

What Should We Do?



In this third Sunday of Advent the crowds approach John the Baptist to find guidance: "What should we do?" they ask. John's proclamation was something new for them and they needed direction. Last Tuesday, on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the Pope traversed the Holy Door opening the Jubilee of Mercy.

It's something new for us and as the crowds asking John, we need someone to show us the path. "What should we do?"

The season of Advent invites us to make prayer our vital atmosphere. In this time where the temperature goes down and we see the first hoarfrosts, prayer is the fireplace where our hearts can warm up and burn as we prepare for the revelation of God's mercy and glory in Christmas. Therefore, in this spirit of Advent our first step in this journey of the Jubilee of Mercy is to pray. To make silence in my heart to listen to what Jesus tells me. To examine my life in the light of divine mercy: God is calling me to conversion. He forgives my sins and invites me to a new life: "Go and from now on do not sin any more" (Jn 8:11). He is giving me His grace to life in holiness.

"What should we do?" Prayer illuminating my heart with a new light will show me the path. Prayer will introduce the account of my life into a new narrative: the story of God's mercy, the story of the Immaculate Conception, the story of the Saints.

In our "Towards a Family Friendly Parish" program this month the theme is prayer, and you are invited to set a prayer corner at home. Because we have different places for different activities, we need a prayer corner, a "place for prayer." In the parish the "prayer corner" is the Adoration Chapel. This weekend, during the Sunday Masses, we will invite you to visit the Adoration Chapel. It is in the Eucharist that we find Jesus. Adoration is a silent and prayerful encounter with Jesus where like the disciples of Emmaus the scriptures are opened to us and we can recognize the teacher's presence.

"What should we do?" Pray. And if possible, join the scheduled adorers. Their prayer is a source of blessings for the parish family. And join us praying especially for the fruits of the Jubilee of Mercy.

Vocation Intention for the Week For men and women called by the Lord to be messengers of salvation as priests, deacons and in the consecrated life, that Christ's peace will guard their hearts and minds as they proclaim the good news of salvation, we pray to the Lord.

"All were questioning in their hearts." Are you considering a vocation as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Father J.D. Jaffe (703) 841-2514, or write: j.jaffe@arlingtondiocese.org.

Nourishing Our Souls With Holy Scripture

Readings for Next Week:

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a

Heb 10:5-10

Lk 1:39-45(12)



Third Sunday of Advent Masses this Week

Monday, December 14: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

6:30 a.m. +Elenita Dizon
9:00 a.m. +Agripina Espejo Mercado and Avelino Mercado

Tuesday, December 15: Advent Weekday

6:30 a.m. (L) Roberto Rivas
9:00 a.m. +Catherine T. Czaja

Wednesday, December 16: Advent Weekday

6:30 a.m. (L) Thanksgiving for the Guevara Family
9:00 a.m. +Edgar Teran
7:00 p.m. *Simbang Gabi* Mass

Thursday, December 17: Late Advent Weekday

6:30 a.m. +Eppie Carroll
9:00 a.m. +Mary and Ethel Hetsko
7:00 p.m. *Simbang Gabi* Mass

Friday, December 18: Late Advent Weekday

6:30 a.m. +Michelle Lowry
9:00 a.m. (L) Nancy Ault
7:00 p.m. *Simbang Gabi* Mass

Saturday, December 19: Late Advent Weekday

8:00 a.m. +Daniel Evanski
5:00 p.m. +Georges Harikiopoulo
7:00 p.m. +Maria Magdalena Villanueva de Rosales and Jose Santiago Rosales

Sunday, December 20: Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 a.m. +Teresita Aguilar
9:00 a.m. +Jerry E. Bush
10:30 a.m. Living and Deceased Parishioners
12:00 p.m. (L) Richard and Karen Kirkbride



Advent Caroling Party—Share the Joy of the Season!

Please join us for a Caroling and Potluck Party in Hannan Hall TODAY, Sunday, **Dec. 13** at 4p.m. The QofA Music Ministry will lead carolers through the neighborhood and upon returning to Hannan Hall, warm up with delicious food and hot cocoa, while our musicians serenade us with carols. Bring family, friends, and a dish to share! RSVPs are appreciated so that we can plan accordingly for food and caroling packets but walk-ins are welcome! Please dress accordingly for the weather and for walking. For more info and to R S V P , c o n t a c t M i c h e l l e at m.jacobeen@queenofapostles.org, look for the invitation in the weekly Parish E-mail, or go to: bitly.com/adventcaroling.

Please pray for the members of our parish who are ill

Lyda Tanco, Mark Bush, Silvia Serban, Joseph Covas, Glenda Delosier, Luta "Cornie" McGrath, Margaret Peiffer, David Stemcosky, Irma Mori, Rita Sulit, Jason Banis, Emma Collins, Teresa Sabina Piecyk, Bridgetta Jenkins, Juana Mejia, Lisa Nyce, Monique Brooks, Debby Sprah, Consuelo Jocson, Cheryl McGlynn, Teresa Subalusky, Theresa Corcoran, Cordelia Carcamo, Donna Smith, Andres Encinas Fernandez, Sabrina Fernandez Numbella, Lula Tesfu, Monte Moyer, Joseph Luong Bui, Jeanie Miller, Carol D. Otani, Jean Seitz, Noah Mabaya, Robert McMurrer, Anne Jenkins.

We pray also for the repose of the souls of Shoukry Said, Barbara Mazur, Lila Charnley, and Helen Duffy.

