

**December 16, 2018**  
*Third Sunday of Advent*

**Reflections for the Week**

*A child's life is like a piece of paper  
on which every passerby leaves a mark.*  
—Ancient Chinese proverb

**Today's Readings** [Click Here](#)

**First Reading** — Your God will sing joyfully because of you, as one sings at festivals (Zephaniah 3:14-18a).

**Psalm** — Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel (Isaiah 12:6).

**Second Reading** — Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! (Philippians 4:4-7).

**Gospel** — Whoever who has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. Whoever who has food should do likewise (Luke 3:10-18).

**Readings for the Week**

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17  
Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25  
Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25  
Thursday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38  
Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45  
Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56  
Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

**Please pray for our parishioners  
& extended family:**

**Rest in Peace:**

Judy Laxen, Mildred Biesty, Josephine Small,  
Martha Araj Ayoub & Mary Dunn

**For Healing For:**

Edith Bucoy, Elizabeth Wilson, Pat Hoffman,  
Annette Gabrielli, Maureen Francis,  
Joe Humphreys, Mike Marty,  
Ethel Friedrichs, Patrick Lee, Teresa Hyatt,  
Estela Becerra & Shirley Dela Cuz.

...and a special reminder to pray for those we know  
now living in care facilities.

**Mass Intentions**  
**December 14-20, 2018 (Fri thru Thur)**

Fri.	Edith Bucoy (Continued Healing)	12:10pm
Sat.	Martin Joseph O'Brien (RIP+)	4:15pm
Sun.	Pat Biesty (RIP 2 yr Anniv)	9 :30am
Sun.	Patrick Biesty	11:30am
Mon.		12:10pm
Tues.	Julia & Martin Howard (Healing)	12:10pm
Weds.	Philip O'Reilly (Healing Blessing)	12:10pm
Thurs.	Gerald Concannon (RIP+)	12:10pm

**Give the gift of a Mass Intention.**

Birthday, RIP, Blessings, Marriage, Get Well  
(Contact the Office)

**Saints and Observances**

Sunday: Third Sunday of Advent;  
*Las Posadas* begins  
Tuesday: International Migrants Day  
Friday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins



**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

Years ago, the trick question on religion quizzes would be to name all the liturgical colors, or the colors of the vestments worn at Mass. Rose is a color seldom seen, used at most two days a year. Today, "Gaudete Sunday," is one of those days. The name of the day is drawn from an opening verse in the old Latin Mass texts: *Gaudete* is Latin for "Rejoice!" This year's Gospel certainly reflects that mood as Elizabeth feels her infant within her leaping for joy at the presence of Mary. Mary's visit to her aged cousin is an act of compassion between women, as two kinswomen who are bearing children into the world share their joy. Some churches retain the custom of having the priest wear rose vestments today, and many will use a rose candle in the Advent wreath. Violet is the official color for Advent and Lent,

## Sr. Lilly is BACK!

Come and say "hello" December 15/16!  
Immaculate Conception Academy, an all-girls, College Prep Catholic High School located in the Mission District in San Francisco has implemented a work-study program and is looking for organizations to sponsor their students. The students are on site 36 weeks a year, 40 hours a week adding diversity, enthusiasm and a willingness to learn and succeed.  
For more information please contact Sister Lilly at (415) 824 2052 ext 28 and/or visit ICA's website at [www.icacademy.org](http://www.icacademy.org)

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## ANNUAL FUNDRAISER NEWS

**IT'S TIME FOR THE ST. JOHN OF GOD RAFFLE!  
WILL YOU PLEASE HELP? Drawing will be held  
December 23, 2018**

The parish counts on this income from the annual fundraiser to end the year in the black – especially this year with extra expenses due to sewer line replacement. Please send your check (payable to St. John of God Church and marked "for raffle underwriting") to Susan Fox, 684 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118 or drop it in the collection basket at church.

***If you prefer, you may make your underwriting gift online at [www.sjog.net](http://www.sjog.net).*** Just click on "Donate Now" and choose "raffle underwriting."

