



AND THE

Word

BECAME FLESH AND
MADE HIS DWELLING
AMONG US, AND
WE SAW
HIS GLORY,

JOHN 1:14

Christmas 2023

St. Anthony of Padua Church

5770 N. Maroa Avenue, Fresno, CA 93704

559-439-0124 www.stanthonyfresno.org

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Parochial Vicar

Fr. Edgar Magana

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Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

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mdanksferg@stanthonyfresno.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
(closed 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. for lunch)

BULLETIN/WEBPAGE

Bulletin Editor: bulletin@stanthonyfresno.org
Bulletin inserts are due 4 weeks
prior to publication.

Welcome to St. Anthony of Padua

The Catholic Christian community of St. Anthony Padua welcomes all to our celebrations of God's love. Through prayer, education, sacraments, caring and stewardship, we strive to serve the needs of God's people and to gain a richer understanding of the Gospel message of love. We invite you to become a part of our "Parish Life." Your talents are welcome! **Thanks for joining us!**

Rev. Msgr. Robert D. Wenzinger, Pastor

Please register at www.stanthonyfresno.org.

TODAY'S READINGS CAN BE FOUND IN THE GREEN HYMNAL #868;
CHRISTMAS #870-873

Mass Intentions

24 SUNDAY – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00 a.m. Intentions of Monique Gomez by her Family
9:30 a.m. † Msgr John Coelho Hargundeguy by Georgina Reynolds
11:00 a.m. Pro Populo (For the intentions of the parish community)
1:00 p.m. Intenciones de Darío y Martha Guerra
por parte de la Familia Guerra
4:00 p.m. † Natale Pardini by Linda Mastro
6:30 p.m. Msgr John Coelho Hargundeguy by Anna Hargundeguy
9:00 p.m. Intenciones de la familia Gómez Ramírez
Midnight † The Dearly Departed Members of the Ochinero & Ferdinandi Families

25 MONDAY – CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 a.m. † Pedro Franco
10:00 a.m. Pro Populo (For the intentions of the parish community)
1:00 p.m. † Elvira Razo-Alvarado por La Familia Shiveley

26 TUESDAY

6:45 a.m. † Holy Souls in Purgatory by the Shiveley Family
8:00 a.m. † Deceased Members of the Belton-Perry Families
by their Families

27 WEDNESDAY

6:45 a.m. † Chuck Stephens by Howard & Dottie DeMera
8:00 a.m. † Jeff Reynolds by his Wife & Children

28 THURSDAY

6:45 a.m. Intentions of Gabie Pedregal by Rizza Pedregal
8:00 a.m. Intentions of James Medoza by Kate King

29 FRIDAY

6:45 a.m. † Jean Brady by John & Michelle O'Rourke
8:15 a.m. † Adrian Alvarado by Eliseo & Nivia Cuellar

30 SATURDAY

4:00 p.m. Intentions of Marvin Perez by the Perez Family
5:30 p.m. Pro Populo (For the intentions of the parish community)

31 SUNDAY – HOLY FAMILY

8:00 a.m. † Daniel Sarabosing by his daughter, Estrellita
9:30 a.m. Intentions of Edgar & Mary Briseño
11:00 a.m. † Pasco Silipini by Danny & Dolores Leon
1:00 p.m. † Elvira Razo Alvarado
6:00 p.m. Pro Populo (For the intentions of the parish community)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3

General Meeting, 6:15 p.m. in the Social Hall
(Rosary, Dinner, Meeting)

Knights of
Columbus



**ENCOUNTER NIGHTS
NOCHES DE ENCUENTRO**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5



Holy Hour with Eucharistic Adoration, Music, and Scripture. Come and Encounter Jesus Personally in the Eucharist. Bilingual Celebration will be held in the Main Church. Invite a friend.

Hora Santa Eucaristica, Música y Escritura. Ven a encontrarte personalmente con Jesús en la Eucaristía. La celebración Bilingüe se llevará a cabo en la Iglesia.

