

FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED: Hearing aids for use are in the sacristy—please return them after Mass.

TODAY'S READINGS		WEEK AT A GLANCE	
First Reading — You will be given this sign: The virgin shall conceive and bear a son (Isaiah 7:10-14). Psalm — Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24). Second Reading — God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7). Gospel — The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins (Matthew 1:18-24).		Monday, December 23 8am Mass; 9am cleaning carpets in the church; 4-5:30pm Bread & Broth Meal	
		Tuesday, December 24 8am Mass; 9am Book Study; 5:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass; 9pm Mass in Spanish; 11:30pm Christmas Carols	
		Wednesday, December 25 12midnight Mass; 8am Mass; 10am Mass; 12noon Mass; 1pm Christmas dinner	
		Thursday, December 26 8am Mass; 7pm RCIA in Spanish	
		Friday, December 27 8am Mass; 4pm Second Serving Meal	
		Saturday, December 28 4pm confessions; 5:30pm Vigil Mass	
		Sunday, December 29 8am, 10am, 12 noon & 7pm (in Spanish) Masses; 2pm wedding	
MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS		FATHER MAURICIO'S WEEK AT A GLANCE	
Saturday December 21 St. Peter Canisius		Monday, December 23	7am opening the church; 8am Mass; day off
5:30pm Jesus Bobadilla 9dec) by Mindy & family		Tuesday, December 24	7am opening the church; 8am Mass; 9am Book Study; 11am-12noon office work; 5:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass; 9pm Mass in Spanish
Sunday December 22 		Wednesday, December 25	12midnight Mass; 6:30am opening the church; 8am Mass; 10am Mass; 12noon Mass; 1pm Christmas dinner
8:00am Kevin Malone (dec) by Tom & Judy Finn		Thursday, December 26	7am opening the church; 8am Mass; 9am-11am office work; 7pm RCIA in Spanish
10:00am St. Theresa parishioners		Friday, December 27	7am opening the church; 8am Mass; 10am-12noon office work; 12noon break; 1pm-4pm office work
12:00pm Alan Coster (dec) by Mom & Dad		Saturday, December 28	4pm confessions; 5:30pm Vigil Mass
7:00pm		Sunday, December 29	6:45am opening the church; 8am, 10am, 12noon Masses; 2pm wedding; 3-6pm personal time; 7pm Mass
Monday December 23 St. John of Kanty		STEWARDSHIP IN OUR PARISH	
8:00am Maria Wallace (dec) by Tom & Judy Finn		12/15	REGULAR COLLECTION 3316.44
Tuesday December 24 		12/12	OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE 1055.00
8:00am Angelo Cozzaglio & the Ruedorfers by Gab		12/9	SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 1073.35
5:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass		PRAYER REQUESTS	
9:00pm Spanish Mass		FOR PARISHIONERS ON ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY	
Wednesday December 25 		Phillip Gaston Corbett Martin Zachary Martin Erik Townsend	
12:00am Midnight Mass		FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL	
8:00am Christmas Mass		Bill Barboni Lauren Bates Romie Enriquez Eileen Foster Steve Frick Jerry Kirvida Ophelia Kirvida Kel Lohmeier Matthew Morisky Simon McQuarrie Byron Melrose Jamie O'Malley Tony Russo Gloria Walkowiak	
10:00am Christmas Mass		PRAYER REQUESTS	
12:00pm Carol Damazio (dec) by her mother		If you would like to add to the prayer list, please send an email with your loved one's name along with your name and phone number to tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com .	
Thursday December 26 St. Stephen		Second collection this week: NO SECOND COLLECTION	
8:00am Bob Murphy (dec) by his daughter		Second collection next week: NO SECOND COLLECTION	
Friday December 27 St. John		Second collection on January 4/5: BUILDING MAINTENANCE	
8:00am Ronel & Therese Valenzuela (dec) by Joann & family			
Saturday December 28 The Holy Innocents			
5:30pm The Anthony family & Sophie Zimnox (dec) by Bob Anthony			



BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASSES

Call or visit the Religious Education Office
530.544.4788 Find the **2019 SCHEDULE**:
<http://www.tahoecatholic.com/baptisms>



PREGNANT ? NEED HELP?

