

St. John the Evangelist-St. Charles Borromeo Sunday Bulletin

Third Sunday of Advent

St. John the Evangelist

31 E. Main Street

Pawling, NY 12564

Weekday Mass

M-F 8:00 AM

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 PM

Sunday 7:30, 9:30, and 11:00 AM

Holy Days of Obligation: TBA

St. Charles Borromeo

62 Mill Street

Dover Plains, NY 12522

Wednesday: Noon

Saturday Vigil: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 9:00 AM *Misa en español*

Holy Days of Obligation: TBA

Full-Time Clergy

Rev. John F. X. Palatucci, Pastor

Rev. Clifford N. Aniefuna, Parochial Vicar

Deacon Jerry Cartwright

Weekend Associate Clergy

Rev. Miguel de la Torre, LC

Trustees

Mrs. Paulette Carlucci

Mr. David Oaks

PREP-Religious Education

Ms. Nan Kramer, Program Coordinator:

sjescbprep@gmail.com

(845) 289-0055

Parish Secretary and

Bulletin Coordinator

Kristin M. Stevens

Penance and Reconciliation

St. Charles: Sat. 2:30-3:30 PM, Gagnon Hall

St. John: Sat. 3:30-4:30, the Confessional

You may also call for a confession by appointment.

House calls for the homebound are available upon request.

December 14th, 2025



Oberzell, Taldorf district, city of Ravensburg - Church of Our Lady of Sorrows
Ceiling painting in the nave: "John the Baptist in Prison" (with the disciples sent as messengers to Jesus) Josef Anton Hafner, c. 1750

The LORD God keeps faith forever,
secures justice for the oppressed,
gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets captives free.
Ps 146:6-7

Parish House and Main Office

39 East Main Street • Pawling, NY 12564

Phone Number: (845) 855-5488

Sacramental Emergency Line: (845) 855-1273

Website: www.sjescb.org • Email: sjescb@protonmail.com

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9 AM – 3 PM, Friday 9 AM – 2 PM

Closed 12 PM – 1 PM for lunch. Closed Saturday and Sunday, national public holidays, and Holy Days of Obligation of the Church.

Deviotions

Divine Mercy Chaplet - St. Charles every Sunday prior to the 9:00AM Mass.

Holy Rosary - St. John after each 8 AM daily Mass. St. Charles before 4 PM Saturday vigil Mass.

Miraculous Medal Novena - St. John every Monday morning immediately after the 8:00AM Mass.

Litanies

Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary- Tuesday

Litany of St. Joseph—Wednesday immediately following daily Mass at both churches.

Litany of the Holy Name Of Jesus- Thursday

Litany of the Sacred Heart Of Jesus- Friday after Exposition Of The Blessed Sacrament

O.C.I.A. The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults is a program for those wishing to become Catholic or complete their Sacraments. Please contact the Rectory Office for more information.

Baptisms

Sunday, December 7th 2025

Mary Therese Butironi

Weston James Rooney

Memorials

The flowers for the Blessed Mother this week are dedicated in the loving memory of:

Jean Brown

as requested by The Baresich Family

The Eucharistic Gifts this month are dedicated In the loving memory of:

Marco B. and Mary Sartori

The Sanctuary Candles are lit in the loving memory of:

James J. and Loretta Callahan

as requested by Roger & Madeline Callahan

Mass Intentions

Saint Charles Borromeo

Saturday, December 13th

4:00 PM Missa Pro Populo

Sunday, December 14th 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 AM

Wednesday, December 17th

12:00 PM

Saturday, December 20th

4:00 PM William Anthony Delvescovi
(Suzanne Reid)

Sunday, December 21st 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00 AM

Saint John the Evangelist

Saturday, December 13th

5:00 PM Robert M. Hubert
(Margaret Hubert)

Sunday, November 14th 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30 AM Robert J. Ursprung
(Jo-Ann Adorno & Eric Ursprung)
9:30 AM Alberta Seidel
(Lorraine Denick)
John Schaffer Klingner, Sr.
(The Galvez Family)
11:00 AM Ken Murray and Regina &
Charles Thomas
(Donna and Joe Gregorio)

