

# Queen of Peace Parish



## Welcome!

We, the Catholic community of Queen of Peace Parish, centered in the Eucharist, strive to grow in our faith and our relationship with God as a welcoming people, working for peace and justice through service to others.

### OUR LADY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

8747 W. Lawrence Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60656

#### MASSSES:

Tuesday: 7:00 am  
Thursday: 7:00 am  
Sunday: 10:00 am

### ST. EUGENE CHURCH

7958 W. Foster Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60656

Ph. (773) 775-6659, (773) 775-6660  
(773) 775-6694

#### RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:

Mon.- Thur.: 9:00 am - 7:00 pm  
Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Saturday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

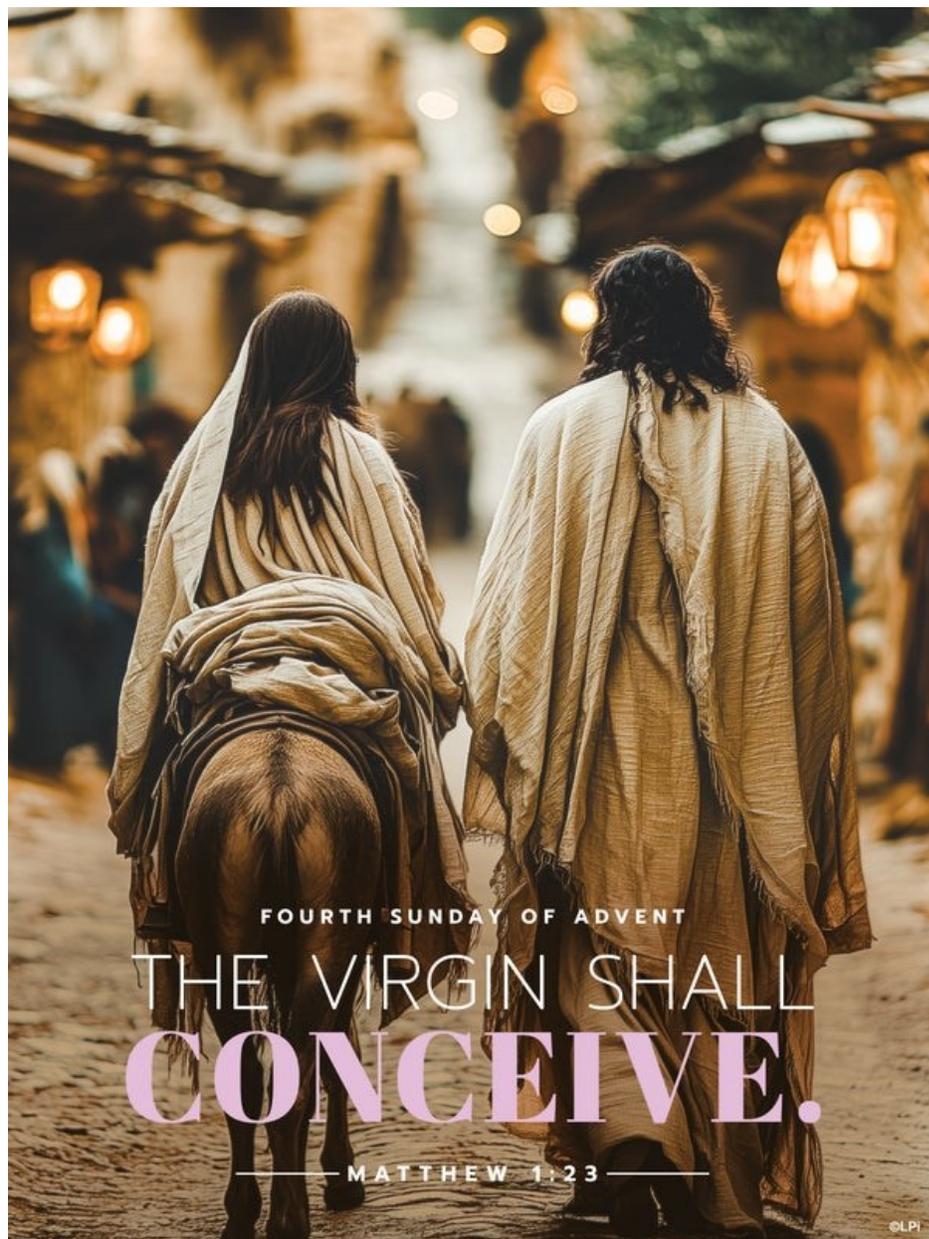
#### MASSSES:

