



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

www.seasparishlo.org

2050 Palisades Avenue, Los Osos, CA Office Cell (805) 235-8803

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

25 DECEMBER 2023

DECEMBER 2023 POPE'S INTENTION: FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

We pray that people living with disabilities may be at the center of attention in society, and that institutions may offer inclusive programs which value their active participation.

“It is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins...” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet.”

“Ella ha concebido por obra del Espíritu Santo. Dará a luz un hijo y tú le pondrás el nombre de Jesús, porque él salvará a su pueblo de sus pecados.”

Mt 1: 20-21



VISION-MISSION STATEMENT

We are an **all-welcoming Christ-centered** community celebrating our deeply rooted **Catholic traditions**, respectful & appreciative of our **multicultural diversity**, journeying together to share **family values** and **commitment to service**.

DECLARACIÓN DE NUESTRA VISION y MISION

Somos una comunidad **totalmente acogedora y centrada en Cristo** que celebrando nuestras **tradiciones Católicas** profundamente arraigadas, respetamos y apreciamos **nuestra diversidad multicultural**, caminamos juntos para compartir los **valores de la familia y el compromiso al servicio**.

PRAYER OF SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON

O Father, the first rule of our dear Savior's life was to do Your Will. Let His Will of the present moment be the first rule of our daily life & work, with no other desire but for its most full and complete accomplishment. Help us to follow it faithfully, so that doing what You wish we will be pleasing to You. Amen.

ORACIÓN DE SANTA ELIZABETH ANN SETON

Oh Padre, la primera regla de la vida de nuestro querido Salvador fue hacer tu voluntad. Dejar que tu Voluntad en el momento presente sea la primera regla de nuestra vida cotidiana y nuestro trabajo, sin ninguna otra voluntad sino hacer tu voluntad plena y completa. Ayúdanos a seguir con fidelidad, para que haciendo lo que deseas seamos más agradables a Ti. Amén.

Weekend Masses

Saturday: 4:00 p.m. (ENGLISH)
Sunday: 9:00 a.m. (ENGLISH)
11:30 a.m. (SPANISH)

Weekday Masses / La Misa Enteré Semana

9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday (ENGLISH)
7:00 p.m. Viernes (ESPAÑOL)
9:00 a.m. 1st Saturday Mass (ENGLISH)

Adoration/Adoración (See pg 8. Adoration Chapel Hours)

9:45 a.m. Wednesday (ENGLISH)
Divine Mercy, Adoration, Benediction
6:00 p.m. Viernes (ESPAÑOL) y
La Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia

Sacrament of Reconciliation / Reconciliación

Tuesdays by appointment only/Los Martes solo con cita previa

Anointing of the Sick / Unción de los Enfermos

9:00 a.m. (ENGLISH) First Friday
7:30 p.m. (ESPAÑOL) Primer Viernes

Parish Services weekend bulletin

Bulletins online at
seasparishlo.org

For donations or other online financial transactions for the parish, our QR code:



Mass Intentions online at
seasparishlo.org

Tel:(805) 528-5319

Fax:(805) 528-8893

Office Cell: (805) 235-8803

24/7 Anointing of the Sick or Last Rites:
(805) 235-8803

Email: seaschurchlo@gmail.com

Appointment with Pastor on ZOOM or
in person: Tues., Fri.

PARISH STAFF

REV. JOEY R. BUENA
Pastor
Music Coordinator
frjoeyseasparishlo@gmail.com

JAVIER SOTO OSORIO
Office Manager,
Bookkeeper
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Office Open: Tues & Fri 10:00AM to 1:00PM

Merry Christmas



Christmas 2023

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, we are humbled in gratitude for the loving gift of our God, and also for His love reflected in each of you. Our lives are nourished and enriched by each of you.

We thank God for you each day.

We are inspired by your love for others, for each other, for our parish community, and for us, the office staff.

Thank you for giving so generously of yourselves the things you have and the talents that God has given you.

We extend this pray for you:

*The light of the Christmas star to you
The warmth of a home and hearth to you
The cheer and good will of friends to you
The hope of a childlike heart to you
The joy of a thousand angels to you
The love of the Son and
God's peace to you. Amen.*

May God bless you. Be safe. Stay well. Pray always.

