



Corpus Christi Catholic Church

THE BODY OF CHRIST—BECOMING DISCIPLES



DECEMBER 17, 2023 | 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

POINSETTIA DONATIONS

\$15 each

After all Masses
this Weekend



Many people choose to make a donation for a poinsettia in remembrance of a loved one.

All the poinsettias will be used around the parish grounds to decorate the church, the chapel, the Parish Center, and the courtyard to give glory to God this Christmas season.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
JESUS!

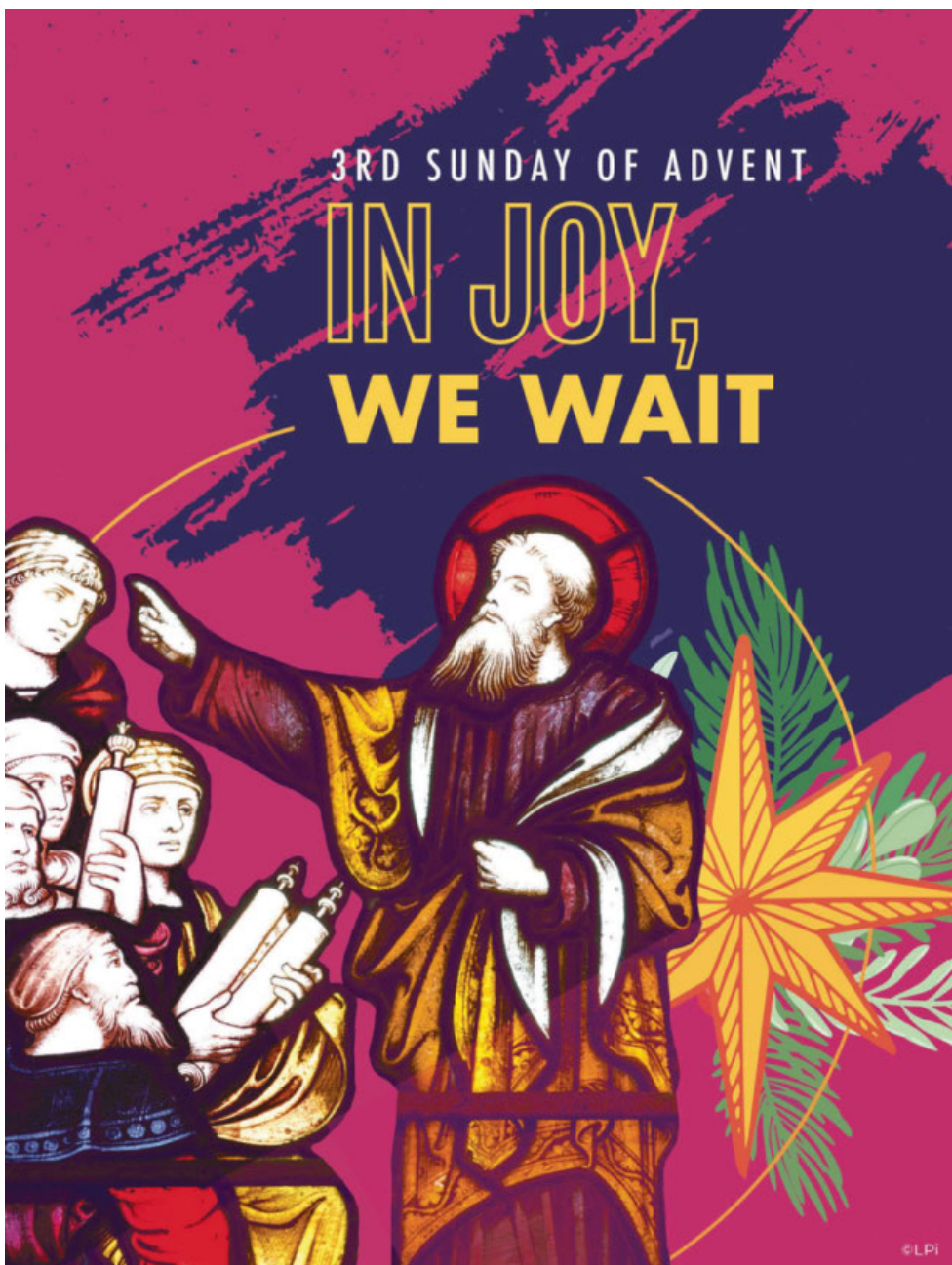


**ST. GERARD
CIRCLE**

**25th Annual Baby Jesus
Birthday Party**

**Sunday, December 17
11:30am-1:30pm**

Parents and children are invited to our annual Baby Jesus Birthday Party after the 10:30am Mass TODAY! It's a pot luck, so bring your favorite dish to share. Join us as we enjoy good food, make some new friends, and have fun playing Christmas games and making crafts!



Address: 3550 E. Knox Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85044

Parish Office: 480-893-8770

Faith Formation Office: 480-893-1160

Website: corpuschristiphx.org

Formed: corpuschristiphx.formed.org

Facebook: @corpuschristiphoenix

YouTube: youtube.com/c/CorpusChristiCatholicChurchPhoenix

Flocknote:

Text **JOINCC** to **84576** or go to **flocknote.com/corpuschristicc** for latest communications from the parish.

THE BODY OF CHRIST

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CLERGY & STAFF MEMBERS

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Deacon Dennis Lambert
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Retired Deacon Phil Simeone

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COUNCIL PRESIDENTS

Stanly Kulangara, President of the
Pastoral Council
pastoralcouncil@corpuschristiphx.org

Greg Furseth, President of the Finance
Council



MISSION STATEMENT: Corpus Christi Catholic Church strives to be a welcoming community proclaiming the love of God and fostering a life-long personal relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church through Scripture, Sacraments, and service.

MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKEND MASS

Sat. Vigil: 4pm