We offer practical help to any women with a crisis pregnancy. We have a special concern for you and your unborn child. For any help with a troubled pregnancy, 544-3533.



KNIGHT'S CORNER

Men of the Parish are you looking for something more in your life? We do men's Catholic Fellowship! We take our Faith seriously but....Come join us for some fun and always a good time!

PANCAKE BREAKFAST – Jan. 5 after the 8am and 10am Masses. It always taste's right when cooked by a Knight. Your help and support is always appreciated.

Become a better version of yourself. Become a knight!

Call Frank Dixon 530 318 1574

CHRISTMAS

Christmas is one of the most important days of the Church year, second only to Easter itself. It is the feast of the incarnation, the feast of God becoming flesh (the Latin "in carne" means "enfleshment"). It is a uniquely Christian teaching, the Divine choosing to become one of us. Because of this belief, God is not only **Transcendent**, but also wholly **Immanent**, Emmanuel (God-with-us). While remaining **Transcendent** (meaning we must rise above our present condition to reach Him), He is at the same time **Immanent** (meaning He is with us as we rise toward Him). Every Eucharist is like Christmas where the bread and wine are transformed into His flesh, His Body and Blood, and, in a sense, He is born anew on the altar.

The liturgical season of Christmas begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts, and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him... including the fact that he was born to die for us.

The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. It is also traditional to exchange Christmas gifts with family and friends as a way to honor God the Father's gift of his only son to the world. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

<http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/christmas/index.cfm>

Get FORMED! Free! Sign up on your computer and/or download the app. Go to FORMED.ORG . Use this Parish code: **QKK7X3** (All capital) or URL: sainttheresasouthlaketahoe.formed.org

"THE BEST LAID PLANS OF MICE AND MEN" "When Joseph awoke he did as the angel of the Lord had directed him." —Matthew 1:24

Many of you have Christmas planned. You're going to go to certain parties, see certain family members and friends, and give specific presents. You expect to receive a few presents yourself along with some Christmas goodies. The Christmas you have planned is about the same as last year's Christmas, with a few minor variations.

What if Jesus decided to change your Christmas plans dramatically? Would you let Him be Lord of your Christmas? Ahaz had plans about how to avoid destruction by the Assyrians. Just when Ahaz had his plans all set, Isaiah told Ahaz to forget his plans and trust in God alone. The Lord even promised a dramatic sign to prove Isaiah's message (Is 7:11). Ahaz refused to ask for the sign, would not even consider changing his plans, and "proved utterly faithless to the Lord" (2 Chr 28:19).

Joseph planned to quietly divorce Mary because she was pregnant and the baby was not his (Mt 1:19). An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to change his plans. He changed his plans and became the foster-father of Jesus, the husband of Mary, and head of the Holy Family.

The best Christmases are not when we get our way, but when we change our plans so that Jesus gets His way.

Prayer: *Father, ruin any plans of mine that are not Yours.*

Promise: *"The virgin shall be with Child and give birth to a Son, and they shall call Him Emmanuel,' a name which means 'God is with us.' " —Mt 1:23*

Praise: *"O King of all the nations, the only Joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature You fashioned from the dust."*

<https://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?lang=en&d=12/22/2019>

CHOOSING LIFE

In the first reading of the Eucharist today I heard: "I am offering you life or death... Choose life, then, so that you and your descendants may live in the love of Yahweh, your God, obeying his voice, holding fast to him" (Deuteronomy 30:19–20).

How do I choose life? I am becoming aware that there are few moments without the opportunity to choose, since death and life are always before me. One aspect of choosing life is choosing joy. Joy is life-giving but sadness brings death. A sad heart is a heart in which something is dying. A joyful heart is a heart in which something new is being born.

I think that joy is much more than a mood. A mood invades us. We do not choose a mood. We often find ourselves in a happy or depressed mood without knowing where it comes from. The spiritual life is a life beyond moods. It is a life in which we choose joy and do not allow ourselves to become victims of passing feelings of happiness or depression.

