



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
December 9, 2018

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

We ought to spend our whole lives thanking God for all that He has given us and done for us. We need to thank Him for our income, our homes, this country, cars, streets, beds, clothing, food and medicine. We need to thank Him especially for His grace, His life within us, and His constant inspiration to live as we should. So, we continue to give Him the first part of what we earn, because it is only through Him that we have earned it, and because He has stated that He wants the first tenth so that we prove that it all comes from Him.

We believe that Jesus founded the Church, and He would have failed if He had not planned for the support of His Church. He simply did not fail. His plan is tithing. When we tithe we pay for the upkeep of the House of God, for His fulltime workers and the education of our young. We help the poor and the needy. Bingo, raffles and "left-overs" were never His plan for the support of His Church. God's plan is stated 46 times in the scriptures, and those who question the New Testament application should read Matthew Chapter 23, verse 23, and see how Jesus says we ought to tithe.

If we lack faith and trust in God, we are going to come up with excuses and say, "I earn too much," or, "I earn too little." Again, those excuses are just a lack of faith and trust in God. This reminds me of the minister that visited the farmer and told him he was not giving God ten percent. That farmer said that his crops were too good and he was earning too much. So, the minister told him to kneel down and pray with him. The minister prayed that farmer Jones would earn less so that what he was giving would be ten percent of what he was earning.

The American bishops tell us we should give five percent to the parish and the other five

percent to other charities such as United Way, Red Cross, Catholic Charities and other appeals.

The expenses of a parish this size are a little over \$2 million a year. The average number of checks written per month is 200.

God needs our money, but our need to give to God is even greater. Tithing stops greed. It proves that God is number one in our lives, and if we tithe, God will not be outdone in generosity. He will always give us more than we give Him.

Thank you on behalf of God for your generosity this past year. What we gave to God last year and every year is the safest investment of our money. It keeps multiplying in value!

I can honestly say that I take better care of God's money than my own. I better, as it is not my money. It is God's!

You will receive your pledge cards in the mail this week. Bring it to Mass with you next Sunday and we will place it on the altar. That's our commitment to God. He has never been outdone in generosity. He will always give us more than we give Him. Can we afford to be without His blessings?

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH (R.C.I.A.)! It's not too late! If God is calling you to come, please come. Meal at 6 p.m., class at 6:30 every Monday in the Parish Hall.

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel **URGENTLY** needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Wednesday at 3 PM (Share with Partner)

Friday at 1 PM (Share with Partner)

Our goal is to have at least 2 people on each hour. These are the hours needed, but do select an hour that best fits your schedule.

Please call Mary Claire Brouillette at 871-2909 or Trudy Carpri at 643-0248.



Mass Intentions

Monday, Dec. 10	Special Intention Dale Richards Joseph Schilleci
Tuesday, Dec. 11	Angelo & Lee Bruno Don Cecil Smith Lena Carruba
Wednesday, Dec. 12	Special Intention Dale Richards Annie Diergo
Thursday, Dec. 13	Josephine Russo & Marie Winningham Annie Diergo
Friday, Dec. 14	Josephine Sicola Jeff Butterfield Dale Richards Joseph Schilleci
Saturday, Dec. 15	Donors to OLS School Foundation Dale Richards Annie Diergo
Sunday, Dec. 16	Don C. Smith/People of Parish Sam Riane, Jr. Joseph Schilleci



Pray
FOR THE
SICK

Frank Simonetti, Jeanette Gutkowski, William Pickard, Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Huie, Charlie Kai Wadsworth, Margie Cole

Everyone is invited to attend Adult Education on Sunday, Dec. 16. Our speaker will be Frances Smith. Her topic is *Preparing for the Savior: Advent and Holy Land Reflections*. The gathering begins in the **Parish Hall** at 9:45 a.m. with fellowship and light refreshments and the class begins at 10 a.m. Childcare is available in the nursery.

