

St. Edward the Confessor

December 10, 2017

Second Sunday of Advent

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Thank You

. . . very much for your support and generosity.



Last Sunday's regular collection was \$1035. Additional money for Christmas Baskets \$245



Reminder

If you use Sunday Offering envelopes, please pick up the new 2018 boxes. If you don't have envelopes and would like a box, please see Neil MacPherson or Tom Donahue after Mass on the weekend

Christmas Schedule



Please take note of the following schedule for special services and Masses as we approach Christmas.

Dec 10

4:00 Lessons and Carols with St John's. Choirs from both churches participating.

Dec 19

Celebration of Reconciliation at 7 p.m.

Dec 23-24

There will be no regular weekend Masses.

Dec 24

5:00 Christmas Eve Mass with the choir leading in Christmas carols before Mass.

Dec 25

10:00 Christmas Day Mass



*If you would like to attend a later Christmas Eve Mass, St. Edmund of Canturbury will celebrate one at 10 p.m.

Preparing our Hearts and asking for the Grace

Daily Meditation Monday

Our God will come to save us!

What an incredible promise!

Each of these days uses images to help us to imagine and become excited about the ways our God has tried to prepare us, through the prophets to be ready for the healing and restoration and love that is offered us in Jesus.

For all in me that is feeble or weak or frightened

I can simply listen to these words:

*“Strengthen the hands that are feeble,
make firm the knees that are weak,
Say to those whose hearts are frightened:
Be strong, fear not!
Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
With divine recompense
he comes to save you.”*

Tuesday

“Though the grass withers and the flower wilts, the word of our God stands forever.”

Our God comes with power to save us. Each of us can name what it is we long to be saved from.

Today, let's imagine ourselves freer.

Throughout the day, let's picture new ways of responding to challenging relationships, habitual sins, and other ruts we are in. As we envision our freedom we experience how much our God desires to save us.

Wednesday

Our Advent preparation is about growing in confidence that our God can indeed save us.

So often our struggles make us very weary and tired.

When we really “get it” that the One who made us truly desires to set us free,

we really begin longing at a new level to know what it is to be restored to a new vitality.

*“They will soar as with eagles' wings;
They will run and not grow weary,
walk and not grow faint”*

Thursday

“The afflicted and the needy seek water in vain

The Lord is gracious and merciful; slow to anger, and of great kindness.”

So often we are “afflicted and needy” and we seem to “seek water in vain.”

Today we listen to a refreshing promise of how much our Lord desires to refresh us.

Each of us can fill in what we need the most.

*“I am the LORD, your God, who grasp your right hand;
It is I who say to you, “Fear not, I will help you.” (Isaiah 41)*

Friday

*“I, the Lord, your God, teach you what is for your good,
and lead you on the way you should go.”*

In our self-reliant independence, we can easily forget that our God really knows what is good for us, and calls us to that goodness. be self-destructive or to simply keep our life on a shallow level. Let's let ourselves be drawn into the invitation to live our lives touched by the grace of God-with-us.

"Those who follow you, Lord, will have the light of life."

Saturday

"Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved."

God seems to like to prepare the way for our salvation.

We can experience prophets, even Elijah's on fire with God's word.

What are the messages, the stirrings, the signs of fire

that are preparing the way for the Lord to enter my life these days?

Can we make friends with these preparations for the Lord?

"Blessed is he who shall have seen you

and who falls asleep in your friendship."

Daily Advent Prayer

"Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall declare your praise."

Come, Lord Jesus. Come and visit your people.

We await your coming. Come, O Lord

