



# 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](http://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 (Dec. 13-23)

**Monday-Friday**  
1:00pm - 4:00pm  
**Saturday-Sunday**  
1:00pm-4:00pm  
**NO CONFESSIONS:**  
December 24-25, 2025

### Healing Services

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



**Attleboro  
Indoor Market**  
Saturday, December 20, 2025  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Welcome Center



**“The Night When Love Was Born”**  
*A Contemporary Christmas Prayer & Concert*  
By Timothy Boisvert (Shrine Music Director)

**Monday, December 22, 2025 - 7:00 p.m. - Shrine Church**

Enter an evening where music opens the heart to prayer and the mystery of Christmas is renewed. This concert reflects on the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, through a live performance by Shrine Music Director Timothy Boisvert. Contemporary selections from artists such as Steven Curtis Chapman, Amy Grant, Michael Card, Mark Schultz, Kari Jobe, and others will be woven with Scripture, poetry, and seasonal reflections. Together, music and word create space for quiet listening, gratitude, and joy. Step away from the rush of the season and allow these melodies and meditations to draw you closer to the mystery of Christ’s coming. This prayerful concert is free and open to all.

#### LA SALETTE SHRINE

508-222-5410  
[www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org](http://www.lasaletteattleboroshrine.org)  
[lasalettेशrinedirector@gmail.com](mailto:lasalettेशrinedirector@gmail.com)

#### LA SALETTE RETREAT CENTER

508-222-8530  
[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org)  
[office@lasaletteretreatcenter.com](mailto:office@lasaletteretreatcenter.com)

#### RELIGIOUS ARTICLES STORE

508-236-9090  
[www.lasalettereligiousas.org](http://www.lasalettereligiousas.org)  
[giftshoplasalette@gmail.com](mailto:giftshoplasalette@gmail.com)

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE CATHOLIC CHURCH  
We Are In The Pink!



*Gaudete Sunday* is a liturgical celebration that falls on the third Sunday of Advent. It is a rejoicing during the penitential season of Advent. The name itself comes from the Latin word for “Rejoice”. It is a form of the verb “*gaudere*,” which means “to be joyful.”

The origin of *Gaudete Sunday* dates back to the Roman Catholic Church in the Middle Ages. It was first introduced by Pope Saint Gregory III in the 8<sup>th</sup> century. During this time, the church recognized four Sundays of Advent, each with a different theme or focus. The third Sunday was dedicated to the joy and gladness that comes with the upcoming birth of Christ. Some communities, like in Mexico, re-enact Mary and Joseph’s search for lodging before the birth of Jesus. While in the Philippines, *Simbang Gabi* is celebrated with a series of early morning Masses leading up to Christmas Eve. In Spain, *Los Seises* is an elaborate dance performed by children in the Seville’s Cathedral.

One of the hidden meanings of *Gaudete Sunday* is the significance of the number three. The third Sunday of Advent revolves around the three-fold coming of Christ. The first coming of Christ in history, the second coming of Christ at the end of time, and the third coming of Christ in our hearts at Christmas. This can also be seen in the triple repetition of the word “rejoice” in the entrance antiphon of the Mass.

On *Gaudete Sunday*, the pink candle in the Advent wreath is lit. It is commonly referred to as the “Shepherd’s Candle” and represents the joy and happiness of the shepherds when they learned of Jesus’ birth.

From a theological perspective, *Gaudete Sunday* reminds us of the importance of joy in our faith. As believers, we are called to be people of hope, even during difficult and challenging times. It is a Sunday which serves as a reminder of this truth and the hope that we have in Christ.

*Gaudete Sunday* is also meant for us to focus on the joy and hope of the season, rather than getting caught up in the stress and materialism of the holiday. It is a time for us to develop a spirit of gratitude and generosity, and to prepare our hearts to welcome Christ into our lives.



