



## Weekly Bulletin

December 18 to December 25, 2010

*On the Third Sunday of Advent, the Holy Father led the faithful in the recitation of the Angelus. About 2,000 children were waiting in St Peter's Square for the Pope to bless the "Bambinelli", the Baby Jesus figurines which they will place in the manglers of the Nativity scenes in their homes, schools and parishes. The following is a translation of the Pope's Catechesis in Italian.*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Liturgy presents to us a passage from the Letter of St James, which opens with this exhortation: "Be patient, therefore, brethren, until the coming of the Lord" (Jas 5:7). It seems to me especially important, in our day, to underline the value of constancy and persistence, virtues which belonged to the normal baggage of our ancestors but today are less popular, in a world which exalts, rather, the change and capacity to adapt oneself to ever new and diverse situations.

Taking nothing from these features, which are also human qualities, Advent calls us to develop inner tenacity, resistance of the spirit, which enables us not to despair while waiting for a good that is slow in coming, but on the contrary to prepare for its coming with active trust.

"Behold," James writes, "the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient over it until it receives the early and the late rain. You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand" (Jas 5:7-8).

The comparison drawn with the farmer is very expressive, he has sown the field and has before him several months of patient and constant waiting, but he knows that in the meantime the seed completes its cycle, thanks to the autumn and spring rains. The farmer is not a fatalist but the model of a mentality which unites faith and reason in a balanced way. For on the one hand he knows the laws of nature and does his work well, and on the other, he trusts in Providence, because certain fundamental things are not in his hands but in the hands of God. Patience and constancy are truly a synthesis between human commitment and confidence in God.

"Establish your hearts", Scripture says. How can we do this? How can we strengthen our hearts, already somewhat frail in themselves and rendered even more unstable by the culture in which we are immersed. Help is not lacking; it is the Word of God. In fact, while everything else passes and changes, the Word of the Lord is not transient. If the events of life make us feel bewildered and every certainty seems to crumble, we have a compass to guide us, we have an anchor to prevent us from drifting away.

Here the model offered to us is that of the prophets, namely those people whom God called so that they might speak in his name. The prophet finds his joy and strength in the word of God and while humans often search for happiness in ways that prove erroneous, he announces true hope, which does not disappoint because it is founded on the fidelity of God.

Every Christian, by virtue of Baptism, has received prophetic dignity. May each one rediscover and nourish it, by listening assiduously to the divine Word. May the Virgin Mary, whom the Gospel calls blessed because she believed in the fulfillment of the words of the Lord, obtain this for us (Lk 1:45).

### *St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church*

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#### CLERGY

- † Fr. Joseph Johnson, Pastor
- † Fr. John Meyer,  
Associate Pastor
- † Fr. Andrew Cozzens,  
Associate Pastor
- † Dc. Nao Kao Yang

#### SCHEDULES

##### Masses:

Saturday 5:00 PM  
Sunday 9:00 AM

##### Confession:

Sunday 8:00AM-8:45AM

##### Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday 7:00PM-8:00PM

##### Religious Education:

Sunday 10:30AM-12:00PM

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. of Month:

- Mass at 8:30AM
- Altar & Rosary Society Meeting

*To know, love and serve Jesus Christ*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday 12/18  
5:00 PM David McWilliams  
  
Sunday 12/19  
9:00 AM People of the Parish  
  
Friday 12/24 (Christmas Eve)  
8:00 PM People of the Parish  
  
Saturday 12/25 (Christmas Day)  
9:00 AM People of the Parish  
  
Sunday 12/26  
9:00 AM People of the Parish

**GOSPEL READING AT MASS**

**Saturday 12/18:**  
Matthew 1: 18-24

**Sunday 12/19**  
Matthew 1: 18-24

**Monday 12/20**  
Luke 1: 26-38

**Tuesday 12/21**  
Luke 1: 39-45

**Wednesday 12/22**  
Luke 7: 18b-23

**Thursday 12/23**  
Luke 1: 57-66

**Friday 12/24**  
Matthew 1: 1-25

**Saturday 12/25**  
John 1: 1-18

**Saturday Confession**

Saturday Confession will be at the **Cathedral of Saint Paul** from 3:30PM-5:00PM

**Lus ceeb toom**

Vim tsis muaj tus teb xov tooj hauv peb lub Tsev teev Ntuj lawm, mas yog nej hu tuaj, tus yuav teb xov tooj yog tus khiav hauj lwm nyob pem lub niam Tsev teev Ntuj Cathedral). Tso nej npe thiab xov tooj, Txiv Plig mam li hu rov rau nej.

**St. Vincent de Paul  
Pray for us!**

**Christmas and Holy Day Mass Schedule**

Friday December 24 Christmas Eve (English): 8 PM  
Saturday December 25 Christmas Day (Bi-Lingual): 9 AM  
Saturday January 1 Mary, Mother of God (Bi-Lingual): 9 AM  
(January 1<sup>st</sup> is a Holy Day of Obligation)

**Hmong New Year Celebration**

On Sunday, January 2nd, the Church of Saint Vincent de Paul will celebrate the Hmong New Year 2011. The celebration will begin with 9 AM Mass followed by entertainment at 11, the blessing of eggs and a potluck fit for a king at 12:30. We look forward to welcoming Bishop Lee Piché who will be celebrant of the Mass. Plan on attending this important and joyful event!

**Strategic Plan meeting—January 9, 2011**

Following Sunday Mass on January 9<sup>th</sup>, representatives of the Archdiocese will be with us to have a follow-up meeting regarding how our parish is affected by the recently announced Strategic Plan. Please plan on attending as there will be plenty of time for any questions you may have regarding our merger with the Cathedral parish set to take effect a year from now. Staff members representing Archbishop Nienstedt will explain how this change will strengthen our Hmong Catholic community and listen to any concerns you may have.

**Religious Education Classes**

There will not be adult or children’s religious education classes on December 26<sup>th</sup> or January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Children’s classes will resume January 9<sup>th</sup> and adult classes will resume January 16<sup>th</sup>.

**2011 Church Envelopes**

The donation envelopes for 2011 will be available in back of church beginning this weekend. Please check names and addresses to make sure we have the correct information for your household. You can call the office number (651-488-6737) if you have any questions.