

SACRED HEART HEARTBEAT

ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



Week of November 18/19, 2017 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

FOR NOVEMBER



Pope Francis'

MONTHLY
PRAYER
INTENTIONS

CHRISTIANS IN ASIA – That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel in word and deed, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.

OUR PARISH PRAYS TOGETHER

Feel free to share your special needs and intentions, so they can be included here and all of our parish will join in praying with you. Individual names are welcome but not necessary.

For victims of natural disasters and violence
For family members who have died
For all those looking for work
For a woman concerned about her family
For someone possibly with MS
For the end to abortions

For those working for faith and justice
For the safety of all who are traveling
For a woman suffering from bone cancer
For those preparing for sacraments
For all those in pain
For justice for immigrants and refugees

NOVEMBER – REMEMBER OUR BELOVED DECEASED

During the month of November, the names of deceased family and friends are placed on the altar at the daily and weekend Masses and they will be remembered at each Mass.

AS AN EXPERIMENT

Starting on the First Sunday of Advent and continuing through December 31, there will be a Mass on Sunday morning at 10 AM at the Jesuit Chapel. There are people who cannot make Mass on Saturday, or who simply prefer a Mass on Sunday morning. We will begin as a "quiet" Mass, with no singing. If the numbers warrant and those attending want to sing, we can certainly make that happen. We will take up the usual Second Sunday collection. After Christmas we will evaluate and see if it is an idea that meets a need or not.

ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION – To help prepare for this holy season of Advent, there will be a Day of Reflection at the Jesuit Center on Sunday, December 3. We will gather at 9 AM for points for reflection and a time of prayer, Mass at 10, sharing and reflection, lunch, and another session of points, prayer and sharing in the afternoon. We anticipate being finished around 3 PM. There is no fee, but freewill offerings are welcome. Lunch is included, but reservations are required.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS AND CELEBRATIONS

November 18 – Youth Group committee, 10 AM at the Jesuit Center

November 18 - Children's Mass at Sweifieh. Fr. Peter Schineller, SJ Principal Celebrant and Homilist

November 19 - English Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Jabal Amman - 11:30 AM

November 20 – RCIA Meeting at the Jesuit Center, 9:15 AM

November 21 – Memorial of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

November 22 – Memorial of St Cecilia, patron of music

November 25 – Begin the Novena to St. Francis Xavier

November 25/26 – Solemnity of Christ the King

Special Collection to Support Flu Shot Project

Installation of Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers at both churches as needed

November 30 – Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle

December 1 – First Friday, adoration at the Jesuit Chapel following the 8:30 Mass

December 2/3 – First Sunday of Advent

December 2 - Introduction of First Communion and Confirmation candidates at Sweifieh

December 3 – Mass at the Jesuit Chapel at 10 AM

December 3 – ADVENT DAY OF RECOLLECTION, 9 AM until 3PM – Jesuit Center. Reservation required

December 6 – St. Nicholas Day

December 8 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

December 9/10 – Second Collection in both Churches and the Jesuit Chapel

December 10 – Mass at the Jesuit Chapel at 10 AM

December 15 – English Mass at Church of the Annunciation, Jabal Luweibde (12 Noon)

December 16-24 Christmas Novena

December 10 – Mass at the Jesuit Chapel at 10 AM

December 16 – Farewell Reception for Fr. Peter Schineller, SJ

December 17 – Mass at the Jesuit Chapel at 10 AM

December 17 – English Mass at St. Joseph's Church, Jabal Amman - 11:30 AM

December 23 – 4th Sunday of Advent, Sweifieh

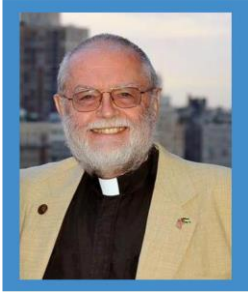
December 24 – Mass at the Jesuit Chapel at 10 AM

PARISH MINISTRIES AND PROJECTS – Anyone interested in serving the parish as a Lector, Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist (men only), Altar Server, or participating in the Youth Program, or willing to act or assist as a CCD teacher, please let Fr. John know so you can be notified.

CONTRIBUTIONS, DONATIONS, THANKSGIVING – In many parishes, there is a regular program where people can contribute to providing the flowers, the Offertory Gifts, perhaps the candle lit in front of the tabernacle, in memory of a friend or family member or in thanksgiving for some blessing received. Because the only physical worship space we actually own and control is the Jesuit Chapel, most of the expenses at our other locations are taken care of by our host parishes. The weekly collection goes to them to help meet their expenses.

