

*December 21, 2025  
Fourth Sunday  
of Advent*

*SS. Peter & Paul Church*  
4450 Granite Drive - Rocklin, CA 95677  
916-624-5827, Fax 916-624-5924 - [www.rocklincatholic.org](http://www.rocklincatholic.org)

# ADVENT

*Living in the Light of Hope*

## ***Mission Statement***

The people of SS. Peter & Paul Parish are called to create and sustain a community of faith in Jesus Christ. We celebrate the life of faith through the Eucharist. As we break bread together, we are inspired to care for others and are challenged to grow in faith through prayer, study, and social interaction

## ***Vision Statement***

All parishioners recognize the challenge of the Gospel and the Eucharist as evidenced by participating in various ministries, inviting and welcoming others, caring for and serving those in need, and promoting peace and justice.

### **Sacrament of Baptism**

**Baptism Class:** Contact Darcy Wharton for Information at ext. 211

**Baptisms:** 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month except during the season of Lent.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturday 4:00—4:45 PM  
In the Church or by appointment

### **Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick**

For anyone experiencing chronic illness or preparing for medical treatment, surgery, or long-term care, please call Ext. 201 to arrange an appointment with a priest.

### **Sacrament of Matrimony**

We welcome inquiries from engaged couples!  
Please call Ext. 201 for information

### **Christian Initiation**

For adult individuals interested in becoming Catholic or for those over six years old who have not received Baptism, please call Ext. 214.

## ✠MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK✠

Sat, Dec. 20	5:00 PM	✠	Maithy Vu	S	Community of SSPP
Sun, Dec. 21	9:00 AM	✠	Rosemary Jorgensen	✠	Joy Dvorak
	11:00 AM	S	Mike & Cherry Schmit	✠	Refugio Campos
	5:00 PM	S	Jane Gordon	S	Sarah Peterson
Mon, Dec. 22	8:30 AM	✠	Dave Thoennes	✠	Larry Lumsargis
Tue, Dec. 23	8:30 AM	S	Kathy DeLucchi	✠	Carla Toben
Wed, Dec. 24	3:30 PM CH	S	Kathy DeLucchi	✠	Kathy Coder
	3:30 PM H	✠	Estelle Sutsakhan	✠	
	5:30 PM	✠	Forrest Bergman	✠	Bill Griffon
	11:00 PM	S	Lisa Ann Harris	✠	Ninh Van Pham
Thurs, Dec. 25	9:00 AM	✠	Paul Holscher	✠	Mary Wenzler O'Brien
	11:00 AM	✠	Randy Josephen	✠	Al & Mike Raia
Fri, Dec. 26	8:30 AM	✠	Themla Diaz	✠	Ramon Regalado
Sat, Dec. 27	5:00 PM	S	Ty Do	✠	John McGill
Sun, Dec. 28	9:00 AM	S	Community of SSPP	✠	Son M. Nguyen
	11:00 AM	✠	Rogelio Alonzo	✠	John H. Holland
	5:00 PM	✠	Joy Dvorak	✠	Thanh G. Vu

### **SS. Peter & Paul Staff**

916-624-5827

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Saturday Vigil Mass—5:00 PM  
Sunday Masses—9:00 AM (Live-Stream),  
11:00 AM & 5:00 PM  
Daily Mass (M, T, W, F)—8:30 AM

Church & Adoration Chapel Hours  
Monday—Friday 9:00 AM—2:00 PM  
Saturday & Sunday 9:00 AM—6:00 PM

Parish Office Hours  
Monday—Thursday 9:00 AM—3:30 PM  
Closed 12:00—1:00 PM for lunch



Online Donations  
Use the QR Code Below



## December 21, 2025 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

### ✠ Liturgy 101 ✠

#### Fourth Week of Advent – Ask for a Sign from the Lord!

We enter the fourth weekend of Advent, with greater enthusiasm for the second coming of Christ, and move closer to the celebration of His incarnation at Christmas. Coupled with this excitement, many of us are distracted by the anxieties of the season. Did I get the right gifts? Is the house ready for the Christmas gathering? Am I ready to face the family? Will we be able to pay all these bills? What does the coming new year hold for me? Stressors can really put a damper on our excitement, and make us lose focus on the “reason for the season”. This weekend’s readings remind us to trust in God! The prophet Isaiah tells the king of Judah, Ahaz, “Ask for a sign from the Lord, your God!” During this time of hope and preparation, **DON'T GIVE UP!** Turn your eyes toward God, and ask for a sign! Jesus’s birth and death was God’s answer to our cries for liberation from the chains of this world. And that message was meant for all peoples. It was meant for you! May God’s answer to your cries this Advent renew your peace and confidence in the Lord.



