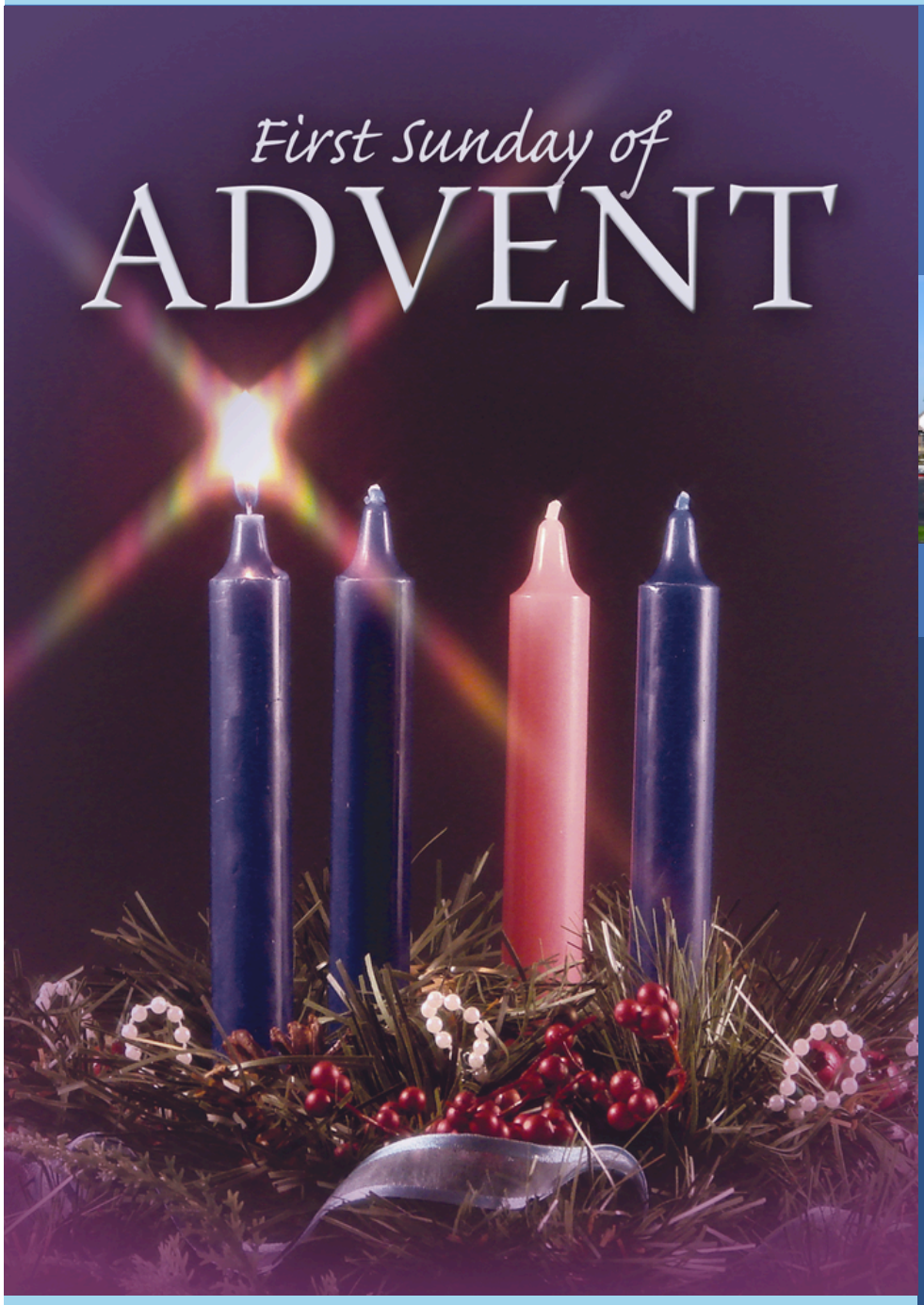
Immaculate Heart of Mary



PARISH MISSION + MISION PARROQUIAL

With Mary, we seek to know Christ better and to make Him better known through our words and actions.

Con Maria, deseamos conocer mejor a Cristo y darlo a conocer por medio de nuestras acciones y palabras.

NOVEMBER 29, 2026

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday | **English:** 5:00pm (Vigil Mass)
Sunday | **English**: 7:30am, 9:00am, 12:30pm
Sunday | **Spanish**: 10:45am, 2:00pm
Sunday | **Latin**: 5:00pm (Tridentine Form)

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday | **English**: 8am
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday | **Bilingual**: 8am
with Daily Rosary at 7:30am

CONFESSIONS/CONFESIONES

Tuesday | 6:00pm - 7:00pm
Saturday| 3:30pm - 4:30pm

CHAPEL/CAPILLA

Monday - Wednesday | 8:30am - 4:00pm
Thursday | Adoration 8:30am - 5:00pm
with Holy Hour & Benediction at 5:00pm
Friday | Adoration 8:30am to Saturday 7:30am
with overnight Adoration in the Chapel

CONTACT US

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
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Brentwood, CA 94513

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Website: www.ihmbrentwood.com

DIRECTORY & PASTOR'S PAGE

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OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND MARY IMMACULATE

CONVENT PHONE: (925) 513-8154

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Sister Guadalupe Grande, MSS
Sister María Teresa Rodríguez, MSS

PASTORAL COUNCIL

COUNCIL CHAIR
Jey Navat
JNavat.IHM@gmail.com

PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear Families of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

Advent is perhaps the most difficult season for the liturgy to feel like it meshes well with everything else going on in life. Lent coincides with the darkest coldest days of winter. Easter aligns with warm days and the earth itself springing back to life. In Advent, though, no matter how well the liturgy and music are crafted and executed, it can feel that these efforts, while working against the pervasive, secular "Christmas spirit" that imbues almost everything outside the church doors at this time of year, are nearly meaningless.

The mismatch is more than this dichotomy, however. Perhaps you've heard in a variety of circumstances the expression, "Participate, don't anticipate." Or perhaps while anxiously waiting for a hospital test result, you've realized that not knowing is the worst part of that waiting. The human condition is one of always wanting what it wants right away; of always wanting to know what is happening right now and what will be happening next; of always wanting power and influence over all these things and more. So indeed, Advent can be a time of fruitful opposition to quite a lot of the human existence—if we let it be so. And we should!

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us.

Queridas Familias del Inmaculado Corazón de María,

El Adviento es quizás el tiempo del año en el que resulta más difícil que la liturgia encaje bien con todo lo demás que ocurre en la vida. La Cuaresma coincide con los días más oscuros y fríos del invierno. La Pascua se alinea con los días más cálidos y con la propia tierra que vuelve a la vida. En Adviento, sin embargo, por muy bien que estén elaboradas y ejecutadas la liturgia y la música, puede parecer que estos esfuerzos, aunque contrarresten el omnipresente" Espíritu Navideño" secular que impregna casi todo lo que hay fuera de las puertas de la iglesia en esta época del año, carecen casi por completo de sentido.

