Sun, Dec 19, Fourth Sunday of Advent - O Radix Jesse
Micah 5:2-5a / Hebrews 10:5-10 / Luke 1:39-45
5 p.m. Intention for Deborah Wentland
7 a.m. Sean Markey, Departed
9 a.m. Brian Michael O’Connell, Departed
11 a.m. Intention for the People of the Parish
5 p.m. Intention for Zachary & Beatriz Adian

Mon, Dec 20, O Clavis David
Isaiah 7:10-14 / Luke 1:26-38
7 a.m. Intention for Bishop Lopes

Tue, Dec 21, O Oriens
St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church
Song of Songs 2:8-14 / Luke 1:39-45
7 a.m. Intention for Christy Hivnor

Wed, Dec 22, O Rex Gentium
1 Samuel 1:24-28 / Luke 1:46-56
7 a.m. Intention for Gregory King

Thu, Dec 23, O Emmanuel
St. John of Kanty, Priest
7 a.m. John McDonald, Departed

Fri, Dec 24, O Virgo Virginum - The Vigil of the Nativity
7 a.m.– NO MASS ON CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING
Nativity of the Lord - Vigil Mass
5 p.m. Richard J. Haverty, Departed
Nativity of the Lord - Mass in the Night
Isaiah 9:2-7 / Timothy 2:11-14 / Luke 2:1-14
11:30 p.m. Benefactors of the St. Joseph Foundation & Catholic United for the Faith

Sat, Dec 25, Nativity of the Lord - Mass at Dawn
Isaiah 62:11-12 / Timothy 3:4-7 / Luke 2:15-20
8 a.m. Intention for Joseph A. Coleman Family
Nativity of the Lord - Mass on the Day
Isaiah 52:7-10 / Hebrews 1:1-6 / John 1:1-18
10 a.m. Sean Markey, Departed
Vigil Mass - NO 5 P.M. VIGIL MASS
Saturday 5 p.m. Vigil Mass (Read Mass)
Sunday 7 a.m. (Read Mass)
9 a.m. (Solemn Mass)
11 a.m. (Solemn Mass)
5 p.m. (Read Mass)
Monday through Saturday 7 a.m. (Read Mass)

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Sunday 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Wednesday 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Thursday 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 7:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.

**PLEASE JOIN US!**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Sacred Heart Chapel
Friday 7:45 a.m. to Sunday 6:15 a.m.

Parish Family Adoration Hour
First Wednesday of the month—7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
First Saturday after the 7 a.m. Mass

Morning and Evening Prayer
Mon—Sun, 6:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m.

Parish Rosary
Saturday after the 7 a.m. Mass

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**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

Friday, December 24th - Christmas Eve
5 p.m.—Christmas Eve Mass - Vigil Mass
11 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.—Musical Prelude with Choir
11:30 p.m.—Mass in the Night - Midnight Mass

Friday, December 31 - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
7 p.m.—Said Mass

Saturday, December 25th - Nativity of the Lord
8 a.m.—Mass at Dawn - Said Mass
10 a.m.—Mass on the Day - Sung Mass

Saturday, January 1st - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
8 a.m.—Said Mass
10 a.m.—Sung Mass

Attention: Because Christmas Day falls on a Saturday this year, and the Mass of the Nativity supersedes Sundays of Christmastide, there will be NO Vigil Mass of the Holy Family on the evening of Saturday, December 25th. Attendance at such evening Mass would not fulfill the Sunday obligation.

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**REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

> Peggy Whiteside
> The Semrad Family
> People of the Parish
> Intentions of the Pope
> Fr. Mark Lewis & Family
> Bishop Lopes

*If you would like to add someone to this list, please send an email, with that person’s full name, to joliveros@atonementonline.com.*

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Regina Caeli Academy (RCA) is hiring for the 2021-2022 academic year. We are seeking an assistant in the nursery and this position would allow a family to attend RCA with staff tuition discount. We attend Mondays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. No formal teaching experience is necessary, but a love for the Catholic faith is required! We are a private, independent, University-Style Hybrid operating in the Catholic tradition. Preschool—12th grade students attend classical academic and extra curricular classes two days a week, and homeschool the remaining days following the plan provided by RCA. To learn more contact Mrs. Kate Danze at kdanze.sat@rcahybrid.org.
Submit resume and apply at www.rcahybrid.isolvedhire.com/jobs

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The end of 2021 is near! If you have not completed your 2021 stewardship pledge and would like to, here are some ways you can make your year-end contribution: **Online giving,** or **mail a check** to **Attn: Business Office, Our Lady of the Atonement Catholic Church, 15415 Red Robin Rd, San Antonio, TX 78255,** or **stop by** the parish office for credit card donations. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Sandra Alejo at the Parish Business Office or send email to salejo@ourladyoftheatonement.org.
GOSPEL MEDITATION  
December 19, 2021      4th Sunday of Advent

St. Augustine tells us that a “Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.” As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life’s necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world’s ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn’t God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world’s ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God’s vessel so that God’s greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God’s fix for the world’s difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.

Blessed Advent! Today we have two mothers meeting; they are related, and one carries in her womb John the Baptist and the other woman, Mary, carries in her womb Jesus.

