

Daily Readings For The Week

Monday December 11th

Damasus I.

Reading 1: **ISAIAH 35: 1-10**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 85{84}: 9-14**

Gospel: **LUKE 5: 17-26**

Tuesday December 12th

Our Lady of Guadalupe. Patron Saint of the Americas.

Reading 1: **ZEC. 2: 14-17 or REV. 11: 19; 12: 1-6,10**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. LK. 1: 46-55**

Gospel: **LUKE 1: 39-47**

Wednesday December 13th

St. Lucy, virgin & martyr.

Reading 1: **ISAIAH 40: 25-31**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 103{102}: 1-4,8,10**

Gospel: **MATTHEW 11: 28-30**

Thursday December 14th

St. John of the Cross, priest & doctor.

Reading 1: **ISAIAH 41: 13-20**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 145{144}: 1,9-13**

Gospel: **MATTHEW 11: 11-15**

Friday December 15th

Reading 1: **ISAIAH 48: 17-19**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 1: 1-4,6**

Gospel: **MATTHEW 11: 16-19**

Saturday December 16th

Reading 1: **SIRACH 48: 1-4,9-11**

Responsorial Psalm: **P S. 80{79}: 2-3,15-16,18-19**

Gospel: **MATTHEW 17: 9-13**

Announcements

1. A warm Welcome to all our visitors who are worshipping with us for the first time.
2. Happy Birthday and Anniversary to those celebrating their special day this week.
3. 2nd collection today is for the Franciscan Missionary Sisters (Blue Sisters).
4. St. E's Basic School - Children Mass, Tuesday, December 12, 2017 @ 8:00 a.m.
5. Senior Citizens meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 @ 1:30 p.m.
6. Please note December 17 will be a busy day—St. E's Basic School will be having their Concert @ 3:00 p.m. The more the merrier.
7. Our Pre Christmas Brunch will be held on Sunday, December 17, 2017. Cost - J\$1,400.00.
8. DEACON'S MASS - celebrating the "Feast of St. Stephen" will be held on Tuesday, December 26, 2017 at St's Peter & Paul Church @ 9:00 a.m. All are invited.
9. CHILDREN'S MASS - Sunday, December 31, 2017.
10. Liturgical Calendars for 2018 are now on sale. Please place your order with Fr. Award. Cost J\$300.00.

**Have a Blessed
Week**

Welcome to the Roman Catholic
Community of St. Elizabeth's Church
"A Catholic Community in the Passionist Tradition"



**2nd Sunday
of
Advent**

December 10, 2017

Theme: All Mankind Shall See the
Salvation of God.



Celebrating the Eucharist

Sundays: 10:30 a.m. Tue, Fri: 8:00 a.m.

Wednesdays: 5:30 p.m.

Rev. Fr. Richard Award, C.P.

Pastor

Desmond Gordon

Deacon

Reach Us At

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Office Hours

Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Office is closed on Saturdays & Sundays.

Pastor is available during office hours and by
appointment.

Advent pulls our hearts to the Lord! Advent is a time to begin anew. Advent is a time to be still and listen again to the Word of the Lord. All of this is to say that we must prepare the way of the Lord in our lives and in our hearts.

The first reading today is from the Prophet Isaiah. We have to understand this word as originally aimed at the Jewish people who had been taken out of their own land and were living in a foreign land without must capacity to celebrate their own faith. These people longed to return to their own land and to rebuild the temple of the Lord. As in any community, we can be sure that not everyone wanted to return because they knew that returning would be even worse hardship than staying where they were.

This is a parallel to our own lives today. We are in exile from the Lord because of our sins and the sins of our ancestors. Not everyone today wants to turn to the Lord because the Lord makes demands on our lives. The words of the Prophet Isaiah can be addressed to us if we long to live according to the Word of the Lord and recognize that we cannot do that without the grace and mercy of God in our lives.

If we have tried to be faithful and find ourselves failing over and over, then surely the words of Isaiah speak to us! Comfort, give comfort to my people! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed. When we are using our energies to seek the Lord, these words of Isaiah can bring tears to our eyes and open our hearts so much more to the presence of the Living God, who is seeking us.

The Second Letter of Saint Peter, from which is taken the second reading today, repeats this lesson to us: "The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." It is God Himself who wants to give us comfort but can only do so insofar as our hearts are open and waiting for Him. It is God who invites us to be patient and who reminds us: "Beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace."

Advent is a time to stir up our desire for God, to stir up our hope in the Lord, to deepen our awareness of His love for us.

The Gospel of Mark today gives us the account of John the Baptist, a man seeking the Lord with all his strength. Mark recognizes that John the Baptist is the fulfilment of the Old Testament prophecy that speaks of the one who will go before the Lord to prepare His way. John himself speaks this way in the today's passage. And John is so completely humbled by his task that he sees himself even unworthy to untie the thongs of the sandals of the Lord who comes. Everything in and about John the Baptist points to the One Who Is To Come, the Saviour, the Messiah.

May our lives become so focused on God and His ways in our lives that we become like John the Baptist: our lives only giving witness to the love and mercy of God and drawing others to that love and mercy.

Let us walk in the way of the Lord.



The Order of Mass

Gathering: *No. 460 "We Have Come From A Distance"*

Lord Have Mercy

Opening Prayer

First Reading: Isaiah 40: 1-5,9-11

{Mickael Wisdom}

Responsorial Psalm: 85{84}: 9-14

Response: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3: 8-14

{Titanya Nelson}

Gospel Acclamation: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Gospel: Mark 1: 1-8

Homily

Universal Prayer

Greeting of Peace

Preparation of Gifts: } "*Ancient of Days*"
2nd Collection }

Presentation of Gifts: *No. 380 "Take Our Bread, We Ask You"*

Hosanna

Memorial Acclamation

Great Amen

Lord's Prayer

Lamb of God

Communion: *No. 214 "Let Us Enter Into Covenant With Christ"*

Meditation: "*My Hallelujah Belongs To You*"

Sending Forth: *No. "Awake From Your Slumber"*