



CHURCH OF
ST. EDWARD
THE CONFESSOR

785 NEWARK-GRANVILLE ROAD, GRANVILLE, OHIO 43023 | (740)587-3254 | WWW.SAINTEDWARDS.ORG

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Behold

I AM THE HANDMAID
OF THE LORD.
MAY IT BE DONE TO ME
ACCORDING TO YOUR WORD.
LUKE 1:38

PASTOR

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes

DEACON

Rev. Mr. John Barbour

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.
Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:00-4:30 p.m.



Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 3 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Edward Parish

10:45 a.m. Tatla Dager by Chuck & Terri Cera

Monday, December 4 – Advent Weekday;

St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. John Zuchoski (RIP) by Margaret Suchoski

Tuesday, December 5 – Advent Weekday

9:00 a.m. Carol Stewart (RIP) by Andy & Lisa Sloan

Wednesday, December 6 – Advent Weekday;

St. Nicholas, Bishop

9:00 a.m. Carol Stewart (RIP) by Andy & Lisa Sloan

Thursday, December 7 – Advent Weekday;

St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church

9:00 a.m. Nieto Family by Carmen Lopez

7:00 p.m. Vigil Mass – Barnabe Adetonah (RIP)
by Morelle & Frank Hohman

Friday, December 8 – THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

9:00 a.m. Darius Helgerman (Birthday)
by Stephanie Helgerman

Saturday, December 9 – Advent Weekday

5:00 p.m. Jimmy Soward (RIP) by Ron & Kathy Sanders

Sunday, December 10 – SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:15 a.m. Jim & Lucille Bidigare (RIP) by Jim Bidigare

10:45 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Edward Parish

Fr. Tim: I invite you to pray as I bow toward the congregation:

“Lord, give him the homily You want me to hear. Give me the ears to hear it, the heart to receive it, and the grace to put it into practice in my life.”

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2023 – YEAR B

PRELUDE

5:00 p.m.: Of the Father's Love Begotten (F. Peeters, 1903-1986), Val Matula, organist

8:15 & 10:45 a.m.: Variations on “Savior of the Nations, Come”

INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE: Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (#69)

No Gloria during Advent

LITURGY OF THE WORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps. 80: Lord, make us turn to you... (p. 32)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (p. 32)

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF GIFTS: Creator of the Stars of Night (#68)

SANCTUS: chanted (#860)

MEM. ACC.: We proclaim your death, O Lord... (#10 on pg. 16)

AMEN: chanted

AGNUS DEI: chanted (#864)

COMMUNION: Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (#197) OR Ps. 85:
Let Us See Your Kindness (#792)

COMMUNION 2 (10:45 Choir): Take Comfort, My People (Warner)

CONCLUDING RITE

SENDING FORTH: The Advent of Our King (#59)

CANTORS

TBD



St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits that prowl around the world seeking the ruin of souls.

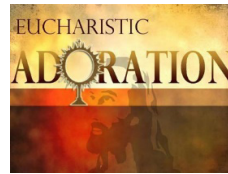
Notes from the Loft

♪ During Advent, the U.S. bishops urge that “the organ and other musical instruments should be used with moderation and should not anticipate the full joy of the Nativity of the Lord” (*Sing to the Lord* 114). This moderation takes many forms, including less instrumental music, softer organ settings, and more singing *a cappella* (without instruments). As St. Edward's has traditionally done, we will chant the parts of the Mass, including the Latin *Sanctus* (Holy) and *Agnus Dei* (Lamb of God). Practice videos, pronunciations, and translations are available on our website. Go to saintedwards.org/music and click on “Chant Mass parts.”

♪ Thanks to Val Matula for playing the organ for the 5:00 p.m. Mass this weekend.

♪ The new hymnals for this year are in the pews. Thanks a million to all who assisted with replacing the old hymnals!

Paul Radkowski, Music Director,
740-587-3254, music@saintedwards.org



START ADVENT WITH AN HOUR OF ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT ON THE MAIN ALTAR.

An extra Holy Hour-Eucharistic Adoration will be on the First Monday of Advent, December 4, from 5:45-6:45 p.m. for those who attend school or work a day job. This is in addition to the normal Monday Adoration schedule from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Monday.



Welcome Sunday is this Sunday after Masses, December 3, in Parish Hall. Stop by to enjoy donuts and coffee/juice with fellow parishioners and make a new friend! We hope you will plan to attend!



Advent Candles for your home will be on sale at *Welcome Sunday* and after Masses on Saturday, December 2 and Sunday, December 3.



ADVENT NEW ALTAR SERVER

TRAINING DATES:

Wednesday, December 6: 5:00-5:50 p.m.

Wednesday, December 13: 5:00-5:50 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20: 5:00-5:50 p.m.

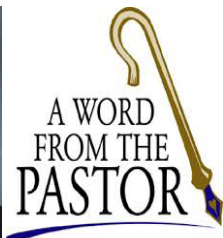
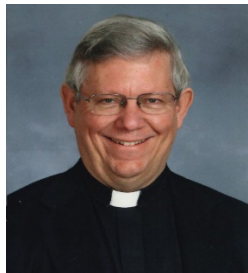
RSVP Dcn. John at barfamilybour@yahoo.com

Each session is limited to four students. **One parent must attend the session with their student.**

CHRISTMAS SIGN-UP FOR USHERS

Please sign up in the Gathering Space.

