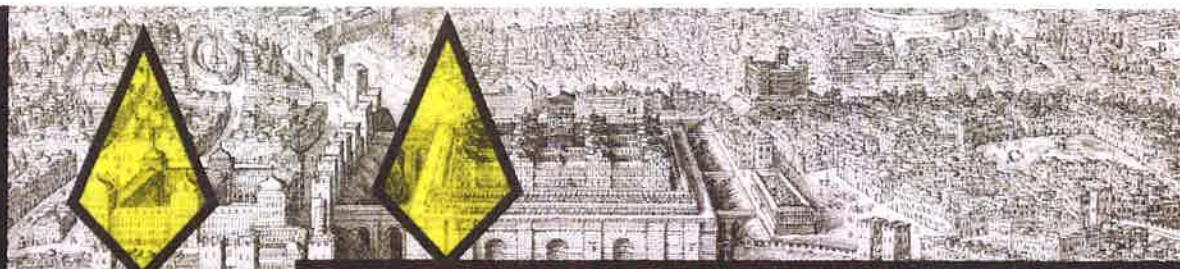


Up, Jerusalem!  
stand upon  
the heights;  
look to the east  
and see your  
children  
gathered from  
the east and  
the west  
at the word  
of the Holy One,  
rejoicing that  
they are  
remembered  
by God. *Baruch 5:5*



*Prospect of Jerusalem*  
Wenceslaus Hollar (Bohemian, 1607-1677), 1660  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

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**Second  
Sunday of**

**Advent**

**December 5, 2021**

Today Luke solemnly announces the names of the secular and sacred powers who thought they held the world's destiny in their hands. But they completely missed the decisive event that forever changed the world's religious and political history. When no one else was listening, God's Word came to a nobody, John the Baptist, and not in the temple sanctuary or palace throne room, but "out in the sticks," the Word that would one day cleanse the temple and topple thrones. The powerful names that Luke announces were not popular with ordinary people: times were tough, the economy was bad, people were having to make do with less; and those names reminded common folks that so much of life was beyond their control. Sound familiar? Yet just then, when many were far from hopeful, God acted decisively to save the people, and John the Baptist invited his listeners then, and us today, to join in the Good News of new life.

### GOD'S RECONSTRUCTION PLAN

We heard Baruch, in the first reading, picturing our broken world reborn: the dispersed being carried home, tears wiped

away, righteousness and justice, peace and worship. How we wish it could all be true! It will be true, Paul declares, optimistic that God, who has already begun such good work in us, will continue to complete it for the day of Christ's glorious return, increasing our love and sharpening our discernment of the values that endure. So we should begin this second week of Advent reinvigorated with hope in God's plan for the world's salvation. But John the Baptist reminds us that God's "reconstruction plan" for the world's transformation begins much closer to home: what twists and turns of my own life must be untangled, what lofty mountains of my own pride and self-centeredness brought low, which gorge-deep valleys of my own indifference and neglect filled in? Come, Lord Jesus, and make the whole creation new—but start right here, right now, with me!

Today's Readings: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6;  
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

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**PASTOR:** Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider

#### Celebration of the Sacraments:

**Mass:** Saturday: 5:00 PM  
Sunday: 9:00 AM  
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

#### Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday:  
45 minutes before Mass

#### Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six  
(6) months prior to the  
anticipated date 903-769-3235

**Holy Spirit**

**Catholic Church**

1612 S. FM 2869  
Holly Lake Ranch, TX 75765

**Church Phone:** 903-769-3235

**Fr. Mike Snider**

**Cell Phone:** 903-490-3883

[www.holyspirthollylake.com](http://www.holyspirthollylake.com)  
[holy.spirit2@yahoo.com](mailto:holy.spirit2@yahoo.com)

**Welcome Visitors!**

*We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us  
and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home."*

*Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years,  
you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!*