Monday: 9:00 am  
Wednesday: 9:00 am  
Friday: 9:00 am  
Saturday: 8:30 am  
Sunday Vigil Mass: 4:30 pm  
Sunday: 8:30 am  
11:30 am

**CONFESSIONS** 3:30 pm on Saturday

#### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm  
Benediction: 5:45 pm



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

THE VIRGIN SHALL  
**CONCEIVE.**

MATTHEW 1:23

©LPI

December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025 - 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent



# FROM THE DESK OF FR. RICH

Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

In today's first scriptural passage, the prophet Isaiah speaks to the Jewish King Ahaz, who is more interested in politics than religion. Isaiah announces that the wife of Ahaz will soon have a son, who will be a better king than his father. Christians have seen in this passage a deeper meaning, namely, that Mary gives birth to Jesus.

The opening words of the letter to the Romans are an example of the classical style of letter writing at that time: Paul first identifies himself, extends a greeting, gives some helpful information about himself, and personalizes his letter by naming the community to whom he is writing. Paul highlights the fact that Jesus was descended from the Royal House of David. Early Christians (many of them from the lower class) were particularly proud of this.

\*\*\*\*\*

With the celebration of Gaudete (Joyful) Sunday last weekend, we as the Church were reminded of the "joyful" expectation that comes with the reaching of the 3rd week of Advent. Now we have arrived at the 4th Sunday of Advent, with the anticipation of the coming of Christ at Christmas growing even greater.

\*\*\*\*\*

All are invited to join us on our upcoming 12-day "Pearls of Poland" tour, departing on June 21st through July 2nd, 2026. Whether you have been to Poland before or not, no tour of this beautiful country is ever the same. Sharing this experience with your family, friends, and/or fellow parishioners helps to make it that much more enjoyable, as we

always have so much to talk about and share at the end of each of our days of sightseeing and touring.

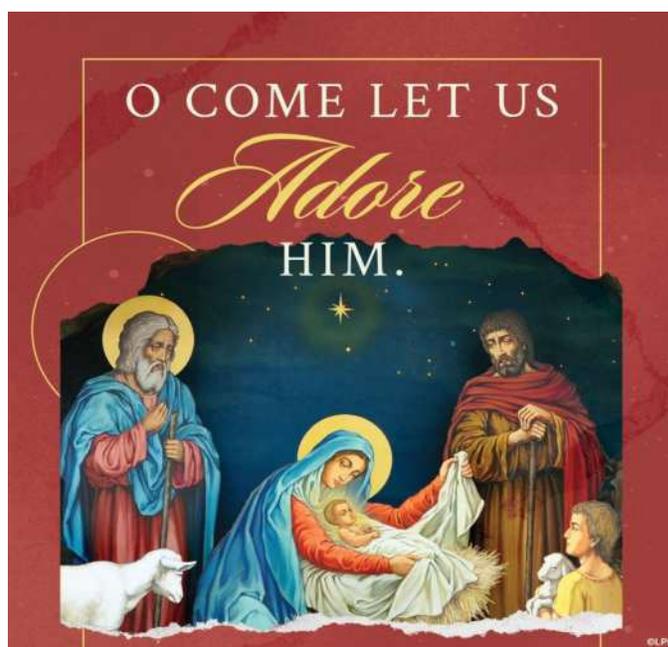
Be sure to see the promotional information about this exciting trip that can be found in the brochures located in the kiosks at both of our parish worship sites.

This trip is almost full as there are only 4 spaces left. For anyone definitely wanting to join us, you can hold your spot by filling out and sending in the RSVP form contained in the trip brochure with your deposit. Again, brochures are available at our parish office or in the vestibules of our churches. Would love to have you join us.

\*\*\*\*\*

Happy 4th Sunday of Advent  
and a Merry Christmas to you as well!

*Fr. Rich Yanos*



# CHRISTMAS LETTER FROM CARDINAL CUPICH

*Christmas 2025*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Our Christmas celebrations coincide with the beginning of winter. There is less light at this time of year and more cold than we might want. The contrast is striking for people of faith. We remember God's only begotten Son born of the Virgin Mary. He comes into a dark and cold world as its light and its warmth.

In chapter four of Matthew's gospel at the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus, the evangelist cites words of the prophet Isaiah:

*...the people who sat in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those who sat in the region  
and shadow of death  
light has dawned. (Mt 4:16)*

Events of this past year could suggest that all we have is indeed a cold and dark world. That seems to be the message of the wars fought around the world, of the tragic school shootings and political assassinations in our nation, and of our frayed connections with each other.