Love & prayers,

F. J. Buena
James Stokes
Christopher Hurley

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

START

December 23 & 24, 2023

TARPS OFF!

END

December 19 & 20, 2026

You make a difference!

As we look at the possibility of another wet winter and spring, we are reminded as we cover the pews with tarps just before each rain that the roof on the church **NEEDS** to be replaced.

This cannot be a 'one person' effort. Together we **CAN** cover the cost of the roof. We can make it so our parish stays **"TARPS OFF!"**

Here is the catch: If you regularly contribute to our weekly donation, we need for you to continue contributing to that. We need to have a continued weekly income from donations for parish operations, utilities, and other expenses of running a parish.

Please, as the saying goes, **DO NOT** 'take from Peter to give to Paul.'

Donations given for the Tarps Off Capital Campaign cannot be shared with other funds at the parish. That is why your continued donation to the weekly collection is so important. Donations to the Tarps Off Capital Campaign must be made in addition to the regular donation you may give our parish.

We humbly ask you to pray about what you and your family may be able to contribute to our Capital Campaign this year when all donations for the roof go directly to the roof replacement. Will you be able to send us into that highest heavenly realm with a large donation? Could you offer something in the medium tier? Maybe it is difficult to make it month-to-month, but you can set something aside and make it into the tier of angels a little more down to earth? Monthly pledges are also available.

"DONOR CHOIR OF ANGELS"

TIER 1	TIER 2	TIER 3
SERAPHIM \$10,000 +	DOMINIONS \$1,000 to \$2,499	PRINCIPALITIES \$200 to \$299
CHERUBIM \$5,000 to \$9,999	VIRTUES \$500 to \$999	ARCHANGEL \$100 to \$199
THRONES \$2,500 to \$4,999	POWERS \$300 to \$499	ANGEL \$50 to \$99

"CIRCLE OF HEAVENLY JOY"
The "Circle of Heavenly Joy" are donations that are not in the above suggested donations groups, but are likewise greatly appreciated for the needed repairs.

OUR GOAL
\$ 200, 000

We can do this!

If you are new to giving to our church or charities in general, we invite you to consider whether you can afford to give 1% of your regular income.

Did you know that 10% of an income is the classic choice for charitable donations per year by individuals and families?

Did you know that the average American, according to a quick internet search, gives 2%—11% of their income to charity each year?

According to the IRS, in most cases, the amount of charitable cash contributions taxpayers can deduct on Schedule A as an itemized deduction is limited to a percentage (usually 60 percent) of the taxpayer's adjusted gross income (AGI). This means some people give 60%!

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is a church and is a 501(c)(3) which as a charitable donation allows you to deduct your contribution to the **TARPS OFF!** Capital Campaign on your taxes.

Besides monetary donations and prayers, we can also accept stocks and bonds as donation. Throughout 2024 our parish will have Dinner & Dance, Live Auctions, Ballroom Dance, Kermes, and other events to help us meet our goal aside from the direct donations we receive from benefactors like you. You are our angels! Thank you.

We also warmly encourage you to ask your employers if they do matching funds for things like this.

Ready to give? Checks should be written to **St. Elizabeth Ann Seton** or **S.E.A.S.** with **TARPS OFF!** in the memo line. You may also use credit card on our parish website's secured giving page. See website & brochure for more information about the campaign.

ALL FUNDING for 1st Year STAYS AT OUR PARISH.

(2nd & 3rd year a portion goes to the Diocese of Monterey)

We thank God for all of you!

Thank you for your kindness & generosity!



Our goal is \$ 200, 000

Let's fill this meter up! Let's go

TARPS OFF!

We **CAN** meet our goal!

We are here.



Diocese of Monterey

Office of the Bishop

bishop@dioceseofmonterey.org
(831) 373-4345

A Christmas Message: The Light that brings Joy!
December 2023

Dear priests and deacons, religious and lay faithful:

The Christmas readings for Mass during the Night are charged with powerful words that reflect both our often challenging lives, as well as the hope the Lord promises us.