<https://henrinouwen.org/meditation/choosing-life-2/>

REFLECTIONS

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR 2019 | www.popesprayer.va/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/English-2019-def-temi.pdf
DECEMBER | Universal: The Future of the Very Young

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.

WHAT'S THE SMOKE FOR?

Dear Johan,

Why do we celebrate Christmas on December 25? Is that really the day Jesus was born? I don't recall reading about it in the Scriptures.

Gentle Reader,

While December 25 is one of the most important celebrations of the year, it is good to remember that Christmas was not celebrated on December 25 until the fourth century. More important, it was not always very popular. Early Christian writers such as Origen (ca. 185–254) argued against celebrating the birth of Jesus, declaring birthday celebrations a pagan custom not to be imitated by Christians. Even in more recent times Christmas has been frowned upon. Puritans argued against the celebration of Christmas because of the lack of biblical references. This even led to the outlawing of Christmas by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay Colony between 1659 and 1681.

Though describing the circumstances of Jesus' birth, the Scriptures indeed do not give us any indication as to the actual date of his birth. As a result, when Christians were ready to start celebrating the birth of Jesus a date needed to be selected. Both January 6 and December 25 were contenders for the date. January 6 is the oldest date on which the incarnation was celebrated. Yet, in the end December 25 was adopted by most Christians.

There are two main theories for the selection of December 25 as the eventual date for Christmas: the history hypothesis and the calculation hypothesis.

The calculation hypothesis is based on the so-called whole-year theory, which holds that people of importance die on the same day they were born or conceived. Since some people believed that Jesus died on March 25; that would mean he was also conceived on March 25. Calculating nine months from March 25 lands his birth on December 25.

The history hypothesis posits that the celebration of the birth of Jesus was introduced on December 25 to supplant existing pagan festivities. In 274 Emperor Aurelian had restored the cult of Sol Invictus, the Invincible Sun. On December 25 the birth of the Invincible Sun was celebrated. This day was specifically chosen because it was the date of the winter solstice in the Julian calendar until it was moved to December 21 at the Council of Nicea in 325. Christians believed that Christ was the true Invincible Sun. The celebration of his birth thus happily coincides with the winter solstice.

In the end, I would not worry too much about the date of Christmas since it is nothing but a date. What is important, though, is what we celebrate on Christmas, namely, that God became one of us so we might become more like God.

We can celebrate this on any date, really.

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POINTERS TO EVERLASTING PEACE

Joyful persons do not necessarily make jokes, laugh, or even smile. They are not people with an optimistic outlook on life who always relativize the seriousness of a moment or an event. No, joyful persons see with open eyes the hard reality of human existence and at the same time are not imprisoned by it. They have no illusion about the evil powers that roam around, "looking for someone to devour" (1 Peter 5:8), but they also know that death has no final power. They suffer with those who suffer, yet they do not hold on to suffering; they point beyond it to an everlasting peace.

<https://henrinouwen.org/meditation/pointers-to-everlasting-peace/>

CATHOLIC HUMOR

The Pearly Gates (joke)

Saint Peter was surprised to see a lawyer arrive at the Pearly Gates. He asked him, "What have you done to merit entrance into Heaven?" The lawyer said, "Well, a week ago, I gave a quarter to a homeless person." Saint Peter asked Gabriel to check his records. Gabriel confirmed the story. "Well, that's something, but not enough to get you into Heaven." The lawyer said, "Wait! Three years ago, I gave another homeless person a quarter." Saint Peter looked at Gabriel, who nodded back, affirming that it was true. Saint Peter whispered to Gabriel, "Well, what do you think we should do with this guy?" Gabriel gave the lawyer a quick glance and said to Saint Peter, "Give him back his 50 cents and tell him to go to Hell!"

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

BOOK STUDY | Tuesdays at 9am in the Parish Center
Catching Fire, Becoming Flame: A Guide for Spiritual Transformation by Fr. Albert Haase, OFM
IF YOU WANT TO BE PART OF THIS STUDY, PLEASE BUY YOUR BOOK.

