

**DECEMBER 5, 2021
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

*Baruch 5: 1-9
Psalm 126
Philippians 1: 4-6, 8-11
Luke 3: 1-6*

Oh, This God of Mercy!

Oh, this God of ours is a God of Mercy! Mercy is the granting of something the other is not worthy of and has not earned.

If we look through the patterns that are present in Salvation History we see God constantly calls humankind, promises forgiveness and waits for a response. This pattern begins with Adam and Eve and extends to the present. It goes beyond the present and is expected to continue until the end of Earthly history. Every generation learns the lesson of God's mercy as it trips and falls through time as did the generations before it.

Yes, every generation makes its own mistakes. It willfully chooses to venture in a direction away from the fullness of life offered by the Creator God. So why does God put up with this behavior generation after generation? Is God a glutton for disappointment?

The first reading, Baruch, says God clothes us with His wonderful garments. God takes away our self-inflicted mourning and misery and robes us in glory. But notice, He dresses us in a cloak of Justice. A mitre is placed on our heads. Thus, what God gives us through His mercy is the means to respond in a positive way to Him. Justice says we are to act properly toward each other. All humanity is to care for all its members. The mitre is a sign of teaching. As the passage in Baruch states, it "displays the glory of the eternal name." That is, in response to God's mercy you are to tell all others who it is who has given you the gift of love. That is, you are to tell people about God. The gospel passage makes this clear too.

Luke quotes Isaiah. At the end of the quote it says, "and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." Throughout his gospel Luke makes clear Jesus fulfills the whole history of humankind from Adam to us. Moreover, the work of God is to continue into the future. We, therefore, are the generation that must continue to work Justice and Mercy. The work of

God will continue in us. As such, God is warmed by us continuing His work. This is reflected in the second reading.

Saint Paul is filled with great warmth and affection for the Philippians. The people's devotion to Paul and the Gospel brings Paul to these deep and sincere feelings for them. They are Paul's pride and joy. Moreover, their devotion was so powerful that Paul saw himself as a co-servant with the Philippians. He did not think himself an apostolic authority over them. They were co-servants.

Perhaps God continually works His mercy toward us because He desires our devotion to working Justice in our own generation. As we respond to His call of mercy God simply has intense warmth for us. We become co-workers with Him serving one another. He develops deep and sincere feelings of love for us.

Oh, this God is a God of Mercy!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
Zep3:14-18a;Phil4:4-71;Lk3:10-18

STEWARDSHIP	
Attendance last week:	282
Tithes Collected:	\$5,058.50
Online Giving:	\$210.00
Total:	\$5,268.50
Attendance week of 11/21/21:	263
Tithes Collected:	\$3691.00
Online Giving:	\$555.00
Total:	\$4,246.00
2 nd Collecction for Campaign For Human Development:	\$504.00

Next week's 2nd Collection is for Retired Religious.

SPIRITUAL LIFE
Immaculate Conception Liturgies
Wednesday, December 8
8:00 am & 7:00 pm

ADVENT Thursdays
"Evenings With the Eucharist": each Thursday evening of Advent at 7:00pm to 8:00pm. This popular parish spiritual event gives us the opportunity to spend time before the Blessed Sacrament and to receive a spiritual reflection. Please be present. (Sunday School families and teachers are required to participate.)

The children and youth of our Faith Formation program will be leading us in the singing of a hymn.

The Final Thursday Evening December 23rd

On the final Thursday Evening STAY AT HOME! Truly. Don't make plans to go out or shop or anything else. Note in this Bulletin the "Home Activity". It is good to use with the children but is good for all ages. Use it as a little reflection. Pray the Rosary too.

Home Activity

Getting the Children Ready for Jesus

Sit down to dinner and tell the children the about Mary. Tell the simple fact Mary was selected by God the Father to be the most special vessel through which baby Jesus was born. That is why we speak of her as Mother of God and Mother of Us All. Then pray the following Advent prayer.

