4th Sunday of Advent
O LORD of hosts, look down from heaven and see; take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted.

— Psalm 80:15–16

**TODAY’S READINGS**

**First Reading** — From you, Bethlehem, shall come forth one who is to be ruler in Israel. (Micah 5:1–4a).

**Psalm** — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).

**Second Reading** — By Christ doing the will of God, we have been consecrated (Hebrews 10:5–10).

**Gospel** — “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb” (Luke 1:39–45).


**A NEW ORDER**

“O, Little Town of Bethlehem.” A Philadelphia clergyman named Phillips Brooks penned these popular words back in the mid-1800s, but the prophet Micah could have used them first. Micah knew that from small packages great treasures come. In today’s first reading, he knew that from tiny Bethlehem would come the Lord.

The writer in Hebrews explains that Christ came to us to do the will of God by establishing a new order and by becoming our perfect sacrifice. And Luke tells us that Elizabeth and John, the infant in her womb, understand that great and wondrous things are at hand with the coming of the Lord.

This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. Soon we celebrate anew the fruit of Mary’s womb. As we are told in Hebrews, Jesus’ new order is being established even today. And as Micah proclaims, his greatness is reaching even now to the ends of the earth.

5:00 Mass Music:
12-20-15
Gathering: M222
Offertory: M209
Communion: M300
Recessional: M315
SS: Spirit and Song (purple book)
RB: YP Glory & Praise (red book)
M: Missalette

THE GIFT SHOP IS LOCATED AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH

REVISED GIFT SHOP HOURS
Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Saturdays 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sundays 8:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
WEEKLY OFFERING

December 8, 2015
Immaculate Conception: $4,176.00
Immaculate Conception
Latin Mass: $394.00

December 13, 2015
Reg. Offertory: $24,781.40
Retirement for Religious: $6,934.00
Latin Mass: $488.00
St. Vincent DePaul: $1,058.00

2015 CATHOLIC
FAITH APPEAL
Our assessment for this year is $360,000.00
Pledges made thus far Total: $359,815.36
Pmnts. made thus far Total: $353,379.31
We are still $6,620.69 short of paying our assessment.
Please join our parish family in making a sacrificial gift to the CFA

MINISTRY OF
THE SICK

IMPORTANT NOTE TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS:
When admitted to the hospital please register as Catholic and notify the parish office immediately, 481-7171.
Resurrection priests visit the hospitals daily.
To protect your privacy hospitals do not give out information on patients without their permission.

The following hospitals are attended to by the parish in which they are located:
* Gulf Coast Hospital - visited daily by St. John XXIII Parish, 561-2245
  * Lee Memorial Hospital - visited daily by St. Francis Xavier Parish, 334-2161
  * Lee Memorial and Hospice at Health Park - visited daily by St. Columbkille Parish, 489-3973

RESURRECTION CALENDAR

ALL events take place in the Parish Center unless otherwise stated.
Adoration, First Fridays, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Bereavement & Beyond Ministry, Every Monday, 8:30am.
For more information call Alouise 481-8168
Coffee & Donuts, Sundays after 10:30 Mass beginning Oct. 4
Craft Club, Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Men’s Club, 2nd Monday of month, 7:00p.m., Sept. - May
Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Novena, Saturdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, church
Prayer for Priests, Thursdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, chapel
RCIA, Sundays, 3:30p.m., call 482-6883 for information
Rel. Ed., September - May
Resurrection for Life, 2nd Wednesday of Oct, Jan, Apr. 9 am
Resurrection Prayerline Ministry, call Deanna Latell 481-1170.
Rosary, before daily Masses and Tues. & Thurs., 1:30p.m., chapel
Rosary Makers, 3rd Thursdays Oct. thru May , 9-11 a.m.
St. Vincent DePaul Board Meeting, 1st Tues. every month, 7:00 pm. For SVDP assistance call 239-600-6749, or email, svdp@resurrectionch.org
Teams of Our Lady, call Joann for more information, 482-7982
Women’s Guild, 3rd Wednesday every month, 8:30a.m. Sept. - May
The Priests, Deacons and Staff of the Parish wish you every blessing in this Holy and Happy Season.
Pastor: Rev. Msgr. Stephen E. McNamara, V.F., V.G.
Parochial Vicars: Rev. P. Oliver Toner, Rev. Thomas Kelly, Rev. Murchadh O’Madagain
Deacons: Rev. Mr. Michael Esper, Rev. Dr. David Reardon

