



ST JOHN
THE EVANGELIST
CATHOLIC CHURCH

1229 VERMONT STREET LAWRENCE, KS 66044 (785) 843-0109

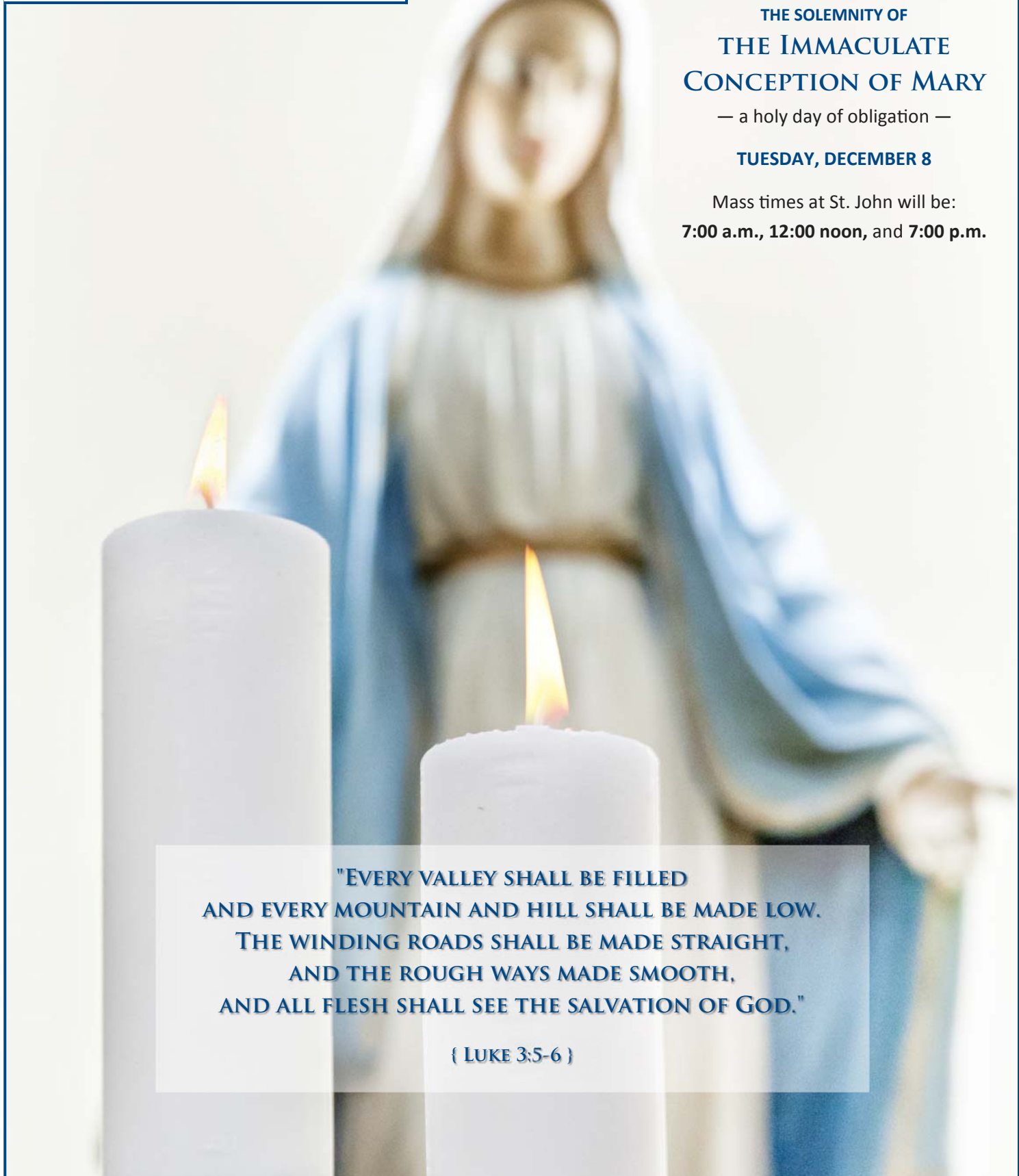
DECEMBER 6, 2015, 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE SOLEMNITY OF
**THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF MARY**

— a holy day of obligation —

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8

Mass times at St. John will be:
7:00 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 7:00 p.m.



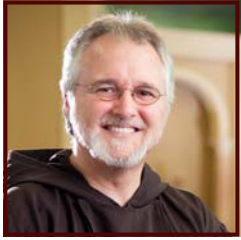
"EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED
AND EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW.
THE WINDING ROADS SHALL BE MADE STRAIGHT,
AND THE ROUGH WAYS MADE SMOOTH,
AND ALL FLESH SHALL SEE THE SALVATION OF GOD."

