

Dear Padre,

Do non-Catholics go to heaven?

Yes, they do, because of the grace of God at work in his people. To suggest otherwise would seem to imply that Catholics somehow have a “golden ticket,” or some kind of right that simply does not exist.

The Incarnation of Jesus healed the division between heaven and earth, a division established by the “sin of Adam” and confirmed by our own lives of sin. Through his passion, death, and resurrection, all has been restored to the manner that the Father first envisioned through his Creation. The division was between humanity and divinity, not between religious practices and divinity. Catholics believe and celebrate that God accepts all people of a good heart and a good spirit. God is not blinded by the labels that sometimes blind his people to the bigger reality.

When Catholics, or people of any religion, proclaim exclusivity and specialness, particularly when it concerns eternal life, all people should be very cautious about what they assume. To assume a certain type of arrogance—to yourself and to your belief and life of faith—that excludes others or separates another as “not one of us” simply has no place in the kingdom of God. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 8 <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Gn 3:9–15, 20 Eph 1:3–6, 11–12 Lk 1:26–38	December 9 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:1–11 Mt 18:12–14	December 10 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 40:25–31 Mt 11:28–30	December 11 <i>Advent Weekday</i> Is 41:13–20 Mt 11:11–15	December 12 <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> Zec 2:14–17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab Lk 1:26–38 or Lk 1:39–47	December 13 <i>St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr</i> Sir 48:1–4, 9–11 Mt 17:9a, 10–13	December 14 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> Is 35:1–6a, 10 Jas 5:7–10 Mt 11:2–11

Do you have a question for the Padre?
Go to [DearPadre.org](#) to send your question and to learn more about [Dear Padre](#).



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

With the light and the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God’s love, a sign of unity, a missionary Church that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the word, allows itself to be made “restless” by history, and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025



Will You Notice the Shoot?

ANN M. GARRIDO

Today’s first reading from the prophet Isaiah offers a familiar Advent image: the shoot sprouting from the stump of Jesse. The verses immediately preceding speak of God walking through the forest with an ax: “The tall of stature shall be felled, and the lofty ones shall be brought low” (Isaiah 10:33). But now, amidst all the destruction, a tiny sign of new life emerges, and the Spirit of God descends upon it, bearing many gifts—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, awe, delight.

So often, when we scroll through the news, our attention is captured by violence and war and the “mighty” who make great noise when they fall. “Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees,” echoes John the Baptist in today’s gospel. If we are looking for where God’s Spirit can be found, however, Isaiah reminds us we will need to look elsewhere. We will need to attend to the quiet, fragile resurrections taking place below the surface when it appears as if all has been lost. If we seek wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, awe, and delight, we will need to look where the little ones of the earth are found. We must have our eyes open for the shoots.

The gospels emphasize that Jesus was one such little one. Although the glory days of his people seemed to have come to a crashing close, they have not. In him, we glimpse the truth that life is stronger than death. We see that the future has not been erased, no matter how terrible the past. In him, we find our hope. ●

Reflect

Are my eyes open to the small signs of God’s work in the world, or am I too distracted to notice?



A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom.

ISAIAH 11:1

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WELCOME! NO MATTER WHAT YOUR PRESENT OR PAST STATUS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, NO MATTER YOUR PERSONAL HISTORY, AGE, RACE OR BACKGROUND, YOU ARE INVITED, WELCOMED, ACCEPTED, AND LOVED AT ST. GENEVIEVE CATHOLIC PARISH.

RECONCILIATION: (Confession) available, following Mass, on
Sunday and Wednesday – please contact Fr. Pedro, before mass, to confirm
availability. Also, by appointment.
BAPTISM: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor, at least one month prior to
desired date.
SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor
at least six months prior to desired date.

Please remember St. Genevieve Parish in your Will
THANK YOU for your donations!

Weekly Budget: \$1,255.00
11/23/25: \$1,646.00
11/30/25: \$778.00
Building Fund Donations: none last week

******* UPCOMING EVENTS *******

Mon, Dec 8, *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*, Mass at 11:00 AM
Thurs, Dec 18, *Advent Reconciliation Service*, 5:00 PM
Wed, Dec 24, *Christmas Eve Vigil Mass*, 4:00 PM
Thurs, Dec 25, *Christmas Day Mass*, 11:00 AM
Wed, Dec 31, *No Mass*
Thurs, Jan 1, *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*, 11:00 AM



BUILDING COMMITTEE

People with ideas about the new parish hall, especially those with building
skills, are welcome to Contact the Building Committee.

PARENTS: Please do not allow your children to play on/around the new block
retaining wall. Thank you!



**The Cove is, again, in need of toilet paper. Donations can
be left in the basket at the side door.**

MANGER MALL THANKS YOU for your donations of presents!

Mass Schedule:

**Sunday, Dec 7 @ 11:00 am, Second Sunday of Advent, Rosary @
10:20 am**
Monday, Dec 8 @ 11:00 am Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Wednesday, Dec 10 @ 9:30 am, Rosary 9:00 am
**Sunday, Dec 14 @ 11:00 am, Third Sunday of Advent,
Rosary @ 10:20 am**



Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 11:1–10 The wolf shall be a guest of the lamb.
Psalm 72 “Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.”
Romans 15:4-9 God, the source of patience, enables us to live in harmony.
Matthew 3:1-12 Prepare the way of the Lord!

**Each Sunday of Advent this year, the first reading is taken from the book of the prophet
Isaiah and the Gospel is from Matthew.** Matthew’s Gospel consistently portrays Jesus and his
mission as a fulfillment of the promise God made to the Chosen People. Therefore, Matthew
strives to connect the dots between Isaiah, the paramount prophet of the Hebrew scriptures, and
Jesus Christ. Today we hear Isaiah and John the Baptist describe in terms poetic and practical the
coming of God’s chosen one. May their words strengthen our anticipation of and preparation for
the Lord’s coming.

Question of the Week: How can my family live together more harmoniously? What can I do to
help make this happen?



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Please remember Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington Christmas Collection
envelopes are at the entrances/exits



There is a strong possibility that **St. Nicholas**, the patron saint of children will be visiting us
after Mass today. Altar Society is providing the refreshments downstairs. All are welcome.

Endow, the women's scripture study on Monday evenings has ended for the year. The program will resume
in January after Epiphany. Watch for information on the date and time. Thanks to April for starting this
program and encouraging participation among St. Genevieve families!



HOPE | LOVE | JOY | PEACE

*A shoot shall
sprout from
the stump of
Jesse...and...
a bud shall
blossom...*



John the Baptist – Titian

“Prepare the Way of the Lord”



**Please Remember in
Your Prayers**

Wannita Knox
Kylee’s nephew
John Spannuth
Joseph Carbajal
Mark Crum
Roland Cruz
Duncan Bronson
Brooke Stendera
Lupe Garcia
Bill Wilburn
Sheila Kerr
Jonathan Kessler
Fr. Sean Thomson
Thomson Family
Evangeline Grace Knox
Melissa Larson
Howard Burcham
Terry & Barb Anderson
Bernice Morgan



**Repose of the
Soul of**