



# Presentation Press



Our Lady of the Presentation Church

November 2009 • Vol. 6 • No. 3

## Advent: A Time Of Hope by Fr. Mike Clary

Fr. Paul Turner has written a little booklet entitled *What Am I Doing for Advent This Year?* He points out that Advent is a time of hope. It isn't Christmas and it isn't the holiday season. It is its own special time of preparation. Following are some excerpts from Fr. Turner's introduction to his booklet. I think he gives some good things to think about. We will have copies of the booklet available for anyone who would like to use it to celebrate this Advent season in a more meaningful way.

"How are you?" "Busy." That response cloaks a low spirit, beaten down by many responsibilities, opportunities, and longings. Many people are so busy with the day's work that they lose track of the goal of their lives. Over time, values get lost. Priorities get shifted. Dreams are abandoned. All because people are busy.

The weeks before Christmas are among the busiest of the year. The high expectations of this holiday put stress on your relationships and cash flow, your faith and friendships. And all the while, you have to deal with the weather.

Everyone knows the meaning of Christmas. It commemorates the birth of Jesus. But not everyone lives the meaning of Christmas. Not everyone rejoices with its message of salvation for the sinner, its summons to show charity to your neighbor, and its opportunity to adore the Lord. This is a time of hope. But for many it is a time of anxiety.

Advent struggles for attention. You have already been deluged by the sights, sounds, and solicitations of the holiday season. And you still have several weeks to go. By the time Christmas gets here, many people are ready to throw out the tree, box up the decorations, and lock the season back in the attic. Something is wrong with this picture. The impatience that dogs holiday preparations outmaneuvers the patience of waiting for the Savior. Advent gets lost.



Many Christians bristle at the way society has seized Christmas and turned it into the holiday season. School children sing about snow. Merchants greet you with, "Happy Holidays." Nativity scenes are banished from public squares. The start date for the season is pushed earlier every year. Halloween decorations are not down before holiday decorations go up.

Ironically, the holiday season may be the best thing that's ever happened to Christmas. It separates its material and spiritual purposes. This is not just a time to review the past year, to go into debt, or to obtain what others already have. It is a time to nurture the spirit, to think about Jesus, his miraculous coming, his challenging message, and his love for you. (*What am I doing for Advent This Year?* Paul Turner, Liturgy Training Publications)

I recommend Fr. Turner's booklet to you. Copies of his booklet will be available the weekend of Nov. 14th & 15th, after masses, at Divine Donuts. There will also be other material about Advent available for you to take home. A well celebrated Advent can lead to a more meaningful Christmas.



## *Celebrating the Advent & Christmas Season*

# **Magnificat Concert**

**Saturday, December 5**

**7 pm in the Church**

featuring

**The Parish Choirs of  
*Our Lady of the Presentation*  
*St. Margaret of Scotland*  
*Holy Spirit***

Under the direction of David Armstrong  
with the Lee's Summit Symphony

## **Be a Gift to Others This Season**

### **Giving Tree Service Project**

During the Advent season, Presentation Parish offers a parish-wide service project known as the "Giving Trees." Beginning the weekend of November 21-22, the trees are placed in the gathering space with special gift tags on them. Individuals and families are invited to take a gift tag from the trees and donate the item listed. Donated items must be placed back under the giving trees with the gift tag attached by Sunday, Dec. 20. Items received after this date cannot be guaranteed delivery by Christmas. The donated items should NOT be wrapped, however gift bags are acceptable. This special service project is a great way to get the whole family involved in helping those in need. Donations will benefit residents in Lee's Summit area Care Centers and also Lee's Summit Social Services.

### **St. James Food Kitchen**

Our parish supports the St. James Food Kitchen on the 1st Thursday and the 3rd Tuesday of each month by sending groups



of nine volunteers to help serve already prepared food to the homeless and working poor. To volunteer call Christy, 251-1107.

### **Project Uplift**

Presentation Parish is committed to serving the homeless through assisting Project Uplift on the second Monday of the month. Teams of four volunteers help load trucks and deliver meals and supplies to the homeless with the Uplift drivers. Volunteers meet at the church and carpool to the Uplift warehouse located near 16th and Prospect. To volunteer, call Christy, 251-1107.

### **Lee's Summit Social Services Food Drive**

The first full weekend of the month, Presentation hosts a food drive to benefit the Lee's Summit Social Services food pantry. A list of items needed is published in the weekly bulletin. Also, volunteer drivers are needed to help deliver the donated goods after a collection weekend. For more information, call Susan Wiethan, 697-2778.



