

Annibale Carracci: Saint John the Baptist Bearing Witness, Circa 1600

## Shepherd's Corner

**Patience** 

Dear St. Hedwig Family:



During this Advent season, I want to reflect on the importance of being patient. In our world of instant access and gratification, we have lost the ability to be patient. When we want something, we want it right away. But God does not work that way. God is patient, especially, in preparing the world for the coming of Christ. When the Prophet Isaiah announced, "The virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel," it was around the year 730 B.C. Only centuries later is the prophecy understood as referring to the Messiah. The Jewish people, including Mary and Joseph, waited patiently for the coming of the Messiah. Only when Jesus is born of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is the prophecy fulfilled. Later still, the Gospel writers,

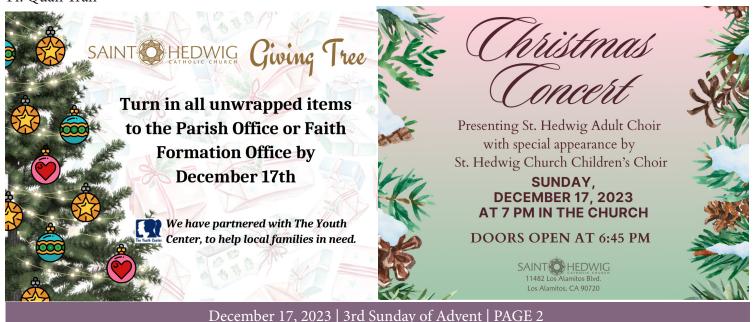
illumined by Holy Spirit, discovered the coherence of Sacred Scripture. Even in revealing the meaning of his Word, God is patient. God reveals himself to us in stages in order that we may fully comprehend.

What is patience? It is reacting appropriately during hardship. Patience is being calm amid stress, trials, and provocations. It is choosing to endure an unavoidable infliction and not be conquered by it. Patience is a defense against anger and hatred, the root cause of which is impatience. Patience also moderates inordinate sadness or discouragement from doing good. Lastly, patience is the practical day-to-day fortitude in not letting something or someone get to us too much.

We need to be patient with others, with ourselves, and with God. Sometimes, we feel as if God does not hear our prayer or is slow to answer. We tend to think that we know better than God how things should go, and we get impatient because God does not act in conformity with our expectation or timetable. But God's wisdom is beyond our comprehension. We are called to trust that God knows what he is doing and will answer our prayers in his time and in his way. We trust that our patience, hope, and prayers are not in vain, but prepare us to receive what God wants to give us.

Advent, indeed, is a time of waiting, prayer, and hope. A time of preparation to receive Jesus when he comes. As with all things, if we wait with patience, we still have hope. Often our prayers are not answered because we give up too easily and too soon. Patience strengthens our faith and hope and expands our hearts and capacity to receive what God wants to give us. God wants to surprise us with graces beyond our expectations if we are patient and trusting. Let us make room for the Lord to work in our lives. Good things come to those who wait.

With much love and care, Fr. Quan Tran





## This Year Christmas Falls On A Monday

This year, Christmas falls on December 25, 2023, which is a Monday, and it retains its status as a Holy Day of Obligation. There will be no dispensation for Christmas this year. It is imperative that we pay close attention to the local Mass schedules, as the faithful are obliged to attend both the fourth Sunday of Advent Mass and Christmas Mass. This can be done either through the Vigil Mass on Saturday, December 23, after 4 PM, or the morning Masses on Sunday, December 24. Christmas Masses, can be attended as a Vigil on Sunday, December 24, after 4 PM, or during Masses on Monday, December 25.



