



Will You Notice the Shoot?

ANN M. GARRIDO

Today's first reading from the prophet Isaiah offers a familiar Advent image: the shoot sprouting from the stump of Jesse. The verses immediately preceding speak of God walking through the forest with an ax: "The tall of stature shall be felled, and the lofty ones shall be brought low" (Isaiah 10:33). But now, amidst all the destruction, a tiny sign of new life emerges, and the Spirit of God descends upon it, bearing many gifts—wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, awe, delight.

So often, when we scroll through the news, our attention is captured by violence and war and the "mighty" who make great noise when they fall. "Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees," echoes John the Baptist in today's gospel. If we are looking



SCAN TO
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for where God's Spirit can be found, however, Isaiah reminds us we will need to look elsewhere. We will need to attend to the quiet, fragile resurrections taking place below the surface when it appears as if all has been lost. If we seek wisdom, understanding, counsel,

strength, knowledge, awe, and delight, we will need to look where the little ones of the earth are found. We must have our eyes open for the shoots.

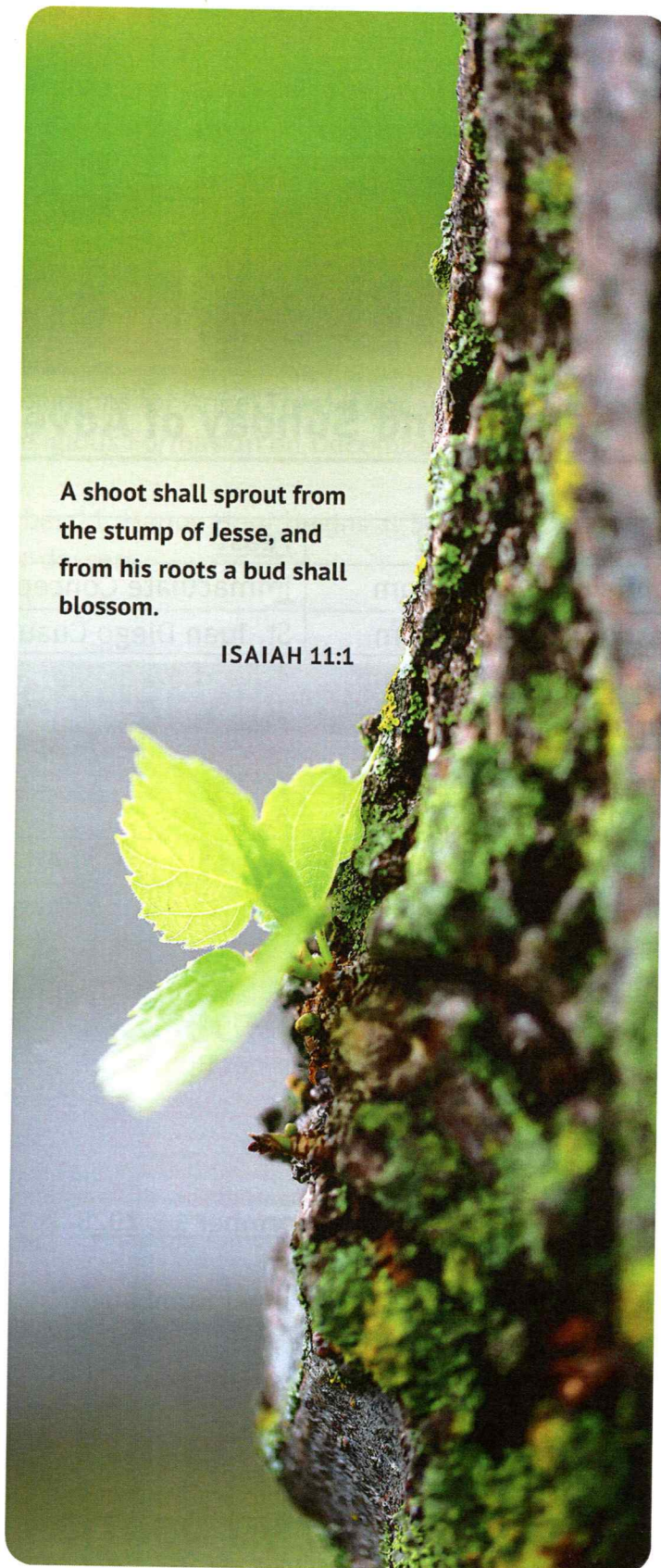
The gospels emphasize that Jesus was one such little one. Although the glory days of his people seemed to have come to a crashing close, they have not. In him, we glimpse the truth that life is stronger than death. We see that the future has not been erased, no matter how terrible the past. In him, we find our hope. ●

Reflect

*Are my eyes open to the small signs of God's work
in the world, or am I too distracted to notice?*

A shoot shall sprout from
the stump of Jesse, and
from his roots a bud shall
blossom.