A Word from Your Pastor



Happy Advent! We begin a new year of grace, anticipating 2024 ahead of the rest of the world, as we enter the cycle of the Incarnation: Advent-Christmas-Epiphany and Baptism of the Lord. In this Holy Season, we prepare our hearts to welcome God-with-us, Emmanuel. This week, we also celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Friday, December 8. It is a Holy Day of Obligation, and it is always obligatory in the United States since it is our patronal Feast. Our Vigil Mass and the Mass of the Feast itself are a sign to ourselves and to the world around us that we acknowledge God's Providence in preparing us for what He has in store for us. Mary was conceived in the womb of her mother Saint Anne immaculately, that is, free from the stain of Original Sin. With Mary, God made a "clean start" to His plan of Salvation, preparing the human nature of Mary just as He prepared the human nature of Eve, in view of the merits of her Son Jesus, won for us on the Cross. Mary's existence began in freedom and her life on earth, then in Heaven, would show us how the human capacity for free choice can make room for grace in the midst of the fallen world. In the Season of Advent, it is fitting that we look at Mary's first beginnings, as we prepare to welcome Jesus among us through our glance at His future Coming in Glory and at His Nativity, His arrival in human history. We see, through the sight given to us by Faith, that God surrounds us with His Love and prepares us for fulfillment of His Will in our own lives. May this Holy Season and all our preparations serve to make us ready to welcome the Lord when He comes!

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes, Pastor

Memorial Christmas Poinsettias



If you would like to make a donation for poinsettias for the church during the Christmas season, please fill out the information below and return by **Sunday, December 10th** in the collection basket or mail to the church. The suggested donation is \$20.00. (Checks payable to St. Edward Church.) Please include the following:

In Memory Of: _____

In Honor Of: _____

Donated By: _____

The list with the above information will be in the December 24th bulletin.



PICTURES WITH SANTA!

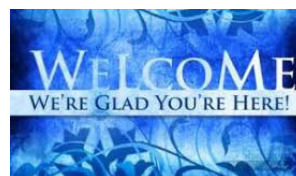
Santa is coming to St. Edward! Join us December 10 anytime from 5:30-7:00 p.m. for crafts, cookie decorating, and pictures with Santa. All ages welcome, you are never too old for a picture with Santa. Hosted by The Knights of Columbus.



GRANVILLE RECREATION DISTRICT HOLIDAY DINNER FOR SENIORS

Saturday, December 9th at St. Edward Church at 6:00 p.m. Register by calling the GRD office at 740-587-1976.

For many years, the Granville Recreation District (GRD) has gifted seniors in the community with a lovely holiday dinner and entertainment. Our parishioners are invited to the dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 9th in the Parish Hall at St. Edward. Please join the GRD for the annual, free, Senior (55+) Holiday Dinner and entertainment.



*"I rejoiced when they said unto me,
let us go into the house of the Lord."*

Psalm 122:1

WELCOME all visitors and parishioners who have come to worship today! To our visitors, you may have come as a stranger to us, yet you are known to Our Lord, Jesus Christ. In His name, we pray you will find peace, hospitality, and friendship with us. Children are always welcome at Mass! We hope you will return regularly to worship at St. Edward Church! If you would like to be a member of St. Edward Parish, please fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket, or stop by the Church Office, or call us at 740-587-3254. **God bless you!**

I WANT TO JOIN ST. EDWARD PARISH!

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

	Eucharistic Ministers:	Lector:	Altar Servers:
December 9-10: Second Sunday of Advent			
Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Leann Kirchner Cliff Kirchner	Helen Anderson	Claire Skinner Carter Skinner
Sunday, 8:15 a.m.	Sue Casale John Casale	Lisa Smith	Isaac Gardner Jonathan Gardner
Sunday, 10:45 a.m.	Paul Gassman Rebecca Gassman	Laura Collins	Augustine Dodd Katelyn Shaw

Please check in sacristy for current list of weekend volunteers.

This Week at St. Edward

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3 – FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Mass – 8:15 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Mass – 10:45 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Giving Tree Gifts Due Today

PSR – 9:30 a.m.

Children's Choir Rehearsal – after 10:45 a.m. Mass

OCIA – noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Lounge

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Ghiloni

Preschool

Adoration after Mass to 11:30 a.m.

Women's Advent Party – 7:00 p.m.
in Parish Hall



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

Preschool

Handbells – 7:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

Preschool

Women's Advent Party – after Mass
in the Parish Hall

PSR – 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Painting Class – 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7

Mass – 9:00 a.m.

Preschool

Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception – 7:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8

Mass – Immaculate Conception – 9:00 a.m.

Preschool

Office Closed

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Confession – 4:00-4:30 p.m.

Mass – 5:00 p.m.

Giving Tree Pick-up – 9:00 a.m. to noon

Senior Dinner by Granville REC – 6:00 p.m.

