

St Bernadette Catholic Church  
3825 Don Felipe Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90008  
(323) 293-4877  
[stbernadettela.org](http://stbernadettela.org)



**First Sunday of Advent**  
**Nov. 29/30, 2025**  
**Volume 04, Issue 47**

**Mass Intentions for November 29 and 30**

The Church considers the Mass the greatest possible prayer of intercession insofar as it is the perfect offering of Christ to the Father by making present the paschal mystery of His death and resurrection.

**Saturday, November 29, 2025 at 4:00 pm**

***Florence Belgarde on the Occasion of her 90th Birthday***

**Sunday, November 30, 2025 at 10:00 am**

***Anthony Hurst for a Return to Better Health***

***And, For All Parishioners in Need of Better Health***

**Weekend Priest Presider Schedules**

**Saturday, November 29 2025**

3:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation Fr. Mbata

4:00 pm Vigil Mass Fr. Mbata

**Sunday, November 30, 2025**

**The First Sunday of Advent**

10:00 am Mass Msgr. Mac

**Saturday, December 06, 2025**

3:00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation Msgr. Mac

4:00 pm Vigil Mass Msgr. Mac

**Sunday, December 07, 2025**

**The Second Sunday of Advent**



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

For Catholics, the new Liturgical Year commences with the **First Sunday of Advent**, opening the Advent season. In this new Liturgical Year, the Church not only wishes to indicate the beginning of a period, but the

beginning of a renewed commitment to the faith by all those who follow Christ, the Lord. This time of prayer and path of penance that is so powerful, rich and intense, endeavors to give us a renewed impetus to truly welcome the message of the One who was incarnated for us. In fact, the entire Liturgy of the Advent season, will spur us to an awakening in our Christian life and will put us in a 'vigilant' disposition, to wait for Our Lord Jesus who is coming. The Season of Advent is therefore a season of vigilant waiting, preparing us to welcome the mystery of the Word Incarnate, who will give the 'Light' to the womb of the Virgin Mary, but essentially this time prepares us not only to welcome this great event but to incarnate it in our lives.

**Ways To Stay In Touch**  
**with St Bernadette Church**

**Read the Bulletin**  
**Available in Print**

**or**

**Go to the Parish Website**  
**[stbernadettela.org](http://stbernadettela.org)**

**Make sure the Parish has**  
**your email so we can**  
**FLOCKNOTE you**  
**important info.**

**Call Us (323) 293-4877**

**Listen to the Parish Pulpit**  
**Announcements. (If you**  
**don't and ask a question**  
**we think you left early).**

**If all else fails...**  
**Ask Deacon Jim...**  
**He won't know;**  
**but he knows how**  
**to find out.**



So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

Matthew 24:44 NV

### Matthew 24:37-44

**So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."**

In Matthew chapter 24, Jesus is speaking to his disciples on the Mount of Olives, overlooking the city of Jerusalem. The disciples had asked Jesus about the signs of his coming and the end of the age. Jesus begins to describe to them the events that will precede his return, including wars, famines, earthquakes, and persecution of believers. As Jesus speaks, the disciples listen intently, their faces reflecting a mix of concern and awe at the words of their beloved teacher. The sun is beginning to set, casting a warm golden glow over the landscape, while a gentle breeze rustles the leaves of the olive trees around them. In the distance, they can see the bustling city of Jerusalem, with its winding streets and bustling markets. Among the disciples gathered with Jesus are Peter, James, John, and Andrew, their eyes fixed on Jesus as he speaks with authority and wisdom. The atmosphere is charged with anticipation and a sense of urgency as Jesus warns them to be prepared for his return, emphasizing the importance of staying vigilant and faithful in the midst of trials and tribulations. The disciples hang on his every word, knowing that they are witnessing a moment of profound significance in the unfolding of God's plan for humanity. This verse reminds us of the importance of being ready and watchful for the unexpected return of Jesus. Just like a soldier who must always be prepared for any situation, we too must be constantly vigilant and faithful in our walk with God. It urges us to live our lives in a way that reflects our readiness for the second coming of Christ, being steadfast in our faith and deeds. Ask yourself, are you living your life in a manner that is pleasing to God? Are you prepared for the unexpected return of Jesus, or are you allowing distractions and worldly temptations to cloud your focus? This verse serves as a gentle reminder to keep our eyes fixed on the eternal prize and to stay committed to our faith even in the face of uncertainty. The wise virgins kept their lamps burning, always prepared for the arrival of the bridegroom.



