



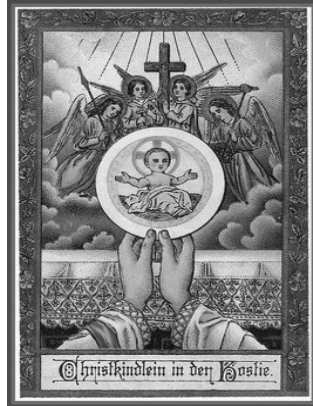
12 December 2010
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT -Year A

*On this Third Sunday of Advent, "Gaudete Sunday" –
St. Paul invites us to rejoice.
He reminds us to remove from our hearts all anxiety
and fear, for the Lord is near.
In the Gospel, St. John the Baptist exhorts us to be
generous, fair and service- minded.*

*These are attitudes that make our preparation for Christmas practical and fruitful.
In this season of joyful expectation, we ever more open our hearts to welcome the
Lord Jesus. Such is the basic disposition he needs to find in us so that he may bring
about in us that radical renewal we are all yearning for.*



Christ is the Heart of Christmas



" And it came to pass in those days . . . "

The days before Christmas can be busy ones, filled with traditional activities in preparation for the holidays - putting up a tree, decorating the house, displaying the crib, sending greeting cards, baking cookies, scheming to please that special person with the perfect gift, wrapping presents.

These ideas (today and for the weeks that follow) does not intend to add to that activity, or offer additional things to do. Strictly speaking, they are not devotionals, but rather a resource to help readers see some sacramental aspects of ordinary Christmas activity. These ideas offer things to think about - and pray about - while you do the things you likely would

be doing anyway, so that as many holiday activities as possible keep reminding you what the season is really all about: ***Christ is the Heart of Christmas***

When You See or Use Candles

In many Catholic homes and parishes the Advent Wreath is a Christmas custom. The wreath has four candles. One candle is lit on the First Sunday in Advent and each day that week. A second candle is added on the Second Sunday in Advent for that week . . .until all four are glowing as Christmas draws near.

Candles at Christmas time are a reminder that Jesus Christ is "the Light of the world," dispelling the darkness of our sin and death with the warm glow of His forgiving love.

Many candles are made of beeswax. That can remind us that even when we are "busy as bees" (as we often are this time of year!), like bees we are working together toward a common goal of celebrating as the heart of Christmas.

Whenever you light candles this season or see them in church, say "Jesus Christ is the Light of the world."

PRAY TODAY, that the light of His love may shine in you . . . and through you . . . to the glory of God.

When You Go on a Shopping Trip

There's something about the crowds at Christmastime. They can be exciting at times and exhilarating; they can be exasperating too, or downright annoying. A lot depends on your own mood as you join the crowd, doesn't it? -whether you look upon this trip as a drudgery that needs doing or an opportunity that awaits to please. How do you suppose Mary and Joseph felt as they joined the crowds? How do you think they felt about the privilege and obligation which the Lord had laid upon them? Did they always realize that even joining the crowds was part of their service to the Savior? Did they feel lost and unnoticed in the crowds? Do you suppose they ever realized that Mary's Baby was sent from above for every person in that crowd...and in every crowd?

As you join the crowds today, try to think of those people (and yourself) as more than just a faceless surging mass. Try to see them as individuals for whom Christ was born.

PRAY TODAY, for the crowds of Christmas, that the knowledge of God's salvation in Jesus Christ may illumine each and every person there.





SIMBANG GABI 2010

Once again we are preparing ourselves for Christmas. This year's Advent gives us the opportunity to reflect on the coming of Jesus through the mystery of the Incarnation.

God in His goodness and love for us sent His Son to become one like us except sin. This becoming True Man of the Son of God shows us God's unfathomable love for us.

GOD IS TRUE TO HIS WORD.

What He says, He does. He will not let us fall down.

Christmas then should find us in His loving arms !

Here is the schedule of our SIMBANG GABI CELEBRATION in the FCMM. This beautiful Filipino religious tradition must continue and grow in our Filipino families and our parish. Our children must be taught to participate and appreciate the Simbang Gabi. Our parish must continually be re-introduced to this prayerful preparation for Christmas. Simbang Gabi is not just a tradition that is celebrated because Filipinos need to do so. It is a significant moment not only because it strengthens relationships among family members and the community but also because it is a time when our faith is intensified.

This is the time when we should mostly feel the presence of the Lord because it is our spiritual preparation for Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ !

FCMM SIMBANGGABI 2010 - (DEC.15- 23 / 7:30 P.M.)
IN THE LOVING ARMS OF GOD, OUR FATHER !!!

