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Embracing Hope

Writers Group Anthology

Available for purchase in the courtyard after Mass during Advent.

The Padre Serra Writers have published an anthology of their writing in time for Christmas. This beautiful book with a foreword by Father Patrick, is inspired by the parish mural of Our Lady of Guadalupe and looks to a positive future.

\$15 (\$25 for two or \$30 for three copies)

The Writers Group meets every Friday from 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, San Fernando Room and always welcomes new people.

We gather. We pray. We write. Visit www.padreserra.org/writers



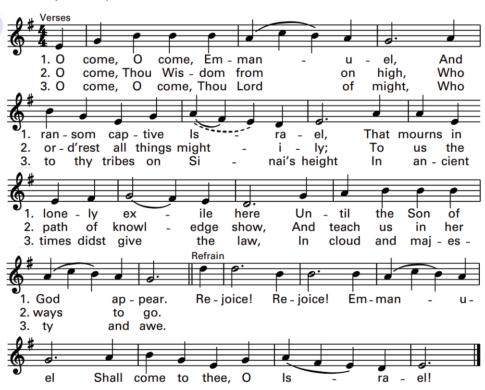




GATHERING

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Gather #395

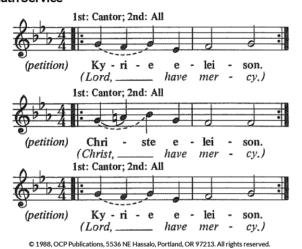


Text: LM with refrain; Latin, 9th cent.; verses 1, 3–6, para. in *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John Mason Neale, 1818–1866; verses 2, 7 tr. fr. *The Hymnal 1940*, alt. Music: *Processionale*, 15th cent. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811–1890; Chant, Mode I.

PENITENTIAL RITE

Advent Wreath Service





Panginoon Maawa Ka

Presider Panginoon maawa Ka sa amin. then ALL O Kristo maawa ka sa amin.

Panginoon maawa Ka sa amin.

(Lord, have mercy.) (Christ, have mercy.) (Lord have mercy.)



Reading 1

Micah 5:1-4a

Reading 2

Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Reading

Luke 1:39-45

Behold, I am

the handmade

of the



May it be done to me according to your word.

Luke 1:38



RESPONSORIAL PSALM



Marty Haugen





Shepherd of Israel, hearken from your throne and shine forth, O rouse your power, and come to save us.

We are your chosen vine, only by your care do we live, reach out your hand, O Lord, unto your people.

If you will dwell with us, we shall live anew in your love, O shine upon us, great Lord of life.

Text: Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-20; Psalm 85:9-14; Luke 1:46-55; Marty Haugen Music: Marty Haugen © 1982, GIA Publications, Inc.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Michael Joncas, Gather #411





Text: Lectionary for Mass, © 1969, 1981, ICEL Tune: Michael Joncas, b.1951, © 1988, GIA Publications, Inc.

INTERCESSION RESPONSE

In Memory We Hold You

Bob Hurd



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Ed Bolduc

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried: he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead: he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

Be the Light



Meek and humble we await you.
Our hearts are open, we long to receive.
Come, Lord Jesus, dwell among us.
Guide us in the lives we lead.

O come, O come Emmanuel, the love of God Emmanuel. Come, O come Emmanuel. Our God is with us.

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EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

The Glendalough Mass Holy, Holy, Holy





Memorial Acclamation A

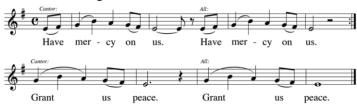


Text: ICEL., © 2010 Music: The Glendalough Mass, Liam Lawton; arr. by Paul A. Tate, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc



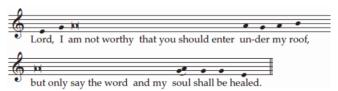
Music: The Glendalough Mass, Liam Lawton; arr. by Paul A. Tate, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.



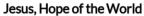


Music: Mass of the Angels and Saints, Steven R. Janco, © 1996, GIA Publications, Inc.

