

November 30, 2025  
First Sunday of Advent

**Time to Wake Up**

Today marks the start of a brand-new Liturgical Year A, and a fresh season of Advent. For many people, Advent is simply about preparing for Christmas. It's about buying gifts, putting up pretty lights and organizing a Christmas tree.

Today's Gospel, however, gives us something very different to consider: an alarm clock. Jesus is saying, 'Stay awake, for you don't know the hour when your Lord is coming.' This isn't a threat; Jesus is being merciful. He's gently shaking our arm, saying: 'Don't sleepwalk through life. Don't drift along, unaware that I am near.' Advent is not just about preparing for Christmas; it's also about waking up to God's presence, right here and right now.

Charles Dickens understood this. His classic story A Christmas Carol isn't only about greed and suffering; it's also about waking up. At the beginning, Ebenezer Scrooge is spiritually asleep. He has plenty of money, but no mercy; loads of comfort, but no compassion. He lives closed in on himself, oblivious to the plight of people around him. Then one night, heaven steps in. He's visited by three spirits who show him his past, present, and future. This shakes him up. He gets to see the truth of his life – the harm he's done, the love he's lost, and the future that awaits him if he does not change. And when he wakes up on Christmas morning, the first thing he says is, 'I'm as light as a feather! I'm as happy as an angel! I'm as merry as a schoolboy!' Scrooge's joy isn't about gifts; it's the joy of a man who has finally woken up to what's really going on in the world.

This is the Advent invitation for us all: to let the Holy Spirit wake us up from our sleep of selfishness, distraction and routine – to see life anew in the light of Jesus Christ. See a world where God comes quietly in love; where hope, repentance, and mercy are far more real and much more important than any possessions.

Centuries before Ebenezer Scrooge, another man experienced this same awakening: St Augustine. He too, had drifted through life, chasing pleasure, comfort, and ambition. In his book, *Confessions*, he describes the moment he woke up: 'You called, you shouted, and you broke through my deafness. You flashed, you shone, and you dispelled my blindness.' And then he utters that famous line: 'Late have I loved you, O Beauty ever ancient, ever new.'

St Augustine discovered that God's love had been there all along, but his heart was too sleepy to notice. And when he woke up, he found not guilt or condemnation, but delicious joy.

This is what Jesus means by 'Stay awake.' To be awake is to live in a constant readiness for wonder, to be alert to the movement of God's grace in our lives. So how might we live wakefully this Advent?

Firstly, by opening our eyes. Look around with wonder. Take the time to notice the small signs of God's presence in beauty, kindness and forgiveness.

Secondly, keep things simple and slow down. Don't let the noise of this busy season numb you to its meaning.

And thirdly, prepare your heart. Make space for prayer, confession and silence. Make space for Jesus. This is how we 'stay awake.'

Advent wakefulness isn't about fear. It's about awareness. When Scrooge and St Augustine woke up, they found that everything was the same, and yet everything was different, because *they* had changed. The world had become brighter, not darker, and everything started to make sense.

Right now, Jesus is waiting for us. He's quietly waiting for us to notice him.

—Reflection by Peter McCulloch at <https://www.deaconpeter.org/>



**Advent Begins Today!**

Advent, derived from the Latin word *adventus* (meaning "coming"), marks the start of the Christian liturgical year. Spanning four Sundays before Christmas, it's a time to prepare for the celebration of Jesus' birth and anticipate His second coming.

**Martha & Mary (M&M) Society Meeting & Christmas Party**

Mon., Dec. 1, at 6:00 p.m.

M&M is a great opportunity for the women of the parish to share and enjoy fellowship, while serving the altar society ministry of Holy Cross.

Please bring Finger Food to share and a Gift for the Dirty Santa Gift Exchange

**A Night of Encounter & Mercy**  
(First Wed. of the month)

Adoration on Wed., December 3rd from 6-7 p.m.

Short Presentation followed by Adoration; Confessions also available

**"Tulsa Time with Bishop Konderla"**

Bishop Konderla talks about all things Catholic in eastern Oklahoma. Be sure to check out our Website Or our Facebook page for this podcast video.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Nov. 30, Dec. 7, 14, 21 for **Pat Sanco**  
Requested by **Sam Sanco**

**St Nicholas Feast Day Sat., Dec. 6th**  
To Celebrate the Feast, Holy Cross will have Mass at 9 a.m. followed by a Pancake Breakfast and a visit from St. Nick!

Please bring your children and plan to attend!