Mary, O luminous mother, holy healing art! Eve brought sorrow to the soul, but by your holy Son you pour balm on death's wounds and travail. You have indeed conquered death! You have established life! Ask for us life. Ask for us radiant joy. Ask for us the sweet, delicious ecstasy that is forever yours. (A prayer by St. Hildegard of Bingen)

COMMUNITY

Christmas Season Schedule

December 24, Friday (Christmas Eve): 4:00pm and 11:00pm

December 25, Saturday (Christmas Day): 10:45am

There will be NO 4:00pm Vigil Saturday the 25th

December 26, Sunday Liturgies (Holy Family): 9:00am and 10:45am.

**December 31, Friday (New Year's Eve): 4:00pm
January 1, Saturday (New Year's Day): 10:45am
There will be NO 4:00pm Vigil Saturday the 1st.**

January 2, Sunday (Epiphany): 9:00am and 10:45am,

DEVELOPMENT

SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH

As you begin year-end tax planning, take advantage of the charitable tax deduction for gifts made before December 31st to Blessed Sacrament Parish, Oakland Park. Consider the variety of gift options available to

you. You may find guidance by contacting the rectory and Fr. Bob, 954-564-1010. Or, go on line for information at www.adomdevelopment.org.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joe Alfaro, Jordan Almendral, JoAnn Anderson, Angiolina Armenti, Michael Beard, Karen Becker, Mary Benivegna, Margarita Bogle, Tom Carver, Sean Chin, Robert Clark, Mary Collis, John Cooper, Logan Costante, Gregoria Daen, Sam DeMarco, Ines DeSalle, Roseanne DeSimone, Lisa DeStasio, John Dooney, Nelson Douaihi, Peggy Duff, Susan Fabbri, Lisa Findlay, Megan Forrester, Joshua Freeman, Richard Gossett, Ana Gilajota, Stephen Goch, Keri Greenan, Richard & Cathy Harper, Tyler Harrison, Dil Hatchett, Cindy Hogman, Tiffany Kentosh, Butch Klingler, Judith Kolo, Arnold Lakso, John LaNeve, Tamika Lee, Bernie Ligget, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Mary McKelvey, Clare McMahon, Frank McNeil, Rylee Mertz, Dan Murphy, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren Nicole, Thomas O'Brien, Barbara Pery, Della Mae Reblin, Lucy Reitano, Coleen Riley, Paul Riley, Dee Ripple, Matilda Rivier, Charles Rousseau, Anthony Ruggiero, Theresa Schluter, Brad Schroder, Ellen Seaman, Roger Sherman, Jim Smullen, Vivian Spasiano, Rick Steffan, M. Stoufer, Richard Taylor, Antoinette Teresi, Constantino Thomas, Margarita Verano, Peggy Weiss, Ed Wisley, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff, Lucas Zaky

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 4

4:00 p.m. † Joseph & David Morganstern by
Mary Miller
Dave Zury by Joanie

Sunday, December 5

9:00 a.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish
10:45 a.m. Evelyn Blaha by Joanie
† Angela Bergida by Richard Lagreide
Ralph Caraglia

Monday, December 6

8:00 a.m. NO MASS

Tuesday, December 7

8:00 a.m. † Sean Driscoll by Pat Burton

Wednesday, December 8

8:00 a.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish
7:00 p.m. Blessed sacrament Parish

Thursday, December 9

8:00 a.m. † Addie Zubkouski by Mary Kay & Sonny
Little

Friday, December 10

8:00 a.m. † Souls in Purgatory by Richard &
Margaret Schmelz

Saturday, December 11

4:00 p.m. † Jean Ingraham by Marie, Linda, &
Peggy
Fr. Dennis by Joanie

Sunday, December 12

9:00 a.m. † Daniel A. Murphy by Daniel Murphy
10:45 a.m. † Charlotte Koch by Sharkey Family
† Joseph Howell by Iris Capriotti