First Friday | Cada Primer Viernes de Mes | 6:30 p.m. Main Church

Includes: Communion Service | Incluye: Servicio de Comunión

Morning Adoration (OLG Chapel) | after 8:15 a.m. Mass until 11:00 a.m.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday (Vigil Mass)

4:00 p.m. – English

5:30 p.m. – Español

Sunday

8:00 a.m.; 9:30 a.m.; 11:00 a.m. –

English

1:00 p.m. – Español

6:00 p.m. – English

Livestream Mass Schedule

9:30 a.m. – English Mass

1:00 p.m. – Misa Español

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday-Thursday (OLG Chapel)

6:45 a.m. – Daily Mass

8:00 a.m. – Chapel open until 11:00 a.m.

Friday (OLG Chapel)

6:45 a.m. – Daily Mass

8:15 a.m. – Followed by Adoration

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday

9:00–11:00 a.m. – Guadalupe Chapel

RECONCILIATION

Tuesday

6:00 p.m. – Chapel Confessionals

Saturday

10:00 a.m. – Chapel Confessionals



JUEVES – ESTUDIO DE LA BIBLIA

7:00 p.m. en el salón #22

Acompáñenos para reflexionar en las lecturas de la biblia y el Evangelio Dominical. "Tu Palabra es una lampara a mis pies, es una luz en mi sendero." Salmo 119

SILVER ANGELS
New Year's Luncheon
Wednesday, JANUARY 10, 2023
11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
St. Agnes Mission Church Social Hall,
111 W. Birch Steet, Pinedale.
 Start the New Year off with Lunch, fellowship, and lots of fun with your fellow St. Anthony/St. Agnes parishioners. Lunch is only \$14.00 per person. Guests are welcome to bring a dessert to share and a small gift that fits in a lunch bag for our Fun & Games.



WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10
 6:30 p.m. in the Social Hall
 (includes dinner)

ITALIAN CATHOLIC FEDERATION
 Celebrating Faith, Family and Heritage Since 1924

PARISH BIBLE STUDY STARTS JANUARY 24
 6:30 p.m. in Room 22
 Sami/Dina Shwiyhat and Eliseo/Nivia Cuellar will begin a 10-week series, *Jesus, The Way, The Truth, and The Life* on Wednesday, January 24th, running every other Wednesday night.
 Watch the bulletin for dates as we navigate Lent, Easter, and beyond. You can order a copy of the book from Ascension Press at <https://ascensionpress.com/collections/jesus-way-truth-and-life>.

Grupo de Oración

**JUEVES – GRUPO DE ORACIÓN
ENCUENTRO CON DIOS.**

Te invitamos al grupo de oración todos los jueves desde las 6:30 p.m. empezando con El Rosario, en la Iglesia de Santa Inés "Ven y llénate del Señor." 111 W Birch Street, Fresno, CA 93650

For more information on parish groups, call the Ministry Office at 439-0124, ext. 106.

Year of Parish Revival

NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

We invite you to pray the Revival prayer in silence after Mass in your pew.

My God, I believe, I adore, I hope, and I love You! I beg pardon for those who do not believe, nor adore, nor hope, nor love You. Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly. I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges, and indifference by which He is offended. And, through the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of sinners. Amen

*¡Oh, mi Dios, yo creo en Ti! ¡Te adoro! ¡Confío en Ti y tu amor! ¡Te pido perdón por los que no creen, no te adoran, no confían en Ti y no te aman!
¡Oh, Santísima Trinidad, Padre, Hijo y Espíritu Santo, os adoro profundamente! Os ofrezco el preciosísimo Cuerpo, la preciosísima Sangre, El Alma y Divinidad de Cristo Jesús, presente en todos los tabernáculos del mundo, en reparación de todos los ultrajes, sacrilegios y la indiferencia con que es ofendido, y por los méritos infinitos del Sagrado Corazón de Jesús y del Inmaculado Corazón de María, os ruego por la conversión de los pecadores. Amén*

STEWARDSHIP – MANAGING GOD’S GIFTS TO US

Sharing the Gifts We Have Been Given!