However, we can accept gifts to help with our cost of printing the weekly edition of Heartbeat and the Mass Program, providing hosts at the Jesuit Chapel, as always as a way to honor or remember a friend or family member, or in the case of more significant gifts, to purchase a new vestment for celebrating Mass or adding a decoration (pre-approved) to the chapel. Contact Fr. John for further information. Mass intentions are always available, and a Mass card for someone living is a beautiful way to help celebrate a birthday, an anniversary or just to say you're thinking of them.

2018 CALENDAR – Advertising is available but space needs to be reserved soon. 3 half-pages at 50 JD each, and support lines for 10 JD for individuals, families or organizations. There are 25 lines available. For both the advertising space and being included in the support page – first come, first served.



RAMBLINGS

OF THE REVEREND REDACTOR

When I was growing up, saying “Thank You” was drummed into me from an early age. If someone passed you something at the dinner table, you said “Thank you.” The same was true if someone held a door for you, or helped you on with your coat. If you received a present, or went to someone’s house for dinner or to spend the night, you sat down and wrote a “thank you” note (also known as a “bread and butter note” for reasons I do not remember). As children we hated the day after Christmas, because we spent a large part of it writing notes to relatives who had sent gifts.

“Thank you” is an important part of our society, part of the lubrication of polite behavior that helps keep things running smoothly. Unfortunately it is used less and less, and it takes something away from daily interaction. People like to be appreciated, to be acknowledged when they do something good, and a word, or a note (OK, even an email or a Whatsapp message) telling them that you noticed and were grateful for what they did can lift spirits and brighten a day. I started sending birthday notes to friends when I was in high school. It was a hobby, and I wanted to see if I could collect a birthday for every day of the year. I have several for February 29 but there are still many days with no names. I have friends who have told me how much they look forward to my annual birthday greeting and if I should slip up and miss one, I get a note asking if I’m all right.

It is just as important to say Thank You to God. Many of us are great at praying when we need or want something important. But when the event is over, stopping to thank God is often not on the daily list of things to do. God knows, of course. But it is important for us to stop and realize that God did answer our prayer, that He is a part of our lives just as much as Aunt Mary who sent a gift for the last birthday.

In this newsletter there is a note about my trying to develop ways that people can honor or remember or say Thank You and help support the work of our parish at the same time. Mass cards have always been an important way to remember someone, living or deceased. Of course, you do not pay for the Mass. That is absolutely without charge. But we can also provide you with a Mass card, or you can simply give a donation. There may be other ways, as I have indicated, and we’ll see how that develops. As always, reactions and suggestions and bright ideas are always welcome.

Next week is the great celebration of Christ the King, and the Sunday after that is the First Sunday of Advent. There will be an experimental Mass at the Jesuit Chapel on Sunday morning at 10 AM during Advent – experimental because if it continues after Advent will depend on the response. It is also time to start preparing for Advent, and in the Newsletter this week there is an article which suggests some ways you might add to your family or individual preparations.

In the meantime, let us continue to pray for one another.

Fr. John’s Email: pastorsh@jordanjesuits.org

Fr. John’s Phone: Office: 06 461-4190, Ext 29

Mobile: 079 013-8985

Website: Jordanjesuits.org with a link for the Sacred Heart Parish

Facebook: If you are on Facebook, go to Parish Group and on your first visit you request to be admitted. After that the system will recognize you so you can post.

Mass Schedule:

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
Monday to Saturday	8:30 AM	Jesuit Center
Saturday	5:00 PM	Sweifieh, St. Mary of Nazareth
Sunday	10:00 AM	Jesuit Ctr Chapel <i>(Begins Dec. 3)</i>
	6:00 PM	Jabal Hussein, St. Jean Baptiste de la Salle
Confessions are 30 minutes before weekend Masses, or available by appointment.		

Parish Registration

There is a **NEW** registration form. There are **2 ways** to register:

1. Go onto the website and there is a space where you can register online. This is the best and the easiest.
2. Fill out the registration form at the back of the Church and give it to Fr. John or the presiding priest.

