



Weekly Bulletin

December 12 to December 19, 2009

“Whoever has two cloaks...”

“...should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise.” This was Saint John the Baptist’s advice in today’s Gospel—and it is just as relevant to us today as it was back then! I am constantly overwhelmed by the generosity of Cathedral parishioners and visitors. We take up a number of special collections throughout the year (seminary, missionaries, Little Sisters of the Poor, etc.) as well as addressing our own financial burdens. So often the love of God is evident through these sacrifices generously made.

There is another way that we can manifest our sense of “Shared Mission” in the Church and compassion to those in need. It starts in the ordinary things of daily life and reflects more than generosity. Simplicity is an important Christian virtue which changes our entire worldview. What do we need? What do we want? Unless we win the lottery, there is usually no way to satisfy all the wants. The secret to true happiness is to focus on our needs instead and foster a sense of gratitude for anything and everything that we have.

The current recession has caused many to reexamine budgets and see where the belt can be tightened up a bit. The Gospel should cause us to do this even in more prosperous times. People could have retorted to Saint John the Baptist that their “two cloaks” complemented different outfits but I don’t think that he would have bought that argument! He exhorted them—and now exhorts us—to radical simplicity. This gives us freedom to rejoice in the meaningful things of life instead of the accumulation of possessions or the pursuit of entertainment.

Some possible Advent exercises in simplicity:

1. compare bills for our luxuries (designer coffee, cable/satellite TV, home internet, vacations) with the amount we invest as Christians in the work of serving God and neighbor
2. compare the total we will spend on Christmas gifts for loved ones with what we give to the poor
3. in receiving Christmas gifts, adopt a “neutral” policy—i.e. for every sweater I receive, I give one away from my current collection

We may be surprised at the difference that true simplicity can make in our lives! This is the only path that enables us to more closely resemble the Son of God who chose to be born in a stable.

Father Joseph

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CLERGY

- † Fr. Joseph Johnson, Pastor
- † Fr. Michael Kaluza,
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

1st Sat. of Month:

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 12/12
5:00 PM Donald Weber

Sunday 12/13
9:00 AM People of the Parish

Saturday 12/19
5:00 PM †Sean Byrne

Sunday 12/20
9:00 AM People of the Parish

GOSPEL READING AT MASS

Saturday 12/12(Vigil)
Luke 3: 10-18

Sunday 12/13
Luke 3: 10-18

Monday 12/14
Matthew 21: 23-27

Tuesday 12/15
Matthew 21: 28-32

Wednesday 12/16
Luke 7: 18b-23

Thursday 12/17
Matthew 1: 1-17

Friday 12/18
Matthew 1: 18-25

Saturday 12/19 (AM)
Luke 1: 15-25

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 Mass Schedule

December 24- Christmas Eve (English): 5 PM

December 25-Christmas Day (Bi-Lingual): 9 AM

Christmas Cleaning – December 13

In preparation for the Christmas season we will clean the church following the 9 AM Mass this Sunday, December 13th.

Christmas Decorating – December 20

We will decorate the church for the wonderful days of Christmas after the 9 AM Mass on Sunday, December 20th.

Religious Education Classes

There will not be adult religious education classes on December 13, 20 and 27 due to church cleaning, decorating and the Hmong New Year celebration.

Hmong New Year Celebration

On Sunday, December 27th, the Church of Saint Vincent de Paul will celebrate the Hmong New Year 2010. 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. Plan on attending this important and joyful event!