Sin embargo, el desajuste va más allá de esta dicotomía. Quizá hayas oído en diversas circunstancias la expresión: "Participa, no te adelantes." O quizás, mientras esperabas con ansiedad el resultado de una prueba médica, te hayas dado cuenta de que no saber es lo peor de esa espera. La condición humana consiste en querer siempre lo que se desea de inmediato; en querer saber siempre lo que está sucediendo en este preciso instante y lo que sucederá a continuación; en querer siempre tener poder e influencia sobre todas estas cosas y mucho más. Así pues, efectivamente, el Adviento puede ser un tiempo de oposición fructífera a gran parte de la existencia humana — si dejamos que así sea. ¡Y deberíamos hacerlo!



Inmaculado Corazón de María, ruega por nosotros.

Rev. Father Quang Dong
Pastor

CLERGY

OFFICE HOURS: BY APPOINTMENT

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dcnleland@ihmbrentwood.com
Rev. Mr. John Kortuem (Semi-Retired)
dcnjohn@ihmbrentwood.com
Rev. Mr. Ron Horan (Retired)

WEEKLY SCRIPTURES & PRAYERS

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

8:00am † Maria del Rosario Marquez
† Richard Figueroa

5:00pm † Roselio Angeles
† Teofilo & Braulia Gutoman

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

7:30am † Carolina Dionisio Reyes
Emmaus Ministry - Special Int.

9:00am † Angela, Whitey & Carol Morris
Thanksgiving

10:45am Movimiento Familia Cristiano - Special Intention
† Maria Concepcion Alacantar Sanchez

12:30pm Candace Coyle - Health
Catholic Daughters - Sp. Int.

2:00pm IHM Parishioners

5:00pm Pray for more Priests & Religious Vocations

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30

8:00am Editha de Leon - Birthday
† Daisy Biñas

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1

8:00am † Alan VI Hoeschen
† Elvin Pinpin

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2

8:00am † Osvaldo H. & Manuel G. Ramirez
† Bobby Dizon, Sr.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3

8:00am † Gloria Logronio
Elina Irene Hand - Birthday

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

8:00am Rita Nahm - Birthday
† Socorro Ortega

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00am Legion of Mary - Special Int.
† Martilino Arciga

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY: NOVEMBER 30

Reading: Rom 10:9-18
Psalm: Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11
Gospel: Mt 4:18-22

TUESDAY: DECEMBER 1

Reading: Is 11:1-10
Psalm: Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Gospel: Lk 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY: DECEMBER 2

Reading: Is 25:6-10a
Psalm: Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
Gospel: Mt 15:29-37

THURSDAY: DECEMBER 3

Reading: Is 26:1-6
Psalm: Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a
Gospel: Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY: DECEMBER 4

Reading: Is 29:17-24
Psalm: Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14
Gospel: Mt 9:27-31

SATURDAY: DECEMBER 5

Reading: Is 30:19-21, 23-26
Psalm: Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
Gospel: Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

SUNDAY: DECEMBER 6

1st Reading: Is 40:1-5, 9-11
Psalm: Ps 85:9ab, 10, 11-12, 13-14
2nd Reading: 2 Pt 3:8-14
Gospel: Mk 1:1-8

PLEASE PRAY FOR

SICK RELATIVES & FRIENDS OF THE PARISH COMMUNITY:

Carol and Dcn Ron Horan
Adrian Rojo, Brittany Gooch
Kim Wiley, Jill Vance
Jodi Waters, Billie Cole
Solangue & Nicole Patiño-Patroni
Michael Clancy, Jr., R.A. Toledo
Robert & Rosemary Wallpe
Georgia Thompson, Ken Klovee
Cherry Hall, Gilbert Vega
Jerry Fuhrmann, Christina Heuer ***
Marcus Larios, Lupe Espindola
Grecia Villanueva, Fran Alcorn
Jim & Lee Huckstein
Michael Garcia, Angelo Venegas
Michael Damian, Charles Heitzman
Charles & Henrietta Gard
Jenn Cayanan, Rick Souza,
Teri DeVeyra, David Klapprott
Sandra Ooka, Rita Nahm
Magdalena Quant, Kathy Lucido
Shannon Morton, Juan Galindo
Glenda & Edwin Protacio
Christopher & John Bassi,
Alma Robinson, Jessie Catelan
Maycheal Julian, Evangeline Carino Laarni
Brumuela, Sharon Alejandro,
Lucrecia Oseguera, Manuel Dizon
James Halverson, Maria de Jesus
Brigette Wilson, Denise Campos
Jorio Amaral Jr., Juan Jimenez Rosales
Princess Robert, Alexia Gracia-Medrano
Cody Rico, Steve Sawko
Rodrigo Del Real, Bobbi Koller
Lita Gamez, Camen and Gerald Rogers
Cheryl Engverson, Connie Vasquez
Mary Holland, Angel Moreno
Ogechi Nzenwosu, J. Manuel Torres
Christopher Bagay, Monica Guernsey,
Rocio Del Real, Yesenia Rospialiosia Siu,
Kathy Sullivan, Joan Burke
Derek Cochnauer, Quintilia Mansanares
Ron Vigil, Jim White, Christina Davis
Caroline Gray, Al & Carolyn Daddona
Brenda & Janet Heitzmann, Isabel Yanez
Judy Price

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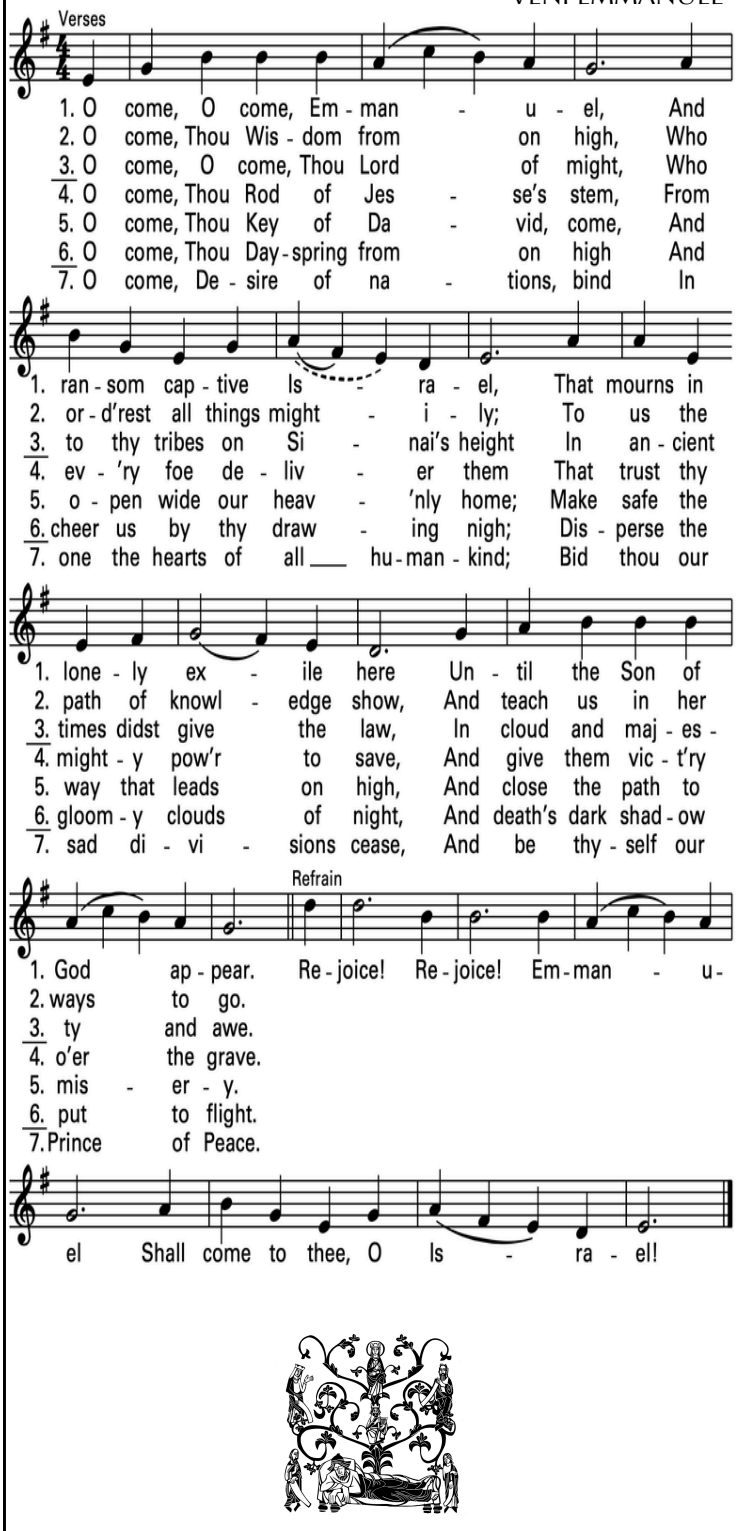
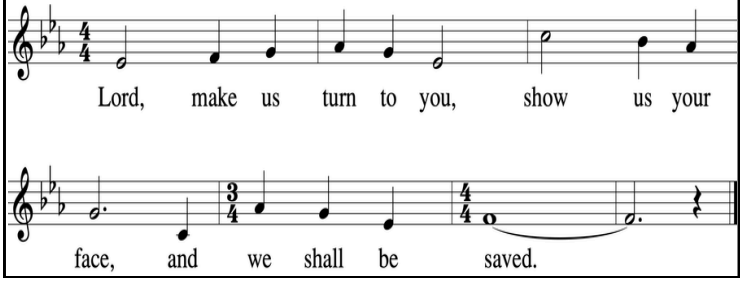
Entrance Hymn **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