- Dec.15 (Wed.) Sub-Theme : GOD'S PEOPLE and HOPE
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Jacques Doyon, pme
 - CHOIR: PANDAY TINIG CHORAL ENSEMBLE
 - HOST: KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL 13585
- Dec. 16 (Thurs.) Sub-Theme : RIGHTEOUSNESS
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Francisco Alvarez, pme
 - CHOIR: LA SALLE CHAPLAINCY CHOIR
 - HOST: MAAC/ ADMINISTRATORS
- Dec. 17 (Fri.) Sub-Theme : FAITH and OBEDIENCE
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Jess Dimafilis
 - CHOIR: YOUTH CHOIR
 - HOST: YOUTH MINISTRY / FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY
- Dec. 18 (Sat.) Sub-Theme : GOD'S FAITHFULNESS
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Donald Bouchard, pme
 - CHOIR: CATECHISTS/CLEC
 - HOST: PARENTS' SUPPORT GROUP
- Dec. 19 (Sun.) Sub-Theme : PEACE and MEEKNESS
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Roger Begin, pme
 - CHOIR: ADULT CHOIR
 - HOST: ST. MARTHA'S CLUB / ADULT CHOIR
- Dec. 20 (Mon.) Sub-Theme : CHARITY and SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Armand Galay
 - CHOIR: CATECHISTS/CLEC
 - HOST: CATECHETICAL MINISTRY
- Dec. 21 (Tues.) Sub-Theme : HUMILITY and GRATEFULNESS
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Francisco Alvarez, pme
 - CHOIR: PRAISE BAND
 - HOST: PASTORAL COUNCIL
- Dec. 22 (Wed.) Sub-Theme : FAMILY UNITY and GOD'S LOVING PLAN
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Gerard Loiseau, pme
 - CHOIR: JUB SINGERS
 - HOST: LEGION OF MARY / SECULAR FRANCISCANS
- Dec. 23 (Thurs.) Sub-Theme : GOD'S PRESENCE and LOVE
 - CELEBRANT: Fr. Jean Binette, pme
 - CHOIR: BAGONG HIMIG
 - HOST: KAWAN NG PANGINOON / BAGONG HIMIG CHOIR/

EVANGELIZATION TEAM



SIMBANGGABI 2010- Everyone is invited to assist at the **SIMBANGGABI 2010**, the central feature of the Filipino Christmas Celebration from December 15 – 23, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Those who are interested to sponsor any of the 'Aguinaldo' Masses are requested to contact Mrs. Susie Alejandro, Mrs. Luming Silverio or the FCMM Office.
REMINDER: Aguinaldo Mass' sponsorship has a minimum donation of \$25.00. (Tax Receipt eligible)



Raise funds for the FCMM every time you shop!

Shopping cards for many local stores, gasoline stations, and supermarkets are now available to all who wish to support our church. Cards are available in amounts from \$25.00 to \$100.00. **5% of your purchase goes to support our parish!**

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO PUT IN YOUR ORDERS TO BE ABLE TO GET THEM IN TIME BEFORE CHRISTMAS !

**For more information and details see any of the following :
 Ms. Tess Ambayec, Ms. Tess Bernabe, or Ms. Marites Quirapas**



YEAR 2011 ENVELOPES will be available for pick-up starting December 19. Please contact Mr. Mel Villanueva, Mr. Raymundo Foz or the FCMM Office for inquiries.



We take this opportunity today to welcome all our brothers and sisters who are visiting us this joyful season. Although you may not be able to visit us regularly, we are happy that you are with us during these Special Days and we hope that you will visit your spiritual home of THE FILIPINO CATHOLIC MISSION OF MONTREAL more often. Be assured of our fraternal prayers for all of you!



STEWARDSHIP - "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, and the dead are raised..." - Matthew 11:4-5
 When Jesus cured the sick we called it a miracle. Yet God has blessed us with many good things – our eyesight, our hearing, our talents, our health and so much more – and we often take it all for granted. The good steward recognizes every blessing in life as a miracle from God and strives to use those gifts for God's honor and glory.

Your Offerings for the week ending December 5, 2010 totaled \$ 1, 500.00



Thank you for your continuing generosity !
 God bless you always!!!



WHAT IS A REASONABLE WEEKLY DONATION TO MY PARISH?

One suggestion that we make is to consider donating the equivalent of your **"First Hour of Work"** each week to the Lord.

The Sacrifice of the Mass contains within it all of the graces of God and all that man can do to worship Him. Stop by or call the FCMM office (514 387 – 5292) during normal business hours and have a Mass offered for your intention.



The SANCTUARY LAMP this week is burning for the **GLORY OF GOD** and **AS THANKSGIVING** offered by **Mr. & Mrs. Alvin & Hilda Veloso.**