

*December 6~12, 22015
Second Sunday of Advent*

Reflections for the Week

Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

—Luke 6:36

[click
here](#)

Today's Readings

First Reading — Stand on the heights, Jerusalem; see your children rejoicing that they are remembered by God. A merciful and just God leads Israel in joy (Baruch 5:1-9).

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading — May your love increase in knowledge to discern what is valuable that you may be blameless for the day of Christ (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

Gospel — John proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All flesh shall see the

Readings this Week

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-
Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a

**Please pray for the healing of
Our parishioners and extended family:**

Fr. Tom Burns, Fr. Tom Seagrave, Msgr. Labib Kaboti, Fr. Bill Brady, Msgr. Mickey McCormick (former Pastors at SJOG) Maureen and Don Francis, Mary Dunn, Mike and Gabriel Marty, Patrick Lee, Judy and Charlie Liteky, Jim and Nancy McDonald, Josephine Small,, Teresa Hyatt, Pat Hoffman, Dorla Gross, Dalia & Estela Becerra and all our 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; 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
It's always great to hear from friends ~ why not send a card or place a call to let them know you're thinking and praying for God's healing. Mass requests also available..

Mass Intentions:

December 4 –10, 2015 (Fri-Thurs.)

Fri. Laura Busby (RIP 1st. Anniversary) 12:10pm
Sat. John Podesto (Rest in Peace) 4:15pm
Sun. Carmen Rosselli (Blessing for Healing) 9:30am
Sun. Susan and Dianne Collins (Birthday) 11:30am
Mon. Niko (Healing) 12:10pm
Tues. Mila Rodrigues (Rest in Peace) 12:10pm
Weds. Angel Fidelino (RIP Anniversary) 12:10pm
Thurs. John Schick (Rest in Peace) 12:10pm

Give the gift of a Mass Intention ~Life Blessings, RIP, Anniversary, Happy Birthday! Contact the office.

Saints and Special Observances

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent;
Hanukkah begins
Monday: St. Ambrose;
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
Tuesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

The year of Mercy begins!

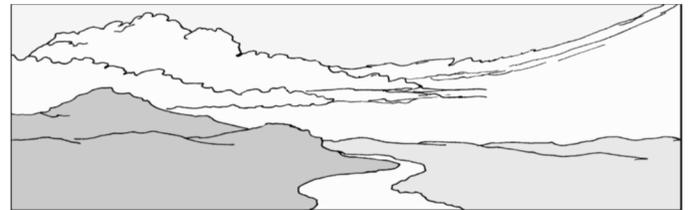
Wednesday: St. Juan Diego
Friday: St. Damasus I
Saturday: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Holy Year of Mercy :

No one can be excluded from the mercy of God; everyone knows the way to access it and the Church is the house where everyone is welcomed and no one is rejected. Do not forget that God forgives all, and God forgives always.

Let us never tire of asking forgiveness.

-Pope Francis



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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 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 the Bay

SECOND COLLECTIONS:

Retirement Fund for Religious Dec 5-6
Hospital Ministry December 12-13

Litery Committee December 7 at 6PM (Kitchen)
Finance Committee December 8 at 8PM (Kitchen)

SCHEDULE FOR *LAUDATO SI* STUDY GROUP

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2015

Chapter Three: Human Roots of the Ecological Crisis

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2015

Chapter Four: Integral Ecology

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7, 2015

Chapter Five: Lines of Approach and Action

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2015

Chapter Six: Ecological Education and Spirituality

Contact Paul Riofski sjogmusic@aol.com for more information.

Important Dates and Services:

Tuesday December 8: Holy Day of Obligation

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Blessed Virgin Mary

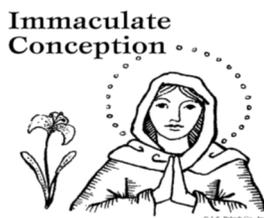
In 1854, Pius IX solemnly proclaimed: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin."

Come join the beginning of The Year of Mercy.

12:10pm Dalily Mass

7PM Evening Mass

Only after the Last Judgment will Mary get any rest; from now until then, she is much too busy with her children.—St. John Vianney



Thank You from the Sanctuary Committee

The SJOG Community has once again shown its generosity and caring for the immigrants and refugees in our midst and for many young people in El Salvador struggling to get an education in an environment of gang violence. Your donations given during the Sanctuary Weekend allowed the Committee to fund our Salvadoran projects and to increase support to the three local organizations we supported last year.

We are grateful.

If any of you would like to join us in our work, please see or e-mail Adrienne at plasseadrienne@gmail.com

Lights and Shadows

After a prayerful and careful deliberation, the Parish Council came up with the consensus the Crucifix will have a special place inside our Church. There will be an altar beneath it where devotees may be able to offer flowers and pen the names of sick persons they want to pray for. I likewise intend, in my masses, to silently pray for the persons whose names are so written.

A big part of the reason why we decided to set the Crucifix in a special prayer corner is for those who want to touch the image of the Corpus and feel the intimacy with the Crucified Jesus.

I understand that a large number of people may have been disappointed by this development, i.e., why I did not push through with the decision to place the Crucifix above the altar.

While I still maintain that setting it above the altar is the most appropriate and ideal option, for pastoral reasons, however, I also had to consider some parishioners in terms of how it may affect their faith. I thus took the extra mile by consulting liturgists and pastors from other parishes and they were one in saying that my inclination, and eventually the decision to reconsider my initial take on the matter is the best thing to do to avoid further conflict in the church.

Moreover, if we look at the way Jesus lived his life, he did not desire to be the center of attraction. He centered not Himself, but others ---most especially the hapless and the lowly.

In fine, we have drawn a decision which to my mind addresses all concerns --- upholding the desire of those who wish to have a crucifix inside the Church while at the same respecting those who do not share the same Theology the Church prescribes.

Both views are right.

From my end, I opted, after deep contemplation, to allow humility to prevail over what I perceive to be right and proper. In many, if not all instances, there certainly is grace in being humble than being just right --- especially when in so doing, the end result is the fostering of peace and love.

We will hold a dedication liturgy for the Crucifix at the start of the Lenten Season in February 2016. However, it will be better if the Crucifix will be placed at the sacred corner prior to the Lenten Season so that the faithful may already adore and venerate the Crucifix without much delay.

Thank you to all the donors who have generously shared and extended financial support for the purchase of the Crucifix. May the victorious crucified Lord give you grace and strength to confront your own passion encounters... ~ Fr. Norman