VENI EMMANUEL



Responsorial Psalm Psalm 80 · Marty Haugen

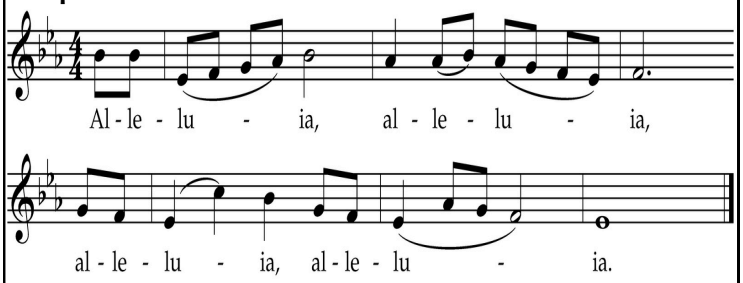


1. Shepherd of Israel, hearken from your throne and shine forth,
   O rouse your power, and come to save us.

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

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

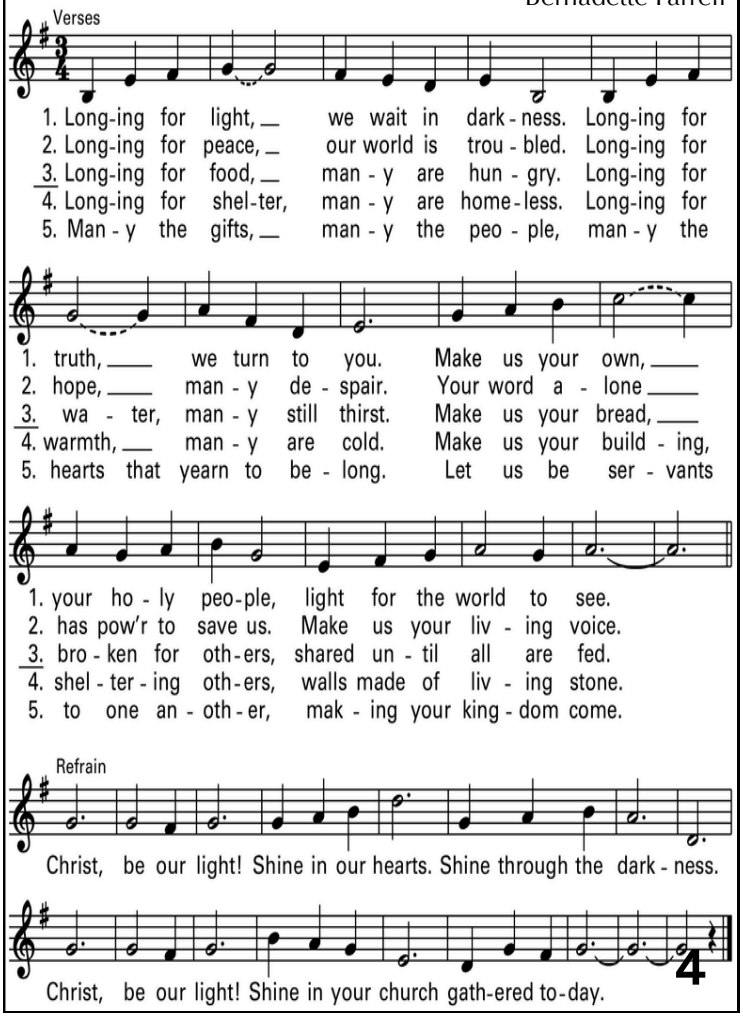
Gospel Acclamation *Mass of Wisdom*



Show us, Lord, your love /
and grant us your salvation ℟.

Preparation of the Gifts **Christ, Be Our Light**

Bernadette Farrell



Holy, Holy, Holy *Mass of Wisdom*

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of Hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

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Memorial Acclamation *Mass of Wisdom*

We proclaim your death, O Lord, and profess your resurrection
until you come again.

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Great Amen *Mass of Wisdom*

Amen, Amen, Amen.
Amen, Amen, Amen.

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Lamb of God *Mass of Wisdom*

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

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Communion Hymn **The Living Bread of God**
Kate Cuddy

Refrain
Jesus, the living Bread of God,
Jesus, the Saving Cup of Christ.
Everytime we eat this bread,
everytime we drink this cup,
we proclaim your glory
until you come again.

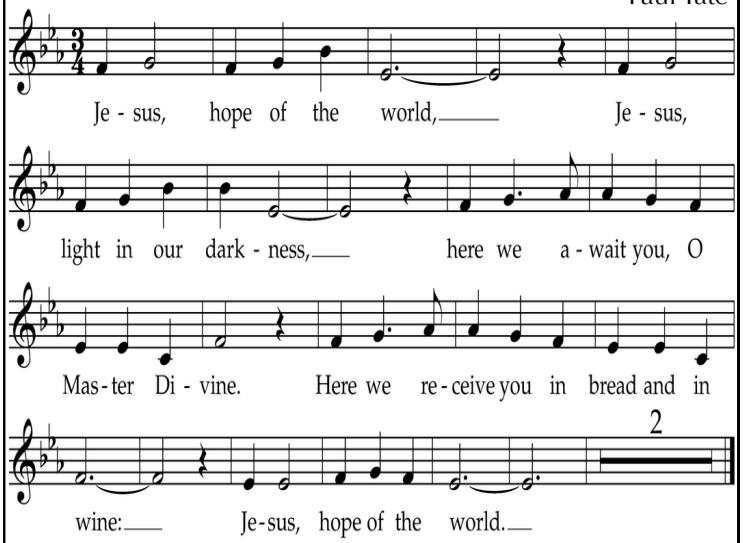
1. You are the bread of life,
if we come to you, we will never be in need.
If we believe in you, we will never thirst,
and we will live forever.