### IMPORTANT MESSAGE

#### **Our parish is in need of Extraordinary Ministers of Communion for our Christmas Services**

An "Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion" assists in the distribution of Holy Communion, either during the Mass, or afterwards, such as to housebound persons.

**Interested?**

**Please Contact  
Deacon Jim  
OR?**

**The Parish Office  
(323) 293-4877**

*You need not be an existing EMC.  
Training will only take a few minutes of your time.*

### St John Damascene Priest and Doctor – December 04

John of Damascus was a prominent Christian Theologian. The Catholic Church regards him as a Doctor of the Church, often referred to as the "Doctor of the Assumption" due to his writings on the Assumption of Mary. John possibly had a career as a civil servant for the Caliph in Damascus before his ordination. He then became a priest and monk at the Mar Saba monastery near Jerusalem. One source suggests John left Damascus to become a monk around 706. All agree John of Damascus undertook a spirited defense of holy images in three separate publications. The earliest of these works, his *Apologetic Treatises against those Decrying the Holy Images*, secured his reputation. He not only attacked the Byzantine emperor, but adopted a simplified style that allowed the controversy to be followed by the common people, stirring rebellion among the iconoclasts. Decades after his death, John's writings would play an important role during the Second Council of Nicaea (787), which convened to settle the icon dispute.



### Did You Know—November 29-30 Facts about Community Grooming

There is a third type of grooming: community grooming. In community grooming, a predator creates a controlled environment, projecting an image of a responsible, caring adult. They mimic the behavior of good people around them, to get closer to children and then select a victim. Adults often have trouble seeing potentially troubling behavior, because they have been groomed to see the predator as an upstanding person. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "The Grooming Process" at [lacatholics.org/did-you-know](http://lacatholics.org/did-you-know). **If you would like to learn more about VIRTUS® or sign up for a training session please visit, [lacatholics.org/education-and-training](http://lacatholics.org/education-and-training).**

#### Recognise the Stages of Grooming





**DONUT Miss This Opportunity  
No Set Up, No Pick Up, Just Pay Up  
And? Drink Up.**

**All you need to do is Donate,  
all or part of, the Weekly Cost  
(about \$100) to the church.  
We will take care of the rest.  
For more info just call the Parish  
Office (323)293-4877**

**This week's Donut Heroes  
Margarita Hurst & Alice Jackson**



**The Purpose of Advent:  
What Does Advent Mean?**

In Christianity, Advent refers to the period of four weeks leading up to Christmas. It begins on the Sunday closest to November 30 (St. Andrew's Day) and ends on December 24. It is a time of anticipation and preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas Day. Some people may know that the Advent season focuses on expectation and think it serves as an anticipation of Christ's birth in the season leading up to Christmas. This is part of the story, but there's more to Advent. The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, which means "coming" or "arrival," which translates to the Greek word *parousia*. Scholars believe that during the 4th and 5th centuries in Spain and Gaul, Advent was a season of preparation for the baptism of new Christians at the January feast of Epiphany, the celebration of God's incarnation represented by the visit of the Magi to the baby Jesus (Matthew 2:1), his baptism in the Jordan River by John the Baptist (John 1:29), and his first miracle at Cana (John 2:1). During this season of preparation, Christians would spend 40 days in penance, prayer, and fasting to prepare for this celebration. Originally, there was little connection between Advent and Christmas.



**Saint Francis Xavier, Priest —  
December 03, 2025**

St. Francis Xavier was a Navarrese-Basque Roman Catholic missionary born in the Kingdom of Navarre on April 7, 1506. His father was a privy counselor and finance minister to King John III of Navarre. He was the youngest in his family and resided in a castle which still partially stands today and is in the possession of the Jesuit order. As the young Francis grew, he was surrounded by war. Navarre was the target of a campaign by King Ferdinand of Aragon and Castile, and the kingdom was eventually conquered. When the war stopped and Francis came of age, he was sent to study at the University of Paris. While there he roomed with his friend, Peter Favre. The pair met and were heavily influenced by Ignatius of Loyola, who encouraged Francis to become a priest. In 1530, Francis Xavier earned his master's degree, and went on to teach philosophy at the University of Paris. On August 15, 1534, Francis Xavier along with Peter Favre, and several other friends, made vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience. The men planned to travel to the Holy Land to convert non-believers. Francis Xavier started his study of theology that same year and was ordained on June 24, 1537. Pope Paul III approved the formation of their order in 1540, which became The Society of Jesus.