Again, for us as people of faith, the contrast is stark. We are realistic, and we know well the challenges of our world in this tense moment of the world's history. We also know, however, a larger narrative of God's love incarnate in Jesus Christ, the light that breaks the power of sin and death. Saint John wrote of him: "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." (John 1:5) This light enlightens us and warms us. Whatever struggles we face, we are assured because he walks with us.

As you gather with family and friends and fellow parishioners, I urge you to reassure each other with our convictions of faith. Take responsibility in the world to be a sign of hope and a source of encouragement for others. In this way, you will bring Christ the light to those who need him.

Join me and pray for our world, our nation, and our local communities that we can all walk in the light.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

  
Archbishop of Chicago

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday, December 20, 2025 - Late Advent Weekday

#### 8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Mr. La Pietra's Students & The Dying  
S.I. For Konrad Snizek

#### 4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Eugene Church

People of the Parish, Nicolo Bartollo  
Nicolo Bartolotta - Father & Uncle  
Wayne J. Greco, Jimmy McGuire  
Frances Purchla & Stanley Purchla  
Eugene Slomski, Yolanda Slomski  
Jeffrey Wrobel, Mary Wrobel

### Sunday, December 21, 2025 - 4th Sunday of Advent

#### 8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Black & Killmer Families, Mary Kate & John Brennan  
Mirno Della Santina, Gus Magnelli  
Living Members of the Frackiel Family  
Giacomo Giovannielli, Mary Lou Oberheim  
Julius & Minnie Silva, Mary Varga  
Maria Rempala - 5th Anniversary of Death

#### 10:00 am Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Carlos Adriano, Lydia Adriano  
Deceased Members of the Bialek & Glogowski Families  
Maria Carrozza, Ralph & Virginia Conenna  
James & Matilda Halas, John Orsi, Jerry Stephen

#### 11:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Domenico & Anna Battista, Katarzyna & Teofil Cabaj  
Aleksander Hyrc, Jan & Wally Hyrc  
Hillard Mike Michalek, Michalek Michalek  
Michael V. Parente, Mike, Sr. & Anna Parente  
Eduardo & Yolanda Pescatore  
Attilio & Giosina & Remo Turano & Wesley Cwik

#### 5:00 pm Simbang Gabi Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

### Monday, December 22, 2025 - Late Advent Weekday

#### 9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Grace Bastian, Nanay Erly  
Tony Parisi, Kenneth Sadowski  
Barbara & Edmund Zarzycki

### Tuesday, December 23, 2025 - Late Advent Weekday

#### 7:00 am Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

S.I. For Family, Evelyn Klein, Rev. Joe Ognibene

### Wednesday, December 24, 2025 - Late Advent Weekday

#### 9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Lukasz Lirecki, Carol, Mary & Richard Samp  
Living & Deceased Members of the Lutfy & Dahir Families

### Wednesday, December 24, 2025 - Christmas Eve

#### 3:00 pm (Family Liturgy) Mass at St. Eugene Church

Claire & Meredith Brennan, Jack Dahlquist  
Bernadett Sedlacek, Kailey Sedlacek  
Helen & Walter Wojtas

#### 4:00 pm Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Starr Ballog, Maria Carrozza, Lawrence Viverito  
Andy Walczak, Anna Walczak

#### 5:00 pm Mass at St. Eugene Church

Don Feist, John Kula, Irene & Hugh McGreevy  
Antoni Orłowski, Stanley & Frances Purchla

#### 10:00 pm Mass at St. Eugene Church

Brunetti & Parente Families, Samborski & De Tolve Families  
Carmela & Frank Esposito, Maria Janus - Anniversary  
Donato Donald Parente

### Thursday, December 25, 2025 - Christmas Day

#### 8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Haj & Janus Families, Michael & Josephine Magnine  
Living & Deceased Members of the Feist & Mikulski Families  
Enrico Scola, Emidio & Elvira Spinelli

#### 10:00 am Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Maria Carrozza, Antoni Gumkowski, Reba & Walter Ryder  
Wiesława Karczmarczyk, Joseph Mandile

#### 11:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Walter Caban, Chris & Tadeusz Dabros & Family  
Witold & Krystana Godomski & Family  
Riotto & Russo Families  
Zygmunt & Janina Wytrwal & Family

### Friday, December 26, 2025

#### 9:00 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Souls in Purgatory, Margaret Bastian  
Phyllis & Arthur Bastian, Christine Franey, Kula Family  
Fred Rogers, Roy Tufts

### Saturday, December 27, 2025

#### 8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Mark Mucek - Death Anniversary  
S.I. For the Family - Thanksgiving