{ LUKE 3:5-6 }

Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday 4:30pm; Sunday 7:00am, 8:30am, 11:00am, 2:00pm (Spanish Mass), 5:00pm. **Website:** www.saint-johns.net

Weekday Mass Schedule: Monday-Friday 7:30am; Saturday 8:00am. **Reconciliation:** Wednesday 11:00am-12:00pm, 7:00-8:00pm; Saturday 3:00-4:00pm.

BREAD to Offer



THE JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

By Fr. Jeff Ernst, OFM, Cap.

On Tuesday of this week, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the Church will begin a “Jubilee Year of Mercy.” Pope Francis wished to convoke a jubilee year of mercy in order to mark the 50th anniversary of the close of the Second Vatican Council and to carry on the intent of the fathers of that council, which was “the need to talk about God to men and women of their time in a more accessible way.” Why proclaim an extraordinary Year of Mercy?

In his letter “Misericordiae Vultus” (“Face of [the Father’s] Mercy”) announcing the jubilee year of mercy, Pope Francis says, “At times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father’s action in our lives. For this reason I have proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy as a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective” (1). The Church is always called to bring the message of mercy to the world. That is integral to being stewards of the gift of mercy that we have received.

Yet, with so much hatred and violence happening in the world, having a year that is especially dedicated to God’s generous mercy in an intentional way, would help all of us to reflect a little more deeply on that mercy and on how well we share that mercy with others:

We need constantly to contemplate the mystery of mercy. It is a wellspring of joy, serenity, and peace. Our salvation depends on it. Mercy: the word reveals the very mystery of the Most Holy Trinity. Mercy: the ultimate and supreme act by which God comes to meet us. Mercy: the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his brothers and sisters on the path of life. Mercy: the bridge that connects God and man, opening our hearts to the hope of being loved forever despite our sinfulness (MV 1).

The Pope himself embodies these words in a remarkable way. May we all emulate this beautiful mission to which he is calling us, to open our hearts anew to God’s grace and mercy and to be intentional in our sharing of that mercy with others. Once again, in the Pope’s words:

In this Jubilee Year, may the Church echo the word of God that resounds strong and clear as a message and a sign of pardon, strength, aid, and love. May she never tire of extending mercy, and be ever patient in offering compassion and comfort. May the Church become the voice of every man and woman, and repeat confidently without end: “Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old” (Ps 25:6).”

- Fr. Jeff



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thank you to those of you who have already pledged your support to the Preserving our Past... Building our Future! Capital Campaign. We are currently at \$1.9 million, but our goal by the end of the year is to reach \$2 million in gifts and pledges! We are well within range to hit this goal. In fact, the St. John Hispanic Community sold \$2040 in tamales to benefit the Preserving our Past...Building our Future Capital Campaign!

WE NEED YOUR HELP

If you have not already submitted your financial support for *Preserving our Past... Building our Future!*, please consider a sacrificial pledge in support of the campaign. You can complete a pledge card/give a gift by contacting Samantha Romero at (785) 843-0109 or via email at sromero@saint-johns.net.

MIKE DEBUS ART RAFFLE

Enter for a chance to win one of the paintings created by performance artist Mike Debus during our Night of Art and Prayer last Wednesday in the church!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP _____

Email: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

**Our winner will be contacted on Wednesday, December 16.
Must be 21 to purchase.
Suggested Donation \$50 per ticket**

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STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Thank you to all for your generosity this past year!
Your generosity has done so much good in our parish community:

- Supported over 65 ministries.
- Catholic Charities was able to expand its services through their rent-free use of our building.
- Supported over 160 youth in high school, middle school, and Confirmation classes.
- The Fiesta, Auction, and Oktoberfest contributed \$218,667 last year to support the school and parish!

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MASS

On **Saturday, December 12**, at 9:00 a.m. St. John will have a Mass for Our Lady of Guadalupe. Come as you are, or dress in traditional attire and participate in the procession! Please bring non-perishable food items to place in the basket during the opening procession. The celebration will continue after Mass with a reception in the parish hall which will include Mexican hot chocolate, bread and cookies, a bazaar table, raffles and a piñata for the children.



On **Friday, December 11**, at 6:30 p.m. we will decorate the parish hall for the reception that will be held on Saturday following Mass. Everyone is welcome to come and join the celebration! If you have any questions, contact Connie Garcia at (785) 842-3003.