Monday, December 15th

8:00 AM Helen Hunter
(Betty & Michael Clark)
Gene Quarrie

Tuesday, December 16th

8:00 AM The Holy Souls in Purgatory
(Dr. Martha Bouchard)

Wednesday, December 17th

8:00 AM Amanda Cannon
(Mary Ellen Durkin)

Thursday, December 18th

8:00 AM Kathy Dallas
(Barbara Dallas)

Friday, December 19th

8:00 AM Gerald Basso
(Cheryl Basso)

Saturday, December 20th

5:00 PM Missa Pro Populo

Sunday, December 21st 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

7:30 AM Peter Walsh
(Gemma & Michael Carioscia)
9:30 AM Dorothy and William Lyons
(Maura Mahoney)
11:00 AM Pat Alexander
(The Catholic Daughters)

Please Remember in Your Prayers..

The deceased clergy of St. Charles Borromeo and St. John the Evangelist, Barbara Sue Callan, Amanda Cannon, Vera Cirillo, Daniel Hamilton, John Schaffer Klingner, Sr., Attila Megyeri, Ryan Nichols, James Rooney, Angelo Sanchirico, Richard Stevens, Elsa Ruth Stossel, Rev. Joseph Tran, William Vitro III.

THE INFIRMED: David Bloom, Peter Cris, Fran Davis, Michael Dugan, Peter Federighi, Dorothy Galvin, Sara Hall, Alissa Macchia, Anthony Macchia, James Meunier, Joe Palatucci, Brandon Rojas, Brian Rojas, Frances Sands, Clare Sweet, Finn Vaughan, Gloria Wood.

THOSE WHO DEFEND US: Senior Airman Abigail Blake, USAF; Sonar Technician (Submarine) Benjamin Burdick, USN; Private Dylan Christian, USMC; Ryan Christian, USAF; Technical Sergeant Ashley Carey, USAF; Major Robert Dugan, USMC; Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Luchetta, ARMY; Paratrooper Connor Maile, ARMY; Lance Corporal Savion Newman, USMC; Corporal Luis M. Panzer, USMC; Lance Corporal Wyatt T. Panzer, USMC; Chaplain (Captain). Fr. Peter Pomposello, ARMY; Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Smith, ARMY; Senior Chief Petty Officer Kevin Walsh, USN; Army Ranger Christopher Warren; Staff Sergeant Matthew Warren, National Guard.

To add or remove a name from our prayer list, please call or e-mail the Rectory office at sjesch@protonmail.com or call (845) 855-5488

ANOINTING OF THE SICK/LAST RITES

Please contact the Rectory office to request the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for those who are ill, homebound, or dying. In an emergency, please do not hesitate to call the Rectory office 24/7 to request this vital Sacrament at (845) 855-1273.



December Month of the Immaculate Conception

† GUADETE SUNDAY †

December 14th

“Gaudete in
Domino semper”

“Rejoice in the
Lord always”
Philippians 4:4-5



Third Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10

Isaiah tells us that when Christ comes, the weak will be made strong, the deaf will hear, the blind will see, and, above all, “sorrow and mourning will flee.”

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

As the farmer waits patiently through winter and spring for the “yield of the soil” so, too, must we wait patiently for the coming of the Messiah.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

While in prison, John sends a messenger to Jesus to ask, “Are you He who is to come or do we look for another?” Jesus replies by citing the miracles he has performed for the blind, the deaf, and the crippled. He concludes by identifying John as the messenger He has sent to prepare the way.

Tercer Domingo de Adviento

Primera Lectura: Isaías 35:1-6a, 10

Isaías nos dice que cuando Cristo venga, el débil se volverá fuerte, el sordo oirá, el ciego verá, y sobre todo, “desaparecerá el llanto y el dolor”.

