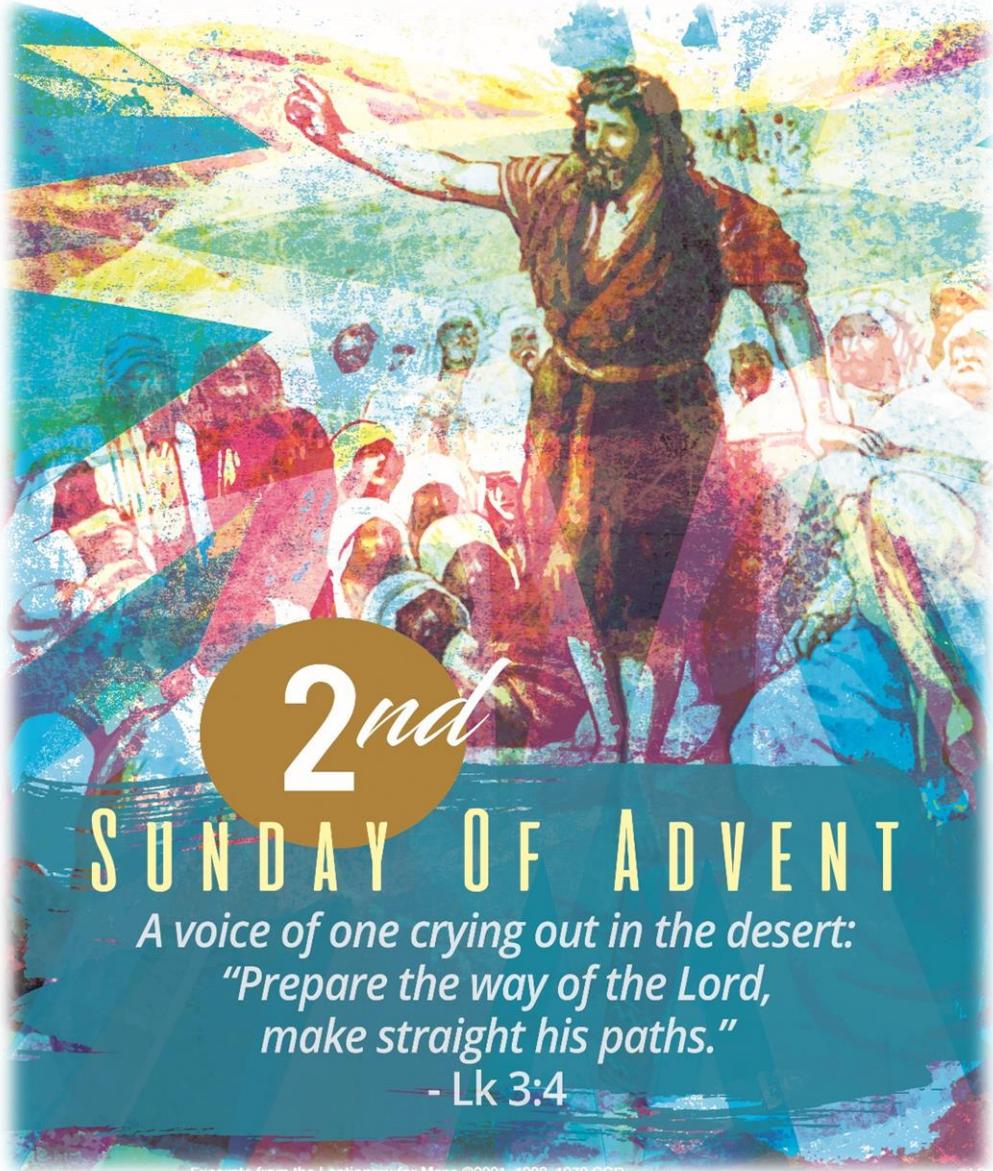


Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary



2nd

SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A voice of one crying out in the desert:

*"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths."*

- Lk 3:4

3411 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, S.E.

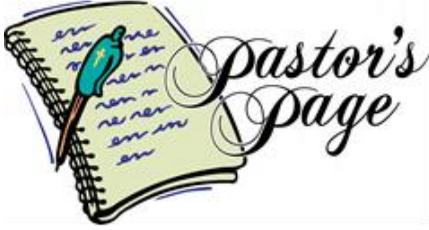
Washington, DC 20032

www.info@assumptiondc.org



Rev. Gregory Shaffer, Pastor

Saturday Vigil Mass:	4:30 pm
Sunday Mass:	10:00 am
Daily Mass:	Monday thru Saturday 12:10 pm
Eucharistic Adoration:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 11:00 - 12:00 noon
Confessions:	Saturday 3:30 - 4:15 pm or anytime by appointment
Address:	3401 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue, S.E. Washington, DC 20032
Office Hours:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Tuesday 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Pastor:	Father Greg Shaffer 202-561-4178 Cell 240-463-9960
Email:	frgreg@assumptiondc.org
Secretary:	Mrs. Cheryl Hamlin-Williams
Phone:	202-561-4178 Fax 202-561-0336
Email:	info@assumptiondc.org
Pope Francis Outreach Center :	Food Pantry and Clothing Room
Director:	Ms. Mildred Brown
Assistant Director	Ms. Brenda Hare
Hours of Operation:	Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 am - 12:00 noon
Phone:	202-561-5941 Fax 202-561-4024
Email	outreach@assumptiondc.org



Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018

*“A voice of one crying out in the desert:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.
Every valley shall be filled
and every mountain and hill shall be made low.
The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”*

Have you ever thought of Confession when you’ve heard these words of Isaiah that are included in today’s Gospel? The Sacrament of Confession (or Reconciliation or Penance) makes paths straight, fills every valley, and makes low every mountain and hill. What this means is that it corrects our faults, lifts us up from the sadness of sin, and humbles us in our walk with the Lord. It is the way to “prepare the way of the Lord” just like cleaning your house is the way to prepare for a guest.

With this in mind, we will have an Advent Penance Service this Wednesday night, December 12 at 7 pm. We will have two visiting priests again to offer confessions along with me. Also, like last year, I am giving you the following examination of conscience from www.patheos.com/blogs/kathyschiffer. Many of you have found this helpful. It uses the seven deadly sins and the four cardinal virtues as a guide.

Feel free to bring this into the confessional at the Penance Service on Wednesday along with the “Confession” pamphlet on the rack in the vestibule. See you there!

May you know the peace of Christ,

Fr Greg

Have I practiced the virtue of Chastity? For example:

- Have I permitted myself to watch movies or daytime television shows which are not edifying, which depict sexual scenarios or which advocate for cohabitation or homosexual relationships?

Have I practiced the virtue of Temperance? For example:

- Have I indulged my love of sweets or snack foods, to the detriment of my health?
- Have I continued to smoke heavily, or to consume alcoholic beverages excessively?
- Have I been immoderate in any activity, such as watching too much TV?

Have I practiced the virtue of Charity? For example:

- Have I been a “busybody,” unkind to a neighbor either by my thoughts or by my actions?
- Have I had a smile for a family member or loved one, or was I critical, hurting someone’s feelings?

Have I practiced the virtue of Diligence? For example:

- Have I used my physical limitations as an excuse for laziness?
- Have I neglected prayer, ignored my friend’s birthday, sat around the house when I might have helped with the dishes?
- Have I exercised my responsibility to become familiar with the issues, and to vote (by absentee ballot, if necessary) for the candidates who will best protect the values I hold dear?

Have I practiced the virtue of Patience? For example:

- Was I unkind (or downright rude) to a telephone caller, impatient with a visitor, crabby when things didn’t go just the way I wanted?
- Did I complain if someone took me to a restaurant or public place, because we had to wait for service?
- Did I criticize my doctor, my caretaker, my child, for not serving me better?

Have I practiced the virtue of Kindness? For example:

- Was I jealous of the attention paid to someone else, wanting everyone to notice me instead?
- Did I feel angry because someone else had more money, or better health, or because

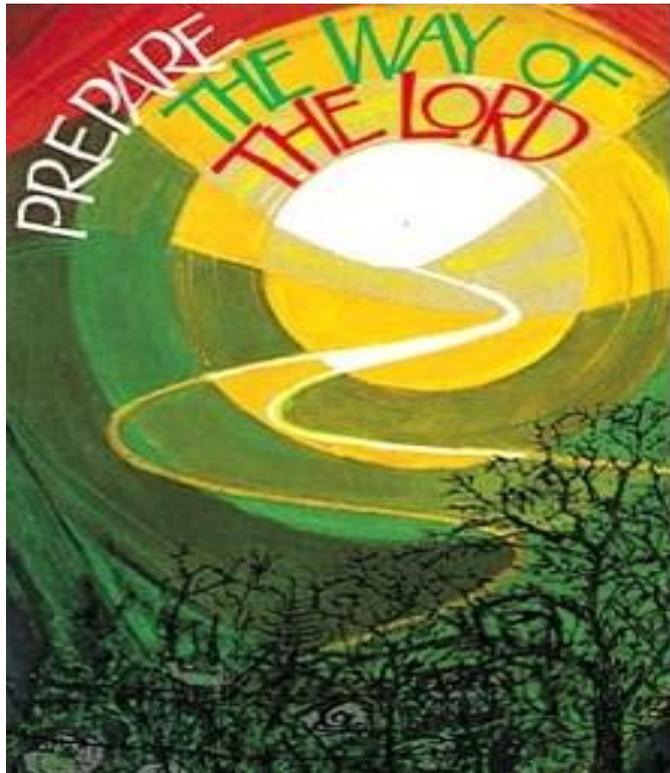
my grown children did not have enough time to spend with me?

- Did I compliment someone who looked good, or did I only have harsh words to say?

Have I practiced the virtue of Humility? For example:

- Did I accept a compliment graciously but then move on, refusing to keep the attention turned toward myself?
- Was I willing to let someone else be the center of attention?
- Did I feel grateful for the kindness of my family and others, and appreciative of my caregiver's efforts?
- Did I believe that I had no need of confession, because I never even leave the house?

