



THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 20, 2015

THERE is urgency in the readings and prayers of today's Mass. We ask the Father to "drop" and "rain" the Saviour upon us, the human race, in order that we may "speedily" be delivered. "Come and tarry not!" is our cry, for great indeed is our need for grace and salvation. And He whom we seek to possess and love is also our Judge. And He will save us by our love for neighbors and our impartial zeal for their welfare.

PRELUDE	<i>"The Angel Gabriel from heaven came"</i>	C. Callahan
ASPERGES ME	<i>(a weekly reminder of our Baptism)</i>	plainsong
INTROIT (KNEEL)	<i>Rorate, caeli, desuper</i>	Isaiah 45:8; Ps. 18:2
(We KNEEL as the priest quietly begins the Prayers at the Foot of the Altar, pg. 8)		
KYRIE (KNEEL)	<i>Missa Marialis</i>	plainsong
COLLECTS (STAND)		
THE EPISTLE (SIT)		I Cor. 4:1-5
	<i>Priests are ordained by God and are accountable to Him. They beg His help for us in each Mass.</i>	
GRADUAL (SIT)		Ps. 144:18,21
ALLELUIA (SIT)	<i>Veni, Domine</i>	
THE HOLY GOSPEL (STAND)		Luke 3:1-6
	<i>Like John the Baptist, every Christian is called to be a voice speaking the truth by good example.</i>	
SERMON (SIT)		Msgr. John Mangels
NICENE CREED (STAND)		plainsong
OFFERTORY VERSE (STAND)		Luke 1:28, 42
MOTET (SIT)	<i>Ave Maria</i>	R. Atkinson
SECRET COLLECTS		
SURSUM CORDA (pg. 22) & PREFACE OF ADVENT (STAND)		
SANCTUS (KNEEL)		plainsong
THE CANON OF THE MASS (KNEEL)		Missal pg. 35
THE LORD'S PRAYER (STAND)		plainsong
AGNUS DEI (KNEEL)		plainsong
PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION		Missal pg. 50a
Communion:	<i>"Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming"</i>	J. Brahms

COMMUNION VERSE

Isaiah 7:14

Following the reception of Holy Communion, it is proper to return to your pew, kneel, and make your **Thanksgiving after Communion**, (*Missal pg. 51 or St. Ambrose Prayer Book pg. 177*) If you have not received Holy Communion, you should make a **"Spiritual Communion"** (*St. Ambrose Prayer Book, pg. 187*). This is far more spiritually beneficial and preferable to "people-watching."

POSTCOMMUNION COLLECT (**STAND**)

DISMISSAL AND BLESSING (**KNEEL**)

LAST GOSPEL (**STAND**)

HYMN

POSTLUDE

Veni Emmanuel

"Come, Thou long-expected Jesus"

John 1:1-14

Hymnal No. 2

C. Callahan



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME to all our guests and visitors. There are Service books in the pews for your use. While Holy Communion may **only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians**, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to come forward at Communion for a blessing and the *pain benit*—blessed bread. Please fill out one of the "visitor cards" found in the pew racks and take a moment to sign our guest book in the Narthex! Please join us for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall (*downstairs*).

Orthodox Christians **must be prepared** for Holy Communion through Sacramental Confession, fasting, prayer, and being at peace with others. A prepared person must have been to Confession recently (*frequency established by his Pastor*), have abstained from food and drink from Midnight and have attended Mass regularly. Please seek and give forgiveness before receiving Communion.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Please pray for: Hal Ogle, Kim Peoria, Charlie Hester, Charles Rubey, Victoria & John Lopp, Megan Hines, the special intentions of Alexandra Eddy, Margaret Lyman, Don Clair, Lily Calderon, the Setah family in Syria, Abraham Martinez, Neville Gaggiani, Phyllis Roberts, Bob Hester, Ray Rendoff, Jacob Kakish, Mary Ann Kristoff, Sue Stanko, Robert Phillips, the suffering Christians in Syria and the Middle East, Randy Ortega, Maria Palucha, Margie Palucha, Patty Ann Zubricky, Metropolitan Boulos of Aleppo, Metropolitan Mar Gregorios Yohanna Ibrahim of Aleppo, Corinne Fierkens, Kh. Angela Keiser, Nate Redman, Patty Rendoff, Aaron Rendoff, Vanessa Taylor, Jim Sanders.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

Please get your flower offering in **today**. Thanks to everyone for his generosity and aid in preparing our Holy Temple for the Birth of the Lord!

CHURCH DECORATING: We want to thank Annie & Bronco (who arranged for all of the decorations) and for picking up all of the greens Also, all of you who will be staying to help!!

THE SANCTUARY LAMPS burn this week in anticipation of the great Feast of the Nativity this week. Merry Christmas! A gift from Patty Rendoff.