Segunda Lectura: Santiago 5:7-10

Así como el campesino espera pacientemente durante el invierno y la primavera para “recoger la preciosa cosecha”, así ustedes también deben esperar pacientemente la venida del Mesías.

Evangelio: San Mateo 11:2-11

Cuando estaba en prisión, Juan el Bautista envió un mensajero a Jesús para preguntarle si El era de veras el que había de venir, o si debía esperar a otro. Jesús le contestó citando los milagros que había hecho para los ciegos, sordos y cojos. Concluyó identificando a Juan como el mensajero que El ha enviado para preparar el camino.

Weekly Readings

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

Thursday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25

Saturday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

2025 **Stuff-a-Truck** **FOOD DRIVE** **THANK YOU!**



Council #545



On behalf of the Knights of Columbus, we want to extend our deepest gratitude for your extraordinary generosity during our recent **Stuff-a-Truck food drive**. Thanks to your overwhelming response, we were able to fill two trucks with non-perishable food and other essential items just days before Thanksgiving. **The Pawling Resource Center** was so thankful for the incredible support from our parish. Your donations made a difference and will continue to do so during the winter season. Your kindness truly embodies the Gospel call to care for “the least of these,” and it made a real and immediate difference in the lives of our neighbors. The Knights are honored to serve alongside such a generous and faith-filled community. Thank you again for opening your hearts and pantries.

May God bless each of you abundantly for your charity and selflessness.

THE 2026 MASS BOOK IS NOW OPEN!

Requests may be taken only three months out in advance, so only January, February, and March may be reserved as of September 2nd. Double intentions will no longer be accepted without permission of the first family or individual who reserved the Mass. The offering for each Mass is \$15.

USHERS NEEDED: Father is looking for men and women to volunteer as ushers at our parish. It's easy work. The usher has two primary functions: to help people find pew seats when necessary and to help take up and bag the weekly collection. We could use at least 8 more to help. *If interested, please contact the Rectory at sjescb@protonmail.com.*

Advent Reconciliation Monday

Confession will be offered in all Parishes throughout the entire Archdiocese of New York and the Diocese of Brooklyn on

Monday, December 15, 2025

St. Charles: 4:00-5:00 PM (*English only*)
St. John's: 2:00-4:00 PM & 6:00-8:00 PM

WeShare Notice: If you make your contributions via WeShare, please consider using PayPal instead of your bank or credit card. We do not incur a fee if a transaction is made via PayPal on WeShare.

MEMORIALS: The Sanctuary Candles and Flower Bouquets may be offered in the memory of your loved one. **The donation for the Candles at both churches is now \$10**; the Bouquets are \$50. Please contact the Rectory Office for more information. Your memorial request will also be featured in our bulletin.

VIGIL MASSES: There will be no more vigil Masses for Holy Days except the Easter Vigil and Christmas Eve.

TAX SERVICES: **Erio Joseph, CPA**
(Parishioner): Income Tax preparation and Financial Advising **P:**(845) 527-6512
P.O. Box 18, Wingdale, NY 12594





WINTER COAT DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus Winter Coat Drive will begin on **Sunday, December 14th** and will run until **Sunday, January 4th 2026**

Please bring new or lightly used adult or children's coats, hats, and gloves in all sizes to Mass on any of these dates, or make a financial donation and the Knights will purchase coats for you.

No one should go without a coat in our area!
Please help us help people in need!
THANK YOU!



Super 50/50 Drawing

The last chance to enter our second annual Super 50/50 Drawing will be **Sunday, December 21st**.

The winner will be announced in the 12/28 bulletin!



Eucharistic Revival

"God was not content with giving us His only Son once for all, willing Him to take flesh in the womb of a Virgin –flesh like ours, so that He might suffer and die for us on the Cross – but He wished Him to remain with us forever, perpetuating His real presence and His sacrifice in the Eucharist. Had we nothing but the

Gospel. . . we would have only nostalgic memories; Jesus would no longer be with us, but only in heaven at the right hand of the Father... With what regret we

would think of the thirty-three years of our Savior's earthly life passed centuries ago! Oh, how different the reality! The Eucharist makes the presence of Jesus with us a permanent one."