Sun.: 7am, 8:30am, 10:30am, 5pm

DAILY MASS

Mon.-Sat.: 8:15am

Tues.: 6:00pm

Fri.: 6:30am

CONFESSIONS

Tues.: 5:00-5:45pm

Thurs.: 7:00-8:00pm

Sat.: 2:30-3:30pm

ROSARY

Sun.: 4:15pm (Family Holy Rosary)

Tue.: 9:15am (Rosario en Español)
5:15pm (Rosary for our Youth)

Thu.: 6:30pm (Rosary for Life)

OFFICE HOURS

PARISH OFFICE

Sunday: 9:30am-12:00pm

Mon.-Fri.: 9:00-11:30am

Mon.-Thurs.: 1:00-5:00pm

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

Mon.: 9:30am-2:00pm

Tues.: 2:30pm-7:30pm

Wed.: 9:30am-4:30pm

Thurs.: 9:30am-2:00pm

GIFT SHOP

Open after the Saturday Vigil Mass & the Sunday morning Masses.



PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Make a weekly appointment with the best spiritual director EVER!

Please help us keep every hour covered by checking AdorationPro.org/corpusaz for any times when adorers are urgently needed.

Prayer partners are also wanted for any hour. They are especially needed each day from midnight-6am.

"The lives of the saints and blessed show us the importance of the Eucharist on our journey as disciples of Jesus."

- The Mystery of the Eucharist in the Life of the Church (51)

Become a prayer partner!
Help each other on your journey to become saints!



MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, December 17

7:00 am † Ethel &
John Sodja, Jr.
8:30 am † Margaret Dugan
10:30 am Parishioners
5:00 pm † Joseph Chamoun
& † Sabin Khoury

Monday, December 18

8:15 am † Brian Lavelle

Tuesday, December 19

8:15 am † Edward Jennings
6:00 pm † Tami Taylor

Wednesday, December 20

8:15 am † Brian Lavelle

Thursday, December 21

St. Peter Canisius
8:15 am † Francis & † Vera
Nemmers

Friday, December 22

6:30 am † John & † Virginia
Braithwaite
8:15 am † Froilan & † Felicia
Pangilinan

Saturday, December 23

St. John of Kanty
8:15 am † Garret Daniel
Hughes
4:00 pm † Natalia De Faveri

Sunday, December 24

7:00 am Parishioners
8:30 am † Carol McElwain
10:30 am † Sophie M.
Zamaite &
† Joyce Peplinski

Christmas Eve Masses**

4:00 pm † Arthur Lambert
4:00 pm* † Larry Frederick
6:00 pm Living & deceased
members of the
Dragotti & Lavelle
families
11:00 pm † Arthur Lambert

*Mass held in the Parish Center.

