

# Our Lady of Tahoe Catholic Church

## Second Sunday of Advent



Pastor: Father Larry Morrison

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Office Manager: Susan Marschner

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Saturday: 5pm | Sunday: 8am & 11:30am

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday: 11:30am

Confession: Wednesday at 11am or by appointment

Baptisms and Marriages: Contact the parish during  
business hours, M-F, 9am - 3pm or visit our website:

[www.ourladyoftahoe.org](http://www.ourladyoftahoe.org)

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ourladyoftahoe>

**The attraction of John the Baptist is mysterious. People flocked to him, not to be flattered but to be told the truth. They listened because of what they saw, a man who was indifferent to the world's prizes, a man of minimal needs, who could not be bought by pleasures, comforts or money, but passionate about God. They recognized holiness. Show me, Lord, what there is about my life that takes from the value of my words and makes me less convincing. John the Baptist preached forgiveness. This is one of the special gifts of God, and one of the big celebrations of Advent. We are a forgiven people, and we welcome the forgiveness of God in our repentance. This means we are firstly grateful for forgiveness - that we do not have to carry forever the burden of our sin, meanness, faults and failings. God covers them over in mercy. The second step of welcoming forgiveness is to try to do better in life - to move on from this sinfulness and meanness to a life of care, compassion, love and joy, and to take steps to forgive others.**



### Saint Lucy's Story

Every little girl named Lucy must bite her tongue in disappointment when she first tries to find out what there is to know about her patron saint. The older books will have a lengthy paragraph detailing a small number of traditions. Newer books will have a lengthy paragraph showing that there is little basis in history for these traditions. The single fact survives that a disappointed suitor accused Lucy of being a Christian, and she was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304. But it is also true that her name is mentioned in the First Eucharistic Prayer, geographical places are named after her, a popular song has her name as its title, and down through the centuries many thousands of little girls have been proud of the name *Lucy*. One can easily imagine what a young Christian woman had to contend with in pagan Sicily in the year 300. If you have trouble imagining, just glance at today's pleasure-at-all-costs world and the barriers it presents against leading a good Christian life. Her friends must have wondered aloud about this hero of Lucy's, an obscure itinerant preacher in a far-off captive nation that had been destroyed more than 200 years before. Once a carpenter, he had been crucified by the Romans after his own people turned him over to their authority. Lucy believed with her whole soul that this man had risen from the dead. Heaven had put a stamp on all he said and did. To give witness to her faith she had made a vow of virginity. What a hubbub this caused among her pagan friends! The kindlier ones just thought her a little strange. To be pure before marriage was an ancient Roman ideal, rarely found, but not to be condemned. To exclude marriage altogether, however, was too much. She must have something sinister to hide, the tongues wagged. Lucy knew of the heroism of earlier virgin martyrs. She remained faithful to their example and to the example of the carpenter, whom she knew to be the Son of God. She is the patroness of eyesight. Reflection - If you are a little girl named Lucy, you need not bite your tongue in disappointment. Your patron is a genuine authentic heroine, first class, an abiding inspiration for you and for all Christians. The moral courage of the young Sicilian martyr shines forth as a guiding light, just as bright for today's youth as it was in A.D. 304. Saint Lucy is the Patron Saint of:

The Blind  
Eye Disorders

### Christmas Schedule

Saturday, 12/23, 5pm , Advent IV  
 Sunday, 12/24, (morning) 10am (Advent IV),  
 THEN...Sunday (evening), Christmas Eve Vigil, 5pm  
 and late night, 9pm.  
 Christmas Day, Monday, 12/25 at 10am ONLY  
 New Year's Day Mass, Monday, 1/1/24 at 11:30am

The new Sunday morning mass begins on  
 Sunday, December 24 with the new 10am mass  
 and will end on Palm Sunday, 3/24/24.

