



ADVENT 2025

THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF LA SALETTE



SHRINE - RETREAT CENTER - WELCOME CENTER
947 Park St. Attleboro, MA - 508-222-5410 - www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org

Shrine Director - Fr. Flavio Gillio, MS Retreat Center Director - Fr. Ted Brown, MS Superior - Fr. Brian Schloth, MS

Mass Times (Christmas Season)

Monday - Thursday
12:10pm
Friday-Saturday
12:10 & 4:00pm
Sunday
9:30am (French), 12:10 & 4:00pm

Confessions (Christmas Season)

Monday-Friday
1:00pm - 2:30pm
Saturday-Sunday
1:00pm-4:00pm

Healing Services

Portuguese:
January 18, 2026 at 2:00pm
English:
January 25, 2026 at 2:00pm
Spanish:
February 1 at 2:30pm



Thanksgiving Craft Fair - Welcome Center -

Fri., Nov. 28, 2025: 12:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Sat., Nov. 29, 2025: 12:00 - 9:00 p.m.
Sun., Nov. 30, 2025: 12:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Fontanini Special Event - A Signature Worth Keeping December 3, 2025 6:00-8:00 p.m.

A signed Nativity figure can become a quiet messenger of hope, and this Advent, we're inviting you into a treasured moment of faith and artistry. On **Saturday, December 3, 2025, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**, Emanuele Fontanini will visit our Shrine Gift Shop to personally sign every Fontanini piece purchased by that evening. Each signature transforms a beautifully crafted figure (shepherd, angel, or the Holy Family) into a keepsake rooted in heritage and prayer. Unable to attend? Simply select your piece in advance, leave us your name and phone number, and we'll have it signed for you. This is a rare chance to honor the sacred story of Christmas with a personal mark that will live in your home for generations. Visit our giftshop and share this announcement with someone who loves Christmas traditions.

LA SALETTE SHRINE

508-222-5410

www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org
lasalettेशrinedirector@gmail.com

LA SALETTE RETREAT CENTER

508-222-8530

www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org
office@lasaletteretreatcenter.com

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES STORE

508-236-9090

www.lasalettereligiousas.org
giftshoplasalette@gmail.com

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

The History of Advent



The origin of Advent is obscure, though we know it began in the fourth and fifth centuries with a call for Christians to observe a pre-Christmas time of preparation. The word “Advent” comes from the Latin *adventus*. During the fourth century, the term *adventus* was attributed to the coming of the Son of God, in its two meanings: his coming in flesh and his glorious second coming. This interpretation of this double meaning created much tension in the church. Nevertheless, the Catholic Church maintains the double theological meaning that has defined Advent as a time of joyous expectation throughout the centuries. These themes are referenced in Church liturgies throughout the entire Advent season and emphasized to a greater or lesser degree at different times. It wasn’t until the fifth century that the period of Advent was added to what is now known as the Liturgical Calendar.

During the mid-sixth century, fasting was observed for a period of six weeks leading up to Christmas. However, by the end of the sixth century, the period had been reduced to four weeks. For the next five hundred years, the season of Advent was observed throughout the West, but the length and type of practice varied widely from place to place and time to time. While Advent is traditionally a penitential season, Catholics are not required to fast as they are during Lent. The Western liturgical emphasis throughout Advent is on repentance, watching, and waiting.

The Advent wreath originated in Germany in 1839 with Protestant theologian Johann Hinrich Wichern and provides a way of marking the weeks before Christmas. The non-liturgical Advent Lessons focusing on the themes of hope, peace, joy and love and the singing of Christmas Carols began in England in the early 20th century. Not every denomination celebrates Advent. While denominations like Roman Catholics, Orthodox, Anglican, and Lutheran churches observe Advent, it is not a universal practice across all Christian traditions. Some Protestant, evangelical, and non-denominational churches do not observe this season.