This Week in Our Parish

Sun., December 13:

School 9-10:15 a.m. Religious Education
Hannan Hall 2-3:30p.m. Ghana Group
Hannan Hall 4-7:30 p.m. Advent Caroling and Potluck Party
Chapel 6-8 p.m. Prayer Group

Mon., December 14:

Parish Office 7-8p.m. RCIA

Tues., December 15:

Parish Office 6:30-8 p.m. Legion of Mary
Choir Room 7:30-9:30p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Wed., December 16:

Parish Office 4-5:30 p.m. Pro-Life Committee Meeting
Hannan Hall 8-10p.m. *Simbang Gabi* Reception
Parish Office Baptism Class in Spanish

Thurs., December 17:

Parish Office 6:30-7:45p.m. High School Bible Study
Hannan Hall 8-10p.m. *Simbang Gabi* Reception

No Holy Hour

Fri., December 18:

Chapel 11a.m.-12p.m. Children's Adoration Hour
Chapel 3-4 p.m. Divine Mercy Chaplet
School Gym 3:45-5:30 p.m. Nazareth Group
Cupertino Room 7-9p.m. Hispanic Legion of Mary
Hannan Hall 8-10p.m. *Simbang Gabi* Reception

Sat., December 19:

Hannan Hall 10-11:30a.m. St. Gabriel Christmas Pageant
Parish Office 1-3:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry
School 4-6:30p.m. Spanish Prayer Group
Hannan Hall 7-9p.m. Ghana Choir

Sun., December 20:

School 9-10:15 a.m. Religious Education
Hannan Hall 2-5:30 p.m. Ghana Group



QUEEN OF APOSTLES CATHOLIC SCHOOL
FAITH, EXCELLENCE, JOY

Queen of Apostles School Christmas Concert—Friday, Dec. 18

Come celebrate the joy of the season with the Queen of Apostles School Lessons and Carols Christmas Concert. The students will tell story of birth of Jesus through scripture readings, performances, and songs. The concert will begin at 7p.m. in the school gym. Tours of the schools, including the beautiful hallways displays and nativity scene, will also be available. All are welcome to attend this free event!

Potluck Breakfast with RE Parents, Students, & Volunteers

Celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family on Sunday, **Dec. 27**, 9-10:15 a.m. with other Religious Education families in the School Multipurpose Room. Please bring a breakfast dish or beverage to share and then attend 10:30a.m. Mass together. Contact Blanca Barrios at blancabarrios07@yahoo.com to RSVP.

Godparents/Sponsors of RE Students If you are QofA parishioner and serving as a godparent/sponsor to a student in RE, please call the Parish Office to arrange to have your Sponsorship Certificate signed by a priest. If you are not a parishioner, please contact your registered parish. Please plan ahead as deadlines are approaching!

Rite of Acceptance, Dec. 12 & 13 In upcoming weeks, Queen of Apostles will be celebrating the various Rites and Scrutinies with those who are studying the Catholic faith and strengthening their desire and preparation to receive the Sacraments. The Rite of Acceptance will take place during the 7p.m., 10:30 and 12 Noon Masses this weekend.

Open Call for Musicians! All musicians who would like to join the Music Ministry for the Advent and Christmas season are welcome to begin attending rehearsals Tuesday evenings from 7:30-9p.m. in the Choir Room (in Hannan Hall). Contact Michelle for more info: m.jacobeen@queenofapostles.org.

Abortion Clinic Rosary Please join us singing Christmas Carols after 8a.m. Mass on Saturday, **Dec. 19** (around 8:45a.m.) at 101S Whiting St., where 1,600 babies were aborted last year. We will say the Rosary and have coffee and hot chocolate.



Simbang Gabi

Queen of Apostles will host 3 nights of *Simbang Gabi*, a nine-day Novena Mass to the Blessed Mother which begins on Dec. 15 and ends on Dec. 23. Our Masses will take place at 7p.m. on Dec. 16, 17, and 18 in the Church, with light refreshments to follow in Hannan Hall after each Mass. We are seeking in-kind food donations, as well as volunteers. Please contact Nenita de Guzman at n.deguzman@queenofapostles.org or Cheryl Madlansacay at (703) 333-2809.



Angel Tree 2015—Volunteers

Needed TODAY, Dec. 13! For the 14th year, we will have Angel Trees set up in the back of the Church to provide Christmas gifts to children in need. Gifts (including gift cards) are due by 1p.m. today, Sunday, **Dec. 13**. We will need angel volunteers to help move gifts to the Parish Office after the 12noon Mass today so please stick around to help if you can! Contact Frieda Cocozza : (7 0 3) 3 9 9 - 9 9 4 6 or email f.cocozza@queenofapostlesschool.org.



KofC Annual Freethrow Contest The Knights of Columbus is having its annual free throw competition for boys and girls ages 9-14 on **Jan. 28** at 5:30p.m. in the QofA School Gym. Winners of this competition go on to compete in the district competition and later at the state level competition. All that is required is to show up! Please consider testing your free throw shooting skills in this fun competition.



And Mercy Became Flesh... O Come, Let Us Adore Him

Today, Sunday, Dec. 13, we will again be inviting parishioners to become active participants in Eucharistic Adoration. The beginning of the Year of Mercy is an opportune time to make this commitment...to pray for God's mercy on us and on the whole world.

Thank you for your generous contribution to the Poor Box. This weekend, the collection will go towards **ACCA** and the **Little Sisters of the Poor**. Next weekend, the collection will go towards **Christ House** and the **Missionaries of Charity**.