### ✠ Christmas Liturgy 101 ✠

#### The Christmas Season



The liturgical season of Christmas follows Advent. It begins with the vigil Masses on Christmas Eve and concludes on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.

During this season, we celebrate the birth of Christ into our world and into our hearts and reflect on the gift of salvation that is born with him, including the fact that he was born to die for us.

The Christmas tree and the Nativity scene are popular symbols of the season and a tradition in many Christian homes. Having received the gift of Christ, we naturally want to pass that gift along to our loved ones.

You likely know it by the song title, but the 12 Days of Christmas, or Christmastide, is the period that is the time between the two major Christmas feasts: the Nativity of the Lord on December 25 and Epiphany. Christmas was the major “birth” feast in the ancient Western churches and Epiphany was the major feast in the Eastern churches. The days between them have important significance.

Other Christmas feasts include the Holy Family (Sunday following Christmas), and Mary, Mother of God (January 1). The liturgical season of Christmas ends with the feast of the Lord’s Baptism, traditionally, the Sunday after Epiphany.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES

#### Christmas Eve

3:30 PM

Church & Hall

Children’s Liturgy in the Church

5:30 PM

11:00 PM



#### Christmas Day

9:00 AM

11:00 AM

All Parish Offices will be closed December 24th through December 26th. Offices will re-open on Monday, December 29th.

#### Christmas Season Mass Schedule:

*Feast of the Holy Family, December 27/28:  
Regular Weekend Mass schedule*

*Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)  
Wednesday, December 31: 5:30 pm  
Thursday, January 1: 8:30 am*

*Epiphany of the Lord, January 3/4:  
Regular Weekend Mass schedule*

*Baptism of the Lord, January 10/11:  
Regular Weekend Mass schedule*





## YOUTH & FAMILY FAITH FORMATION (Kindergarten—8th Grade & Sacrament Preparation)

### Upcoming Youth & Family Faith Schedule:

- **Week of December 21st - NO CLASSES THIS WEEK**  
(Christmas Break)
- **Week of December 28th - NO CLASSES THIS WEEK**  
(Christmas Break)
- **Week of 4th - CLASSES MEET AS SCHEDULED**

### Happy 4th week of Advent:

Wishing all our Youth and Family Faith families a week filled with God's love as we prepare to celebrate Christmas! May your homes be filled with hope, joy, and the peace of Christ this season. We look forward to seeing you back for classes in the New Year!



Please continue to pray for Nancy during her recovery.

If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Renier in the parish office or [fr.renier@rocklincatholic.org](mailto:fr.renier@rocklincatholic.org)

### FAMILY CONNECTION

At Christmas we celebrate the great mystery that God became flesh and dwelt among us. We call this mystery the *Incarnation* (the word means "to take on flesh"), and it changes everything. The Christmas Day Gospel reminds us that we can also look upon the Nativity from God's perspective to better appreciate the significance of the Incarnation. The mystery we proclaim at Christmas is that God, the very God who created all things from nothing and who is light itself, took on our humanity in order to transform us. Through his birth among us, we have seen the face of God and have become nothing less than God's own children. At this awesome mystery, we adore.

Gather as a family around your Nativity set. Keep this image before you and talk about how familiar we are with this scene. Invite members of the family to recall the details of Jesus' birth that we hear in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. Observe that the Gospel of John invites us to consider Jesus' birth from a different perspective. Read together the Christmas Day Gospel, John 1:1-14.