**For the full schedule of
Christmas Mass times,
please see page 8.



Jackie Benhoff, Mark Blayne-Moore, Bobbie Braden,
Christopher Brassington, Randy Booth, Josefina Caisido,
Emma Castillo, Dale Crawford, Barbara Danielson,
Kathy Delacluyse, Val Doering, Andrew Dull,
Kathleen Fordyce, Louise Gnaller, Julia Haggerty,
Harold Henry, Jr., Victor Ivich, Vera Jakubicek,
Noah Johnson, Marie Klingenberg, Pat Koling,
Graciela Luna, Jackie Manning, Sandy McVeigh,
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Fr. George Mulligan C.S.C., Peter Nielsen,
Carole Oeverndiek, Jim Oliver, Brooks Pallan,
Ed Pellegrino, Dee Peterson, Carol Picco, Lynn Robbins,
Yolanda Rosales, Luna Marie Rotter, Dcn. Phil Simeone,
Chester Stanislawski, Trisha Stuart, Dorothy Tartaglio,
Bryce Weinheimer, Jim Yeager

PARISH CONTRIBUTIONS DECEMBER 3, 2023

TITHING

Weekly Total\$37,793.84
Weekly Budget\$29,439.00
Weekly Surplus.....\$8,354.84
Fiscal Year-to-date Total\$698,038.48
Fiscal Year-to-date Budget\$652,214.00
Fiscal Year-to-date Surplus.....\$45,824.48

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

Miscellaneous.....\$290.00
Building Fund Collection\$7,383.60
Building Fund Balance\$39,672.61



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Regardless of how you choose to give, thank you for your continued generosity! Your support not only makes a difference within our own parish, but also throughout our local community!

As the Body of Christ — Becoming Disciples, we are called to serve each other in many ways. As a family of families, we know the needs are great. Together, we can do more than any one person or family could do alone.



BABY SAFE HAVEN

Did you know that Corpus Christi is a Baby Safe Haven? A parent or agent of a parent can leave an unwanted, unharmed newborn baby at a designated Baby Safe Haven without fear of prosecution or answering any questions. They can remain anonymous. A baby can be left at the Parish Office during normal office hours. After hours, take the baby to the nearest fire station or hospital.

THE BODY OF CHRIST

PAGE 04 | CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH

How the Beatitudes Help Us Experience Heaven's Happiness on Earth — Part 3

Jen Arnold, M.A. in Theology and Catechetics — www.CatholicHeartAblaze.com

We have now reached the halfway point of Advent and thus, of our examination of the Beatitudes as well. I hope that since the Beatitudes are a guide to happiness, that these reflections are adding to your Advent in a way that makes your heart receptive to the coming of Jesus Christ at Christmas. Now, let's look at the fifth and sixth beatitudes.



Last week, we addressed the beatitude that promised satisfaction for those who seek justice and righteousness, which in and of themselves are good things when rightly ordered. However, while we have justice on one side of the coin, we must balance it with mercy on the other, because God himself is both justice and mercy. If justice existed without mercy, none of us would be safe from getting what we truly deserve for our sins. If our sense of righteousness against our enemies is to be satisfied, then so will theirs. This reality ought to tug at our heartstrings and stir up compassion and mercy in us so that we can

see the suffering of others, bodily or spiritual, and desire that they be alleviated from their pain.