#### 4:30 pm Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Eugene Church

Carmella Calace, Juan Diaz  
Living & Deceased Members of the Cazolas & Olen Families  
Francesco Centineo, Agnes & Ludwig Komperda  
Angeline Komperda, Pozzie & Heredia Families  
S.I. For Rev. Greg Rom - Health & Blessings  
Carol Sparacio, Frederick Tomzik

### Sunday, December 28, 2025

#### 8:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

Juan Diaz, Anna Dolcimascolo, Josef Krol  
Deceased Members of the Fornek & Wrobel Families  
Josef Miklewicz, Ben Pacyna - Death Anniversary  
Ruben Purificacion - Birthday Remembrance

#### 10:00 am Mass at Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Maria Carrozza, Dominick Di Cristofano  
Carmela Iannotta, Felice Iannotta  
Deceased Members of the Kot & Feret Families  
Janice Lambrecht, Fred Nuccio - Birthday Remembrance  
Eileen Sullivan, Tom Szczech, Jr.  
Tom & Josephine Szczech, Jr.

#### 11:30 am Mass at St. Eugene Church

People of the Parish, Pietra & Saverio Arcuri  
Michelle Babbs, S.I. For Aaron Barr  
Ralph & Trudy Cryer, Sr. Michaeline Kwit  
Benny Martin, Mary Lou Oberheim  
Paolo & Vincenza Scianna, Tom Scianna



Schedule of Liturgical Ministers

DATE	CELEBRANT	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER	ALTAR SERVER	LECTORS
WEDNESDAY, 12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE 3:00 PM - SE	Rev. Rich Yanos	D. Draniczarek - WB B. Berggren - B Celebrant / M.B. Glynn T. Moore - O T. Crivlare - WO	AJ Orlando J. Rog C. Brown C. Brown	OPEN
WEDNESDAY, 12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE 4:00 PM - OLMC	Rev. Robert Carlton	D. Calabro—T M. D'Alessandro—T Celebrant/N. Mosk—C M. Walsh—Cup T J. Villanueva—Cup A	D. Flynn	L. Muehlfelder - 1st P. Peterson - 2nd
WEDNESDAY, 12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE 5:00 PM - SE	Rev. Rich Yanos	C. Paulini - WB Open - B Celebrant / F. Klus - C Open - O Open - WO	S. Martinez C. Rodriguez	C. Bobka
WEDNESDAY, 12/24 CHRISTMAS EVE 10:00 PM - SE	Rev. Jacek Dada	R. Kennedy - WB C. Lim - B Celebrant / M. Lim - C R. Sparacino - O G. Bermas - WO	A. Czubek C. Czubek	S. Sparacino
THURSDAY, 12/25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 8:30 AM - SE	Rev. Jacek Dada	L. Feist - WB B. Czubek - B Celebrant / C. Mikucki - C M. Unger - O G. Bermas - WO	L. Parillo-Hall H. Wyzkowski A. McGovern	D. Sulimowski
THURSDAY, 12/25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 10:00 AM - OLMC	Rev. Greg Rom	C. Capps—T C. Jesiolowski--T Celebrant/M. Marszalek--C R. Catalano—Cup T P. Vega—Cup A	G. Pilch J. Pilch	G. Henderson - 1st W. Kaczmarczyk
THURSDAY, 12/25 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD 11:30 AM - SE	Rev. Robert Carlton	Open - WB Open - B Celebrant / J. Nardi - C F. Pacia - O U. Pawlowski - WO	M. Wallace	L. Vasich
SATURDAY, 12/27 4:30 PM - SE	Rev. Rich Yanos	L. Feist - WB M.B. Glynn - B Celebrant / J. Magnuson - C T. Crivlare - O A. Cisek - WO F. Klus - Cup B M. Meo - Cup O	E. Burzawa S. Martinez E. Switalla	D. Sulimowski
SUNDAY, 12/28 8:30 AM - SE	Rev. Greg Rom	J. Nardi - WB B. Berggren - B Celebrant / M. Cozzo J. Kolaski - O G. Bermas - WO J. Cardella - Cup B M. Unger - Cup o	A. Czubek	I. Rog
SUNDAY, 12/28 10:00 AM - OLMC	Rev. Jacek Dada	D. Calabro - T M. Marszalek - T Celebrant / E. Aspi - C D. Sese - Cup T R. Molas - Cup A	G. Pilch J. Pilch	C. Cappa - 1st J. Molas - 2nd
SUNDAY, 12/28 11:30 AM - SE	Rev. Robert Carlton	C. Lim - WB B. Berggren - B Celebrant / J. Mroszczak - C F. Pacia - O P. Paetsch - WO M. Lim - Cup B M. Zurek - Cup O	M. Clancy C. Rodriguez H. Wyzkowski	P. Wagner

## Decorating for Christmas

The Liturgical Decorating Committee needs some “extra hands” to help change the sanctuary from Advent to Christmas. The Christmas schedule is as follows:

### St. Eugene Church

Tuesday, December 23 from 6:30 until 9:00 p.m. We will be putting up the Christmas Banners, setting up the Nativity Scene and small trees in front of the altar, decorating the gathering space with the Holy Family statue and trees, putting up Christmas wreaths and Christmas flowers.