December 3, 2023	\$26,270.00
Last year’s Plate Income	\$19,245.00
Difference	\$7,025.00
Year-to-Date Plate Collection • Colectas Del Año Hasta La Fecha	
July 1, 2023 – November 30, 2023	\$487,922.38
July 1, 2022 – November 30, 2022	\$417,479.00
Difference	\$70,443.38

WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY GRACIAS POR SU CONTINUA GENEROSIDAD



GIVE ONLINE – Easy, Safe, and Convenient: When you give to God, you discover that God gives to you. You can also drop your envelope in the mail slot located in the door on the south side of the Parish Office.

First Friday Schedule – January 5

- 8:15-11:00 a.m. Morning Mass and Adoration/Benediction
- 6:30 p.m. Adoration/Benediction Adoración Eucarística con Bendición Main Church



First Saturday Mass – January 6

- 8:15 a.m. Morning Mass in OLG Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Confession



ST. AGNES MISSION CHURCH

111 W. Birch Street, Pinedale, CA 93650
(559) 439-2100

Sunday 9:00 a.m. English – Mass Intention: † Laura Guzman

Sunday 10:30 a.m. Español – Misa Intencion: † Biviano Romero

For the following Sacraments, please contact St. Anthony of Padua:
Anointing of the Sick • Baptisms • Confession • Funerals • Weddings

ST. AGNES MISSION CHURCH STAFF (559) 439-2100

Parish Administrator Annette Amparano
amparano@stagnes.comcastbiz.net

Director of Religious Education..... Phyllis Carmona
For pastoral support, call St. Anthony of Padua Parish Office at 559-439-0124.

SHARING THE GIFTS WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN	
December 3, 2023	\$2,276.00
2024 YTD Total	\$31,401.23
WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY! GRACIAS POR SU CONTINUA GENEROSIDAD	

Sunday, December 24th – Christmas Eve
5:00 p.m. Mass – English

Monday, December 25th – Christmas Day
10:00 a.m. Mass – Spanish

No New Year's Day Mass.

“Christ has made my soul beautiful with jewels of grace and virtue. I belong to Him Whom the Angels serve.” – St. Agnes

Christmas Message from Msgr. Rob

As we come to the end of our Advent journey, now is a good time to pause to consider the birth of Christ, Joseph and Mary's days leading up to the birth of Christ.

In our culture we get all caught up in searching for the perfect gift for our friends and family. We run from one store to another, and from one Christmas party to another, completely overlooking the journey to Christmas. Many look forward to it just being over. Children are conditioned to focus solely on what they are getting for Christmas, rarely considering what they can give to those in need.

Mary and Joseph's attention was on getting to Bethlehem to register for the government census. Preparing for the birth of their child was perhaps a second thought to the task ahead.

Mary, 8 months pregnant, riding on a donkey in the hot sun of the day and having to sleep close to that same donkey for warmth from the cold desert nights. Like many today, they had to face heavy winds and rain without shelter and everything was by foot. Imagine how they must have looked when they arrived in Bethlehem. Their hands, faces, clothes, feet dusty and dirty. They were most likely very hungry and definitely tired from living on the streets and in the elements, without home or lodging (homeless).

Joseph and Mary seeking lodging or a warm bed as Mary's time to give birth was drawing near, but the response was always "No." One kind soul did offer them their barn with their animals to get out of the elements. And it was there, homeless, that Christ was born in an animal trough with hay for comfort and warmth. What will my response be to Christ and the Holy Family this Christmas? Will my response be, "Go away, I'm too busy preparing for Christmas, I have nothing to offer you"? Or will I pause to thank Him for my many blessings of family, lodging, food, and warmth. Can I offer a warm smile, blanket, jacket, food to someone who is homeless or in need? Will I reach out to an organization like Catholic Charities with a monetary donation so they can provide shelter and comfort to those out in the cold. What kind of Christmas do I want?

On behalf of the clergy and staff of St. Anthony of Padua, we wish you and yours a Merry Christmas.

ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA

Advent/Christmas Schedule

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00; 9:30; 11:00 a.m. – English

1:00 p.m. – Español

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Eve Mass

4:00 p.m. Mass – English

6:30 p.m. Mass – English

9:00 p.m. Mass – English

Midnight Mass – English

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Day Mass

8:00 a.m. Mass – English

10:00 a.m. Mass – English

1:00 p.m. Mass – Español

Monday, December 25



Parish Ministry Guide –

Christ said, "I have come to serve, not to be served."