SHRINE CHURCH  
SANCTUARY LAMP

During the month of **DECEMBER 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!*



 **Dec. 16 — Advent Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**  
[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventtuesday](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventtuesday)

 **Dec. 23 — Advent Tuesday, 7:00 p.m.**  
[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventtuesday](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventtuesday)

 **Jan. 2, 2026 — Sacred Heart Friday, 9:30 a.m.**  
[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/sacredheart](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/sacredheart)

 **Jan. 16-18, 2026 — Men's Retreat**  
[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/compassionatemanhood](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/compassionatemanhood)

 **Jan. 20, 2026 — Bible Study Group, 6:00 p.m.**  
<https://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/biblestudy>

 **Jan. 27, 2026 — Bible Study Group, 6:00 p.m.**  
<https://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/biblestudy>

 **Jan. 28, 2026 — Walking Through Grief, 2:00 p.m.**  
[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/griefsupportprogram](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/griefsupportprogram)

 **Jan. 29-Feb. 1, 2026 — Weekend Ignatian Retreat**  
[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/religiousburdens](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/religiousburdens)

**Events designed for connection, and made to matter.**

**2025 Christmas Season Updates:**  
*Masses & La Salette Gift Shop*



**Schedule Christmas and  
New Year Masses**

**Christmas Eve Mass**  
**(December 24)**

4:00 p.m. (Christmas Pageant) & 6:00 p.m.

**Midnight Mass**  
**(December 25)**

12:00 a.m.

**Christmas Day Mass**  
**(December 25)**

10:30 a.m. & 12:10 p.m.

**New Year's Eve Mass**  
**(December 31)**

6:00 p.m. (English) & 10:00 p.m. (French)

**New Year's Day Mass**  
**(January 1, 2026)**

12:10 p.m. & 4:00 p.m.

**La Salette Gift Shop**

On **Wednesday, December 24**, the **La Salette Gift Shop** will remain open later than usual, welcoming visitors until **8:00 p.m.** If you are looking for a last-minute Christmas gift, a devotional item, or a meaningful reminder of your visit to the Shrine, we invite you to stop by. Take a moment amid the busyness of Christmas Eve to browse thoughtfully selected items that celebrate faith, beauty, and the spirit of the season. We look forward to welcoming you and assisting you as you prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ.

**More Than a Logo: A Mission Made Possible by You**  
*The story the logo tells because of faithful donors like you*

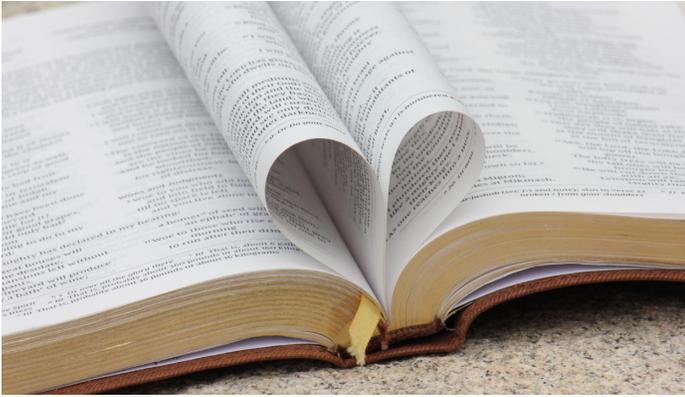


Thank you to everyone who gave on Giving Tuesday and to those who have already responded to our Winter Appeal. This year's appeal logo, *"Together in Hope. Partners in Mission,"* visually expresses what **your donations make possible**.

