

ST. PAUL'S NEWMAN CENTER

UNIVERSITY
CATHOLIC
COMMUNITY

Ministry to the Students, Faculty, and Staff
of the University of Wyoming since 1957

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12 . 23 . 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent

this week . . .

Dec 22 - Jan 01



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." - Lk 1:41-42

SAT 22		Fourth Sunday of Advent
	5:00 p.m.	Mass: Manuel & Gloria Flores
SUN 23		
	8:30 a.m.	Mass: St. Paul's Newman Center
	11:00 p.m.	Mass: Elly Kozlowski
	12:30 p.m.	Transition to Christmas Environment
MON 24		
	12:00 p.m.	Meditation
	4:00 p.m.	Mass: Kay Tencick
	7:00 p.m.	Mass: Feliberto, Celestina & Ronnie Chavez
	10:00 p.m.	Mass: Kermit Brown
TUE 25		
	10:00 a.m.	Mass: Edin Vaske
WED 26		
	5:00 p.m.	Mass
THURS 27		
	5:00 p.m.	Misa En Español
FRI 28		
	5:00 p.m.	Mass
SAT 29		
	4:00 a.m.	Sacrament of Reconciliation
		Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
	5:00 p.m.	Mass: St. Paul's Newman Center
SUN 30		
	8:30 a.m.	Mass
	11:00 a.m.	Mass: Bryce Chavers
		Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
MON 31		
	5:15 p.m.	Mass: Gail Roznowski
TUES 01		
	10:00 a.m.	Mass: Villaseñor-Dueñas, Acevedo -Villaseñor, Dueñas-Dueñas, Villaseñor-Zepeda

Christmas Liturgies

Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
Monday December 24
4:00, 7:00 & *10:00 p.m.
***note time change**
Tuesday December 25
10:00 a.m.

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph
Saturday December 29
5:00 p.m.
Sunday December 30
8:30, 11:00 a.m.

Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God
Monday December 31
5:15 p.m.
Tuesday January 1
10:00 a.m.

The 5:00 p.m. Liturgy returns on 1/27/2019

Christmas Office Closures

The parish offices will be closed Monday, December 24 - Wednesday, December 26 and Tuesday, January 1, 2019. The building will open later and close earlier during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. Many of the staff will also be gone that week.



We invite you to pick up a copy of the **2019 Catholic Extension Society Calendar**. These calendars are useful as they list all the solemnities, feast days and other important liturgical days. Pleasetake one home. Calendars are also available in Spanish.



eucharist times & sacramental preparation info

Saturday
5:00 p.m.
Sunday
8:30, 11:00 a.m.
Monday - Friday
5:00 p.m.
Thursday-Misa En Español
5:00 p.m.

reconciliation

Wednesdays & Saturdays
4:00 p.m.
(or by appointment)

new to our parish? would you like to become a member?

Whether you are new to Laramie or new to our community, we welcome and invite you to stop by the office weekdays between the hours of 9:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. for membership information or contact us at newman@newmancenter.org

Campus Ministry

A group of our students will be traveling with Lillie, Fr. Rob and Bishop Steven to Panama for a service mission and World Youth Day from January 18-27, 2019.

Keep them in your prayers for safe travels and that they be open to all that they encounter during this time.



WORDS TO INSPIRE THE FAITHFUL

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."-- John 1:14



Thank You

Last Sunday, Dec 16, Gift Offerings \$6,835 including our tithe (\$683) for our brothers and sisters in need

"Let the one with two coats give to one who has none. The one who has food should do the same."- Luke 3:11



Living in God's Abundance

Pledge of Gratitude

Annual Financial Stewardship Appeal December 2018 - November 2019

"What do you have that has not been given to you by God?" -1 Corinthians 4:7

Thank you to all who made a financial commitment in support of our ministry!