2. You are the life of the world,
if we come to you, we will never know death.
If we eat of this bread, we will be renewed,
and we will live forever.

3. You are the living bread,
our bread from heaven, our food from above.
If we eat and drink, we will be like you,
and we will live forever.

4. You are the living Christ,
if we followe you, we will see the face of God.
If we die with you, we will rise again,
and we will live forever.

Jesus, Hope of the World
Paul Tate



1. Come to us, O Son of God! *Come, Lord Jesus!*
Come to us, O Son of Man! *Come, Lord Jesus!*
Come, Son of God! Come, Son of Man!
Shepherd your people in love!

2. Come to us, O Promised King! *Come, Lord Jesus!*
Come to us, O Promised Peace! *Come, Lord Jesus!*
Come, Promised King! Come, Promised Peace!
Come and be Lord of our hearts!

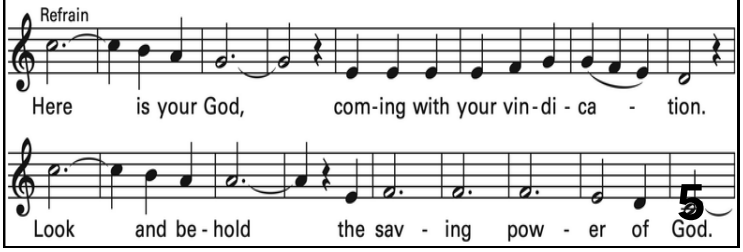
3. Come to us, O Rising Sun! *Come, Lord Jesus!*
Come to us, O Endless Light! *Come, Lord Jesus!*
Come, Rising Sun! Come, Endless Light!
Shatter the darkness of death!

4. Come to us, O Heart's Desire! *Come, Lord Jesus!*
Come to us, O Saving Love! *Come, Lord Jesus!*
Come, Heart's Desire! Come, Saving Love!
Banish our doubt and our fear!

Recessional Hymn **Ready the Way**
Bob Hurd

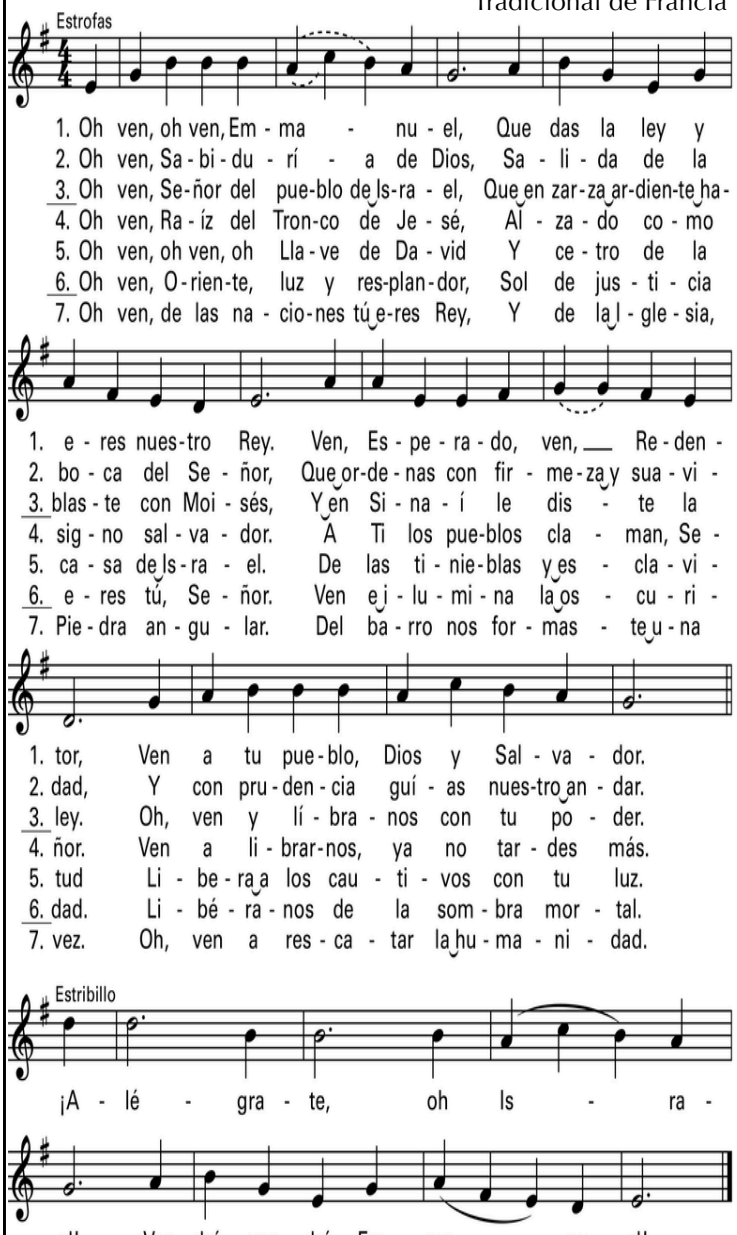
1. "Ready the way of the Lord! Ready the way of the Lord!"
A voice cries out in the wilderness: "Ready the way of the Lord!"
"Let ev'ry valley be filled. Let ev'ry valley be filled.
Let ev'ry mountain be humbled; let ev'ry valley be filled."

2. Desert and wasteland will bloom, desert and wasteland will bloom.
Glory and splendor will fill the land.
Desert and wasteland will bloom.
Those who are blind will then see.
Those who are deaf will then hear.
Those who are lame will then leap for joy.
Those who are mute will then sing.

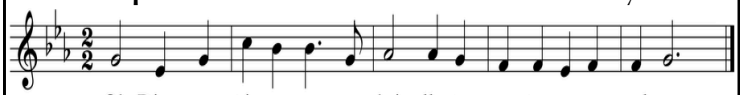


Canto de Entrada **Oh Ven, Oh Ven, Emmanuel**

Tradicional de Francia



Salmo Responsorial Salmo 80 · Tony Alonso

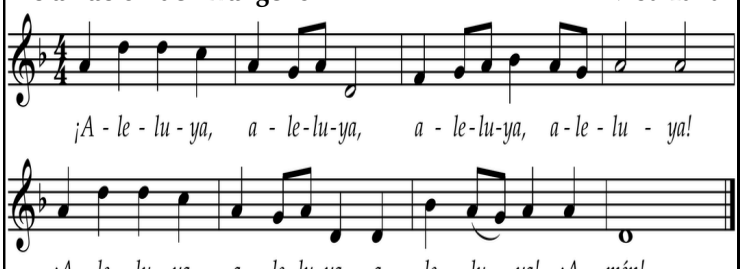


Pastor de Israel, escucha,
tú que te sientas sobre querubines,
resplandece.
Despierta tu poder y ven a salvarnos. ℟.

Dios de los ejércitos, vuélvete:
mira desde el cielo, fíjate,
ven a visitar tu viña,
la cepa que tu diestra plantó,
y que tú hiciste vigorosa. ℟.

Que tu mano proteja a tu escogido,
al hombre que tú fortaleciste.
No nos alejaremos de ti;
danos vida, para que invoquemos tu
nombre. ℟.

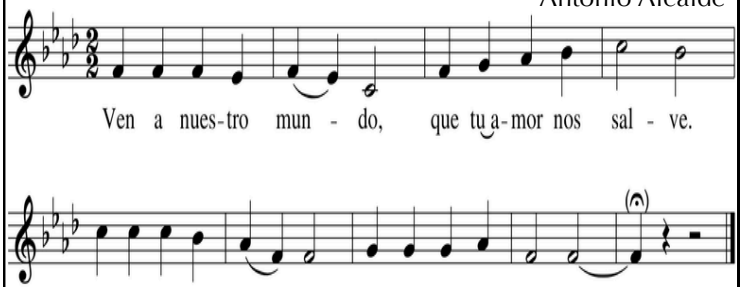
Aclamación del Evangelio *Misa Luna*



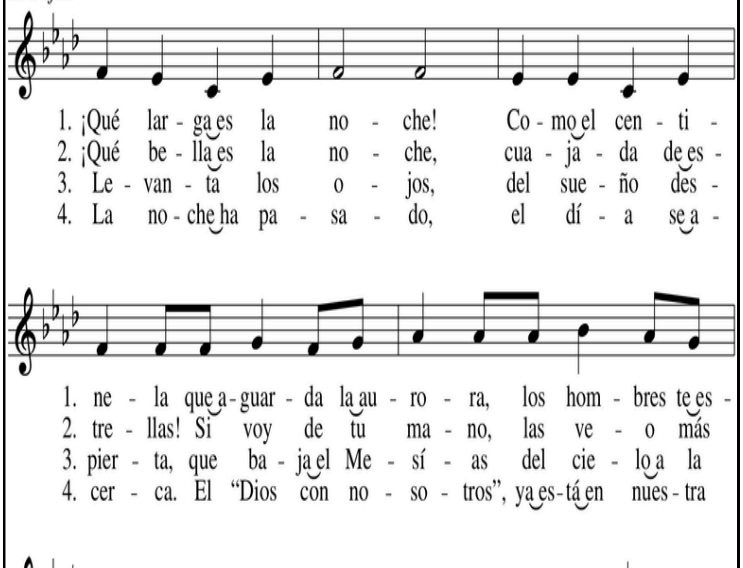
Muéstranos, Señor, tu misericordia /
y danos tu salvación ℟.

Preparación de las Ofrendas **Ven a Nuestro Mundo**

Antonio Alcalde



Estrofas



Santo *Misa Luna*

Santo, Santo, Santo es el Señor
Dios del universo.
Llenos están el cielo y la tierra de tu gloria, hosanna.
Hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en el cielo, hosanna.
Hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en el cielo, hosanna.
Bendito el que viene en nombre del Señor.
Hosanna en el cielo, hosanna.
Hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en el cielo, hosanna.
Hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en el cielo, hosanna.

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Aclamación Conmemorativa *Misa Luna*

Anunciamos tu muerte,
proclamamos tu resurreción.
Ven Señor, ven Señor, ven Señor Jesús.

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Gran Amén *Misa Luna*

Amén, Amén, Amén, Amén.

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Cordero de Dios *Misa Luna*

Cordero de Dios, que quitas el pecado del mundo,
ten piedad, ten piedad, ten piedad de nosotros.

Cordero de Dios, que quitas el pecado del mundo,
ten piedad, ten piedad, ten piedad de nosotros.

Cordero de Dios, que quitas el pecado del mundo,
danos la paz, danos la paz, danos la paz, Cordero de Dios.
danos la paz, danos la paz, danos la paz, Cordero de Dios.

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Canto de Comunión **Arriba los Corazones**
Tradicional de Panamá

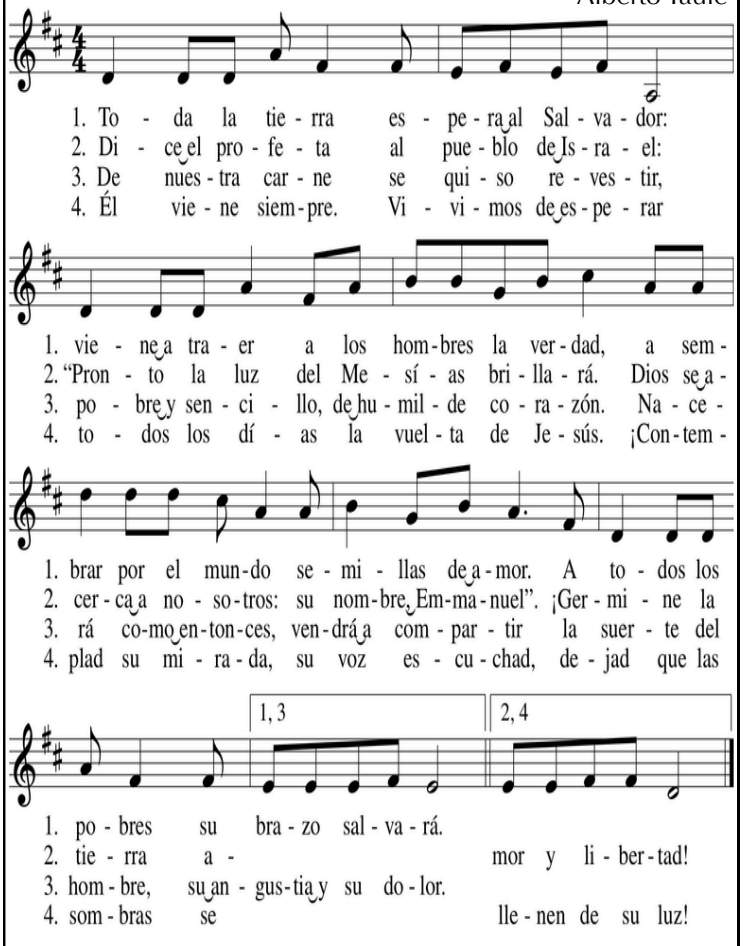
Estribillo
Arriba los corazones,
vayamos todos al pan de vida
que es fuente de gloria eterna,
de fortaleza y de alegría.

1. A ti acudimos sedientos: Ven, Señor.
   Tenemos fe en tu misterio: Ven, Señor.
   Queremos darte la vida: Ven, Señor;
   con sus dolores y dichas: Ven, Señor.

