



# Mass Intentions

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 03

8:00am: For the Unborn  
5:00pm: +Carol Stimac

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 04

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:15am: For the Parish  
11:15am: +Carol Stimac

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 05

7:00am: +Msrg. Kenneth Roeltgen

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 06

7:00am: +Richard & Ann Boehme

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 07

7:00am: +Faye Taylor

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 08

### Immaculate Conception

7:00am: +Lola Light  
9:00am\*: +Barbara Manderson  
7:00pm: +Ciro Franco

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 09

### No Daily Mass

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:00am: +Kelly Grounds  
5:00pm: +Carol Stimac

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

### 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:15am: +Rosemary Huskey  
11:15am: For the Parish

Dear Brothers and Sisters:



We have just begun Advent 2022, a new Church year. Let us hope and pray that this year will be filled with joy, peace and grace for all peoples. Saturday, November 26 ended one Church year to give way to another. During the last days of the old year, we focused on Revelations. There was a wonderful reflection and reminder on November 25 in *the WORD among us: Daily Meditations for Catholics*. The readings for the day were as follows: **Revelation 20: 1-4, 11-21: 2; Psalm 84: 3-6, 8; Luke 21: 29-33.**

***"I saw a new heaven and a new earth." (Revelation 21:1)***

The closing chapters of the Book of Revelation are filled with visions of the chaos and conflict that will accompany the final judgment when Jesus returns. But today's excerpt concludes with a vision of hope: a new heaven and a new earth (**Revelation 21:1**). In the end, God's perfect love will triumph. Every evil will be conquered and every wrong made right. Our Lord will bring in a whole new creation. And God ***"will dwell with . . . his people" forever (21:3).***

This is our hope! One day we will live forever with our Father in heaven. But we don't need to wait until Jesus returns to be close to God. Today's psalm response reminds us, "Here God lives among his people" (see **Revelation 21:3**). Right here. Right now. In our fallen world. Even while our lives are still a mixture of the new creation and our sinfulness. Even today, God dwells with his people. And he will never leave.

Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us, even while we wait for his Second Coming. So how does God dwell with us now, and how can we experience it?

First, God dwells with us through the Holy Spirit. When we were baptized, the Spirit took up residence within us. He is always at work within us to move our hearts to pray and read God's word. He is there to strengthen us in times of temptation. And he is there to remind us that we're never alone.

Second, God dwells with us in the sacraments. Whenever we go to Confession, he embraces and cleanses us of our sins. Every time we receive the Eucharist, he enters our bodies and fills us with his immeasurable grace.

Finally, God dwells with us in ordinary human interactions. He reveals his faithful love to us through our families. He demonstrates his closeness through the kindness of a friend who listens to our worries. And he shows us his mercy when someone forgives us for having sinned against them.

One day, we will see God face-to-face in the new heaven and earth. But until that day, God mercifully lives among us. Right here. Right now.

***"Thank you, Lord, that you are with me."***

I wish each of you a happy Advent Season, a season of preparation. May it be filled with many blessings and graces. You are in my thoughts and prayers each day.

***Always in the Savior, Fr. Joe***

## PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



James McGee, Barbara Brodeur, Carolyn Wingenter, Zanetta Brown, Teresa Gregory, Rachel Johnson, Faye Fletcher, Batchelder Family, Stachura Family, Sayre Family, Richard Wertz, Maddie Clearly, John Rourke, Jr., Cindy Morales, John & Linda Dimmock, Sharon Vandurn, Josephine Stratton, Ralph & Helen Kissel, Dan Vandergrift, John Howard, Sondra Adams, Judi Trygg, Marianna Young, Cecilia Hall, Deacon Mike Rooney, Antonio Beltran, Ramona Hallit, Rene Gonzalez, Bernice Geigel, Mary, Jane and Dena Bell, Juliana Goode, Marie Basta, Wanda Boren, Richard Brown, Cathy Filippo, Jena Lanszell, Charlotte Johnson, Michael Pesqueira, Jim Kollar, Emma Lang, Heidi Brown, Patricia Hendersen, Diane Goguen, Julie Algie, Jeff Bertrand, Matthew M., Selena M., Matt Cox Family, Steven Weems, Serge Corvington, Bob Strang, Mateo Hernandez, Jacqueline Meador, Laura Velkei, Adrianna Hilburn, Jason & Jaxson Rivera, Therese Thomas, Ally Billingsley.

### Note

If you wish to add someone to the prayer list, please contact Renate at the parish office. When that person recovers, please call again to remove their name so that others can be put on the list. **Thank you, Fr. Joe**

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

Monday	Isaiah 35:1-10 Ps 85:9ab, 10-14 Luke 5:17-26	Friday	Isaiah 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-4, 6 Matthew 11:16-19
Tuesday	Isaiah 40:1-11 Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13 Matthew 18:12-14	Saturday	Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11 Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19 Matthew 17:9a, 10-13
Wednesday	Isaiah 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10 Matthew 11:28-30	Sunday	Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10 Ps 146:6-10 James 5:7-10 Matthew 11:2-11
Thursday	Genesis 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12 Luke 1:26-38	<b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b>	

**ST. JOSEPH FAMILY TREE** We will have a family Christmas tree in the breezeway this year. We invite you to bring an ornament that represents your family and hang it on the tree the weekend of December 17/18. You can retrieve your ornament on the weekend of January 7/8. Any ornaments not picked up will be placed in a basket in the breezeway and kept until the end of January. Those left after that date will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul.