FLU SEASON AND THE SUSPENSION OF THE CUP AND OTHER PRECAUTIONS

The flu season has come early this year. The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) reports that the incidence of flu and flu-like illnesses is “widespread” and has reached a level requiring that we enact preventive measures to mitigate the possibility of infection at Mass. In order to protect the health and well-being of everyone, Bishop Soto has issued the following directives:

- The use of the Communion cup is suspended temporarily.
- Receive the Body of Christ in the hand (although receiving on the tongue is permitted)
- Do not shake hands. Offer the sign of Peace to those around you with a simple nod, saying “peace be with you.”
- Do not hold hands during the Our Father.

The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and other Holy Days does not apply to those who are sick. If you are sick, stay home and take of yourself. Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time. And pray for those who are sick. The administration of Holy Communion in both kinds will resume as soon as the Bishop deems it safe and prudent to do so.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 24

5:30pm Vigil Mass

9pm Mass in Spanish

11:30pm Christmas Carols

Midnight Mass

Wednesday, December 25

8am, 10am & 12noon Masses

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Saint Theresa Catholic Church invites you for our FREE

Christmas Dinner!

DECEMBER 25th | 1-3 PM

GRACE HALL | 1041 LYONS AVE

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, CA

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

January 1, 2020 | Masses: 8am & 10am

BLESSING OF A CHRISTMAS MANGER OR NATIVITY SCENE

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223. The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time.

When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says: ***Our help is in the name of the Lord.***

R/. Who made heaven and earth.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The leader prays with hands joined:

God of every nation and people,
from the very beginning of creation
you have made manifest your love:
Jesus,

when our need for a Savior was great
you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.
To our lives he brings joy and peace,
justice, mercy, and love.

—From Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers

Lord,
bless all who look upon this manger;
may it remind us of the humble birth of

and raise our thoughts to him,
who is God-with-us and Savior of all,
and who lives and reigns forever and ever.
R/. Amen.

22 DE DICIEMBRE DE 2019 | CUARTO DOMINGO DE ADVIENTO

PARA PROBLEMAS DE ESCUCHA: hay audífonos disponibles en la sacristía. Favor de devolverlos después de Misa.

¡Bienvenidos a todos! Nos reunimos con Jesús. Cristo es quién nos invita al banquete celestial. Qué esta liturgia les traiga paz. Si están visitando nuestra iglesia por la primera vez, ójala que se sienten como en familia, una parte de la familia mundial del Señor. Les damos la bienvenida cordialmente y celebramos y contemplamos el misterio de la Eucaristía y rezamos que su viaje a su casa será seguro y que regresen pronto.

LECTURAS DE HOY

Primera lectura — La señal es que la virgen estará embarazada y dará a luz un hijo varón (Isaías 7:10-14).

Salmo — Va a entrar el Señor: él es el Rey de la Gloria (Salmo 24 [23]).

Segunda lectura — Jesús, descendiente de David biológicamente, fue establecido el Hijo de Dios en poder (Romanos 1:1-7).

Evangelió — María quedó embarazada por obra del Espíritu Santo (Mateo 1:18-24).

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Lunes: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Sal 25 (24):4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lc 1:57-66

Martes: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Sal 89 (88):2-5, 27, 29; Lc 1:67-79

Miércoles: Is 52:7-10; Sal 98 (97):1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]

Jueves: Hch 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Sal 31 (30):3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22

Viernes: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Sal 97 (96):1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Sábado: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Sal 124 (123):2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18

Domingo: Eclo 3:2-6, 12-14; Sal 128 (127):1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

INTENCIONES PARA LAS MISAS

21 de diciembre | sábado | San Pedro Canisio

5:30 pm Jesus Bobadilla 9dec) by Mindy & family

22 de diciembre | domingo |

8:00 am Kevin Malone (dec) by Tom & Judy Finn

10:00 am St. Theresa parishioners

12:00pm Alan Coster (dec) by Mom & Dad

7:00pm

23 de diciembre | lunes | San Juan de Canty

8:00 am Maria Wallace (dec) by Tom & Judy Finn

24 de diciembre | martes |

8:00 am Angelo Cozzaglio & the Ruedorfers by Gab

5:30pm Christmas Vigil Mass

9:00pm Spanish Mass

25 de diciembre | miércoles |

12:00am Midnight Mass

8:00 am Christmas Mass

10:00am Christmas Mass

12:00pm Carol Damazio (dec) by her mother

26 de diciembre | jueves | San Esteban

8:00 am Bob Murphy (dec) by his daughter

27 de diciembre | viernes | San Juan

8:00 am Ronel & Therese Valenzuela (dec) by Joann & family

28 de diciembre | sábado | Los Santos Inocentes

5:30 pm The Anthony family & Sophie Zimnox (dec) by Bob Anthony

¡GRACIAS POR SU GENEROSIDAD!

