



INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

SACRED HEART OF JESUS CHURCH

151 Hong Feng Road, Shanghai 201206, China

December 17 - 18, 2011

CHURCH CLERGY

Bishops: Most Rev. Aloysius Jin, Bishop of Shanghai Diocese
 Most Rev. Joseph Xing, Auxiliary Bishop of Shanghai Diocese

Priests: Rev. Joseph Zeng, Pastor of Chinese Community
 Rev. Francis Fang, Pastor of International Community
Mobile: 138-1750-3946 E-mail: bkfang@yahoo.com
 Rev. Anthony Li, Substitute Celebrant of English Mass
Mobile: 139-1724-9948 E-mail: tonylee1974@hotmail.com

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday Masses: 8:00 am (Chinese); 10:30 am (English)
Saturday Masses: 7:00 am (Chinese); 5:00 pm (English)
Weekday Mass: 7:00 am (Chinese); Monday to Friday

ST FRANCIS XAVIER'S CHURCH

185 Dongjiadu Road
 English Masses:
 Sat 5pm; Sun 10:30am, 12:30pm

ST IGNATIUS CATHEDRAL

158 Puxi Road, Xujiahui
 English Mass: Sun 12 noon

ST PETER'S CHURCH

270 S Chongqing Road, Puxi
 International Masses:
 English: Sat 5:00pm; Sun 12 noon
 Korean: Sun 5:00pm
<http://SPICES.internationalparish.org>

DAILY READINGS

SUNDAY, DEC 18, 2011

1st Reading:
 2nd Sam 7:1-5, 8-11, 16
 Psalms: 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
 2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27
 Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

MONDAY, DEC 19, 2011

1st Reading: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25
 Psalms: 71:3-4, 5-6, 16-17
 Gospel: Luke 1:5-25

TUESDAY, DEC 20, 2011

1st Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14
 Psalms: 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6
 Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

WEDNESDAY, DEC 21, 2011

1st Reading: Songs 2:8-14
 Psalms: 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21
 Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

THURSDAY, DEC 22, 2011

1st Reading: 1st Samuel 1:24-28
 Psalms: 1st Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8
 Gospel: Luke 1:46-56

FRIDAY, DEC 23, 2011

1st Reading: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24
 Psalms: 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14
 Gospel: Luke 1:57-66

SATURDAY, DEC 24, 2011

1st Read: 2nd Sam 7:1-5, 8-11, 16
 Psalms: 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
 Gospel: Luke 1:67-79



Frs. Francis Fang, Joseph Zeng, and Anthony Li would like to wish all parishioners and their families a safe, joy-filled, blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.
 May you rejoice in the blessing of His love this Christmas and always!



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR'S MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday December 24	Sunday December 25	Saturday December 31	Sunday January 1
Midnight Mass	Christmas Day Mass	Feast of the Holy Family	Feast of Mary, Mother of God
8:30pm	10:30am	5:00pm	10:30am

NOTICEBOARD

• EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Reminder: Eucharistic Adoration is open to all parishioners every Friday, from 1 pm to 8 pm.

• CARITAS NEEDS YOU!!

Caritas Shanghai has been helping the poor, sick and needy in Shanghai and other parts of China for over 10 years. To enable this crucial work to continue, Caritas is looking for volunteers in the following areas:-

- *Accountant *Newsletter writer
- *Database/website maintainer *Marketing

If you are able to help in any capacity, please contact: Pilar at: pilartan23@yahoo.com or, Tharshini at: tharshini@caritas.cn.



The mystery had been kept secret for ages. Then the prophets spoke about it. It really began with the prophecy of Nathan to King David, one thousand years before Christ.

David had thought it was his pious duty to build a Temple to house the Ark of the Covenant. At first Nathan agreed with him, but then God spoke to Nathan and sent him to David with this message: "You want to build a house for me, but I will build the House of David. My son will come from you, one of your descendants. He will be the Eternal King." This is the first time that the anointed of the Lord, the Messiah, was spoken of.

A HIDDEN MYSTERY

A thousand years would pass, and then God made known His plan to all people. The Messiah would not be a hidden mystery, known only to the Jews. The Messiah would be revealed to all the

nations, so that all may submit to God in faith through Jesus Christ. The plan began with a simple scene: an angel, Gabriel by name, appeared to a young girl, the Virgin Mary, and told her that she would have a child conceived not through a man, but through the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit.

This was God's plan all along. The prophets revealed it, but then the Plan took effect through Mary, all so we can have a union of obedient love to God our Father through Jesus Christ.

GETTING CAUGHT UP

Each one of us has part of this plan. We might not be the founder of the dynasty like David, nor the mother of the Savior like Mary, but we are called to lead others to Bethlehem, to lead others to our Lord.

Sometimes we lose this with all the hectic running around necessitated more by cultural and custom than by the reality of the Birth of Jesus. So we

become like the audience of a children's Christmas Pageant, listening to well worn words, and getting caught up in the romance of the celebration of the birth of a Special Child.

But we are not merely part of the audience. We are actors in the eternal Christmas pageant. Like the shepherds and the magi, angels and stars are calling us to worship Jesus. Like Mary, we can make the spiritual physical. No, we can't give birth to the Savior, but we can make His Presence a reality in the world.

MISSIONS IN LIFE

God calls us to particular missions in life. These missions might be to be a faithful and faith-filled husband or wife, father or mother, grandmother or grandfather. The mission may be to be a single man or woman with the time to extend God's love to others. The mission may be, right now, to be a holy widow or widower, offering the love cultivated during marriage to those around you. The mission may be to be a good little boy or girl, or a good teenager or young adult, learning how to love as God loves, sacrificially. When we do our best to respond to His call we give evidence to His Presence in the world.

We are called to make the spiritual within us a reality in the world outside of us. We are called to help others recognize their ability to be spiritual.

God calls us to do more than build a house for His Presence. He calls us to be the House of His Presence. He calls us to radiate His Reality to a world that looks for a Savior, that longs for a Savior.

We are part of the wonder of the plan. We are part of the wonder of the Word Made Flesh, the Wonder of Christmas. People in our families, in our neighborhoods, people we associate with at work, people we know, and people we do not know, all need us to bring the Presence of the Lord to them. Gabriel spoke to Mary and the world waited for her answer. God speaks to each of us throughout our lives, and the world waits for our answers. For we are not Christians for ourselves, we are Christians to bring God to others and to serve God in others.

*Adapted and reprinted with permission:
Fr Joseph Pellegrino, Pastor
St Ignatius of Antioch Church*