Supporting St. Edward Church

"Each one must do as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7



OFFERTORY

November 19

\$ 18,949.00

November 26

\$ 7,973.00

Please consider ONLINE GIVING. Sign up on the St. Edward website home page at www.saintedwards.org. If already giving online, please update any changes to your credit card on your online account. For help, contact the Parish Office.

DECEMBER DIOCESAN COLLECTIONS

SVDP – December 3

Retirement Fund – December 10

Diocesan Charities – December 25

Congratulations

Congratulations to Kathi Jackson, who was one of 30 women presented the Saint Teresa of Calcutta Recognition Award for Charity, Compassion and Service by Bishop Fernandes on November 5th, 2023 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Family Life Center.



Food Pantry needs are grape jelly, maple syrup, tuna, toothbrushes. Please put Food Pantry donations in the box in the Gathering Space or the wooden box outside of the Parish Office. Your continuous donations are a blessing to others. Thank you!



Contact Maggie Barno to schedule Mass Intentions at maggie@saintedwards.org.

If you desire a specific date/s, please contact Maggie at least six months before the desired date. If the date you request for a Mass Intention is already taken, we will try to schedule your Mass on a date that will suit you. Your patience is greatly appreciated.

To comply with Diocesan Finance Office policies, a \$10.00 stipend is requested when Mass Intentions are scheduled.



Licking County

Baskets of Love

HOLIDAY DONATION DRIVE

Please fill a **basket**, **reusable shopping bag**, or **small laundry basket** with an assortment of the following items.

Your **Basket of Love** may be the only gift our seniors will receive this holiday.

Help us collect **300 baskets** for seniors in need!

BRING BASKETS OF LOVE TO THE GATHERING SPACE

Item Wish List

Tissues
Toilet Paper
Paper Towels
Hand Soap/Bath Soap
Fabric Softener/Dryer Sheets
Laundry Soap (Small)
All Purpose Cleaner/Disinfecting Wipes
2024 Calendars
Bath and Kitchen Towels
Sugar-Free Candy
Shampoo, Deodorant, Hand Sanitizer
Kitchen Trash Bags (13-Gallon)
Word Find Books (Large-Print)
Flashlight with Batteries
Air Fresheners
Optional Seasonal items such as Winter Gloves or Lap Blankets
Postage Stamps*
Kroger or Walmart Gift Cards*

*Please place in a separate envelope.

DROP OFF OR SHIP BY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8th

Monday–Friday
11:00 am–2:00 pm
Catholic Social Services
1031 Brice Street
Newark, Ohio 43055

Questions? Call Tim at:
(740) 345-2565, ext. 4



HOLY LAND CARVINGS AT ST. EDWARD CHURCH ON DECEMBER 16 AND 17

The carving of the Olive Wood Tree has been inherited since the time of our Lord, Jesus Christ. More than 80% of the Christian community income comes from tourism, and the olive wood trade. However, due to the ongoing difficult circumstances and the tremendous decrease in tourism the Christian community has suffered many hardships that led many Christian Families to leave their homes in search of work and safety.

Our mission is to support and strengthen the presence of Christianity in the Holy Land by selling their beautiful olive wood artifacts here in the United States. We have been blessed and grateful to have had the opportunity to travel to different parishes all around the United States for the past 15 years to represent these less fortunate Christians.

We encourage you to look over their beautiful hand-carved items. We value your support. We will be accepting cash, credit cards and checks.

May God bless you and keep you safe,

The Holy Land Shepherds

www.theholylaneshop.com

810-394-5291

Advent and Christmas Schedule

PREPARING FOR THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

Immaculate Conception

Vigil Mass – Thursday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m.

Daily Mass – Friday, December 8 at 9:00 a.m.

Parish Advent Reconciliation

Wednesday, December 13 at 7:00 p.m.

Advent Mass Times

First Weekend of Advent

Saturday, December 2 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 3 at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Second Weekend of Advent

Saturday, December 9 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 10th at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Third Weekend of Advent

Saturday, December 16 at 5:00 p.m.

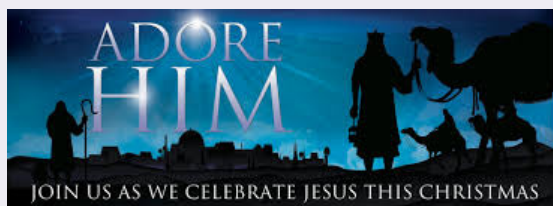
Sunday, December 17 at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Fourth Weekend of Advent

Saturday, December 23 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 a.m.

(one morning Mass only)



Christmas Eve Masses

Sunday, December 24

5:00 p.m. – Children's Choir Prelude at 4:30 p.m.

9:00 p.m. – Choir/Bells Prelude at 8:30 p.m.



Christmas Day Mass

Monday, December 25

10:00 a.m. – Vocal/Instrumental Prelude at 9:45 a.m.

(one Mass only)

Holy Family Masses

Saturday, December 30 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 31 at 8:15 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Solemnity of Mary

Monday, January 1, 2024, at 10 a.m.