### Our Lady, Mother of the Church

Monday, December 22, from 6:30 until 9:00 p.m. We will be putting up the Christmas Banners, setting up the Nativity Scene, and decorating the Christmas trees and gathering space, putting up Christmas wreaths and Christmas flowers.

The more help we receive, the faster things will get done! Your help with either of these dates is greatly appreciated.

Please call the rectory to leave your name, phone number and e-mail address and we will get back to you!

Thank you,

*The Liturgical Decorating Committee*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY BAPTIZED!



Daisy Lynn Foley



Nino Michael Alongi



## INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?



### OCIA - ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS.

#### WHO IS OCIA FOR?

- NON-CATHOLICS WHO WANT TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
- THOSE WHO WANT TO JOIN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH THROUGH BAPTISM, OR PROFESSION OF FAITH
- THOSE WHO WERE BAPTIZED CATHOLIC AS INFANTS BUT NEVER RECEIVED RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, CONFIRMATION, OR FIRST EUCHARIST.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT 773-775-6660 OR FR. CARLTON AT [RCARLTON@ARCHCHICAGO.ORG](mailto:RCARLTON@ARCHCHICAGO.ORG).



## ADVENT MASS SCHEDULE

Dec. 20 & 21

Saturday	4:30 pm	St. Eugene Church (Mass of Anticipation)
Sunday	8:30 am	St. Eugene Church
	10:00 am	Our Lady, Mother of the Church
	11:30 am	St. Eugene Church

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays - 3:30 pm - St. Eugene Church

## ADVENT WEEKDAY - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24

9:00 am St. Eugene Church

## CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24

3:00 pm	Family Liturgy - St. Eugene Church
4:00 pm	Our Lady, Mother of the Church
5:00 pm	St. Eugene Church
9:30 pm	Christmas Carols Begin - St. Eugene Church
10:00 pm	St. Eugene Church

### Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25

8:30 am	St. Eugene Church
10:00 am	Our Lady, Mother of the Church
11:30 am	St. Eugene Church

### Feast of the Holy Family, Sunday, December 28

4:30 pm	Saturday, December 27 - St. Eugene Church (Mass of Anticipation)
8:30 am	St. Eugene Church
10:00 am	Our Lady, Mother of the Church
11:30 am	St. Eugene Church

### New Year's Eve, Wednesday, December 31

9:00 am St. Eugene Church

### New Year's Day, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, Thursday, January 1

4:00 pm	Wednesday, December 31 - St. Eugene Church (Mass of Anticipation)
10:00 am	Thursday, January 1 - St. Eugene Church

### Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, Sunday, January 4

4:30 pm	Saturday, January 3 - St. Eugene Church (Mass of Anticipation)
8:30 am	St. Eugene Church
10:00 am	Our Lady, Mother of the Church
11:30 am	St. Eugene Church

Rectory will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 24, Thursday, Dec. 25, Wednesday, Dec. 31 & Thursday, Jan. 1.

Oplatki - Christmas Wafers are available for a donation of \$3.00 per packet at both churches and at the rectory office during regular office hours.





Thank you for supporting our parish!

You can scan QR code to go directly to GiveCentral and support our Parish.



Donation information not available. It will be reflected in the next available bulletin.

