DAILY MASS READINGS

Monday, December 7 —
Is 35 1 - 10 / Lk 5: 17 – 26

Tuesday, December 8 —
Gn 3: 9 - 15, 20 / Lk 1: 26 - 28

Wednesday, December 9 —
Is 40: 25 - 31 / Mt 11: 28 - 30

Thursday, December 10 —
Is 41: 13 - 20 / Mt 11: 11 - 15

Friday, December 11 —
Is 48: 17 - 19 / Mt 11: 16 - 19

Saturday, December 12 —
Zch 2: 14 - 17 / Lk 1: 39 - 47

Sunday, December 13 —

Preparing for Next Sunday:

A Christmas Wish List

Young children sit on Santa’s lap to answer the question that consumes them these days: What do you want for Christmas?

The child in each of us still wants stuff like toys and new clothes. But deep inside us we have more basic needs. We need security, fairness, and love. We want something huge for Christmas. We want peace on earth and justice for the oppressed. We want poverty eliminated and wars ceased.

Isaiah promises we will not be disappointed. He promises that God will do such wondrous things that justice and praise will spring up in every nation. When God is the joy of our soul, Isaiah says, a robe of salvation clothes us and a mantle of justice enfolds us. When God is our joy, we feel as rich as royalty, no matter how poor our state.

What does the earth want for Christmas? It wants good news for the poor, healing for the brokenhearted, liberty for captives, and release for prisoners. The earth wants what God alone can provide.

What do you want for Christmas? Is it something for you or something for the earth? Will it hinder or help the earth get what it needs?

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT FCC:

THE ORPHANS CHRISTMAS TREE IS UP: If you are looking for away to help the Orphans Ministry immediately, our Christmas tree is up and we are accepting monetary donations for the needs of children at an orphanage. Just come in, look at the envelopes on the tree, take one, insert your donation, and give it to the receptionist. Please consider giving generously this year as many previous donors may not be able to give this year due to covid-19 and loss of work.

FACEBOOK UPDATES: Please continue to refer to our parish Facebook page for important information concerning: mass intentions, direct transfer donations, and our religious education program. It is your best source for up-to-date information.

ABOUT MASS In an effort to allow more people access to Mass, we are now offering ticketed masses on Sunday, Wednesday evening and special feast days. You can access the FCC Facebook page to log on to Eventbrite to book your ticket. The number of attendees is limited to 24. These masses will also be livestreamed on our YouTube channel. Please follow the guidelines for entrance into the church, participation in mass, and safe practices during mass. Please adhere to the social distancing guidelines.

AVAILABILITY OF PRIESTS: With the situation around the outbreak of the COVID – 19 and the measures taken by Tokyo diocese not have masses, the priests at the Chapel Center are sorry about constraints faced by our parishioners. We like our parishioners to know that while these measures are taken to protect our elderly and young parishioners, Priests are available to any parishioner who would need a priest for confessions or spiritual direction.

MASS INTENTIONS: If you are offering a mass intention for a loved-one. Please be sure to email Lessie at fccpastoral@gmail.com to insure that your intention is logged into our calendar. Even if you give your intention envelope to the receptionist, be sure to notify Lessie. All intentions should be paid for before the date of the mass intention to avoid double-bookings.

PRAY FOR PEOPLE INFECTED: Please continue to pray for people all over the world who have been affected by the spread of infection that they may be healed. Also pray for scientists, doctors, healthcare staff and the government so that they may work collectively and guided by the Holy Spirit to bring healing to others and a solution to end this disease.

THE Generous Saint Nicholas
St. Nicholas was a well-loved bishop born in the fourth century in the country now known as Turkey. His family was wealthy and both of his parents died when he was young. St. Nicholas is remembered for his very generous spirit. He always helped others and gave the most of his inheritance away. He once helped a father who could not afford to take care of his three daughters. When Nicholas came to know about their misery, he secretly left money in the daughter’s shoes that were drying outside the house. Thus there is the tradition of leaving shoes at the doorstep on the feast day (December 6) for St. Nicholas to fill.

Prayer on Saint Nicholas Day
Today we remember the generous spirit of St. Nicholas. He loved God and shared his devotion to God by helping people in need and putting others before himself. Dear God, we ask you to help us to learn from the example of St. Nicholas. Help us share kind words and joy to those whom we meet. We offer this prayer with generous and loving hearts. Amen

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR THE FAMILY

The Advent time allows for beautiful family moments as we prepare for the best time of the year, Christmas.

It’s a time to be grateful for the gifts that we receive everyday and so we are so used to it. We may pause for a while amidst our hustle and bustle to prepare for the festive season to acknowledge the love and care we receive from one another in our family.

Alongside gifts that go under the Christmas tree, we can also have a gift bag, with gift tags filled out by everyone in the family thanking them what they are and for what they do.

Thank you for your generosity
We thank our parishioners for their donations to help us with the functioning of our church. We continue to carry out our work with your support.

October 2020
Sundays Collection and Donation:
¥ 837,000
- First Friday 10/02: ¥ 25,000
- Wednesday Masses: ¥ 79,000
- Our Lady of Rosary 10/07: ¥ 19,000
- St. Callistus 10/14: ¥ 21,000
- Sts. Simon & Jude 10/28 ¥ 29,000

Meal Prayers
Before
Father, as we prepare to celebrate the birth of your Son, prepare our hearts to receive him today and every day of our lives. You have blessed us with many wonderful things. As you nourish us with these gifts of the earth, nourish us further so that we may be effective witnesses of gospel life. We ask this through Christ our Lord — Amen

After
Father, you sent your Son to bring light into the darkened world. As we give you thanks for this food which we have shared, may we live our thanks by spreading the light of Christ throughout the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord — Amen

The Advent Wreath
Prayer for the second week of Advent:
Mary and Joseph were people of great love. They were chosen to be parents of Jesus because of their love for God.
We are thankful to have their obedience, kindness and deep faith as our examples. As we travel our Advent path and light the second candle on the Advent wreath, we pray that we too will love God as much as Mary and Joseph. Amen
We're in need of donations - any amount helps!

OUR CHURCH NEEDS YOUR HELP.

Since the suspension of all Masses, parishes, church organisations and charities which depend on collections during Mass are facing unprecedented challenges.

ACT NOW!
Scan the QR-code, or visit: http://franciscanchapelcentertokyo.org/how-to-donate-funds/
Physical donations are also possible at the parish office.