kiosk.

Sacramentos:

Bautismos - Favor de llamar a la oficina parroquial para obtener instrucción de arreglos para padres y padrinos.

Bautismos en Español - Estarán disponibles el tercer sábado del mes

Matrimonio - Parejas planeando casarse en la Iglesia deben contactar al Pastor al menos seis meses en anticipación.

Confesiones (San Judas) - Los sábados de las 4:30-5:30pm antes de la misa vespertina de las 6pm o por cita.

Unción de Enfermos - Favor de contactar al Sacerdote si lo ingresan a usted o a un familiar en el hospital.

ST. ANNE & ST. JUDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

HOME OF THE GUARDIANS

INSPIRING EXCELLENCE IN ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN



Kristi Doyle, Principal
principal@sasjcs.com

St. Anne & St. Jude Catholic School Grades K-12
11 S. Magnolia Street Sumter, S.C. 29150
(803) 775-3632 FAX (803) 938-9074

Are you interested in learning to **speak conversational Spanish**? We are organizing a class for one evening a week starting in January. There will be a one-time fee of \$20 for the class. Please call the school office (803-775-3632) if you are interested.

SASJCS is in need of a qualified 2nd Grade Teacher, a Part-time Spanish Teacher, & Individuals willing to donate 30 minutes per week tutoring lower school students. Contact the school with any questions.

Faith Formation 2018-2019 Religious Education

Classes will resume on Sunday January 6th.

DECEMBER '18						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

23 No Class
25 Christmas Day
30 No Class

Catholic Youth of Sumter

We will not meet on **December 23rd** or **December 30th**.
We wish you all a Blessed and Merry Christmas!!

This is the Best Saturday you will spend in 2019

**Catholic Youth
Stand Up for Life Rally**
Saturday, January 12, 2019
Township Auditorium - Columbia, SC
Key Note Speaker - Leah Darrow



On Saturday, January 12th we will be marching to the State House in Columbia and taking part in the Diocese of Charleston **Youth Rally For Life**. We will depart the St. Jude location at 9:30 a.m. and will return home approximately 8:00 p.m. We will march to the State House from the USC bookstore and then attend the youth rally at the Township Auditorium. Mass will be celebrated at 4 p.m. with Bishop Guglielmone as celebrant. You will need to bring with you a bagged lunch, and warm clothes. We will stop for dinner on the way home for fast food. Please send money for dinner along with any other spending money you feel your youth may need. The speakers typically have T-shirts, CDs and other items for sale. **Youth**...If you have attended in the past, join us again and invite a friend!! If you've never attended come and give your voice to those who cannot speak and are defenseless.

It's time for us to start planning for the **High School Diocesan Youth Conference! HSDYC 2019** is just around the corner. This is a 3-day 2-night youth rally starting on Friday March 8th and ending with mass celebrated by Bishop Guglielmone on Sunday March 10th. Youth...are you strong in your Faith? A bit confused? Maybe you thought you had a clear picture of what you believe and something has happened to make you think twice? Maybe you are a 100% skeptic? If you answered YES to any of those questions, This weekend is geared 100% towards you. It is planned, performed, and executed by other youth in the diocese. Come and listen to the engaging speakers, take in the talent of the E-team with their funny and meaningful skits, enjoy the music and learn more and more about your Faith. This weekend is for you no matter where you are in your faith life. Mark your calendars and keep this event in mind as the one that will make you see things in a totally different way. Oh yeahand you'll have some serious fun too!

- We will have registration forms available in **mid-January**. Parents, it will be important to get these back to us before **February 15th, 2019**. The cost of this weekend is **\$145 per youth**. After February 15th the cost goes up to \$155 per youth and they will not receive a t-shirt. Please do not let cost be a factor in your decision to send your child. There are scholarships available. Please see Nicole Macedo or Frank Costas for information.