CONFESSIONS
Saturday, December 19, 2015
8:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.
1:30 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.
Monday, December 21, 2015
8:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.
5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.
Tuesday, December 22, 2015
8:30 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES
Thursday, December 24, 2015
3:30 P.M. Children’s Christmas Pageant
4:00 P.M. Mass & Children’s Choir
7:30 P.M. Mass with Choir & Congregational Singing
9:30 P.M. Schola Choral Prelude
10:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Liturgy

NEW YEAR’S VIGIL MASS
Thursday, December 31, 2015
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
5:30 P.M. New Year’s Day Vigil Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES
Friday, December 25, 2015
7:30 A.M. Cantor & Congregational Singing
9:00 A.M. Cantor & Congregational Singing
10:30 A.M. Cantor & Congregational Singing
12:45 P.M. Latin Mass

NEW YEAR’S DAY MASSES
Friday, January 1, 2016
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
7:30 A.M. Mass
9:00 A.M. Mass
10:30 A.M. Mass
12:45 P.M. Latin Mass

NO 5:00 P.M. MASS ON SUNDAY, DEC. 27 AND SUNDAY, JAN. 3
WALKING IN FAITH

JOIN US FOR A MONDAY NIGHT FAITH SERIES
WITH FR. O’ MADAGAIN

Dec. 21

We will begin with light refreshments in the parish hall at 6:00 PM.

Help beautify our sanctuary for the celebration of Christmas

If you would like to donate sanctuary flowers for Christmas to memorialize and honor your loved ones during Christmas you may use the Christmas Flower Offering envelopes located at the entrances of the church. Place the name of the person you wish to honor, your name and phone number and return via the collection basket, or you may call the Parish Office, 481-7172.

We will place all the Christmas Flower envelopes on a pedestal on the sacred altar for the octaves of Christmas, as an offering to our Lord.

Envelopes for this purpose may also be found in your envelope packets.

During Advent there are no flowers in church.

This week’s Sanctuary Candle:

In Loving Memory of Castellano Family
by Anna Perciasepe

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE PARISH CENTER FOR DONUTS AND COFFEE AFTER THE SUNDAY 10:30 MASS

NATURE RESTORED
Christ is born, that by his birth he might restore your nature.
—St. Peter Chrysologus

LIGHT
All the darkness of the world cannot put out the light of one small candle.

YEAR OF MERCY
DECEMBER 8TH, 2015 - NOVEMBER 20TH, 2016

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved.
Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee Year of Mercy -

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him. Show us your face and we will be saved. Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money; the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things; made Peter weep after his betrayal, and assured Paradise to the repentant thief. Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman: “If you knew the gift of God!”

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified. You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God. Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind. We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen.

Jubilee Year of Mercy
December 20, 2015

Fourth Sunday of Advent In proclaiming the Jubilee Year of Mercy, Pope Francis proclaimed his desire that this Holy Year be “steeped in mercy,” as we disciples “go out to every man and woman,” bringing the “balm of mercy” to “believers and those far away, as a sign that the Kingdom of God is already present in our midst!” (Misericordiae Vultus, 5). In her visitation of Elizabeth, Mary beautifully presents just such an image. Despite the perils of her pregnancy, not to mention her preoccupations as a young unwed mother, Mary instantly, unselfishly, “goes out” of herself, hastening far and over dangerous terrain, to “bring the balm of God’s tender mercy” in assistance rendered to her older relative. Since baptism and the Eucharist have made us, in a way, bearers of the living Christ within as Mary was, such selfless “going out” of ourselves to be of loving service to others in mercy should especially mark our Christmas season this Jubilee Year.

MEN’S GOSPEL FORUM -
Fridays at 7:00 a.m. at Sweet Bean Coffee Café, McGregor Blvd.. Call Ange Ford for more information, 216-496-0269.

PLEASE HELP FEED THE HUNGRY!
Your food donations will help St. Vincent DePaul, Catholic Charities, CCMI Soup Kitchen, South Ft. Myers Food Pantry. Drop food in boxes at vestibules in the church or Parish Center. The following is most needed: Canned fruit & vegetables (corn/peas/carrot/green beans). Canned meat (tuna/chicken/sausages/ham/Spam), Spaghetti noodles and Sauce, ready Macaroni and Cheese, Maseca flour (small bags), Canned diced tomatoes, Tomato sauce, Cereal, Canned soups (prefer chicken), Baby Diapers and Dry beans (pinto/red/kidney).

