December 18, 2022 Fourth Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 7:10-14 Psalm 24 Romans 1:1-7 Matthew 1:18-24

Jesus Is Emmanuel

Jesus is Emmanuel, "God is with us." He is risen from the dead and is the king of Glory!

We are reminded of this in this final week of Advent. The prophet Isaiah, who has been teaching us throughout the season of Advent, wants us to know God has a firm will to save the Royal House of David from its oppressors. God will do this even as or when people within the "House" might not be the best leaders.

When Ahaz says "I will not ask" he is not sincere. In reality Ahaz would rather be on the side of his oppressors. He had fear of the Assyrians. Ahaz, naturally, had fear of his earthly opponents. He was hypocritical in his response to God. However, God would not let His people fail. God had greater plans.

The line of David must succeed. It must be preserved so as to bring us the Messiah, the true "God is with us." It is from the line of David the Messiah, Jesus, was prophesized to come.

Saint Paul, in the second reading, recognizes the truth of Jesus Christ. He is the messiah, the one in the line of David. Jesus is in the line of David, "according to the flesh." And Jesus is the divine one as being the "Son of God."

Joseph, the virgin father of Jesus is encouraged by the Lord. He was assured it was the right thing to do, to take Mary as his wife. He then raised Jesus as his stepson. Joseph's family line is that of King David. Thus, Jesus was born into the line of David as foretold.

Brothers and sisters, as we profess faith in Jesus Christ and as we accept the obligations given us by baptism, we become, by adoption, members of the line of David.

We are saved if we remain faithful and obedient to God and His Church. Now, with that said, get ready to celebrate Jesus's first coming at Christmas. Jesus has already come the first time. He is Emmanuel.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Christmas

The readings are many. There are readings for each liturgy. The presider may select from them or use each as suggested for each liturgy. Try reading the following:

Is62:1-5;Acts13:16-17,22-25;Mt1:1-25

STEWARDSHIP

Time, Talent, Tithing

It is our way of showing gratitude to God for life itself. It is also your way of being part of the mission and participating in the challenge of spreading the Good News of Love.

Attendance last week: 307
Tithes Collected: \$4,952.00
Online Giving: \$557.00
Total: \$5,509.00
Per Capita: \$17.94

2nd Collection for

Retirement

Fund for Religious: \$271.00

Thank You!

NOTE:

Thank you much for your weekly tithes. Do note, when you write a check to the parish, please write:

"Blessed Sacrament Church." Do NOT write "Blessed Sacrament." The bank is particular.

If including a second collection amount, please write a separate check to Blessed Sacrament Church. Second collections go to the Archdiocese of Miami. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP

Your Christmas Tithes

The donation or tithe you make at Christmas is vital to the parish's financial health. It is above and beyond the Sunday tithe. That is, the Christmas tithe does not take the place of the Sunday one. It is in addition to it.

I and the Leadership Team of the parish ask that you be generous to the Christmas collection. This and the Easter tithes help to balance the budget of the parish. You and I depend on it as the members of Blessed Sacrament Parish.

I too donate a tithe to the parish everyweek and on the holidays. Together we keep this wonderful parish alive!

Thank you in advance of Christmas Day, Fr. Bob and the Leadership Team

COMMUNITY

Schedule of Liturgies for Nativity of the Lord

December 24th: 4:00pm, Vigil Mass

11:00pm, Mass During the

Night

December 25th: 10:45am, Mass During the

Day

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God December 31st: 4:00pm, Vigil Mass

January 1st: 9:00am, Mass 10:45am, Mass

Give a Warm Welcome!

This week we know there will be some people, perhaps many, who have not been to church since last Easter. Some might not have ever been to church. There are many of you here today who had done the same in the past.

Show the "stranger" the warmth and love Blessed Sacrament Parish has been known for. Turn to him or her and tell the person God loves him. State your name and invite each person back again. This simple act might and may encourage him or her to open up to God's love. You might be the one to lift a soul to salvation.

Thanks, Fr. Bol

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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, Joseph Devlin, 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 Klinger, 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 Perry, Della Mae Reblin, Lucy Reitano, Coleen Riley, Paul Riley, Dee Ripple, Jackson Ripple, Matilda Rivier, Charles Rousseau, Anthony Ruggiero, Theresa Schluter, Brad Schroder, Ellen Seaman, Sherman, Jim Smullen, Vivian Spasiano, Rick Steffan, M. Stoufer, Richard Taylor, Antoinette Teresi, Constantino Thomas, Renette Valcourt, Sr. Frances Vass, OSC, Margarita Verano, Peggy Weiss, Ed Wrisley, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff, Lucas Zaky

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 17

4:00 p.m. Fernando Santa by Selma

Cardona

† Djalma Pereira by Family

Sunday, December 18

9:00 a.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish

10:45 a.m. † Bernard Sharkey by Sharkey

Family

† Manuel Coelho Rodrigues by Fernando Rodrigues

Monday, December 19

8:00 a.m. NO MASS

Tuesday, December 20

8:00 a.m. † Jorge Costosa by Family

Wednesday, December 21

8:00 a.m. † Djalma Pereira by Family

Thursday, December 22

8:00 a.m. † Djalma Pereira by Family

Friday, December 23

8:00 a.m. † Mickey Bonner by Pat Burton

Saturday, December 24

4:00 p.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish
11:00 p.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish

Sunday, December 25

10:45 a.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish