



Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on forever the splendor of glory from God.

BARUCH 5:1



EVERETT ATAMANENKO / SHUTTERSTOCK

And the Word Was Made Flesh

Many of us grew up thinking that this life doesn't amount to much. It's full of pitfalls and enticements that threaten our eternal salvation. Such disdain often boils over into contempt for the world. According to this thinking, it is only the next life that is important, which will unfold in a much better place. Today's readings challenge such extreme thinking. They assure us that the glory of God is partially revealed to us even within this life. They astound us by insisting that God speaks to us through life's events—events that often appear to be quite mundane.

Baruch tells of Jerusalem, the city loved passionately by every Israelite. This was a city like so many other cities. However, God dwelt there and wherever God dwells is, for that reason, a holy city—be it Jerusalem, Munich, or Detroit. God dwells in our midst, right here, right now. Hence, this imperfect life and this damaged world are holy.

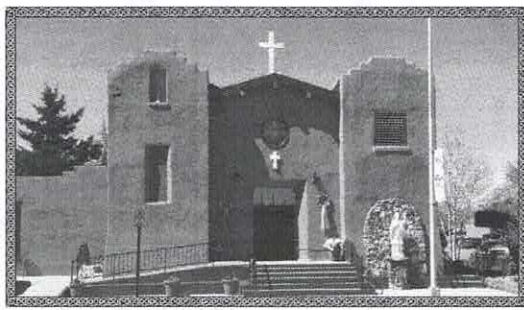
The Gospel situates John the Baptist in the middle of the ancient Near Eastern world. It was a Roman world controlled by Caesar and a Jewish province ruled over by Herod. John stated that it was to that place at that time that the Promised One would come, and it was up to John to “prepare the way of the Lord” (Isaiah 40:3; Luke 3:4).

Most importantly, we must never forget that God took on the troubles and sins of this world and entered our life, making it his life. This is the real reason that this world is holy.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ *Incarnation means that Jesus is made of the stuff of this world, just as we are. Think about this.*
- ★ *Nothing is too common that it can't be holy. What does that mean?*



St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church

115 N. First Street, Clayton, NM 88415

Office and Fax: (575) 374-8894 Email: sfxclayton@gmail.com

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Missions: Des Moines, Folsom, Moses, NENM Detention Facility

www.sfxclayton.org

Parish Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jason Pettigrew
 Business Manager/Finance: Theresa Gard
 Secretary: Laekyn Wagner
 Religious Education: Rose Ramirez
 Adult Religious Education: Rev. Jason Pettigrew

Parish Office Hours (CCD Building)

Mon, Tues, Thurs, 9:00AM -1:00PM
 Closed on Wed, Fri

Sacrament of Baptism

(Classes and Parents Interview)
 Contact Pastor

Sacrament of Marriage

(Classes and Couple Interview)
 Contact Fr. Jason -6 Months Prior

Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

By appointment with the Pastor

DECEMBER 5TH

St. Francis Xavier, Clayton

Weekend Mass: Saturday 5:00pm Sunday 10:30am

Daily Mass: Wednesday: 12:10pm

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30pm Friday:12:10pm

Confession: Saturday 4:00-5:00pm OR By Appointment

Adoration: Tuesday & Thursday 6pm to 7 pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Des Moines

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00am (Oct 1 - May 31)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

Honor of Our Blessed Mother Mass 1st Saturday of the Month: 10:30am

St. Joseph, Folsom

Weekend Mass: Sunday 8:00 am (Jun 1 - Sept 30)

Confession: Sunday before 8:00am OR by appt

NENM Detention Facility, Clayton (For Residents/Staff)

1st, 2nd & 3rd Sunday's Mass 2:00PM

Confession: Sunday 1:30pm—2:00

Nursing Home, Clayton

Every 4th Sunday 1:30 PM

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*This is my body, which will be given up for you.  
 This is my blood, the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.  
 It will be shed for you & for all... so that sins may be forgiven.  
 Do this in memory of me.*

**Masses will be offered December 2021**

+ All the Departed Parishioner's & Family Members  
 SI All the Sponsors, Benefactors & Supporters of SFX Clayton  
 SI Good Health & Well Being of all Parishioners & Families

- Sat, Dec. 4 +Gerry Davis by Ross & Shelley Carter  
 +Deceased of the Britt Family by Rosa Lee Britt  
 +Ronnie Rael by Ross & Shelly Carter
- Sun, Dec. 5 +Sam Britt by Rosa Lee Britt  
 +Deceased of the Wood Family by Rosa Lee Britt  
 +Richard Arguello by Debbie & Kirk Jesko  
 (OLOG) +Bill & Mary Wild by Marjorie & Grant Long
- Tue, Dec. 8 +Richard Arguello by Debbie & Kirk Jesko
- Thurs, Dec. 9 +Inez Romero by Dolores Montoya
- Fri, Dec. 10 +Inez Romero by Dolores Montoya
- Sat, Dec. 11 SI Helen Sintas by Teri & Pete Mansfield  
 SI Connie Johnson by Teri & Pete Mansfield  
 +Deceased of the Carter Family by Rosa Lee Britt  
 +Antonio & Feliz Gallegos by The Gallegos Family  
 +Christi Edwards-Urban by Her Friends & Family
- Sun, Dec. 12 +Sam Britt by Rosa Lee Britt  
 +Deceased of the Wyley Family by Rosa Lee Britt  
 +Richard Arguello by Debbie & Kirk Jesko  
 (OLOG) +Bill & Mary Wild by Marjorie & Grant Long
- Fri, Dec. 17 +Inez Romero by Dolores Montoya