The prayers during the Mass invite us to offer our prayers and gifts to the Lord. Liturgical Ministry calls the faithful to be part of the Mass. We all feel unworthy to serve, just as Christ's disciples, who were fishermen before Christ called them.

Is Christ calling you?

ALTAR SERVER

We invite parents of youth (4th grade and up, who have received their First Holy Communion) to prayerfully consider the unique opportunity for your child to grow closer to Our Lord and His Church as an Altar Server. You can register online at stanthonyfresno.org/ministries/, then click on Altar Servers or call the Parish Office at 439-0124 for more details.



SERVIDOR DE ALTAR

Invitamos a los padres de los jóvenes (de 4º grado en adelante, que hayan recibido su Primera Comunión) a considerar en oración la oportunidad única de que su hijo crezca más cerca de Nuestro Señor y de Su Iglesia como Monaguillo. Usted puede registrarse en línea en stanthonyfresno.org/ministries/, luego haga clic en Altar Servers o llame a la oficina de la parroquia en 439-0124 para más detalles.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Considered the unique honor to offer the "Body of Christ" to the faith community. Ministers are commissioned by our pastor to assist with the distribution of Holy Communion at Mass. Candidates should be 18 years of age and be in full communion with the church (all sacraments).



MINISTROS DE LA EUCARISTÍA

Se considera el honor único de ofrecer el "Cuerpo de Cristo" a la comunidad de fe. Los ministros son comisionados por nuestro párroco para asistir en la distribución de la Sagrada Comunión en la Misa. Los candidatos deben tener 18 años de edad y estar en plena comunión con la iglesia (todos los sacramentos).

LECTORS

Do you remember the joy of reading to your children before bed? If so, chances are you're a Lector candidate. Persons, 5th grade and older, who have made their First Holy Communion with good reading skills can serve as a Lector at Mass.



LECTORES

¿Recuerda la alegría de leer a sus hijos antes de dormir? Si es así, lo más probable es que usted sea un candidato a Lector. Las personas, de 5º grado en adelante, que han hecho su Primera Comunión con buenas habilidades de lectura pueden servir como Lector en la Misa.

Interested Lector and Eucharistic Minister candidates should contact Martha in the Parish Office at 439-0124, ext. 114 or by email. *Los candidatos Ministerio Eucarístico y lectores interesados deben contactar a Martha en la oficina parroquial al 439-0124, ext. 114 o por correo electrónico.*

USHER & GREETER MINISTRY

Are you the type to get to church early? Why not join the Usher Ministry and greet your fellow parishioners as they enter the church? Ushers assist with the collection and act as Eucharistic Guards during Communion. Join the team and serve when you can. Call the Parish Office at 439-0124, ext. 106 for more details or complete the Volunteer Registration at www.stanthonyfresno.org/ministries.



MINISTERIO DE UJIERES Y SALUDADORES

¿Eres de los que llegan temprano a la iglesia? ¿Por qué no te unes al Ministerio de Ujieres y saludas a tus feligreses cuando entran en la iglesia? Los ujieres ayudan con la colecta y actúan como guardias eucarísticos durante la comunión. Únase al equipo y sirva cuando pueda. Llame a la oficina parroquial al 439-0124, ext. 106 para obtener más detalles o complete el registro de voluntarios en www.stanthonyfresno.org/ministries.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

Are you a Eucharistic Minister who is being called to serve the members of our parish who are unable to come to Mass on Sunday due to illness or other limitation? We are looking for Eucharistic Ministers who are willing to take Holy Communion after Mass to the members of the parish who are Homebound. If you are interested, please contact the Office of Ministry at 439-0124, ext. 106.



MINISTERIO DE LOS CONFINADOS EN CASA

¿Es usted un Ministro Eucarístico que está siendo llamado a servir a los miembros de nuestra parroquia que no pueden asistir a Misa el domingo debido a una enfermedad u otra limitación? Estamos buscando un Ministro Eucarístico que esté dispuesto a llevar la Sagrada Comunión después de la Misa a los miembros de la parroquia que están en sus hogares. Si está interesado, comuníquese con la Oficina del Ministerio al 439-0124, ext. 106.