OCIA – A Journey in Faith



At OCIA, you can

- Prepare to become confirmed in the Catholic Faith
- Learn about the Catholic Faith in a friendly, relaxed environment
- Learn the “hows and whys” of the Catholic Faith
- Continue your journey if you’re already Catholic

The 2023-2024 OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation – formerly RCIA) Sundays from noon to 1:00 p.m. in the Lounge. All are invited! For questions, contact Dcn. John Barbour at 740-366-4124.



THE
CATHOLIC
FOUNDATION

THANK YOU TO THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

The Church of Saint Edward the Confessor is most grateful to the Catholic Foundation for the grant received to help with rectory repairs.

The St. Vincent de Paul Center would like to thank the Catholic Foundation for the most recent grant received that will be used for improvements at both of our St. Vincent de Paul thrift stores in Newark, 200 E. Main Street and 135 Wilson Street.

SUPPORT ST. EDWARD AND LOWER YOUR TAXES

St. Edward has an endowment fund that The Catholic Foundation manages. This fund is a longer-term, sustained investment designed to provide a perpetual source of income to our parish. Contributing cash, appreciated stocks, IRA rollovers, and other forms of assets to the Fund can lower your tax exposure and provide a lasting impact on St. Edward and the future of our Catholic faith. For more information on end-of-the-year giving to benefit St. Edward, please contact Scott Hartman at shartman@catholic-foundation.org or 614-443-8893, ext. 104.

Lord, Hear Our Prayers



**For Our Country & World
to Return to God**

**For all War-torn Countries
in the World**

**For Catholics to Return to Church
Bishop Fernandes & All Bishops**

For Young Men to Heed the Call to Become a Priest

For St. Edward's Youth Group

For Sick & Homebound Parishioners

All Staff, Teachers, Volunteers & Members of St. Edward

Contact Cindy Kendrick at 740-366-2871 for prayer requests.

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception.

"Let your door stand open to receive Him, unlock your soul to Him, offer Him a welcome in your mind, and then you will see the riches of simplicity, the treasures of peace, the joy of grace." +SAINT AMBROSE

Monday, December 4 ~ First Week in the Season of Advent Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Holy Gospel: Matthew 8:5-11 When Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion approached him and appealed to him, saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, suffering dreadfully." He said to him, "I will come and cure him." The centurion said in reply, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof; only say the word and my servant will be healed. For I too am a man subject to authority, with soldiers subject to me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come here,' and he comes; and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, "Amen, I say to you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. I say to you, many will come from the east and the west, and will recline with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob at the banquet in the Kingdom of heaven."

Meditation: In the Roman world the position of centurion was very important. He was an officer in charge of a hundred soldiers. In a certain sense, he was the backbone of the Roman army, the cement which held the army together. The centurion who approached Jesus was not only courageous, but faith-filled as well. He risked the ridicule of his cronies as well as mockery from the Jews by seeking help from an itinerant preacher from Galilee. Nonetheless, the centurion approached Jesus with great confidence and humility. He was an extraordinary man because he loved his slave. In the Roman world slaves were treated like animals – something to be used for work and pleasure and for bartering and trade. This centurion was a man of great compassion and extraordinary faith. He wanted Jesus to heal his beloved slave. Jesus commends him for his faith and immediately grants him his request.

Prayer: Grant, we pray, O Lord, that we may be helped by the prayers of the Priest Saint John Damascene, so that the true faith, which he excelled in teaching, may always be our light and our strength. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The prophet Isaiah foretold a time of restoration for the holy city Jerusalem and for its remnants (ref. Isaiah 4:2-6) and also a time of universal peace when all nations would come to Jerusalem to "the mountain of the Lord and to the house of the God of Jacob" and "beat their swords into plowshares" (Isaiah 2:2-4). Jesus fulfills this prophecy first by restoring both Jew and Gentile to fellowship with God through the victory he won for us on the cross. When he comes again he will fully establish his universal rule of peace and righteousness and unite all things in himself (ref. Ephesians 1:10). His promise extends to all generations who believe in him that we, too, might feast at the heavenly banquet table with the patriarchs of the Old Covenant who believed but did not see the promised Messiah. And so we need to ask ourselves: Do you believe in God's promises and do you seek his kingdom first in your life? The season of Advent reminds us that the Lord wants us to actively seek him and the coming of his kingdom in our lives. The Lord will surely reward those who seek his will for their lives. We can approach the Lord Jesus with expectant faith, like the centurion did in today's gospel reading, knowing that he will show us his mercy, love, compassion, along with guidance and help in our time of need.

Tuesday, December 5 ~ First Week in the Season of Advent

Holy Gospel: Luke 10:21-24 Jesus rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, "I give you praise, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed

over to me by my Father. No one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him." Turning to the disciples in private he said, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see. For I say to you, many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it."