This week's at Our Lady, Mother of the Church



BREAD & WINE  
Is in memory of

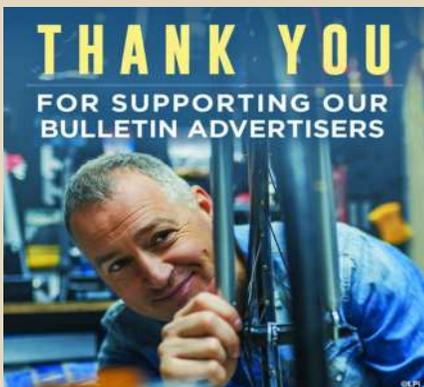
**JOSEPH MANDILE**

This week's at Our Lady, Mother of the Church



SANCTUARY LAMP  
is in memory of

**NICOLA TROIANO**



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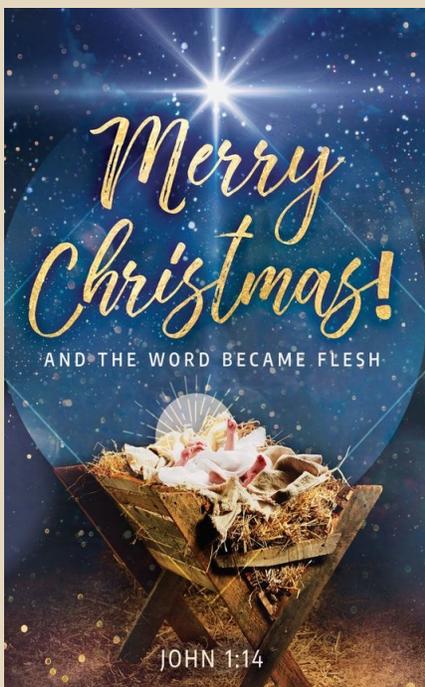
- December 21**  
School Support Fund
- December 25**  
Christmas
- December 28**  
Repair & Maintenance
- January 1**  
Solemnity of Mary

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**  
St. Eugene Church  
Mondays 4 - 6 pm.



Benediction  
at 5:45 pm.

Visit [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com) to subscribe to our parish bulletin



**Bible Study**



Wednesday in St. Eugene School-room 110 from 10:00 to 12:00. Questions or comments please feel free to email Frank at [fjizak@comcast.net](mailto:fjizak@comcast.net) Hope to see you there!

**Knights of Columbus**



If you are interested in joining the Knights of Columbus, please contact Joe Marley at 708-702-2726 [Marley-j@comcast.net](mailto:Marley-j@comcast.net)



**Bulletin Submissions:**

Bulletin requests must be sent 2 weeks prior to the desired bulletin weekend to [mgeurtsen@archchicago.org](mailto:mgeurtsen@archchicago.org) We reserve the right to edit. Submissions will be placed in the bulletin if space allows and pending administration approval. Please call the parish office for the holiday schedule. *Thank you.*

**Early Submission Dates**

BULLETIN DATE	DEADLINE DATE
January 4	Monday, 12/22/25

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Come join us to make a difference in peoples lives. We crochet shawls, lap robes, baby blankets, crosses and even scarves and hats when there is a need. If interested we meet the first and third Wednesday of every month.

Any questions please reach out to Pam at 773-685-7586 or 773-848-4586.

**The Friendship Club**



Meets on the 2nd & 4th Tuesdays at 11am at OLMC. For more information about upcoming meetings or with any other questions, please contact Debra by calling 773-398-4472 or email at [dltimmreck@gmail.com](mailto:dltimmreck@gmail.com)



# PRAYER REQUESTS

Lord God, we place our worries in your hands. We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that You restore your servant to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge your will and know that whatever you do, you do for the love of us. We thank You and praise You through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Pat Apida  
Annabella Amato  
Ralph J. Amelio  
Victoria Amelio  
Peter Badagliacca  
Patricia Basili  
Judy Bauer  
Don Bellisario  
Ludwika Bialo  
Bronislaw Bialo  
V. Bischof  
Gabriella Bongiorno  
Virginia Bongiorno-Lawrence  
Johnmar Castillo  
Gracie Carey  
Karen Cazolas  
Victoria Chrabasz  
Mary Ciliak  
Mark Corrado  
Camile Conrick  
Jacqueline Connoly  
Sharon Crowley  
Susan Curtin  
Angela D'Alessandro  
Joseph Duna  
Kurt Feiereisel  
Scott Feiereisel  
Carol Fijalkiewicz  
Matthew Fijalkiewicz  
Tony Fiore  
Rich Garcia  
Bob Gasiorek

Harry Gelardi  
Patricia Gelfond  
Susan Hennessy  
Jeff Herden  
Bonnie Herden  
Renee Holm  
Terry Katz  
Arthur Kopeck  
Harry Krawczyk  
Thomas Landeck  
James LaPietra  
Abigail Lim  
Allie Lim  
Frank Lizak  
Rose Mary Maratto  
Mickey Margelewski  
Dcn. Ted Marszalek  
Stanislaw Mazek  
Azucena Melendrez  
Lena Menconi  
Dolores Michalek  
Judy Mitrenga  
Linda Morton  
Norman Mosk  
Michael J. Muscarello  
John Nelson  
Joey Notaro  
Anthony Notaro  
Rev. James J. O'Brien  
Donie Odulio  
Catherine O'Hara  
Catherine O'Keefe