An Advent Rosary will be prayed on **Wednesday, December 12th, at 10 a.m.** in the church. **Benediction** will follow the Rosary. **All members of the parish** are invited to participate. Please bring your family members and friends. The Rosary will be led by the OLS Altar Sodality.



Children's Liturgy of the Word

Volunteers needed!

Children's Liturgy will participate in the **Birthday Party for Jesus** on December 16, following the 8:30 a.m. Mass. We will present a live nativity and children are needed to serve as cantors, readers and actors in the nativity scene. All children are encouraged to take part in the fun and festivities! Sign up with Greg Harber (ggharber@mindspring.com or 205-807-8055) after Mass on December 2, and December 9. We will have a rehearsal in the Parish Hall on December 9, from 11–12 p.m. (after PSR classes). Snacks and drinks will be provided.

What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

LifeTeen High School

Sunday, December 9: Faith Formation at 10 a.m.: Utilizing formed.org to continue having a prayerful Advent. Life Night at 7 p.m.: Learn more about our role in tithing with interactive games!

Wednesday, December 12: Meet at OLS at 5:30 p.m. in your festive attire! We will be singing Christmas carols to OLS residents living in Brookdale. Dinner will be served in the youth room when we return. This is for both middle and high schoolers.

Edge Middle School

Sunday December 9: "Words with Friends." Join us for an Edge Issue Night on profanity and speech. We will learn about the importance of words and how they impact other people. Furthermore, we will be able to see how our words shape the people we are and our witness as Christians. Meet from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Assembly Hall.

The Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild will meet Tuesday, December 11, at 6 p.m. at Mexico Lindo on Hollywood Boulevard for Christmas dinner. Please bring a Christmas Ornament to exchange.

Our Lady of Grace Guild will meet for their Christmas luncheon on Monday, December 10 at 10:30 a.m. in the Sodality room. Please bring your blanket for the Catholic Center of Concern donation this month.

OLS School News

Special Fundraiser Feeds those in Need

This past Friday, OLS students packed 10,000 meals for the school's Feed the Need fundraiser and school-wide community service project. THANK YOU to everyone who contributed through donations, time, and prayer. We could not have done this without YOU!

The Best Gift of Christmas is Jesus!

Last Tuesday night, more than fifty OLS students represented our school in the Homewood Christmas Parade! This year's float theme was "The Best Gift of Christmas is JESUS!" Each student dressed as a wrapped present, angel, barnyard animal, or a member of the Holy Family as they traveled with the decorated floats.

The Shoes are In the Bag

Many thanks to all of those who contributed shoes to our recent shoe drive. We collected more than 2,500 pairs! AMAZING! The shoes will be picked up this week and sent to Haiti where they will be used to help establish micro-entrepreneurs.

BIBLE STUDY

"The Church forcefully and specifically exhorts all the Christian faithful to learn the surpassing knowledge of Jesus Christ, by frequent reading of divine Scripture" (CCC 133). With the exhortation of the Church, all

are invited to study the Book of Revelation. The Bible study will meet on Thursday nights in the Parish Hall at 7 p.m. to 8:35. The study will consist of 11 sessions beginning January 10, with the last session on March 21. Since study material must be ordered, registration is required. To register, please email kentgraeve@gmail.com. Questions can be answered or additional information obtained by calling 205-999-3474.

Dear Monsignor Martin Muller,

Thank you for the outstanding response of your parishioners to the food collection you sponsored and the turkeys for the families in need.

We are deeply grateful for your ongoing support of the Catholic Center of Concern Mission.

With a grateful heart,

*Sister Zeliah Cordeiro
The Consolata Sisters and the staff of
Catholic Center of Concern*

Best Advent Ever! Rediscover the joy of Christmas with BEST ADVENT EVER, a free email program that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during the busy holiday season. Each day of Advent, you will receive...

- Short Inspirational Videos
- Practical Tips
- Real-Life Encouraging Stories

BestAdventEver.com/AlmostChristmas

End of year contributions must be received in the Church Office or postmarked no later than December 31, 2018 in order to get credit on your 2018 statement. Make preparations now! Thank you!