John's Gospel reminds us that the image we see in our Nativity set is a most remarkable sight: God made himself at home with us by taking on flesh and becoming a human person. We call this mystery the Incarnation. What are some of the things that John's Gospel says happened for us because Jesus came to dwell among us? (Light overcame darkness; we see God's glory in Jesus; we became children of God.) Together thank God for this mystery of the Incarnation and the salvation that we received because Jesus was born among us. Sing together a Christmas hymn, such as "O Come, All Ye Faithful" or "Silent Night."

**St. Rose School**

**OPEN HOUSE**

10:30am  
All School Mass

Open House & Book Fair  
Immediately following Mass - 1:00 pm

SCAN BELOW FOR ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

**JANUARY 25, 2026**  
**11:30AM-1:00PM**

WWW.STROSE.ORG PH. 916.782.1161

ST. ROSE SCHOOL 65th ANNIVERSARY 1960-2025



## OCIA Sponsors Needed

The Holy Spirit is indeed at work here at SS. Peter & Paul parish with a growing number of adult Candidates and Catechumens in the OCIA seeking the Sacraments of Initiation.

As such, we are in need of Confirmed Catholic adults, who are active in their faith, to accompany our participants on their journey to the Sacraments. What is the role of an OCIA sponsor?

- ♦ **Companion:** accompanying a person who is on a journey toward a deeper relationship with our loving God in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit.
- ♦ **Guide:** not just walking alongside the person, but also guiding, lending a hand, and helping to notice important things along the way.
- ♦ **Support:** encouraging the person when he/she gets discouraged or confused.
- ♦ **Representative of our SS. Peter & Paul Catholic Community:** connecting the person to our community of faith both at mass and in ministry.
- ♦ **Witness:** beholding the work of the Holy Spirit in the person's journey.

Our OCIA Candidates and Catechumens are a gift to our community and renew our own faith. As such, being a sponsor is incredibly rewarding and provides an opportunity to share and grow in your own faith along the way.

If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Katie Maynard, Coordinator of Christian Initiation at (916) 624-5827 x214 or email [katie.maynard@rocklincatholic.org](mailto:katie.maynard@rocklincatholic.org)

## Book Club Selection



Our parish book club has selected *When the Jessamine Grows* by Donna Everhart. This book is an evocative, morally complex novel set in rural 19th century North Carolina, as one woman fights to keep her family united, her farm running, and her convictions whole during the most devastating and divisive period in American history.

Join us on Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM in the Dillon Center for our discussion!



## New Divorce Care series begins in January

Our Divorce Care facilitators have graciously agreed to provide another 13-week session beginning January 22<sup>nd</sup>. This series can provide much needed healing during a difficult time. Open to all, so please share this information with family and friends.

To register, visit [www.rocklincatholic.org/divorcecare](http://www.rocklincatholic.org/divorcecare)

## Christian Initiation for Adults

is the communal process through which non-baptized men and women become members of the Catholic Church.



It is also suitable for those baptized in different faith traditions who are interested in becoming Catholic, or for those who were baptized Catholic but have yet to receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.

For more information about the process, please call Katie Maynard at 916-624-5827 ext. 214 or [katie.maynard@rocklincatholic.org](mailto:katie.maynard@rocklincatholic.org)



# OFFERTORY

Offertory Giving 2025-26

	October 4 Sundays	Year to Date
Total mass/office offertory	\$ 46,003	\$ 193,508
Total on line offertory	\$ 29,575	\$ 117,304
Total offertory	\$ 75,579	\$ 310,811
Offertory Budget	\$ 81,996	\$ 313,112
Budget variance	\$ (6,417)	\$ (2,301)

Thank you for your continued support!  
Any amount you can give is greatly appreciated.

## GIVING

# Crab Feed

**Sat. Feb. 7, 2026**

**6:00 PM**

**\$65 per person**

- Appetizers
- Salad
- Pasta
- Crab
- Dessert Dash
- No Host Bar



**Reserve a Table of 10  
(in one transaction) and receive  
2 bottles of wine for the table!**

**Reservations Close Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>  
at 7:00 PM or when sold out  
No Sales at the Door**



We are in need of a LOT of volunteers and dessert donations for the Crab Feed event.

Please use the link [www.rocklincatholic.org/crab-feed](http://www.rocklincatholic.org/crab-feed) to find the signup genius links AND to purchase tickets.



