

PARISH CALENDAR

Second Sunday
of Advent

December 4, 2016

Our God will come to save us.

Saturday, December 3	..... 5:00 p. m.	Mass, <i>Aloha Sunday</i>
Sunday, December 4	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass, <i>Aloha Sunday</i>
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass, <i>Aloha Sunday</i>
	..... 10:45 a. m.	Religious Education Classes (Gr. 1-8)
		Confirmation & Youth Ministry
	..... 5:00 p. m.	Mass, <i>Aloha Sunday</i>
Monday, December 5	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, December 6	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a. m.	Mass
	..... 7:00 p. m.	ADVENT - RECONCILIATION SERVICE
Wednesday, December 7	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, December 8	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass - Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)
	..... 7:00 p. m.	Mass - Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)
Friday, December 9	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, December 10	..... 4:00-4:45 pm	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Isaiah:35:6a, 10: Isaiah describes the fulfillment of human longing.

James: 5: 7-10: A call for patient waiting.

Matt:11:2-11: Jesus fulfills Isaiah's promises.

Living Catholic in the 808! Mary as Evangelizer: Her Motherhood

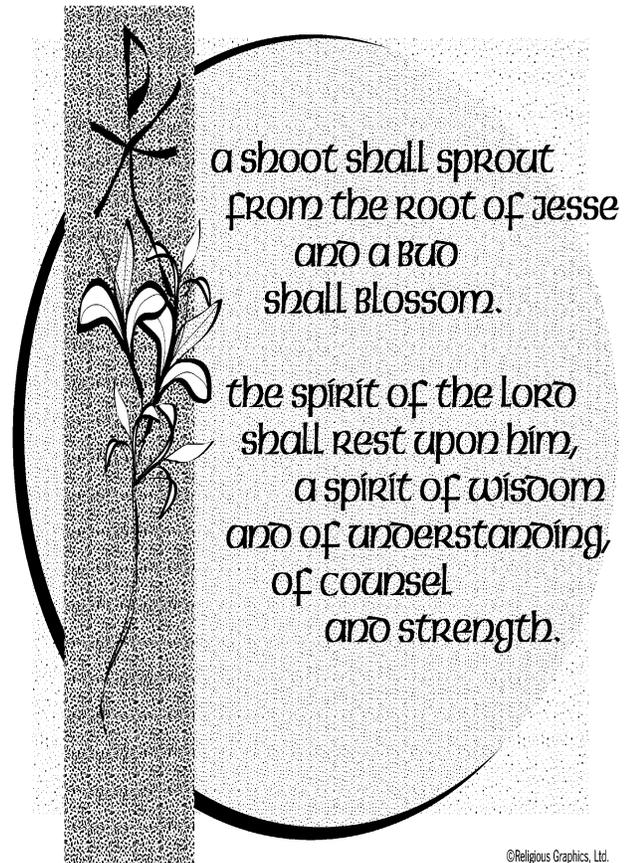
We know very little about the majority of Mary's life, including what it was like for her (and Joseph!) to actually raise the child Jesus into the man he became.

There are a few things, however, that we do know and that can help us as disciples and evangelizers:

1. *Even when Mary could legitimately be focused on herself, she gave to others (ex. helping Elizabeth during the elder's final trimester)*
2. *She knew Jesus would be decisive and that she would experience deep pain because of him (Simeon's prophecy, Luke 2)*
3. *She made sure Jesus was active in his faith, so she must have been active too (How else could Jesus be teaching in the temple by age 12?!)*
4. *She reflected and pondered her experiences with Jesus, "keeping all these things in her heart" Luke 2:51.*
5. *She made requests of Jesus, would even repeat them, knowing he would answer her (ex. Jesus' first miracle at the wedding in Cana, John 2)*
6. *She was praised by Jesus for hearing the will of God and observing it (Luke 11:28)*
7. *She didn't leave Jesus, but suffered beside him at Calvary. (More on that next time!)*

Which of these can help you most today? Let Mary help you today.