It makes sense that the reward for being merciful is receiving mercy in return. We have a natural inclination to want to be treated gently, but it would not be righteous for us to want mercy for ourselves while withholding it from others. We each go through tough times in life, and it is a comfort when we are offered mercy, such as a friend delivering a warm meal or a medical bill being reduced due to hardship. Do we recognize the opportunities we encounter each day to offer someone an act of temporal or physical mercy when we can? What about spiritual mercy? This point is so important that in the Lord's Prayer we recite, as Jesus instructed: "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." In other words, the mercy we desire from God regarding our infractions is conditional upon our extension of mercy to others. The key to this is empathy. If you can understand how you fall into sin, then you can put yourself in someone else's shoes and see how they might be led astray, making it easier for you to have compassion for them. Beware, however, there is such a thing as false mercy. It is not ultimately merciful to accept or even encourage sin for the sake of not rocking the boat or making people feel uncomfortable. Mercy necessarily seeks the good of the other, which is growth in virtue for eternal salvation.

Here, during Advent, we are patiently waiting for Jesus, who is mercy himself. Jesus is the gift who restores our relationship with God through his life, passion, death, and resurrection, stepping between us and the justice we deserve. Mary, a model of mercy, carried the Savior in her womb, gave birth to him, raised him, followed him, and suffered immensely as she watched him suffer, all for our sake. Mary's fiat was an act of mercy for all of mankind. Meditating on these truths ought to move our hearts to be more merciful, though we still pale in comparison to the mercy of the hearts of Jesus and Mary.

If you are looking for ways to increase in mercy, the Church provides a blueprint for doing so with the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. The Corporal Works are: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, assist the sick, visit the imprisoned, bury the dead. Likewise, the Spiritual Works are: instruct the ignorant, counsel the doubtful, comfort the sorrowing, correct the sinner, forgive offenses, bear another's burdens patiently, and pray for the living and the dead.

Perhaps some of the works of mercy are easier for you than others. This Advent, choose one or two that are more difficult for you. First, imagine a situation where you need mercy to be extended to you. Then, find small

ways to extend the same mercy to others.



What does it mean to be pure of heart? When something is pure, it is not mixed or diluted with anything else. Pure water is free from chemicals, dirt, and other contaminants. Therefore, a pure heart loves God entirely without contamination of anything else, such as attachment to sin, self-serving motives, or worldly distractions. In a pure heart, love for other people or things is ordered to the glory of God because he made them and gifted them to the person who loves them. Even love for your spouse and children is ordered toward loving God when your heart is pure. "He who loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and he who loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me," (Matt 10:37). When our hearts are pure, we internalize that all things find their source in God and all of our love must be directed toward him at the sake of all else.

The reward for having a pure heart is to see God. Seeing God can have both a physical and

spiritual connotation. Think of the example from Scripture, where people could literally see Jesus in front of them, teaching and performing miracles, yet due to their unclean hearts, they could not recognize him as God. So, if our hearts are pure, we can see Jesus as we go about our daily lives, but we can also cloud our vision with the impurities of our hearts. For example, we can see Jesus in every human being who has been made in the image and likeness of God, or we can be jaded by our anger over something someone else has done. We can recognize blessings in their abundance, or we can live with ingratitude, feeling like we do not have enough or suffer too much.

Similarly, we can spiritually see God more clearly when we root out the sin in our lives. The more we sin, the more distance we put between God and ourselves. In the case of mortal sin, we cut God out of our lives altogether. So, in contrast, the goal is to grow in virtue, to do all things to please God alone, to make our hearts pure, and to pull back the veil from our spiritual eyes so that we can see him as he is, which is pure love.

The two purest hearts to walk the earth were those of Jesus and Mary because they were free

from all sin. Everything they did was ordered to love God and love others for God's sake. No self-serving act was ever committed by either of them. When Mary looked at Jesus' face for the first time after he was born, she saw the face of God with pure love from a pure heart. We, too, can see Jesus with this purity if we cooperate with God's grace to run from sin and cultivate virtue. Three tools will help us to purify our hearts: the Sacrament of Reconciliation, fasting, and prayer. The more we frequent the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the more we clear the cobwebs of sin, and the more grace is poured into our hearts. Regarding fasting, we often find that our spirit and flesh oppose one another. Fasting helps us detach from the pleasures of the flesh to focus on our hearts. The spiritual feast is in the Eucharist, and fasting helps us to focus on that. Of course, all of this is supported by prayer, where our hearts live in communion with God's heart. The more we pray and spend time with God, the less time there is for other things to contaminate our hearts. This Advent, can you increase your reception of the sacraments, engage in intentional fasting, and spend more heartfelt time with God in prayer?