Commitment cards Pledges received to date:

173 resident	\$332,616
25 student	\$ 4,162
2 children	\$ 52
1 other	\$ 720
TOTAL	\$ 337,550

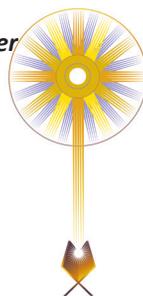
Observances for the week of December 23, 2018

- Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent
- Monday: Christmas Eve
- Tuesday: The Nativity of the Lord (holy day of opportunity)
- Wednesday: St. Stephen, the First Martyr
- Thursday: St. John, Apostle & Evangelist
- Friday: The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
- Saturday: St. Thomas Becket, Bishop & Martyr
- Next Sunday: The Holy Family © LPI

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Dec. 24-25 4:00 p.m.
Lector *Needed/Needed*
Altar Server *G. Sanford*
EMoHC *S. Root-Elledge*
R. Sax
J. Murray
S. Beck
Needed
Hospitality *Needed*
Eucharistic Bread: *De. Vaske*

7:00 p.m.
L. Kaiser/S. Kaiser
S. Kaiser
Needed
Needed
Needed
Needed
Needed



10:00 p.m.
Needed/S. Easton
J. Russo
Needed
Needed
Needed
Needed
Needed

10:00 a.m.
Needed/C. Vaske
Needed
De. Vaske
J. Roznowski
M. Vaske
Needed
Needed

CHRISTMAS

Dec. 29-30 5:00 p.m.
Lector *M. Galvan/C. Bennett*
Altar Server *A. Sanchez*
EMoHC *De. Vaske*
E. McGann
Needed
Needed
Needed
Hospitality *Gabriel Family*
Eucharistic Bread: *A. Wilhelm*

8:30 a.m.
M. Wion/R. Sax
E. Alvarez
J. Kennedy
K. Kennedy
B. Belser
B. Alvarez
Needed
Schmidt Family

11:00 a.m.
C. Miller/S. Brin
J. Barron
H. Jarvis
Needed
D. Jaeger
J. Hayden
A. Eicke
Needed



Bringing Home the Word

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2018

Time for Joy: The Lord's Coming

By Mary Katharine Deeley

Not long ago, I had the great opportunity to make a pilgrimage to Israel with a group. We began our journey each day in prayer. We visited many holy sites; we walked where Jesus walked. Each day our chaplain celebrated the liturgy in one of the many churches that mark the location of significant stories in the Bible: where Jesus was born, where he died, where he celebrated his first miracle at Cana. The prayer was profound, and the members of the group quickly became friends. We

still greet each other with gladness and affection.

One of the more moving experiences was a visit to the Church of the Visitation. Located at the top of a small hill, the church welcomes visitors with a wide plaza and a wrought-iron entryway. Immediately to the right of the courtyard is a tall bronze statue of Mary and Elizabeth greeting each other. The figures are slender and visibly pregnant. The artist captured their joy with a slight arch in their backs, their arms beginning to ascend, and their heads lifted up as though laughing in delight. The statue made us smile.

I think about that statue now and believe this is how we should always greet the Lord—with delight, joy, and an understanding that we are pregnant with his grace and presence. We are called to reveal that presence to the whole world. In these last few days before Christmas, reflect on the ways you will show your joy in the Lord's coming. +

Sunday Readings

Micah 5:1–4a

He shall take his place as shepherd by the strength of the LORD...
And they shall dwell securely.

Hebrews 10:5–10

When he came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me."

Luke 1:39–45

[Elizabeth cried out,] "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

***Greet the Lord with delight,
understanding that we are
pregnant with his grace
and presence.***

A Word from Pope Francis

Jesus keeps knocking on our doors, the doors of our lives. He doesn't do this by magic, with special effects, with flashing lights and fireworks. Jesus keeps knocking on our door in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the faces of our neighbors, in the faces of those at our side.