We Need You...

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



Faith Formation & Sacrament

Preparation for Grades K through 6th

FIRST RECONCILIATION, FIRST COMMUNION & SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Classes are in session, Sundays at 3:00 p.m.

Additionally, Second Year students and parent(s) attend one

Thursday per month at 6:30 p.m.

Registrations available on our website: stanthonyfresno.org

For more information or to volunteer in children's ministry, contact Mary Briseno at (559) 439-0124 ext. 113 or by email:

mbriseno@stanthonyfresno.org

GIFT EDUCACION RELIGIOSA

Formación de Fe y Preparación Sacramental para niños del Kinder – 6to grados

PRIMERA RECONCILIACION, PRIMERA COMUNION, Y SACRAMENTOS DE INICIACION

Las Clases son los domingos a 3:00 p.m. Adicional, en el Segundo Año escolar los estudiantes y sus padres asisten a un jueves por mes a las 6:30 p.m.

Inscripciones disponibles en nuestra página web: stanthonyfresno.org

Para mas información o para ser voluntario en el ministerio de niños, comuníquese con Mary Briseno al (559) 439-0124 ext. 113 o por email: mbriseno@stanthonyfresno.org

EDGE

2023-2024 for Grades 6th through 8th

Director, Sharon Christison, ext. 117, schristison@stanthonyfresno.org



Catholic Youth Ministry Sessions are Tuesday Evenings in Room 22 from 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Register at www.stanthonyfresno.org. Click on Faith Formation tab and scroll down to click one of the EDGE options.

EDGE is a Catholic youth group that is designed to meet the educational, spiritual, emotional, and social needs of young adolescents. As young adolescents, they are trying to figure out who they are and what they believe. Youth can prepare for sacraments of Baptism and First Communion while attending Edge.

LIFETEEN High School Youth Ministry

2023-2024 for Grades 9 through 12



Director, Sharon Christison, ext. 117, schristison@stanthonyfresno.org

LifeTeen is a movement within the Roman Catholic Church. LifeTeen leads teenagers and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. We create a dynamic space where the youth can develop friendships with their peers, learn more about their faith, and encounter Jesus in the Sacraments.

First Year Confirmation:

Confirmation is a two-year program for High School students who are sophomores and older. Confirmation candidates usually meet Sunday evenings with our Life Teen Youth Group. Meetings would consist of attending the Life Teen 6:00 p.m. Mass and then the Life Night until 8:30 p.m.

Second Year Confirmation:

Confirmation 2 is open to juniors and seniors who have completed their first year of preparation. Second-year sessions are on Sunday evenings. LifeTeen Life Nights began in September for all high school teens. Invite a friend and grow together.

RCIA: RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS
 Tuesdays: 6:30-8:00 p.m. St. Anthony Conference Room (aka Donut Room)

Director, Martha Danks-Ferguson

439-0124, ext. 114; mdanksferg@stanthonyfresno.org

See our website to register: www.stanthonyfresno.org

Click on *Faith Formation* or scroll down to the RCIA icon.

We welcome adults seeking any of the Sacraments of Initiation:

Baptism, Confirmation or Eucharist

New folks are welcome to join us any time during the year.

If you have any questions, please contact Martha by phone or email.



CONFIRMACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL

Para Jóvenes Bilingües en High School



¡INSCRIPCIONES!

Las inscripciones para la confirmación en español ya están abiertas. Visite nuestra pagina de web a stanthonyfresno.org o escanee el QR Code al lado para registrarse.

LAS CLASES COMENZARON EN EL MES DE AGOSTO, 2023.

Para más información comuníquese con el Diacono Edgar al 439-0124, ext. 111 o ebriseno@stanthonyfresno.org.



SACRAMENTOS PARA ADULTOS

Adultos mayores de 18 años interesados en los Sacramentos de Primera Comunión, Confirmación o Bautismo hablar con Hermana Edith, ext. 122 o sisteredith@stanthonyfresno.org.