DONATIONS WELCOME: OLG MASS

Calling all bakers, crafters, and those with new or gently used "treasures." We will be accepting items for the bazaar table at the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe to be held on **Saturday, December 12, at 9:00 a.m.**

You may bring items to the church basement on Friday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. (we will be decorating/setting up for Saturday). You may also bring items to the church basement before the 9:00 Mass on Saturday.

For those with large items or who need more information, please contact:

Lori Wickliffe at (785) 764-1500 or Jennifer Marshall at (785) 218-4244

ADVENT TAIZÉ SERVICES

December 11 at First United Methodist Church

December 18 at St. John the Evangelist Church

The services start at 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to these ecumenical moments of simple song, scripture, seasonal readings, candlelight, and brief moments of silence.

Earth Care Committee

The Advent Conspiracy

The St. John's Earth Care Committee invites you to try a new tradition this Advent. In 2006 five pastors imagined a better Christmas practice for their own communities. Today, Advent Conspiracy is a global movement of people and churches resisting the cultural Christmas narrative of consumption by choosing a revolutionary Christmas. The four tenets of the Advent Conspiracy are:

- Worship Fully
- Give More
- Spend Less
- Love All

Confused about how you can spend less but give more? Check out the Advent Conspiracy to learn more. www.AdventConspiracy.org

HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER 2016 DATES

Prayer and Action Atchison: June 19-24 - \$200*

Registration forms will be released in February. Sign up quick—this experience will fill up fast! We will leave Lawrence at 4pm on Sunday, June 19, and return on Friday, June 24 at around 1:30pm. Rising freshmen through graduated seniors welcome!

Steubenville – Rochester and Hiking: July 15-19 - \$375*

The theme for this year's conference? "I Thirst." Leave at 5:30am on July 15. First, enter into an amazing three day conference at Steubenville in Rochester, Minnesota, and then head to the wilderness for an awesome outdoor excursion! We return on Tuesday evening. This will be an experience you never forget! Look for registration forms in February! Only students who have been to high school already will go to this year's Steubenville Conference—check out Prayer and Action if you are a rising freshman student!

* **Scholarships available!** Contact Jen for information.

SOCIAL JUSTICE, SOCIAL ACTION

By Susan Tabor

The Giving Trees are up and tags are available so that you may take them and buy the gift specified on the tag. Due to increased need for available resources, we are providing two gifts for each child age 18 and under and one gift for each adult, anyone over age 18. Gifts need to be wrapped and at the church ABSOLUTELY no later than **Sunday, December 13!** They will be sorted and prepared for distribution to the recipient families on December 13 right after 5:00 p.m. Mass.

And please, please be sure to attach your tag to the gift so we know what it is and to whom it will go. The numbers and letters noted on the tags are identifiers for us, and we thank you for being sure that we get the tag(s) back with the gift(s) you have purchased.

On behalf of the recipient families, our committee thanks you for your generosity and your prayerful participation/action in the Giving Trees project. You are helping to make Christmas brighter for many people who are struggling. Anything we can do to help those who struggle with poverty, no matter how big or small, helps in bringing forth a more charitable and just world.

ADVENT WREATH SALES

St. John Middle School STUCO (Student Council) is selling Advent wreaths and candles. The sets which include a wreath, four candles, and daily Advent prayers are \$15. Replacement candles (pack of 4) are \$6.

Proceeds will help fund the seventh grade trip to Denver and the eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C.

To reserve either the wreath and candle set for \$15 or replacement candles for \$6, email Mrs. Linda Alexander in the school office:

lexander@saint-johns.net

ROAD TO ROME RAFFLE

Please help the Capuchin's reach their goal for the **Road to Rome Raffle**. Take a chance at a vacation of a lifetime. San Diego, Costa Rico, and Rome for 7 nights. The winner will have the choice of either in the city overlooking the Vatican or in the countryside in a castle suite. Proceeds will stay local so the Brothers can continue their lives and ministries. The Capuchins walk the journey with the Poor, homeless, and marginalized. Tickets can be purchased for \$50 each. Tickets can be attained by the website roadtoromeraffle.com, by mail 3613 Wyandot St. Denver, Colorado 80211, and or by phone 303-433-0296 x 105. Last day of purchase is December 15th.

PRAYER LIST

The "Prayer List" includes the most recent information that the Simon Parish Center has about a parishioner and/or their family member. Contact the Simon Parish Center to request someone for the "Prayer List" and be sure to update the Parish Center monthly regarding their condition or the name will be removed.