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY** If you are over the age of 70½, you can give any amount up to a maximum of \$100,000 per calendar year from your IRA directly to a qualified charity such as Holy Family School WITHOUT having to pay income taxes on that money. As yearend approaches, a donation directly from an IRA both in December and January, 2023 would be a wonderful way to make or complete a Holy Family School Capital Campaign pledge. What a difference you could make!

**2022 Advent Communal Penance & Confessions Schedule**

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St. Joseph	Dec. 6, 5:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. *
St. Mary of the Visitation	Dec. 10, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. **
Mercy Parish	Dec. 15, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. **
Our Lady Queen of the Universe	Dec. 17, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. *
St. John the Baptist	Dec. 19, 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. *
Holy Spirit	Dec. 20, 7:00 p.m. **
	Dec. 24, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. *

\* = Confessions only

\*\* = Penance Service with Confessions

*Please verify the date and time with the parish where you plan to attend an Advent reconciliation service.*



**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

If you would like to make a donation to seasonal flower arrangements or request a special commemoration, please call the parish office at 256-534-8459.

**CURRENT WEEKLY OFFERING**

Regular Collection	\$ 10,308.69
Other Designated Funds	\$ 1,842.00

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE**

**DECEMBER 10, 2022-DECEMBER 11, 2022**

**Please see the full schedule for ministry assignments for Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**ALTAR SERVERS**

5:00pm: Joey Ross, Henry Franzo  
8:15am: Dawson Amos  
11:15am: Michael Terry

**LECTORS**

5:00pm: Patty Ayala, Diane Hollingshead  
8:15am: Robert Styles, Ellen Styles  
11:15am: Jeffrey Taylor, Maggie Taylor

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS**

5:00pm: Philip Graham\*, Gerry Donnelly\*, Josette Gant\*,  
Jamie St. Germain, Laura Hall  
8:15am: David Brost\*, Bill Billingsley\*, Cecilia Bruton\*  
Linda Billingsley, Paul Bolinsky  
11:15am: Bernita Briggs\*, Jane Dodds\*, Jerolyn Golightly\*  
Kristy Hayne, Michelle Jansen

# Religious Education

## Formation and Catechesis

### Prayer for the 2nd Week of Advent

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Christ our hope, illuminate our hearts with your grace. Enlarge our vision so that we recognize our kinship with all the people of the world. Help us to give to others in ways that meet their deepest needs. We await your coming with gratitude. Amen.

(From Sadlier Religion)



### FORMATION CALENDAR

Dec. 4	RE/RCIA 9:30-11:00 a.m. HFS/Parish Office Bldg.
Dec. 11	RE/RCIA 9:30-11:00 a.m. HFS/Parish Office Bldg. <b>LWC @ 8:15 a.m. &amp; 11:15 a.m. Masses</b>
Dec. 18 & 25	<b>No RE/RCIA/LWC—Christmas Break</b>
Jan. 1	<b>No RE/RCIA—Solemnity of Mary</b>
Jan. 8	RE/RCIA 9:30-11:00 a.m. HFS/Parish Office Bldg. <b>LWC @ 8:15 a.m. &amp; 11:15 a.m. Masses</b>

### CHRISTMAS BOXES 2022

It's Christmas Box time at St. Joseph! Please pick up a food item list in the church vestibule. All donations must be returned to the church by December 9. You can also purchase Scrip for the boxes, put it in an envelope marked "Christmas Box Donation", and place in the offertory basket.

We will have two collections designated for the Christmas Boxes—one on Thanksgiving Day and a second collection on December 3 and December 4.

Proceeds from these collections will be used to purchase item shortages and grocery store gift cards. These gift cards will allow recipients to purchase perishable items, such as meats and fresh produce, that we do not provide.

Please help us on the following key dates.



### Important Dates

Dec. 3/4	Begin bringing donations of food to church
Dec. 3/4	Second collection at all Masses
Dec. 9	Last day to bring donated food to church
Dec. 10	Count and sort donated items—9:00 a.m.
Dec. 16	Build packing boxes—5:00 p.m.
Dec. 17	Pack the boxes—9:00 a.m.
Dec. 18	Boxes available for pick-up or delivery

This is a big annual undertaking for our parish that could not be done without the efforts of everyone who contributes to this outreach ministry. It is a wonderful way to enter into the spirit of Christmas and a blessed family and community event.

Please give generously of your time, talent and spirit to make this another successful year. For more information, call the parish office at 256-534-8459.

## Here Is What's Happening This Week

### HFS Santa's Workshop Dec. 5-9, St. Francis Hall

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 06

9:00am: Bedrolls for the Homeless (LMR)  
10:00am: Parish Staff Meeting (LIB)  
5:30pm: Advent Confessions (SJC)  
6:00pm: Boy Scouts

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 07

2:00pm: 5:00pm Mass Choir Practice (SJC)  
7:00pm: 8:15am Mass Choir Practice (SJC)

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 08

*Immaculate Conception*  
**Masses @ 7am, 9am, 7pm**  
6:00pm: 11:15am Mass Choir Practice (SJC)

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 09

6:00pm: HFS Christmas Show (FMC)

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

10:00am: 1st Reconciliation (SJC)

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

*Liturgy of the Word w/Children*  
**@ 8:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m. Masses**

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

9:30am: RE/RCIA (LMR/LIB/HFS/SFH)  
5:30pm: N. Huntsville Catholic  
Youth Group (SFH)

#### Facilities Key

FMC = Messmer Center/Gym  
SJC = St. Joseph Church  
SFH = St. Francis Hall  
LMR/LIB = RE Center  
BEA = Beasley Hall  
STA = St. Thomas Aquinas Chapel  
BRZWY = Breezeway  
VBC = Von Braun Center