## Coffee and Donuts Pause

The Coffee and Donuts ministry is off for a couple of weeks. They will return January 4th!

CUB SCOUT PACK 102  
& BOY SCOUT TROOP 435

# ROCKLIN TREE Pick-up FUNDRAISER

-ROCKLIN NEIGHBORS-  
NEED HELP HAULING AWAY YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE? EACH YEAR OUR SCOUTS COLLECT TREES AND DISPOSE OF THEM AT ROCKLIN COLLECTION SITES TO RAISE MONEY FOR SCOUT ACTIVITIES.

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND SIGN UP TODAY!

DATES:  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 3RD  
SUNDAY, JANUARY 4TH



PACK102.COM

## Assisted Listening Devices



SS. Peter & Paul offers Assisted Listening Devices for the hearing impaired. There are currently four receivers across our new wireless and FM radio systems. They are available for use by members of our congregation while at Mass or in the church for a large function. Each receiver is set for a single channel and cannot be used elsewhere.

- ⇒ Each receiver comes with "ear buds" that you insert into your ear.
- ⇒ The receivers can also accept other devices such as headphones or a neck "rope". We have two rope style headphones that can be requested.
- ⇒ To borrow a receiver, ask an Usher or Mass Coordinator.
- ⇒ Our wireless system can be connected to your iPhone or Android smartphone. Instructions are posted in the sacristy, ask for assistance. Bring your own headset or use your hearing aide if connected wirelessly to your smartphone.



### Jubilee Year Closing Mass (Bilingual) and Jubilate Deo Organ Recital

Monday, December 29, 2025 - 12:00 PM

On the feast of the Holy Family, Sunday, December 28 at 5:00 PM, the Diocese of Sacramento will celebrate the conclusion of the jubilee year with a bilingual Mass at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1017 11th Street, Sacramento.

For more information, please contact the Cathedral at:  
[www.cathedralsacramento.org](http://www.cathedralsacramento.org) or 916-444-3071.

### Handel's *Messiah* and Ramírez's *Navidad Nuestra* Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament January 2 & 3, 2026 • 7:30 PM



The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament invites you to two special Christmas-season concerts on **Friday, January 2** and **Saturday, January 3, 2026**, at 7:30 PM (doors open at 7:00 PM).

Each evening features the Cathedral Choir, Capella Antiqua, and guest soloists Liisa Davila (soprano), Leandra Ramm (mezzo-soprano), Matthew Hidalgo (tenor), and Daniel Yoder (baritone) under the direction of Rex Rallanka.

- Friday, January 2: Handel's *Messiah* (Advent & Christmas portions) sung in English
- Saturday, January 3: Handel's *Messiah* sung in Spanish, featuring a new translation

Both evenings include Ariel Ramírez's *Navidad Nuestra*, a beloved Latin American folk-oratorio celebrating the Nativity.

Join us for this beautiful musical celebration of the Christmas season in Sacramento's historic Cathedral.

**Location:** Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament  
1017 11th Street, Sacramento

**Tickets:** \$20/general - \$10/student; purchase online at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/49y86nbc>

**More Information:** [www.cathedralsacramento.org](http://www.cathedralsacramento.org)

### POINSETTIA PICK UP

Poinsettia plants may be picked up from the Church between 6:00-8:00 PM after the 5:00 PM Mass on Sunday, January 4, 2026.



### 2026 Church Calendars Available

Once again we are offering a church calendar listing all holy days and feast days.



They are available at the entrances to the Church. Please take one per family.



### Special Collection Next Weekend December 27/28 is for the Facilities RMI fund

The monies collected for this fund will be specifically set aside and only used for the **Repair, Maintenance or Improvement** of the parish facilities. We sincerely hope that you will consider donating to this effort that will help keep SS Peter & Paul's facilities preserved and thriving.

Some of the projects currently in planning are:

- Additional lighting for the Church
- New Flooring for the Church
- Landscaping & Irrigation improvements for the grounds

Please make your donation online at:  
[www.rocklincatholic.org/rmi](http://www.rocklincatholic.org/rmi) or place in the collection basket during the second collection. Thank you for your generosity!

