

# First Coming

God did not wait till the world was ready,  
till ...nations were at peace.  
God came when the Heavens were unsteady,  
and prisoners cried out for release.

God did not wait for the perfect time.  
God came when the need was deep and great.  
God dined with sinners in all their grime,  
turned water into wine.

God did not wait till hearts were pure.  
In joy God came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.  
To a world like ours, of anguished shame God came,  
and God's Light would not go out.

God came to a world which did not mesh,  
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.  
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh  
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane  
to raise our songs with joyful voice,  
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,  
God came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

November 20, 2018

This is such a Holy season and a tremendous opportunity for us to renew our relationship with Christ Jesus and one another, especially the stranger, foreigner, and those on the margins. The first coming of the Son of God, who is the God of warm welcome and generous hospitality, is remembered, and we look forward to Christ's Second Coming. For these two reasons, Advent is a time of reflection and anticipation.

As Catholics, in this season, there is a tendency to participate in private and pious devotions, which are not bad, but have little power to change our assumptions or challenge our way of thinking; often they affirm what we already believe. But scripture is clear, the Word of God confronts, convicts, converts and consoles us.

God came into our world as Jesus Christ to show us how to live and love in a suffering world. Our world today still suffers, yet we must move beyond the sentimental understanding of "waiting for baby Jesus" to an adult appreciation of being incarnational people. We are to proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord of All as an act of resistance to a suffering world in which hate-speech has become too common and too accepted.

I encourage all of us to live this season deeply so we might experience the depth of God's love for us poured out in the incarnation of Christ, compelling us to be Christ for the world, offering warm welcome and generous hospitality and a space where everyone belongs. Truly this is the Good News!

In Christ We Are,

Carlos Sanchez  
Vincent Howard  
Armenak L. Capote  
Diane Gallagher  
Alex Diaz

Theresa Lopez  
Amy  
Fr. G. Bouasipout  
The Rev  
Martha

Jane  
Latina M. D. H. H. H.  
Kathy Morgan  
Deacon Larry

# Prepare the Way



## Advent & Christmas 2018 Schedule

Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Saturday, December 8, 2018

8:00 AM Trilingual Mass (English, Creole, Spanish)

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Tuesday, December 11, 2018

10:00 PM Spanish Mass

Fourth Sunday of Advent Masses, December 22-23, 2018

Regular Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24, 2018

4:30 PM English Mass

10:30 PM Trilingual Concert

12 Midnight—Trilingual Mass (English, Creole, Spanish)

Christmas Day Nativity of the Lord, Tuesday, December 25, 2018

10:30 AM English Mass

1:30 PM Spanish Mass

6:30 PM Creole Mass

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, December 29-30, 2018

Regular Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve Mass, Monday, December 31, 2018

12 Midnight Creole Mass

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Tuesday, January 1, 2019

10:30 AM English Mass

Epiphany of the Lord, January 5-6, 2019

Regular Mass Schedule

