

November 29th, 2020 – First Sunday of Advent



Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling abroad. He leaves home and places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!' -- "Mark 13:33-37

Wandering Off

In this Reading from Isaiah the prophet is longing for the love of God. But what he finds instead is what he cannot bear: God angry, God gone.

The experience the prophet gives voice to is familiar to all of us. God is angry and has hidden his face; he is somewhere above the heavens, and we cannot find him there.

How can this be? How can this be? Doesn't God love us? Where is he? Why isn't he here?

The prophet answers these questions, and in the saddest way. The reason lies in our sinfulness, the prophet says. God is not gone from us because he has forsaken us. Our sins—our weaknesses, our willfulness, our pride, our failure to love, our failure even to accept the love of others—all these things have made us wither. Desiccated and unclean, we have been blown away from God by the winds of life.

But how are we supposed to be holy—clean and good—for the Lord, except by the Lord's own doing? We reject as Pelagian the thought that any one of us can make himself holy by his own efforts. Only God's grace can make a person lovely in holiness.

And so, the prophet cries out to God, "Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways?" (First Reading)

There is an answer in the Responsorial Psalm. The Psalmist says, "Lord, make us turn to you!" This is a cry from a person who wanders from the Lord. He wanders because he wants to—that is the sad truth. But when he can't find God in his wandering, he cries to God, "make me turn to you!" Then he wants fervently not to want the very wandering he is so prone to want.

It may be then that God lets us do what we want to do, including wandering from him, so that finally we at least want to want him. Maybe we will find God when we cry with the Psalmist, "Lord, make me turn to you!"
-Eleonore Stump

Readings This Sunday

Reading I: Isaiah 63: 16b-17, 19b; 64: 2-7

Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9

Gospel: Mark 13: 33-37

Readings For Next Sunday

Reading I: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Reading II: 2 Peter 3: 8-14

Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

Finance / Stewardship Collection: The plate last weekend was **\$1,436.**

Matching Funds

An anonymous benefactor from our parish has graciously offered to match dollar-for-dollar up to a total of a **\$30,000** donation. We have now raised **\$24,946** in donations for the Matching Funds which will go towards the **renovation of the church sanctuary**. We appreciate your support.

Poinsettia Donation for the

Altar Would you like to donate a

poinsettia in memory of a loved

one? \$10.00 each. There are

envelopes on the church tables

to place your money, then drop in the collection

basket or leave in the church office **before**

December 18. All donors and their loved one

will be recognized in the Christmas bulletin, (A

limited # of poinsettias will be ordered, so place

your order early.)



Eureka Holy Mass Intentions

Saturday 28

4:00 pm SJ Hugo Pompati & Family †

Sunday 29

7:30 am SJ Bertha Yost †

9:00 am SH Douglas Frisina †

10:30 am SB Dale Hutton †

12:15 pm SH Ramiro Melecio † (Sp)

4:30 pm SH Mass for the People

Monday 30

12:15 pm SB No Intention
5:30 pm SH No Intention

Tuesday 01

7:30 am SJ Lowell Allen †
5:30 pm SH No Intention

Wednesday 02

12:15 pm SB Jim Pastori, Sr. †
6:00 pm SH Adoration
7:00 pm SH For the strength of the bishops
to be holy shepherds in protecting and leading their
sheep from all harm. (Sp)

Thursday 03

7:30 am SJ No Intention
6:00 pm SH Beginning Our Lady of
Guadalupe Novena Rosary followed by Holy Mass
(Sp)

Friday 04

12:15 pm SB Bud Cloney †
5:30 pm SB First Friday Devotion
1) Rosary) 2) Confession,
3) Mass, & 4) Holy Hour
6:00 pm SH Rosary & Holy Mass (Sp)
Smelcers Int.

Saturday 05

8:30 am SH 1st Sat. Marian Devotion
Stella Reyes Int
4:00 pm SJ Mass for the People
6:00 pm SH Rosary & Holy Mass (Sp)

Sunday 06

7:30 am SJ Virginia Del Grande †
9:00 am SH VanderVeldt Family Int.
10:30 am SB Lisa & Ernie Domingo †
12:15 pm SH Rosary & Holy Mass (Sp)
Francisco Vega & Oscar
Camacho †
4:30 pm SH Mildred & Edwin Ruess †

Please pray for : Marilyn Ziblich, Baby
Olivia, Monika Rose Cleenewerck, Chad Kryla,
Basil & Santos Mainus, Harold Giacomini, Chet
Branum, Florence, Garrett Anderson, Isela
Adams, Lindy Timmerman & Family, Mary
James, Dave Silverbrand, John Bertain, Denise
Sledge, James Iron Shell, James Lemon, Wm.
Hahn Family, Rose Ann Hurst, Armado De Los
Santos, Judy Mill, Julia Walters, Connie Mather,
Steve Mill, Ryan Pepper, Fred Pepper, Paul
Shabata & Family.

**Catholic Detention Ministries is requesting
donations of Christmas cards and small
individually wrapped candies.**

Please only
unused Christmas cards with envelopes for the use
of the inmates of the Humboldt County Correctional
Facility. The facility requests that *candies remain in
their unopened store packages* in which they are
sold for safety reasons. **Yes! they are welcoming
the cards and candies this year.**

This is a combined effort of the local Catholic
churches to put together 300 packages, one for
each inmate. This has been much appreciated by
the inmates in the past. These people do not have
a source of cards to send to their families, so these
cards are very welcome. The candies provide a
little something nice for these people who find little
joy on Christmas. Please leave donations at the
church or church office no later than Tuesday
December 1st for pickup. For information or
questions call Bob at 677-1952

**Ferndale Portuguese Hall Association - Annual
Beans & Linguica Dinner**

It's the time of year again for the Portuguese Hall
Board of Directors to have their annual Beans and
Linguica Dinner to benefit the hall repairs. This
event will be on Sunday, December 6, 2020 from
4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. This year the event will be held
in compliance with COVID safety restrictions, meals
will be available for take-
out and public health approved indoor dining will be
available. Masks are required while inside the
building and guests must maintain a distance of at
least 6 feet from those not in their immediate family
or dining party. Tickets may be purchased at the
door.

Sunday, December 6, 2020

4:00 pm to 7:00 pm_Portuguese Hall – Ferndale
Benefits: Portuguese Hall Repairs
Donations: \$12 Adults, \$6 Children (ages 6-12)
The City of Ferndale also lights its Town Christmas
Tree on this evening. Please come and enjoy a
family fun evening. Any questions, please contact
834-0668, or Stephanie Koch at 786-4964.