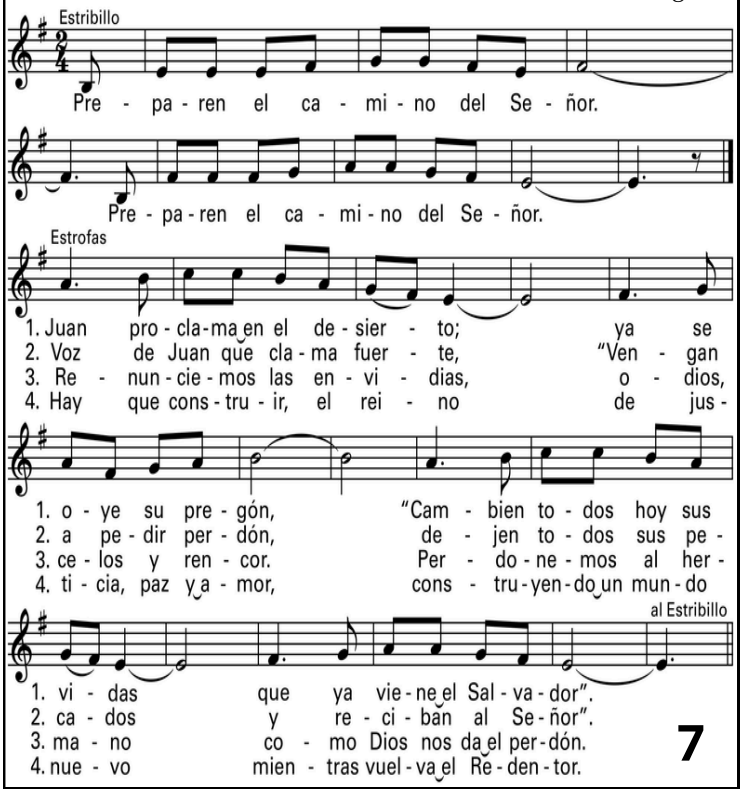
2. Queremos ser más hermanos: Ven, Señor.
   Que nunca nos olvidamos: Ven, Señor.
   En ti hallaremos la fuerza: Ven, Señor,
   para olvidar las ofensas: Ven, Señor.

3. Que no haya luchas fraternas: Ven, Señor,
   ni esclavitud, ni miserias: Ven, Señor.
   Aparta el odio del mundo: Ven, Señor,
   que exista un orden más justo: Ven, Señor.

Toda la Tierra
Alberto Taulé



Canto de Salida **Preparen el Camino**
Fernando Rodríguez



WEEKLY CALENDAR / CALENDARIO SEMANAL

First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 29th

5:00pm	MFCC Celebration	Hall A/B/C
6:00pm	OLG Rosary	Chapel

Monday, November 30th

8:45am	Men's Fellowship	Library
5:00pm	Legion of Mary/Eng	Library
6:00pm	OLG Rosary	Chapel
6:00pm	"For the Greater Glory" Movie	Hall B/C
7:00pm	Escuela de la Cruz	John
7:00pm	Bible Study/Sp	Hall A
7:00pm	Men of St. Joseph	Library
7:00pm	C.O.V. Meeting	Church
7:00pm	Emmaus Men/Eng Retreat Form	Matt

Tuesday, December 1st

10:00am	IHM Crafters	Library
3:00pm	First Communion Classes/Eng	Hall A/B/C/ Library/All Classrooms
4:15pm	Edge & Middle School	Hall A/B/C Library/All Classrooms
5:00pm	Legion of Mary/Sp	Chapel
6:00pm	Confessions	Church
6:00pm	OLG Rosary	Chapel
7:00pm	First Communion Classes/Sp	Hall A/B/C/Mk/Lk/Jn
7:00pm	Advent Reflection/Sp	Church
7:00pm	SPRED	Library/Matthew

Wednesday, December 2nd

10:30am	SVDP Board Mtg	Library
4:00pm	OCIC Classes	Mark
6:00pm	OLG Rosary	Chapel
7:00pm	Advent Reflection/Eng	Church

Thursday, December 3rd

10:00am	Women's Faith Sharing	Library
3:30pm	IHM Good Shepherd	Hall B/C
5:00pm	Widow/Widowers Group	Library
6:00pm	OLG Rosary	Chapel
6:30pm	Beneath the Cross Cenacle	Chapel
6:30pm	Youth Group	Hall A/B
7:00pm	Discovering Christ	Luke
7:00pm	OCIA	Matt/Mark
7:00pm	Confirmation/Adult	Hall C
7:00pm	Emaus Men/Sp Retreat Formation	John

Friday, December 4th

9:00am	SVDP Food Pantry	Hall A/B/C
3:30pm	Bible Study/Eng	Library
4:00pm	Middle School Girls Gathering	Hall B/C
6:00pm	OLG Rosary	Chapel
6:30pm	Emaus Women/Sp Christmas Gathering	Hall A/B
7:00pm	OICA/Adult Confirmation/Sp	John
7:00pm	Divine Mercy Cenacle/Sp	Matthew

Saturday, December 5th

9:00am	First Communion Classes/Eng	Hall A/B Library/All Classrooms
10:30am	Marian Movement of Priests	Library
10:30am	Our Lady of Fatima Prayer Group	Mark
3:30pm	Confessions	Church
6:00pm	OLG Rosary	Chapel
6:00pm	Music Ministry Christmas Party	Hall A/B/C
6:15pm	Tree Lighting	Plaza

Devotions/Devociones

Holy Rosary/Santo Rosario
Monday to Saturday/Lunes a Sábado
7:30am (before the 8am Daily Mass)

Mother of Perpetual Help Novena
Novena de Madre del Perpetuo Socorro
Wednesday/Miércoles
following the 8am Daily Mass

Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena
Coronilla a la Divina Misericordia
Thursday/Jueves & Friday/Viernes
following the 8am Daily Mass

Holy Hour for Vocations/
Hora Santa de Vocaciones
Thursday/Jueves 5pm in the Church

Sacraments/Sacramentos

Anointing of the Sick/
Unción de los Infermos
contact a priest/llame a un sacerdote

Communion to the Homebound/
Comunión a los Enfermos
contact a priest/llame a un sacerdote

Marriage/Matrimonios
6 month preparation/6 meses de preparación
contact the office/contacte la oficina

Baptisms/Bautismos
contact the office/contacte la oficina

Funerals/Funerales
Holy Cross Catholic Funeral Services
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(20 days prior to reqested placement date)

To publish pictures of ministries/ events/liturgies/socials/etc:
email to bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com



PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, DEFEND US IN BATTLE,
BE OUR PROTECTION AGAINST THE WICKEDNESS AND SNARES OF THE DEVIL.
MAY GOD REBUKE HIM WE HUMBLY PRAY;
AND DO THOU, O PRINCE OF THE HEAVENLY HOST,
BY THE POWER OF GOD, CAST INTO HELL SATAN AND ALL THE EVIL SPIRITS
WHO PROWL ABOUT THE WORLD SEEKING THE RUIN OF SOULS.
AMEN.

ORACION A SAN MIGUEL

SAN MIGUEL ARCÁNGEL, DEFIÉNDENOS EN LA BATALLA.
SÉ NUESTRO AMPARO CONTRA LA PERVERSIDAD Y ASECHANZAS DEL
DEMONIO. REPRÍMALE DIOS, PEDIMOS SUPLICANTES, Y TÚ PRÍNCIPE DE LA
MILICIA CELESTIAL, CON EL DIVINO PODER DE DIOS,
ARROJA AL INFIERNO A SATANÁS Y A TODOS LOS ESPÍRITUS MALIGNOSQUE
ANDAN DISPERSOS POR EL MUNDO PARA LA PERDICIÓN DE LAS ALMAS.
AMÉN.