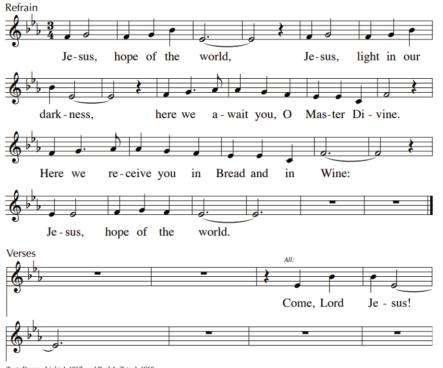
Invitation to Communion



COMMUNION SONGS



Paul A. Tate, Gather #909





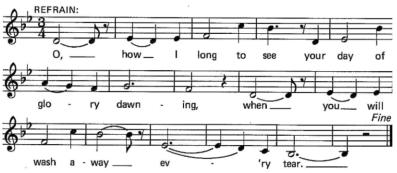
Text: Deanna Light, b.1967, and Paul A. Tate, b.1968 Tune: Deanna Light, b.1967, and Paul A. Tate, b.1968 © 2001, World Library Publications

Go in peace to love and serve the Jord

GATHERING

O, How I Long to See

Bob Hurd



O, how long, how long will it take 'til the lion lie down with the lamb? 'Til we turn our swords into plowshares,

and peace like a river flows over the land?

In your death, you ended our dying; in rising you brought us new life. Quickly come in glory O Lord,

raise up your people to justice and right.

We who share the bread of this table await the return of the Lord. May he find us faithful and true,

watchful and ready to open the door.

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Everything in Perspective: When Christmas was *really* hard.

Sometimes hearing how difficult things are for others can help us put our own life and difficulties into perspective. I thought it might be good to do a short, somewhat deeper dive into the first Christmas, so that we can look at our own with a little more grace.

Please consider the journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. It's about 70 miles if you can fly from one to the other. If you have to walk on ancient roads that meander according to a very hilly topography, avoiding unfriendly Samaritans, the journey was probably between 80 and 90 difficult miles. As for the donkey who shows up in all the art, it's not impossible that a carpenter would have owned a donkey, but maybe not likely. The Roman military paid for pack animals, but also were known to confiscate them from defenseless peasants ... and yes, both Mary and Joseph were peasants. Do you bother to invest in a pack animal in those circumstances? There is no beast of burden included in the birth accounts of Matthew or Luke. Mary, who was *very* pregnant and about to give birth, very likely walked the four to six days this journey would have taken. *That* is tough pre-natal care.

As for Joseph, he was likely carrying any possessions or food they brought with them each day. The peasant salary was often paid on the day of work, and all spent that day for food. Saving was difficult when living hand-to-mouth, so how he came up with the resources for making the trip, in both directions, remains a question. It had to weigh on him, especially as the journey was required so that an oppressive foreign power could tax him more efficiently. I have wondered how that sat with Joseph.

As for archaeological evidence of what kind of town they encountered, we don't have much. Even the word "inn" is questionably translated, as it wasn't the usual word for a traveler's dwelling. Rather, it implied the upper room where local residents might welcome guests in their own living quarters. The implication is that this place was full of people, and Mary and Joseph retired to the ground level room, below, where the local family guarded their animals. There is no mention of a cave or barn. It still seems quite unpleasant, but I can't imagine that giving birth in a room crowded with strangers would have been any better.

In all of human history, only the God-become-human chose the timing, the place and the characters who occupy his birth. And he chose a messy, difficult time to drag Joseph and Mary into a pregnancy that would fulfill an ancient prophecy:

But you, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, least among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient times (Micah 5:1).

For the great things of Jesus' birth to happen, Mary and Joseph had to struggle and endure great difficulties. Jesus, who prompted it all, to become Emanuele, "God with us," obviously thought our difficult human condition was worth it.

These last years have had their own share of struggles for all of us. But we are pulling through it all. My prayers are that we can move forward together with a great deal of hope, trusting that the struggles of today will bear fruit with great things in a safer, healthier future, that we can treasure God's willingness to be with us, and that this Christmas can be joyful and blessed.