- *Divine Intimacy* by Fr. Gabriel of St. Mary Magdalen, O.C.D.

EucharisticRevival.org



The Catholic Daughters would like to extend a very big thank you to all our parishioners who participated in The Giving Tree program. **Just over 1,500 hundred items were collected**, which included personal items, toiletry, warm gloves, and hats. What a wonderful response! These donations will be distributed by Catholic Charities throughout Dutchess County; however, your donations will also support those in need in Pawling & Dover Plains. Your generosity, as always, is greatly appreciated. *We wish you blessings and joy in the New Year!*

December Second Collection

**Weekend of
12/13-12/14**

**Retirement Fund
For Religious**

The annual appeal for the Retirement Fund for Religious is taken up the second Sunday of each December in most US Catholic parishes and helps hundreds of religious communities provide for the current and future needs of senior members.

**Priest Schedule for 4th Sunday
December 21st, 2025 in Advent**

*Schedule is subject to change without notice

St. John the Evangelist

5:00 PM Fr. John F.X. Palatucci
Sunday

7:30 AM Fr. Clifford N. Aniefuna

9:30 AM Fr. Clifford N. Aniefuna

11:00 AM Fr. John F.X. Palatucci

St. Charles Borromeo

Saturday

4:00 PM Fr. Clifford N. Aniefuna
Sunday

9:00 AM Fr. John F.X. Palatucci



The Knights of Columbus
Council #545 are hosting

Breakfast with Santa

All ages are welcome
to our pancake breakfast!



**After the 7:30 am
& 9:30 am Masses
on December 14th, 2025
in St. John's Parish Center**

**Pancakes,
Games for the Kids,
and Joy for all!**



COMMUNITY HOLIDAY HAM DINNER

Sunday, December 14 @ 3 PM

Lathrop Center at Lakeside Park

GRT is committed to reducing the effects of food insecurity, social isolation and limited resources by investing in the well-being of individuals and families within our community.

Please join us for a warm and welcoming ham dinner. Enjoy a delicious, nourishing meal with friends, family, and neighbors. There is no cost to attend—just the joy of kindness and community. Together, we'll celebrate gratitude, connection, and belonging as we strengthen the bonds that make our community thrive.

Register yourself and your family at:

Gatherroundthetable.org

You may also register to pick up dinners or have
dinners delivered to your home.

Need help? Computer assistance is
available at the Pawling Library. 845-855-3444



IMPORTANT RESOURCES

Catholic Charities of NY Helpline

(888) 744-7900

(<http://catholiccharitiesny.org/find-help> for
various agencies of assistance)

Crisis Pregnancy

Gianna's House (845) 279-8165

Hopeline Pregnancy Center (203) 540-5225

Birthright Dutchess County (845) 897-2288

Carenet Pregnancy Center (845) 471-9284

Addiction Issues

Franciscan Friars Of The Atonement

<https://stchristophersinn-graymoor.org/>
St. Christopher's Inn (845) 335-1000

Hudson Valley AA 24/7 Hotline
(845) 452-1111

Mid-Hudson NA Helpline (855) 994-4673

Mid-Hudson Problem Gambling Resource
Center (914) 215-6440

Al-Anon Family Groups (845) 432-4710

Mental Health

Mental Health America of Dutchess County
(845) 473-2500

Grace Smith House (Shelter and services for
women & child victims of domestic abuse)
(845) 471-3033

Dutchess County Stabilization Center
24/7 Crisis Helpline (845) 485-9700

Mobile Crisis Intervention Team (845) 372-5500

Veterans

Dutchess County Division of Veterans Services
(845) 486-2060 / Crisis Line 1-800-273-8255

Carmel VA Clinic (845) 228-5291

Community Resource Centers

(Food pantries, transportation, other services)

Dover Center for Compassion (845) 877-9076

Pawling Resource Center (845) 855-3459

Gather Round the Table

<https://gatherroundthetable.org/>

Respect Life Office

March for Life Bus Pilgrimage

Date: Friday, January 23, 2026

Time: 5:00 AM - 10:00 PM

Location: St. Joseph's Seminary

201 Seminary Ave.

Yonkers, NY 10704



March for Life Bus Pilgrimage

// Jan. 23, 2026 //

Join us in advocating for the sacred dignity of every human person at the national March for Life in Washington, DC on Friday, January 23, 2026. Come, stand with us in prayerful, public witness on behalf of the most vulnerable. Let us testify to the goodness and beauty of life!

