

## *First Sunday of Advent – December 3, 2017*

*The season of Advent is upon us, and in today's Gospel Jesus delivers a simple message through the pen of Saint Mark: "Be watchful! Be alert!" Christian stewards understand what Jesus meant when he said, "It's like a man going away: He leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with his assigned task." Good stewards realize that to each one a task is assigned by God. They have been set in a particular place and station in life, and have been gifted with unique relationships. How do we respond to the tasks or cultivate our relationships in a way that keeps us alert for the return of Christ?*

### Saturday, December 2, 2017

**5:00 p.m.**

Intention: John Santos †  
Requested by: Mother  
Intention of: Felishmina Toste  
Requested by: Family

**7:00 p.m. (St. Mary's)**

Intention: For All Those Inscribed in the St. Mary's Memorial Book

### Sunday, December 3, 2017

#### *First Sunday of Advent*

**7:30 a.m.**

Intention: Dorothy Matheron †  
Requested by: Parish Community

**10:00 a.m.**

Intention :Joe V. & Maria L. Lourenco †  
Requested by: Pat & Connie Bivens

**11:30 a.m. (Portuguese)**

Intention: Jose, Elvira & Jose G. Bertao †  
Requested by: Mary Rodrigues  
Intention: Jose S. & Maria Alves †  
Requested by: Joao Alves & Family

**6:30 p.m. (Spanish/St. Mary's)**

Intention: People of the Parish

### Monday, December 4, 2017

**NO 8:00 a.m. Mass**

### Tuesday, December 5, 2017

**8:00 a.m.**

Intention : John Victoria †  
Requested by: Frank Victoria Family  
Intention: Amelia & Stephen Serpa †  
Requested by: Delores Mendes  
Intention: Filomena C. Fontes †  
Requested by: John & MaryJo Fontes

### Wednesday, December 6, 2017

**8:00 a.m. Mass**

Intention: Lawrence L. & Shirley M. Freeberg †  
Requested by: Christopher Freeberg Family  
Intention: Eduardina Silveira †  
Requested by: Debie Montoya

### Thursday, Thursday 7, 2017

**8:00 a.m.**

Intention: Virgio & Maria Pacheco †  
Requested by: Virgil & Carmina Pacheco  
Intention: Maria P. Lopes †  
Requested by: Maria J. Vieira

### Friday, December 8, 2017

#### *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)*

**8:00 a.m.**

Intention: Frank Silveira †  
Requested by: Wife (RIP)  
**6:00 p.m. Mass (New Church)**  
Intention: Benefactors and Parish Community †

### Saturday, December 9, 2017

**5:00 p.m.**

Intention: Antonio & Olinda Enes & Derek Rocha †  
Requested by: John & Fatima Dias  
Intention: All Souls in Purgatory †  
Requested by: Maria F. Melo

**7:00 p.m. (St. Mary's)**

Intention: Maria E. Brasil †  
Requested by: Rafael Brasil Family  
Intention: Jose M. Toste †  
Requested by: Family

### Sunday, December 10, 2017

#### *Second Sunday of Advent*

**7:30 a.m.**

Intention: Joe & Mamie Carvalho †  
Requested by: Delores Mendes

**10:00 a.m.**

Intention :Joaquin Mancebo †  
Requested by: Celia Mancebo Family

**11:30 a.m. (Portuguese)**

Intention: Maria M. Carvalho †  
Requested by: Constantino & Lilly Sousa  
Intention: Leonel Mendonca †  
Requested by: Wife  
Intention: Francisco & Serafin Costa †  
Requested by: Francisco & Guilhermina Costa

**6:30 p.m. (Spanish/St. Mary's)**

Intention: People of the Parish

**Please Keep in Your Prayers:** Eliza Alves, Vasco & Dina Anacleto, Adrian & Grace Alejandre, Joyce Ebertowski, Joseph Belo, Jack Betschart, Maria Bettencourt, Kari Boutte, Diana Brown, Gloria Casas, Jose & Maria Caetano, Dan Coelho, Vitalina Coelho, Sarah Cox, Mike Droter, Jessica Flynn, Elvira Freitas, Amelia Garcia, Jared Germann, Maria Gonsalves, Alex Gonsalves, Patrick Leyden, Frank Machado, Ester Martinez, Carmelia Mattas, Maria F. Melo, David Mendonca, Carmen Mora, Bob Morales, Matthew Morris, **Greg Nunes**, Jose Nunes, Maria Mercedes Nunes, Dan Ramos, Riley Rhoads, Joe D. Rocha, Cassie Ruben, Norman Silva, Antonio Soares, Lily Sousa, Sylvia Souza Mary Suarez, Jeanne Tristant, Jose Rodrigues Vieira, Nora Villarreal and Matthew Westcott. *We pray for God's healing power and grace. Please remember if you have an ill family member or friend that you would like to include on our prayer list or even have a visit by the priest call the parish office at 667-8961.*

## **Religious Education News+**

**1<sup>st</sup> Communion Parent/Child Meeting** will take place in the Parish Hall on **Sunday, Dec. 3rd from 12:30-200pm** in English or **2:30-4:00** in Portuguese /Spanish **Reconciliation and 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion** will be discussed.

