Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish-Shrine

Second Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 10th, 2017

The Italian National Parish of the Archdiocese of Chicago
Served by The Missionaries of Saint Charles – Scalabrinians
1101 N 23rd Ave - Melrose Park - IL– 60160
P (708) 344 4140 — F (708)344 0902

Staff

Pastor
-Fr. Miguel Alvarez, C.S.

Associate Pastors
-Fr. Augusto Feccia, C.S.
-Fr. Yosef A. Sadipun C.S.

Parish Deacons
-John Battisto
-Giulio Camerini
-Jose Ramon Arenas

Secretaries
- Nancy Diaz
- Daniel Michel

Office Hours

Sunday
-8:00am—3:00pm

Tuesday- Friday
-8:30am—8:30pm

Saturday
-8:30am — 1:00pm
-2:00pm—5:30pm

Monday
- We're Closed

Sunday Mass Schedule

5:30pm - Sat. Vigil Mass
7:45am - English
9:00am - Español
10:30am - Italiano
12:00pm - English
1:30pm - Español
5:00pm - Español

Weekly Mass Schedule

English
-Monday - Saturday at 7:30am

Español
-Martes y Jueves a las 6:30pm

Italiano
-Sotto richiesta

THE SCALABRINIAN MISSIONARIES AT MOUNT CARMEL SINCE 1905

humilitas

Our Lady of Mt Carmel, is served
by the Congregation of the Missionaries of
St. Charles – Scalabrinians – .
We are an community of Catholic religious
serving migrants and refugees of different cultures,
religions and ethnicities in 32 countries.
The Congregation was founded in Italy
on November 28, 1887,
by Blessed John Baptist Scalabrini (1839-1905),
bishop of Piacenza (Italy).
Our missionary focus is to be migrants
with the migrants and to be in mission
with people on the move,
with a special priority for the poorest
And neediest migrants.

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL —MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith community bound by the Grace of God the Father
who adopted us all as beloved children through Baptism.
We journey as brothers and sisters
inspired in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, nourished with the Eucharist
and strengthened by the love of the Holy Spirit.
Encouraged in the practice of our Catholic Tradition,
we experience and honor the maternal protection of Our Lady of Mount Carmel
while joyfully celebrating the religious practices of our ancestors in Faith.
Heartened by the zealous ministry of the Missionaries of St. Charles (Scalabrinians),
we strive to create a welcoming space were justice for all and the wellbeing of God's people
become the inspiration in our efforts to build God's Kingdom.

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NUESTRA SENORA DEL MONTE CARMEL — VISIÓN

Somos una comunidad de fe vinculada por la Gracia de Dios Padre,
que nos ha adoptado como hijos amados por el Bautismo.
Caminamos como hermanos y hermanas
inspirados en el Evangelio de Jesucristo, nutridos con la Eucaristía
y fortalecidos por el amor del Espíritu Santo.
Alentados en la práctica de nuestra Tradición Católica,
experimentamos y honramos a la protección materna de Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo,
celebrando alegremente las prácticas religiosas de nuestros ancestros en la Fe.
Animados por el celo ministerial de los Misioneros de San Carlos (Scalabrinianos),
nos esforzamos por crear un espacio de bienvenida donde la justicia para todos
y el bienestar del pueblo de Dios nos inspiran en nuestros esfuerzos para construir el Reino de Dios.

Church Services

We encourage all to register at the Parish-Shrine.

+ + +

Les invitamos a registrarse en el Santuario Parroquial.

Support Staff

Business Manager
Alexander Sanchez 708.345.3632

Religious Education
Modesta Martinez 708.344.4140

Activities Coordinator
Miguel Aldana 708.345.3632

Music Coordinator
Ann Marie Nabor 708.579.5373

Community Center Site Director
Pablo Cruz 708.345.3632

Sacramental Life

Confessions *Confesiones*
Saturdays—*Sábados*
4:00pm—5:30pm or by appointment/ *o con cita.*

Baptisms *Bautizos*
Come to the parish office. *Pase a la oficina parroquial.*

Weddings *Bodas*
Contact the priest at least six months in advance.
Contactar al sacerdote seis meses antes de la ceremonia

Quinceañera
Contactar a la secretaria cuatro meses antes de la ceremonia.