December 29 / January 1	Lector	Sacristan	EMOHC	Altar Server	Usher
Saturday, 4:30 PM	Louise Bock Donna Kearney	Therese DeAngeli	Therese DeAngeli Wayne DeAngeli Cathy Sides	John Jamison Kairi Barwick Lesley Jamison Devin Barwick	Filipe Vergara Joey Duggan
Saturday, 6:00 PM	Ray Blanchette	Calvin Glisson	Chris Harvey Calvin Glisson Rose Sestokas	Christian Harvey	Joe Casey Calvin Glisson
Sunday, 8:00 AM	Mike Doyle Kristi Doyle	Karl Selden	Christine Byrd Deidre Goebel Susanne Brotherton	Jessica Puccinelli Adam Reisenauer Jonah Reisenauer Madeleine Moore	Frank Brown TG Manus Jack Reyling
Sunday, 9:15 AM	Cheryl Coleman Chris Hilditch	Mitch Williams	Mitch Williams Mary Ellen Gussio Andrew Williams	Mike Fisher Samantha Fisher	Ernest Gamble Hazel McLean
Sunday, 12:00 PM English	Michel Fleming Brenda Bethune	John Owen	John Owen Rose Mary Dannelly Minister Needed	Christianna Fappiano Kaitlynn Fappiano Nevaeh Little Dominic Neil	John Owen Ushers Needed
Sunday, 12:00 PM Spanish	Ana Centeno Velasco Veronica Duran	Manuel Ramon	Sonia Orellana Ricardo Sierra-Montes Manuel Ramon	Liliana Martinez Castillo Evelyn Cruz Duran Rosalba Herrera-Rivera	Ricardo Sierra-Montes Maria Cruz Castillo
Sunday, 5:00 PM	Fatima Hernandez Rose Sestokas	Chris Black	Cindy Tavarez Greg Tavarez Chris Black	Noah Tavarez Austin Foddrill	Sammy Burrows Chris Black
Monday, 7:00 PM Saint Anne—Vigil Solemnity of Mary the	Jack Hemming Aida Sikora	Donna Kearney	Donna Kearney Louise Bock Jan Neuner	Meagan Jamison Lesley Jamison Amber Jamison	Bill Hartley Dave Martin
Tuesday, 8:00 AM Saint Anne Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God	Charley Francis Christine Byrd	Karl Selden	Deacon Steve Frye Jackie Francis James Smith	Jonah Reisenauer Adam Reisenauer	Jack Reyling TG Manus
Tuesday, 10:00 AM Saint Jude Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God	Cheryl Coleman Valerie Williams	John Owen	Deacon Steve Frye John Owen Andrew Williams	Aidan Hilditch Christian Harvey	Chris Black Calvin Glisson
Tuesday, 12:00 PM Saint Jude -Spanish Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God	Federico Sanchez Martinez Beatriz Medina Sanchez	Manuel Ramon	Manuel Ramon Ricardo Sierra-Montes Sonia Orellana	Evelyn Cruz Duran Liliana Martinez Castillo Eva Ramon Jolly Orihuela Wyss	Maria Cruz Castillo Ricardo Sierra-Montes

Please pray for:

Roscoe Pendry
Gail Johnson
Richard Fales
Francis McBride
Rose Schenkel
Lawrence Braswell
Roberta Legendre
Mary Johnson
Tam Pham
Marie Savio
Cindy Hogan
David McDonald
William Rickerd
Cherise Williams
James Van Frank
Richie Tallman
Christopher Rosa
Katharina Clark
Austin Youngers
Mary Anne Damuth
Michelle Briggs
Barbara Dupree
Amani Williams
Brian Conklin
Rita Gallahar
Kim DeBraul
Ursula Guest
Chelato Family
Marie Fernandes
Danita Russell
Sally Clark
Patricia Kohner
Jean Jose
Taylor Scofield
Shirley Johnson
Maryn Dault
Tony Wicker
Roberta Carter
Sterling Fisher
Charlotte McPherson
Nona Sewell
Paul Gober
Tonya Venezia
Daniel P. Lawless
Henry Langlois
Barry Ferrell
Amy Ferrell
Jan Ferrell
Pete Watcher
Hayes E. Baker
Timothy Subocz
Francine Cronia
Helen Scannapieco
Jack Hemming Sr.
Marnie Williams
Alyce Brunke
Talmadge Riddick
Andree Bessette
Walter Boone
Allen Primos
Alvin Fusetti
Nancy David
Flossie Brailsford
Seth Dyke
Estella Richardson

**Please help us
keep this list
updated. If a
name can be
removed,
PLEASE
let us know.**

773-3524

Thank You For the Continued Support !!

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

December 16th

Offertory \$ 8348.00

Online Giving \$ 454.00

\$ 8802.00

Parish App!!

Still haven' downloaded the PARISH APP for your iPhone or Android Phone!! www.Myparishapp.com. If you would like help installing the App or a brief tutorial on the features please call the Parish Office.

Aplicación de la Parroquia ¿Todavía no has bajado la aplicación de nuestra parroquia? www.Myparishapp.com
Si necesitas ayuda para instalarla en tu cel o quieres aprender cómo funciona llama a la oficina de la parroquia.