—Meeting the homeless,
Washington, DC,
September 24,
2015



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

ONE QUESTION REFLECTION

- At Christmas, how will I show my joy at the Lord's coming?
- How can I express this delight to family and acquaintances?

Why Did Jesus Come?

By Michael D. Guinan, OFM

It happened years ago on Christmas. As the parishioners left church after Mass, a woman approached me, all smiles, and said, “This is such a beautiful feast! I’m not sure exactly why God did it, but I certainly am glad!”

The Incarnation, from the Latin for “flesh” (*caro/carnis*), affirms

the “enfleshment” of the Word of God. This doctrine, which is at the center of our Christian faith, upholds the mystery that Jesus of Nazareth, the Christ, is one divine person but possesses both a divine and a human nature. As it turns out, we do have some idea why God did it.

The Creed tells us that the Incarnation was “for us and for our salvation.” Before the birth of Jesus, Joseph is told that Mary will bear a son and “you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). It is the incarnate Jesus who then saves or delivers us from the condition of sin and death.

But can this be the whole story? Does the Incarnation really depend on sin? It would seem that the Word of God became human not because of sin, but rather because God wanted Christ to be the most perfect work of creation, the goal and direction of creation.

Overflowing Love

In a real sense, the Incarnation is



connected with the very life of the Trinity. The inner life of God is a life of ever-giving love. The second person, the Son, is at the center of this flow of love. God freely chooses to let this love overflow outside; creation flows out of this fountain of divine goodness. Here too, the incarnate Son stands at the center as the

focus of God’s outpouring love and the one capable of directing and returning that love back to God.

The prologue to St. John’s Gospel affirms that the Word was in the beginning before all things; that all things were created through him and that this Word became flesh in our midst (1:1–18). The hymn in St. Paul’s Letter to the Colossians is similar: He (the incarnate Jesus) is before all things; all things were created in him and for him; in him all things hold together (1:15–20; see also Ephesians 1:3–14).

In other words, everything that exists is always in relationship to the Father, through Christ, and in the Spirit. Because of sin, the Incarnation took the form and shape that it did, but the Incarnation itself is primary.

Viewing the Incarnation this way can help us to appreciate and share the insight of St. Francis of Assisi: All parts of creation—sun, moon, stars, air, water, animals, people—are our brothers and

sisters, children in Christ of the one Creator God. Each creature is a unique embodiment and reflection of God deserving our care and respect.

Aesthetic Adventure

It is only in this light that we can recognize sin and brokenness as a disfiguring of the beauty of creation. Through sin we are like the deranged man in Rome who took a hammer to Michelangelo’s statue, the *Pietà*. The Incarnation delivers us from sin, but in so doing it restores the goodness and beauty of creation intended from the beginning. In our living the Christian life, we are embarked on an aesthetic adventure: to live the beauty of the Incarnation.

The woman on that Christmas years ago spoke more truth than she realized. It is indeed a beautiful feast, but we do have some idea why God did it. And we—each of us and all creation—are certainly glad! +



*Lord, your Word gives me life,
joy, hope, and peace.
May your Word find a home in me
and inspire me to live a life
rooted in gospel values.*

—From *Joyful Meditations for Every Day of Advent and the 12 Days of Christmas*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

December 24–29

Monday, Advent Weekday:
2 Sm 7:1–5, 8b–12, 14a, 16 / Lk 1:67–79

Tuesday, Christmas: Is 52:7–10 /
Heb 1:1–6 / Jn 1:1–18 or Jn 1:1–5, 9–14

Wednesday, St. Stephen:
Acts 6:8–10; 7:54–59 / Mt 10:17–22

Thursday, St. John:
1 Jn 1:1–4 / Jn 20:1a, 2–8

Friday, the Holy Innocents:
1 Jn 1:5–2:2 / Mt 2:13–18

Saturday, Fifth Day in the Octave of
Christmas: 1 Jn 2:3–11 / Lk 2:22–35