SHRINE CHURCH SANCTUARY LAMP

During the month of **NOVEMBER 2025**, the Shrine Church Sanctuary Lamp will burn in memory of:

DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE CAPARREI AND FORTINI FAMILIES

Anyone wishing to have a loved one or special intention remembered should call the Shrine Secretary at 508-222-5410 and place their request. The monthly offering is \$75.

Upcoming Events You Don't Want to Miss!



 **Nov. 28-29-30** — *Thanksgiving Craft Fair*. Fri. and Sat.: 12:00 - 9:00 p.m.; Sun.: 12:00 - 8:00 p.m.

 **Dec. 2** — *Advent Tuesdays*
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventtuesday

 **Dec. 3** — *Fontanini Event*
From 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the La Salette gift shop

 **Dec. 5** — *Sacred Heart Friday*
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/sacredheart

 **Dec. 7** — *Mananitas & Mariachi Mass*. Program starts at 3:00 p.m. in front of the shrine church.

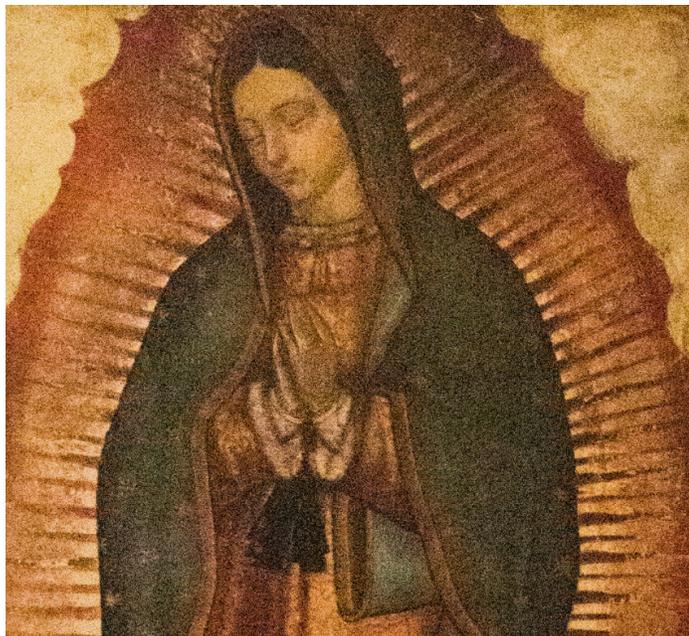
 **Dec. 12-14** — *Advent Retreat*
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventretreat

 **Jan. 16-18, 2026** — *Men's Retreat*
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/compassionatemanhood

 **Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 2026** — *Weekend Ignatian Retreat*
www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/religiousburdens

Events designed for connection, and made to matter.

*Mañanitas & Procession +
Mariachi Mass in Honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe
December 7, 2025 - 3:00 p.m.*



A Feast of Song, Faith, and Belonging

A mother carries the heartbeat of a people, and on this sacred afternoon, we'll be gathering to honor the Mother who unites the Americas in hope at the *Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe*.

On that occasion, one of the most cherished Mexican Marian traditions is the singing of Las Mañanitas, a centuries-old folk hymns used to greet someone with love at the break of day (especially for birthdays or moments of honor). In Guadalupe devotion, the faithful sing them to Mary as a dawn-greeting of gratitude, symbolizing how she welcomed a new chapter for the Americas through her 1531 apparition to *St. Juan Diego*. The songs are an act of filial tenderness, telling Mary: *"we come to you first, we salute you with trust, we begin with you."*

Right after our **Mañanitas and procession at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 7, 2025**, we'll continue to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe with a Mariachi Mass at 4:00 p.m. The Mass will be a natural continuation of that same spirit. Mariachi music, once regional, has become a national voice for celebration and solemn devotion alike. For Guadalupe, Mariachi is used not as performance, but as liturgical gift, violins, trumpets, and guitars, lifting prayer with a sound that expresses both festivity and reverence. A Mariachi Mass honors Our Lady of Guadalupe because she appeared not in a palace, but to the humble, and Mariachi carries that same unpolished sincerity: earthly, heartfelt, and communal. It embodies a sung theology of closeness, giving voice to the people that Our Lady of Guadalupe calls *"my little children."*

*Hope needs us...
And this Tuesday Is Our Moment to Answer
December 2, 2025*



In just two days, millions around the world will reach for their phones: not to shop, but to champion a mission that matters.

Since its beginnings in 2012, when *Giving Tuesday* emerged as a grassroots call to generosity, it has grown into a global tide of compassion, reminding us that hope moves forward when everyday people choose purposeful giving.

If the Shrine and the La Salette Retreat Center have strengthened your faith, touched your life, or renewed your capacity to hope, now is the moment to act boldly. **December 2** is not "another day": it is our day to advance the first milestone of our **Winter Appeal: "Together in Hope. Partners in Mission."**

This year is especially meaningful because Giving Tuesday marks not the midpoint of our journey, but its decisive first meaningful step: the opening of a season (Advent) sustained by mercy, outreach, reconciliation, and presence to those on the margins.

Giving Tuesday opens at 12:00 a.m. on **December 2, 2025**, and continues until 11:59 p.m.: a full 24-hour window to give with clarity of heart. Donate online anytime on **December 2, 2025** at

www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org/give.

Every gift ignites hope in real time.

GIVE - AMPLIFY HOPE.

CARRY THE MISSION FORWARD WITH US.

Now, do this: share this invitation with one person who believes in hope. More information about **Giving Tuesday** and our **Winter Appeal** can be found at:

www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org/give.

2025 Series Advent Tuesdays

December 2, 9, 16, 23, 2025 - 7:00-7:45 p.m.



Advent reminds us that stillness is not emptiness, but fertile ground, a gentle widening of the soul to receive what truly matters. Join us on December 2, 9, 16, and 23 at our Retreat Center.

With the help of reflective melodies, proclaimed Scripture, and unhurried silence, we'll sit with the night, allowing hope to rise from within rather than being forced by the season's rush. This practice of communal prayer restores more than energy: it refreshes perspective, rekindles interior peace, and reminds us that light is already nearing, even when unseen.

When the final hymn fades, step outside and walk the illuminated paths of the Festival of Lights, letting beauty awaken wonder and hope anchor itself more deeply in you. Join us, and let the journey inward carry you forward again. More details at:

www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventtuesday

Advent Retreat

December 12-14, 2025



This advent retreat "*The Night Is Far Gone, The Day Is At Hand*" explores what it means to live as children of light who sense the nearness of God through Scripture, silence, prayer, and creative reflection. The retreat concludes with a candlelit celebration, sending us forth renewed and ready to carry Christ's light into the world. More information at:

www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventretreat

Sacred Heart Friday

December 5, 2025 - 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Pope Francis rekindled Sacred Heart devotion with *Dilexit Nos* (He Loved Us), inviting us to anchor life in Christ's human-divine love. Join us for this new 2025-2026 series: together we'll explore how Jesus' heart heals, unites, and restores hope in a restless, divided, and fast-moving world. More information at:

www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/sacredheart



Weekend Men's Retreat - January 16-18, 2026

Men are longing for a strength that defends the vulnerable and a courage softened by compassion. This winter, we're inviting men to step into a weekend that reshapes hearts, restores dignity, and forges brotherhood. At La Salette Retreat Center, we'll gather across every walk of life for a retreat inspired by Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J., whose life and words reveal a mission-driven manhood that heals, protects, and serves at the edges. More information at:

www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/compassionatemanhood

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

All of our ministries here at the Shrine are only possible thanks to generous donations from people like you! With gratitude - Thank you!

MASS COLLECTIONS

November 15-16:	\$ 2,189.00
November 16 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 248.10
November 16 (Port. Healing Service):	\$ 118.00
November 22-23:	\$ 2,362.00
November 23 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 225.95

DONATION BOXES

November 10 – November 16:	\$ 1,063.00
November 17 – November 23:	\$ 812.00

Heavenly Thought

"He who does not have Christmas in his heart will never find it under a tree."