Online Giving

A Secure and Convenient way to contribute to your parish

<https://www.sasjrcc.org/onlinegiving/>

- No need to hassle with checks or cash
- 24/7 web based access
- Easily schedule recurring donations to coincide with your pay period
- Credit card option allows you to take advantage of rewards such as air miles or cash bonuses
- No need to share bank account information because you enter it directly into the Online Giving secure site
- Allows you to give even if you are unable to attend parish services
- Contribution amount is easily adjusted .

**United Mass Intentions
for the week of
December 22 through December 30**

Saturday	8:15am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Saturday	4:30pm	✠Jim Lawler	Sylvia Lawler
Saturday	6:00pm	Intentions of Rev. Marek Sotek	Foyle Family
Sunday	8:00am	✠Johnnie Livingston	Mary Jones
Sunday	9:15am	✠Tiffany Danielle Delgado	Follin Family
Sunday	12:00pm English	✠Joanne O'Toole, ✠Mr. Mrs. Carlo Fusetti; ✠Erma Moeller; ✠Tillia Rose	Fusetti Family
Sunday	12:00pm Spanish	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Sunday	5:00pm	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Christmas Eve	5:00pm	✠Ray Harbuck	Monica Harbuck
Christmas Eve	8:00pm	✠John Wannamaker	Alma Wannamaker
Midnight Mass	12:00am	✠Tomoko Delos Santos	Shirley Fink
Christmas	8:00am	✠Lori Bleil	Mom and Dad Bleil
Christmas	10:00am	Wedding Anniversary of ✠Jack Follin and Intentions of EM Follin	Follin Family
Christmas	12:00pm Spanish	✠John Stabile	Carol McCaskey
Wednesday	7:00am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Thursday	8:15am	✠Stephanie Fink	Shirley Fink
Friday	8:15am	Erika and Michael Dunlap	Winter Family
Saturday	8:15am	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Saturday	4:30pm	Intentions of Rev. David Michael	Foyle Family
Saturday	6:00pm	✠Vickie Rigor	Jose & Vincent Rigor
Sunday	8:00am	Intentions of Rev. JP Narichetti	Foyle Family
Sunday	9:15am	✠John Hathaway ✠Nancy Hathaway	Hathaway Family
Sunday	12:00pm English	Intentions of the Priests in	Foyle Family
Sunday	12:00pm Spanish	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	
Sunday	5:00pm	Saint Anne and Saint Jude	

Sunday, December 23
St. Anne Eucharist - 8:00am, 12:00pm
Saint Jude Eucharist-9:15am,
St. Jude Eucharistic 5:00pm -Christmas Novena
12:00 noon (Spanish)
NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
NO CATHOLIC YOUTH OF SUMTER

Monday, December 24 Christmas Eve
Saint Jude - 7:00am - Daily Mass
Saint Anne Children's Mass 5:00 pm, 8:00pm
Saint Jude Midnight Mass-12:00am
Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, December 25 Christmas Day
Saint Anne Eucharist - 8:00am
Saint Jude Eucharist-10:00am
12:00 noon (Spanish)
~No Adoration ~
Parish Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26
Saint Jude - 7:00am - Daily Mass
Parish Office Closed

Thursday, December 27
Saint Anne - 8:15am - Daily Mass
Parish Office Closed

Friday, December 28
Saint Anne - 8:15am - Daily Mass
Parish Office Closed

Saturday, December 29
Saint Anne - 8:15am - Daily Mass
Saint Anne Confession 3:00-4:00pm
Saint Anne Vigil Mass - 4:30pm
Saint Jude Confession 4:30-5:30pm
St. Jude Vigil Mass-6:00pm

Sunday, December 30
Saint Anne Eucharist - 8:00am, 12:00pm
Saint Jude Eucharist-9:15am, 5:00pm
12:00 noon (Spanish)
NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
NO CATHOLIC YOUTH OF SUMTER

If you or a family member are admitted to a hospital or nursing facility, or are homebound and unable to attend Mass, YOU must notify the Parish Offices, Priest or Deacon.

Privacy Laws prevent hospitals or a nursing facility from notifying us directly.



Si tu o algún miembro de tu familia es admitido a un hospital, clínica de rehabilitación, residencia de ancianos, o está confinado al hogar y no puede asistir a Misa, tú debes notificarlo a la oficina parroquial o alguno de los Padres. Las leyes de privacidad no permiten que los hospitales y las demás instituciones médicas avisen a la iglesia directamente.



December 23, 2018 4th Sunday of Advent

Here we are, mere days from Christmas, and we hear a Gospel anticipating the birth of another child. Mary has received word that her cousin Elizabeth is

with child. Pregnant as she is, Mary "set out and traveled to the hill country in haste." She has recently received the greatest news of her life - that she is to be mother to the Messiah by the power of the Holy Spirit - but her concern is for her cousin in need. Through God's grace, Elizabeth turns it into an opportunity to honor the coming Christ. "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." Yet Mary's example of selflessness should inspire us.