Think About It: Shun the praise of men and love the one, who in fear of the Lord, reprimands you. **St. Pachomius the Great** (+348)

Holiday Plans? Do they include worship the Triune God on Christmas Eve and/or Day? We have services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day to accommodate our people. Jesus is inviting you to celebrate His birthday. What will your RSVP to Him be? We especially encourage you to be here for the beautiful choral, meditation on the Birth of Christ—*The Mystery of Bethlehem* by Healey Willan at 11:30 pm on Christmas Eve followed by the beautiful celebration with the Angels announcing the Birth of Christ at Midnight.

Think about it: There were only two classes of men who heard the cry that night: Shepherds and Wise Men. Shepherds: those who know that they know nothing. Wise Men: those who know they do not know everything. *Fullton J. Sheen*

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

The envelopes for Christmas flowers and decorations are on the table in the Narthex. Please indicate if you would like the flowers as a memorial or gift. Thank you for your generosity.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR VISITORS FOR MIDNIGHT MASS

We normally have a quite a few visitors for the Christmas Midnight Mass. This is truly **an opportunity for evangelism!** Help our visitors to feel welcome by a smile, a greeting, helping them in anyway you can without being obtrusive. Everyone who comes in the door is a special gift from God! In short, let people know we are glad they are here! We also need help with ushers and greeters to welcome our guests.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT SAINT AUGUSTINE'S

Here are some important upcoming events at St. Augustine's Parish. Please mark your calendars.

- **DECORATING OF THE CHURCH:** Sunday, Dec. 20 after Coffee Hour
- **Christmas Schedule:** Thursday, Dec. 24 at 11:30 pm; the choir and orchestra will present the pre-Mass music and the Mass at midnight. Low Mass on Christmas Day at 10:00am.

Wisdom from the Church Fathers: Whoever wants to approach prayer without a guide, and proudly thinks that he/she can learn only from books, and will not go to an elder, that person is already halfway to delusion. *St. Silouan the Athonite* (+1938)

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS: If you need to make your Christmas Confession, please come on Wednesday or make an appointment with Father. There will be no Confessions heard on Christmas Eve night.

CHRISTMAS HANDOUT READY!

Please help publicize and spread the "good word!" We have flyers ready for our annual Christmas Midnight Mass. YOU can help **spread the word** by taking some with you and putting them up in prominent places or giving them to your friends as an invitation! There is NOTHING in the world like a Christmas Midnight Mass at St. Augustine's! **Don't let it be the world's best kept secret...**

CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS PROGRAM

Monsignor Mangels has announced the program for the Midnight Mass at St. Augustine's on Wednesday, **December 24 beginning at 11:30pm.**

THE AMBROSIAN CHORISTERS will present Healey Willan's *THE MYSTERY OF BETHLEHEM* and for the Midnight Mass, the choir and orchestra will present Franz Schubert's *MASS IN G*. Incidental music will include: Adam's *O HOLY NIGHT* and, Franz Biebl's celebrated *AVE MARIA* and familiar carols with the congregation. Get the word out!!

CHRISTMAS ORCHESTRAL SPONSORSHIP

The funding of special music for the Great Feast Days (and many of the "extras" here at St. Augustine's) **does not come from** Parish funds. It is provided by **special offerings from the**

friends and benefactors of this parish. Over the years, parishioners have asked if they could be of help in this endeavor and we have happily received their free will offerings. To be an orchestral sponsor, there are several categories: **Archangel:** \$2500.00, **Seraphim:** 500.00, **Angels:** 250.00, **Cherubim:** 100.00, **Gifts:** any amount. If you would like to contribute, please earmark your donation: Christmas Music. Thank you!

FALL FOOD DRIVE

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Fall Food Drive. It runs through the end of the year.

BOOKSTORE NEWS

The **2016 Liturgical Wall Calendar** is available as well as a selection of **Christmas & other cards by our own Anne Emmons and Fr. Theodore!** Other cards and gifts can also be ordered in time for Christmas giving. Check out YOUR Bookstore and help support the Parish.

The Church Father Speak: God allows temptations so that they might rouse us to remember Him. When we call upon Him, He acts as though He does not hear us so that we multiply our supplications and cry out His Holy Name in fear of the various passions. Then, through the pain of the entreaties our heart is sanctified, and through experience we learn the weakness of our human nature. And thus we realize in practice that without God's help we are not able to do anything. **Elder Ephraim of Mt. Athos**

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THIS WEEK AT SAINT AUGUSTINE'S

Monday, December 21

St. Thomas the Apostle

Tuesday, December 22

Advent Feria

Wednesday, Dec. 23

Advent Feria

Mass 7:00pm

abstinence

Christmas at St. Augustine's

Thursday, Dec. 24

Vigil of the Nativity—Christmas Eve

fast and abstinence

Festival Music for the Eve of Christmas

11:30pm

First Mass of Christmas at Midnight

12:00am

Friday, Dec. 25

The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Low Mass 10:00am

Saturday, Dec. 26

Saint Stephen, Protomartyr

Mass 10:00am

Sunday, Dec. 27

Saint John the Evangelist

Mass 10:00am

CONFESSIONS: *The Sacrament of Confession is available after all weekday Services, and anytime by appointment.*