You are welcome to join the Sisters of Life and other pilgrims on this year's day bus pilgrimage sponsored by the Archdiocese of New York. **The bus will depart at 5:00 AM** from St. Joseph's Seminary, 201 Seminary Ave. and **return between 9:00 PM and 10:00 PM**. We will arrive in time for the New York Pilgrim Mass at St. Patrick's Church in Washington, DC and there will be the option to attend the March for Life Rally on the National Mall. Pizza dinner and snacks included.

Register online at: <https://tinyurl.com/ADNYMarch> or scan the QR code:



RESPECT LIFE: Thank you to all who prayed the Spiritual Adoption Prayer for 9 months for the baby/babies they named and adopted. Please continue to pray for these babies and their families who are now among us!

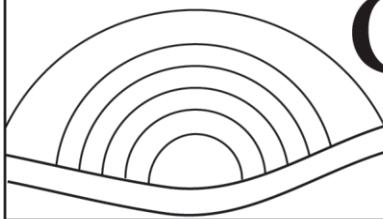
40 Days for Life: Since 2007, the 40 Days for Life Campaign has saved 25,795 lives, seen 182 abortion centers close, and 275 abortion workers quit. The last campaign ran from September 24 - November 2. It runs all across the United States and has been closing abortion facilities in over 1000 cities in 64 countries. It currently has 1,000,000 volunteers, 20,000 churches and 13,721 campaigns.

For the Defeat of Physician-Assisted Suicide in NY

Bill A136 would allow physicians to prescribe lethal doses of medication for the express purpose of ending a patient's life. Unlike every other state, there is no waiting period. There is not even a requirement for a mental health evaluation and nothing to prevent doctor shopping. Disability-rights groups oppose this bill because they know it will create pressure on people to end their lives if they don't have full bodily autonomy. Assisted suicide is dangerous for patients, caregivers, and vulnerable populations such as the elderly and people with disabilities. Suicide is not medical care.

Contact Governor Hochul: In addition to prayer and becoming informed, we strongly encourage you to contact the governor. Even if you have already contacted her, we encourage you to continue to reach out. She needs to continually hear that many of her constituents are opposed to this legislation and deeply concerned about its widespread implications. Contact Governor Hochul to voice your opposition to this dangerous and deadly practice! Make your voice heard - please call or write today. **Take action at <https://tinyurl.com/Billa136>.**

The Google document for a letter template to send directly to Governor Hochul may be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/A136Letter>.



Creciendo en la Fe

Descubriendo **esperanza** y **gozo** en la fe católica.

Diciembre de 2025

St. John the Evangelist-St. Charles Borromeo

Meditaciones breves

Santa Lucía

Santa Lucía nació en Siracusa, Sicilia, en el siglo IV, en un ambiente pagano. Es una de las mártires más conocidas de la Iglesia primitiva. Su familia arregló su matrimonio con un pagano, pero como había consagrado su virginidad a Cristo, Santa Lucía lo rechazó. Ofendido, él la denunció a las autoridades por su fe. Fue interrogada y torturada, pero nada logró quebrarla. Finalmente fue ejecutada. Es la patrona contra los problemas de la vista.

Las tres venidas de Cristo

En este tiempo de Adviento celebramos las tres venidas de Cristo: Su venida gloriosa al final de los tiempos, Su venida en el tiempo cuando nació en Belén, y Su venida a nuestra propia vida y corazón. Adviento es un tiempo de "quietud ocupada", de preparación y espera, como sin duda lo hizo María, para la llegada del Salvador. Esta Navidad renovemos nuestro "Sí" a la petición de Dios de habitar en nuestro corazón y "nacer" en la vida cotidiana.