At the center is a **heart**, reminding us that every gift is an act of love. The **open doors** represent what your generosity sustains: a Church that remains open to all, where individuals and families, regardless of background or circumstance, are received with dignity, welcome, assisted, and served. The **warm bowl** within the heart points directly to the support you provide for works of mercy, especially our **Monday Soup Kitchen**. Because of donors like you, thousands of hot meals are shared each year, meals that nourish both body and spirit and affirm the worth of every person. The **gentle lines within the heart** reflect one of the primary goals of this year's appeal: a new audio-visual system for the *Shrine Church* and the *Welcome Center*. Your support will allow prayers, readings, music, and homilies to be heard clearly by everyone, especially seniors and those who depend on assistive listening, so no one feels excluded from worship or community. The colors also tell the story of your impact. **Deep navy blue** symbolizes the **trust and stability** your giving provides. **Burgundy Red** reflects the **love and sacrifice** behind every donation. **Golden amber** points to hope, hope made tangible through faithful partnership. Finally, the **soft cream background** speaks of **openness and hospitality** for all.

The Winter Appeal continues through **March 15, 2026**. You may give online at [www.lasaletteatleboroshrine.org/give](http://www.lasaletteatleboroshrine.org/give), or by taking an appeal envelope available in the Foyer of the Church. **Thank you for standing with us "Together in Hope. Partners in Mission."**

*Weekend Ignatian Retreat*  
**January 29 - February 1, 2026**



Begin a grace-filled journey of healing and renewal through a Catholic retreat that thoughtfully integrates Internal Family Systems (IFS) with Ignatian Spirituality. This retreat is designed for those who carry inner wounds shaped by past religious experiences and who desire a deeper, freer relationship with God. Through gentle self-awareness, compassionate prayer, and Ignatian practices such as *Gospel contemplation* and the *Examen*, participants are invited to encounter Christ's healing presence.

Guided IFS meditations will help heal inner burdens such as guilt, fear, or shame, while remaining rooted in Catholic faith. Daily Mass will ground the retreat in sacramental grace, and optional small-group sharing will offer support. Quiet time for journaling, prayer, and rest will foster integration, peace, and renewed awareness of God's abiding love. More information at:

[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/religiousburdens](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/religiousburdens)

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



This winter, *La Salette Retreat Center* invites men to a transformative weekend forming hearts, restoring dignity, and building brotherhood. Inspired by Fr. Greg Boyle, S.J., the retreat gathers men from every background to explore a mission-driven manhood that heals, serves, and stands at the margins. More information at:

[www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/compassionatemanhood](http://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/compassionatemanhood)

*Clarification Regarding*  
*Recent Newspaper Article*

A recent newspaper article, appeared on Wednesday, December 10, 2025, incorrectly stated that the *National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette* is planning and funding a new housing project for retired and elderly La Salette Fathers and Brothers. This is **not correct**.

In fact, the project is being planned and fully funded by the **Administration of the Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette in the United States**, and it is **entirely separate from the Shrine's finances and operations**.

Both the *Shrine* and *Retreat Center* continue to rely solely on their ministries and the generosity of donors to sustain their spiritual, pastoral, and outreach work. As such, all donations made to the *National Shrine of Our Lady of La Salette* and the *La Salette Retreat Center* are used exclusively to support their ministries, spiritual life, pastoral outreach, and the care of these sacred grounds.

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**Advent Tuesdays**

**December 16 and 23, 2025 - 7:00-7:45 p.m.**

The weeks leading up to Christmas can be hectic and exhausting. The practices of our Christian Faith invite us to slow down, embrace the darkness and cold, and anticipate the coming Light and Warmth of Christ. This will be a candle lit and peaceful prayer. Take some time to focus on Advent, slowing down and opening yourself to the goodness of God. After you pray, go out and view the lights! More information at:

<https://www.lasaletteretreatcenter.org/adventtuesday>

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**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 29-30:	\$ 3,088.00
November 30 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 1,346.21
December 6-7:	\$ 2,249.00
December 7 (Haitian Mass):	\$ 209.00
December 7 (Spanish Mass):	\$ 1,188.00

**DONATION BOXES**

November 24 – November 30:	\$ 2,152.00
December 1 – December 7:	\$ 1,130.00

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*Heavenly Thought*

*“God is also making a list and checking it twice.”*