

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19-20, 2009

Sunday Lectionary Readings

This Week's Readings: Micah 5:1-4; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45
 Next Week's Readings: Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:41-52

Scripture Reflection

In the Gospel, we hear the story of Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth immediately after the Annunciation. At the sound of Mary's voice, Elizabeth felt the infant in her womb leap for joy. If this seems like just a lovely little story, ponder the following. We now know that an infant can hear in utero, since minutes after birth, he or she turns toward maternal and paternal voices...even when other voices are in the room. Furthermore, many pregnant women report that their infants stir when they talk (or sing) aloud. Babies *are* smart, and Elizabeth's baby was no exception. How smart are we adults? How do we react when God is in our midst? Do we demonstrate joy?

Let Us Pray For Those in Need of Prayer

Marian Booth, Curt Motton, Mary Beth Harry, Sr. Esther Bataille, Jo van Gaal, John Douglass, Marie Oberle, Sandy Neubauer, Annette Froehlich, Peter Landry, Fr. Bob Judge, Evelyn Steinrock, Terry Hawthorn-Nan, Kathleen Jones, Martha Moyer, Caylee Crews, Sr. Mary Louise Lynch, MMS, Riley Davis, Colette Bleistine, Kyla Zeilinger, Carol Tift, Colette Danek, Jane Schaberg, Paul Joop, Pat Kane, Natalie Barringer, Marion Jervey, Paula LaSalle, Barbara Cheles, Mary Smith, Ruby Strawberry, Bob Twynham, John Garvey. *Names will be listed for 6 weeks. If you would like a name listed for an additional 6 weeks, please notify the rectory).*

Let us pray for our deceased: James Pojman, stepfather of Beth Adams.

This Week's Mass Intentions

Saturday, Dec 19, Dr. Bob Pitkiewicz, <i>deceased</i>	Thursday, Dec 24, Christmas Memorials
Sunday, Dec 20, Carolyn Chin, <i>deceased</i>	Friday, Dec 25, Christmas Memorials
Monday, Dec 21, Thomas O. Wood., <i>deceased</i>	Saturday, Dec 26, Elvira Bozzelli, <i>deceased</i>
Tuesday, Dec 22, Souls in Purgatory	Sunday, Dec 27, Marion I. D'Alessandro, <i>deceased</i>
Wednesday, Dec 23, Nellie Perillo, <i>deceased</i>	

Collection Update

Last Weekend's Offertory: \$3,988.75
 Last Weekend's 2nd Collection for the benefit of our Community Center and outreach ministries: \$1,330.84
 This Weekend's 2nd Collection will benefit our Community Center and outreach ministries.
 Next Weekend's 2nd Collection will benefit our Community Center and outreach ministries.

This Week at Corpus Christi

Sat-Sun, Dec 19-20, after Mass	Sister Parish Coffee Sales	Church
Sat, Dec 19, 5:00 pm	Misa De Gallo Reception	Rectory
Mon-Wed, Dec 21-23, 6:00 pm	Misa de Gallo Mass	Church
Thu, Dec 24, 4:00 pm	Christmas Family Mass	Church
Thu, Dec 24, 10:00 pm	Christmas "Midnite" Mass	Church
Fri, Dec 25, 10:30 am	Christmas Day Mass	Church

Coming Up at Corpus Christi

Mon-Fri, Dec 28-Jan 1	Parish Offices Closed	
Fri, Jan 1, 10:30 am	New Year's Day Mass	Church
Sun, Jan 3, 10:30 am	Rite of Welcoming	Church
Mon, Jan 4, 7:00 pm	Pastoral Council Meeting	Center
Sun, Jan 10, 9:15 am	Sunday School / Coffee Café	Rectory/Midtown
Sun, Jan 10, 11:30 am	Hospitality	Church

Visit our website at www.corpuschristibaltimore.org for our more complete calendar of events.

The Staff of Corpus Christi wishes you a Christmas season filled with happiness and holiness!

CORPUS CHRISTI NEWS

Misa de Gallo – Dec 16-24

Join us for the final days of this Filipino custom of celebrating Mass for the nine days before Christmas. Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. on Monday thru Wednesday, Dec 21-23. Weekend Masses will be celebrated at their usual times. There will be no 12:10 p.m. weekday Mass during Misa de Gallo.

Christmas Liturgy Memorials

We would like to offer our Christmas liturgies, including their environment, flowers, decorations, and programs, in memory of loved ones who have passed away. A special Christmas Memorial Bulletin will be distributed listing the names of the individuals remembered and the donors. We request a \$5 donation for each individual remembered. If you would like to participate, please fill out the envelope, found on the table in the back of church, and drop it in the collection basket or rectory mail slot no later than Sunday, December 20.