Lord, help us to recognize the times that we have failed to live a virtuous life—and grant us the grace of true contrition and a resolve to do Your will. Amen.



Healing Prayers for: Dolores Abrams, Barbara Williams, Juanita Watkins, Brenda Ross, Mary James, Dorothy Barlow, Corrina Murray, George Thomas, Yvonne Lesesne, Burdell Thomas, Frederick McNeil, James Anthony Murphy, Earnest Ingram.Jr., John Howard, Iris Best, Dorothy Hollis, Calvin Best Gisele Best, Lezeal Rorie, Lillian Taylor, Veronica Brown, Deacon McBurnett Smith, Marsha Carlson-Meyers, Dr. Dee Jones Adams, Barry Robella, Father Dan Vitz, Eleonora Best, Jane Rhyne, Faye Lyon, Abby Fargo, Mildred Selmar, Heather Wooten-Rollins, Brenda Newman, Courtney Barlow, , Benjamin Davis, Ronald Horton, Veronica Harris, Teresa Wilkinson, Pauline Haggins, Dorothy Sylvester, Darlene Jones, Paul Higgins, Audrey Saunders, Pauline Johnson, June Murphy **Our Homebound Parishioners:** Corinne Bachiller, Sybil Depeazer, Louvenia Gray, Fr. Charles Green, Pauline Johnson, Barbara Thompson, Yvonne Samuel, Audrey Saunders, Joan Shields, Viola Walker

Rest of the Soul: Gloria Baker

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK- December 9, 2018

Making straight the path of Christ is not only the vocation of John the Baptist but of every baptized believer. God desires to lead us with His mercy and justice. These are essentials in God's kingdom and some of the gifts Christ's future coming will bring. But our world's systems do not place emphasis on these values. Wanting greater profits, downsizing companies in order to reduce expenses, using others for personal or corporate gain, and valuing institutions over people are just a few of the "values" we encounter every day. We are called to straighten the path to Christ. In a world that places value on things that are counter to our call, how do we respond? We need to learn to discern what is of real value and then take the risk of bringing it into the marketplace.



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11 Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 Lk 1:26-38
Thursday: Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15
Friday: Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18

MASS INTENTIONS

+ = Deceased AD = Anniversary of Death BD = Birthday OMM = One Month Memorial



Announcements

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Andre' Williams	3rd
Jason W. Smith	5 th
Mary Barnes	9 th
Edith Jones	10 th
Lisa Harris	13 th
William Workcuff	17 th
Joseph Hughey	18 th
Teresa Brown	19 th
Todd Davis	19 th
Delores Abrams	20 th
Constance Boulware	21 st
Veronica Brown	25 th
Mildred Selmar	26 th
Darnice Bryan	26 th
Chese Lewis	27 th
Pauline Johnson	29 th

Penance Service

One of the best birthday presents you can give to Jesus is your sins!

On December 12, 2018 at 7 pm Two priests will join Fr Greg in hearing confessions in the Church. This is a great Advent practice. Please join us.

More information to come



FIND THE *perfect* GIFT



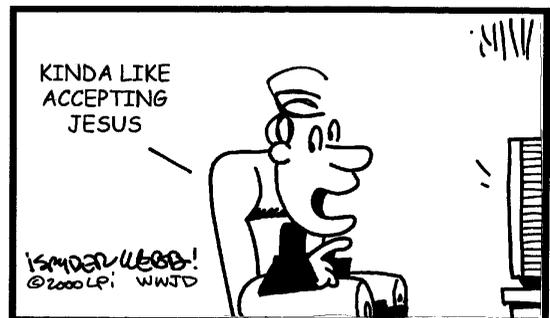
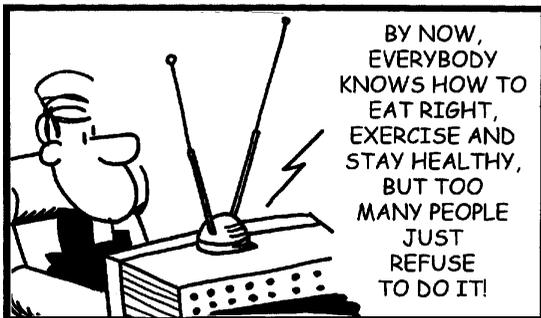
Second Sunday of Advent – December 9, 2018

Advent is a time when many of us are preparing our homes to gather with family and friends. We play our favorite Christmas music, make seasonal meals and desserts, and practice traditions and rituals from our childhood. Keep Christ at the center of your celebration in these simple ways: include Christian songs in your Christmas playlist, say grace before meals and let people offer intentions, and incorporate a moment of prayer and reflection into your family's traditions. Then share with others how you celebrate the perfect gift of God's love by going to FindthePerfectGift.org/ traditions and posting on social media with #ADWPerfectGift

Second Sunday of Advent Prayer – December 9, 2018

May we all find new opportunities to serve those in need during Advent, Christmas and beyond So that all may come to know the perfect gift of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



December 9, 2018