*Kristina M DeNeve
Adult Faith Formation Coordinator
Diocese of Honolulu*



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

LEEWARD VICARIATE ADVENT PENCE SERVICES:

Listed are the dates for Leeward Parishes Advent Pence Services:

Monday, December 5th - Immaculate Conception - Ewa

Tuesday, December 6th St. Rita

Monday, December 12th - St. Jude - Kapolei

Tuesday, December 13th - Sacred Hearts - Waianae

All Services begin at 7 p. m.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS: Your donation works for aging religious. "I read that roughly 95 % of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we truly want our donation to work." Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime. Envelopes are attached and in your envelope boxes.

RESPECT LIFE: The annual March for Life is a peaceful march to bring awareness of the plight of victims of Abortion, Euthanasia, and ALL life issues. The march at the State Capital in Honolulu is scheduled for **Friday afternoon, January 20th**. We are coordinating with surrounding parish Respect Life representatives (Sacred Heart, St. Jude, Immaculate Conception, OLPH) to provide a bus to transport those who would like to attend. If anyone may be interested in joining us, please call Bob McCulloch at **672-5718** (this is a land line, but does have voice mail).

WORD OF LIFE: "Pope Francis invites us to understand more deeply our relationships with God, one another, and the rest of creation, and to live accordingly. "Everything is connected," he reminds us. (LS 91) - "Serene Attentiveness to God's Creation," www.goo.gl/xdm378 USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

WEEKLY READINGS

Dec 4 Sun: 2ND Sunday of Advent

Isa:11:1-10; Ps 72; Rom:15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

Dec 5 Mon: Advent Weekday

Is: 35:1-10; Ps 85: 9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26

Dec 6 Tue: Advent Weekday

Is: 40:1-11; Ps:96:1-2, 3 & 10ac, 11-12, 13; Mt 18:12-14

Dec 7 Wed: Ambrose, bishop and doctor

Is:40:25-31; Ps:103: 1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10; Mt 11:28-30

Dec 8 Thur: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Gn: 3:9-15; Ps 98: , 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Ep:1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Dec 9 Fri: Advent Weekday

Is 48:17-19; Ps:1: 1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Mt 11:16-19

Dec 10 Sat: Advent Weekday

Sir:48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

NOTES ON STEWARDSHIP

In today's Gospel reading John the Baptist warns his listeners: "Repent for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" The Church's yearly Advent herald is a call to repentance. The season of Advent urges us to be open to a conversion of heart. Christian stewards heed this call daily, and take the need for conversion in their lives seriously. As a family of faith, do we hear this call to conversion amidst the massive holiday spending? The increase in credit card debt? The urge to buy things that are not necessary? The incivility on the roadways during the holidays? Are there patterns in our own lives that need to be converted? (**International Catholic Stewardship Council e-Bulletin**)

MODERN-DAY JOHN THE BAPTISTS

Have you ever wondered what John the Baptist might look and act like if he were to appear today? Each of us has probably encountered someone in our lives who prepared a way that the Lord could use to come into our presence. We often think of people like Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta, who certainly prepared the way for the Lord as she ministered to the poorest of the poor in the streets of India. We also think of the saints who throughout the ages have risked their lives to announce the message of salvation that comes through belief in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Have you ever been John the Baptist for anyone? Have you ever prepared the way of the Lord for someone in your life?

PREPARING THE WAY FOR THE LORD

We encounter people at every Mass who help prepare the way for the Lord each and every week. Our ushers and greeters make us feel welcome and help prepare us to encounter the Lord. When our musicians lead us in the opening song of the Mass, their talents help prepare the way for the coming of the Lord. When the lectors, priests, and deacons proclaim God's living word, another way of the Lord is opened before us. When the priest prays the sacred prayers of the Mass, the way is prepared for the sacramental presence of Christ to enter our hearts. We believe that the Lord Jesus is the shoot that sprouted from the stump of Jesse, the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy. Perhaps each of us can become a present-day John the Baptist by continuing to make the ground fertile for the sprouting and growth of the Lord Jesus in ever new and surprising ways. We can be John the Baptist for those who are seeking ways to encounter the Lord.