Matthew Arellano

Abel Ayala

Remi Brown

Donald Erker

Gene Hieman

Bob Holek

Tim Maniez

Marianne Fabac Means

Pam Hadl

Mary Helt

Logan Hemles, nephew of Mick Schurer

Jenny Hernandez

John Hite

Nancy Hubble, wife of Tom Kellogg

Pete James

Susan Jones

Dan Menke, son of Steve & Barb Menke

Ernie Potts

Dorothy Purdy

Marlene Richard

Mark Salmans

Ethan Schuh, son of Jason & Cassie Schuh

Mary Kay Seidl

Ruth Theising

MINISTERS: DEC. 12-13

Lectors

Contact: Sean Smith
seanj@ku.edu

Cantors

Saturday

4:30pm J Graves

Sunday

7am M Steichen
8:30am A Koster

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday

4:30pm L Arnold, B Brill, D Depenbusch
..... J Halderman, L Heiserman, A Hewitt

Sunday

7am B Osborne, L Wustefeld, B Harmon
8:30am B Volz, J Dvorske, D Foster
..... E Grob-Creasey, D Hoss, J Huss, M Ice
11:00am D Shobe, P Smith, S Stewart
..... D Thimmesch, L Tiffany,
..... T Towle, N Allensworth
5pm A McCabe, S Murray, T Reznicek
..... D Schmidt, J Weeks, L Weeks

Altar Servers

Contact: Sue Ohlmacher
skohlmac@sunflower.com

MASSES: DECEMBER 7-13

Monday

7:30am Sally Rowell†

Tuesday

7:00am Marian Namyslowski†
12:00pm Howard & Joyce Griffith†
7:00pm For Peace

Wednesday

7:30am Sally Rowell†

Thursday

7:30am Fr. Michael Scully

Friday

7:30am Marilyn Caldwell

Saturday

8:00am Jim O'Toole†
4:30pm Gene Hieman

Sunday

7:00am St. John Parish
8:30am Bernice Sickinger†
11:00am Benedict Lee Family
2:00pm (Spanish) Eleno Cano†
5:00pm Gerald Simon

WEEKLY GIVING

Our fiscal year is July 1, 2015
through June 30, 2016

Information below
reflects donations received
July 1, 2015 through November 22, 2015.

Budgeted weekly amount \$30,692.31
Average weekly amount **\$26,403.45**

Budgeted YTD \$644,538.51
Actual YTD **\$554,472.45**

Net Shortage **\$90,066.06**

MEALS FOR THE FRIARS

The Capuchins are looking for volunteers who can cook meals for the six friars in Lawrence. If interested, please contact Veronica Hamer at (785) 843-0109. Meals needed for Wednesdays in December.

Bring meals to the Simon Parish Center at St. John by 4:00pm. Fr. Jeff will take the dinner home to the friary.

RESERVING SPACE

Parishioners, if you would like to reserve a location in St. John Church for an event or meeting, you must contact Ellen Sickinger:

(785) 843-0109 esickinger@saint-johns.net

To inquire about space in St. John School, contact Linda Alexander:

(785) 843-9511 alexander@saint-johns.net

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS NEWS

The next Knights of Columbus Meeting will be Thursday, December 10. Social and dinner, provided by the Knights, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. Location is the basement of St. John Church. Our council meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month.

Anybody interested in becoming a Knight should contact Grand Knight Kevin Oneslager at (785) 840-9406.

On the first Friday of each month, the Knights host a rosary in St. John Church at 6:30 p.m. All are invited to attend!



POSADAS, POSADAS, POSADAS

Este año tendremos las posadas en la parroquia o en la oficina; para prepararnos al nacimiento de Jesús nuestro salvador. Serán a las 7 de la tarde, empezando el 16 y terminando el 24 de diciembre. Si quieres coger una posada anotarse con María J Mota lo más pronto que puedas, cuatro ya están escogidas.

11 DE DICIEMBRE

Festajaremos como cada año a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, si quieres cooperar para pagar los mariachis anótate lo más pronto que puedas. Empezaremos a las 11 de la noche con el Santo Rosario y a las 12 de media noche la Misa con mariachis, todos están invitados.

RECICLAGE

Trae tus latas de aluminio y ayuda a tu Parroquia, por un mundo mas limpio, déjalas atrás de la oficina y ponle para María Mota. Gracias.

MUSICA, CORO, MUSICA

¿Te gusta cantar? ¿Tocas algún instrumento musical, o te gustaría aprender? Ven a practicar con nosotros, comunícate al (785) 218-1511.

CADA LUNES EN TODO EL AÑO

A las 8 de la noche rezamos el Santo Rosario, para pedir por nuestras necesidades y por los que amamos; también si alguno de sus parientes fallece podemos hacer el novenario, nos vemos los lunes en LA CAPILLA DEL PADRE PIO, frente a las veladoras.