SECOND COLLECTION

December 6
Maintenance Fund
Fondo del Mantenimiento

December 13
No Second Collection
No Habra Segunda Colecta

December 20
Religious retirement
Jubilación Religios

December 27
No Second Collection
No Habra Segunda Colecta

SVDP FOOD PANTRY

December 6
Canned tuna and other meats

December 13
Canned soups
Sopas enlatadas

December 20
Dry Beans
Frijole secos



SVDP

Supporting Our Community This Holiday Season

The second collection on Saturday, Nov. 28, and Sunday, Nov. 29, will benefit the St. Vincent de Paul Conference at IHM.

Our community's needs were well served by the recent distribution of holiday gift cards at our food pantry on November 20. We are deeply grateful for your generosity and continued support, which help us meet the needs of our neighbors during these challenging times. Your contributions support our Friday food pantry and provide much- needed financial assistance to local families.

The ministry of St. Vincent de Paul will always be grateful to how we come together and fulfill the commitment as followers of Christ and fulfill his words in action. Let us continue this journey as we prepare ourselves in the season of Advent.



Getty Images / azotov

November 29, 2026

First Sunday of Advent

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 | 1 Cor 1:3-9 | Mk 13:33-37

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

As a parent and a former teacher, I know that one of the best ways to encourage good behavior in children is to catch them doing what is right and to praise them for it. Eager to please, children will do more of what gets them positive attention or reward. The prophet Isaiah tells us that, like a good parent, God will abundantly bless his children whom he finds doing right upon his return: "No ear has ever heard, nor eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him." Scripture tells us that we can't even imagine what awaits those whom God finds living faithful to his word. Our task, then, is to always be vigilant, as Jesus' words today remind us: "Be watchful! Be alert."

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

As we begin this Advent season, let us reflect on the fact that growth in discipleship might simply be paying more attention to doing what is right in every moment. But we know this is not always easy. We can take encouragement from St. Paul, who tells us today that God has bestowed his grace upon us in Christ Jesus, and that we have been "enriched in every way ... so that [we] are not lacking in any spiritual gift as [we] wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ." As we seek to share faith with others, it's helpful to tap into the specific ways God has gifted us. Some of us are great at listening. Others offer encouragement and counsel. Perhaps others know how to explain things in a down-to-earth, easily understandable way. Still others are able to create beautiful things – through art, music, poetry – that draw people to encounter God's beauty and goodness. Think about what gifts God has given you, and find ways to lean into them in a more intentional way as you seek to share your faith with others.

STUDY

This Advent – especially if you've never done so before – take time to discover the spiritual gifts God has given you. Look to see if there is a *Called & Gifted™ Discernment Process* (Catherine of Siena Institute) being offered in your area, or another suitable spiritual gifts discernment workshop. This process will help you to grow in self-knowledge and to uncover the ways that God has uniquely gifted you to live your discipleship in the world.

REFLECTIONS / REFLEXIONES

Filling up on Advent

I've learned the hard way to keep Saltines on the top shelf, far out of the kids' reach.

Saltines are a perfectly lovely little snack, but they're so light and salty and full of air that my children consume entire sleeves of them without realizing it. "I'm not hungry — I ate a bunch of Saltines!" they protest when I call them to the table for dinner.

I think I'm going to have it tattooed on my hand, just so I don't have to keep saying it: what fills you up doesn't necessarily feed you.

This, unfortunately, is so often how I am with Advent. I gorge myself on the nonsense that looks, sounds, and tastes like Christmas — but never really feels like it. It all appears harmless — light and full of air — these decorations, these social engagements, these consumeristic spirals of gift-giving, these drive-through light shows. I don't even realize it's happening until, on December 25, I find myself so tired I can barely drag myself across the finish line.

The lie at the heart of all that excess is the same as the lie at the heart of any evil: I am empty, and all this nothing can fill me up.

Because December 25 isn't the finish line, is it? It's the beginning. Advent is supposed to be the time of preparation, the time of stillness and calm, of watching and waiting, reflection and renewal. A time that — gasp! — reenergizes you, so that when the lord of the house comes, he won't find you passed out in a pile of tinsel and cookie dough.

So be watchful. Be alert.

Rellenándose en Adviento

He aprendido por las malas a mantener los Saltines en la estantería de arriba, lejos del alcance de los niños.

Los Saltines son un tentempié encantador, pero son tan ligeros, salados y llenos de aire que mis hijos se comen mangas enteras sin darse cuenta. "¡No tengo hambre — me he comido un montón de Saltines!" protestan cuando los llamo a la mesa para cenar.

Creo que me lo voy a tatuar en la mano, solo para no tener que repetirlo una y otra vez: lo que te llena no necesariamente te alimenta.

Esto, por desgracia, es tan a menudo lo que soy con el Adviento. Me atiborro de las tonterías que parecen, suenan y saben a Navidad — pero que nunca realmente lo siento. Todo parece inofensivo — ligero y lleno de aire — estas decoraciones, estos encuentros sociales, estas espirales consumistas de regalos, estos espectáculos de luces en el autoservicio. Ni siquiera me doy cuenta de que está ocurriendo hasta que, el 25 de diciembre, me encuentro tan cansado que apenas puedo arrastrarme hasta la meta.

La mentira en el corazón de todo ese exceso es la misma que la mentira en el corazón de cualquier mal: estoy vacío, y todo esto nada puede llenarme.

Porque el 25 de diciembre no es la meta, ¿verdad? Es el principio. El Adviento se supone que es el tiempo de preparación, el tiempo de quietud y calma, de observar y esperar, de reflexión y renovación. Un tiempo que — ¡ay! — te reactiva energías, para que cuando venga el señor de la casa, no te encuentre desmayado en un montón de espumillón y masa de galletas.

Así que estate atento. Estate alerta.

EVENTS / EVENTOS



Advent Deanery Penance Services 2026

Good Shepherd Church, Pittsburg
Thursday, December 3, 7pm

Our Lady Queen of the World, Bay Point
Monday, December 14, 7pm

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, Brentwood
Tuesday, December 15, 7pm

Most Holy Rosary Church, Antioch
Wednesday, December 16, 7pm

St. Peter Martyr, Pittsburg
Thursday, December 17, 7pm

St. Anthony Church, Oakley
Monday, December 21, 6:30pm

DIOCESE OF OAKLAND



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Saturday, December 5, 2026
following the 5:00pm Mass

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

ADVENT REFLECTIONS
Reflexiones de Adviento 2026

Español: Martes, 1 de Diciembre, 7pm
en la Iglesia
Pbro. Gilberto Chávez, S.deJ.

English: Wednesday, December 2, 7pm
in the Church
Fr. Huong Dinh



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

MINISTRY EVENTS / EVENTOS DE LOS MINISTERIOS



Couples in Cana

PAN DE VIDA RETREAT

"I give you a new commandment, love one another as I have loved you, so you also should love one another."
– John 13:34

A retreat for couples to grow deeper in their relationship to each other and to Christ.



The mission of Pan de Vida retreat is to bring together couples, young adults & youth for an opportunity to experience Christ's grace through the Sacraments He established.



What is the Couples in Cana Retreat?

Conference talks about marriage & growing deeper in your vocation as a couple

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Prayer

Workshops to improve communication & deepen your understanding of Sacramental love.

