

# St. Margaret's and San Francisco de Asís Episcopal Church

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## **The First Sunday After Christmas**

**December 27, 2009**

**10:00 a.m.**



**Vision: "Be One in Christ"**

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The Reverend Richard Aguilar, Priest  
The Reverend Ledly O. Moss, Sr., Deacon  
Mr. John M. Barrow, Organist & Choirmaster

## The Liturgy of the Word



**Processional Hymn 107**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice**

*In dulce jubilo*

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The people standing,

**Celebrant:** Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit

**People:** **And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

**Celebrant:** Jesus is born!

**People:** **Glorify Christ!**

**Celebrant:** The Word was made Flesh and dwelt among us:

**People:** **And we beheld the glory of Christ.**

**Celebrant:** Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the Coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**



**Gloria 96**

**Angels we have heard on high**

*Gloria*

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### The Collect of the Day

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

**Celebrant:** Let us pray together the Collect of the Day.

**Almighty God, you have poured upon us a new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings.

### The First Reading

Isaiah 61:10-63:3

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I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it

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to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 147:13-21**

The Reader says the words in *italics*. The **People** say the words in **bold**.

13 *Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; \* praise your God, O Zion;*

14 **For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; \* he has blessed your children within you.**

15 *He has established peace on your borders; \* he satisfies you with the finest wheat.*

16 **He sends out his command to the earth, \* and his word runs very swiftly.**

17 *He gives snow like wool; \* he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.*

18 **He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; \* who can stand against his cold?**

19 *He sends forth his word and melts them; \* he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.*

20 **He declares his word to Jacob, \* his statutes and his judgments to Israel.**

21 *He has not done so to any other nation; \* to them he has not revealed his judgments. Hallelujah! "*

Reader: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**People: As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen**

## **The Second Reading**

Galatians 3:23-25,4:4-7

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Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader:           The Word of the Lord.

**People:           Thanks be to God.**

♫ **Sequence Hymn 81    Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming**

*Es ist ein Ros*

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Verses 1-2 before the Gospel, verse 3 after the reading.

Deacon:           The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. John

**People:           Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

## **The Holy Gospel**

John 1:1-18

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In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'" From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth

came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Deacon:       The Gospel of the Lord.

**People:       Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

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## **The Sermon**

**Father Richard Aguilar**

All standing

### **The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. **Amen.**

Leader: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop Leo; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

**People: Pray for the Church.**

*Silence*

Leader: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

**People: Pray for justice and peace.**

*Silence*

Leader: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

**People: Pray for those in any need or trouble.**

*Silence*

Leader: I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

**People: Pray that they may find and be found by him.**

*Silence*

Leader: I ask your prayers for the departed.

**People: Pray for those who have died.**

*Silence*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present*

I ask your prayers for \_\_\_\_\_. I ask your thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_.

Leader: Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

**People: Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.**

*Silence*

Celebrant: O God our Creator, to restore our fallen race you spoke the effectual word, and the Eternal Word became Flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mercifully grant that as Jesus humbled himself to be clothed with our humanity, so may we be found worthy to be clothed in the divinity of Christ; who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

During the festival season of Christmas, the Confession is omitted.

### **The Peace**

Please stand.

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People: And also with you.**

We invite you to greet one another in the name of the Lord.

### **The Holy Communion**

🎵 **Offertory Hymn 99**    **Go tell it on the mountain**    *Afro-American spiritual*

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### 🎵 **Doxology**

Please stand

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### **Eucharistic Prayer B**

**BCP p 367**

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Please remain standing

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Human Being of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

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♯ **Sanctus** **S-130** *Franz Schubert*

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Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest,  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Please kneel

Then the celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or to lay a hand upon it; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing wine to be consecrated.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,  
We proclaim his resurrection,  
We await his coming in glory;**

The celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing

The Celebrant and People may join hands and sing together :

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed by thy Name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

**And forgive our debts  
as we forgive our debtors,**

**And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen**

## The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.  
Then the following is sung:

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♯ **Jesus, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*** **S-164** *Deutsche Messe*

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy in us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, our redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*You who are guests this Christmas Season are welcome to worship at St. Margaret's and among the Episcopal Community of Miami Lakes. All baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion in the Episcopal Church.*

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♯ **Communion Hymn 115** **What child is this** *Greensleeves*

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

Please kneel

The Celebrant and **People** say together,

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and forever. Amen**

Please remain kneeling or standing as The Celebrant says,  
May the Christ Child, who by the Incarnation gathered into one, things earthly and heavenly, fill you with everlasting joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### Announcements

♯ **Recessional Hymn 92    On this day earth shall ring** *Personent hodie*

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The Deacon dismisses the People with the following words.

Deacon:        Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

People:        **Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Everyone is invited to the Parish Hall to follow the Christmas Star and have Starbucks's coffee and pastry in order to meet and greet one another in Christ.**

### Assisting the Service Today

Greeters/Ushers

The Dotts

Lector 1st Reading

Louis M. Richards

Lector- Canticle

Sean Palmer

Lector 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

Alex Diaz

Chalice Bearers

Ann Goraczko

Rubina Burke

Acolytes

Crucifer

Sean Palmer

1st Server

Michael Nnadi

2nd Server

Geneva Palmer

Torchbearers

Michelle Ola

Jamal Miller

Altar Guild

Cathy Dott

Bread of Life

Mabel Savery

Reception Host

Blessing Nnadi

Vestry Person of the Day

Charles Foote

Choir :

Anita Buker, Rubina Burke, John & Mary Cox,

Hyacinth Ellis, Charles Foote, Adele Reese

Tony & Mireya Medina, Juliet Nwahiri,

Nilda Brandy, Michelle Aguilar, Alex Diaz

“I Can’t Wait “ - A Christmas message from Father Aguilar for the Miami Laker, December 18, 2009

“I can’t wait!” Do you recall being six years old? There would be decorations in homes, stores stocking up on toys, and music in the air. The tinsel, trees, and lights had shined for some time. All the talk among neighbors and friends at school was what I want Santa Claus to bring to me. Yet, one had to wait because Christmas was still to come.

“I can’t wait!” The six year old in each one of us has difficulty waiting for Christmas. Waiting is boring, waste of time, and unproductive according to the adult world. Waiting means standing in line, sitting in traffic, becoming impatient, surviving in frustration, and waving fists in the air. Is waiting the “baa-humbug” of this time of the year?

“I can’t wait!” Perhaps one can and must wait. Maybe waiting is a good thing and a special moment. Maybe waiting is an important part of the season. Maybe waiting is a spiritual exercise and a gift from God.

In the wisdom of the Christian Church, there is a calendar that marks seasons. This time of the year is called Advent. Advent is the four Sundays before Christmas. Advent comes from a Latin word that signifies coming. The Christ Child is coming and we wait. We wait for Jesus to be born into hearts and souls. We wait as the world will know the birth of the Son of God.

In the Christmas story according to the Gospels (Luke and Matthew) there is waiting. Mary and Joseph wait. The Shepherds wait. The Angels wait. The Magi wait. Even Herod who represents evil rulers must wait.

Yes, you and I can wait. Let us wait for the joy and peace. Let us wait for gifts and love.

Let us wait and say, “Merry Christmas!”

Father Richard J. Aguilar  
Saint Margaret’s & San Francisco Episcopal Church  
Miami Lakes, Florida