**Weekly Collections Summary: Oct. & Nov. 2021**

|                | <u>SFX</u> | <u>OLOG</u> |
|----------------|------------|-------------|
| November 27-28 | \$1,625.00 | \$ 384.00   |
| November 20-21 | \$1,967.00 | \$ 365.00   |
| November 13-14 | \$1,979.00 | \$ 200.00   |
| November 6-7   | \$9,208.15 | \$ 469.00   |

**Thank you so much for your generosity!**

*Please visit the following very informative websites:*

- [www.archdiocesesantafe.org](http://www.archdiocesesantafe.org)
- [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com)
- [v2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html](http://v2.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html)
- [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org)
- [www.catholic culture.org](http://www.catholic culture.org)

**ATTENTION!!!**

Christmas Poinsettias are now available.

Please come by the office to purchase your Poinsettias.

Poinsettias are \$25 each.

Office Hours are:  
 Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays 9am to 1pm

The SFX drawing will be drawn on Monday  
 December 13th.

Please have tickets bought and turned into the  
 Office by Thursday, December 9th!

Thank you!!!

**The pain of abortion – from one who knows...**

"When I found out I was pregnant, I was so scared and felt like I didn't know where to turn. I felt like I had no other choice. After I had my abortion I felt relief at first. But after 7 years of denial it finally hit me. I was so scared when I found out what an abortion really [is]. I was so angry at my family and boyfriend (now husband). I felt like nobody was there for me. I was angry at the clinic personnel for saying everything would be fine. I found Project Rachel and they helped me start to grieve [for] my child. So many women feel that if they had more support and truth during their crisis pregnancy many lives would have been saved."  
 Help is available: Call 1-800-712-HELP

**Lectors for Masses**

- Sat, Dec. 11-Shelley Carter
- Sun, Dec. 12 Pat Crisp
- Sat, Dec. 18- Sammie Wood
- Sun, Dec. 19- Sandy Vaughn

# Dear Padre,

## My sister says that singing the *O Antiphons* are her favorite part of Advent. What are they?

**A**n antiphon is a brief refrain, usually from the Bible, either sung or said during worship. An *O Antiphon* is an antiphon that starts with O, as in “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”—each verse of that song is made up of an O Antiphon.

The antiphons are most at home in the Liturgy of the Hours—the collection of psalms, hymns, prayers, and readings that make up the regular rhythm of the Church’s prayer at morning, midday, evening, and night. The *O Antiphons* your sister refers to are verses used during the Church’s evening prayer from December 17–23. With one verse spoken or sung before Mary’s Magnificat each evening, these antiphons call on the Lord to come to his people using titles taken from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

When the *O Antiphons* are sung in Latin, they present a sort of acrostic with a hidden message. The first letter of each title in the antiphon spells *sarcophore*, which is *ero cras* (Latin for “tomorrow I come” or “tomorrow I shall be”) spelled backward.

In their original language and context, the *O Antiphons* have a particularly rich significance, but they remain beautiful even when sung simply in English as in the verses of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.”

Fr. Matthew Allman, CSSR / [Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)

### Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



JOSHOA / SHUTTERSTOCK

## Calendar

**Monday**  
DECEMBER 6  
Advent Weekday  
Is 35:1–10  
Lk 5:17–26

**Tuesday**  
DECEMBER 7  
St. Ambrose,  
Bishop and Doctor  
of the Church  
Is 40:1–11  
Mt 18:12–14

**Wednesday**  
DECEMBER 8  
Immaculate  
Conception of the  
Blessed Virgin Mary  
Gn 3:9–15, 20  
Eph 1:3–6, 11–12  
Lk 1:26–38

**Thursday**  
DECEMBER 9  
Advent Weekday  
Is 41:13–20  
Mt 11:11–15

**Friday**  
DECEMBER 10  
Advent Weekday  
Is 48:17–19  
Mt 11:16–19

**Saturday**  
DECEMBER 11  
Advent Weekday  
Sir 48:1–4, 9–11  
Mt 17:9a, 10–13

**Sunday**  
DECEMBER 12  
Third Sunday  
of Advent  
Zep 3:14–18a  
Phil 4:4–7  
Lk 3:10–18



### A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

*To prepare the way of the Lord’s coming, it is necessary to take note of the requirements of conversion to which the Baptist invites us....First of all we are called to fill the “valleys” caused by coldness and indifference, opening ourselves to others with the same sentiments as Jesus, that is, with affection and fraternal attention.*

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, DECEMBER 9, 2018

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