In Isaiah we hear of a people that “walks in darkness.” Have we not seen and experienced such? Each day on TV we see the darkness of violence in the Middle East, the on-going war in Ukraine and conflicts around the world. The consequent pain and trauma of children and families breaks our hearts, and we feel helpless. The continued racial and cultural intolerance in our own country which we experience is incomprehensible. Do we and our neighbors and friends, not also experience the trauma of great and unexpected losses from death, as well as economic losses, relational losses, yes, and even the losses of our own failures? Such darkness can weigh us down and even cloud our perspectives.

In this darkness of our sometimes sad experiences, the proclamation of Christmas Night boldly reminds us that **a Light has shone!** Indeed, this **Light brings abundant joy and great rejoicing.**

And where do we find that Light that brings Joy? It is in the child Jesus! In and through Jesus of Bethlehem we see the true humility and great love of God poured out. He wants us to embrace this Light and share this Joy. Jesus has come not only once, so long ago. Jesus comes still today – in one another, in the poor, in the bread of Word and Sacrament. Let us not miss his visitation for he comes in unexpected places... the lonely, aging neighbor, the parent with Alzheimer’s, the struggling teenager. Let us ask him... no, let us beg him for that Joy, and the grace to embrace it, and to live in the Light. And in so doing, we “push back” the darkness. May the **Light that brings Joy** shine in our hearts this Christmas and help transform our dark world!

Most Reverend Daniel E. Garcia
Bishop of Monterey





Un Mensaje de Navidad: ¡La Luz que trae Alegría!
Diciembre 2023

Queridos sacerdotes y diáconos, religiosos y fieles laicos:

Las lecturas de Navidad para la Misa de la Noche están repletas de palabras poderosas que reflejan nuestras vidas a menudo desafiadas así como la esperanza que el Señor nos promete.

En Isaías escuchamos acerca de un pueblo que “caminaba en tinieblas”. ¿No hemos visto y experimentado algo así? Cada día en la televisión vemos la oscuridad de la violencia en Medio Oriente, la guerra en Ucrania y otros conflictos en todo el mundo. El consiguiente dolor y trauma de niños y familias rompen nuestros corazones y nos sentimos impotentes ante estas situaciones. La continua intolerancia racial y cultural en nuestro propio país que experimentamos es incomprensible. ¿No hemos experimentado nosotros, así como nuestros vecinos y amigos, el trauma de grandes e inesperadas pérdidas por la muerte de un ser querido, así como pérdidas económicas, pérdidas de relaciones, e incluso las pérdidas de nuestros propios fracasos? Tal oscuridad puede abrumarnos e incluso nublar nuestras perspectivas.

En esta oscuridad de nuestras experiencias a veces tristes, la proclamación de la Noche de Navidad nos recuerda audazmente que **¡ha brillado una Luz!** De hecho, esta **Luz trae abundante alegría y gran regocijo.**

¿Y dónde encontramos esa Luz que trae Alegría? ¡Está en el niño Jesús! En y a través de Jesús de Belén vemos la verdadera humildad y el gran amor de Dios derramado sobre todos nosotros. Él quiere que abracemos esta Luz y compartamos esta Alegría. Jesús no ha venido solo una vez hace mucho tiempo. Jesús sigue viniendo hoy, en el prójimo, en los pobres, en el pan de la Palabra y los Sacramentos. No dejemos pasar Su visita, ya que esta visita nos aparece en lugares inesperados... en el vecino solitario y envejecido, en el padre de familia con Alzheimer, en el adolescente que sufre retos y dificultades. Pidámosle... no, supliquémosle por esa Alegría y la gracia de abrazarla, y de vivir en la Luz. Al hacerlo, "rechazamos" la oscuridad. ¡Que la Luz que trae Alegría brille en nuestros corazones esta Navidad y ayude a transformar nuestro oscuro mundo!

Reverendísimo Daniel E. García
Obispo de Monterey



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



Glory to God in the Highest

Generous God,
you are the gracious giver of all gifts.
On this holy Christmas Day come
into our lives.

Give us the riches of your poverty,
show us the power of your weakness,
and teach us the joy of your humility.
Bless our homes and hearts as we
celebrate the birth of your Son
and join the angels in singing your
praises now and forever.

Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

December 25, 2023

House of Bread



Today's readings: Christmas Vigil Mass: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25. Christmas Mass during the Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14. Christmas Mass at Dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12; Psalm 97:1, 6, 11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20. Christmas Mass during the Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18. On the Nativity of the Lord, we prepare ourselves to hear with fresh ears the story of Mary giving birth in a stable and making a feeding trough into a bed for our Savior. The story of Jesus' birth proclaims that great things happen in the humblest of places. The name of the unremarkable town that hosted this miracle is

Bethlehem. In Hebrew, *Bethlehem* means "house of bread." What perfect symmetry that the One who will become our bread of life began human existence in the house of bread.

The account of the nativity also presents a marginalized group of people as the first to hear the Good News. Not only did the shepherds go "in haste" (Luke 2:16) to see the messiah, but with joy in their hearts, they proclaimed what they saw and heard. May we be open to hearing the Good News in unexpected ways and from unexpected people. With Mary, we acknowledge the "greatness of the Lord," who fills the hungry "with good things" and sends the rich "away empty" (Luke 1:47-53).



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Christmas Readings The Incarnate Word

The lectionary designates different readings for the Masses for Christmas. Each of these readings shed light on God sending his Son into the world to be with us.

Christmas Vigil Mass Name Him Jesus

Names mean something. The Gospel of Matthew locates Jesus' entrance into history by recounting his ancestry, name by name, generation by generation, all the way back to Abraham, with whom God first formed the covenantal relationship with humanity. With great specificity, Matthew tells us that the name *Jesus* means "savior." The One who came to save his people from their sins was born at a unique moment in history with a particular place in the genealogy of humankind. Matthew tells us that the name *Emmanuel* means "God is with us." Jesus came through the womb of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem two thousand years ago and dwells among us this Christmas and every moment of our lives. Let us make room in our hearts, homes, and lives for him. *Readings for the Christmas Vigil Mass: Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25.*

Christmas Mass during the Night A Savior Has Been Born

The Scriptures assigned for the midnight Mass invite us to contemplate the incarnation through the lenses of past, present, and future. The prophetic promises of Isaiah take us back to the past when the coming of Christ was foretold. St. Paul bids Titus, and all of us, to live as Christ taught us while we wait for his coming again. Luke narrates the particularities of this historical birth of Christ and the miraculous proclamation of the heavenly host to the people of Bethlehem. We are invited into the midst of this wondrous

mystery and sent forth to announce the salvation of Christ to the ends of the earth with great joy: today is born our Savior, Christ the Lord (Psalm 96:1). *Readings for Christmas Mass during the Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalm 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14.*

Christmas Mass at Dawn Go Tell It

As dawn breaks, we recall the first witnesses of the incarnation and hear the succession of astonishing announcements that result. The angels announce the glorious news to the shepherds in the fields. The shepherds hasten to visit the holy family and share all the angels told them. From there, the shepherds continued to boldly witness the glorious news to all who would listen. Receiving their witness, we join in glorifying and praising God for all we have seen and heard. We ring bells, sing with exuberance, join in worship, light up our homes, fill our tables with plenty, exchange gifts, all the while witnessing this Good News with our celebrations. *Readings for Christmas Mass at Dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12; Psalm 97:1, 6, 11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20.*

Christmas Mass during the Day Word Made Flesh

The Gospel of John, read at the Christmas Mass during the Day, heralds that the world was created through the Word and that the Word has entered the world. John proclaims that the work of all creation coalesced in the birth of Christ. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. Then creation continued infused with Christ. In the story of creation and redemption, God is always moving toward us through the Word. We are summoned to turn our lives toward the Word and allow God to be manifested through us. On this holy day, we celebrate with joy that we share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity. *Readings for Christmas Mass during the Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18.*



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NATIVIDAD DEL SEÑOR



Gloria a Dios en las alturas

Dios generoso,
complaciente río de todos los dones.
En este santo día de Navidad ven
a nuestra vida.

Danos la riqueza de tu pobreza,
muéstranos el poder de tu debilidad,
y enséñanos la dicha de tu humildad.
Bendice nuestros hogares y corazones
al celebrar el nacimiento de tu Hijo
y cantar con los ángeles tus
alabanzas ahora y siempre.

