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Christmas Concert & Dinner

Friday, December 16 Dinner, 6:00 pm, Serra Center Concert, 7:30 pm, in the church

Reserved seating ticket sales begin Monday, November 28. Dinner tickets are available until December 9.

Celebrate Advent with Padre Serra's choirs, soloists, and instrumentalists as they bring you joyous music in the beautiful ambience of the church.

Enjoy a festive community delicious meal before the concert.

Tickets will be available exclusively online:

Dinner \$11

Concert General \$11

Concert Reserved Seat \$15

Concert: Michelle Hatch, michelle@padreserra.org Dinner: Teresa Runyon, teresa@padreserra.org

Visit www.padreserra.org/christmas-concert



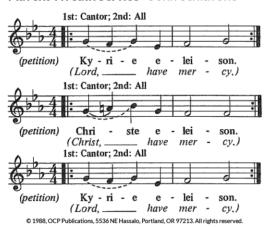
GATHERING





PENITENTIAL RITE

Advent Wreath Service John Schiavone



Text: Based on Isaiah 40:3, 4a. Text and music © 2004, Curtis Stephan. Published by spiritandsong.com®. All rights reserved.

Reading 1

Isaiah 2:1-5

Reading 2

Romans 13:11-14

Gospel Reading

Matthew 24:37-44

RESPONSORIAL PSALM



- How I rejoiced to hear them say, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." And now within your walls we are standing, O Jerusalem.
- 2. Jerusalem, a city firmly built, knit together in unity and strength. There the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, making pilgrimage.
- 3. There the tribes give thanks to the name of the Lord, according to the law of Israel. There are set the thrones of judgement for the house of David.
- 4. Let us pray for the good of Jerusalem, and for those who love you prosperity and peace, Peace within your ramparts and your towers, peace in your dwellings.
- 5. For the sake of my people and friends, I say peace be to you, Jerusalem. For love of God's house I pray for you and your prosperity.

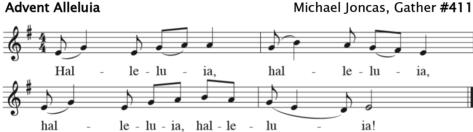
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and grant us

your salvation.

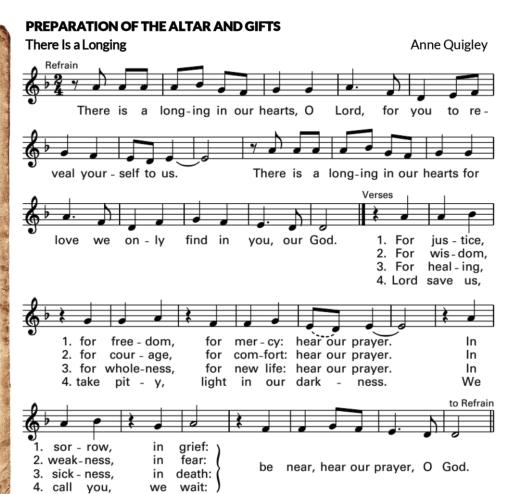
Psalm 85:8





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.

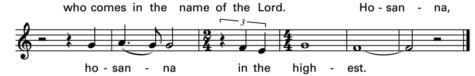


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EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

"Mass of the Incarnate Word" **Bob Hurd** Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of Ho - ly, Ho - ly, hosts. Heav en and earth are full of your Ho - san in the high ho - san Blessed is he, blessed is he



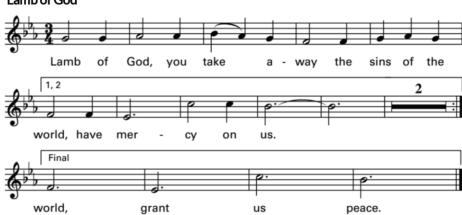
Memorial Acclamation

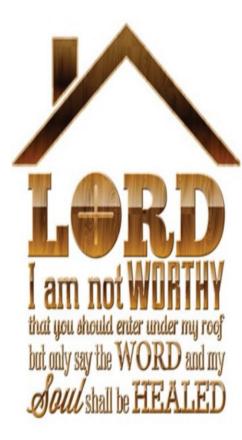


Amen



Lamb of God





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us

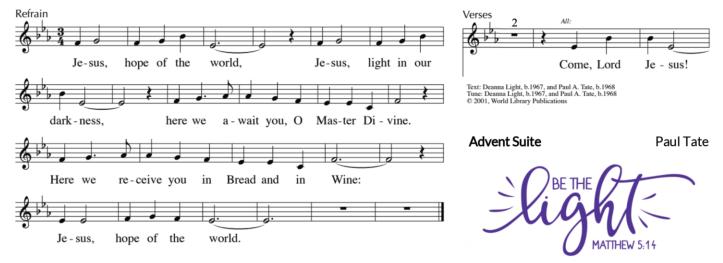
peace.

grant

COMMUNION SONGS

Jesus, Hope of the World

Deanna Light & Paul Tate, Gather #909



SENDING FORTH



The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings. Hail, Christ, the Lord! They people pray: Come quickly, King of kings. Come quickly, King of kings.