Presentaciones
Contactar la Secretaria al menos dos semanas antes

Religious Services

Recitation of the Holy Rosary
Mon—Sat at 7:00am

Adoration *Adoración al Stmo. Sacramento*
Wednesdays 6:00pm—8:00pm

Novena & Benediction
Wednesday/Miércoles 7:30pm

Grupo de Oración Carismática
Martes a las 7:00pm

Other Services

Gift Shop Hours *Venta de Artículos Religiosos*
During the regular office hours.
Durante las horas de oficina

Community Center *Centro Comunitario*
Social outreach *Servicios a la comunidad* (708) 345 - 3632

Food Pantry *Despensa de comida*
Wednesdays 4:00pm—6:00pm

Religious Education—*Catecismo*
Saturday - *Sábados* 3:30pm — 6:30pm
Sunday - *Domingos* 10:00am—1:00pm
- Mass Included—Incluye la Misa

For the Month of DECEMBER

December 3rd Sun/Dom

- 7:00pm Novena a Ntra. Sra. de Guadalupe

Decermber 8th Fri/Vie

- 6:00pm Presentación de las rosas a la Virgen de Guadalupe

December 11th Mon/Lun

- 11:00pm Misa en Honor a la Virgen de Guadalupe

December 12th Tue/Mar Our Lady of Guadalupe

- 5:00am Misa en Español
- 7:00pm Bilingual Mass for the unborn

December 13th Wed/Mie St. Lucy

- Blessing of the Eyes after Novena

December 24th Sun/Dom Christmas Eve

- 5:00pm English Mass
- 7:00pm Misa en Español
- 11:00pm Christmas Caroling

December 25th Mon/Lun Nativity of the Lord

- 12:00am *English Midnight Mass*
- 10:30am Italian Mass
- 12:00pm English Mass
- 1:30pm Misa en Español

December 31st Sun/Dom New Years Eve

- Regular Sunday Schedule

January 1st Mon/Lun
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

- 10:30am Italian Mass
- 12:00pm English Mass
- 1:30pm Misa en Español

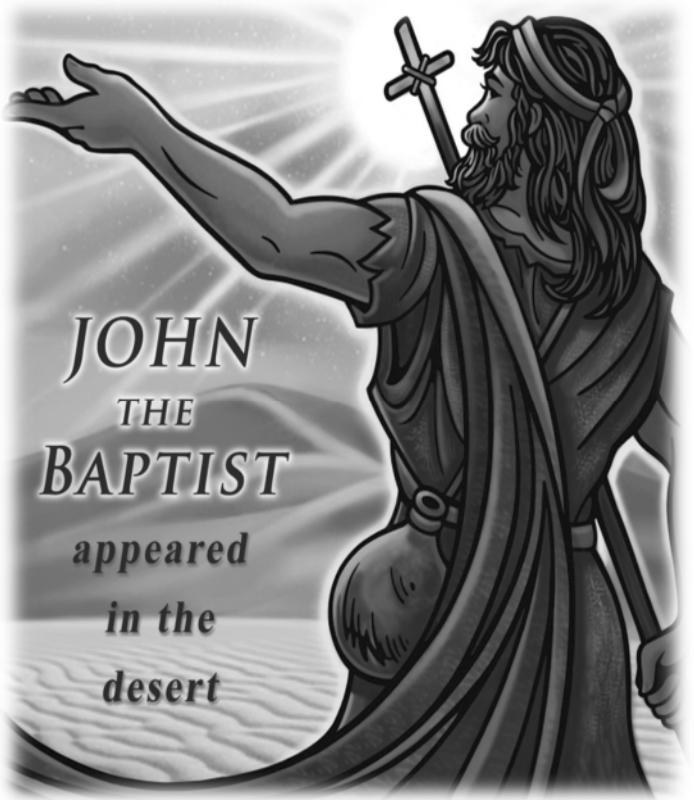
From the Pastor's Desk

It is with a profound sense of peaceful satisfaction that I am preparing this season of transition here at OLMC. After having introduced the New Pastor to the staff, the leaders and those responsible for the different groups, I feel his taking over will be a serene experience. I am also very excited to know that Fr. Giovanni wishes to continue moving forward with the Pastoral Project of the Parish, and knowing him, I am sure he will do an awesome job when it comes to team work. As I have expressed before, there is a great deal of gratitude in my heart for all we have accomplished during this term, and I encourage you all to continue supporting your New Shepheard during the years to come.