Don't Miss This!

## 3-Night Parish Retreat

*Blessed, Broken, Shared, and Sent!*

**Feb. 1-3**

**6:30 PM**

**at SS. Peter & Paul Church**

4450 Granite Drive, Rocklin

Join us in the Social Hall after each  
presentation  
for a Wine & Cheese Reception

**Mike Patin**

The "Engagin' Cajun"



All Are Welcome  
Free Will Offering at the Door

More information: [www.rocklincatholic.org/parish-retreat](http://www.rocklincatholic.org/parish-retreat)

LET'S ALL RING IN THE NEW YEAR  
in

L.O.V.E.



**Couples of All Ages**  
**Mark your calendars and**  
**Come Join SS Peter & Paul's Couples Ministry**  
**for our first**  
**L.O.V.E. Circle of 2026**

**Friday, January 2nd**  
**from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM**  
**in the Multi-Purpose Room**

Join us as we start off the new year of L.O.V.E. with a fun evening of faith sharing, socializing, games and refreshments shared with other parish couples! We are trying to get an accurate count of attendees so we are requesting that you **RSVP by December 30th** at the following web address

<https://rocklincatholic.org/new-years-game-night>

For more information visit the ministry website at  
[www.rocklincatholic.org/love](http://www.rocklincatholic.org/love)  
or contact Katie Maynard at [kmaynard118@gmail.com](mailto:kmaynard118@gmail.com)

**VOCARE - Young Adult**  
**(Ages 18 to 35)**  
**Discernment Retreat**

*Who are you called to be?*  
**VOCARE**

Join us for a day with Mass, prayer, time for reflection, and talks about the different vocations, learn about the different charisms and ponder where God may be calling you: Married Life, Religious Life, Single Life, or Priesthood.

**When:** Saturday, February 7, 2026 from 9 AM to 9 PM  
**Where:** Christ the King Retreat Center  
6520 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights

Cost is \$100, lunch and dinner included

For more information and registration visit:  
<https://www.scd.org/event/vocare-discernment-retreat-young-adults-ages-18-35>

Registration deadline is Friday, January 23, 2026.

## BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

Fourth Sunday of Advent

### First Reading—Isaiah 7:10-14

In today's passage, the prophet Isaiah speaks to the Jewish King Ahaz, who is more interested in politics than religion. Isaiah announces that the wife of Ahaz will soon have a son, who will be a better king than his father. Christians have seen in this passage a deeper meaning, namely, Mary giving birth to Jesus.

### Second Reading—Romans 1:1-7

The opening words of the letter to the Romans are an example of the classical style of letter writing at that time: Paul first identifies himself, extends a greeting, gives some helpful information about himself, and personalizes his letter by naming the community to whom he is writing. Paul highlights the fact the Jesus was descended from the Royal House of David. Early Christians (many of them from the lower class) were particularly proud of this.

### Gospel Reading—Matthew 1:18-24

Today's gospel brings to the fore the situation of Joseph, whose culture had little tolerance for a formally betrothed woman who was found to be with child by someone other than her intended. Joseph is a righteous man, faithful to all the demands of the Jewish law. The strictest interpretation of the law would call for the death of the apparently adulterous Mary. But Joseph is unwilling to denounce her publicly and searches for a way out.

Joseph's first solution is to avoid a public trial and divorce Mary quietly, without declaring the reasons. This would preserve his reputation, but she would still be exposed to public shame. The only way to preserve Mary's honor would be to marry her and adopt the child as his own. To do this, Joseph has to forget about his own righteousness and reputation and turn empathetically toward Mary. Only when he can make her the center of his attention, allowing himself to feel her distress, can he make the divinely directed choice that will uphold her honor at the price of his own.

In so doing, Joseph mirrors the divine empathy with humankind manifested in the incarnation. Just as God rectifies the broken relationship with humanity by becoming one with us, so Joseph rescues a dishonorable and potentially deadly situation by choosing to unite himself completely to Mary. Joseph exemplifies what their son Jesus will later teach his followers: one must go far beyond what the law requires in order to truly fulfill it.