Blanca Pacia  
Camille Pavlis  
Karen Pavlis - Karasawa  
Kevin Pemberton  
Jackie Pomis  
Maria Pulice  
Rita Rogers  
Jean Rogers  
Bill Ruhl  
Tom Ryan  
Diane Rizzuto  
Luis A. Sanchez  
Pat Schippers  
Shirley Schindler  
Dolores Scorza  
Peter Schroeder  
Robert Shelton  
Maria Slomski  
Anita Sison  
Daniel Staniec  
Emily Steckiewicz  
Rachael Stowe  
Mae Stryker  
Lavergne Suchor  
Dave Tudron  
Paul Tscherwenka  
Ernesto Vergara  
Jack Wagner  
Nancy Wesclitz  
Dolores Wilk

**We pray for our loved ones who are serving in any branch of the Armed Forces during this time of conflict.**



**Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.  
Protect them as they protect us.  
Bless them and their families  
for the selfless acts they perform for us  
in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Je-  
sus our Lord and Savior. Amen**

Major Adamczyk  
Ghaleb Azroui  
Matthew Calderisi  
Timothy Emmett Carolan  
Melissa Rose Cortese  
James Vincent Degrazia  
Patrick Edward Dillon  
Zbigniew Dudkowski  
Matthew Scott Forrest  
Dominic John Guerrieri, Jr.  
Major Dirk Haller  
Andrew Hopkins  
Christopher Jenkins

Bernard Edward Kusinski  
Lt. Radoslaw Korzeniak  
Antonio James Lim  
Payne Manczko  
Chris Marchiori  
Daniel McLenighan  
Daniel Meaney  
Keith Miller  
Michael Morales  
Mike Mroszczak  
Thomas Neuhengen  
Eric Norwood  
Vincent Page

Jasmine Poffenbarger  
Chad Pritchard  
Nicholas Ranch  
Adam Roberts  
Joseph Saineghi, Jr.  
Holly Schippers  
Michael Schippers, Jr.  
Sean Sherlock  
Sharon Sherlock  
Phillip R. Simonsen  
Tony Strzalka  
Anthony Vanhanselaere

# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign:  
the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son,  
and shall name him Emmanuel. (Isa 7:14)

### Psalm:

Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory. (Ps 24)

### Second Reading:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ. (Rom 1:7)

### Gospel:

"Joseph, son of David,  
do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.  
For it is through the Holy Spirit  
that this child has been conceived in her.  
She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,  
because he will save his people from their sins." (Mt 1:20-21)

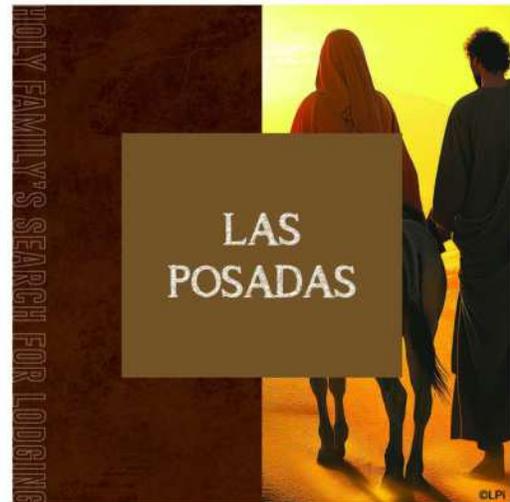
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,  
International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Sometimes we want God's instructions to be clear and precise — like the angel in Joseph's dream. But Joseph's understanding was only as strong as his devotion to God's will. If we give our lives to God as Joseph did, we will know what he asks of us.

## Observances for the week of December 21, 2025

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Advent
- Tuesday:** St. John of Kanty, Priest
- Wednesday:** Christmas Eve
- Thursday:** The Nativity of the Lord
- Friday:** St. Stephen, First Martyr
- Saturday:** St. John, Apostle and Evangelist
- Next Sunday:** The Holy Family



## Devotions, Explained!

Las Posadas is a Mexican tradition which recreates the Holy Family's search for lodging in Bethlehem. This nine-day devotion anticipates the birth of Jesus Christ, who seeks refuge in the heart of every man and woman.

## Prayer for Advent - Miracles

Dear God,  
You are in the miracle business.  
I still believe that You can move  
mountains and separate seas.  
Break into every unknown and  
astound us with Your goodness  
and grace.  
Amen.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## **Simbang Gabi**

Queen of Peace Parish welcomes all to experience the beautiful liturgy of **Simbang Gabi** on  
Sunday, December 21, 2025, at 5:00 PM  
at Our Lady, Mother of the Church (OLMC).