Leadership in today's world is not an easy experience, however, we must move forward with dignified integrity. As hard as it is, ministry in the Church must be carried out with clarity and boldness; the Gospel of Jesus Christ cannot be jeopardized by contemporary turmoil. Therefore those chosen to Shepheard in the Church, ought to be ready for sacrifice. No evangelical goal will be reach free of struggle and disappointments, no real Pastoral Plan will be fulfilled without facing a multitude of obstacles, no Spiritual Project can be accomplished without facing certain battles… hence the need to trust in the Lord and move forward despite the difficulties. At the same time, the sense of satisfaction born out of serving those we are called to lead, is God's given reward to His chosen ones. Nothing compares to a heart leaping with joy because the mission was fulfilled as expected; there is no greater reward than knowing the Lord is pleased with our accomplishments. That is how I leave this place, joyful by knowing the Lord has been good and much was accomplished in a brief period.

Many undone projects remain in the bucket-list. Time is always insufficient when it comes to do God's work. What a Pastor can do is only a grain of sand in the immensity of the desert, is only a drop of water in the vastness of the ocean… however, understanding this is good, for it provides our heart with relief; then we open our lives to the Grace of the Spirit and allow the Lord to enter our history and take care of the rest…

Adsum,



NEWS OF COMFORT

In a time of preparation, much of it having to do with material things, it is good to hear the words of Isaiah, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, / says your God" (Isaiah 40:1). In a time of such stress and rush, when our usual burdens are augmented by piles of Christmas preparations, we can choose to slow down, take some time to heal, and appreciate the enormous gift we are about to receive. Christ, the Son of God, has become one of us, and knows our human limitations. Yet God, even now, is freeing us from the burdens that our inattentiveness to our God and to our deepest inner longings have heaped upon us. The Lord comes, not as a king with mighty armies, but as a shepherd leading the flocks with care and tenderness. Isaiah prophesies good news: our oppression is over, our sins forgiven. The savior we have awaited is coming, not the first time, but in the end times, as our salvation.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Many people think that Saint Francis originated the Christmas crèche, but its origins go far back. The Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome has housed what is said to be relics of the cradle of Jesus since the seventh century. In time, every year during the Christmas season the reliquary (container for relics) was surrounded by an increasingly grand three-dimensional scene of the place of Jesus' birth. Rocks and trees, houses, streams, figurines of villagers going about their daily tasks were all included. It was a very dramatic presentation. If you've ever seen an elaborate model train installation, you get the idea. The proper term for this depiction is *presepio*, from the Latin word for "surround" or "hedge."

Over the centuries, the custom spread first to churches, and then to aristocratic homes. In Italy, whole chapels are often set aside for the *presepio*, and it is not unusual to have hundreds of figures. It can sometimes be a challenge to locate the Holy Family amid the crowd, almost like a *Where's Waldo?* children's book. The oldest surviving *presepio* is in St. Mary Major and dates from the thirteenth century, although many pieces have been broken or lost. Saint Francis of Assisi took a decidedly creative step in 1233 in the village of Greccio, when he directed his followers to fill a manger with hay and tether an ox and ass nearby. He then invited the villagers to attend Mass outdoors near the crib, the worshipers themselves becoming a living *presepio*. By the seventeenth century, the tradition was well-established, particularly in Naples, and had a firm hold in Portugal, Spain, and in the Provence region of France. Today, it is not unusual to find *presepios* with five hundred figures, a vivid reminder of Emmanuel, God-with-us!

Be generous with your church
this Christmas season.

Don't forget to add Our Lady of Mount
Carmel to your gift list.

Respect-Life Mass
On Tuesday December 12th
On the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Patroness of the Unborn
there will be a bilingual Mass at 7:00pm.
We will be praying for all
victims of abortion
And begging the intercession
of Our Lady of Guadalupe
on behalf of the many victims of
this genocide

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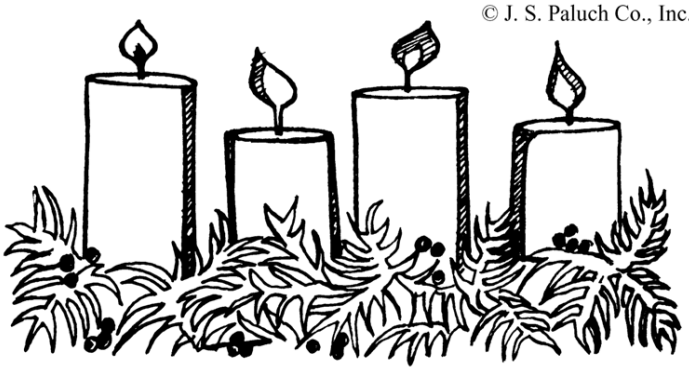