12/15	Colecta Regular	3316.44
12/12	NUESTRA SEÑORA DE GUADALUPE	1055.00
12/9	SOLEMNIDAD DE LA INMACULADA CONCEPCIÓN	1073.35

Segunda colecta— 21/22 de diciembre: **NO HAY COLECTA**

Segunda colecta— 28/29 de diciembre: **NO HAY COLECTA**

Segunda colecta— 4/5 de enero: **NO HAY COLECTA**

PETICIONES POR ESTAS PERSONAS

POR LOS FELIGRESES—ACTIVOS CON EL SERVICIO MILITAR

Phillip Gaston | Corbett Martin | Zachary Martin | Erik Townsend

POR LOS QUE ESTÁN ENFERMOS

Barboni | Lauren Bates | Romie Enriquez | Eileen Foster | Steve Frick | Jerry Kirvida | Ophelia Kirvida | Kel Lohmeier | Matthew Morisky | Simon McQuarrie | Byron Melrose | Jamie O'Malley | Tony Russo | Gloria Walkowiak

LISTA DE LOS ENFERMOS

Si desea conservar su ser querido en la /lista, por favor, envíe un correo electrónico con el nombre de su ser querido, junto con su nombre y número de teléfono a tahoecatholicbulletin@gmail.com

YA LLEGO LA NAVIDAD

Sabíamos, Señor que eres bueno y que nos quiere bien; Pero hoy lo demuestras palpablemente, una vez más, a tu estilo:
Con un optimismo a toda prueba y una entrega sin reservas. ¿Quién daría un céntimo por nosotros, tan ruines y ruidosos? Pero tú rompes todos los moldes y todos los cálculos; Tú amas al hombre hasta hacerte uno más entre nosotros.

¡Gracias, Señor Jesús! Has venido a tu casa, y queremos Recibirte como tú lo mereces. Al celebrar tu nacimiento, Concédenos renovar nuestra vieja y mezquina mentalidad Para revestirnos de la nueva condición humana a tu imagen, La condición de hijos de Dios y hermanos de los hombres. Amén.

Tomado de B. Caballero: *La Palabra cada Domingo, San Pablo, España, 1993, p. 232*

EL ADVIENTO
Del 1 al 24 de diciembre del 2019.
El Adviento, Vísperas de Navidad

Por: Catholic.net | Fuente: Catholic.net

El Adviento es el comienzo del Año Litúrgico, empieza el domingo más próximo al 1 de diciembre y termina el 24 de diciembre. Son los cuatro domingos anteriores a la Navidad y forma una unidad con la Navidad y la Epifanía. El término "Adviento" viene del latín adventus, que significa venida, llegada. El color usado en la liturgia de la Iglesia durante este tiempo es el morado. Con el Adviento comienza un nuevo año litúrgico en la Iglesia

SOLEMNIDAD DE MARÍA, MADRE DE DIOS

1 de enero, 2020

Misas en inglés: 8am y 10am

HORARIO DE NAVIDAD

Martes 24 de diciembre

5:30pm Misas de Vigilia

9pm Misa en español

Misa de medianoche

Miércoles 25 de diciembre

Misas de 8am, 10am y 12 mediodía todas en inglés

LA NAVIDAD

La Navidad es uno de los días más importante del año de la Iglesia, segundo en importancia después del Tiempo Pascual. Es la fiesta de la encarnación, la fiesta de Dios que se encarna. Es una enseñanza cristiana única, lo Divino que decide hacerse uno de nosotros. Por esta creencia, Dios no es solo Transcendente, sino también Inmanente, Emanuel (Dios-con-nosotros). Mientras que sigue siendo Transcendente (lo que quiere decir que tenemos que elevarnos de nuestra condición actual para alcanzarle), es al mismo tiempo Inmanente (lo que significa que está con nosotros mientras que tratamos de elevarnos a él). Toda Eucaristía es como la Navidad en que el pan y el vino se transforman en su carne, su Cuerpo y Sangre y, en cierto sentido, él nace de nuevo sobre el altar.

