



First Sunday of Advent

November 26 / 27, 2022

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Fr. Prashanth Lobo
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MASS SCHEDULE

St. Boniface:
Saturday
5:00 pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Sunday:
8:00 am-8:45 am Rosary
8:30 am Confession
9:00 am Mass

Tuesday & Thursday:
5:30 pm

Bible Study
Thursday 8:00 pm

Mission Statement: We are a welcoming parish of Roman Catholic Christians with diverse roots deep in Appalachia and beyond. We are committed to growing in our faith and community through our worship and celebrations, with particular attention to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and The Holy Eucharist. We are a community gathered together by the Holy Spirit, filled with hope, to love and serve God and neighbor in the name of Jesus Christ; and through our sharing of Good News in word and deed, we seek to live and reveal to all the grace and peace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit.



The night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness [and] put on the armor of light.

ROMANS 13:12



The Waiting Game

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

If Advent is a time of waiting, then our entire lives must be an Advent, for we spend so much of our lives waiting—at one point for Santa to come with his sack of surprises, at other times for the dizzying lure of summertime. Later we eagerly wait to get our driver's license and then to move out on our own for our first real job and then the independence it promises. We wait for love to find us and, for some, for love to return. Some wait for children, others for the empty nest, and others for retirement.

Our mothers told us not to wish our lives away, and yet we did, and still we do, waiting for life to be more than what it seems to be. Then one day we look

back and wish we could have again all that once was. So maybe Advent is not about waiting for God to make a splash in our lives. Maybe Advent is about God waiting for us to come around and recognize God is with us here and now.

The question for each of us, then, is what are we waiting for at this point in our lives? There is no right answer, only the one each of us has for ourselves.

Reflect

Has there ever been a time when you didn't recognize that God was with you?

Whatever it is, there is no doubt that there is love or joy or peace or meaning at the heart of it, all camouflaged by whatever we say we are waiting for. Beneath it all is the hunger for God-with-us. ●



Fr. Joseph Juknialis, a retired priest of the Milwaukee Archdiocese, is the new author of reflections for Liguori Publications' *Our Parish Community* bulletins. Fr. Joe has served in ministry as a parish priest and a teacher of homiletics at St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee. Retirement has given him time for hiking, canoeing, writing, poetry, gin rummy, the Green Bay Packers, and pursuing his appreciation of nature. In noting the most amazing aspect of his life, Fr. Joe says, "God has always brought me to the place I should be."

<i>Date</i>	<i>OLPH</i>	<i>Saint Boniface</i>
<i>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	8:00 – 8:45 am Adoration & Rosary 8:30 am ~ Confession 9:00 am ~ Mass	5:00 pm ~ Mass
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>NO</i> Mass	
<i>Thursday</i>	5:30 pm ~ Mass 8:00 pm ~ Bible Study	
<i>Friday</i>	5:30 pm ~ First Friday Adoration 6:30 pm ~ Mass	
<i>Saturday</i>	11:00 am ~ <i>Memorial Mass</i> for Rose Lewis	
<i>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	8:00 – 8:45 am Adoration & Rosary 8:30 am ~ Confession 9:00 am ~ Mass 5:00 pm ~ Christmas party	5:00 pm ~ Mass

	<i>OLPH Mass 9:00 am</i>		<i>ST. BONIFACE Mass 5:00 pm</i>	
Date	November 27	December 4	November 26	December 3
Lector	Joe McNaughton	Hannah Steen	Jerry Nowak	Mary Jo Leygraaf
Server	Creed Farthing	Joe McNaughton		

Mass Intentions	OLPH	St. Boniface
November 26 / 27	Intentions of Parishioners	Intentions of Parishioners
December 3 / 4	Intentions of Parishioners	Intentions of Parishioners

Our Gifts	OLPH	St. Boniface
November 19 / 20	\$225.00	\$210.00
Cemetery Fund		\$200.00

*May God bless you for your generous contributions
to our Church.*

*Please join us for refreshments in the
Parish Hall immediately after Mass.*

*Please join us next Sunday, immediately after Mass, to
decorate the Church and Parish Hall for Advent*

Reading 1

Is 2:1-5

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz,
saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
In days to come,
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest mountain
and raised above the hills.
All nations shall stream toward it;
many peoples shall come and say:
"Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may instruct us in his ways,
and we may walk in his paths."
For from Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations,
and impose terms on many peoples.
They shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
one nation shall not raise the sword against another,
nor shall they train for war again.

O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced because they said to me,
"We will go up to the house of the LORD."
And now we have set foot
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Jerusalem, built as a city
with compact unity.
To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the LORD.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

According to the decree for Israel,
to give thanks to the name of the LORD.
In it are set up judgment seats,
seats for the house of David.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
May those who love you prosper!
May peace be within your walls,
prosperity in your buildings.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Because of my brothers and friends
I will say, "Peace be within you!"

Because of the house of the LORD, our God,
I will pray for your good.

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Reading 2

Rom 13:11-14

Brothers and sisters:
You know the time;
it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.
For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed;
the night is advanced, the day is at hand.
Let us then throw off the works of darkness
and put on the armor of light;
let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day,
not in orgies and drunkenness,
not in promiscuity and lust,
not in rivalry and jealousy.
But put on the Lord Jesus Christ,
and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

Alleluia

Cf. Ps 85:8

Alleluia, alleluia.