**Celebrant: Fr. Noel Reyes**  
**Concelebrant: Fr. Rich Yanos**

**Maligayang Pasko! = Merry Christmas!**  
Fellowship and dinner will follow at OLMC, Hayes Center.  
8747 W. Lawrence Ave, Chicago, IL 60656

**Simbang Gabi Raffle: \$20.00**

**Win a 4-day, 3-night stay in a 1-Bedroom Suite**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek, FL\***

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Club Wyndham Glacier Canyon, Wisconsin Dells\***

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: \$100.00**

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# Liturgical Life

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** Advent is drawing quickly to a close, and Christmas is coming soon. The change is upon us. Do we rise to accept it, or do we fall on our faces in fear?

### The First Transfiguration

I imagine Joseph waking up the morning after the dream, blinking in the dim half-light of the dawn.

One day, decades from now, the baby his wife carries will stand on a mountaintop. His face will shine like the sun, and those who look upon him will fall down upon their own faces in fear.

We call this the transfiguration, and Joseph won't be there to see it. But that doesn't matter. What those men will learn on the mountaintop, Joseph already knows. He learned it last night.

Today, he shrugs off the remnants of slumber and stands up.

"Rise, and do not be afraid." This is what the baby — a baby no longer, but a man now, one in the last days of his life — will say to his companions on the mountain a few decades from now. They will look up to see him standing there the same as he always was, and they will realize that he did not change at all. They did.

"Do not be afraid." This is what the angel said last night as he revealed to Joseph the will of God: that Joseph take Mary and the Child as his own, despite having so many reasons not to do so. And today Joseph wakes up and the world is the same as it always was: Mary is pregnant, and the Child does not belong to him.

No, the world has not changed. Joseph has.

He rises, and goes to Mary.

Advent is drawing quickly to a close, and Christmas is coming soon. The change is upon us. Do we rise to accept it, or do we fall on our faces in fear?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that?

### Catholic Life Explained

#### Question:

What is the difference between tithing and stewardship?

#### Answer:

Both tithing and stewardship are part of a spiritual way of life that calls us to use all of our resources for the service of the Gospel. Everything we are and everything we have comes from God. Offering back to God what He has given us is part of how we worship and give thanks to God.

Tithing is the practice of giving back 10 percent of what we earn. It comes from the Old English word for "ten." The first Scriptural example of tithing came from Abraham who gave a tenth of his possessions to the priest Melchizedek. He did so as an act of thanksgiving to God.

Stewardship as a way of life calls us to use well all that we have and all that we are, placing all things in service of others and God. Stewardship helps us see the good we can accomplish by making God and our spiritual life the most important values in our life. Whatever we accumulate in this life stays here. We can't take it with us! Both tithing and stewardship help us remember that nothing is mine or even ours ... all belongs to God.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of December 21, 2025

### Sunday:

Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/  
Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

### Monday:

1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Lk 1:46-56

### Tuesday:

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and  
14/Lk 1:57-66

### Wednesday:

Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps  
89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79

### Thursday:

*Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29  
(2a)/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or  
1:18-25

*Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13  
(Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

*Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/  
Lk 2:15-20

*Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/  
Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

### Friday:

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and  
8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

### Saturday:

1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

### Next Sunday:

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/  
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A priest friend recently told me a remarkable story. One of his cousins reported having a vivid dream in which an angel told him the family needed to exhume their grandmother's body from a cemetery in New York and return it to her birthplace in Romania. She had been dead nearly ten years. As you might expect, the family thought it was, well, crazy. But astonishingly they exhumed her body. It was incorrupt, showing no signs of decomposition. That experience sparked healing, faith, and reconciliation throughout the family.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Joseph also receives a dream. He's confused, afraid. But in the quiet of sleep, God speaks: **"Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home" (Matthew 1:20)**. When he wakes, Joseph acts. He doesn't overanalyze or dismiss the message. He trusts, and acts.

God still speaks — not necessarily through literal dreams but through those deeper intuitions of the heart. St. Ignatius of Loyola taught that God's voice draws us into peace, courage, and love. But we have to listen to it. Advent is a time for stillness. As we prepare for Christ's coming, we're invited to enter that quiet space where God's voice can be heard.

When and how do you become most receptive to God? Is it in silence? In prayer? In nature? At Mass? This week, go there. Be still. Listen. And like Joseph, have the courage to act on what God shows you.

— *Father John Muir*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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