#### 📥 3rd Week of Advent - Gaudete Sunday 悬

The Lord is near, this is why we celebrate Gaudete Sunday with a rose colored candle to remind us of the joy that is coming. It is important for us to remember that Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for the birth of our Lord. This time of waiting for Him to enter our lives is so important because we are actively praying, drawing closer to Him who is our source of peace and prosperity. But Gaudete Sunday is a day of celebration because we glimpse the joy that will soon be ours at Christmas. So, let us rest and celebrate, to prepare ourselves for the final stretch of this penitential season.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR FOR THE 2<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL DAY OF CONNECTION, RESTORATION & REFLECTION

## Day of Recollection for Women



REGISTER ONLINE WITH QR CODE OR IN PERSON AT THE PARISH OFFICE



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2024 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. St. Hedwig Church



Marriage Help – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For the January 19-21, 2024 weekend in Santa Ana, call (714) 306-6469 or visit the web site <a href="https://www.helpourmarriage.org">www.helpourmarriage.org</a>.



Classes begin on 2/4/2024

The Adult Confirmation process is twelve weeks of preparation, offering Catholics the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Confirmation and complete their full initiation into the Catholic Church.

The Confirmation celebration takes place on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024.

To register contact Christina Cardona at (562) 296-9013





Support St. Hedwig's Christmas Flower fund with a special offering in memory of your loved one(s) and beautify our Church at the same time. Flower offering envelopes are available in the Church vestibule and in the Parish Office. Please put your Christmas Flower Offering envelope into the collection basket during any Mass or bring it to the Parish Office by December 26, 2023. All loved ones' names will be listed on a Christmas Offering Memorial Board beginning January 1, 2024. Together we will pray for the souls of our loved ones.

Thank you for your generous donation.



MELINDA TAYLOR
JON & DOLORES WHITFORD
ANITA ELIZABETH CASPERS
JOHNATHAN AND LEILANI PRIETO
SHIRLEY CHAVEZ
KIM TRINH

Thank you to our St. Hedwig Choir for singing at our Christmas tree lighting this past weekend. It was a beautiful way for us to prepare to celebrate Christ's birth and to get



#### **Mass Intentions**

Sunday December 17

8:00 AM Matt & Jackie Azzara 🕈

10:00 AM Marianne Testa ♥

12:00 PM Pro populo

5:00 PM Moises & Addie Hernandez ♥

Monday December 18

8:30 AM Deacon James Gregg

5:30 PM Joel Rojas, Jr.

Tuesday December 19

8:30 AM Ruth Burns

5:30 PM Ruben Robles **†** 

Wednesday December 20

8:30 AM Avito Moniz ♥

5:30 PM Igor & Oksana Boiko

Thursday December 21

8:30AM Deacon Henry Eager

5:30 PM Jerry Sable ♥

Friday December 22

8:30 AM Ed Merva ♥

5:30 PM Nestor Marquez

Saturday December 23

call the Parish Office.

8:30 AM Senen Zapanta 🕆

5:00 PM Thomas & Francisca Aguilar ❖

Richard Sharp ♥
Christine Barrett ♥
Sherry Hemphill

Deacon James Gregg

## Prayer Intentions For Expectant Mothers

Natalie Kadletz Golden Jacqueline Cochran Kara Tomich

#### For the Sick

Elle Gloede Noah Bragg Louise Northrop

#### For the Deceased

Ruth Jesus Quintanilla
Donald Reiman
Angie Curley
Marilyn Hendricks
Elvira Arrieta de Vargas
George Grant Derry, Jr.
James Linderman
Arlita Vergara

## St. Hedwig Shop

GET YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING OUT OF THE WAY BY COMING TO OUR STORE, WE ARE LOCATED IN THE FAITH FORMATION OFFICE NEAR THE BASKETBALL COURTS.

