



Sts. Peter and Paul Chapel

A Ministry of the Ecumenical Catholic Church+USA

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November 2022 Bulletin

Parish Web Site: www.sspp-eccusa.org

Parish Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/ssppECCUSA

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CLERGY MASS SCHEDULE

All Worship Services are 2:00 PM unless otherwise noted.

November 6, 2022: 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 13, 2022: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 20, 2022: Solemnity of Christ the King

November 27, 2022: First Sunday of Advent

Pastoral Staff:

Pastor: +Fr. Bob Catlett, 314.800.3456, pastor@sspp-eccusa.org

Prayer Intentions

If you would like us to remember a special intention for you at Mass, please contact one of our priests.

If you or someone you know is in need of spiritual assistance (prayers, Sacrament of the Sick, etc.), please contact one of our priests.

Inquiries regarding the administration of Sacraments or services (Baptisms, First Communion, Marriages, and Funerals) are welcomed.

Scripture Reflections

November 2022

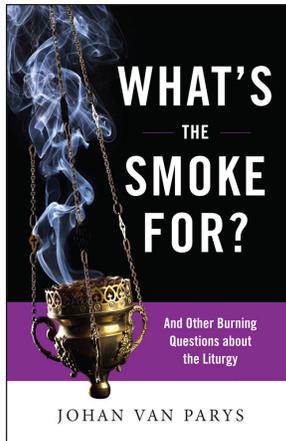
+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div.

November 6, 2022 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: “The King of the world will raise us up to live again forever!” exclaims one of the martyrs in today’s first reading. The Gospel also speaks of the resurrection of the dead, which is a teaching of our faith. But “not all have faith,” laments St. Paul in the second reading. Lord, strengthen my faith in all your teachings! (2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14, 2 Thessalonians 2:16-3:5, Luke 20:27-38)

November 13, 2022 – 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time: In today’s Gospel, Jesus focuses chiefly on the destruction of the temple and the persecution of the early Christians. The prophet Malachi, instead, issues a warning about the end-time. The apostle Paul corrects the Thessalonians for believing that the world is already ending, and that work is therefore useless. Do we recognize that work has great value in the light of eternity? (Malachi 3:19-20a, 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12, Luke 21:5-19)

November 20, 2022 – Solemnity of Christ the King: This Sunday’s first reading stresses the human – and royal – origin of Jesus; the second reading stresses his divine origin. In the Gospel, the scoffers see a man; the repentant thief recognizes something more. May we live in such a way that Jesus will say to us, as to the thief: You will be with me in Paradise. (2 Samuel 5:1-3, Colossians 1:23-20, Luke 23:35-43)

November 27, 2022 – First Sunday of Advent: Advent is beginning. Today the Church invites us to focus on Christ’s coming in majesty on the last day – our own last day. The readings call us to “awake,” to “walk in the light,” to “put on the armor of light,” and to “be prepared.” Lord Jesus, we want to live as children of light, ready to meet you today and every day. (Isaiah 1:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:37-44)



Dear Johan,

Advent is my favorite season of the year. I love the fact that we take time to prepare for the birthday of Jesus. Sadly, I don't know the meaning of the word Advent. Do you know what it means and where it comes from?

Gentle Reader-

The notion of the birthday of Jesus makes me a little uncomfortable. It reminds me of an unfortunate “children’s Mass” with birthday cake and birthday song. Thankfully, there were no candles to be blown out. How many should there have been anyway?

Just to be clear, the season of Advent is the time of preparation leading up to the solemnity of Christmas in all its theological complexities. It is marked by the four Sundays of Advent.

The English word Advent comes from the Latin *Adventus Domini*, meaning the coming of the Lord. Most of us understand this to mean Jesus’ presence with us at Christmas as we commemorate and celebrate his birth. The full meaning of *Adventus Domini*, however, embraces Jesus’ birth two thousand years ago, his presence with us today, as well as his return at the end of time. Advent thus becomes a time of preparation not only for the celebration of Jesus’ birth on Christmas. It also is a time when we become more aware of Jesus’ presence in our lives today. And it is a time during which we prepare for his Second Coming at the end of time.

As a result, when we pray *Maranatha* or “Come, Lord Jesus,” we not only pray for his presence in our midst at Christmas but we also pray for

his presence among us today. And, most astoundingly, we even pray for his Second Coming, thus hastening the end of time.

As Christians we believe that when Christ returns he will inaugurate the completion of the messianic times. At that time, according to the prophet Isaiah, “They shall beat their swords into plowshares / and their spears into pruning hooks” and “the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, / and the leopard shall lie down with the kid.” “There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain.” “The desert and the parched land . . . will bloom with abundant flowers.” Not surprisingly, these are lines taken from readings used during the Advent season.

The beautiful season of Advent invites us to dream of that perfect world without disasters, disease, or death; a world where all God’s children and all of creation exist together in perfect harmony. It is also a season during which we commit ourselves to making this harmonious world a bit more possible.

So, when we sing *Maranatha* let’s do it with full voice and heart and let’s act in ways that will hasten the arrival of that perfect world.

I hope I did not ruin Advent for you.

From the Pastor's Desk
+Fr. Bob Catlett, M.Div.

Congratulations to our parishioners who have reasons to celebrate this month:

Birthdays:

Joan Schmid: 11/23

Anniversaries:

None this month!