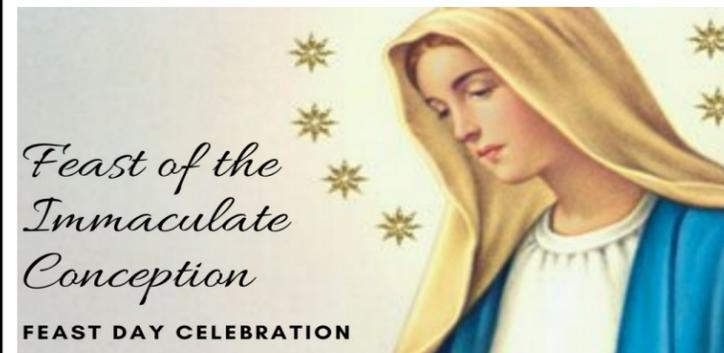
In a time where Christmas is highly commercialized, families try to keep the focus on what Advent and Christmas is all about. Advent is preparing for Christ's birth, both internally and externally. To shift the focus from a materialistic Christmas, try giving stocking gifts on December 6 instead of Christmas Day. **Shoes can be left outside the bedroom door or on the hearth, or stockings are hung by the fire on December 5th evening for "St. Nicholas" to place a treat in the shoes or stockings.**

It's Important to Sign-up in the Foyer so that we can plan for the number and age of children attending the Holy Cross Feast.

**Breakfast and Birthday Cake**  
to celebrate the birthdays of December  
Next Sunday, Dec. 7, after 8:30 a.m. Mass  
& the first Sunday of each month.



(Volunteer Helpers-Kathy G., Judy)



**Upcoming Feast Days!**

**Feast of Immaculate Conception**  
Mass on Monday, Dec. 8th, at Holy Cross-time  
TBA (Holy Day of Obligation)

**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
Mass followed by Celebration on Friday, Dec. 12th, 6 p.m. at St. Vincent de Paul, Coweta

**Mass Ministers**

	Ushers	Reader	Servers
11/30	Mike Cucchiara	Charlie Moe	Carlos, Kaygan
	Mike Hickman		Liam, Elizabeth
12/7	Skip Gordon	Dorene McMahan	Carlos, Liam,
	Richard Helms		Elizabeth

**Our Spiritual Journey of Advent Begins This Weekend!**

*A season of prayer, fasting, and repentance, followed by anticipation, hope, and joy.*

As you light your advent candles, may God's spirit transform the days leading up to Christmas into a time of holy anticipation—a time we joyfully await the chance to celebrate the arrival of our king.

**Sources to assist you on your journey:**

- From **Dynamic Catholic.com**, sign up for the Best Advent Ever to get Free Daily Advent Reflections by scanning the QR code below or visit their website to sign up.



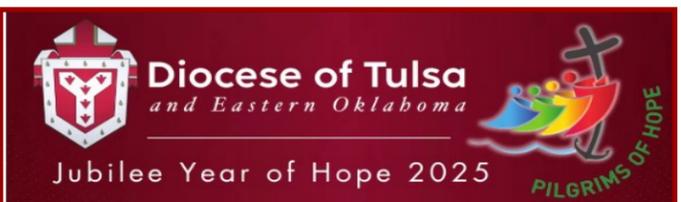
- From the **National Eucharistic Congress**, download the **Manna App** from the App Store or Google Play and sign up for free to pray, learn, and grow in your love for Jesus in the Eucharist



NATIONAL Eucharistic Congress

Make this Advent a season of presence and peace.

*Jesus, I Trust in You!*



*Blessed are they that Hope in the Lord!*

**Final 1st Sat. Mass for the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope**

**The December First Saturday Jubilee Mass w/ Bishop Konderla —For Prisoners and Those Being Persecuted**

**Saturday, Dec. 6, at John the Evangelist, McAlester at 10 a.m.**

**Additional Contact Information**

**Secretary** Earlyne Hutchens  
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918-894-0474

**Religious Education** Katzy Hale  
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Kay Rodriguez (Youth Group);  
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**Parish Council** Karol Watson  
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918-640-5819

**M&M Altar Society** Kathy Gordon  
nursekgordon@gmail.com  
918-606-2488

**Men's Group** Seth Yoder  
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918-869-9129

**Music Ministry** Robin Rodriguez-Higginbottom  
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918-520-1260

**Mass Ministry Scheduling** Mary Feichtinger (English Masses)  
maryfeichtinger47@gmail.com  
303-519-0605  
Josh Martin (TLM)  
joshandlauramartin@gmail.com  
918-718-4598