**Share your gifts with those in need!**

*Help us help others by:*

*Making & Baking cookies*

*Creating Christmas cards*

*Assembling hygiene gift bags*

*And many other special projects!*

**Drop off donations before Dec. 6 to the Parish Office or Youth Ministry Office, and to the auditorium on Dec. 6.**

## Parish Service Day: Sunday, December 6!

2:00 to 7:00 pm in the Auditorium

The Christmas shopping can wait...but those in need can't. They count on our support at this time of year and you can help! Come join the fellowship and fun with parishioners of all ages as we work on many different service projects for local charitable organizations!

*One Good Meal, Project Uplift,  
St. James Food Kitchen, our homebound parishioners,  
and our sister city San Rafael Cedros, El Salvador.*

Donations are needed to complete our service projects:

Baking needs: Chocolate Chips, flour, butter, baking soda & powder, white & brown sugar, eggs, 5-minute oatmeal. We also need mixers, spatulas, hot pads, measuring cups, etc. And lots of people, especially adults to supervise baking.

Other donations for LS Social Services, St. James Food Kitchen and UPLIFT :

Canned goods, shampoo (travel size), bar soap (travel size), men's socks, small make up kits, gifts for teens (gift cards, radios, CD players, jewelry, sleeping bags)

*We will be baking Christmas cookies for One Good Meal & St. James Food Kitchen with tags of Christmas love. We will make stockings for Project Uplift filled with travel size hygiene products and socks, we will create cards of support for our homebound parishioners and our brothers and sisters in our sister city, San Rafael Cedros, El Salvador.*

Bring the family, listen to music, and have fun while helping others!  
Spend all day or part of the day, we appreciate your time!

## THE ANCIENT ART OF LECTIO DIVINA

Presented by Sr. Therese Elias, OSB

### Session I

*Introduction to lectio divina*

Tuesday, November 10

7 pm, Etue room

### Session II

*Practicing lectio divina*

Tuesday, November 17

7 pm, Etue Room



Lectio Divina is an ancient, hallowed way of praying with the sacred scriptures. In Lectio Divina we engage personally with the words of Scripture, receiving in them a communication that draws us into deeper intimacy with Christ. These sessions will focus on the theology of this ancient practice and its role in Christian prayer. There will be opportunity to participate in this rich experience of Lectio Divina and to reflect on its power for personal and communal transformation.

**NO RESERVATIONS NEEDED. BRING A BIBLE TO BOTH SESSIONS.**

## Advent Calendar

Saturday, Dec. 5

*Magnificat Concert*

7 pm, Church

Sunday, Dec. 6

*Parish Service Day*

2:00 to 7:00 pm, Auditorium

Tuesday, Dec. 8

*Solemnity of the  
Immaculate Conception  
(Holy Day of Obligation)*

Masses: 6:30, 8:15 am & 6 pm

Friday, Dec. 11

*Posada*

6:30 to 8:30 pm, Church

Saturday, Dec. 12

*Men's Prayer Breakfast,  
7:30 am, Mulligan/Scheer*

Sunday, Dec. 20

*Advent Reconciliation Service  
7 pm, Church*



**Our Lady of the  
Presentation Church**  
130 NW Murray Road  
Lee's Summit, MO  
64081

**Phone: 816-251-1100**

**Fax: 816-251-1199**

**www.presentation-parish.org**

**Please notify the Parish  
Office of address changes.**

### ***Vision Statement***

Our Lady of the Presentation is a vibrant, Eucharist-centered community offering all Catholics participation in sacraments, social action and Christian education.

### ***Mission Statement***

To share our gifts by providing opportunities for spiritual growth in worship, service, education and community activities, is our mission.

NON-PROFIT ORG  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #33  
LEES SUMMIT MO  
64063



## ***Posada*** ***Friday, December 11*** ***6:30 to 8:30 pm***

*Come join us as we celebrate the Advent and Christmas season with "Posada," a Latin American cultural tradition similar to the Journey to Bethlehem we've had in the past. This is a family event with prayer, song, food, and a piñata.*

- 6:30: Welcome Español/English
- 6:35: Explanation of Posada-Español/English
- 6:50: Cantos de Posada
- 7:05: Entrance to the Pesebre & Explanation
- 7:10: Prayer for the 1st Day of Novena to the baby Jesus
- 7:20: Songs/Villancicos  
*Niño del Tambor - Little Drummer Boy*  
*Noche de Paz - Silent Night*  
*Feliz Navid*
- 7:30: Food/Comida
- 8:00: Piñata and Aguinaldos

## ***Christmas Mass Schedule***



***Thursday, December 24***  
***Christmas Eve Masses: 4, 6, 8 & 10 pm***

***Friday, December 25***  
***Christmas Day Masses: 9 & 11 am***

***Friday, January 1***  
***Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God***  
***(Holy Day of Obligation)***

***Masses: 9 & 11 am***