El tiempo litúrgico de Navidad comienza con las Misas de Vigilia el día de Nochebuena y concluye con la fiesta del Bautismo del Señor. Durante este tiempo, celebramos el nacimiento de Cristo en el mundo y en nuestros corazones y reflexionamos sobre el don de la salvación que viene con él... incluyendo el hecho de que nació para morir por nosotros.

El árbol de Navidad y el Nacimiento son símbolos populares de la estación y una tradición en muchos hogares cristianos. También es tradicional intercambiar regalos de Navidad con la familia y amigos como un modo de honrar el regalo de Dios Padre de su único Hijo al mundo. Habiendo recibido el regalo de Cristo, naturalmente queremos pasar ese regalo a nuestros seres queridos. <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/ano-liturgico/navidad.cfm>

EN NAVIDAD POR LA FE, NO POR LA VISTA (2 CO 5:7)
"Al despertar, José hizo lo que el Ángel del Señor le había ordenado: llevó a María a su casa" (Mateo 1:24).

José creyó que María estaba embarazada no a causa de unión carnal, sino por el Espíritu Santo (Mt 1:20). Lo creyó así debido a la gracia que le fue dada por Dios en un sueño en que un ángel le comunica el misterio de la concepción de la Virgen (Mt 1:20). Muchas personas considerarían a José como uno de los mayores tontos de la existencia humana, pero nosotros lo reconocemos como uno de los más grandes hombres de fe en la historia.

Para no divorciarse de la primera Navidad (ver Mt 1:19), José necesitaba una gran fe - una fe que movería mucho más que montañas (ver Mt 17:20). El Señor le dio una super-fe. Como José, para recibir a Cristo en esta festividad Navideña, también necesitaremos el don de la fe.

Posiblemente, requeriremos una gran fe. Necesitamos el don del advenimiento de la fe, antes de que podamos recibir nuestro regalo de Navidad con la llegada de Jesús. Pide al Señor como un regalo una fe más grande (Lc 17:5). En estos próximos días, lea, ore y estudie las enseñanzas de la Iglesia y la Biblia. Esto le ayudará a escuchar a Dios y crecer en la fe (Rom 10:17). El Señor quiere que tu fe en Él se haga más fuerte y más profunda que nunca. Deja que Él te regale más y mayor fe.

Oración: Padre, "¡Creo, ayúdame porque tengo poca fe!" (Mc 9:24)

Promesa: "Pide para ti un signo de parte del Señor, en lo profundo del Abismo, o arriba, en las alturas" (Is 7:11).

Alabanza: "Oh sagrado Señor del antiguo Israel, Quien se mostró a Moisés en la zarza ardiente, Quien le dio la santa ley en la montaña del Sinaí: ven, extiende tu mano poderosa para liberarnos".

<https://www.presentationministries.com/obob/obob.asp?lang=es&d=12/18/2016>

CONFIANZA EN DIOS

En este último domingo de Adviento las lecturas se enfocan en el nacimiento histórico de Jesús: el hijo de David e Hijo de Dios, niño y rey, Jesús y Emmanuel.

El profeta Isaías le suplica a Ajaz que pida una señal, para permitir a Dios que le asegure la sobrevivencia de la dinastía de David. El rey hipócrita rehúsa "tentar al SEÑOR" de esa manera (Isaías 7:12), pero el profeta predice el nacimiento de un hijo, un heredero al trono, quien probará la duradera protección divina del linaje elegido del trono de David. El niño será llamado Emmanuel.

Mateo se refiere a esta historia en su descripción de los puntos principales del nacimiento de Jesús que contrasta a Ajaz quien rehúsa confiar por falta de fe, y la completa confianza en Dios que María y José demostraron al cooperar con el nacimiento de Jesucristo.

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