

December 20– 26, 2015  
Fourth Sunday of Advent  
The Nativity of the Lord

Reflections for the Week  
All the darkness of the world  
cannot put out the light of one small candle.—Anonymous

[click  
here](#)

### Today's Readings

**First Reading** — From you, Bethlehem, shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Micah 5:1□4a).

**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — By Christ doing the will of God, we have been consecrated (Hebrews 10:5□10).

**Gospel** — “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb” (Luke 1:39□45).

### Readings this Week

Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Thursday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79

Friday: **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25  
**Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14  
**Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
**Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22  
Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10;  
Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24;  
Lk 2:41-52

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

Fr. Tom Seagrave, Fr. Tom Burns, 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.

Interested in honoring someone with Christmas flowers? Contact the office or fill out one of the forms in the back on the church.

### Mass Intentions:

#### December 18-24, 2015 (Fri-Thurs.)

Fri. Niko ((God's Healing Graces)	12:10pm
Sat Wing Sui Fun (Rest in Peace)	4:15pm
Sun	9:30am
Sun. Betty Palisin Conway(Rest in Peace)	11:30am
Mon.	12:10pm
Tues. Laurie Schalk (Rest in Peace)	12:10pm
Weds. NIKO (God's Healing Graces)	12:10pm
Thurs. Julia O'Malley (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: Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Monday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins  
Wednesday: St. John of Kanty  
Thursday: **The Vigil of Christmas**  
Friday: **The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**  
Saturday: St. Stephen; First day of Kwanzaa

This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Soon we celebrate anew the fruit of Mary's womb. As we are told in Hebrews, Jesus' new order is being established even today. And as Micah proclaims, his greatness is reaching even now to the ends of the earth.



### SUNDAY AND CHRISTMAS TV MASS FOR THE HOMEBOUND

Is someone you love unable to join us at church during this holy time of Advent and Christmas? For the faithful at home or in healthcare settings, the Heart of the Nation TV Mass brings spiritual comfort and the blessings of joyful hope in the coming of our newborn Savior.

Christmas TV Mass:

### Christmas and New Years Schedule

Monday December 21

7PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday December 24

4:15 PM Family Mass

10:00 PM Caroling in the Chapel

10:30PM Mass during the night

Friday December 25

9:30AM and 11:30AM Mass

(follows the Sunday Scheudle)

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Friday January 1, 2016

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

12:10 PM Mass with Festive Music

HAPPY NEW YEARS: 2016

TODAY IS THE DAY!

BUY TICKETS NOW!

TODAY IS THE DAY!

# ***FUNDRAISING RAFFLE***

**CASH PRIZES, GOOD CHANCES FOR *F-I-V-E*, BIG \$\$\$ WINNERS!!**

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*The wolf will live with the lamb,  
the panther lie down with the kid,  
calf, lion and fat-stock beast together,  
with a little boy to lead them.  
The cow and the bear will graze,  
their young will lie down together.  
The lion will eat hay like the ox.  
The infant will play over the den of the adder;  
the baby will put his hand into the viper's lair.  
No hurt, no harm will be done  
on all my holy mountain,  
for the country will be full of knowledge of Yahweh  
as the waters cover the sea. (Isaiah 11:6-9)*

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## **SCHEDULE FOR *LAUDATO SI* STUDY GROUP**

### **St. John of God**

**Thursdays, January 21 and 28, 2016**

**7:00 to 8:30 PM, Collins Hall**

**Fr. Thomas P. Bonacci, C.P.**

**Two Reflections on *Laudato Si***

**From the Perspective of the Year of Mercy**

### ***Laudato Si* and the Continuing Rise of the World Church**

***Laudato Si* reflects the universal worldview of the Second Vatican Council in two essential aspects: first, the Catholic Church as a whole reflects the movement of the Holy Spirit in the worldwide People of God; second, the Church Catholic in a real and substantial way has a dynamic relationship with every creature and person in the created order.**

**January 28, 2016**

### **An Ecological Spirituality**

**After a brief review of the important teachings found in *Laudato Si*, we will explore Jesus' experience of the created order as found in *Laudato Si* (Chapter Two, Section Seven). This will serve as a basis for constructing a responsible Ecological Spirituality that is both meaningful and realistic.**

***Consider giving this inspiring and thought provoking book as a Christmas present!***

**Contact Paul Riofski [sjogmusic@aol.com](mailto:sjogmusic@aol.com) for more information.**

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## **Coffee Fellowship and Community Sharing**

**Sundays after 9:30 and 11:30 mass**

**approx. 10:30 in Collins Hall**

**approx. 12:30 in Ben's Room**

**coffee, pastry and friendship**

**Bring a Friend ~ or two!**

**At St. John of God, we all meet each other with compassion and respect.**

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## **Lights and Shadows**

I remember waking up so happy and feeling pleasantly light. Only that it was too early to be up and about. I looked at my watch and it was just like 5 in the morning. And my mass is only at 7 a.m. yet. Hence I decided to go catch some more sleep. I was later awakened by the ringing of my phone and when I took the call, the person on the other end told me that the people were already waiting for nearly an hour! When I looked at my watch, it was still 5 in the morning!

Synchronicity. This is what the gospel is teaching us and asking us to do. We have to be synchronized with God --- that is, for whatever we hear from Him (meaning His words) we should at least attempt to translate these words into acts, no less.

I had a penitent who once approached me and said she was feeling lonely because she was not on speaking terms with her daughter-in-law. Immediately I asked her: "Are you ready to forgive?" And just as fast, she said no. I asked her why. "Because she should be the one to approach me and ask forgiveness. I am the mother-in-law so it is not proper that I should make the first move." "So you mean you are not ready to forgive. Then why are you here now?" "Perhaps I will try to forgive her next year."

Unsynchronized attitude. God is forgiving and the lady penitent prefers not to forgive.

It is high time for us to check our watches in life. We do not have the luxury of time to follow our own standard of morality. It is either we gaze at and be guided by God's own clock where time is so full of love, pity, peace and forgiveness --- or we only watch over and pay attention to our own time which oftentimes is teeming with hatred, apathy, chaos and unforgiving ways. If we follow the latter for the rest of our lives, we will soon discover that our life time stops...  
~ Fr. Norman