Text: Greek; tr. by John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt. Music © 2013, Trevor Thomson Published by Spirit & Song®, a division of OCP. All rights reserved.

Tis' the Season

Dear Faith Family,

Happy Advent to you all!

As our liturgical year begins anew, we set our sights on celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, the reason we have to celebrate the rest of the liturgical year.

Obviously, during this time of the year, it is easy to get caught up in the hubbub of the errands we need to run for our friends and family. All of these errands are necessary and do lead to something beautiful and necessary, but we do have to take a step back and truly celebrate the "reason for the season."

Advent is very interesting to me, because it not only is a season of thanksgiving for our God who became man, but it is also a preparation for the same God to come again in the future. We put ourselves in the shoes of those who lived and died generations before Christ became man. The ones who eagerly anticipated a savior. We both learn to understand them and learn from them as we await our Lord to come again. We learn what true penance is and we are blessed with hindsight to complement our faith. We put ourselves in their shoes to help us yearn for our God more.

So what is the appropriate preparation and response to our Lord coming again? I would say it is anticipation with the absence of fear. If our God truly has conquered death by his life and Resurrection, what do we have to fear? I know it is a cliche we have heard throughout our faith lives, but it rings so true during this season. What does anticipation without fear look like? I would argue that it looks like our celebration in reaction to what is promised.

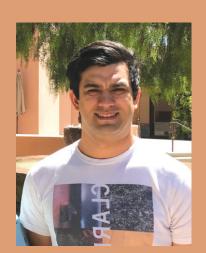
With death being conquered, we have nothing to fear and all the reason to celebrate. Eternal joy in the heavens is realistically in our reach. Because of this, our response realistically should be to worship. Again, not out of fear, but out of love/yearning. When we love and praise our God with no condition, we can't help but to imitate that love for our family, neighbors, strangers, or even our enemies. If our God loves us so much to become one of us, it is most appropriate to be filled with joy.

As we prepare to celebrate Christmas this year, let's remember to REALLY CELEBRATE. It is appropriate to take time off of work, to spend hours with family and to be joyous. It is also appropriate to celebrate at Mass and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for our God. It is appropriate to decorate, give gifts and drink gross eggnog. When we surround ourselves with a joy, it becomes easier to worship. When we realize that our God longs to be with us, it becomes easier to worship and love.

Joy to the World!

Brett Becker

Youth and Young Adult Minister



Advent

This Advent let us commit ourselves to seek and encountering Jesus daily. Consider one or more of these Advent preparations.

- Advent Reconciliation ~ December 14
 We decorate our homes for Christmas. Even more important is readying our hearts, both for the Lord's return at the end of time, and to celebrate His birthday. Examine your life. Confess your sins. Trust the Lord's mercy. Celebrate with joy! 7:00 pm in the church.
- Little Blue Books: Simple thought-provoking reflections. Books are available in the church lobby.
- Advent Calendar: Inspirational reflections for personal conversion and service to others. Sign up today at www.padreserra.org/advent
- Weekly Faith Sharing: Virtual small group sharing and discussion of scripture. Sign up today at www.padreserra.org/advent-faith-sharing

Children

12 months to Grade 8.

Little Church ~ December 4, 11, 18

Age 3 through Kindergarten. No sessions this week, we resume December 4. Sunday preschool during the 9:00 am and 11:00 am Mass. Children learn so much! From the Sign of the Cross to the Bible stories, songs, and more. Super fun to make friends and be at Church on Sundays! Children must be registered to attend; visit www.padreserra.org/registration. For more information, contact soraya@padreserra.org

Children's Liturgy of the Word ~ December 4 and 11

Grades 1 - 5. Children at the 11:00 am Mass are invited to hear the readings and reflection at their level. No registration is required. Parents consider joining this ministry and lead a session. Please contact tere@padreserra.org for more information.

Spark! ~ December 5 and 7

Grades 1 - 5. No sessions this week, sessions resume on December 5 and 7. For more information, please contact jennifer@padreserra.org or christine@padreserra.org

Three-Sixteen ~ November 30

Middle school ministry for Grades 6, 7 and 8. Sessions resume on November 30. This week kids will learn all about Advent. For more information, contact youth@padreserra.org

High School

Everyone 14 to 18 is welcome!

