

St. Mary of Victories & St. Stephen of Hungary Chapel

744 South 3rd Street, St. Louis, MO 63102
Rev. Brian W. Harrison, O.S., Chaplain Confessions ½ hour before Mass
Sunday Masses: 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Telephone: (314) 231-8101 website: www.smov.info

December 6, 2015 – Second Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions this week:

Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	For the people of St. Mary of Victories, living and deceased
	11:00 a.m.	Mary, Edmund & Brian Bresnahan (deceased) requ. by Fred Hoffmann
Monday:	5:00 a.m.	Richard Boyarski (deceased), requested by Margaret Boyarski
Tuesday:	5:00 a.m.	In honor of Our Lady's Immaculate Conception, requ. by Elke Pelaez
	7:00 p.m.	Marrissa Daubert (deceased), requested by James and Michelle Daubert
Wednesday:	5:00 a.m.	Thomas Kissel, Sr. (deceased), requested by Martha Tackett
Thursday:	5:00 a.m.	Solange Hertz (deceased), requested by John De Friend
Friday:	5:00 a.m.	Lee Mallory (deceased), requested by Dawn Eden
Saturday:	5:00 a.m.	For Frank & Patricia Lynch and family, requested by Patricia Lynch
Sunday:	9:00 a.m.	James Cole, Sr. (deceased), requested by his James Cole, Jr.
	11:00 a.m.	For the people of St. Mary of Victories, living and deceased

Sunday Collection, November 29	9:00 a.m.	\$255.00
	11:00 a.m.	\$105.00

Readings for the 2nd Sunday of Advent (pp. 382-383): Advent is above all a time of hope and keen expectation for God's merciful presence. In the first reading the prophet Baruch encourages the Israelites exiled in Babylonia to trust that the Lord still loves them, and will bring them back to Jerusalem. The letter to the Philippians (2nd reading) is also radiant with hope and reassurance. St. Paul's great hope for this infant church community is that "your love may increase . . . so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ". This Tuesday we will celebrate Mary Immaculate's perfect attainment of that goal. Striving to approach that goal is certainly the best way to "prepare the way of the Lord" – the message announced by John the Baptist (today's Gospel). Throughout this year, Cycle C, we will be hearing St. Luke's Gospel, in which this Evangelist emphasizes the *historicity* of what he records. So Luke emphasizes the exact historical details of when and where the Baptist's desert mission began.

Two Feasts of the Blessed Mother this week:

- 1) **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception:** This beautiful feast occurs on Tuesday, December 8th. This is our U.S. national patronal Feast Day and a special feast for the Oblates of Wisdom. It is also a **holy day of obligation**. At **7:00 p.m.** we will celebrate a sung Latin-English *Novus Ordo* Mass, after which we'll offer the opportunity to venerate SMV's precious relic of Our Lady's veil.
- 2) **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe:** On Saturday, **Dec. 12th at 8:00 a.m.** we'll celebrate Mass at Mary's side altar for her final apparition in Mexico to St. Juan Diego, when her image was miraculously imprinted on his rough peasant's cloak. It has survived intact for nearly half a millennium. This enduring miracle gave a great boost to the conversion to Christ of Mexico and the New World, earning for O. L. of Guadalupe the title "Empress of the Americas". *After Mass we invite you to a working bee to decorate the church for Christmas!*

Frank Zemen, RIP: Yesterday's Memorial Mass for our dear, long-standing parishioner Frank Zemen was a very moving occasion, with about 100 attendees and a fine reception after Mass in the Mindszenty Hall. Please pray for his soul, for his widow Diane and their daughters Elizabeth and Maria.

Imádkozatok betegeinkért: Please pray for our sick parishioners, especially Jimmy Essex, Frank Borkin, Dante Prosperi, and others who are suffering pain as advancing years take their toll.

Support Catholic Radio! Please take a flyer at the door with the new December schedule of radio programs for Covenant Network Radio (part of the EWTN family).

"Pray for Bishops Now" apostolate: There is arguably no more urgent need in the Church at present than strength, wisdom and guidance on the part of our Catholic bishops, beginning, of course, with the Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis. An American layman, John Hladky, has recently begun a movement to encourage daily prayers for this intention. Fr. Harrison offers a monthly Mass for all those who participate. For details, see the other side of this bulletin and visit www.prayforbishopsnow.com.