



Guardian Angels Parish

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Pastor: Rev. John Alex Pinto, OCD

(Weekend of December 05/06, 2020: Second Sunday of Advent)

December 04, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Historically, in the year of 587 B.C, City of Jerusalem was seized by King Nubuchadnezzar's. Powerful armed forces had captured the city of Jerusalem and its proud residents were taken to captivity. They became migrants in a new place and life for them was quite hard. These people learned to live in their captivity with whatever befallen them. 40 years later from among them a brilliant theologian began to address them with spiritual poems and interpret what was happening to them. He became one of the greatest of Old Testament prophet known to the biblical world as Prophet Isaiah. He takes upon himself the task of reviving hope for this nation of migrants. He sees the pattern of Egyptian exile and present situation and gives them hope of new exile.

Today's first reading gives them and us a consoling message, *"Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.....A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!..."* "Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care." Then St. Peter assures his promise would be fulfilled, *"The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance."* the early Christians expected the Lord will return in their life time. Therefore, St. Peter gives them two reasons. One, the way God measures time is different than human calculation and second, the Lord gives time for people to convert and thus be saved. The Gospel continued with the same message to be converted, "prepare the way of the Lord, make his path straight."

This advent, let us take time to walk with Israelites to New Jerusalem so that we can find Jesus our Messiah.

We are not sure the churches are reopening after the 7th of December. If it opens the first day that is December 8th, the Solemnity of immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. If that is the case, there will be Mass at 9 am and 4 pm and 6 pm on the 12th, as we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the Patroness of America.

The 9 am morning Mass is a special Mass since the Day of Mercy. There will be confession available at every parish in the diocese. The confession times at our parish will be, 10 am to 12 pm and 3 pm to 4 pm. Please use the advent resources available in RCAV website.

I invite everyone to prepare and welcome Christ child in your hearts, families, parish and society at large.

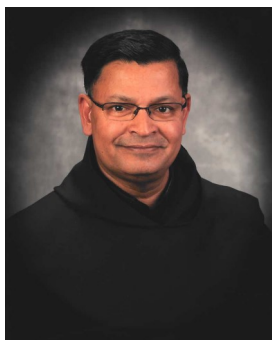
Also, soon we will decorate our Church Altar with poinsettias, kindly consider donating towards this project.

Stay safe!

Prayers and blessings,

Fr. John Alex Pinto OCD

Pastor



KIDS & SENIORS CORNER
(Contributed by Nyles Fernandes)



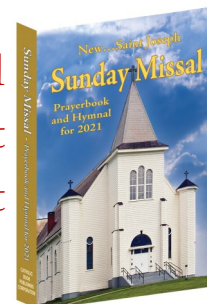
- 1) Which was the biggest Christmas gift given to the Americans?
- 2) Which Christmas-themed ballet premiered in Russia in 1892?
- 3) Which 2004 animated film is about a train that carries kids to the North Pole on Christmas Eve?
- 4) What does Immanuel mean?

1) The French gave the Americans the biggest present in 1886. It was the Statue of Liberty.
2) The Nutcracker.
3) The Polar Express.
4) God with us.

ANSWERS:



SUNDAY MISSAL FOR YEAR B, Liturgical Year 2020 - 2021, is now available for sale at \$3.50 per copy. Please come to the office to get your copy/copies.



The Parish Grotto needs some tender loving care from assiduous and generous **VOLUNTEER**. Would you love to be the one? Please call the parish office or talk to Fr. John for details.