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Weekly Offering

December 2 - December 3, 2017

Regular Sunday Collection: $5,938.00
Second Collection: $2,753.00

Mensaje del Párroco

Es con una sensación de profunda serenidad que me encuentro preparando este tiempo de transición en el liderazgo de nuestra Parroquia. La alegría de ver la iglesia llena para la novena de Guadalupe durante estas ultimas noches, es algo que no tiene comparación. Descubrir tantos voluntarios que con generosidad y empeño llevan adelante sus responsabilidades, me hace pensar que estamos en un buen momento para el cambio. Creo que el nuevo Párroco viene a un lugar donde la devoción y la buena voluntad de muchos harán posible que su estancia y ministerio en este lugar sea lleno de bendiciones.

Agradezco a todos ustedes por sus muestras de cariño durante estos días; en ellas descubro la caricia de Dios que me asegura: "Todo lo que has hecho acá, no ha sido en vano". Al mismo tiempo quisiera pedirles que, así como han sabido apoyarme y han querido colaborar durante mi tiempo de servicio, así lo hagan ahora que P. Giovanni comienza su ministerio, es importante que Él se descubra parte de una gran familia interesada en construir el Reino de los Cielos; que se vea como miembro de un equipo que no escatima esfuerzos con tal de sacar adelante un proyecto pastoral valido; que descubra lo fácil que es guiar a una comunidad evangelizada y apasionada por Dios. Fue la participación de cada uno de ustedes lo que me animo tantas veces en el camino, y espero que cuando su nuevo Párroco lo necesite, allí estén también para El. Como lo he mencionado anteriormente, se que todos los cambios vienen a nosotros llenos de ansiedad y desconcierto, avancemos en este tiempo como hombres y mujeres de Fe, Creyentes convencidos que es el Señor quien guía a su Pueblo, y es la Gracia de su Espíritu Santo la que nos anima en la jornada.

Me disculpo por las veces que no supe manifestar ante ustedes el rostro amable de Cristo Buen Pastor, por las ocasiones cuando no pude responder a sus necesidades como el Señor Jesús lo hubiera hecho. Servir en la Iglesia es un gran privilegio y también debe ser entendido como un gran compromiso, ojalá que me puedan comprender por las veces que el Evangelio no brillo con la intensidad debida en mis acciones. También yo estoy en camino, también yo estoy aprendiendo.

Adsum,

Fortaleciendo Familias

Participe en un programa familiar para las familias del área de Proviso.

Aprenda Disciplina efectiva, Comunicación Saludable, Como resolver conflictos, Como Controlar el Estrés, Como fijar limites y Como mejorar la unión familiar.

Acompáñenos en la primera orientación este próximo
Enero 5, 2018, de 5PM a 7PM.

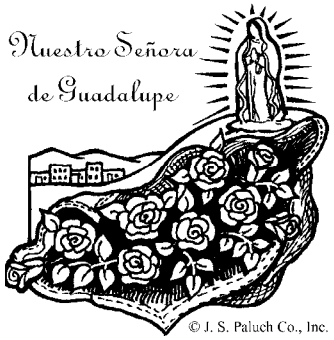
Llame para registrarse al
Teléfono 708-786-8540.
Espacio limitado.

TRADICIONES DE NUESTRA FE

El día 9 de diciembre conmemoramos a san Juan Diego de México. Hace un par de años este indígena mesoamericano fue canonizado por su misión en las apariciones Guadalupanas. Hubo controversia alrededor de su canonización porque había quienes insistían que Juan Diego nunca existió. Después de investigar, el Vaticano decidió que no sólo existió, sino que fue y es santo, digno de ser modelo e intercesor.

Las investigaciones encontraron que el nombre indígena de Juan Diego era Cuauhtlatoatzin, es decir "Águila que habla". Tal vez por este nombre tan significativo fue que los franciscanos lo bautizaron Juan Diego. El nombre Juan recuerda al apóstol, quien escribió el evangelio más místico y cuyo símbolo es el águila. Diego viene del apóstol Santiago o san Diego quien evangelizó a los españoles durante el siglo I. De cualquier manera, Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin se convirtió en el "Águila que habla" y anuncia el evangelio místico según Guadalupe, es "Águila que habla" de amor, paz, consuelo y desafío en una tierra conquistada, oprimida y llena de promesa.