Show us Lord, your love;
and grant us your salvation.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Mt 24:37-44

Jesus said to his disciples:
"As it was in the days of Noah,
so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.
In those days before the flood,
they were eating and drinking,

marrying and giving in marriage,
up to the day that Noah entered the ark.
They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away.
So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.
Two men will be out in the field;
one will be taken, and one will be left.
Two women will be grinding at the mill;
one will be taken, and one will be left.
Therefore, stay awake!
For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.
Be sure of this: if the master of the house
had known the hour of night when the thief was coming,
he would have stayed awake
and not let his house be broken into.
So too, you also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

REFLECTION

Today we begin our yearly pilgrimage through the events of history of salvation starting with our preparation for the birthday celebration of Jesus and ending with our reflection on his glorious "second coming" as judge at the end of the world. We are entering the Advent season. Advent means coming. We are invited to meditate on Jesus' first coming in history as a baby in Bethlehem, his daily coming into our lives in mystery through the Sacraments, through the Bible, and through the worshipping community, and finally his Second Coming (Parousia) at the end of the world to reward the just and to punish the wicked. We see the traditional signs of Advent in our Church: violet vestments and hangings and the Advent wreath. These signs remind us that we must prepare for the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives, enabling him to radiate his love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness through and all around us.

In the first reading (Is 2:1-5), Isaiah describes his prophetic vision of all nations making a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, affirming their Faith in the one true God. In the second reading (Rom 13:11-14), Paul exhorts the Roman Christian community to get ready to meet Jesus in his Second Coming by discharging their duties properly and by freeing themselves from their former pagan life

style of jealousy, and rivalry. We, too, are challenged to make spiritual preparations for Christ's birth in our lives.

In today's Gospel (Mt 24:37-44), Jesus warns us of the urgency of vigilant preparation for his coming on our part that we may meet him as our Judge both at the end of our lives on earth and on the day of the Last Judgment when he comes in his glory. Jesus reminds us that the unrepentant, unprepared people were destroyed by the flood in the time of Noah and that a thief will be able to break in and plunder the precious belongings of an unprepared householder. Using additional examples later, Jesus repeats his warning for us to be vigilant and well-prepared all the time, doing the will of God by loving others.

We need to be alert and watchful while spiritually preparing for Christmas by offering our daily work to God for His glory, by practicing more self-control in resisting our evil habits and inclinations, by seeking reconciliation daily with God, our families, and our neighbors, and by asking God's pardon and forgiveness as we extend our unconditional forgiveness to those who have hurt us. Let us begin each day by praying for the strength and power of the Holy Spirit to prepare ourselves for Jesus' rebirth in our hearts and lives.

UPCOMING SAINTS AND FEASTS

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest ~ Memorial
December 3

CHRISTMAS PARTY
December 4 @ 5:00 pm
SIGN UP SHEET IN THE PARISH HALL

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE
December 18
After Mass

If you wish to receive **text messages** from the Parish Office, please provide your name and phone number.

Sign up sheet in the Parish Hall

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray to end Abortion, Russell Brooks, Cassie & Clifton Centers, Maere Tekanene, Bill Moses, Jerry Roberts, Donna Blevins, Norma Wilson, Dennis Parks & Family, Erica Davis, Chris & Amanda Decker, Marian Colette, Debbie Moses Haggins, Rose Grant, Sandy Hurts, Dominic Cureton, Todd Morris, Alex Woods, Christopher Braden, Bonnie (Warfield) Bishop, Sister Alice, Curt and LeeAnn Hall, Jay Baird, Gail Willis, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Bisceglia, loved ones who are ill, Brody Beavers and family, Shawn Lee Day, Geneva Couch, Judy Delisle, Dal Macon, Linda Mills, Judy Patrick, Bob and Marie Alvaro, JoAnn Brown, Cathy Sims, Eric Vore, Robert Moses, Kristina Neitsch, Danny Ezell, Sharon Nowak, Jean Sharp and Iva Lee Hamblin.



Dear Padre,

Should adopted children know who their biological parents are?

Arguments can be made in favor of and against adopted children knowing their biological origins. It appears more and more that adoption agencies encourage knowledge of biological parents over closed adoptions, where this information is not known by the child or the adopting parents. There are many issues here that are packed emotionally, such as why a person was placed for adoption, fear by adopting parents that this new information could compromise their relationship with their child, perhaps fear on the part of biological parents that they will be asked to be involved in a relationship against their wishes.

An argument to be made in favor of disclosure about one's biological parents has to do with one's health. Today we realize that challenges to our health come not just from bacteria and viruses that invade our system from outside ourselves, but also from within, that is, from genetic predispositions to heart disease, diabetes, and other disorders that could compromise our well-being. This information becomes more critical when persons are of an age to marry and to bear their own children. They might want to know as much information as possible to act responsibly in bearing and raising children. ●



SHUTTERSTOCK

From *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices: 50 Questions from the Pews*, © 2011 Liguori Publications

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY

November 28
Advent Weekday
Is 4:2–6
Mt 8:5–11

TUESDAY

November 29
Advent Weekday
Is 11:1–10
Lk 10:21–24

WEDNESDAY

November 30
St. Andrew, Apostle
Rom 10:9–18
Mt 4:18–22

THURSDAY

December 1
Advent Weekday
Is 26:1–6
Mt 7:21, 24–27

FRIDAY

December 2
Advent Weekday
Is 29:17–24
Mt 9:27–31

SATURDAY

December 3
St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Is 30:19–21, 23–26
Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8

SUNDAY

December 4
Second Sunday of Advent
Is 11:1–10
Rom 15:4–9
Mt 3:1–12



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Today it is our task to keep watch: to overcome the temptation of thinking that life means accumulating....It is up to us to unmask the deception that we are happy when we have many things...and to believe that prayer and charity...are the greatest of treasures.

**HOMILY, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT,
DECEMBER 1, 2019**