QUESTIONS: CALL ALEXANDER (562) 296 - 9020



SHOP WHILE SUPPLIES LAST. SOME ITEMS ON SALE



## ADORATION SIGN-UP ONLINE

### We Ad- re Him



# Sign Up For Parish Bulletin Today HTTPS://WWW.PARISHESON LINE.COM/ORGANIZATION/ ST-HEDWIG-CHURCH-90720

#### Christmas Present from the St. Francis Guild and the Knights of Columbus

**HIPAA**—All hospitals are prohibited from informing churches of a patient's presence unless the

patient gives permission for the hospital to do so. If you are admitted to a hospital and would

like a member of the clergy or a Eucharistic Minister to visit you, please notify the hospital or

St. Francis Guild and Knights of Columbus will be distributing "The Beautiful Eucharist" by Matthew Kelly following the masses during the weekend of December 16th and 17th to all the family's at St. Hedwig's Church.

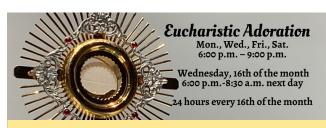
Please remember the reason for the season! Many blessings on this glorious day. Merry Christmas!

#### Ways to Request Mass Intentions

- Contact the Parish Office: (562)296-9000
- Visit our Website: https://www.sainthedwig.org/
- Email: info@sainthedwig.org

Scan QR Code:





#### Presider Schedule Saturday, December 23

5:00 PM - Fr. Quan Tran

#### Sunday, December 24

8:00 AM - Fr. Quan Tran

10:00 AM - Fr. Dave Klunk

12:00 PM - Fr. Quan Tran

4:00 PM Quinn Hall - Fr. Dave Klunk

4:00 PM Church - Fr. Quan Tran

7:00 PM - Fr. Quan Tran

10:00 PM - Fr. Dave Klunk

#### Mass Schedule:

Monday - Saturday 8:30 AM

Monday - Friday 5:30 PM

Saturday Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday Mass Schedule

8:00 AM

10:00 AM

12:00 PM

5:00 PM

#### Confession

Wednesday 6:30 PM Saturday 3:30 PM & 7:00 PM

#### Adoration

Monday, Friday, Saturday

6:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Wednesday

6:00 PM - 8:15 AM (next day)

24-hour Adoration on the 16th of every month

after 8:30 AM Mass

#### Rosary

8:00 AM Monday - Saturday in the church

Divine Mercy Chaplet

Every Friday following the 8:30 AM Mass

#### Church Hours:

Everyday 6:30 AM - 9:00 PM

#### **Front Office Hours**

Monday & Tuesdays: 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM

(Closed for lunch from 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM)

Wednesdays, Thurdays, & Fridays:

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

(Closed for lunch from 12:00 PM – 12:30 PM)

Saturday - Sunday: 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Faith Formation Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM

#### ST. HEDWIG CATHOLIC CHURCH 11482 Los Alamitos Blvd.

11482 Los Alamitos Blvd. Los Alamitos, CA 90720 Parish Office: (562) 296-9000 info@sainthedwig.org

> Parish Staff Rev. Quan Tran, Pastor frqtran@sainthedwig.org

Rev. David Klunk, Parochial Vicar frdklunk@sainthedwig.org

Gary Mucho, Larry Hurst & John Reza, Deacons

Henry Eagar, Deacon, OCIA /That Man Is You heagar@sainthedwig.org (562) 296-9028

> Cynthia Ramirez, Business Manager cramirez@sainthedwig.org (562) 296-9001

> Diego Avalos, Accounting Assistant businessoffice@sainthedwig.org (562) 296-9015

Joy Ferrufino, Parish Office Coordinator jferrufino@sainthedwig.org (562) 296-9016

> Audra Meyerhofer, Music Director ameyerhofer@sainthedwig.org (562) 296-9050

Christina Cardona, Faith Formation Coordinator ccardona@sainthedwig.org (562) 296-9013

Susan Rossi, Faith Formation Assistant srossi@sainthedwig.org (562) 296-9023

Alexander Quan
Evangelization & Communications Coordinator
aquan@sainthedwig.org
(562) 296-9020

Jean Ngo, Communications Assistant jngo@sainthedwig.org (562) 296-9007

#### ST. HEDWIG CATHOLIC SCHOOL

562-296-9060 bfinn@sthedwigk8.org www.sthedwigk8.org