LECTIONARY STUDY – (Rowdies' – Women's Bible Study) with Martha – Wednesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. in the Conference Room. We will delve into the readings for the upcoming weekend and prepare our hearts to receive the Good News anew.

GOD'S CALL

Reflection on Luke 1:26-38

The Gospel for this fourth Sunday of Advent is the familiar visitation scene – God calling Mary to be the mother of His Son. With her “yes,” Mary is elevated from an obscure teenager to be the mother of God, from a time-and-space-bound human being to Queen of Heaven, from a prayerful supplicant to the eternal go-to Lady for intercession and perpetual help! The interruption of the incarnation becomes, for Mary, the path to holiness: “Blessed are you among women!”

In these final days of Advent waiting and preparation, consider how the incarnation – the birth of Jesus both in human history and in this very moment of your life – calls you to God’s higher purposes. With Mary as our pattern of holiness, God is revealing some of what God wants from us: to be a co-creator of life, a nurturer, a font of love, a teacher, a healer, a reconciler, a prophet, a companion. “May it be done to me according to your word.”

~ Fr. Jay

WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
Rom 16:25-27
Lk 1:26-38

Monday, December 25, 2023

The Nativity of the Lord
Is 52:7-10
Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6
Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday, December 26, 2023

Saint Stephen, The First Martyr
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17
Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist
1 Jn 1:1-4
Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12
Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Thursday, December 28, 2023

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
1 Jn 1:5–2:2
Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8
Mt 2:13-18

Friday, December 29, 2023

Fifth Day within the Octave
1 Jn 2:3-11
Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6
Lk 2:22-35

Saturday, December 30, 2023

Sixth Day within the Octave
1 Jn 2:12-17
Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10
Lk 2:36-40

Access Daily Readings from
the New American Bible,
Revised Edition (NABRE) online at
<https://bible.usccb.org>



SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Feast Day: December 27

Patron Saint of: Turkey

It is God who calls; human beings answer. The vocation of John and his brother James is stated very simply in the Gospels, along with that of Peter and his brother Andrew: Jesus called them; they followed. For the three former fishermen—Peter, James and John—that faith was to be rewarded by a special friendship with Jesus, but John’s friendship was even more special. John’s own Gospel refers to him as “the disciple whom Jesus loved” (see John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2), the one who reclined next to Jesus at the Last Supper, and the one to whom Jesus gave the exquisite honor of caring for his mother, as John stood beneath the cross. “Woman, behold your son.... Behold, your mother” (John 19:26b, 27b).

On the first Easter, Mary Magdalene “ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, ‘They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him’” (John 20:2). John recalls, perhaps with a smile, that he and Peter ran side by side, but then “the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first” (John 20:4b). He did not enter, but waited for Peter and let him go in first. “Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed” (John 20:8).

John was with Peter when the first great miracle after the Resurrection took place—the cure of the man crippled from birth—which led to their spending the night in jail together. The mysterious experience of the Resurrection is perhaps best contained in the words of Acts: “Observing the boldness of Peter and John and perceiving them to be uneducated, ordinary men, they [the questioners] were amazed, and they recognized them as the companions of Jesus” (Acts 4:13).

“The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers” (1 John 3:16).

Read the full article: “Saint John the Evangelist” *Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars*, <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-john-the-evangelist/>. (Accessed December 8, 2023).

ESCRITURA SEMANAL

Domingo, 24 de diciembre de 2023

Cuarto domingo de Adviento
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Sal 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
Rom 16:25-27
Lc 1:26-38

Lunes, 25 de diciembre de 2023

Natividad del Señor
Is 52:7-10
Sal 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6
Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18

Martes, 26 de diciembre de 2023

San Esteban, primer mártir
Hch 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Sal 31:3cd-4, 6 y 8ab, 16bc y 17
Mt 10:17-22

Miércoles, 27 de diciembre de 2023

San Juan, apóstol y evangelista
1 Jn 1:1-4
Sal 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12
Jn 20:1a y 2-8

Jueves, 28 de diciembre de 2023

Santos Inocentes, mártires
1 Jn 1:5-2:2
Sal 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8
Mt 2:13-18