We need volunteers to serve as ushers at Mass
We are in need of Ushers at the 5pm Saturday mass. If you are a parishioner in good standing, or are new to the parish and can provide a letter from your former parish, please call the Parish Office 481-7171 or see John Patterson, the Head Usher, after mass.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ADORATION EVERY FIRST FRIDAY AFTER THE 8:00 MASS
Bible Study During Holy Year of Mercy

Join us to share faith

Wednesdays
10:00am - 11:30 am

We are a people born anew to a life of hope

Calling ALL who search
For Relationship with God
For Meaning in Life
For Mercy
Ask Questions
Share faith stories!

The Gift of Faith is always there...waiting to be Opened!

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CANDIDATES!
BRAD BENDER
TOM HITCHCOCK
ELAINE TRAPP
GREG WARNECKE

COME INQUIRE ABOUT THE FAITH!!!

If you, or someone you love is Searching...
For HOPE... For JOY... For PEACE ... For LIGHT
Our Parish Mission is: A People Born Anew to a Life of Hope.
YOU are INVITED! WELCOMED! PRAYED FOR!
CALL - WE ARE HERE TO LISTEN TO YOUR QUESTIONS.
Contact: Joanne MacPeek - 418-7171 Ext. 216
RYM enjoyed spreading Christmas cheer as we had our Annual Christmas Caroling venture visiting the residents at Signature Healthcare!

Senior Youth ended the evening with a fun-night of making gingerbread houses and raffling them off!
The Mystery of Christmas
In this inspiring talk, renowned preacher and retreat master Fr. Larry Richards illuminates how the true joy of Christmas is found in the greatest gift ever given - the gift of Jesus Christ to the whole world. With humor, compassion, and clarity, Fr. Larry gets to the heart of the true meaning of Christmas and helps us to better appreciate the immensity of God’s love for us as His children.

What are the O Antiphons?
Christmas carols, Advent wreaths, Christmas trees, Midnight Mass, and ginger cookies—Whether they are family or Church customs, the many traditions associated with the Advent and Christmas seasons make these special times of the year for us. One of these ancient traditions is the O Antiphons: seven responses, or antiphons, that are sung or recited to introduce the canticle of Mary (the Magnificat) at evening prayer from December 17 to December 23, the octave before Christmas. These antiphons are based on Isaiah’s prophecies and refer to the different ancient titles given to the Messiah:
- O Radix Jesse (O Root of Jesse) See Isaiah 1:1; 11:10.
- O Oriens (O Rising Sun) See Isaiah 9:1.
- O Emmanuel (God with us) See Isaiah 7:14.

We can bring these responses into our own prayers, as simple reminders throughout the day of the one whose coming we are joyfully expecting, as introductions to our own prayers of praise of Jesus, or as words of thanksgiving for God’s faithfulness throughout the ages and our lives. Regardless of how you incorporate these ancient words into your Advent prayer life, let them speak to you, and maybe they will become part of your family traditions.

Resurrection for Life
 PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ABORTION CLINIC AT 3900 BROADWAY, FT. MYERS EVERY 2ND SATURDAY (after the 8:00 Mass) FOR THE ROSARY. AND TUESDAYS FROM 7:30 AM AND THURSDAYS FROM 10:30 UNTIL CLOSE. WE ALSO PRAY EVERY MONDAY AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD, CORNER OF WINKLER & COLLEGE ANYTIME BETWEEN 9 AM AND 1 PM.

Happy Birthday Spiritually Adopted Baby!
Your spiritually adopted baby is born this month - nine months after her mother conceived her. The only change at birth is a change in the external life support system of the baby. She is no different now than she before birth except that she breathes and eats differently. She is truly a miracle. She began as a 46-chromosome cell and has grown over the past nine months into this unique human baby we now can see. Never before in history, nor ever again, will anyone exist who is exactly like your spiritually adopted baby. Your prayers saved her life. Thank you on behalf of all of the little babies and their parents for your loving prayers that helped to bring them to birth “so that they might have life and have it to the full!”

Luke 2:10-14 - The angel said ... “Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

St. Vincent DePaul Prayer Request
As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent DePaul Poor Box, please say a special prayer for the poor who have no one to pray for them.

Love Now
Let those love now
who never lov’d before;
let those who always lov’d
now love the more.
—Anonymous
Parishioner

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