You can also send Fr. John an email or check in at the parish Facebook page (Parish Group)

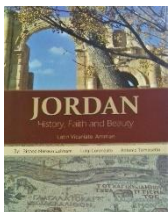
MUSIC FOR CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY – November 25/26, 2017

	SONG TITLE
Entrance Hymn	To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King
<i>Alleluia (Gaelic)</i>	
Offertory Hymn	Blest Are You, Lord God, of All Creation
<i>Holy, Acclamation, Amen "Let all that is within me..."</i>	
<i>Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis/dona nobis pacem</i>	
Communion Hymn	Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven
Recessional Hymn	Joyful, Joyful

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS FOR CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY – November 25/26, 2017

MINISTRY	Mary of Nazareth	Jean Baptiste De La Salle
Coordinator	Donna Naber	Elysa Estrada
Lector 1	Oliver Buc	
Lector 2	Karen Hopkins	
Lector 3	Donna Naber	
Offertory Gifts	Pulickal Family	
Eucharistic Minister	Anthony MacDonald	
Altar Server	Athan Pulickal	NA
Altar Server	Austin Pulickal	NA
Collection	Sawsan Al Nimri	Philomena Perera
Collection		

A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR OTHERS OR A GIFT FOR YOURSELF



More copies of this lovely book are available but from now on we will only have copies at Mass by prior reservation. Send Fr. John an email, and indicate what Church you will be attending and we will have the book at that Mass. To purchase copies in French or Arabic, please indicate that in your email, and know it may take a little extra time for those copies, but the price remains the same. Limited number of copies left.

ADVENT BASKET – We remind you so you and your family or organization can plan. The idea is that each day during Advent, some item is placed in the basket – non-perishable food, new or like new clothing, toys for children, winter wear, and items that do not need batteries or electricity are recommended. Suggestions are ALWAYS welcome.



DOES YOUR GROUP NEED VOLUNTEERS?

Many in our parish are already involved with local charitable and non-profit groups. If your group is looking for volunteers, or has a particular event coming up that could use help, we are glad to share that information in our weekly HEARTBEAT. Be sure to include contact information, and details of an event or the work of the group, what kind of volunteers you need or what work is involved, if there are specific hours, if it is suitable for young people, if it is a specific event the date of the event and if volunteers are needed in advance – in short, anything a potential volunteer would need to know. In time, we might be able to assemble a directory of opportunities to share with newcomers. Send data to Fr. John to include in the HEARTBEAT.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 4 | Jessica Siebler |
| 25 | Janusz Ba'...bel
Bridget Adhiambo |
| 27 | Balqis Aldawood |

If you have a birthday in November and your name is not listed here, you either did not register or did not include your birthdate when you did register. Or I made a mistake. You can fix the first two, and if you let me know, I can fix the last one.

SPECIAL COLLECTION – NEXT SUNDAY, CHRIST THE KING

In cooperation with JRS (Jesuit Refugee Services) Sacred Heart Parish is helping to provide flu shots for senior citizens and young children in the refugee community. The flu strain, as you probably know, some from experience, is particularly bad this year and many refugees are not able to afford the shots to help lessen the effect. We are trying to help those most at risk. It is an extraordinary need and hence this unusual special collection.

We have already provided a first round of 200 shots, and would like to be able to provide a second round. We are getting the flu doses at cost, and the shots are being administered at no charge. Our second collection in December also will be dedicated to this project, and if anyone would like to contribute to this work in advance of the collection, please let Fr. John know and he will be pleased to accept your gift.

Thank you for your generosity.

Preparing for Advent

Setting the Stage For Our Advent Journey, Even Before It Begins



1. Getting in Touch with Myself

One of the best ways to prepare for the very special season of Advent is to "get in touch with ourselves." It may sound odd, but one symptom of our contemporary lives is that we can often be quite "out of touch" with what is going on in our very own hearts. We are about to begin our Advent, right at the time our Western culture begins Christmas preparations. It is a busy time, and our heads are filled with details to remember. And, it is a time of emotional complexity that is part of this holiday season - with all of the expectations and challenges of family and relationships: who we want to be with and who we struggle to be with. So, our hearts are a bit tender, if not completely defended from experiencing anything deeply.

We are about to hear some very powerful and stirring readings from Isaiah, the Prophet. We will re-enter the ancient tradition of a people longing for the coming of a Savior. We may remember the days of our childhood when we longed for Christmas to come, because it was a magical time of receiving gifts. As adults, we have to ask ourselves: "What is it I long for now?" The answer won't come easily. The more we walk around with that question, and let it penetrate through the layers of distraction and self-protection, the more powerfully we will experience Advent.