ISAIAH 11:1



St. Andrew Catholic Church

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Call or text Barbara Durler

(620) 255-1868

Second Sunday of Advent – December 7, 2025

<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Feast</u>	<u>Intention</u>
Monday	7:00 pm	Immaculate Conception of Mary	Mary Jane Stramel
Tuesday	8:00 am	St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlotzin	Amelia Pinkerton Family
Wednesday	8:00 am	Advent Weekday	Dale Vogel
Thursday	8:00 am	Advent Weekday	Berna Mae Stegman
Friday	9:00 am	Our Lady of Guadalupe (At Fort Dodge)	Joan Mages
Saturday	8:00 am	St. Lucy	Jill Neese
Sunday	9:00 am	Third Sunday of Advent	Saint Andrew Parishioners

Confessions: Sunday 8:00 – 8:45 am or by appointment any time

Ministers for the Immaculate Conception of Mary, December 8, 2025

Greeters: Pam McMillin & Robert Durler

Lectors: Marilyn Burke & Alan Vogel

Collection: Reegan Kliesen & Tanner Rumbaugh

E.M.C.'s: Sheila McCarty, Sara Smith, Lindsay Durler

Cantor: Choir

Gifts: Karen Herrington

Servers: Amina Khan & Mati Durler

Ministers for Next Sunday, December 14, 2025

Greeters: Dustin & Jenny Robben

Lectors: Briana Stephenson & Jean Downey

Collection: Reegan Kliesen & Tanner Rumbaugh

E.M.C.'s: Hattie Stein, Lynn Buehne, Mary Beth

Cantor: Choir

Gifts: Giles Issinghoff

Servers: Jessa Hamilton & James Hamilton

Rosary: Delbert Downey

Giving Report: 11-30-25

Envelopes: \$3,068.22

Loose: \$246.00

Electronic: \$1,143.51



Alms for Renovation Project: \$51,113.69

Parish School of Religion classes this week. Knights of Columbus prepare the meal.

The next Knights of Columbus meeting will be on **Tuesday**, December 9 at 6:45 pm.

The Knights of Columbus will host a 1st, 2nd & 3rd Degree Exemplification Sunday, December 14 in the Parish Center following Mass. Any men interested in joining are welcome to attend and to bring their family with them. There will be a reception following.

Vocations Commission is hosting another Feast of the Holy Spouses dinner on Saturday January 24, 2026 at 5:30 pm. Couples that are interested can sign-up on the sheet in the back of Church or you can contact Briana Stephenson at 620-440-2544.

The Youth Social Committee will be collecting toy donations for Angel Tree! If you would like to donate, please bring a new toy for a boy or girl to Religious Formation on December 3rd or 10th.

The senior center Christmas party will be on December 11. Happy Hour begins at 5:30 pm. Meat will be provided. Please bring sides of vegetable salad or dessert.

MARIA DINNER

High school girls are invited to dinner, discussions on discernment with religious sisters, and Night Prayer.



SCHEDULE

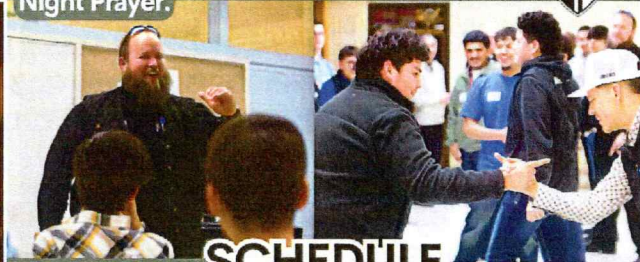
FEB 15 | ST. ANDREW'S - WRIGHT
BEGINS AT 6PM
ENDS AT 8PM



To register, scan here or email:
vocationpromotion@dcdiocese.org

ANDREW DINNERS

Dinner, discussions on discernment with Bishop John & the Vocations Team, and Night Prayer.



SCHEDULE

DEC. 28 | College & Past-college @ Wright
JAN. 25 | High School Option 1 @ Garden City (St. Mary's)
FEB. 1 | High School Option 2 @ Larned

ALL EVENTS
6-8PM



To register, scan here or email:
vocationpromotion@dcdiocese.org

**Hospitable Community + Prayerful Worship +
Generous in Service + Formed by the Word**

Dear Padre,

Do non-Catholics go to heaven?

Yes, they do, because of the grace of God at work in his people. To suggest otherwise would seem to imply that Catholics somehow have a “golden ticket,” or some kind of right that simply does not exist.

The Incarnation of Jesus healed the division between heaven and earth, a division established by the “sin of Adam” and confirmed by our own lives of sin. Through his passion, death, and resurrection, all has been restored to the manner that the Father first envisioned through his Creation. The division was between humanity and divinity, not between religious practices and divinity. Catholics believe and celebrate that God accepts all people of a good heart and a good spirit. God is not blinded by the labels that sometimes blind his people to the bigger reality.

When Catholics, or people of any religion, proclaim exclusivity and specialness, particularly when it concerns eternal life, all people should be very cautious about what they assume. To assume a certain type of arrogance—to yourself and to your belief and life of faith—that excludes others or separates another as “not one of us” simply has no place in the kingdom of God. ●

Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSsR / DearPadre.org



PASCAL HUOT / SHUTTERSTOCK

Monday

December 8
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9–15, 20
Eph 1:3–6, 11–12
Lk 1:26–38

Tuesday

December 9
Advent Weekday
Is 40:1–11
Mt 18:12–14

Wednesday

December 10
Advent Weekday
Is 40:25–31
Mt 11:28–30

Thursday

December 11
Advent Weekday
Is 41:13–20
Mt 11:11–15

Friday

December 12
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Zec 2:14–17
or Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab
Lk 1:26–38 or
Lk 1:39–47

Saturday

December 13
St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
Sir 48:1–4, 9–11
Mt 17:9a, 10–13

Sunday

December 14
Third Sunday of Advent
Is 35:1–6a, 10
Jas 5:7–10
Mt 11:2–11

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.



NICOLÁS NUÑEZ LC / CATHOLICA

A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

With the light and the strength of the Holy Spirit, let us build a Church founded on God's love, a sign of unity, a missionary Church that opens its arms to the world, proclaims the word, allows itself to be made “restless” by history, and becomes a leaven of harmony for humanity.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025