
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 5, 2004

**The earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD,
as water covers the sea.**

— Isaiah 11:9

ADVENT ACTIVITIES

Advent prayers will take place in the church at 5:30 p.m. the next two Mondays, December 6 and 13. Prayer services will be followed by dinner in the hall, beginning about 6:00 p.m. Please bring utensils and bowl or plate.

Dec. 6 ~ Potluck

Everyone is invited to bring a favorite dish (salad, main dish or dessert)

Dec. 13 ~ Dinner

Sponsored by Comunidad

(You are invited to bring salads or desserts.)

We will go Christmas Caroling following dinner. Please bring a flashlight and wear a scarf if possible. Hot chocolate will be served.

A free-will offering is appreciated. Proceeds will be divided among St. Matthew Christmas Basket Project, Lesotho Mission and Heifer Project.

Help in setting up (beginning at 4:30p.m.) and cleaning up is especially appreciated. Call Claire for more info at 597.4030.

COLLECTION FOR OUR NEEDY

Comunidad will again hold their annual collection to help some of our needy neighbors within our parish. Please look for the collection basket outside the church and listen for the little bell after each Mass.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Holy Day of Obligation

Wednesday, December 8

Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Dec. 7—5:30 p.m. (English)
Wednesday, Dec. 8—8:00 a.m. (English)
7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Please share in the care of our elderly religious by giving generously to the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. The escalating costs of health care have driven the cost of skilled care and assisted living for frail, elderly religious in the United States beyond \$1.3 million dollars a day! Your gift helps relieve a genuine crisis in many religious institutes.

POINSETTIAS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS

We thank you for your generosity in donating flowers for the altar. Our next need is red poinsettias. Please bring them to the rectory by Tuesday, December 21st. Thank you so much.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Soon we will be making out a **new schedule for January/February**. Please e-mail (or call) your non-availability dates before December 17th.

barling@stmatthewlb.org

PEACE AND JUSTICE

Is most grateful to all who supported the Bake Sale. Thanks to your generosity we are able to send \$200.00 to the Holy Name Sisters' Mission in Lesotho, Africa.

COMUNIDAD MEETING

Comunidad's December meeting will be held this Tuesday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Our meeting will be followed by a Christmas potluck. Comunidad will supply the main dish and you may bring your best holiday salad, side dish or dessert.

As we are beginning to assemble Christmas stockings for the residents of Serra House, we ask you to bring any new bath items that you have collected from hotels (i.e. shampoo, conditioner, soap, etc) We will include these in the stockings.

Thank You

The St. Francis Center is very grateful for your generous support of the Thanksgiving Day Food collection for the poor. We thank you for the truck load of groceries and yOUR generous \$1,331.00 in monetary donations. Muchas Gracias!!

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT— DEC.12

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11