Meditation: What does Jesus' prayer in today's gospel tell us about God and about ourselves? First, it tells us that God is both Father and Lord of earth as well as heaven. He is both Creator and Author of all that he has made, the first origin of everything and transcendent authority, and at the same time, goodness and loving care for all his children. All fatherhood and motherhood are derived from him (ref. Ephesians 3:14-15). Jesus' prayer also contains a warning that pride can keep us from the love and knowledge of God. Pride closes the mind to God's truth and wisdom for our lives. Jesus contrasts pride with child-like simplicity and humility. The simple of heart are like "babes" in the sense that they see purely without pretense and acknowledge their dependence and trust in God who is the source of all wisdom and strength. They seek one thing – the "summum bonum" or "greatest good" which is God himself. Simplicity of heart is wedded with humility, the queen of virtues, because humility inclines the heart towards grace and truth. Just as pride is the root of every sin and evil, so humility is the only soil in which the grace of God can take root. It alone takes the right attitude before God and allows him as God to do all. "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble" (Prov. 3:34, James 4:6). The grace of Christ-like humility inclines us towards God and disposes us to receive God's wisdom, grace, and help. Nothing can give us greater joy than the knowledge that we are God's beloved and that our names are written in heaven (ref. Luke 10:20).

Prayer: Look with favor, Lord God, on our petitions, and in our trials grant us your compassionate help, that, consoled by the presence of your Son, whose coming we now await, we may be tainted no longer by the corruption of former ways. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus makes a claim which no one would have dared to make – He is the perfect revelation of God. Our knowledge of God is not simply limited to knowing something about God, but we can know God personally. Jesus makes it possible for each of us to personally know God as our Father. To see Jesus is to see what God is like. In Jesus we see the perfect love of God – a God who cares intensely and who yearns over men and women, loving them to the point of laying down his life for them upon the Cross. Do you pray to your Father in heaven with joy and confidence in his love and care for you?

Wednesday, December 6 ~ First Week in the Season of Advent Saint Nicholas, Bishop

Holy Gospel: Matthew 15:29-37 At that time: Jesus walked by the Sea of Galilee, went up on the mountain, and sat down there. Great crowds came to him, having with them the lame, the blind, the deformed, the mute, and many others. They placed them at his feet, and he cured them. The crowds were amazed when they saw the mute speaking, the deformed made whole, the lame walking, and the blind able to see, and they glorified the God of Israel. Jesus summoned his disciples and said, "My heart is moved with pity for the crowd, for they have been with me now for three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, for fear they may collapse on the way." The disciples said to him, "Where could we ever get enough bread in this deserted place to satisfy such a crowd?" Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" "Seven," they replied, "and a few fish." He ordered the crowd to sit down on the ground. Then he took the seven loaves and the fish, gave thanks, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied. They picked up the fragments left over—seven baskets full.

Meditation: What can satisfy the deepest hunger and longing of the human heart? Isaiah prophesied that God would provide a heavenly banquet for all peoples and would destroy death once and for all (Isaiah 2:6-8). Jesus came to fulfill that promise. Jesus' miracles are both a sign of God's kingdom and a demonstration of God's power. They also show the magnitude of God's mercy. When the disciples were confronted by Jesus with the task of feeding four thousand people many miles away from any source of food, they exclaimed: Where in this remote place can anyone get enough bread to feed them? The Israelites were confronted with the same dilemma when they fled Egypt and found themselves in a barren wilderness. Like the miraculous provision of manna in the wilderness, Jesus, himself provides bread in abundance for the hungry crowd who came out into the desert to seek him. The gospel records that all were satisfied and they took up what was left over.

Prayer: We humbly implore your mercy, Lord: protect us in all dangers through the prayers of the Bishop Saint Nicholas, that the way of salvation may lie open before us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: In the multiplication of the loaves and fishes we see a sign and a symbol of what God always does. God knows our needs and he cares. When God gives, he gives in abundance. The gospel account records that the leftovers from the miraculous meal was more than seven times the amount they began with. Seven is a symbol of completion and wholeness. When God gives, he gives until we are satisfied. When God works for his people he gives abundantly – more than we could deserve and more than we need. He nourishes us with his life-giving word and with the bread of heaven. In the kingdom of heaven God will feast us at his banquet table. And do you long with expectant hope for the coming of his kingdom in all its fullness? If not, what is getting in your way? What is holding you back?

Thursday, December 7 ~ First Week in the Season of Advent Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Holy Gospel: Matthew 7:21, 24-27 Jesus said to his disciples: "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father in heaven. Everyone who listens to these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. But it did not collapse; it had been set solidly on rock. And everyone who listens to these words of mine but does not act on them will be like a fool who built his house on sand. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and buffeted the house. And it collapsed and was completely ruined."

Meditation: In the ancient world a strong city, an impregnable fortress, and a secure house were built on solid rock because they could withstand the forces of nature and foe alike. Isaiah speaks of God as an "everlasting rock" (Is. 26:4). He is the rock of refuge and deliverance (Psalm 18:2) and the rock in whom there is no wrong (Psalm 92:15). Scripture warns that destruction will surely come to those who place their security in something other than God and his kingdom. Jesus' parables invite us to stake our lives on the coming of his kingdom or face the consequences of being unprepared when the day of testing and destruction will surely come.