Merry, holy Christmas to you all!

tr. Patrick

Fr. Patrick Pastor

Children

12 months to Grade 8.

Little Church ~ December 19

Age 3 through Kindergarten. Merry Christmas, no sessions this week. Because of the pandemic, only children who are registered may participate. Register today: www.padreserra.org/registration. Contact soraya@padreserra.org

Spark! ~ December 20 and 22

Grades 1 - 5. Merry Christmas, no sessions this week. We resume sessions on January 3 and 5, 2022. Share with us your pictures of how you live your faith at home. tere@padreserra.org

Three:Sixteen ~ December 22

Grades 6 - 8. Merry Christmas, no sessions this week. We resume sessions on January 5, 2022. Share with us your pictures of how you live your faith at home. tere@padreserra.org

Advent is here!

Share your pics! Send them to tere@padreserra.org



High School

Everyone 14 to 18 is welcome! youth@padreserra.org

Confirmation Y1

Merry Christmas, no sessions this week. We resume on January 9, 2022. Share with us your pictures of how you live your faith at home. tere@padreserra.org

4:12

Merry Christmas, no youth group gathering this week. We resume on January 5, 2022. Join Brett and peer leaders for fun and fellowship on most Wednesday nights. Teens make connections, share insights and concerns, and grow in faith. Ask brett@padreserra.org or follow us on Instagram.

Adults

Camarillo Special Families ~ Today

Saints Among Us meets today for an Advent Taize prayer service. Come and pray with our specially-abled saints! 1:30 pm in the San Juan Capistrano room.

Women's Spirituality Group ~ December 20

Seeds of Faith, our women's faith sharing group, invites you to a special gathering for some Christmas cheer, sharing of traditions, and to learn more about our next series beginning in January. 7:00 - 8:30 pm, San Miguel room. Masks required. Contact Gwen gwendolynjoy1@hotmail.com

$Divorce\ Support \sim December\ 21$

We offer a welcoming environment for people dealing with divorce, whether in the earliest stages of grief, the initial stages of coping with severe changes, or through the worst of it and now looking to move forward, grow, and serve. 7:00 - 8:30 pm, online. Contact Cynthia cjonescampbell@yahoo.com

Caregivers Support Group

Due to the Christmas holiday, our group will not meet in December but will return for our hybrid gathering (in person and virtual) gathering on Tuesday, January 25 to offer support to those who are caring for an aging parent, relative, or spouse. Contact Patricia sentclan@gmail.com

Spiritual Direction

This is a unique one-on-one relationship, exploring the spiritual aspect of being human with a trained, confidential companion. Directors help directees see the themes, threads, and designs emerging in their lives, identifying where God is at work in their sacred story. They are privileged witnesses in the spiritual unfolding of others, discerning the movement of the Spirit in their lives. The focus is on the relationship between individuals and God, in the context of everyday life experiences and co-creating with God on your journey through life. Learn more:

Ann Pettit annpettit@mac.com or Deacon Bob Fargo deaconbobfargo@msn.com or www.padreserra.org/spiritual-direction

Becoming Catholic

Dismissal of the Catechumens

Every Sunday at 9:00 am Mass, a group of children, teens, and adults are called forward to the presiding priest's chair after the homily. These are our catechumens, those preparing for Baptism at the Easter Vigil. They are sent forth from the church as the assembly sings, "May the word of God strengthen you ..." They follow the Book of the Gospels, held high by a catechist, to small meeting rooms (one for the adults, another for the children) to reflect more deeply on the readings they have just heard. They talk about the significance of the scriptures, especially the Gospel, in their own lives. It is an encounter with Jesus, and they are strengthening their resolve to live as his disciples. Please pray for our six catechumens as they journey toward the sacraments. If you would like to know more about the process of becoming Catholic, please contact Catherine Shadduck at (805) 482·6417 x331 or catherine@padreserra.org



In the Community

OneLifeLA ~ January 22

OneLife LA works to build a civilization of love in LA! Join the Archdiocese of Los Angeles for an afternoon celebrating the beauty and dignityof every human life. 11:00 am in downtown Los Angeles. Gather at Olivera Street then walk through downtown to LA Historic Park for dynamic speakers, food, and entertainment. Register: https://onelifela.org

Welcome!

