

## December 7-13

when "kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss"  
(Psalm 85:10).

### Reflections for the Week

Second Sunday of Advent

[click  
here](#)

#### Today's Readings

**First Reading** — The rugged land shall be made a plain; the rough country, a broad valley (Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11).

**Psalm** — Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

**Second Reading** — Conduct yourselves in holiness, hastening the coming of the day of God (2 Peter 3:8-14).

**Gospel** — I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Mark 1:1-8).

#### Readings for the Week

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13



#### Please pray for the healing of our parishioners and extended family:

Jim McLoughlin, Fr. Tom Seagrave, Jerry O'Leary, Maureen and Don Francis, Mary Dunn, Mike and Gabriel Marty, Patrick Lee, Judy and Charlie Liteky, Jim and Nancy McDonald, Chuck Witherell, Mary Purpura, Josephine Small, Teresa Hyatt, Mary Donnelly, and all our community members who reside in assisted living and care facilities.

This list and additional prayer requests may be found on the "Circle of Prayer" link on our Website [www.sjog.net](http://www.sjog.net); it is also available through email.

To request prayers for someone and/or receive the "Circle of Prayer" by email please contact Judy Laxen at [judithfl@aol.com](mailto:judithfl@aol.com).

#### Mass Intentions: December 5-11 (Fri-Thurs.)

Fri.	Benjamin Flores	12:10pm
Sat	John Riordan ((RIP)	4:15pm
Sun.	Typhoon Victims in the Philippines	9:30am
Sun	Luigi&Francesca Volpe	11:30am
Mon.	Mila Rodrigues (RIP Anniversary)	12:10pm
Tues.	Anne Theresa Burke (RIP)	12:10pm
Wed.	Ethel Hannon (RIP)	12:10pm
Thurs.	Ro Ofalsa (RIP)	12:10pm

#### Saints and Special Observances

Sunday:	Second Sunday of Advent; Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Monday:	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Tuesday:	St. Juan Diego
Wednesday:	International Human Rights Day
Thursday:	St. Damasus I
Friday:	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Saturday:	St. Lucy

#### EXILE

Both Isaiah and Peter had the task of comforting and encouraging their communities during times of exile. The Israelites were in geographic exile from Israel; to them this was, in effect, the same as being in exile from their God. The early Christians, following the Resurrection, expected an immediate return of Christ in glory; they, too, felt in "exile" as the delay of the Second Coming grew longer and longer. All four of scripture's authors today—Isaiah, the psalmist, Peter, and Mark—hasten to help us see things in God's terms, not ours. They want us to know that we can never truly be exiled from God, or from God-among-us, since we know that when the faithful are gathered, Christ has come into their midst. Instead, we are encouraged today to do what we can from our end to shorten the time of our exile: to repent of our sins, to return our lives to the Lord, to live as people who seek the coming day of the Lord, when "kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss" (Psalm 85:10).

#### Bring a Friend ~ ALL ARE WELCOME !

At St. John of God, we follow the example of our Patron Saint who opened his doors to all in need. We ask that all who come to seek God's Grace honor Universal Diversity when we come together to worship as a community. A special time is during the prayers of the faithful : We all meet each other with compassion and respect.

If you have a desire to join a community of wonderful friends who accept all,

**PLEASE COME JOIN US!**

**ANNUAL FUNDRAISER – ONLY TWO MORE WEEKS FOR TICKET SALES!**

The drawing will be held **December 21 right after the 9:30 Mass** – and just in time for Christmas. The parish counts on the income from this annual fundraiser to end the year in the black. All of the raffle expenses (prizes, printing, postage, etc.) have been underwritten by generous parishioners, **Can we count on you to sell lots of tickets so we can end with another successful year?** Please turn in your tickets and checks (payable to St. John of God Church) or cash **before** the deadline of December 21 after the 9:30 Mass.

**Children's Mass !**

Calling all children who want to participate in our annual Christmas Eve Children's Mass on December 24. We need angels, sheep, shepherds, magi, inn-keeper and narrators, as well as Joseph, Mary, and Baby Jesus. This traditional celebration of Christmas is very meaningful for the St. John of God community. Participation is also open to friends and family who may be just visiting for the Holiday. Please call Judy Grady 415.566.0163 or email her: judithgrady19@gmail.com to volunteer.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

Will be meeting in Ben's Room at 1:00 PM every Sunday, with the exception of December 21 and December 28. We would like to reserve this time slot (1-3 PM, Sundays) permanently on the calendar, as we have for the Friday night Scripture Study in Ben's Room.

**SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND !**

Please give generously to the sisters, brothers and religious who gave their lives to us through education, healthcare and lasting friendships. They have long, glorious lives and need our help to continue on.

***The Saint John of God Prayer***

*Dear God, through the intercession of St. John of God, patron of the poor and the sick, grant me the grace this day to greet every person that I meet with understanding and compassion. Reveal to me their needs and give me the means and inspire in my heart the humility and generosity of St. John so that I might be to them revelation of Christ's love. Amen*  
~ Rev. Thomas L. Seagrave

**Around the Community City and SF Bay**

**December 6 : Mass and Christmas Pot Luck Saturday 4:15pm**

**Join us for our Annual Christmas Celebration!**

**Climate Action in San Francisco: "Light for Lima"**

Join the Buddhist / Unitarian community ~ In solidarity with other faith groups around the world <http://ourvoices.net/lima>, San Francisco Insight Buddhist group, alongside San Francisco 1st Unitarian Universalist Church invite you to an interfaith evening called "Light for Lima", a solar lamp\* vigil on the steps of the 1st Unitarian Universalist Church (1187 Franklin St). We hope to bring awareness and prayer to the Lima, Peru, Climate Summit (COP20) taking place December 1<sup>st</sup> to 12th. The vigil will happen on **Sunday evening, 5:30-7 pm, Dec. 7th**. Bring a friend! \*we are encouraging the use of solar lanterns in place of candles to emphasize our need to move to renewable energy."

**Decorate St. John of God Church - December 21 at 1:00 PM (after the 11:30 AM Mass):**

We will be gathering to decorate the Church for Christmas after the 11:30 AM liturgy on Sunday, December 21! Use your creativity to enhance our Christmas Celebration! Decorating wreaths, Dressing Christmas Trees, Arranging Poinsettias, Setting Up the Creche, Placing banners. There will be plenty to do, so the more the merrier! If you have any questions, please contact Bill Becker: Home: (415) 506-4153 Cell: (415) 971-0107. Thank you for Help!

**Holiday Gathering for Hospital Eucharistic Ministers Tuesday, December 16th. 2p.m.**

SJOG Rectory ~ Living room We will celebrate the season together, have some refreshments, share tidings of Peace and Joy. Father Norman will give us his special blessing, and some inspiring words. Rev. Peter Clark will update us on UCSF-hospital news and we will meet Flora AVECILLA the new Administrative Secretary at Spiritual care services. Feel free to bring something to share for the refreshment table! Please RSVP to Pat at : Kpatocconnor @ att.net or call the office.

**Scripture Study**

will resume Friday, January 16, 2015 at 6:30 PM in Ben's Room. Subsequent dates: January 23, January 30, February 6, February 13. After that we will have the Lenten series (without soup suppers this year).

**SAVE THIS DATE: BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! FOOD BANK WORK DAY** On Saturday, February 7th from 9 a.m. to noon. SJOG will work at their warehouse.