Prayer: O God, who made the Bishop Saint Ambrose a teacher of the Catholic faith and a model of apostolic courage, raise up in your Church men after your own heart to govern her with courage and wisdom. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: When Jesus told the story of the builders he likely had the following proverb in mind: "When the storm has swept by, the wicked are gone, but the righteous stand firm forever" (Proverbs 10:25). What's the significance of the story for us? The kind of foundation we build our lives upon will determine whether we can survive the storms that are sure to come. Builders usually lay their foundations when the weather and soil conditions are at their best. It takes foresight to know how a foundation will stand up against adverse conditions. Building a house on a flood plain, such as a dry river-bed, is a sure bet for disaster! Jesus prefaced his story with a warning: We may fool humans with our speech, but God cannot be deceived. He sees the heart as it truly is – with its motives, intentions, desires, and choices (Psalm 139:2). There is only one way in which a person's sincerity can be proved, and that is by one's practice. Fine words can never replace good deeds. Our character is revealed in the choices we make, especially when we are tested. Do you cheat on an exam or on your income taxes, especially when it will cost you? Do you lie, or cover-up, when disclosing the truth will cause you injury or embarrassment? A true person is honest and reliable before God, one's neighbor and oneself. His or her word can be counted on. If you heed God's word and live according to it then you need not fear when storms assail you. God will be your rock and your refuge. Is your life built upon the sure "rock" of Jesus Christ? Do you listen to and embrace the word of the Lord as if your life depended on it? If not, why not?

Friday, December 8 ~ First Week in the Season of Advent Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary ~ A Holy Day of Obligation ~

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38 The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid,

Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Meditation: Do you want to live a grace-filled life? The angel Gabriel salutes Mary as "full of grace." To become the mother of the Savior, Mary was enriched by God with gifts to enable her to assume this awesome role. There is a venerable tradition among many Christians, dating back to the early church, for honoring Mary as the spotless virgin who bore the Son of God in her womb. A number of early Church fathers link Mary's obedience to this singular grace of God. One of them Saint Irenaeus, wrote: "Being obedient she became the cause of salvation for herself and for the whole human race. The knot of Eve's disobedience was united by Mary's obedience: what the virgin Eve bound through her disbelief, Mary loosened by her faith."

Prayer: O God, who by the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin prepared a worthy dwelling for your Son, grant, we pray, that, as you preserved her from every stain by virtue of the Death of your Son, which you foresaw, so, through her intercession, we, too, may be cleansed and admitted to your presence. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: When Adam and Eve disobeyed God, they immediately experienced the consequence of their action – separation from the God who loved them. God in his mercy promised them a Redeemer who would pay the price for their sin and the sin of the world. We see the marvelous unfolding of God's plan of redemption in the events leading up to the Incarnation, the birth of the Messiah. Mary's prompt response of "yes" to the divine message is a model of faith for all believers. Mary believed God's promises even when they seemed impossible. She was full of grace because she trusted that what God said was true and would be fulfilled. She was willing and eager to do God's will, even if it seemed difficult or costly. God gives us grace and he expects us to respond with the same willingness, obedience, and heart-felt trust as Mary did. When God commands he also gives the grace, strength, and means to respond. We can either yield to his grace, or resist and go our own way. Choose the path of Mary, not of Eve.

About today's Solemnity: Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the solemn dogma defined by Blessed Pope Pius IX in 1854. As Our Lady Immaculately Conceived is the patroness of the United States of America, this is a holy day of obligation in the United States. Through the centuries the Church has become ever more aware that Mary, "full of grace" through God, was redeemed from the moment of her conception. That is what the dogma of the Immaculate Conception confesses, as Blessed Pope Pius IX proclaimed on December 8, 1854: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary was, from the first moment of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God and by virtue of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, preserved immune from all stain of original sin."

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Daily meditations and contemplations adapted from the Irish Jesuits' *Sacred Space* web page and *Biblical Meditations for Advent* by Rev. Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P.; prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011; information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2023



Advent is Here! Jesus is coming!



Advent is here! It's time to begin preparing for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.

Jesus came the first time long ago in Bethlehem. Now He comes to us every time we go to Mass, in Holy Communion. But we celebrate Jesus' coming in a special way at Christmas time.

Advent is the time to get ready for Christmas. We get our houses ready by cleaning and decorating. We get our souls ready by cleaning out our sins when we go to confession, and by learning and thinking about Jesus.



Here are some things that will help you get ready for Christmas:

~ Light a candle on an advent wreath when you say your prayers every day.

~ Read a book about Advent or Christmas.