### Special Second Collection: This Weekend

Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities— Priests, Brothers, Sisters, and Nuns— lack financial resources to meet the retirement and healthcare needs of aging members. Many elderly religious spent their youth working for small stipends, with little for retirement savings. Simultaneously, the decrease in religious vocations means that few religious are able to serve in compensated ministry. Today, retired religious outnumber wage-earners by three to one. The Retirement Fund for Religious (RFR) attempts to provide for those religious who gave their lives to the church. Most donations to the RFR are distributed as Direct Care Assistance, going to individual religious for immediate eldercare needs or saved for long-term expenses. Nearly 25,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests benefit annually from this fund. Roughly 95 percent of the RFR budget aides senior religious. The remainder is used for administration of the funds and promotion of the nationwide RFR appeal. Donating to this fund is a great way to help the growing number of elderly religious who due their service to God were unable to save for their retirement.

*Most Reverend Daniel H. Mueggenborg*  
 Bishop of Reno

Please consider supporting St. Peter Canisius, a parish in need in our diocese, this advent and Christmas season through our first annual **One Church** collection. More information can be found on the back tables inside the church. Please pray for this project and we thank you in advance for your thoughtful reflection.



## Mass Intentions

Saturday	9	5pm	Mike DePasquale Successful Surgery	Lee and Chuck
Sunday	10	8am	Intentions of OLT Parishioners	Pro Populo
Sunday	10	11:30am		
Wednesday	13	11:30am		
Thursday	14	11:30am		
Friday	15	11:30am	† Lenore McCann	Debra and Sam Fazio

HIS LOVE  
ENDURES  
FOREVER

PSALM 136

### After Mass #1 - Thanksgiving

**"Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good. His love endures forever." Psalm 136:1**

A theologian once said, "The Mass begins long before Mass begins," highlighting how the work of God starts in a person's life long before they ever enter the building of the church. However, the opposite is also true—"the Mass ends long after the Mass ends," emphasizing that the Mass continues out into the world. Because of this, in many places there is the custom for the people to remain in the building of the church for a few minutes after Mass in order to thank God for all that He has done and all that He will do. What prayer do you use to thank God for all He has done for you? Could you spend time after Mass to give thanks to God?

Please join us for a Christmas Dinner Party on Sunday, December 17, hosted by the Men's Fellowship and Women's Guild. Social hour starts at 3:30 with dinner at 4:30. Price is \$25 for singles, and \$40 for couples. Tickets will be on sale after masses. Please note, the latest to purchase tickets is December 10. We have to do this to have an idea of the count so that we purchase enough food and have little waste. \$30 for each at the door. If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, each should bring a \$25 to \$30 gift. We will serve turkey, beef, and ham. When you purchase your ticket, please indicate whether you will bring an appetizer, side, or dessert.

the book of ACTS



The 2024 Calendar will be available after New Year's complimentary of OLT's Women's Guild.

**Bible Study:** We are continuing our journey through Acts. Our next session will be December 13 at 10am in the parish hall. All are welcome! Please join us even if you can only attend one session. For more information, please contact Janine Nyre at [janinenyre@comcast.net](mailto:janinenyre@comcast.net) or call 775-339-1961.

Last weekend's collection was \$10,990.00. Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to everybody for your cheerful giving and steadfast support of Our Lady of Tahoe!

As disciples of Jesus Christ, and in the name of Mary, Our Lady of Tahoe Catholic community welcomes and embraces all those who come to us. With guidance of the Holy Spirit, through worship, the sacraments, and loving service, we provide for one another's spiritual and material needs. In being so nourished, we reach out in faith to serve the larger community.



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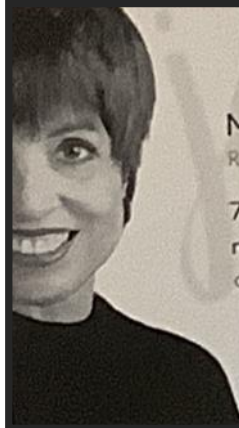
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**Appreciated Securities:** Donating stock is a simple, smart way to give. Email us at [susan@ourladyoftahoe.org](mailto:susan@ourladyoftahoe.org) for account transfer information.

**IRA QCD:** If you are 70 1/2 or older, ask your professional advisor if giving directly from your IRA is a tax-wise way for you to give.