PLATICAS PARA BAUTIZAR

Cada primer sábado del mes de 6:00 a 9:00 de la noche, sin niños, llamar antes para anotar su asistencia.

RECICLAGE. Trae tus latas de aluminio y ayuda a tu Parroquia, por un mundo mas limpio, déjalas atrás de la oficina y ponle para María Mota. Gracias.

Lecturas para la semana del 6 de diciembre de 2015

Domingo: Bar 5, 1-9/Sal 126, 1-6/Flp 1, 4-6. 8-11/Lc 3, 1-6
Lunes: Is 35, 1-10/ Sal 85, 9-14/Lc 5, 17-26
Martes: Gn 3, 9-15. 20/Sal 98, 1-4/Ef 1, 3-6. 11-12/Lc 1, 26-38
Miércoles: Is 40, 25-31/Sal 103, 1-4. 8. 10/Mt 11, 28-30
Jueves: Is 41, 13-20/Sal 145, 1. 9-13/Mt 11, 11-15
Viernes: Is 48, 17-19/Sal 1, 1-4. 6/Mt 11, 16-19
Sábado: Zac 2, 14-17 o Ap 11, 19; 12, 1-6. 10/Jdt 13, 18-19/
Lc 1, 26-38 o Lc 1, 39-47
Domingo siguiente: Sof 3, 14-18/Is 12, 2-6/Flp 4, 4-7/Lc 3, 10-18

6 de diciembre de 2015

2º Domingo de Adviento

Las lecturas de este Segundo Domingo de Adviento ponen como punto principal la justicia. El Libro del Profeta Baruc lo señala a los judíos que viven desterrados en Babilonia y sufren las injusticias como pueblo minoritario e inmigrante. El profeta les recuerda que no se desanimen, que ellos son importantes y especiales ya que son pueblo del Señor. "Dios te dará un nombre para siempre: 'Paz en la justicia y gloria en la piedad'." (Bar 5, 4). La justicia de Dios en el sentido bíblico significa la generosidad y fidelidad de Dios hacia su pueblo. Toda rotura en términos de justicia es curada por la fidelidad y el amor de Dios, es decir por su justicia. La Carta a los Filipenses también nos habla de los frutos de justicia dados a nosotros por Cristo Jesús, para gloria de Dios Padre. ¿Qué significa esto en mi vida? ¿Cómo hago caminos de justicia para mis hermanos y hermanas que lo necesitan?

En pocas palabras esta semana debemos de poner manos a la obra en términos de justicia saber ver y elegir circunstancias que nos lleven a buscar a Dios y sus caminos. Juan Bautista, como una de las grandes figuras del Adviento, nos lo hace sentir fuertemente, llama al arrepentimiento y a la conversión por aquello de recordar las formas de abrir el corazón apartándonos del egoísmo, la envidia, la soberbia, el ansia de poder y ser siempre el primero. Dejar de ser caprichosos en situaciones obvias de cambio. El Adviento es una invitación a seguir caminando, seguir enderezando y planeando formas de dejar la violencia por la paz. Recordando siempre que si no trabajo por la paz, no debo exigir la justicia.

NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE

Dios nos ha amado de tantas maneras a través de la historia que nunca terminaríamos de contar sus beneficios si tuviéramos la ocurrencia de hacerlo. Aparte de la historia del Nacimiento de Jesús, la otra historia que me encanta y nos gusta a todos es la referente a las apariciones de la Virgen de Guadalupe. Yo crecí en un ambiente completamente mariano -guadalupano. Desde pequeña vi como mis padres preparaban el altarcito a la Virgen de Guadalupe en casa y también vi como en la Iglesia preparaban un altar más grande y majestuoso, con telas finas de colores y lleno de flores. Las personas desde tempranito cantaban y rezaban el rosario, el ángelus y otras devociones. En medio de todo esto me hacía la siguiente pregunta. ¿Por qué hacemos todo esto? Más tarde encontré la respuesta. Orar en familia y en comunidad es lo más importante que experimenté cuando pequeña. En la oración nació la intimidad personal con Dios y la Virgen. En la Iglesia, se reunía toda la comunidad y ahí crecía la amistad con Dios y la amistad con los hermanos y hermanas. ¡Los altares nos invitan a la oración! ¿Verdad?

El Evangelio de hoy nos relata dos bellas historias la de la Anunciación del Señor y cuando la Virgen visita a su prima Isabel. En ambas historias se nos narra el cómo la Virgen María nos brinda, acerca, y entrega a Jesús. En el Tepeyac, María muestra su gran amor por nosotros, recordándonos cuanto Dios nos quiere, cuida y ama por medio de ella.