CELEBRACIONES EN HONOR DE LA SANTÍSIMA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE



Dom. Dic. 3: **7:00pm** Comienzo de la Solemne Novena predica el *Padre Miguel Alvarez c.s.*

Vier. Dic. 8: **6:00pm** Presentación de las Rosas a La Virgen Morena

Lun. Dic 11: **10:00pm** Serenata a la Virgen Santísima con el Mariachi *Perla de México.*

11:00pm Misa Solemne con Mariachi

Mar. 12 Dic: **12:00am** Mañanitas a Ntra. Madre del Cielo con Banda
- Al termino de las mañanitas se ofrecerá Menudo gratis y café a las personas que gusten pasar al Carmel Hall.

4:00am Mañanitas Festivas a La Virgen Santísima de Guadalupe con Banda

5:00am Misa solemne de Acción de Gracias por todas las Familias Migrantes

6:00am Desayuno con Menudo gratis para todos en el Carmen Hall

7:00pm Santa Misa Bilingüe en Honor de los no-nacidos recordando que la Virgen Stma. de Guadalupe es Madre de Todos.

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SI DESEA ORDENAR UN RAMO DE ROSAS FAVOR DE CONTACTAR A LOS VOLUNTARIOS DESPUÉS DE LAS MISAS O LLAMAR A LA OFICINA O PASAR A LA OFICINA PARROQUIAL

No olvides de ser generoso con tu parroquia en esta Navidad. Agrega a Nuestra Señora del Monte Carmelo a tu lista navideña.

Fr. Feccia's Reflection

Seconda Domenica di Avvento — Anno "B". Dopo secoli di attesa e di speranza, ecco finalmente «*l'inizio del vangelo*», della buona novella. Esso si apre ancora oggi davanti a noi, soltanto che lo vogliamo. Come ai giorni della consolazione, Dio proclama il grande ritorno attraverso il deserto, il grande perdono, la tregua di Dio in «*Gesù Cristo, Figlio di Dio*» che Marco saluta come tale fin dal principio, e che un centurione romano confesserà al termine del vangelo (Mc 15,39). Fra queste due proclamazioni, ci sarà la morte dell'uomo Gesù. Il velo del tempio squarciato da cima a fondo, manifesterà il carattere irreversibile di un destino che ci riguarda tutti.

Ma come si può parlare ancora oggi di un «*inizio di una buona notizia di Gesù Cristo?*» Troppo spesso le nostre reazioni di fronte al vangelo sono quelle di gente che considera tutto già dato e realizzato come se la «*macchina*» chiesa messa in azione dal Figlio di Dio, fosse totalmente programmata, per avanzare su un terreno preparato da tempo, dagli antichi profeti. Il paradosso della storia della salvezza, invece, sta proprio nel fatto che tutto è dato, ma tutto rimane ancora da fare, che c'è un vangelo scritto e un altro da scrivere, che Dio ci ha parlato una volta per tutte e che il suo silenzio di oggi non esprime una scelta di non dire più nulla, ma una delega permanente agli uomini, chiamati alla Parola.

Mettiamoci dunque al lavoro per sospingere il mondo nel suo incessante errare verso la salvezza: ecco l'avvento di Dio! È sempre necessaria la preparazione dell'annuncio: Cristo ha bisogno ancora oggi di profeti che continuino il servizio di quelli antichi e del Battista. Anche nel nostro secolo ci sono strade da spianare, valli da colmare, monti da abbassare. C'è bisogno di un ardente richiamo alla conversione, di una denuncia del peccato e di un battesimo di penitenza. E infine c'è ancora da ritirarsi davanti a un Altro, più forte di noi, perché è lui la salvezza e la buona notizia per il nostro tempo!

La conversione come speranza — Dopo venti secoli di cristianesimo, il vangelo rischia di apparirci come una storia del passato. Marco invece lo annuncia come una perenne «*buona notizia*», indirizzata a un popolo in attesa della realizzazione delle proprie speranze. Il Battista annuncia il Messia al mondo dei profeti; nel deserto, dove il popolo di Dio si forma nella prova, la «*voce*» mette a nudo le coscienze e proclama che la venuta di Dio esige penitenza e conversione dei cuori. L'avvento ci invita paradossalmente alla gioia e alla penitenza, alla speranza e alla conversione.

L'attesa di Dio

Rispondendo alle obiezioni di certi fedeli sul ritorno del Signore, Pietro afferma: Dio ha una nozione del tempo diversa dalla nostra; e aggiunge: Dio è paziente e attende che il maggior numero possibile di peccatori si converta (v. 9).