Salvation From

We are about to read and pray about the expectant hope of Israel, as expressed through Isaiah. The images we will be using are about darkness and gloom - about thick clouds covering the people - and about hunger and thirst. They are images that attempt to capture a sense of what we feel when we are distant from our God. There are many images about war and conflict. They express the powerlessness and anxiety we experience when we feel vulnerable and defense-less. Most of all, there are images of a future day - a day that can only be called the Lord's - when all the tears will be wiped away, when there will be plenty to eat and drink, and when there will be no more conflict and no more war. God's salvation will be made known. God's victory will be complete.

These are very precious days for us to come into intimate contact with our own need for salvation. It is a time to make friends with our tears, our darkness, our hunger and thirst. What is missing? What eludes my grasp? What name can I give to the "restlessness" in my heart? What is the emptiness I keep trying to "feed" with food, with fantasy, with excitement, with busyness? What is the conflict that is "eating at me"? What is the sinful, unloving, self-centered pattern for which I haven't asked for forgiveness and healing? Where do I need a peace that the world cannot give?

Coming to know where I need a Savior is how I can prepare for Advent. I am preparing to listen to the promises, listen to these rich texts announcing the liberation I can truly long for. When my heart is open, when my hands are open, when my mouth is open and ready to ask for freedom, healing and peace, then I am ready to begin Advent.

Come, Lord, Jesus. Come and Visit Your People. We Await Your Coming; Come, O, Lord.

Isaiah 35

The desert and the parched land will exult; the steppe will rejoice and bloom.

They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given to them, the splendor of Carmel and Sharon; They will see the glory of the LORD, the splendor of our God.

Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak,

Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication; With divine recompense he comes to save you.

Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the dumb will sing. Streams will burst forth in the desert, and rivers in the steppe. The burning sands will become pools, and the thirsty ground, springs of water; the abode where jackals lurk will be a marsh for the reed and papyrus. A highway will be there, called the holy way; No one unclean may pass over it, nor fools go astray on it. No lion will be there, nor beast of prey go up to be met upon it. It is for those with a journey to make, and on it the redeemed will walk.

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; They will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

The Two Parts of Advent



1. Part 1: up until December 16

While most liturgical seasons have the gospel as their main focus, during the first weeks of Advent, the Church gives us daily readings from the prophet Isaiah. With the eyes of faith, these foretell the coming of the Messiah. Rather than a continuous gospel narrative familiar to us for most of the year, this part of Advent offers a wide variety of gospel readings that support the first reading of the day.

After almost two weeks of Isaiah readings, we hear the foretelling of a Messiah from other prophets from the Hebrew scriptures - in Sirach, Numbers, Zephaniah and returning to Isaiah. With each passing week, the prophets speak more clearly of the coming of a Savior.

So, in reading the first reading, for the first part of Advent, we listen to the anticipation, expectation, hope and promise. In listening to the second reading, we listen for the fulfillment or connection with the gospel.

Part 2: December 17 - 24

In these last eight days before Christmas, the relationship between the readings changes. Now the gospel brings us to our celebration of Christmas. The gospels are taken from the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke.

Each of these days, the first reading is taken from the Hebrew scriptures, and chosen to match the gospel. In many cases we can imagine Matthew or Luke having the first reading open on their desks while they wrote the gospel.

So, we can read the gospel first and then read the first reading. The sense of anticipation and fulfillment builds as we read the story of the preparation for Jesus' first coming into this world for us.

The Three Comings of Jesus



While Considering One, We Prepare for Another

One way of really enriching our Advent journey is to keep in mind the three comings of Jesus, and how they relate to one another.

Jesus was born into our history - at a fixed point in time in the past. Jesus comes to us now, in a whole variety of ways. Jesus promised that he will come again in glory, at the end of time.

The Incarnation: Jesus has come.

This is not the coming we await. The first coming of Jesus has already happened. Our preparation to celebrate his birth is the occasion for our deeper reflection. On the first level, it is so important that we really let ourselves experience the power of the Incarnation: God is with us. That God became one of us means that "human" is one of the ways God can be. The deeper we contemplate this mystery the more we enter into the grace of "God with us." The more we let ourselves be touched by this mystery, the more we see the connection between Christmas and Easter: all of this is "for me" - for my salvation - to free me from the power of sin and death.

My Life Now: Jesus comes to me.

When we open our hearts and our mouths and plead, "Come, O Lord," we are most directly experiencing our desire for the Lord to come to us and touch us with the grace of salvation - that we might live it with greater freedom and peace. Jesus is present whenever we need him to be present: actually, whenever we turn to him - even with empty hands. Jesus is alive and active in us when we read God's Word and let it into our hearts. Jesus promised to be present with us whenever two or three are gathered together in his name. And, we know Jesus comes to us whenever our sacrifices and our sufferings unite us with his own mission. Advent is a special time to experience our longing for the presence of Jesus with us now - in all the places we need him most.