## Second Sunday of Advent

### We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Nancy Rasca. Jess Corrigan Jr. Clifford & Frances Jo Moore. Fran & Kathleen Fleming. Jane Davis. Vicki Hauck. Naomi Alfred. Dave Cormier. Judy Smith. Thomas Holzmänn. Jim Hickey. Michael Allen. Joe Fazzio. Rick & Teri Jackson. Ron Emma. Kate Serres. Belinda Flowers. Dona Jordan. Jaye Anderson. Georgette March. Kyle Fabitz. Greg Mooney. Garry Fetsch. Karee Haney. Bollinger Family. Charlie Parker. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Wanda & George Duke. Doris & Jo Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Esther Coronel. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month. We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: Billy Ray Sanford, spouse of Mary Barber & step-father of David Barber. Mary's Address: P.O. Box 144, Hawkins, TX 75765

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community: Dawn Quinn, US Army PVT 2nd Class (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 1LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jemigan). Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Lt. "JG" Gary Buchanan; Capt. Blake Gaughan; 2nd Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

### A BUSY MOTHER

Only after the Last Judgment will Mary get any rest; from now until then, she is much too busy with her children.—St. John Vianney

### STRENGTH AND COURAGE

Prayer infuses the weak with strength and the fainthearted with courage.  
—Anonymous

### TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: Stand on the heights, Jerusalem; see your children rejoicing that they are remembered by God. A merciful and just God leads Israel in joy (Baruch 5:1-9).

Psalms: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading: May your love increase in knowledge to discern what is valuable that you may be blameless for the day of Christ (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

Gospel: John proclaims a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. All flesh shall see the salvation of God (Luke 3:1-6).

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

### Mass—Intentions

Sat. 12/04 Mike Fleming+ (M/M Clymer)

Sun 12/05 Jim O'Neil+ (K of C)

Tue 12/07 9:00am Thomas Holzmänn (M/M Murfin) *Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day*  
5:00pm Mass of Anticipation

Wed 12/08 George Smith+ (M/M Clymer) *Holy Day of Obligation*

Thurs 12/09 Thomas Holzmänn (M/M Murfin)

Fri. 12/10 10:00am Funeral Mass for Mike Fleming+

Sat. 12/11 Thomas Holzmänn (M/M Murfin)

### PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts for the month of October, 2021

Expenditures \$ 3,882

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,562

Attendance 11/27 Saturday 46 11/28 Sunday 61

### Pope's Intention for December:



Catechists. Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

### FORGIVENESS

God forgives like a mother who kisses the offense into everlasting forgiveness. —Henry Ward Beecher

### PRAYER OF THE WEEK

#### Second Sunday of Advent

Almighty and merciful God,  
may no earthly undertaking hinder those  
who set out in haste to meet your Son,  
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom  
gain us admittance to his company.  
Who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

### A DEEP CHANGE OF HEART

When John proclaimed a baptism of repentance, as today's Gospel relates, he called people to a deep change of heart. For John the Baptist, repentance was not simply regret for past failings, but a commitment to orient life around God's desires and purposes. What might living in alignment with God's desires look like? Our readings offer some clues. Baruch indicates that when mercy and justice are embraced like a royal garment, we may see the fruits of repentance. Paul notes how the Holy Spirit has been active within the church in Philippi, forming them to live in a loving and united community of faith, so they may witness to the love of God. And John himself suggests that a repentant heart clears a path for God to enter, leveling the mountains and valleys of our resistance, so that God might dwell within.



**You made an Angel happy!** 😊  
 Thank you for your generous support of our Angel Tree. Please return bags of gifts to our tree by 10:00am Sunday, Dec. 5th.

**Remember to bring gifts back by 10:00am Sunday, Dec. 5th**, as this will give us time to take unwrapped presents to parents so they can wrap for their children. It is not necessary to purchase everything on the child's list.

*Thank you for your support. If any questions, please contact Dianne Laudt. Cell: 918-289-8904*

**Instructions: Put unwrapped gifts in a white trash bag. Tie Angel Tree tag on the trash bag. Put under our Angel Tree by 10:00am Sunday, Dec. 5th.**

**December Second Collections:**  
 4th & 5th: "Building & Maintenance Fund."  
 11th & 12th: "Retirement Fund for Religious."  
 24th & 25th: "Retired & Infirmed Priest of the Diocese".

**Cenacle of Life:** Cenacle of Life devotion each Wed. from 3:00—4:00pm. Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. **Questions call Vicki Hauck 817-637-9382**

**Legion of Mary— Pilgrim Statue:** Our Lady of Fatima Statue is now ready to visit your home. **There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may contact: Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953 or Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749.** If scheduling permits, the Statue may be kept for two weeks.