4:12 ~ November 30

High school teens, join Brett, and the peer leaders, for fun and fellowship. Wednesdays 7:30 in San Juan Capistrano room. youth@padreserra.org

Confirmation Y1 ~ December 4

No sessions this week, we gather once again on December 4. For more info, youth@padreserra.org

Confirmation Y2

The weekly ministry has begun, be sure to sign in every time. If you have not gotten started yet, please get in touch with youth@padreserra.org

Young Adults

Everyone 18 to 39ish is welcome! www.padreserra.org/young-adults

Bible Study and More ~ December 1 and 15

We gather on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 7:00 - 9:00 pm. On the first Thursday, we do a Bible study, and on the third Thursday, we play a game. See our Instagram @pspyoungadult or Facebook @PadreSerraYA for other events! Contact brett@padreserra.org

Adults

Illuman for Men ~ November 30

Founded in 2012 by the Franciscan mystic and teacher Richard Rohr, *Illuman* exists to help men do their inner, spiritual work to become healthier and more authentic human beings. Our chapter offers personal growth and spiritual transformation opportunities, a liberating environment, support and brotherhood, and contemplative spirituality. Last Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm, San Miguel room. Contact Dave dave.mccormick.mba@gmail.com

Bereavement Support Group ~ December 1, 15

Grief can be overwhelming and challenging to understand and navigate, but you don't have to do it alone, especially during the holidays. Our bereavement support group offers mutual support to those who have lost a loved one through death. 10:00 am, San Fernando room. Betty Bright-Martinez (805) 407·3000, bettybright41@gmail.com, visit www.padreserra.org/bereavement

Knitting & Crocheting ~ December 1, 8, 15

A fellowship and service ministry where all skill levels of knitting and crocheting are welcome. If you don't know how we'd love to teach you. The group's projects are donated to several groups and individuals throughout the year, including prayer shawls for grieving families. This holiday season, we are working on hats and scarves to donate to one of our favorite charities, RAIN. Please stop in to see what we are doing Thursdays, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm, Carmel room. Donna healthysneaker?@gmail.com. Visit www.padreserra.org/knit

Writers Group ~ December 2, 9, 16

We gather. We pray. We write. If you enjoy writing, you are welcome to share your work any Friday and listen to others" inspiring writing. Fridays 10:00 am- 12:00 pm, San Fernando room. Linda Lowe calmest1@verizon.net. Visit www.padreserra.org/writers

First Friday Adoration ~ December 2

We can show our adoration to God in many ways, but in Eucharistic Adoration, we spend time — even just 10, 20, or 30 minutes — adoring the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Come rest in silent prayer with our good and gracious God. 2:00 - 7:00 pm. Or commit to a holy hour: teresa@padreserra.org, visit www.padreserra.org/prayer



Adults

Seniors Christmas Luncheon ~ December 14

The way you spend Christmas is far more important than how much. - Henry David Thoreau. Come enjoy a delicious, traditional holiday meal, entertainment by Halcyon Hamel, conversation with old and new friends, sing-a-long, and lots of Christmas cheer. \$25/person. Tickets are available in the parish office until December 7. Questions: Jan Pirkl janpirkl@yahoo.com

Becoming Catholic

Invite Your Family and Friends to Our Parish

Introduce your loved ones to our parish! Invite them to the Christmas Concert and Dinner, or at La Posada, bring them over to watch "Christmas with The Chosen" or to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe. They may even enjoy attending Mass with you. There are many opportunities where they can experience our joyous and welcoming community. Often all it takes for someone to consider the possibility of becoming a Catholic is an invitation from us. For information about the process of becoming Catholic, please contact Mary Huebner at (805) 482 · 6417 x321 or becoming catholic@padreserra.org. Visit www.padreserra.org/becoming-catholic

Giving

Together in Mission "As One We Believe"

Goal: \$128,384

Year to Date: \$73,104 donated by 168 households

Gap: \$55,280 to reach our goal

Our parishes and schools desire to be the center of community life, reaching out to those in our midst to create moments for evangelization, to encounter Christ, and encounter hope. However, some struggle to keep their doors open. Will you join the generosity of others in our community as one voice keeping hope and compassion alive? Envelopes are in the church lobby, or visit www.padreserra.org/tim

Angel Tags

Help a child or senior adult have a special Christmas morning! Pick up a tag from the Christmas trees in the church, purchase at least one of the items listed, and attach the Angel Tag firmly to the outside of the package. Please return the wrapped gift to the church no later than 9:00 am on Sunday, December 11. Geralyn Moody (805) 491 · 2602, angeltags@padreserra.org. Visit www.padreserra.org/angel-tags

Blood Drive

You can save a life! There is a critical blood shortage, but you can help by donating blood at our next drive. Sunday, December 11, 8:15 am - 12:30 pm, San Juan Capistrano room. To sign up for an appointment, visit donors.vitalant.org. Sponsor code: 8112 or please click on the QR Code



Faith Sharing Question

Reflection questions for every gathering around any table Matthew 24:37-44 ~ Waiting, hoping, and preparing

Today's gospel focuses on Jesus' second coming. The images of the two men in the field and the two women grinding meal emphasize the suddenness of His coming and the separation that it will bring. The lesson is: Be constantly watchful. How do you feel reading the gospel's description of Jesus' coming? How could you invite God into any anxiety you may be feeling? How can you better focus your preparation? It's something to consider in this new year.