Having Trouble Deciding on a Gift?

Consider giving an Alternate Gift this Christmas season to honor a friend or family member (living or deceased) to be used for the community center, sister parish, church sanctuary, maintenance of our church buildings, or the parish endowment. Alternate Giving packets are in the back of the church. To make an alternate gift, complete and return the large alternate giving card in the self-addressed envelope in the packet, together with your donation, to the rectory. There is also a smaller card and envelope in the packet that you may send to the one you are honoring or to their family.

Shop Online and Benefit Corpus Christi!

If you plan to shop online, you may be able to benefit Corpus Christi with your order. First, visit the GoodShop.com website – www.goodshop.com. Next, search to see if the online store you plan to shop at is part of the GoodShop program. Finally, enter “Corpus Christi Church (Baltimore, MD)” as the beneficiary of your purchase. (Be sure to verify that it is our parish, because there are several Corpus Christi’s in their database.) Click on “Shop Now!” and a portion of your purchase will benefit Corpus Christi. Try it! It works!

Food Allergies? Gluten Intolerance?

Corpus Christi has low-gluten (<0.01% gluten) altar bread for individuals with celiac disease or other wheat intolerances, as well as hosts prepared in dedicated kitchens without risk of peanut contamination. If dietary restrictions require you to receive these hosts at communion, please see Fr. Rich.

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24

Family Mass
4:00 p.m.

“Midnite” Mass

10:00 p.m. (*caroling with choir at 9:45 p.m.*)

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25

10:30 a.m.

New Year’s Day, Friday, January 1

10:30 a.m.

Church Envelopes or Coupons for 2010

Weekly offertory envelopes are now available for pick up in the back of church. If you cannot find your envelopes, or if you would like to request envelopes or offertory coupons (because you are using automated bill pay), please contact Bob Wissmann at the rectory office, (410) 523-4161 or bwissmann@archbalt.org.

BEYOND CORPUS CHRISTI

Church Leadership Institute, Winter Session

Church Leadership Institute classes will begin the week of January 11, 2010. For more info, visit our website, www.archbalt.org/cli or call 410-547-5470.

Picturing the Birth of Christ in Medieval Manuscripts

The Walters Art Museum hosts *The Christmas Story* exhibit, December 3-February 28. This exhibition draws on the extraordinary holdings of the Walters Art Museum, and an anonymous private collection, to illustrate the Christmas story in the way that it has been understood for centuries, with Books of Hours and Missals from around the Christian world. Admission is free. 410-547-9000 or www.thewalters.org.

Retrovaille

Are you thinking about ending your marriage? Before you call a lawyer, call Retrovaille, a Catholic program created to help couples whose marriage has slipped into despair, disillusionment, and misery. The next weekend is January 15-17. All calls and inquires are confidential. For more information call 410.647.0350 or visit their website at www.helpourmarriage.com.

Center for Spiritual Support Training at GBMC

In response to the growing need for educating lay and clergy in the art of providing spiritual support in times of need, GBMC offers a 10 week experiential program, through their newly created Center for Spiritual Support Training, that meets on Thursdays from 3-7pm, although accommodations can be made if the 3-5pm time frame conflicts with work commitments. The curriculum combines group interaction along with patient visitation. Our next class begins on Thursday, January 21, 2010 through March 25, 2010. The focus is upon developing skills and tools to be an effective pastoral presence with another human being as well as to understand the dynamics between health and illness within a person’s environment. This program is designed for individuals, from Catholic parishes, interested in furthering an interest in pastoral ministry or to be equipped to take on leadership roles for spiritual care within their own community. For more info., please contact Chaplain Joe Hart, Executive Director or Sr. Mary Donhoue, SND Clinical Supervisor @ 443.849.2055. We look forward to your inquiry.

Social Ministry Convocation

Saturday, March 6, 2010. Seton Keough High School. "Peace, Poverty, and Mother Earth". Keynote: Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS. Attend 2 workshops: Practical Living of “Love in Truth” *How Communities Resist Energy Exploitation *Save Energy, Money, the Planet! *Local Environmental Issues *Eat Simple. Live Simple. Change the World. *Earth Is in the ER: How as People of Faith to Respond? *ABCs of Parish Social Ministry *Minorities & Workplace Environment *Precious Water: Cause of Global Conflicts? *Teach Peace! Registration mailing will be sent in early January. For information or to get on the mailing list: Carol Palmer, cpalmer@cc-md.org; 410.261.6780