December 17th, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent
“As a garden makes its growth spring up, so will GOD make justice spring up before all the nations”
— Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Rev. Jeremy Dixon, C.M., Pastor

Parish Center:
1010 West Webster Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614

Phone: 773-325-8610
Fax: 773-325-8626
Email: info@stvdep.org
Website: www.stvdep.org
Facebook: facebook.com/
stvincentdepaulparishchicago

Mass Schedule

Weekends:
Saturday at 5:00 p.m.
Sunday at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
September through May: 8:30 p.m.

Weekdays:
Monday through Friday at 8:00 a.m.

Miraculous Medal Novena
Monday mornings after the 8:00 a.m.
Mass
This time of Advent is a time for all of us to prepare to once again welcome Christ into our lives. We are invited to continue to grow in our own relationship with him and with those around us. Yet this should not be seen as a duty grudgingly completed or something “extra” that is only for those who are holy. Each one of us, wherever we are on our journey of faith, is invited to recognize and celebrate Christ’s presence among us and within us.

Our prayers and readings today call us to joy and celebration. In fact, this Sunday is called “Gaudete Sunday” (gaudate means “rejoice” in Latin). As Isaiah says in the first reading, “I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for he has clothed me with a robe of salvation.” Simply put, we are invited to rejoice because of God's initiative to save us, to heal us and to renew us. It is not because of anything we have done that God wants to do this; it is because God loves us and wants us to have the fullness of life, peace and joy.

What a great gift this is! It is a greater gift than anything we will give or receive at Christmas. God rejoices in being with us. God rejoices in each one of us. At times, this can be doubted because of our choices, our past or our sins. But that is the Good News that Christ came to proclaim, and the Good News that we are invited to embrace and proclaim to others: God's love and mercy are boundless, and we are invited to receive it as we prepare for Christmas. Certainly, our prayer and good works performed at this time help to prepare us. So too does our reception of the sacraments, especially the sacrament of reconciliation. We receive the gift of God's love and mercy to heal us and strengthen us. It is something that Pope Francis has constantly encouraged the faithful to do. Our parish reconciliation service will be this Wednesday evening in collaboration with our neighboring parishes at 6:30pm in at St. Teresa of Avila on Armitage. Come and receive the healing and mercy that you need.

We rejoice in this great gift of God which enables us to continue on our journey of faith. As Pope Francis said, “God always shows us the greatness of his mercy. God gives us the strength to go forward. God is always with us in order to help us go forward. God loves us so very much. That is why God is with us to help us, to strengthen us, to help us go forward. Courage! Always forward!”

For those who are going out of town for Christmas, I offer you my prayers for safe journeys and a blessed and joyful celebration of Christmas. I encourage you to remember St. Vincent’s and to make a Christmas offering to the parish; envelopes to do so were mailed this week to all registered parishioners or can be found in the pews. Also, you can make a donation on our website by visiting stvdep.org/donate. Thank you and God bless!

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017
PLANNED GIVING: making a year-end gift

As we approach this holiday season, let us remember the joy in giving and in sharing the blessings we have received. God has cloaked us in His bountiful love, and we can in turn offer our fellow parishioners an extension of this love. By considering a Planned Gift to St. Vincent de Paul Parish we can ensure that our parish will continue to serve and grow in its mission.

Please contact the parish office as you prayerfully consider making a planned gift to St. Vincent de Paul Parish.

We are happy to discuss with you some of the financial benefits of making a Planned Gift, such as an income stream for you during your lifetime and tax benefits for your family after you are gone. There are significant tax benefits you might also consider for your year-end giving.

If you make a gift directly from your IRA before Dec. 31st or if you make a gift of appreciated stock held longer than 12 months, you can realize important tax savings.

Advent Prayer Tree

What are your prayers as we prepare for the birth of Jesus? Write your prayer on an ornament and hang it on the tree in church.

This year in particular, we invite prayers for those who are on the margins and strangers in our midst as we commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Vincentian mission.
Advent Reconciliation Service

Our Advent Reconciliation Service will take place on

**Wednesday December 20 at 6:30 p.m.**

We are doing it in collaboration with the other parishes in our Renew My Church Grouping, and it will be held at St. Teresa at Armitage and Kenmore.

The sacrament is also available on Saturday afternoons from 4:15 until 4:50, or by calling Fr. Jeremy (773-325-4155) to set up an appointment.

Low Gluten Hosts Available!

If you are allergic to wheat or have celiac disease, or have any type of gluten intolerance, we have hosts available for you!

To receive a low gluten host at mass, please come to the sacristy before mass begins, so one can be prepared for you. Then, be sure to get in the communion line to receive from the priest.

These hosts have 0.01% gluten. If you have questions, please contact Fr. Jeremy at jdixon20@depaul.edu

Mass Intentions for 2018

Did you know that you can request a mass to be offered on behalf of your loved ones? Mass intentions can be celebrated for people living or deceased. If you would like to make a special intention for mass, please stop by the parish office or call at 773-325-8610. The calendar for 2018 is now available.
Christmas Mass at Midnight

With the St. Vincent de Paul Chamber Chorale and Orchestra

Mass in C Major (k. 258) by W. A. Mozart
"Christmas Concerto" Op. 8, by G. Torelli
*Service of Carols begins at 11:30pm

In the 4th Century, a young Christian woman made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem and kept a journal of the customs and liturgies she saw there. She witnessed the Christians celebrating the birth of Christ with a midnight vigil in Bethlehem, which was followed by a torchlight procession and gathering in Jerusalem. When the Basilica of St. Mary Major was built in Rome around 430, Pope Sixtus III included a replica chapel of the Bethlehem cave where Jesus was born. Like the practice in Jerusalem had been, he instituted the celebration of a midnight Mass in this chapel.

The solemn tradition of celebrating the Lord's birth at the midnight hour has been carried on for centuries. In our modern world, however, where convenience often trumps tradition, many parishes have moved their midnight Mass to an earlier hour.

At St. Vincent de Paul, we continue the time-honored tradition of Christmas Mass at Midnight. Join us at this mystical hour when the world truly does appear to wait in stillness.
We prepare for everything we consider important in life. And that includes Christmas. Join our parish for Best Advent Ever, a free email program that will help you prepare for Christmas in a unique way. Each day you’ll receive an email with...

- Short inspirational videos from Matthew Kelly and Dr. Allen Hunt
- Practical tips for your everyday life
- Real-life stories of hope

TO SIGN UP, VISIT

BestAdventEver.com/BeautifulHope

Dynamic Catholic

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO

BelongChicago.org is a new and innovative tool young adults in the Archdiocese of Chicago where you can find opportunities to connect and get involved in your Catholic faith! Here, you will find service events, gatherings for prayer, small faith communities, Bible studies, pilgrimages, retreats, and many other ways to grow spiritually and build community with other young adults.

Information and locations are updated weekly, so be sure to visit www.belongchicago.org frequently. We all have a place in the Catholic faith where we belong, and Belong Chicago will help you find yours!
Rev. Jeremy Dixon, C. M.
Pastor
St. Vincent de Paul Parish
1010 West Webster Avenue
Chicago, IL 60614

Dear Father,

On behalf of the Aged Residents and Little Sisters here at St. Mary’s Home I want to thank you sincerely for the check of $3,093.00 which we received from the collection at St. Vincent’s recently.

Your words of encouragement and the kindness expressed is certainly more than we deserve. The Little Sisters of the Poor will always be grateful to the Vincentian Community for all that is done for us. Together we can collaborate to care for the poor in the name of Jesus with your help.

Surely the Fathers and the entire community have always been at our service in so many ways. Since all of us have the privilege of going to France for our Final Profession for the most part many of the Little Sisters have visited the places where St. Vincent de Paul rests today and the many places where the work was begun.

We certainly will always think with much gratitude of the many days, rain or shine when the Vincentian Fathers have come to our assistance. We also appreciate the collaboration we have had over the years with the Daughters of Charity. We will also be very grateful for the privilege of hosting our local celebration of the canonization of St. Jeanne Jugan in St. Vincent de Paul parish in 2009.

Please assure your parish community of our gratitude. The individual donations you included with your check will also be acknowledged through our offices. Be very sure of our gratitude and prayers for each of your intentions.

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Sr. Maria Guadalupe
Sr. Maria Guadalupe, I.S.P.
Little Sisters of the Poor
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And Noted Vincentian Historian:
Fr. John Rybolt, C.M.

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Tel: (573) 547-8343
(800) 264-6279
Email: ammfather@amm.org

Name __________________________
Address _________________________
City ____________________________ State _______ Zip __________
Phone __________________________ Email ___________________
ON GIVING THANKS, POST THANKSGIVING
Copyright 2017 by John B. Reynolds (john@jrwrites.com)

Regular readers of this space—and thank you! by the way—know that I often tell stories that connect with readings of the day for the given Sunday. Typically it’s the Gospel and/or the first reading, and mostly because I’ve found something a priest told me years ago to be true: that the first reading and the Gospel often address similar themes while the second reading can be more stand-alone. Like today, maybe. Isaiah in the first reading speaks to the spirit of the Lord being upon him, adding, “I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul…” In the Gospel, John the Baptist references Isaiah directly when the priests and Levites ask John his identity. First John denies that he is the Christ, or Elijah, or the Prophet (Moses?), then he says, “I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘make straight the way of the Lord,’ as Isaiah the prophet said.” See what I mean? Definitely dots to connect.

But what about that second reading from 1 Thessalonians? While it doesn’t connect directly with the other two readings, I’ve always liked this text and I suspect I’ve referenced it once or twice before in my twenty+ years of writing this column because I see just now that I’ve highlighted it in my Bible here at home. “Brothers and sisters,” Paul writes, “Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing.” Also, “Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophetic utterances. Test everything; retain what is good. Refrain from every kind of evil.” Also, “May the God of peace make you perfectly holy and may you entirely, spirit, soul, and body, be preserved blameless for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” But just as important to my way of thinking as any of these exhortations from the Apostle Paul is this: “In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus” (a.k.a. per Maya Angelou, “Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer”).

I happened upon this quote just now in the Chicago Tribune comics—in Patrick McDonnell’s Mutts cartoon, specifically—but we needn’t look far for like sentiment. Per G.K. Chesterton, for example, “When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude.” Per Thomas Merton, ”To be grateful is to recognize the love of God in everything He has given us, and He has given us everything...” And per an old Buddhist proverb, “Enough is a feast.” But right now I’m hanging onto something I read on a tiny plaque in my sister-in-law’s bathroom on Thanksgiving: “What if you woke up tomorrow with only the things you had thanked God for today?” In that moment, I thanked God for my wife, children, and—given the context—modern plumbing. So we’ve arrived at the Third Sunday of Advent. Plenty of time, true, to be overwhelmed by the busy-ness of the season. But plenty of time, too, to wait on the Christ. And to kneel on the pillow of gratitude when we say our nightly prayers.
TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Last week, we looked at a form of nativity scene called a presipio, characterized by framing the crèche of Jesus with a vast array of personalities and a rich geographical context. The tradition was carried to the New World, and finds very rich expression in Latin America today. While in Europe the presepio was reserved mostly to the homes of wealthy nobles and great churches, in Latin America it was claimed by the poor and expressed the skills of native artisans. In Mexico, you can still find clay figures in every village market. In a way, the native people took the religion of Spanish rule and baptized it with their Indian culture by surrounding the crib of Jesus with local geography and people. In Brazil, where Christmas falls in summer, the figure of the baby Jesus is wrapped in gold and gems, and set on a hillside surrounded by flowers and animals of all kinds. Sometimes there is a double presepio, presenting both Nativity and Crucifixion.

In some places in Latin America, even non-religious people take care to have a presepio in the home, sometimes dedicating one whole room in the house or apartment to the scene. Some cities have markets where people from the countryside sell plants and figurines. In Cuzco, churches and families provide hot chocolate for the children of the poor who come down to help create the nativity scenes. In Paraguay, the baby Jesus grows—the small infant who arrives on Christmas Eve is replaced at New Year with a toddler Jesus who holds in one hand the globe and in the other a cross. Few Christmas traditions have the vitality and variety of presepios and crèches honoring the Nativity.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.

We Welcome Into The Church This Weekend:

Quinn Teresa Coats, child of Kendahl Damico & Nick Coats

Neala Kathleen, child of Caitlin and Dan Bristow

Jacob Kuscher, child of Paul Kuscher and Alba Hidalgo

George Nelson Lowe, child of Kate and Aron Lowe

Blakely Margaret, child of Timothy & Jessica Minton

Andrew Emanuel Lundquist, child of Tedd and Kristin Lundquist
Giving

Weekly Intentions

Please Pray for Our Sick

Let us remember all those here at St. Vincent's who are ill and in need of God's healing and comfort. Let us keep them in our prayers and thoughts, especially: Juliette Calabrese, Linda Cameron, Almeda Colby, Bob & Pat Dillon, Virginia Dillon, John Garrity, Mary Grecoina, Leticia Gross, Mary Hayes, Patty Hayes, Anita Italiane Hearl, Laura Linke, Sue Michalak, David Neesan, Terri Proietto, James Schwake, Joyce Walsh

Please contact Ginny in the parish center to inform us of those who are ill and in need of God's healing and comfort. They will be listed in our bulletin for 3 weeks. Renewal of prayers for the sick is available by contacting Ginny at that time. If you would like Fr. Jeremy to visit the person (if they live in the area), please let Ginny know when you add them to the list.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Mass Offerings</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday, December 18th</td>
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<td>Tuesday, December 19th</td>
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<td>Wednesday, December 20th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, December 21st</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, December 22nd</td>
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Did you know that you can request a weekday mass to be offered on behalf of your loved ones? Sometimes people will have a mass intention reserved on the anniversary of a death or to support someone during a difficult time. Other times mass is offered in thanksgiving on a birthday or other celebration. If you would like to reserve a mass intention, please contact the parish office at 773-325-8610 or simply stop by.
**Week at a Glance**

**Sunday, December 17th**
Presiders: Vigil Mass - Fr. Dixon; 8:00 a.m. Mass - Fr. Dixon; 10:00 a.m. Mass - Fr. Dosen; 5:00 p.m. Mass - Fr. McDevitt;
RCIA ........................................ 10:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. - St. Vincent Room
Knights of Columbus .......................... 11:00 a.m. - Portail Room
Baptisms .......................................................... 11:30 a.m. - Church
Al-Anon Meeting .............................. 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. - St. Vincent Room
Advent Vespers .......................................................... 6:00 p.m. - Church

**Monday, December 18th**
SPRED .............................................. 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. - Ozanam Room
AA Meeting .............................................. 7:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. - St. Vincent Room
Communal Reconciliation Service .................. 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m.
St. Teresa of Avila Church

**Tuesday, December 19th**

**Wednesday, December 20th**
AA Meeting .............................................. 6:30 p.m.- 7:30 p.m. - St. Vincent Room
Choir Practice .............................................. 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. - Ozanam Room

**Thursday, December 21st**

**Friday, December 22nd**

**Saturday, December 23rd**

**Sunday, December 24th**
Presiders: Vigil Mass - Fr. Dixon; 8:00 a.m. Mass - Fr. McDevitt; 10:00 a.m. Mass - Fr. Dixon; 5:00 p.m. Vigil of Christmas Mass - Fr. Udovic; Christmas Mass at Midnight - Fr. Dixon
Parish office closed at noon.

**Financial Stewardship**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Actual vs. Budget</th>
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<th>Last Year Comparable</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sunday Collections</strong></td>
<td>33,310</td>
<td>40,552</td>
<td>(7,242)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Other Revenue *</td>
<td>19,517</td>
<td>17,739</td>
<td>1,778</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue for October 2017</strong></td>
<td>52,827</td>
<td>58,291</td>
<td>(5,464)</td>
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</table>

*Includes DePaul University Monthly Stewardship

Thank you for your continued support of St. Vincent de Paul Parish! Your commitment is vital to the fiscal health of our parish. For convenient regular giving, please consider using our auto-withdrawal program.

Welcome

Thank you for being with us! As you explore what St. Vincent has to offer, please reach out to a member of the parish staff to answer any questions. We ask all who regularly join us in worship to take a moment to register. This enables us to serve you better and takes only a couple of minutes. Registration can be done through the Parish Center during business hours, or by visiting us online at www.stvdep.org.

We Welcome the Following New Parishioners:
Joseph Ruotolo, Christina Javier-Torres, Joseph Sharpe, Sarah Stein

Private Prayer in the Church
Please enter the church for private prayer through the Parish Center during regular office hours.

Finding Your Way Around

- **Restrooms:** Public restrooms are located in the narthex and Parish Center.
- **Parish Center:** Staff offices and meeting rooms are housed in the Parish Center. Reception for the public is located in this building to the west of the church and to the back of the courtyard.
- **Ozanan Room:** Large meeting and activity room on the first floor at the end of the hall.
- **Portail Room:** Small conference room on the first floor across from the kitchen.
- **St. Vincent Room:** Large meeting room on the lower level.
- **Narthex:** Large gathering space at the main doors on Webster Avenue.
- **Sactistry:** Room behind the west side of the sanctuary where the priest and other ministers prepare for liturgical celebrations. This room also provides access to the Parish Center.

Parking
Parking behind the church is permitted for parishioners and guests attending weekend masses and Friday wedding rehearsals. Parking at all other times without a proper DePaul University faculty/staff permit is subject to towing at the owner’s expense. Public parking is available at the university garage on Sheffield (at Fullerton). Tickets may be validated for two hours at Parish Center reception, or at the Sheffield entrance of the church while attending church-related functions.