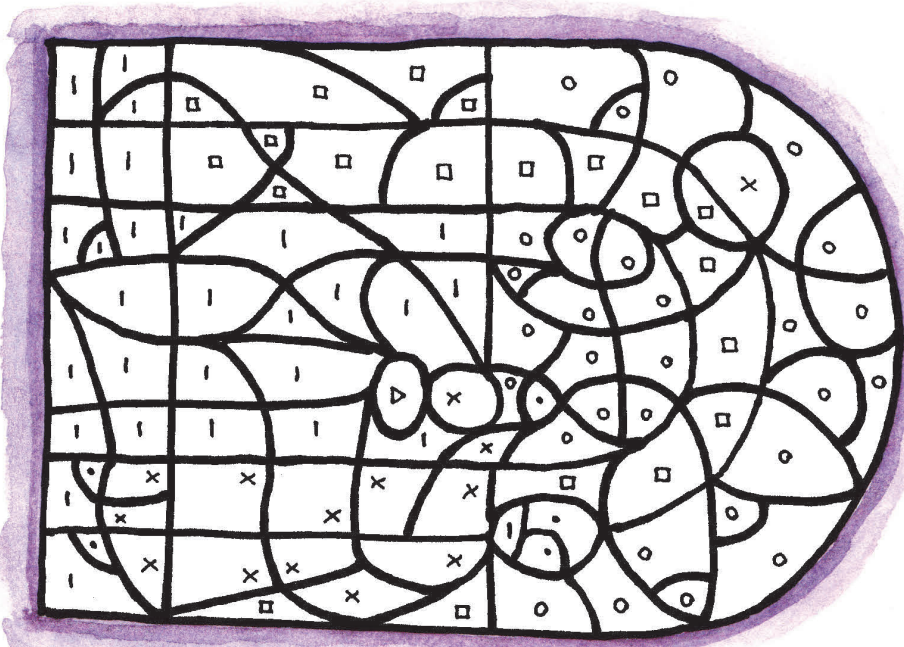
~ Go to Confession before Christmas.



~ Do nice things for people. Remember that anything you do for someone else you do for Jesus!

The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent
December 3rd, 2023



In the Gospel, Jesus tells us to always be ready.

Here's someone waiting for his master to return...

Use this code to colour the picture in:

- DARK BLUE ◻ GREY - BROWN
- SKIN COLOUR × WHITE ▲ RED

Answers to Cross-word: Across: 1. she 5. saw 7. immaculate 10. over 11. preserve 15. pure 17. man 18. lamb 20. ready 22. am 23. original. Down: 2. him 3. you 4. hate 5. save 6. were 8. Mary 9. love 12. soul 13. baby 14. Adam 16. Eve 18. laws 19. born 21. Anne

www.thekidsbulletin.com

SAINT JUAN DIEGO

DECEMBER 9

CUAUHTLATHUAC WAS A NATIVE OF MEXICO, BORN IN THE 1400'S. WHEN HE BECAME A CHRISTIAN, HE TOOK THE NAME JUAN DIEGO, WHICH IS 'JOHN JAMES' IN ENGLISH.

JUAN DIEGO WAS A HUMBLE AND SIMPLE MAN WHO LOVED GOD.

HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO MASS WHEN OUR LADY APPEARED TO HIM.

SHE TOLD HIM THAT SHE WANTED A CHURCH BUILT THERE, BUT THE BISHOP DIDN'T BELIEVE HIM.

HE WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET HER AGAIN, BUT HIS UNCLE WAS SICK...

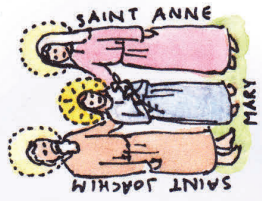
THEN HE SAW SPANISH ROSES GROWING THERE- IN THE MIDDLE OF WINTER!

WHEN HE SHOWED THE FLOWERS IN HIS TILMA TO THE BISHOP, A PICTURE OF OUR LADY APPEARED ON IT. THE BISHOP BELIEVED HIM THEN AND HAD THE CHURCH BUILT.

SAINT JUAN DIEGO LIVED A LONG AND SIMPLE LIFE TEACHING THE FAITH. MARY CHOSE HIM, BECAUSE HE WAS HUMBLE, TO BRING HER MESSAGE TO THE CHURCH AT THAT TIME. WHEN THE NEW CHURCH WAS BUILT, MILLIONS OF THE PAGAN PEOPLE IN MEXICO BECAME CHRISTIANS. JUAN DIEGO DIED AT AGE 74.

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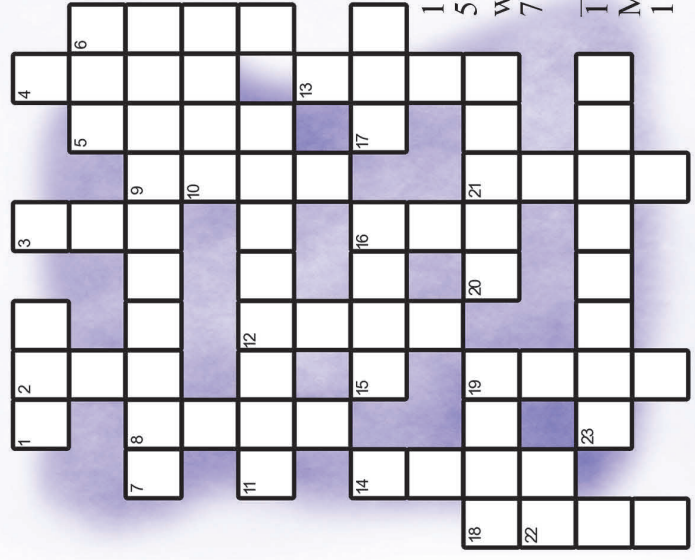
Immaculate Conception Cross-Word



Fill in the blanks to do this puzzle about Our Lady.