"El Rey viene como un niño indefenso, nacido de padres insignificantes en una pequeña ciudad de un remoto puesto del Imperio romano. Vencerá por el poder del amor, finalmente irresistible, el mismo poder con el que hizo el universo."

Monseñor Robert E. Barron

Encuentra paz antes de Navidad al bajar el ritmo

La prisa que llega con los días previos a la Navidad puede cansar, pero el tiempo de Adviento ofrece un mejor camino. Es un momento para respirar, reajustar y preparar el corazón para la llegada del Rey. Adviento es un regalo incorporado, una oportunidad para bajar la velocidad y levantar la mirada hacia lo que más importa.

Renueva el sentido de lo sagrado: Adviento es una ocasión para despertar el alma. Cuando vivimos nuestra fe con intención, la temporada deja de sentirse apresurada y empieza a sentirse luminosa. Enciende la Corona de Adviento y deja que su luz calme tu corazón. Ve a confesión y siente cómo se levanta el peso mientras la misericordia toma su lugar. Pasa unos minutos en silencio ante Jesús en el Santísimo y deja que Su presencia te afirme. Reza los Misterios Gozosos, los "misterios de Navidad" que aún hablan con fuerza a nuestra vida hoy.

Apaga el ruido: Adviento se vuelve más rico cuando dejamos espacio para que Dios hable. El mundo zumba con distracciones, pero tu alma necesita aire.

Crea pequeños momentos de silencio a lo largo del día y permite que la quietud afine tu conciencia de la presencia de Dios. Toma un libro espiritual en lugar de deslizar por tus redes. Reduce el flujo constante de noticias que llena la mente. Cuando el ruido baja, el Espíritu Santo tiene espacio para guiar, afirmar y renovarte.

"He aquí que la virgen concebirá y dará a luz un hijo, y llamará su nombre Emanuel" (Isaías 7:14).

Simplifica y prioriza: Elige lo que te acerca a Cristo. Cuando el corazón está ordenado hacia lo que importa, incluso cocinar, decorar, cantar y dar regalos adquiere una belleza más profunda. Tal vez decidas asistir a menos eventos, mantener la decoración simple o elegir regalos más modestos. Lejos de quitar alegría, esto crea espacio para ella. Avanzas por la temporada con más paz, más propósito y un corazón en sintonía con Jesús.

¿Por qué
hacen eso los
católicos?

¿Por qué creen los católicos que Jesús es Dios?

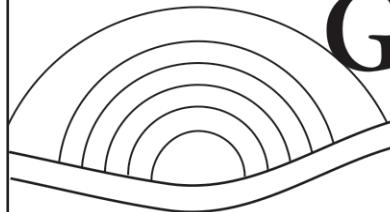
Cada Navidad recordamos que Jesús, el Hijo de Dios, asumió nuestra humanidad sin perder Su divinidad. Es un misterio, pero lo aceptamos con confianza porque Dios, que es Verdad, lo ha revelado.

Durante Su vida terrena, Jesús habló y actuó con autoridad divina.

Dijo: "El Padre y yo somos uno" (Juan

10:30).

Perdonó pecados, aclaró la Ley y obró milagros. Su Resurrección es la confirmación más clara de Su identidad, mostrando que Su afirmación de ser Dios era real. Como hombre, pudo sufrir y morir. Como Dios, resucitó y venció a la muerte.



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope** and **joy** in the Catholic faith.

December 2025

St. John the Evangelist-St. Charles Borromeo



One Minute Meditations

St. Lucy

St. Lucy was born into 4th century pagan Syracuse, Sicily, and is one of the most famous martyrs of the early Church. Her family arranged for her to marry a pagan, but since she had consecrated her virginity to Christ, St. Lucy refused him. Offended, he betrayed her to the authorities for her Faith. She was questioned and tortured, but all attempts to discourage her failed. She was finally executed. She is the patron saint against eye problems.