Dio incarnandosi tiene conto dell'uomo, della sua crescita e del suo comportamento, non lo guarisce senza la fede, senza la conversione; prende il tempo necessario per condividere la vita col suo interlocutore (cf *Sap* 11,23-26; *Ez* 18,23).

In un mondo votato al cambiamento ed alla attesa del «giorno di Dio» che realizzerà « nuovi cieli e una terra nuova », la «santità della vita» e la «pietà» danno sicurezza e tranquillità di fronte agli elementi che si «dissolvono» e si «fondono» (seconda lettura). La santità della vita non è solo oggetto del giudizio finale, ma già prepara questo giudizio; la preghiera che sale dal cuore non chiede soltanto la venuta del Signore come un avvenimento improvviso, ma già lo legge negli episodi della storia umana.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 — ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:30 am † Carmela and Enrico DiTata
5:30 pm †

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 — SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7:45 am † Ralph and Lucia De Vito by Doyle Grandchildren
† Juan de la Rosa by Brad and Barbara Dahly
9:00 am †
10:30 am For Nicola, Caterina, and Franco Policastro by Daughter
12:00 pm † Carmela and Enrico DiTata
1:30 pm †
5:00 pm †

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11 — ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:30 am †

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 — OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE
7:30 am † Daniel Kudrna by Aunt Corinne Principe
7:00 pm †

WEDNESDAY. DECEMBER 13 — SAINT LUCY
7:30 am † Michael and Lucia De Vito by Grandchildren
7:30 pm NOVENA

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 — SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS
7:30 am †
6:30 pm †

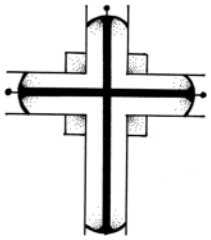
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 — ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:30 am † George Kudrna Jr. by Sister Corinne Principe

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16 — ADVENT WEEKDAY
7:30 am † Eda Morella from Gail and Michael
5:30 pm † Bob Adams by Lucia Esposito

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 — THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
7:45 am † Agnes Briatta by Maria Sconza
9:00 am †
10:30 am †
12:00 pm † Mary Lou by Family
1:30 pm †
5:00 pm †

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO ARE ILL OR INFIRMED :

Linda Bandy
Mary Donato
Judith Escamilla
Jacob Duda
Kristie Goldi
Linna Goldi
Susan Humpf
Vandy Liala
Ethan Maidl
Joseph Pulido
Lauren Rendi
Luke Westrick
Ann Yench
Alexandra Vitali
Anna Baffa
Jan Clark
Sara Zonca
Nancy Oshea
Madeline Vittori
Nico Felice
Emilio Scalzitti
Nell Baker
Fabiola Pintor
Isabel Pintor
Marie Torchia
Kelly Ann Haymaker
Macy Grace Giacone
Josephine Grasso
June Stellato
Conny Rico
John Sepka
Melacia Nuñez
Bridget Midula
Donna Novotny
Nayeli Hernandez



Rest In Peace

† Araceli Leyva

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By now, trees are beginning to appear in living rooms throughout the parish. To a complete outsider to our culture, it must seem an odd thing indeed. The "roots" of this custom are in liturgical drama: religious plays performed in the churches and town squares of medieval Europe. The favorite theme for this time of year was the "Paradise Play," a dramatic history of the human race from the Garden of Eden to the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The language and music varied from place to place, but one feature was always in place: a great tree decorated with apples. As a prop, it provided lots of material for the actors: the temptation, shelter for the manger, and a reminder of the wood of the cross. Soon people began to bring "paradise trees" into their homes, decorating them with gifts and lighted candles.

Many Germans give credit to Martin Luther for transforming the "Paradise Tree" into the evergreen Christmas tree. Walking home on a starry Advent night, he was so awed by the beauty of the night that he hauled a pine tree inside and decorated it with lighted candles. Americans were holdouts. It took until 1856 for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to decriminalize Christmas decorations, the old Puritan dislikes falling before the waves of Irish and German immigrants with traditions firmly in hand!

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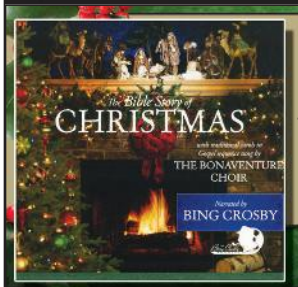

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