The order is more popularly known as the Jesuits. Modern scholarship has dispelled many of the legends connected with St. Francis Xavier and has also defended him against his critics.



**LITURGY SCHEDULE  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 01  
TO SUNDAY, DECEMBER 07,  
2025  
THE SECOND SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT**

**Monday, December 01, 2025**

7:30 am Adoration  
8:00 Communion Service  
Live-Streamed and In-Person

**Tuesday, December 02, 2025**

7:30 am Adoration  
8:00 Communion Service  
Live-Streamed and In-Person

**Wednesday, December 03, 2025**

**St. Francis Xavier, Priest**  
7:30 am Adoration  
8:00 am Mass  
Live-Streamed and In-Person

**Thursday, December 04, 2025**

**St. John Damascene, Priest and  
Doctor of the Church**  
7:30 am Adoration  
8:00 Mass  
In-Person only

**Friday, December 05, 2025**

**First Friday of the Month**  
7:30 am Adoration  
8:00 Mass  
In-Person only

**Saturday, December 06, 2025**

**St Nicholas, Bishop**  
3:00 pm Confessions  
4:00 pm Vigil Mass

**Sunday, December 07, 2025**

**The Second Sunday of Advent**

10:00 am Mass  
Coffee & Donuts  
Sponsored by  
Margarita Hurst  
and Alice Jackson

(Sacraments as Scheduled)

[Mass Intentions](#)

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[j.carper.sbcc@gmail.com](mailto:j.carper.sbcc@gmail.com)

\*LOTW: Liturgy of the Word

**ST BERNADETTE  
PARISH STAFF**

**DCN JIM CARPER, PLD  
MSR LORETO GONZALES  
FR MARCELLINUS  
MBATA**

**DCN EMILE ADAMS, RIP  
DAVID CHRISTENSEN  
EMANUEL HOLDER  
CLARENCE DIXON  
MARGARITA HURST  
MARINA AYALA**

**OFFICE VOLUNTEERS  
TERESA CARPER**

**Join us for Bible Study**

**1st and 3rd Thursday  
1:00 pm & 7:00 pm  
Via ZOOM**

**1:00 pm Study  
ID: 87233018319  
Passcode: 689472**

**Leader/Contact:  
Carolyn James  
(323) 394-5441**

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**7:00 pm Study  
ID 811 5705 8134  
Passcode: 6FuFf7**

**Leaders  
Dacosta Collymore  
Clarence Dixon  
Contact: Elsie Dixon  
(310) 410-2962**



**Christmas Poinsettias**



Please purchase your red Christmas poinsettias now as a tribute in memory of a loved one or adorn your home or office in celebration of the birth of Christ. Tribute poinsettias will be used to decorate the church during the Christmas Season. You may purchase now until December 16, 2025. Write your check to St. Bernadette Church and put in the memo section "Christmas Poinsettias". This is a very short time to purchase so we ask that you make your decision within the time frame mentioned above. For more information contact the Rector's Office @ 323-293-4877.

Purchaser's Name (please print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

In memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

6 1/2" w/pot cover -- \$20.00 each

Number Purchasing \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Of Purchase \_\_\_\_\_



**ADVENT???**

Why Does the Date Vary  
& Why November 30?

Advent begins on the Sunday closest to the Feast of Saint Andrew the Apostle (November 30). It always includes four Sundays before Christmas Day, so depending on the calendar, it can begin as early as November 27 or as late as December 3.

This means the date shifts each year— but the spirit of the season remains the same: preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ.

**Junior Daughters  
Annual  
Holiday Gifting  
Service Project  
Benefitting  
View Park  
Convalescent  
Home**

**Items Needed:**

**Beanies**

**Socks**

**Hand Sanitizer**

**Crossword Puzzle  
Books**

**Tissue Paper**

**Unscented Hand  
Lotion**

**Making Christmas  
a  
little brighter**

**Jesus is the Reason for the Season**

"Come home to St. Bernadette for Christmas"  
for Our Annual Holiday Dinner Dance.

**Event Details**  
Date: Saturday, December 6th, 2025  
Time: 5:00 PM – 9:00 PM  
Location: Saint Bernadette Parish Hall  
3825 Don Felipe Drive Los Angeles CA 90008  
Adult Ticket \$50/ Child Ticket \$25

Bring your family and friends to gather in faith, fellowship, and festive cheer as we celebrate the true meaning of Christmas together!

Hosted by the St. Bernadette Christmas Committee  
323-293-4877 or  
Call/ text Lorraine Sampson 323-632-0964