Disabled Access
A ramped sidewalk can be accessed from the rear parking lot to the Sheffield entrance of the church. There is a ramped access to the sacristy from the church which allows access to the Parish Center through the sacristy. All of our restrooms are disabled-accessible.

Mother Seton Food Pantry and Sandwich Kitchen
Located in the northeast corner of the church (access is through the wheelchair door on Sheffield), the sandwich kitchen is open Monday-Saturday from 8:15-10 a.m. The food pantry is open on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering in the morning, or to help prepare meals or shop, please contact Phil at outreach@stvdep.org.

Office for the Protection of Children and Youth
If you would like more information about child protection in the Archdiocese of Chicago or how to report abuse, please go to http://www.archchicago.org/departments/protection/protection.shtm or call Jan Slattery, OPCY Director at 312-534-5319.
Celebration of the Sacraments at St. Vincent de Paul

Reconciliation: Saturday afternoon, 4:15-4:50 p.m. in the Reconciliation Room near the Sheffield entrance of the church, or you can call the Parish Center for an appointment.

Baptism: Please contact Mary Carter (mcarte40@depaul.edu) to register for baptism preparation, which is held on the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. You may attend this class either before or after your child is born.

Following preparation and after your child is born, please contact Mary to schedule a baptism date. Baptisms are celebrated on the 4th Sunday of the month at 11:30 a.m., or during a regular Sunday mass. Baptism is not celebrated during the Lenten season.

Marriage: Please contact Mary Carter (mcarte40@depaul.edu) to discuss the celebration of the sacrament of marriage here at St. Vincent’s, or concerning preparation and prenuptial matters if you are getting married in another parish.

For baptized Catholics, marriage is celebrated within a Catholic church in the presence of a priest or deacon. The first item to plan is the selection of a date and time. In order to celebrate the sacrament of marriage at St. Vincent, one needs to be a registered parishioner for four months prior to discussion of a date. DePaul University faculty, staff, students, and alumni may also celebrate their wedding here, provided either the bride, groom, or both are Roman Catholic, registered at a parish and actively engaged in the practice of their faith. Weddings are celebrated on Saturdays only, at 1:00 p.m. or 3:00 p.m. Weddings are not celebrated during the season of Lent, Holy Week or Saturdays that conflict with other parish events. Mary confirms all reservations for weddings.

Confirmation: Catholic adults who would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation are invited to contact Rebecca at rcarmic1@depaul.edu. Confirmation preparation sessions are held Sunday evenings February through May.

RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a program that prepares adults to receive the sacrament(s) of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion. Preparation sessions are held on Sundays from 11:15 a.m.-1:00 p.m. and celebration of the sacraments occurs at the Easter Vigil mass. To learn more or to enroll in the RCIA program, please contact Rebecca at rcarmic1@depaul.edu.

First Communion: Requires two years of classes. Family catechesis (classes for parents and children) religious education classes are held monthly. Please contact Rebecca at rcarmic1@depaul.edu.

Priesthood/Religious Life: Please contact Fr. Jim Osendorf, CM, by phone at 1-800-depaul-1 or by email at vocations@vincentian.org to learn more about becoming a priest or religious.

Anointing of the Sick: To receive the sacrament of anointing of the sick, please contact the Parish Center.
Contact Us

Parish Staff

Rev. Jeremy Dixon, C.M.
Pastor ................................................................. jdixon20@depaul.edu

Robert Beatty
Director of Music and Community Development .......................................................... rbeatty1@depaul.edu

Rebecca Allen
Coordinator of RCIA & Adult Religious Ed. ................................................................. rcarmic1@depaul.edu

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Suzanne Gillen
Assistant Director of Music & Young Adult Ministry ............................................................ sgillen1@depaul.edu

Jose and Salvador Perez
Maintenance

Cristina Porcelli
Accountant ................................................................. cristina@porcelliaccounting.com

Bulletin Information

Articles must be submitted on or before **Noon on Saturday** for the next weekend's bulletin (earlier, for the week preceding holidays). Microsoft Word attachments are requested. Please make sure to indicate which Sunday date(s) you're requesting.

Please DO NOT send content by email, but instead use the Bulletin Submission Form: stvdep.org/weekly-bulletin/. Contact Christopher Allen (callen53@depaul.edu) with any questions.

Website Information

Submit news items, photos, PDF announcements, and similar promotional materials at any time to Christopher Allen. Please include your complete contact information in case we need to reach you.
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