**Offerings from November 23, 2025**

General Weekend Collections **\$1,886.87**  
Capital Improvement Fund **\$130.00**  
**TOTAL \$2,016.87**  
Special Collection-Social Justice **\$444.00**

*Your Generosity & Support is Always Appreciated!*



**Traci Sorell.com**  
Author of inclusive works for inquisitive young minds

**This Week's Readings—Nov 30-Dec 6**

Sunday	Is 2:1-5/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44
Monday	Is 4:2-6/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday	Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday	Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
Thursday	Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday	Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

\*Daily Readings (and link to full biblical text) also available on Holy Cross Website:  
**www.holycross-wagoner.org**

**December M&M Volunteers**

<i>Altar Linens</i>	<b>Kay Rodriguez</b>
<i>Altar Flowers</i>	<b>No Flowers during Advent</b>
<i>Sunday Hostess</i>	<b>11/30-Sherri Moe 12/7-Kathy G, Judy H. 12/14-Kay Rodriguez</b>

**FOR THE SICK AND SUFFERING**

Jean Podeyn, sister of Jackie Spieker  
Judy Wright, parishioner  
Becky Harding, parishioner  
Hope Watson, parishioner  
John Spieker, husband of Jackie Spieker  
Marie Herndon, parishioner  
Laura Rodriguez, parishioner  
Bill Scrimsher, parishioner  
Pat Jones, parishioner

**WE PRAY TO THE LORD** 



**Edward Jones** Member SIPC

Working together for your financial future. Give us a call.

 **Seth A Yoder**  
Financial Advisor  
1524 Ok-51, Suite A  
Wagoner, OK 74467  
918-614-0697

MKT-5894Q-A AECSPAD [edwardjones.com](http://edwardjones.com)

**The Businesses Above Help Make This Bulletin Possible! Please support, when you can.**

You Are Invited to Help Support Our Parish By Advertising Your Business Here!  
Contact Karol Watson @ 918-640-5819 or karol\_watson@yahoo.com for advertising opportunities and/or to place information in the bulletin or on the church website.  
Also, **Sign Up** in Flocknotes to receive a copy of the bulletin each weekend in your email!



# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

**P.O. Box 710 / 708 SW 15TH ST.  
539-209-9988**

**Email:** holycrosswagoner@gmail.com  
**Website:** <http://www.holycross-wagoner.org>  
**Facebook:** Holy Cross Catholic Church—Wagoner, OK

*November 30, 2025*  
*First Sunday of Advent*

**WELCOME VISITORS & NEW PARISHIONERS!**

**MASS TIMES**

**Sunday**  
**8:30 a.m. (English)**  
**11:00 a.m. (Latin)**

**Weekdays**  
**Tuesday & Wednesday — 5:30 p.m.**  
**Thursday & Friday — 8:30 a.m.**  
**First Sat. of Each Month — 8:30 a.m.**

**HOLY HOUR OF EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**  
**Wednesdays from 6:00—7:00 p.m.**  
**(following 5:30 p.m. Mass)**

**CONFESSIONS**  
**30 minutes before Masses**  
**or by appointment/request**

**Pastor** **Father Sean Donovan**  
fr.sean.donovan@gmail.com  
539-209-9988

**Deacons** **Dcn Steve Creed**  
slccoweta@hotmail.com  
918-289-5716  
& **Dcn James Ruyle** (Retired)  
jandsruyle@gmail.com  
918-638-7226



**Holy Cross Faith Formation Classes**

**High School Bible Study & Youth Group**  
Each Sunday at 5 p.m.

**Family Catechesis Classes**—Third Sunday of each month after 8:30 a.m. Mass.

**Adult Faith Formation**—Fourth Sunday of each month after both 8:30 & 11 a.m. Masses.

**Bible Study**—Friday mornings at 9 a.m.

**Catholicism 101**—Each Tuesday after 5:30 p.m. Daily Mass

**Holy Cross Mission Statement/Prayer**

Almighty God, the mission of Holy Cross Parish is to bring the love of Jesus Christ to our community and to the world. As your disciples, help us love others, pray for all souls, proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and bring all people into the fullness of your Kingdom. Through Christ, our Lord, Amen!

**TODAY'S READINGS**  
*Is 2:1-5/Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44*

**Breaking Bread Book**—Pages 31-32

**Vatican II Hymnal**—Pages 375-376