Our Future: Jesus comes again, in glory.

One of the most transforming graces of Advent is given us as our longing deepens. The more grateful we become for how God saved us in Jesus, the more deeply we enter into the mystery of how Jesus is with us now. The closer we come to experiencing joy at how our Lord, Jesus Christ came into our world, faithful to God and faithful to our life journey in the flesh, the closer we come to experiencing the mystery of salvation in our everyday lives. And, as our longing is filled with the utter fullness of God's gift to us, we begin to long with the ultimate freedom: we long to be with him in God. We live more at home in this world because our God made a home in this world. But the whole story draws us to a complete picture of who we are and where we belong. Then our prayer begins to change, in our hearts and on our lips. We still are singing, "Come, Lord, Jesus!" but our song is transformed into the free and complete song of the lover: "Come, and take me with you."

Now we watch for the day, hoping that the salvation promised us will be ours when Christ will come again in his glory.

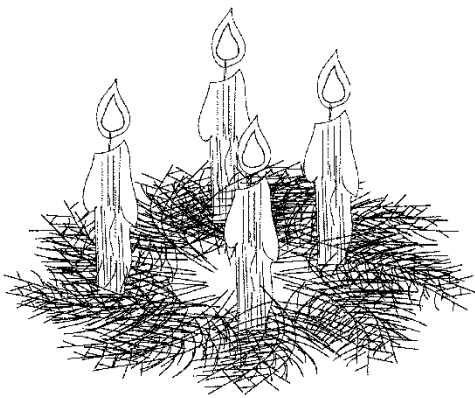


As we begin Advent, we light one candle in the midst of all the darkness in our lives and in the world. It symbolizes our longing, our desire, our hope. Three "advents" or "comings" shape our desire. We want to be renewed in a sense that Jesus came to save us from our sin and death. We want to experience his coming to us now, in our everyday lives, to help us live our lives with meaning and purpose. And we want to prepare for his coming to meet us at the end of our lives on this earth.

So, we begin with our longing, our desire and our hope. When we wake up, each day this week, we could light that candle, just by taking a few moments to focus. We could pause for 1 minute at the side of our bed, or while putting on our slippers or our robe, and light an inner candle. Who among us doesn't have time to pause for a moment? We could each find our own way to pray something like this:

"Lord, the light I choose to let into my life today is based on my trust in you. It is a weak flame, but I so much desire that it dispel a bit more darkness today. Today, I just want to taste the longing I have for you as I go to the meeting this morning, carry out the responsibilities of my work, face the frustration of some difficult relationships. Let this candle be my reminder today of my hope in your coming."

Each morning this week, that momentary prayer might get more specific, as it prepares us for the day we will face. And as we head to work, walk to a meeting, rush through lunch, take care of errands, meet with people, pick up the phone to return some calls, answer e-mail, return home to prepare a meal, listen to the ups and downs of our loved ones' day, we can take brief moments to relate our desire for the three comings of the Lord to our life.



If our family has an Advent wreath, or even if it doesn't, we could pray together before our evening meal. As we light the first candle on the wreath, or as we simply pause to pray together our normal grace. Then, as we begin to eat, we can invite each other, including the children, to say something about what it means today to light this first candle. Perhaps we could ask a different question each night, or ask about examples from the day. How am I getting in touch with the longing within me? How did I prepare today? What does it mean to prepare to celebrate his coming 2,000 years ago? How can we prepare to experience his coming into our lives this year? What does it

mean for us now, with our country involved in so much conflict around the world? How are we being invited to trust more deeply? How much more do we long for his coming to us, in the midst of the darkness in our world? In what ways can we renew our lives so we might be prepared to greet him when he comes again? Our evening meal could be transformed this week, if we could shape some kind of conversation together that lights a candle of anticipation in our lives. Don't worry if everyone isn't "good at" this kind of conversation at first. We can model it, based on our momentary pauses throughout each day, in which we are discovering deeper and deeper desires, in the midst of our everyday lives.

And every night this week, we can pause briefly, perhaps as we undress or sit for a minute at the edge of the bed. We can be aware of how that one, small candle's worth of desire brought light into this day. And we can give thanks. Going to bed each night this week with some gratitude is part of the preparation for growing anticipation and desire.

*Come, Lord Jesus! Come and visit your people. We await your coming.
Come, O Lord.*

