

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT Dec. 1, 2013 1st Sunday of Advent

Our readings today are about preparing ourselves for the coming of Jesus. Romans asks us to put on the Armor of Light. People prepare for many things during life. We prepare for winter, vacation, college, marriage, and old age. A priest must prepare for Mass by clothing himself with an Alb, Cincture, Stole, and Chasuble. After each article of clothing is donned, a vesting prayer is recited.

Alb: The Alb gets its name from the Greek word *alba*, which means white and refers to the white garments of the newly baptized.

Alb Prayer: Purify me, O Lord, and cleanse my heart that, being washed in the Blood of the Lamb, I may enjoy everlasting happiness

Cincture: The Cincture is a symbol of chastity.

Cincture Prayer: Gird me, O Lord, with the cincture of purity and extinguish in my body the passion of lust, so that the virtues of chastity and continence ever remain within me.

Stole: The Stole is a symbol of the office of priesthood and symbolizes a yoke.

Stole Prayer: Restore to me, O Lord, the stole of immortality, which I lost in the fall of my first parent; and as I approach Your sacred mysteries, although unworthy, may I merit eternal joys.

Chasuble: The Chasuble is only worn during Mass. If a sacrament is performed outside mass, only a stole, not the chasuble, can be worn. A priest should never eat or drink when wearing a Chasuble, i.e. during a social gathering after mass.

Chasuble Prayer: O Lord, You once said, "My yoke is easy and My burden, light." Make me strong enough, I pray, to bear it in such a manner that I may obtain Your grace.

As Catholics we can cloth ourselves with spiritual armor to help prepare us when Jesus comes. Our armor of light consists of a belt, breastplate, foot gear, helmet, and sword.

Belt of Truth: We can cinch up the belt of truth to remind us that Jesus is Truth.

Breastplate of Justice: The Breastplate of Justice shields us against practices that try to take away our dignity. With our shields, no one can take away the fact that God made us in his image and likeness and will always love us.

Foot Gear of Zeal: Foot Gear of Zeal helps us be enthusiastic about doing God's Work.

Helmet of Salvation: God gave us the helmet of salvation. He gave us brains to learn the Way to salvation.

Sword of the Word: Our sword is the Word of God. With the word of God, we can slice through evil to get us to the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

As you go through Advent, prepare yourselves for our Lord's coming. You can do that by arming yourselves with the Belt of Truth, the Breastplate of Justice, The Foot Gear of Zeal, the Helmet of Salvation, and the Sword of the Word.

STEWARDSHIP

Nov. 24, 2013	\$9310.92
Last Year	\$5084.00
Campaign for Human Development	\$1571.20
Philippines	\$3837.10

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Dec. 2

Is 4:2-6 Ps 122:1-9, Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday Dec. 3

Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17 Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday Dec. 4

Is 25:6-10 Ps 23:1-6 Mt 15:29-37

Thursday Dec. 5

Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1,8-9,19-27 Mt 7:21-27

Friday Dec. 6

Is 19:17-24 Ps 27:1,4,13-14 Mt 9:27-31

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	Nov. 30
5:00pm	For the People of the Parish
Sunday	Dec. 1
9:00am	
11:30am	+Maria Olivas
Monday	Dec. 2
9:00am	
Tuesday	Dec. 3
9:00am	
Wednesday	Dec. 4
9:00am	
Thursday	Dec. 5
9:00am	+Danny Lamm
Friday	Nov. 29
9:00am	+Mr. & Mrs. William O'Connor



FAITH FORMATION

No Classes on December 1. Classes for Faith Formation and Confirmation meet on Sundays. Registration is on line. If you would like more information, contact the office. 1st grade students who plan to celebrate 1st Eucharist next year must be enrolled in 1st grade faith formation this year. 8th grade students who plan to celebrate Confirmation in high school must be enrolled in Middle School faith formation.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES 1PM

Scott and Val's Class meets in the All Saints Center; the New Class meets in the social hall.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

Who is modern lore about Santa Claus based on?

WHY CATHOLIC?

Small faith groups will resume in Lent. If you would like to join a group or start a faith sharing group for Lent, please contact the office to arrange for books and other information.

2013 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS DEC 7 & 8

Next weekend, our archdiocese will hold the annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR). The RFR collection supports the day-to-day care of thousands of senior religious. Please offer what you can to the care of women and men who have made such enormous contributions to our Church. Envelopes available at the doors.

PARISH CALENDARS

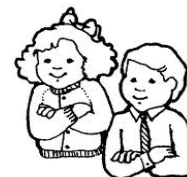
Calendars for 2014 will be available in the Social Hall.

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

This is the last weekend for tickets. Our daily raffle drawings will begin on Dec. 2. The grand drawing is on Dec. 13. 1st prize is \$1,000, 2nd prize is \$500, and 3rd prize is \$250. Good luck!!

We are now accepting donations for our Spring Auction. Please call the office for more details—baskets, gift certificates, cars, 4-wheelers, etc.!!

Thank you for supporting our delicious and fun steak dinner. The students presented a fabulous program—Westward Ho! to the delight of all the diners. Check our Facebook pictures.



COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 2 Centering Prayer 6:30pm
- 5 Rosary 7pm
- 7/8 St. Jude Holiday Bazaar
Blue Envelope 2nd Collection—Landscape
Retirement Fund for Religious Collection
- 9 Advent Reconciliation OLL 6pm
- 10 Advent Reconciliation St. Michael's 7pm
- 11 Advent Reconciliation Sacred Heart 5:30pm

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Vigil Mass will be celebrated on Sunday, December 8 at 5:30pm, and the Holy Day Mass will be celebrated Monday, December 9 at 9:00am.

ST. JUDE QUILT HOLIDAY BAZAAR DEC 7 & 8

The holiday bazaar will be after the masses. Quilts, potholders, table runners, and more!!! Notecards featuring the historical Quilt, church, crucifix, and Guild will also be for sale. The Guild is sponsoring a silent auction after the Masses.

GET MY PEOPLE GOING!

Week 7: Sabbath Rest: When the children of Israel traveled through the wilderness, they needed to rest along the way. Most adults need 7–9 hours of sleep, but average only 6.9. Children need 10–11 hours. The National Sleep Foundation has created an educational website for children at www.sleepforkids.org that includes games and puzzles. Sleep is critical for people of all ages!

CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Knights of Columbus will have Christian Christmas cards for sale the 1st Sunday of Advent on Nov. 30—Dec. 1 after the Masses.



FOOD BANK NEEDS

Rice, Flour, Sugar,
Pasta, Beans,
Oatmeal, Pwd Milk

357-3769

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL ENVELOPES

Memorial envelopes will be available through December 16.

BEARS FOR MAGADAN

We are collecting new and gently used stuffed bears, new hats, gloves, scarves, and new baby or toddler snowsuits. Please drop items at the Church or office.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Children must be accompanied to the rest rooms by an adult and supervised on the playground. Due to meetings, children cannot run and scream in the halls—Thank you for helping make our parish safe.