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## A Christmas Thank You!

### Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity

Thank you so much for the check that we received from St John of God's for the Bond Fund.

There is actually someone in particular we have in mind to use it for - Rony, an asylum seeker from Honduras that some of our congregations and faith leaders have been visiting during his 8 months in detention,. Our goal is to get him out before the Holidays as the only thing between him and freedom is \$10,000 bond.

Your \$1,000 pledge will help us get there!

Rev. Deborah Lee, Executive Director



Everyone enjoys this time together! Please volunteer with Janice and sign up after the 9:30 am Mass in the Hall. Marleen Olivencia is coordinating this effort. [moliven@hotmail.com](mailto:moliven@hotmail.com) Thanks!

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## 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 to inspire in my heart the humility and generosity of St. John so that I might be to them a revelation of God's Love.  
Amen.- Rev. Fr. Thomas L. Seagrave*

*All are Welcome! Enjoy Christmas with us!*

## SCHEDULE OF CHRISTMAS MASES:

### Monday, December 24, 2018 (Christmas Eve):

4:15 PM Children's Mass (see below)

9:30 PM Service of Carols

10:00 PM Mass During the Night

(followed by a finger-food reception in Collins Hall)

### Christmas Day - Tuesday, December 25, 2018

9:30 and 11:30 AM Mass During the Day\*

\* The Night Readings will be proclaimed at all Masses.

## The Christmas Children's Mass

Save the Date **December 24 at 4:15PM**

We will begin by reading the

Christmas Nativity Story

and celebrating during the Mass.

Let us know if you have questions

from the last update! -Beverlie

SATURDAY-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29-30, 2018  
FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS,  
MARY AND JOSEPH

Usual weekend Mass schedule

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019

THE OCTAVE DAY OF CHRISTMAS,  
THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED  
VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

12:10 PM Festive Mass

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6, 2019

One Mass only at 10:30 AM

Followed by the Christmas Party in Collins Hall.

Come celebrate the Twelfth Day of Christmas with us!

*This will mark the beginning of the  
100th Anniversary of our church building  
1919-2019!*

Please SIGN UP to bring FINGER FOODS

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## Adult Faith Formation

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) sessions:

Bible Study: Fridays, 6:30 to 8:00 PM,  
340 Irving Street Entrance.

## Choir Rehearsal Schedule

December:

Monday, December 17 (NONE on December 24)  
(there's still plenty of time for you to join our group!)

## THE BIRTH OF JESUS IN OUR TIME

Our four-part series on the Birth of Jesus will be more than simply an exploration of the celebrated texts related to the Christmas Season. These core texts will provide the framework for probing the meaning of Jesus and the Christ-event in our everyday lives as human beings and disciples of Jesus. The birth stories of great persons are legendary inspiring us to great transformation of thought, heart, and life. The Story of Old is forever new and we are responsible, as disciples of Jesus, to discover the call to justice inherent in that story. What day is not Christmas Day?

Four Thursday Evenings at St. John of God  
San Francisco, CA

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

November 29, December 13, December 27, 2018, and January 10, 2019

November 29, 2018

WHAT IS THE TRUE DATE OF CHRISTMAS?  
WHEN CAESAR AUGUSTUS WAS EMPEROR ...

December 13, 2018

IS CHRISTMAS PAGAN?  
BEHOLD THE STAR AT ITS RISING

December 27, 2018

IS CHRISTMAS A HOLY DAY OR A HOLIDAY?  
I BRING YOU GLAD TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY

JANUARY 10, 2019

WHERE WAS JESUS BORN?  
AND YOU, O BETHLEHEM AND BY NO MEANS LEAST

Each session is independent of one another. All are welcome as the emphasis explores the universal significant of the Birth of Jesus for the World. Various religious, theological, and secular interpretations only serve to enhance the significant of the birth as an event in human history.

Thomas P. Bonacci, C.P.  
The Interfaith Peace Project  
[interfaithpeaceproject.org](http://interfaithpeaceproject.org)