ACROSS:

1. _____ was without sin.
5. God _____ that Mary would do His will.
7. She was the _____ Conception.
10. God watched _____ Mary.
11. God decided to _____ her from sin.
15. Mary's soul was not stained- it was _____.



17. God's Son become _____ of God.
18. He is called the _____ of God.
20. When the time was _____, the angel came to Mary.
22. She said, "I _____ the handmaid of the Lord."
23. She had no _____ sin, so she was always ready to obey.
- DOWN:
2. Whatever God wanted she would do for _____.
3. She brought the Saviour into the world for _____ and me.
4. She teaches us to love God and _____ sin, which offends Him.
5. God had decided to _____ Mary from all sin.
6. If you _____ God, how would you make your mother?
8. The name of God's mother is _____.
9. She did every single thing out of _____ for God.
12. He had preserved her _____ from every stain of sin.
13. Before she was even a little _____ she was chosen by God.
14. We all have original sin because of _____ ...
16. ... and his wife, _____, who committed the first sins.
18. They had chosen to disobey God's _____.
19. Since then, every other person* was _____ with original sin.
21. Mary was the daughter of the holy saints, _____ and Joachim.
- * Except Saint John the Baptist, who, according to tradition, was freed from original sin - 'filled with the Holy Spirit' when his mother was greeted by Mary who was expecting Jesus.

HOMELESS OUTREACH

Youth from 6-12th grade are
invited to volunteer.

Details:

- Meet at St. Ed's at 3:00 pm to cook
- Meet at Newark Town Square at 5:30PM to serve the homeless

Date: December 3, 2023
Where: St. Ed's /Newark Town Square
Time: 3:00-6:30 PM



THE DUFFEL BAG PROJECT

We are so thankful for the help you have given to these children!

Thanks to you, we have delivered about 80 duffel bags with toiletries. At this time, we have a supply of duffels but need travel size shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, combs, brushes, and soap. If you could please leave some of these items in the box in the Gathering Space, we know the children would be appreciative. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Kren Kolbe, Lisa Matula, Betty Terlecki

National Eucharistic Revival



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

The National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year initiative called for by the Bishops of the United States, is preparing for Year Two – the Year of Parish Revival (June 2023-June 2024).

The Eucharistic Revival is a historic and transformative national movement to help the faithful fall in

love with Jesus, especially in the Eucharist, and be inspired and equipped to share that love with others. (For a helpful infographic providing an overview of the three-year process and other information, go to www.eucharisticrevival.org.)

NEXT MEETING – December 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Potluck Dinner and Group Discussions

St. Edward is hosting the second parish-wide small groups discussing the Eucharistic Revival study titled ***Becoming Eucharistic People: The Hope and Promise of Parish Life*** by Timothy P. O'Malley, with a monthly potluck and discussions that will go through March 2024.

THE YEAR OF EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

To assist in the formation and catechesis of our Eucharistic Culture, questions will be provided by Dcn. John. Full answers are in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

"Every day, Jesus humbles Himself just as He did when He came from His heavenly throne into the Virgin womb; every day, He comes to us and lets us see Him in lowliness, when He descends from the bosom of the Father into the hands of the priest at the altar."

– St. Francis of Assisi:

EUCHARISTIC QUESTIONS FOR THE WEEK:

Q: In Jesus' bread of life discourse, He tells His disciples that this teaching is hard, who can listen to it and then asks them if they want to leave. What is Peter's reply? **Ans:** Read John 6:60-71: to which Peter replies in verse 6:68. Read the answers there. Also, check out CCC paragraph 1336 in the Catechism.

Saint Pius X: *"The devotion to the Eucharist is the most noble because it has God as its object; it is the most profitable for salvation because it gives us the author of grace; it is the sweetest because the Lord is sweetness itself."*

Reflection on Lectionary Readings



DECEMBER 3, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

IS 63:16B-17,19B; 64:2-7; PS 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 COR: 1:3-9; MK 13:33-37

Today, we begin the beautiful and holy season of Advent. With all that we have going on this time of year, it's no wonder that Advent does not always seem to get the attention it deserves. But if we will commit to living this season well, we will experience a deeper conversion to Christ and find real transformation in our lives as Christian stewards.

Why? Advent calls us not only to look back in grateful contemplation of Christ's first coming, but it also calls us to look forward in preparation for His Second Coming. Advent is a time to reset and regroup, to repent over any misplaced priorities, to turn our minds and hearts back to God while we still have time. We do so not out of fear or guilt, but rather, out of gratitude for Love Incarnate lying in a manger bed.

Whatever we feel God calling us to do this Advent – committing to a daily Gospel reflection, visiting a lonely neighbor, or donating money to those in dire need – there is no time to waste.

Jesus makes this clear in our Gospel passage from Matthew. He tells the parable of a man going off on a journey. Before he leaves, he "places his servants in charge, each with his own work." We, of course, are the servants in this parable, each with a mission to accomplish in building the Kingdom of God. Jesus warns us over and over in this passage to remain vigilant to the work He has given us to do because we do not know when we will be called to give an account for it.

Our lives are a gift. This holy season is a gift. Let us recommit to living the stewardship way of life. Love came down to us as a Baby. And He is coming again. Be watchful!

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