The three comings of Christ

This season of Advent, we celebrate the three comings of Christ: in glory at the end of time, in time when He was born in Bethlehem, and His coming in our own lives and hearts. Advent is a time of "busy stillness," of preparing and waiting, like Mary certainly did, for the arrival of the Savior. This Christmas, let's renew our "Yes" to God's request to dwell in our hearts and be "born" in the daily living of our lives.

"The King comes as a helpless infant, born of insignificant parents in a small town of a distant outpost of the Roman Empire. He will conquer through the finally irresistible power of love, the same power with which he made the universe." Most Reverend Robert E. Barron

Find peace before Christmas by slowing down

The busyness leading up to Christmas can be exhausting, but the Advent season holds a better path. It's a time to breathe, reset, and prepare our hearts for the coming of the King. Advent is a built-in gift, a chance to slow the pace and lift our eyes to what matters most.

Renew a sense of the holy: Advent is a chance to wake up the soul. When we lean into our Faith with intention, the season stops feeling rushed and starts feeling radiant. Light the Advent Wreath and let its glow steady your heart. Go to Confession and feel the weight lift as mercy takes over. Spend a few quiet minutes before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and let His presence ground you. Pray the Joyful Mysteries, the "Christmas mysteries" that still speak powerfully to our lives today.

Tune out the noise: Advent becomes richer when we clear space for God to speak. The world buzzes with distractions, but your soul needs room to breathe. Build small pockets of

silence into your day and let stillness sharpen your awareness of God's presence. Reach for a spiritual book instead of a scroll through your feed. Cut back on the constant stream of news that crowds the mind. When the noise quiets, the Holy Spirit has space

"Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

to guide, steady, and renew you.

Streamline and prioritize: Choose what draws you closer to Christ. When your heart is ordered toward what matters, even the cooking, decorating, singing, and gift-giving gain a deeper beauty. You may decide to attend fewer events, keep the décor simple, or choose more modest gifts. Far from taking away joy, this clears space for it. You move through the season with more peace, more purpose, and a heart in step with Jesus.

Why Do
Catholics
Do That?

Why do Catholics
believe Jesus is God?

Every Christmas, we remember that Jesus, the Son of God, took on our humanity without losing His divinity. It is a mystery, yet we hold it with confidence because God, who is Truth, has revealed it.

During His earthly life, Jesus spoke and acted with divine authority. He

said, "The Father and I are one" (John 10:30). He forgave sins, clarified the Law, and worked miracles. His Resurrection stands as the clearest confirmation of His identity, showing that His claim to be God was real. As man, He could suffer and die. As God, He rose and conquered death.

Flower Memorials



Help us beautify our church in honor of the memory of your loved one.

Please contact the Rectory office for more information. **The offering is \$50 for two floral arrangements** for the week for the Crucifix, The

Blessed Mother, or St. Joseph. You may request certain flowers or colors to customize your request.

The memorial will be featured in our weekly bulletin.

Penance and Reconciliation At Other Churches in Our Area

† St. Kateri Tekakwitha	† St. Columba Hopewell Junction	† Immaculate Conception Amenia
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>	(English and Spanish):
7:00 - 8:15 pm, 9:30 - 10:30 am,	8:30 - 9:00 am; Junction	<i>Saturday</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	4:00 - 5:00 pm	3:45 - 4:15 pm
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>St. Denis</i> Hopewell Junction:	
4:00 - 4:45 pm	<i>Saturday</i>	
	8:00 - 8:45 am;	
	3:30 - 4:30 pm	

First Saturdays Devotion

9:00 AM Mass at St. John's on the First Saturday of the Month



Png image from pngtree.com



The Catholic Cartoon by Joshua Masterson: <https://www.the-catholic-cartoon.com/>

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



Fridays at St. John's
8:30 am - 4:00 pm

"If we have the grace and our vocation in life permits it (we should make a Holy Hour) several times a week."

- Servant of God
Fr. John Hardon



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