Por Cristo nuestro Señor.
Amén.

25 de diciembre de 2023

Casa del pan



Lecturas del día: Misa de la vigilia: Isaías 62:1-5; Salmo 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Hechos 13:16-17, 22-25; Mateo 1:1-25. Misa de la noche: Isaías 9:1-6; Salmo 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Tito 2:11-14; Lucas 2:1-14. Misa de la aurora: Isaías 62:11-12; Salmo 97:1, 6, 11-12; Tito 3:4-7; Lucas 2:15-20. Misa del día: Isaías 52:7-10; Salmo 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Hebreos 1:1-6; Juan 1:1-18. En la natividad del Señor nos preparamos a prestar oídos nuevos a la historia de María que da a luz en un establo y que convierte un pesebre en la cuna de nuestro Salvador. La historia del nacimiento de Jesús proclama que los sucesos más importantes se dan en los lugares más humildes. El pueblito donde ocurrió esto

se llama Belén. En hebreo *Belén* significa “casa del pan”. ¡Qué simetría tan perfecta: el que será nuestro pan de vida empieza su existencia humana en la Casa del pan!

En el relato de la natividad también aparece un grupo de personas marginadas que son los primeros en enterarse de la Buena Nueva. Los pastores “fueron rápidamente” (Lucas 2:16) a ver al Mesías para después proclamar con el corazón dichoso lo que habían visto y escuchado. Seamos receptivos a la Buena Nueva al escucharla de modo inesperado de personas inesperadas. Con María, reconozcamos la grandeza del Señor, que “colma de bienes a los hambrientos y despide vacíos a los ricos” (Lucas 1:47-53).



LA NATIVIDAD DEL SEÑOR

Lecturas de Navidad

El Verbo hecho humano

El leccionario estipula lecturas distintas para las misas de Navidad. Cada una de esas lecturas destacan cuando Dios envía a su Hijo al mundo para que viva con nosotros.

Misa de la vigilia

Lo llaman Jesús

Los nombres guardan un significado. Para narrar el ingreso de Jesús en la historia humana, el evangelio de Mateo hace un recuento de los ancestros judíos que se remonta hasta Abraham, con quien Dios hizo alianza. Mateo nos cuenta que el nombre *Jesús* significa "salvador". El que viene a salvar a su pueblo del pecado, nació en un momento único de la historia y tiene un lugar particular en la genealogía de la humanidad. Mateo nos dice que el nombre *Emmanuel* significa "Dios con nosotros". Jesús salió del vientre de la Virgen María en Belén hace dos mil años y vive entre nosotros esta Navidad y en cada momento de nuestra vida. Hagámosle un espacio en el corazón, en la casa y en la vida. Lecturas para la misa de la vigilia: *Isaías 62:1-5; Salmo 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Hechos 13:16-17, 22-25; Mateo 1:1-25.*

Misa de la noche

Ha nacido el Redentor

Las lecturas correspondientes a la misa de la noche invitan a contemplar la encarnación a través del cristal del pasado, presente y futuro. Las promesas proféticas de Isaías nos remiten al pasado cuando se auguró la venida de Cristo. San Pablo invita a Tito, y a todos nosotros, a vivir como nos enseñó Cristo, aguardando su segunda venida. Lucas narra las particularidades del nacimiento de Cristo y de la proclamación misteriosa del ejército celestial a los pastores de Belén. Nos llevan al meollo de este misterio maravilloso y nos envían a anunciar la salvación de Cristo a los confines

de la tierra con gran dicha: hoy nace nuestro Salvador, Cristo nuestro Señor (Salmo 96:1). *Lecturas de la misa de la noche: Isaías 9:1-6; Salmo 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Tito 2:11-14; Lucas 2:1-14.*