Catholic Heart Ablaze

Find more of Jen Arnold's catechetical and spiritual writings according to traditional Catholic teaching at www.CatholicHeartAblaze.com.

Email: Jen@CatholicHeartAblaze.com

THE BODY OF CHRIST

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FAITH FORMATION

Children | Youth | Adults



Family Catechesis Corner

The Procession at Mass



Ever wonder why we have a procession to begin Mass? In our culture, almost everything we attend as spectators begins in front of us. From theatrical plays and movies to concerts and sporting events, the main participants we have come to see are already in place when the event is ready to begin.

Believe it or not, processions, and especially religious processions, have a long tradition in our societies and in our faith. We need not look any further than the Old Testament, when Joshua led a procession around the walls of Jericho with the Ark of the Covenant before the Israelites' major victory, and King David processed into Jerusalem with the Ark of the Covenant. Jesus also processed into Jerusalem on, what we now call, Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. But our processions at Mass are more than just a historical reenactment. There is a deeper, spiritual reality taking place.

Life is a constant journey. We are always on the move. From Point A to Point B, from our bed to the breakfast table, from school to home, from one activity to the next, and so on. Ultimately, however, we are on a spiritual journey. We are moving from and through this life to our eternal life with God in Heaven. The procession at Mass is a reminder that we are all pilgrims on this journey, and that we are all participants in the Mass, not spectators. The priest leads our worship at Mass, the deacon and the altar servers assist him, but we are all called to participate in Mass, and the procession draws us into that experience. The procession is meant to remind us we are all on this journey and we experience this as a community, as a family of faith. The priest leads the procession as a reminder that Christ goes before all of us, leading us toward our salvation.

So, as we stand (and sing) through our next entrance procession at Mass, let's take a moment to remember that we have a part in this journey to the start of Mass. We are not there to watch, but to belong, to encounter, and to engage. Join in, sing your heart out, and pray for our journey home to Christ.



Formation for Parents

If you would like to be part of a faith-sharing group for parents, that would be held at the same time as the Children's Faith Formation classes, please contact Rob.

Let's grow in faith as families!



CHRISTMAS NOVENA

Holy Rosary & Mass

December 15-23



Join us this week as we continue the *Christmas Novena*, every night through December 23. We will pray the Holy Rosary daily at 5:30pm (6:30pm on Sunday) followed by Mass at 6:00pm (7:00pm on Sunday).

Experience the true spirit of Christmas through enchanting songs, caroling, and a memorable Christmas Novena Party on **Sat. Dec. 23 at 8pm**. Delicious food will be served. Join us in prayer and celebration as we unite in faith and joy this season. Everyone is invited to share in the blessings of this Christmas Novena. Merry Christmas and God Bless!

Contact Danny Caravana at 480-766-0001 for more info. The novena is hosted by Our Mother of Perpetual Help Community Prayer Group in collaboration with Fr. Rey Clutario, Santo Rosario Choir Group, and Mass Liturgy Participants.



MEN OF ST. JOSEPH

A Ministry for the Men of the Parish

Our Mission: To strengthen and support the men of our parish by deepening our personal relationship with Jesus Christ through fellowship and catechesis.

Meeting Schedule

**Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Rooms 7-8-9**

Dec. 20 - Advent Reflections

Dec. 27 - No meeting (Christmas)

Jan. 3 - Gender Ideology



“MAKE ROOM FOR JESUS: IN MY HEART & IN MY HOME”

Join us in a beautiful Christmas tradition: making an inn or nativity for Jesus - a place for him to live in our hearts and in our homes. Work with your family a few minutes each day, from now until December 22, to build a home for Jesus, and make our own homes a home for the Lord. As you build your inn, you can discuss questions about the true “Reason for the Season,” such as: *Why do we celebrate Christmas? Who is Jesus? Why did he come as a baby? Why did Joseph and Mary have to journey to Bethlehem? What does scripture tell us of the foreshadowing of Jesus being placed in a manger? Why do we give gifts at Christmas time? Who was St. Nick? What is the biblical symbol for Christmas? How do we bring Jesus in to our home during Christmas and year round?*

This competition is to promote a nativity experience in our own homes, especially for families with kids. You may construct your inn out of natural materials that you find for free such as: cardboard, paper, wood, leaves, cloth, etc. **NO PLASTICS.** You may also include elements such as snow, a pond, bridge, bell, trees, etc, all hand made. Be sure to include images of Jesus. Be creative and have fun spending this special time working together.