**Drivers needed on Wednesday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>** to transport students from Holy Rosary Church to the Nursing homes in Turlock. We will meet at Holy Rosary at 6pm and return by 8pm.

**The Tradition of giving Advent & Christmas gifts during Mass continues.** We are now accepting donations for those gifts in memory or honor of a loved one. The gifts will be labeled accordingly. If you would to be a sponsor please call Dina at 632-7163. These gifts will be given to every child that is in attendance during the weekend Masses.

**Blankets and Bath Wash needed** for the elderly in the nursing homes in Turlock. This year we will be visiting 5 nursing homes with a total of 316 people. We have received 70 blankets/bath wash. Donations can be dropped off at the parish office or the church entrances.

**Children's Christmas Mass practice for Holy Rosary** will take place on **Tuesday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm** in the Classroom #4. Parts will be handed out for the Mass at this time. All Children who would like to participate need to attend.

**Stevinson Christmas Program** will take place on **Saturday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>** after the 7pm Mass. Practice will take place **Thursday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 3:30pm-4:30pm**. We will have a potluck in the main building following the program. **A-M – Main Dish, N-Z a side dish.** All are invited to attend.

**Let us remember and pray** for our **beloved departed**, especially for **Maria Nunes and Father Michael Burchfield** that they may receive the abundant fruit of God's presence and also for their loved ones that they may receive God's consolation and peace at this difficult time.

**We Congratulate** the newest member of our Catholic Faith Community who is being baptized this weekend: **Ariana Faith Costa** daughter of David & Veronica. We pray that she and her family will continue to grow in faith and in the love of Jesus as they remain close to His church.

**A BIG THANK YOU** goes out to all the families who contributed to our local Angel Tree and helped to make a child's Christmas a little brighter!

**Holy Rosary/St. Mary's Altar Society** will have Poinsettias available if anyone would like to donate one in memory of or in honor of a family member or friend. These plants will be used to decorate our 3 churches. Minimum Donation is \$10 as we will be purchasing larger plants this year. Please call Anna at the Parish office to reserve yours.

**New Bethany in Los Banos announces their Vocation Discernment Day with Sister Julia. Saturday, December 30 from 9 am. to 3 p.m.** Young people 16-and above who are interested in learning about how Jesus calls a young man or a young woman to become a Priest or a Sister are invited. For more information & registration please call 827-8933.

**Whitehurst-Norton-Dias Funeral Service** invites everyone to their annual Service of Remembrance, **Friday, December 8 at 7 p.m.** Families are encourage to bring an ornament in memory of their loved one and place it on their tree.

**Good Shepherds Lutheran Church presents: Handel's Messiah, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.** at the Turlock Community Theatre 1574 E. Canal Dr. For information call 667-7712.

**Remember to pick up some Hot Delicious Filhos at the Multi-purpose building after ALL Sunday Masses. All proceeds to benefit our upcoming Fish Dinner for our New Church. We take this opportunity to thank Maria & Frank Amarante and all the many helpers who provide this special Filho Sale. We thank them for their time and talent!**

**Bulletin Advertiser renewals** have been sent out. If your business would like to advertise in our parish bulletin, please call the parish office to be place on our waiting list. If a spot opens up we will call you. We take this opportunity to **THANK** our current advertisers for their support in helping to defray the cost of our weekly bulletin.

**Turlock Together & Hilmar Helping Hands Announces annual Christmas Box Sign-ups for Stevinson, Hilmar & Delhi, Tuesday December 5<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 12 noon** at the *Covenant Church, Hilmar.*

Please bring Photo ID, Proof of Residence Proof of all persons living in household with s/s #'s. Distribution day will be Saturday Dec. 23 from 8 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. at Turlock Fruit & Nut Co.

### **SHARE IN THE CARE**

Retired religious need your support. By 2019, it is projected that retired religious will outnumber wage earning religious by nearly four to one. Your gift to the **Retirement Fund for Religious** helps ensure that elderly Catholic sister, brother, and religious order priests receive the care they so richly deserve, now and in the future. Please give generously to NEXT weekend's second collection.

**Pick up a Free copy of the Word Among Us daily devotional for Advent available at all Church entrances.**

**Our offering collection for November 25 & 26 \$4,495.30**

Last year November 26 & 27 \$3,93600

**Thank you, Obrigado & Gracias**