As Christmas draws near, there is plenty of goodness to anticipate for many of us. We'll reunite with family and friends, uphold time-honored traditions, swap stories old and new, exchange gifts, and welcome Jesus at the Christmas liturgy. These are wonderful things! Of course, they probably all come with their own to-do list. Shop for last-minute gifts, pick up recipe ingredients, ready the guest room, or pack your own bags. Mary probably had things to do as well. She had a lot to consider, for one thing. How do you plan to tell your parents you're pregnant, but no man was involved? When Joseph finds out, who will care for the practical needs of you and your child? Into what may have been a chaos of questions, Mary receives news that someone is in need. She goes immediately. In these final days before Christmas, stay watchful and awake! You never know when God might invite you to welcome, hospitality, and compassion. It might be tempting to reject the opportunity for your own needs. Follow the example of Mary! If God is providing you an opportunity to love, He will provide the means to accomplish all your other tasks. This Christmas season, may you too hear, "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Life is often unfair. Sadly, life's inequity usually occurs at our hands. The world's systems - economic, political, and environmental - do not always serve the best interests of the people. We create situations that tip the scales by profiting a few and reducing the quality of life for many. We look at all of the injustices in our world, people being hurt and exploited, and wonder why God has abandoned us or why He won't fix what is happening. God did fix it. He sent his Son into the world as our just ruler and the one who will bring peace. The problem is we still turn away and think that we can do better. The Son of Justice has come into the world. We can work for change and be the voice of justice. We can dream and do things differently. Blessed are you who believe that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled.



23 de diciembre de 2018 4o Domingo de Adviento

"Cuando María tiene noticia de la maternidad de su prima Isabel, ya anciana y estéril, se

pone en camino. No por falta de fe en la profecía ni por dudar del anuncio, ni por dudar de los signos que le fueron dados, sino llena de alegría para cumplir un servicio entrañable. En la prontitud de la alegría, María se dirige hacia las montañas. Llena de Dios ¿podía no ir de prisa hacia las alturas? Los cálculos lentos no corresponden a la gracia del Espíritu Santo" (San Ambrosio). Este breve resumen que San Ambrosio nos da en su reflexión sobre la Visitación nos prepara para saber acoger las sorpresas de Dios, referente al servicio generoso que se debe tener hacia el que lo necesita.

Salga al encuentro del otro, como nos lo dice el Papa Francisco, "Salida de la Iglesia-que habla de los pobres hacia una Iglesia-que va a los pobres, conversa con ellos, los abraza y los defiende". Dios sale hacia las montañas de Judá y con alegría las dos mujeres se abrazan. El saludo de Isabel lleno del Espíritu Santo resuena en sus entrañas y al momento el niño saltó de alegría. "¡Dichosa tú por haber creído que se cumplirían las promesas del Señor!" (Lucas 1:45). María e Isabel son testigos del amor de Dios en el mundo. "Bendito el fruto de tu vientre" (Lucas 1:42). El Himno Litúrgico del Tiempo de Adviento es una oración hermosa que nos ayuda durante la semana a esperar al Mesías. "Ya la tierra reclama su fruto y de bodas se anuncia alegría, el Señor que en los cielos moraba se hizo carne en la Virgen Maria." ¿Está tu corazón listo para recibir al Señor?

VIVIR LA LITURGIA - INSPIRACIÓN DE LA SEMANA

Hay ocasiones en las que la vida es injusta. Tristemente, las injusticias típicamente ocurren a través de nuestras propias manos. Los sistemas del mundo -- económico, político y del medio ambiente -- no siempre sirven los mejores intereses de las personas. Nosotros creamos situaciones que benefician solamente a algunos cuantos afortunados y reducen la calidad de vida para muchos otros. Podemos llegar a observar las injusticias del mundo, el dolor de los demás y la explotación, y nos preguntamos por qué Dios nos ha abandonado o por qué Dios no arregla los problemas. La verdad es que Dios ya vino a arreglar los problemas. Mandó a su Hijo al mundo como el dirigente justo y el que traerá la paz. El problema está en nosotros porque dejamos de ver a Dios y pensamos que podemos lograr lo mejor sin Él. El Hijo de la Justicia ya ha llegado al mundo. Lo que nosotros podemos hacer es trabajar por un cambio y ser la voz de la justicia. Podemos soñar y hacer las cosas diferentes. Bendecidos ustedes que escuchan la voz del Señor y que creen Su palabra.