PLEASE INCLUDE A SMALL SIGN THAT HAS YOUR NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION ON THE BACK.

GUIDELINES

☒ YES: CARDBOARD & OTHER RECYCLABLES

☐ NO: PLASTICS OR GLITTER

INCLUDE PICTURES OF JESUS OR THE HOLY FAMILY

INN SHOULD BE SHOE BOX SIZE (MAX 24"H & 24"W)
BUILT ON WHITE FOAM POSTER BOARD (36"X36")

DUE AT PARISH CENTER FRIDAY, 12/22 FROM 3-4PM



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EVALUATION:
70% HOME
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10% NO. OF
ELEMENTS



Make a Room for Jesus!



WHAT HAPPENS WHEN CHRISTMAS LANDS ON A MONDAY?



First, it means the *Fourth Sunday of Advent* occurs on December 24.

Mass times for the Fourth Sunday of Advent include:

Saturday, December 23 at 4:00pm

Sunday, December 24 at 7:00am, 8:30am, and 10:30am



Secondly, it means that the Christmas Eve Masses DO NOT fulfill the Sunday obligation, since they are vigil Masses for Christmas and not Masses for the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Both are always Holy Days of Obligation.

Christmas Mass times include:

Sunday, December 24

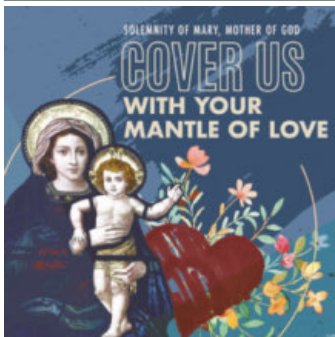
Monday, December 25

4pm in Church & Parish Center

8:30am in Church

6pm & 11pm in Church

10:30am in Church



WHAT ABOUT THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD?

Unlike Christmas, when the Solemnity of *Mary, the Holy Mother of God* lands on a Monday, the obligation to attend Mass is dispensed.

Mass Time:

Monday, January 1 at 8:15am



Joe Massop

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and perpetual light shine upon him. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (JN 1:14)

God gave the gift of His only Son to the world. Partake in that gift to better know His son, by living what Jesus has asked of us, to be charitable. Consider joining us and help Keep Christ in Christmas.



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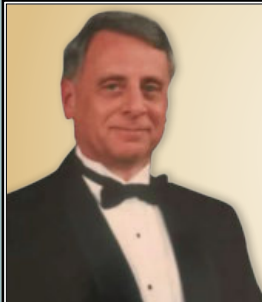
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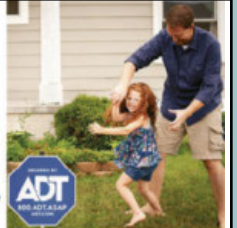
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Deacon Christopher Kellogg MD, Parish Member

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Corpus Christi Roman Catholic Parish, Phoenix, AZ A 4C 05-1867

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

(7AM Mass)

***Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.***

TODAY'S READINGS

**3rd Sunday of Advent
(Year B)**

#1097

ENTRANCE HYMN

Emmanuel

by Steve Angrisano

Refrain:

***Come, come, Emmanuel!
Son of God, appear.
Heaven and earth, rejoice!
Salvation is drawing near.
Salvation is drawing near.***

Verse 1:

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain

Verse 2:

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
Who ordered all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.

Refrain

Verse 3:

O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem;
From ev'ry foe deliver them
That trust your mighty pow'r to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.

Refrain



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Luke 1

My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked upon his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

The Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy.

R. My soul rejoices in my God.