**DAY OF RECONCILIATION — CONFESSION** **Tues., Dec. 7th FROM 6:00-8:00pm. Tues., Dec. 14th from 9:30AM—12:00 (NOON), THEN FROM 6:00-8:00PM IN THE DEACONS OFFICE.** **If you have an emergency and need Fr. Mike call him on his cell # 903-490-3883.**

**DECEMBER NEWS & EVENTS**

- Sat., Dec. 4th: 9:00am Mass & Patriotic Rosary for Peace in America**
- Sun., Dec. 5th:** Coffee & Donuts following Mass in St. Jude's Hall.
- Tues., Dec. 7th: 9:00am Mass & Adoration** (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm) **5:00pm Mass of Anticipation of Holy Day. Confession 6:00-8:00pm. Fundraiser meeting immediately following Mass in St. Jude's Hall.**
- Wed., Dec. 8th:** 9:00am Mass. **Holy Day of Obligation. "The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary".**
- Fri., Dec. 10th:** 10:00am Mike Fleming, Funeral Mass at HSCC
- Sun., Dec. 12th:** 9:00am Mass. Coffee & Donuts in St. Jude's Hall.
- Tues., Dec. 14th:** 9:00am Mass & Adoration (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm). **Confession 9:30am—Noon then from 6:00pm—8:00pm.**
- Thurs., Dec. 16th:** Last day to collect Christmas Food donations.
- Sat., Dec. 18th:** Delivering Christmas Food Baskets, volunteers needed.
- Sun., Dec. 19th:** Coffee & Donuts following 9:00am Mass in St. Jude's Hall. Also, immediately following Mass, Jane Bidlack facilitates "The Bible and Mass Study" Class in the middle classroom.
- Tues., Dec. 21st—Fri., Dec. 24th: No 9:00am Mass or Adoration. Church Office closed all week. Diocese of Tyler Closed 12/23—12/24 & 12/31**
- Fri., Dec. 24th:** 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass.
- Sat., Dec. 25th:** 9:00am Christmas Mass. **NO** 5:00pm Mass
- Sun., Dec. 26th:** 9:00am Mass. **No coffee & donuts**
- Mon. Dec. 27th:** Fr. Mike's 13th Ordination Anniversary
- Tues., Dec. 28th—Fri., Dec. 31st: No 9:00am Mass or Adoration**

**The Welcome Committee** will again be representing Holy Spirit in this year's **Christmas Golf Cart parade** at Holly Lake Ranch on **Saturday, December 18th** beginning at 4:45pm. If you would like to participate please contact Anna Parker at 903.833.7019 or [parkerbiz52@yahoo.com](mailto:parkerbiz52@yahoo.com). Additional candy is needed to toss to the spectators during this parade. If you have any wrapped candy to donate please leave it in the marked container in the church foyer. We appreciate your help.

There is also a **Christmas display set up** by the **Welcome Committee** on the walking trail in Holly Lake Ranch by the fitness center and pickle ball courts. If you have an opportunity enjoy the trail after dark and find the Holy Spirit display.



**Picture of Display**

**Christmas Schedule**

- Fri., Dec. 24th: 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass**
- Sat., Dec. 25th: Holy Day of Obligation 9:00am Christmas Mass**

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE**

**Thank you for your generous support for the thanksgiving food drive.** We delivered food to 20 families this year. This drive is above and beyond our weekly food distribution. Below is a list of food items needed Christmas.

**Stuffing mix; gravy packages; can cranberry sauce; can yams; cake mix & frosting; biscuit/muffin mix; instant potatoes; \$ 10/\$ 20 gift cards for meat; pudding; jello & fruit cups, etc.**

Thank you in advance for your continued support for this food drive and our weekly food baskets. Please place donations in the K/C box just outside Bridget's office on or before **12/16/2021.**

If you are unable to deliver your donations, please call or text **Robert Mailliard at 503-559-6022**

We are also looking for volunteers to deliver the food boxes on **12/18/2021.**  
**MANY BLESSINGS AND PRAYERS FOR THIS PROJECT**



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