Misa de la aurora

Vayan y avisen

Al despuntar el alba, recordamos a los primeros testigos de la encarnación y oímos los anuncios asombrosos que se sucedieron. Los ángeles anuncian las nuevas gloriosas a los pastores en los campos. Los pastores se apresuran a visitar a la sagrada familia y a pregonar lo que los ángeles les han dicho. A partir de ahí, los pastores siguieron dando testimonio con valentía de la noticia gloriosa a quienes quisieran escucharla. Al recibir tal testimonio, nos sumamos a la glorificación y a la adoración de Dios por todo lo visto y oído. Sonamos las campanas, cantamos con alegría, nos unimos en adoración, iluminamos la casa, llenamos la mesa de regalos, siempre dando testimonio de la Buena Nueva con nuestros festejos. *Lecturas de la misa de la aurora: Isaías 62:11-12; Salmo 97:1, 6, 11-12; Tito 3:4-7; Lucas 2:15-20.*

Misa del día

El Verbo encarnado

El Evangelio según san Juan, que se lee en la misa de Navidad del día, anuncia que el mundo fue creado mediante la Palabra y que la Palabra vino al mundo. Juan proclama que la obra de la creación entera se fusiona en el nacimiento de Cristo. La Palabra se hizo carne y mora entre nosotros. Después la creación continuó, imbuida de Cristo. En el pasaje de la creación y redención, Dios siempre está viniendo hasta nosotros mediante su Palabra. Nos llaman a orientar la vida propia hacia la Palabra y a dejar que Dios se manifieste a través de nosotros. En este día de guardar, celebramos con dicha el compartir la divinidad de Cristo, que se apocó para compartir nuestra humanidad. *Lecturas de la misa del día: Isaías 52:7-10; Salmo 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Hebreos 1:1-6; Juan 1:1-18.*



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eucharisticrevival.org



es.eucharisticrevival.org

Lord Jesus Christ,
you give us your flesh and blood for the life of the world, and you desire that all people come to the Supper of the Sacrifice of the Lamb.
Renew in your Church the truth, beauty, and goodness contained in the Most Blessed Eucharist.

Jesus living in the Eucharist, come and live in me.
Jesus healing in the Eucharist, come and heal me.
Jesus sacrificing yourself in the Eucharist, come and suffer in me.
Jesus rising in the Eucharist, come and rise to new life in me. Jesus loving in the Eucharist, come and love in me.

Lord Jesus Christ, through the paschal mystery of your death and resurrection made present in every Holy Mass, pour out your healing love on your Church and on our world.
Grant that as we lift you up during this time of Eucharistic Revival, your Holy Spirit may draw all people to join us at this Banquet of Life.
You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe, Mother of the Eucharist,
Pray for us.**

Señor Jesucristo,
nos das tu carne y tu sangre para la vida del mundo, y deseas que todos los hombres vengan a la Cena del Sacrificio del Cordero. Renueva en tu Iglesia la verdad, la belleza y la bondad contenidas en la Santísima Eucaristía.

Jesús que vives en la Eucaristía, ven y vive en mí.
Jesús, que sanas en la Eucaristía, ven y sáname.
Jesús, que te sacrificas en la Eucaristía, ven y sufres en mí. Jesús, resucitado en la Eucaristía, ven y resucita a una nueva vida en mí.
Jesús, amando en la Eucaristía, ven y ama en mí.

Señor Jesucristo, por el misterio pascual de tu muerte y resurrección, hecho presente en cada Santa Misa, derrama tu amor sanador sobre tu Iglesia y sobre nuestro mundo. Concédenos que, mientras te elevamos durante este tiempo de Avivamiento Eucarístico, tu Espíritu Santo atraiga a todas las personas a unirse a nosotros en este Banquete de la Vida. Tú vives y reinas con el Padre y el Espíritu Santo, Dios por los siglos de los siglos.

**Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe, Madre de la Eucaristía,
ruega por nosotros.**



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On December 21st Pope Francis met with the Roman Curia for an exchange of Christmas Greetings. He shared, *"The mystery of Christmas fills our hearts with awe – a key word – at an unexpected message: God has come, God is here in our midst, and his light has forever pierced the darkness of the world. We need to hear and accept this message anew, especially in these days tragically marked by the violence of war, by the momentous risks posed by climate change, and by poverty, suffering, hunger – there is hunger in the world! – and all the grave problems of the present time. It is comforting to discover that even in those painful situations, and all the other problems of our frail human family, God makes himself present in this crib, the manger where today he chooses to be born and to bring the Father's love to all. This he does in God's own "style": with closeness, compassion, tenderness."* [Christmas Greetings of the Holy Father to the Roman Curia \(21 December 2023\) | Francis \(vatican.va\)](#)

Pope Francis opening with the above lines and calls us to Listen, Journey, and Discern as we contemplate the Christmas mystery.

How do we start to listen? We have an example of Mary who listened intently to the voice of the Angel Gabriel. Pope Francis explains, *"She reminds us of the first and greatest of the commandments: "Hear, O Israel" (Deut 6:4), because more important than any precept is our need to enter into a relationship with God by accepting the gift of the love that he comes to bring us. Listening, in the Bible, refers to hearing not only with the ears, but also with the heart and one's entire life."*

Listening with ones' entire life means journeying toward God. It takes much courage to journey. Journeying is about love. We need discernment to help us make good decisions in our path which allows us to partake in God's Divine Love and to share it with others.. Pope Francis shares, *"We need, then, to practice spiritual discernment, to seek God's will, to be sensitive to the deeper stirrings of our hearts, and then to assess our possibilities and the decisions that we need to take. As Cardinal Carlo Maria Martini once wrote: "Discernment is quite different from the me-*

ticulous exactitude of those who live in legalistic conformity or with pretensions to perfectionism. It is a burst of love that distinguishes between good and better, between what is helpful in itself and what is helpful here and now, between what may be good in general and what needs to be done now". He then went on to say: "Failure to strive to discern what is best often makes pastoral life monotonous and repetitive: religious acts are multiplied, traditional gestures are repeated, without clearly seeing their meaning" (Il Vangelo di Maria, Milan 2008, 21)

Through Listening, Discernment and our Journey, we are better able to take the awe of the Christmas message that God is here in our midst by witnessing to Christ in the Eucharist where he is truly present lighting the world around us with his love.

Yet it is difficult for some to celebrate Christ in the Eucharist. They doubt Christ in the Eucharist. They doubt the Good News, which allows doubt of God's existence into their lives. What can we do?

As Catholics we believe in transubstantiation. Transubstantiation in the transformation of the substance of bread and wine into the substance of the Body and Blood of Christ. During the epiclesis of the Mass in which the priest at the altar invokes the Father and requests him to send the Holy Spirit on the Church's gifts and we ask that the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. The action of the Holy Spirit at this point of the liturgy parallels the work of the Holy Spirit in the Incarnation of Christ at the Nativity and throughout the entire life of Jesus.

Mother St. Theresa in video short which has recently resurfaced on YouTube, [Mother Teresa: If You Doubt the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, "Pray" #catholic #shorts \(youtube.com\)](#) shares what she would say to the person who struggles with this mystery of faith, "Pray," she says. Mother Teresa reminds us that the more we pray, the more we learn how to pray. Prayer brings us into relationship with God who loves us, and wants to be close to us. We employ Prayer as we Listen, Journey, and Discern to grow closer to God through the aid of the Holy Spirit. We help others use these skills too. 'cuz we love, we give.



When I think of the Eucharist, and look at my life as a priest, as a Bishop and as the Successor of Peter, I naturally recall the many times and places in which I was able to celebrate it. I remember the parish church of Niegowic, where I had my first pastoral assignment, the collegiate church of Saint Florian in Krakow, Wawel Cathedral, Saint Peter's Basilica and so many basilicas and churches in Rome and throughout the world. I have been able to celebrate Holy Mass in chapels built along mountain paths, on lakeshores and seacoasts; I have celebrated it on altars built in stadiums and in city squares... This varied scenario of celebrations of the Eucharist has given me a powerful experience of its universal and, so to speak, cosmic character. Yes, cosmic! Because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world. It unites heaven and earth. It embraces and permeates all creation. The Son of God became man in order to restore all creation, in one supreme act of praise, to the One who made it from nothing. He, the Eternal High Priest who by the blood of his Cross entered the eternal sanctuary, thus gives back to the Creator and Father all creation redeemed. He does so through the priestly ministry of the Church, to the glory of the Most Holy Trinity. Truly this is the *mysterium fidei* which is accomplished in the Eucharist: the world which came forth from the hands of God the Creator now returns to him redeemed by Christ.

