

Pulpit Announcements for the Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023

**Welcome to all who are here today on this
2nd Sunday of Advent.**

**Whoever you are, or wherever you find yourself on the
journey. Know that here at St. Matthias, ALL ARE WELCOME!**

- The St. Martin de Porres Society had a display of information in the vestibule last month on the African saints and the 6 African Americans currently on the road to sainthood. 5 or 6 books that were marked "For Display Only" are missing. Those who picked up the books for reading are requested to drop them off at the Parish Office marked for pickup by Phyllis Stone.
- The Oplatek Christmas tradition is one that is easy and fun to introduce to the family. These popular Wafers are currently available in our Parish Office during regular hours for parishioners to pick up if they would like to celebrate this tradition which originally began in Poland.
- Welcome to the noon Mass next Sunday, December 17th, which will be in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the ordination of Fr. Abraham. Please see the invitation from the Pastoral Council in the bulletin.
- SMYLE youth group is collecting items for Unity Square, **tomorrow / today**, after all the Masses. Your donations will help those in need.
- Please receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation throughout this season of Advent. Confession time has been extended on Saturdays. And on weekdays, the priest is available after the 8 am Mass.
- Next weekend is the last weekend for gifts to be dropped off for the Giving Tree. Please see our bulletin or website for more detailed information.
- If you have not joined our weekly Monday evening Adoration, this is a reminder. Do drop in any time between 6-8 pm on Monday evenings.

The Scriptures today give us a general mood of intense excitement and serious preparations from Isaiah and John the Baptist. Right from the 1st Reading today, our hearts are swept along on happy waves of good news: consolation, forgiveness and the closeness of the Lord.

Our response is to be prepared and be ready.

Let us open our hearts to receive Him...

Music for Our Assembly

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O people of Sion, the Lord will come to save the nations, and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard in the joy of your heart.... Isaiah 30

Gathering Hymn – Come to Us O Emmanuel

Come to us, O Emmanuel
Come to us, O Emmanuel

4. Make a highway in the desert
Come to us...
Lift the valleys, level mountains
Come to us...
Let God's glory be revealed.

5. Though the people fade and wither
Come to us...
Like the fragile grass and flowers
Come to us...
Still the word of God endures

3. Bring glad tidings to the lowly,
Come to us...
Cry the song of sweet forgiveness
Come to us...
O Jerusalem take heart.

Prayer of the Faithful

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Our response is: “Lord of Peace, Hear Our Prayer.”

1. For religious leaders everywhere, but especially our Pope and the bishops of our Church...Give them wisdom and insight this Advent season to help us dedicate our lives to peace, we pray. . .
2. For all those in political leadership with the power to ease tensions...Make them heralds of God’s presence in our midst by giving them the courage to advocate for justice and peace, opening new paths for communication and the resolution of dispute, we pray...
3. For the elderly religious sisters, brothers, and religious order priests especially for those served here at St. Matthias and our diocese, that they will have peace and security in retirement, we pray. . .
4. For the Church, especially its members here at St. Matthias ...Make this Advent a time when we straighten what is crooked in our lives, we pray . . .
5. For comfort for all who are sick, sad, and suffering, especially those listed in our church bulletin...; For eternal rest for the souls of all who have died, especially ***Audrey Johnson-Hunt, John Sudia, and Martin Slyman***...we pray. . .
6. For those prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts..., we pray, (LONG PAUSE) we pray. . .

The presider announces the Mass intention and concludes.

Preparation Hymn – Creator of the Stars of Night

1. Creator of the stars of night,
Your people's everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
We pray you hear us when we call.

2. In sorrow that the ancient curse
Should doom to death a universe,
You came, O Savior to set free
Your own in glorious liberty.

3. When this old world drew on toward night,
You came; but not in splendor bright,
Not as a monarch, but the child
Of Mary, blameless mother mild.

4. At your great Name, O Jesus, now
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
All things on earth with one accord,
Like those in heav'n, shall call you Lord.

5. Come in your holy might, we pray,
Redeem us for eternal day;
Defend us while we dwell below
From all assaults of our dread foe. (to Verse 6)

6. To God Creator, God the Son,
And God the Spirit, Three-in-One,
Praise, honor, might, and glory be
From age to age eternally.

Verses text: LM; Latin, 9th cent.; tr. fr. The Hymnal 1982 © 1985, The Church Pension Fund.
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CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM; Chant, Mode IV.

Communion Hymn – Like a Shepherd

**Like a shepherd he feeds his flock
and gathers the lambs in his arms,
holding them carefully close to his heart,
leading them home.**

1. Say to the cities of Judah:
Prepare the way of the Lord.
Go to the mountaintop, lift your voice:
Jerusalem, here is your God.

2. I myself will shepherd them,
for others have led them astray.
The lost I will rescue and heal their wounds
and pasture them, giving them rest.

3. Come unto me if you are heavily burdened,
and take my yoke upon your shoulders.
I will give you rest.

Text: Based on Isaiah 40:9ff; Ezekiel 34:11ff; Matthew 11:28ff.
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Closing Hymn – Sing Out Earth and Skies

1. **Cantor:** Come, O God of all the earth:
All: Come to us, O Righteous One;
Cantor: Come, and bring our love to birth:
All: In the glory of your Son.

Sing out, earth and skies!
Sing of the God who loves you!
Raise your joyful cries!
Dance to the life around you!

2. **Cantor:** Come, O God of wind and flame:
All: Fill the earth with righteousness;
Cantor: Teach us all to sing your name:
All: May our lives your love confess.
3. **Cantor:** Come, O God of flashing light:
All: Twinkling star and burning sun;
Cantor: God of day and God of night:
All: In your light we all are one.
4. **Cantor:** Come, O God of snow and rain:
All: Shower down upon the earth;
Cantor: Come, O God of joy and pain:
All: God of sorrow, God of mirth.
5. **Cantor:** Come, O Justice, Come, O Peace:
All: Come and shape our hearts anew;
Cantor: Come and make oppression cease:
All: Bring us all to life in you.

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950, © 1985, GIA Publications, Inc.

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Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims;
the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people.
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,
glory dwelling in our land.

Kindness and truth shall meet;
justice and peace shall kiss.
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven.

The LORD himself will give his benefits;
our land shall yield its increase.
Justice shall walk before him,
and prepare the way of his steps.

Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.