Confession



For more information about Pan de Vida Retreats for couples, young adults, and youth please visit:
www.pandevidaretreat.com
or contact us at
pandevidaretreat@gmail.com
or 925-297-7282

Scan below to find out more and to register online

Fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

Reina de México y Emperatriz de América

PROGRAMA

VIERNES – 11 DE DICIEMBRE 2026

7:00 PM	Entrada de Guadalupanos y Danzantes
8:15 PM	Santo Rosario
9:00 PM	Maria Angeles y su Poema
9:30 PM	Danza
10:00 PM	Senor Ruben Anaya
10:30 PM	Senor Mauro Banales
10:45 PM	Los Jóvenes le cantan
11:00 PM	Santa Misa de Vigilia
Media Noche	Mañanitas con Mariachi
Al terminar:	Pan Dulce y Chocolate en el Salón

SABADO – 12 DE DICIEMBRE 2026

Medio Dia	Procesión a IHM desde Bristow School
1:00 pm	Celebración de La Santa Misa
2:15 pm	Despues de Misa, al salon donde estaremos sirviendo pozole y bebidas para los que nos acomparon.



Que Viva Juan Diego y La Virgen de Guadalupe!

NOTAS: (1) Por favor, que la gente y sus hijos no caminen dentro los jardines de la Iglesia durante la procesión. Que pongan atencion con el trafico de vehiculos.
(2) Por favor, que presenten sus ofrendas para la Virgen antes y despues de la misa.
(3) Les pedimos que se vistan con ropa tipica Mexicano a celebrar nuestra fiesta.

Retiro de Emaús



Ministerio de Emaús de Inmaculado Corazon de Maria, Brentwood

El ministerio de Emaús está ofreciendo el Retiro de Emaús para hombres y mujeres de la parroquia.

¿Qué es lo grandioso de hacer este retiro?

Este retiro está basado en las Escrituras en el pasaje del Evangelio de San Lucas 24: 13-35. El tema principal de este retiro es descubrir o redescubrir a Jesús en nuestras vidas. Es un retiro que libera las distracciones de la rutina diaria. Le va a hacer posible que abra su corazón y pueda escuchar a Jesús y al Espíritu Santo.

Los invitamos que dediquen este tiempo y participen en esta jornada con Jesús que empieza el viernes por la tarde y termina el domingo en la tarde. Se proveerá transporte de ida y vuelta de la iglesia Inmaculado Corazon de Maria en Brentwood y el centro de retiros.

Para más información e inscribirse, por favor de llamar a los coordinadores:

Retiro de Hombres en Español se llevará acabo el
29, 30, y 31 de enero del 2027

Alejandro Moreno	Jose Jimenez
(925) 354-8165	(925) 584-3050

Retiro de Mujeres en Español se llevará acabo el
26, 27, y 28 de febrero del 2027

Josefina Jimenez	Silvia Jimenez
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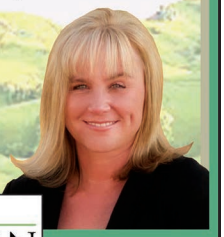

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December 2026

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This schedule is subject to change.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1st Advent		1	2	3	4	5
		8:00 Fr. Huong 6:00 Confessions 7:00 In Spanish Fr. Gilberto Advent Reflection	8:00 Fr. Quang 7:00 In English Fr. Huong – Advent Reflection	8:00 Fr. Gilberto Benediction / Adoration 5:00 Benediction	8:00 Fr. Huong Benediction / Adoration Benediction	6:00 Latin-Fr. Gilberto 8:00 Fr. Gilberto 10:00 Eng. Bap.- Paul 12:00 Spa. Bap-Leland 3:30 Confessions 5:00 Fr. Huong (Christmas Tree Lighting)
2nd Advent 6	7	Immaculate Conception 8	9	10	11	OL Guadalupe 12
7:30 Fr. Huong 9:00 Fr. Quang / H 10:45 Fr. Gilberto 12:30 Fr. Huong / H 2:00 Fr. Gilberto 5:00 Latin-Fr. Arturo C.	8:00 Fr. Huong 7:00 Fr. Gilberto	8:00 Fr. Quang 10:00 Fr. Huong 6:00 Confessions 7:00 Spanish - Fr. Gilberto	8:00 Fr. Quang	8:00 Fr. Gilberto Benediction / Adoration 5:00 Benediction	8:00 Fr. Huong Benediction / Adoration 11:00 PM Spanish Fr. Gilberto Our Lady of Guadalupe Benediction	8:00 Fr. Huong Our Lady of Guadalupe 12:00 Procession 1:00 Spa. Fr. Gilberto 3:30 Confessions 5:00 Fr. Quang
3rd Advent 13	14	15	16	17	18	19
7:30 Fr. Quang 9:00 Fr. Huong 10:45 Fr. Gilberto 12:30 Fr. Huong 2:00 Fr. Gilberto 5:00 Latin-Fr. Arturo C.	8:00 Fr. Huong	8:00 Fr. Gilberto NO 6:00 Confessions 7:00 Fr. Huong Penance Service	6:00 Frs. Erick / Quang 8:00 Fr. Quang Simbang Gabi: 16 - 24 @ 6:00 AM Posadas: 16-23 @ 7:00 PM	6:00 Fr. Gilberto 8:00 Fr. Gilberto Benediction / Adoration 5:00 Benediction	6:00 Fr. Huong 8:00 Fr. Huong Benediction / Adoration Benediction	6:00 Fr. Gilberto 8:00 Fr. Gilberto 3:30 Confessions 5:00 Fr. Quang / Paul 7:00 Christmas Caroling
4th Advent 20	21	22	23	24	Nativity of the Lord 25	26
6:00 Fr. Quang / P 7:30 Fr. Huong / P 9:00 Fr. Huong / P 10:45 Fr. Gilberto 12:30 Fr. Huong / P 2:00 Fr. Gilberto 5:00 Latín-Fr. Arturo C.	6:00 Fr. Gilberto 8:00 Fr. Gilberto	6:00 Fr. Huong 8:00 Fr. Huong 6:00 Confessions	6:00 Fr. Quang / P 8:00 Fr. Gilberto	6:00 Fr. Quang / P 8:00 Fr. Huong Christmas Eve 5:00 Eng. Fr. Quang / J 7:00 Eng. Fr. Huong 9:00 Spa. Fr. Gilberto 12:00 Bi. Fr. Gilberto *No Exposition*	Christmas Day 7:30 Fr. Quang / J 9:00 Fr. Huong 10:45 Fr. Gilberto 12:30 Fr. Huong 2:00 Fr. Gilberto 5:00 Latin-Fr. Gilberto *No Exposition*	8:00 Fr. Huong 3:30 Confessions 5:00 Fr. Huong / John
Holy Family 27	28	29	30	31		
7:30 Fr. Quang / J 9:00 Fr. Huong / J 10:45 Fr. Gilberto / L 12:30 Fr. Huong / J 2:00 Fr. Gilberto / L 5:00 Latin-Fr. Arturo C.	8:00 Fr. Gilberto	8:00 Fr. Huong NO 6:00 Confessions	8:00 Fr. Quang	8:00 Fr. Gilberto Benediction / Adoration 5:00 Benediction		