

# L A T I N O T E S

*Bulletin of the Community of St. Philippine Duchesne*

**December 13, 2009  
Third Sunday of Advent**



## **MASS SCHEDULE & MARTYROLOGY**

Confession begins 30 minutes prior to each Mass

**Every Sunday:** Low Mass at 6:30 a.m. High Mass at 11:00 a.m.

Monday, December 14  
Mass at 12:00 Noon  
Feria

Thursday, December 17  
Benediction & Mass at 6:00 p.m.  
Feria

Tuesday, December 15  
Mass at 12:00 Noon  
Feria

Friday, December 18  
Mass at 12:00 Noon  
Ember Friday

Wednesday, December 16  
Mass at 12:00 Noon  
Ember Wednesday

Saturday, December 19  
Mass at 9:00 a.m.  
Ember Saturday

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Fr Joseph Lee**

Fr Joseph Lee FSSP will be coming to Kansas City to assist us for a period of about 6 months beginning at Christmas.

### **Angel Tree Donations**

Canned goods and other donations and gifts (baby sleepers, baby socks, diapers, newborn to size 3, etc) for the Grace House Angel Tree project are being accepted. For details contact Miss Meagan Maher at 913-724-2499.

### **Catholic Charities**

Catholic Charities is soliciting donations of pasta sauce (a local business has already donated a great quantity of pasta) and children's books for their Christmas Almsgiving program. Donations may be brought to the church for collection.

### **St Elizabeth Seton Guild**

The St Elizabeth Seton Guild is looking for materials to aid those homeschooling children with special needs (receptive/expressive language disorders, autism spectrum disorders, ADD/ADHD, developmental delay disorders etc.). A box marked St Elizabeth Seton will be placed at the SPDC library each Sunday for collection. Books, as well as other types of literature, e.g. information concerning useful websites is welcome. Questions can be directed to Sara Myers 913-681-7782 or Liz Beshenich 913-758-0211. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

### **Recommended Advent Reading**

The **Meditations and Readings for Every Day of the Year** by St. Alphonsus are an excellent inspiration to grow in holiness during this season of Advent. Please consider renewing your commitment to mental prayer as a fitting preparation for Christmas. St Alphonsus' writings are a great means to assist in this humble work of growing in the knowledge and love of Our Lord and His Blessed Mother. Please visit our website, [ReligiousBookshelf.com](http://ReligiousBookshelf.com)

### **Excerpt from the Morning Meditation for the Second Sunday of Advent:**

You have no grounds for being sad any more, says St. Leo, on account of the sentence of death fulminated against you, now that Life itself is born for you; "nor is there any lawful room for sadness when it is the Birthday of Life." And St. Augustine exclaims: "O sweet day for penitents! Today sin is taken away and shall the sinner despair!" Speed on then with gladness, O ye souls that love God and hope in God, speed on your way with gladness! What if Adam's sin and still more our own sins, have wrought sad ruin on us? Let us understand that Jesus Christ, by the Redemption, has infinitely more than repaired our ruin. *Where sin abounded, grace did more abound* (Rom. v. 20).

*The Lord said: I am come that they may have life, and may have it more abundantly* (Jo. x. 10). I am come to give life to men and a more abundant measure than that which they had lost by sin. *Not as the offence, so also the gift* (Rom. v. 15). Great has been man's sin; but greater, says the Apostle, has been the gift of Redemption. *And with him plentiful redemption* (Ps. cxxix. 7). For this reason the Church styles the fault of Adam a *happy fault*: "O happy fault which deserved to have such and so great a Redeemer!"

Oh, how much more are we bound to thank God for having brought us into life after the coming of the Messiah! How did the Prophets and the Patriarchs of the Old Testament long to see the Redeemer born! But they saw Him not! *Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain the Just!* (Is. xlv. 8), was their incessant exclamation. *Send forth, O Lord, the Lamb, the Ruler of the earth!* Such were the longing exclamations of the Saints! But for all that, during the space of four thousand years they had not the happy lot to see the Messiah born. We, however, have had this happiness! But what are we doing? Do we know how to love this amiable Redeemer? Very great would be your ingratitude to your God, O Christian soul, if you were not to love Him, after He has been pleased to be bound in swaddling-clothes that you may be released from the chains of hell; after He has become poor that you may be made partaker of His riches; after He has made Himself weak to give you strength against your enemies; after He has chosen to suffer and weep, that by His tears your sins may be washed away.

O sweet Infant, give me Thy love and then do with me what Thou wilt. I was once a slave of hell, but now that I am free from those unhappy chains, I consecrate myself entirely to Thee. I give Thee my body, my goods, my life, my soul, my will and my liberty. I desire no longer to belong to myself, but only to Thee, my only Good! Ah, bind my heart to Thy feet, that it may no more stray from Thee! O most holy Mary, obtain for me the grace of living united to thy Son by the blessed chains of love. He grants all that thou askest. Pray to Him! Pray to Him for me! This is my hope. Amen.

### **From Thomas á Kempis**

The saints are well and perfectly contented if men know how to content themselves and cease their useless discussions. They do not glory in their own merits, for they attribute no good to themselves but all to Me, because out of My infinite charity I gave all to them. They are filled with such love of God and with such overflowing joy, that no glory is wanting to them and they can lack no happiness. All the saints are so much higher in glory as they are more humble in themselves; nearer to Me, and more beloved by Me. Therefore, you find it written that they cast their crowns before God, and fell down upon their faces before the Lamb, and adored Him Who lives forever.

Many ask who is the greater in the kingdom of heaven when they do not know whether they themselves shall be worthy of being numbered among its least. It is a great thing to be even the least in heaven where all are great because all shall be called, and shall be, the children of God. The least shall be as a thousand, and the sinner of a hundred years shall die. For when the disciples asked who should be greater in the kingdom of heaven they heard this response: "Unless you be converted and become as little children, you shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whosoever shall humble himself as this little child, he is the greater in the kingdom of heaven." (The Imitation of Christ Book 3, Chapter 58)

### **Next Sunday**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent:** Epistle: 1 Corinthians 4: 1-5 ~ Gospel: Luke 3: 1-6