The Eucharist, as Christ's saving presence in the community of the faithful and its spiritual food, is the most precious possession which the Church can have in her journey through history. This explains the lively concern which she has always shown for the Eucharistic mystery, a concern which finds authoritative expression in the work of the Councils and the Popes. How can we not admire the doctrinal expositions of the Decrees on the Most Holy Eucharist and on the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass promulgated by the Council of Trent? For centuries those Decrees guided theology and catechesis, and they are still a dogmatic reference-point for the continual renewal and growth of God's People in faith and in love for the Eucharist. In times closer to our own, three Encyclical Letters should be mentioned: the Encyclical *Mirae Caritatis* of Leo XIII (28 May 1902), the Encyclical *Mediator Dei* of Pius XII (20 November 1947) and the Encyclical *Mysterium Fidei* of Paul VI (3 September 1965).

Pope St. John Paul, II
Excerpt from ECCLESIA DE EUCHARISTIA,
paragraphs 8 & 9

God is everywhere, in the very air I breathe, yes everywhere, but in His Sacrament of the Altar He is as present actually and really as my soul within my body; in His Sacrifice daily offered as really as once offered on the Cross.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton
Collected Writings, Seton Shrine
[Prayers and Quotes - Seton Shrine](#)
Last accessed De. 22, 2023

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FINAL SIMBANG GABI MASS—4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT VIGIL MASS & RECEPTION

Our 4:00pm Sunday Vigil for the Fourth Sunday of Advent coincided with the last evening Mass for the Simbang Gabi celebrations.

Many thanks to all who participated in the Simbang Gabi, especially as Mass Sponsors. We also thank everyone who brought food to share for the reception on Saturday for the gathering after Mass for which all were invited.

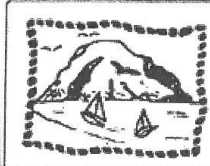


SCHEDULE OF MASSES, READINGS & INTENTIONS

DATE	TIME	INTENTIONS	READINGS YEAR A
Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent 23 December 2023	4:00 pm English Sunday Mass	4:00pm †Betty Godinho (5of5); Ben & Josie Agapay and Family; Chris & Sherrie Camat and Family; Marianito & Aida Andres and Family; Lily & Michelle Parra; Mark & Pacita Anderson; Andrew Risener	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38
Fourth Sunday of Advent 24 December 2023	9:00 am English Mass 11:30am Spanish Mass 8:00 pm Christmas "Midnight" Mass	9:00am Souls in Purgatory 11:30am †Maria Estela Echevarria Guerrer(6of8) 8:00pm †Eugen Simanek	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 <u>Lk 1:26-38</u> Is 9:1-6 Ps 96: 1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14
The Nativity of the Lord 25 December 2023	9:00 am English Christmas Mass 11:30am Spanish Christmas Mass	9:00am Parishioners & Friends of S.E.A.S. 11:30am Parishioners & Friends of S.E.A.S.	Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Tuesday Second Day within the Octave of Christmas 26 December 2023	<i>Saint Stephen, The First Martyr</i> 9:00 am English Mass	9:00am Norma Landry (B-day)	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 Mt 10:17-22
Wednesday Third Day within the Octave of Christmas 27 December 2023	<i>Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> 9:00 am English Mass 9:45 am Eng. Divine Mercy & Adoration 6:00pm Funeral Mass of Edgar Eduardo Vega	9:00am Fely Platou (B-day);	1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Thursday Fourth Day within the Octave of Christmas 28 December 2023	<i>The Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i> 9:00 am English Mass	9:00am † Amedeo Sciortino	1 Jn 1:5—2:2 Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 Mt 2:13-18
Friday Fifth Day within the Octave of Christmas 29 December 2023	9:00 am English Mass 6:00 pm Spanish Divina Misericordia, Adoration y Bendición 7:00 pm Spanish Mass	9:00am 7:00pm	1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 Lk 2:22-35
Vigil of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph 30 December 2023	4:00 pm English Sunday Mass	11:00am Baptism of Isaac Davies 4:00pm	Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph 31 December 2023	9:00 am English Mass 11:30am Spanish Mass	9:00am 11:30am †Joseph Carlson; †Maria Estela Echevarria Guerrero(7of8)	Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

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