

GOSPEL SUMMARY: Luke 1:26-38



In today's reading about the annunciation, an angel tells Mary that she is to be the mother of Jesus. The angel recalls the prophecy to David that we saw in the first reading. "The Lord God will give him the throne of David his father. He will rule

over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary does not understand this great mystery but accepts God's will humbly: "I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me" There may be times when God will ask of us things we do not completely understand. Mary's openness to God's will can help us. We should pray lovingly and gratefully to Mary for the blessings she helps bring to us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR GOSPEL:

Mary does not understand all that God was asking of her. What is the sentence in Luke's gospel that tells us this? What three comforting words did the angel speak to her? What did Mary respond to the angel that says she was willing to do God's will? How can we listen to God who speaks to us in different ways?

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: The angel reassures Mary. What reassurance does Christmas bring to you? empty, a world that continues to know and rejoice in the mercy of God that lasts for all ages. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

ECHOING MARY'S DECISION

The angel Gabriel today confronts Mary with a mystery. The mystery of salvation in Christ is not a mystery that is solved, but a reality beyond our comprehension that we must choose to enter into. In the liturgy of the Eastern Church, everyone waits to see if Mary will enter into the mystery: God waits, Adam and Eve and all the souls of the dead who long for paradise wait, angels wait for new heavenly companions. And there is much rejoicing when her decision is "yes." We have less dramatic choices offered to us, but the mystery of our salvation in Christ is by no means "solved." We may understand it a bit better due to Mary's "yes." We may be a bit closer to it through the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. But it still remains a mystery to which we all must give our own "yes." Soon we will be singing "O come, let us adore him." May our Advent prayer, our echo of Mary's "yes," continue then, so we may enter into the mystery of our salvation in Jesus Christ, God among us. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Weekly Mass Schedule and Intentions:

SAT	12/20	5:00 PM	For the Parishioners
SUN	12/21	8:30 AM	+Olga Chavez
SUN	12/21	11:00 AM	+Timothy Burns
SUN	12/21	12:30 PM	(SI) Jose Luis and Martha Hernandez
MON	12/22	NO MASS	
TUE	12/23	7:30 AM	For the Parishioners
CHRISTMAS			
TUE	12/24	10:00 PM	(SI) Rita Fritzenkotter
WED	12/25	9:00 AM	(SI) The Jessie Weddle Family
WED	12/25	11:00 AM	+Teresa Toscano & +Josefina Leon
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THU	12/26	7:30 AM	For the Parishioners
FRI	12/27	7:30 AM	For the Parishioners



**Announcements**

- OFFERING REPORT:** Our weekly offering from Dec. 14, 2014 was **\$3,296.01**. Thank you for your love and support.
- MASS INTENTION CARDS:** Stop by the Parish Office and schedule a Mass Intention and receive a card to send to the intended or to the family of the intended notifying them of this special gift of prayer.
- SUPPORT RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES:** "Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry", writes a religious sister. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital support for the retirement needs of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure that younger members can continue the good works of their elders! Special envelopes are available in the pews.
- RELIGIOUS ED:** Religious Education classes will not meet on Sun Dec. 28.
- BIBLE STUDY:** The Bible Study Group will not meet on Dec 24 and Dec 31.

- After-Abortion Healing Retreat:** Jan. 9-11,2015. Held at the Diocesan Pastoral Center. Confidentiality maintained. For more information call Rosemary, 858-581-3022.

**The Season of Advent**

"O come, O come Emmanuel and ransom captive Israel"



Finally, on this the Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel Reading permits us to begin our contemplation of the mystery of the Incarnation we celebrate at Christmas.

**CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY  
SUN, DEC 21**

@  
**4:00PM**



Blessed is he who possesses Bethlehem in his heart, and in whose heart Christ is born daily.—St. Jerome

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

- December 24 10:00PM Midnight Mass**
- December 25 9:00AM Children's Mass**
- December 25 11:00AM Mass (Spanish)**

**Stock Donations as Year-End Charitable Giving**

Have you considered donating appreciated stock from your investment portfolio instead of cash to St. Pius X? Your tax benefits from the donation can be increased and allow for maximum stewardship for some individuals. Gifts of stock held more than one year offer two unique advantages: 1) A gift of stock to the church avoids capital gains tax for you on the increase in the value of the stock 2) You receive a deduction for the full market value of the stock at the time of the gift to the church. Stock donation forms can be found in the vestibule and on the San Diego Diocese Website <http://www.diocese-sdiego.org/>

St. Vincent de Paul wishes you a blessed Christmas season. With your generous contributions, SVDP was able to help and provide for 28 families this year! Thank you, Thank you for your support and generous offerings that allow us to continue to be a service to our great parish! God bless and a Very Merry Christmas!!



Wishing you all a joyous Christmas. May you share in the true glory of Christmas which is the love of Christ and may His peace be with you in the coming New Year. Fr. Garcia



Online Giving Is Here! Get started today! Electronic Giving is a convenient and secure way to provide consistent financial support to our church. Electronic Donations can be made by checking, savings, credit card or debit card. Scan to donate to St. Pius X now.