Our warmest welcome to our newest registered parishioners! May you find faith, fellowship, love, and peace.

- Pablo Flores
- Lissette Flores
- Sebastian Flores
- Diego Flores
- Gianna Flores
- Andre Flores
- Christopher Gray
- Elizabeth Gray
- Greg Friz
- Cecilia Marquez
- Pamela Biggs
- Mark Lucero

- Michelle Raymundo
- Mark Raymundo Lucero
- Geradette Alderson
- Juan Carlos Gonzalez
- Elizabet Gonzalez
- Gisel Gonzalez
- Robert R. Harris
- Nobell K. Hall
- Thea Harris
- Victor Morales
- Casey Benigno
- Drew Morales

If you are not yet registered or have moved, dropped your landline, added a cellphone or email, or have adult children who have moved out, please keep us updated. If you live alone, provide us with an emergency contact. Contact Mary (805) 482·6417 x321 or mary@padreserrra.org

Giving

Thank You from Concern America

On November 14 Padre Serra hosted a Concern America craft sale where handcrafted textiles, baskets, ceramics and wood products were displayed and sold on site as well as a weeklong online sale. As a community of the faithful, you were generous in purchasing handcrafts valued at \$ 2,425.25. We are very grateful to Fr. Patrick for his support and to everyone who purchased handcrafts. Through your generosity you have helped to spread hope for a better future to hundreds of economically disadvantaged people in many developing countries throughout the world. Learn more:

www.concernamerica.org

"It is not enough to say we are Christians. We must live the faith not only with words but with our actions" - Pope Francis



Memorial & Honorarium

In loving memory of Rick Conners, brother of Belinda Peres
Belinda Peres

In loving memory of Deacon Ike Edie In loving memory of Leslie Maulhardt Gifted to St. Vincent de Paul ministry Mike & Georgia Robles

Faith Sharing Question

Reflection questions for every gathering around any table Luke 1:39-45 ~ Mary visits Elizabeth

In today's Gospel, Mary travels to the hill country of Judah, to the home of Zechariah and Elizabeth, where she visits Elizabeth. When they meet, Elizabeth proclaims the greatness of Mary's child and John the Baptizer, still in her womb, leaps for joy. What is the face of God? How have you seen God present in your life? Who shows the face of God to you?

Prayer Life

Weekend Schedule

- Saturday, 4:00 pm Mass on the Grass
- Sunday, 7:30 am Mass in the church
- Sunday, 9:00 am Mass on the Grass
- Sunday, 11:00 am Mass in the church and livestreamed

Reconciliation

• Saturday, 2:30 - 3:30 pm or by appointment: barbara@padreserra.org (805) 482·6417 x324

Weekday Mass

• Monday to Friday, 8:00 am in the church

Pray for Our Sick

Shirley Brown, Michele Burger, Elsa Casillas, Brianna Castillo, Thomas Collins, Wyatt Davis, Jeanne Gaffney, Frances Garcia, Sharon Garcia, Tim Graf, Jennifer Henderson, Tina Herford, Tom Keens, Chuck Menerey Sr., Sheila Montgomery, Chuck Purcell, Jeannie Wilkes and Kylie Wilson. (Names are refreshed monthly.)

Remember Our Dead

Prayers for family and friends of those who have died recently: Luis Flores, RIP

May he enjoy peace in his life with Christ Jesus.

Prayer Opportunities

Daily Readings: bible.usccb.org

Parish Book of Intentions: www.padreserra.org/intentions

Prayer Chain: Prayers anytime

Bette (805) 482·0067 bette_church@hotmail.com Shirley (805) 482·2617 brownshehorn@gmail.com

or visit www.padreserra.org/prayer-requests Stations of the Cross: www.padreserra.org/stations

Our Lady of Perpetual Help: www.padreserra.org/news/olph Blessed Sacrament Chapel: www.padreserra.org/prayer

In the Courtyard

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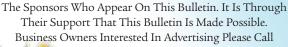
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