The Gospel account says that John, who would cry out in the desert the message that everyone needs to "prepare the way of the Lord," leapt with joy in the womb of his mother upon hearing Mary's greeting.

John's message in the desert is the message that we all need to heed as we get closer to the Christmas celebration. May our faith leap with joy at the chance to proclaim our Lord and to prepare the way!

RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS  
Baby Jesus’ Wish List

Odds are you’ve got a Christmas list going by now — gift ideas for everyone from your nephew to your goddaughter to your mailman. But what about the birthday boy? What’s the gift Jesus gets from you this Christmas?

If you’ve ever read the Book of Leviticus, you know all about the sacrifices God asks of the Israelites, referred to in the reading from Hebrews today. Leviticus can be a chore to read — a little repetitive, a little intimidating. There’s a lot of very specific actions that God asks His Chosen People to complete to make up for whatever they have done wrong. In essence, it’s a bit of a wish list for gifts.

But it’s a wish list that can really confuse you. What’s God going to do with a cereal offering? The kidneys of an animal? If you look closely, what God is doing here is beautiful. He’s customized his wish list to only those things He knows the Israelites can give. It’s God saying, in what amounts to theological baby-talk for folks who barely know of Him and His ways, exactly how they could be stewards. “Do this, but don’t do that. If you do that, do this and you will find My mercy.”

Our guide to stewardship — the Gospels of Christ — is less precise because by the time of Christ, God’s people have grown in understanding of love and mercy and relationship with the divine. Through Christ, we find out that God’s real wish list didn’t really consist of cereal offerings and the kidneys of various animals. It’s far simpler, but luckily, it’s something we still have on-hand. All He wants is our whole heart.— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS  ©LPi
The Atonement Catholic Academy strives for excellence in the physical, the intellectual, and the spiritual virtues through a challenging course of classical and Catholic education. It provides an accredited classical education and unparalleled Catholic culture to boys and girls in an environment that inspires development of both faith and reason.

Contact us at (210) 695-2240, stop by, or send email to yjoiner@atonementonline.com.

The Atonement Catholic Academy has several current and upcoming teaching positions open. Please visit our website at theatonementacademy.org for specific positions and requirements.

To apply for any of these positions, please send your resume, with a cover letter and supporting documentation, as stated in job description to Mrs. Amanda Stevens at astevens@atonementonline.com.

The Atonement Catholic Academy was named the #1 Catholic High School in the San Antonio area for 2022 according to niche.com, the market leader in connecting colleges and schools with students and families.

Interested in learning more about our PreK-12th grade school? Email or call Director of Admissions Yolanda Joiner.
yjoiner@atonementonline.com
210-695-2240

Join us on December 19, 2021, at 7 p.m. for the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols with the participation of all of our Parish Choirs. Lessons and Carols is an Advent tradition that prepares us for the coming of Christ through the reading of Scripture and the singing of hymns.

You don't want to miss out on this staple of our Anglican patrimony.
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Catherine School, Email: schoolcat@att.net or call (210) 275-5104

Adult Inquiry Class
Alan Becker-Email: alannmbecker@gmail.com, (210) 273-9426

American Heritage Girls
Veronica Tovar, AHG Coordinator, or Catherine Henriquez, AHG Vice Coordinator
Email: ahgtroop0814@gmail.com, (210) 695-2240 ext. 109

Atonement Moms Group
https://OurLadyofAtonement.flocknote/AtonementMoms

Culture of Life Ministry
Phil Sevilla-Email: philsevilla@att.net, (210) 784-0518

Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) Athletics
Send email to cyopresident@atonementonline.com

Educating on Nature & Dignity of Women (ENDOW)
Glorian Roman-Ashby-Email: EndowatAtonement@gmail.com

Fr. Paul of Graymoor Knights of Columbus Council #16730
Grand Knight Phil Tait, (210) 382-7842

Fulton Sheen Catechism
Thomas Dum, (361) 571-5541

God’s Comfort in Loss (after miscarriage)
Marcela Elsner, Renee Keller, & Claire Jenkins
Send email to Godscomfortinloss@gmail.com

Nonnatus New Moms Ministry
Rebecca Gisla –Email: nonnatusmeals@gmail.com, (210) 278-4242

Rosary Guild
Catherine School-Email: schoolcat@att.net, (210) 275-5104
Grace Howard, (210) 887-8562

Sacraments for the Homebound
Please call & leave a message, (210) 695-2944 ext. 126

St. Cuthbert Home Visitation Ministry
Dr. Jesus Garcia Gallegos-Email: jgarcia.gallegos@gmail.com, (210) 993-2127

St. Joseph the Worker Prayer Group
Bill Vogt, (913) 961-2981

St. Stephen’s Guild for Altar Servers, Ushers, & Greeters
John Weems-Email: jweems@atonementonline.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society
(210) 695-2944 ext. 160

The Altar Guild
Jessica Coleman, (210) 479-5863

The Troops of St. George
Robert Wallace—www.tsgTroop815.org

Women of Grace
Diana Marie Salsman, (210) 865-5627

**Volunteers needed. Contact the ministry or organization directly.**