Prayer Life

Weekend Schedule

All liturgies are celebrated inside our beautiful parish church:

- · Saturday, 5:00 pm
- Sunday, 7:30 am
- Sunday, 9:00 am
- Sunday, 11:00 am Livestreamed. Visit www.padreserra.org/mass

Pray for Our Sick

Bob Amantia, Olga Arellano, Greg Cannon, Michael J. Dilley, Ben Fisco, Asher Flores, Duane Fowler, Hyman Garcia, Ramona Garcia, Tim Graf, Jay Graham, Braidyn Haff, Jessica Haff, Dorothy Johnson, Edna Jost, Hank Koval, Richard LeMar, Maria Luisa, Earlene McCormick, Dave McDonnell, Jackie Miller, Maggie Murtha, Hector Navarrete, Binh Ninh, Robert Olavarrietta, Donna O'Neil, Sophia Pantoja, Ashanti Paumley, Sister Carol Quinlivan, Alice Redondo, Juan Andres Sanchez, Dorothy Simmons, Ken Solovy, Jackson Soyster and Melissa Yeager. (Names are refreshed monthly.)

Remember Our Dead

Prayers for family and friends of those who have died recently: Mary Henderson, RIP

May she enjoy peace in her 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

Safeguard the Children

Fly Safely This Holiday Season

If you are traveling this Advent, the American Academy of Pediatrics tips can help you prepare for smooth and safe flights. First, allow your family extra time to get through airport security. Then, talk to your children about the screening process ahead of time so they know what to expect. Finally, if you're selected for further screening, stand close by, so you can see one another. For more information, visit healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/on-thego/Pages/Travel-Safety-Tips

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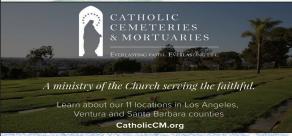


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brushes his teeth with ADVERTISED toothpaste washes with ADVERTISED soap puts on ADVERTISED clothes drinks a cup

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Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Novena

December 4 - December 12, 6:30 pm Join in praying the rosary each of the nine days leading to December 12, the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Bring your rosary and a sweater.

Celebration

Monday, December 12, 5:00 pm

Join us for a prayer service. We will conclude our Rosary novena and retell the story of her apparitions to San Juan Diego. Feel free to bring flowers as an offering to Our Mother.

For more info and to RSVP visit www.padreserra.org/guadalupe



La Posada

Monday, December 5 6:30 - 8:00 pm Begins in the church

Fiesta to follow in the courtyard

Let us come together for a fun, interactive, and enriching Advent celebration to prepare our hearts for Jesus' coming!

Come and learn how to continue this joyful faith tradition in your homes. Everyone is welcome!

Fiesta with piñatas for the kids and goodies for the adults will follow.

Learn more and RSVP at www.padreserra.org/posada



Simbang Gabi

Saturday, December 17 5:00 pm Mass

Followed by Dinner in the Serra Center

Halina't Tayo'y Magsaya!

The Padre Serra Parish Filipino Ministry invites everyone to celebrate Simbang Gabi, followed by dinner and entertainment in the Serra Center and encourages Filipiniana or any multi-cultural attire. Please RSVP for dinner on our webpage.

You are called to volunteer! To help, contact Deacon Roy Gacasan, (805) 236-6840, gggacasan@gmail.com

Donations for the reception are welcome in the office (checks payable to Padre Serra, Simbang Gabi in memo) or online.

Visit www.padreserra.org/simbang-gabi

Christmas with The Chosen

Friday, December 9 7:00 - 8:30 pm, Serra Center

All adults and children are invited to celebrate the reason for the season...Jesus...with dessert and a viewing of The Messengers.

This Christmas episode from the popular series The Chosen is the story of the birth of Jesus, as told through the eyes of Mary and Joseph. Christmas activities will be provided for smaller children.

Consider bringing a gift for baby Jesus that will be given to babies and moms in need through Life Centers of Ventura County.

For a list of gift ideas and to RSVP, visit www.padreserra.org/chosen