Viernes, 29 de diciembre de 2023

Quinto día de la Octava
1 Jn 2:3-11
Sal 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6
Lc 2:22-35

Sábado, 30 de diciembre de 2023

Sexto día de la Octava
1 Jn 2:12-17
Sal 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10
Lc 2:36-40

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LA LLAMADA DE DIOS

Reflexión sobre Lucas 1,26-38

El Evangelio de este cuarto domingo de Adviento presenta la conocida escena de la visitación: Dios llama a María para que sea la madre de su Hijo. Con su "sí", María pasa de ser una oscura adolescente a ser la madre de Dios, de ser humano limitado en el tiempo y en el espacio a Reina del Cielo, de suplicante en oración a eterna Señora de go-to para intercesión y ayuda perpetua. La interrupción de la encarnación se convierte para María en el camino de la santidad: "¡Bendita tú entre las mujeres!".

En estos últimos días de espera y preparación del Adviento, considera cómo la encarnación -el nacimiento de Jesús tanto en la historia humana como en este mismo momento de tu vida- te llama a los propósitos más elevados de Dios. Con María como modelo de santidad, Dios nos revela algo de lo que quiere de nosotros: que seamos cocreadores de vida, criadores, fuente de amor, maestros, sanadores, reconciliadores, profetas y compañeros. "Que se haga en mí según tu palabra."

~ P. Jay

SAN JUAN EVANGELISTA

Día de la fiesta: 27 de diciembre

Patrón de: Pavo

Es Dios quien llama; el ser humano responde. La vocación de Juan y de su hermano Santiago, al igual que la de Pedro y su hermano Andrés, se describe de forma muy sencilla en los Evangelios: Jesús les llamó y ellos le siguieron. Para los tres antiguos pescadores -Pedro, Santiago y Juan- esa fe iba a ser recompensada con una amistad especial con Jesús, pero la amistad de Juan fue aún más especial. El propio Evangelio de Juan se refiere a él como "el discípulo a quien Jesús amaba" (ver Juan 13:23; 19:26; 20:2), el que se reclinó junto a Jesús en la Última Cena, y aquel a quien Jesús concedió el exquisito honor de cuidar de su madre, mientras Juan estaba bajo la cruz. "Mujer, he aquí a tu hijo.... He ahí a tu madre" (Juan 19:26b, 27b).

En la primera Pascua, María Magdalena "corrió y fue a Simón Pedro y al otro discípulo a quien Jesús amaba, y les dijo: 'Se han llevado al Señor del sepulcro, y no sabemos dónde lo han puesto'" (Juan 20:2). Juan recuerda, quizá con una sonrisa, que él y Pedro corrieron codo con codo, pero entonces "el otro discípulo corrió más deprisa que Pedro y llegó primero al sepulcro" (Juan 20:4b). No entró, sino que esperó a Pedro y le dejó entrar primero. "Entonces entró también el otro discípulo, el que había llegado primero al sepulcro, y vio y creyó" (Juan 20:8).

Juan estaba con Pedro cuando se produjo el primer gran milagro después de la Resurrección -la curación del lisiado de nacimiento-, que les llevó a pasar juntos la noche en la cárcel. La misteriosa experiencia de la Resurrección está quizás mejor contenida en las palabras de los Hechos: "Al ver la audacia de Pedro y Juan y ver que eran hombres sencillos e incultos, quedaron asombrados y los reconocieron como compañeros de Jesús" (Hch 4,13).

"Así como hemos conocido el amor, porque Él dio su vida por nosotros, así también nosotros debemos dar la vida por nuestros hermanos" (1 Jn 3,16).

Lea el artículo completo en inglés: "Saint John the Evangelist" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, <https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-john-the-evangelist/>. (Consultado el 8 de diciembre de 2023)





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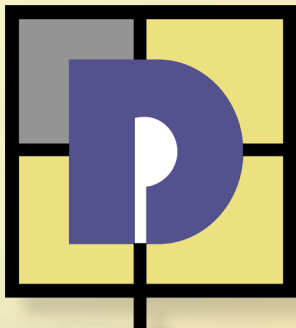
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