

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying,
"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"
It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:
A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight his paths.

2nd Sunday of Advent | Matthew 3:1-3

WELCOME

St. Thérèse, Little Flower Catholic Church

WE ARE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE!

WE CARE ABOUT GETTING TO KNOW YOU:

Let us know what you are looking for and a member of our team will reach out about how we can walk with you.

CONNECT NOW >
scan the code or visit
littleflowerchurch.org/connect



OUR MISSION

Driven by the missionary zeal of St. Thérèse, the Lord anoints us to proclaim to the poor and broken the good news that Jesus calls us to abundant life in Him.



WHAT WE'RE UP TO

ADVENT 2022

entering into this holy time of preparation



December 1

SJC Advent Hunger Series:
Cultivate Culinary
7:00 pm | parish center, rm 2/3

December 8

The Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
(Holy Day of Obligation)
Vigil Mass at 6:00 pm on Dec. 7
Mass at 8:30 am & 12:00 pm

December 15

SJC Advent Hunger Series:
Food Bank of Northern Indiana
7:00 pm | parish center, rm 2/3

December 3

Belovedness Advent Retreat
9:30 am - 4:30 pm

SJC Advent Hunger Series:
Hunger & Catholic Social Teaching
7:00 pm | parish center, rm 2/3

December 19

Advent Penance Service
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Find resources for entering into this season by visiting our website: littleflowerchurch.org/living-the-liturgical-year

LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Beloved,

Happy Advent! This holy season always fills me with joy and awe at the same time. I am joyful because of what comes after advent, the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. I am however awed at the thought of what this entails on the part of God. I consider myself very unworthy of the love which advent signals. How do I explain that the God of the Universe, whom the heavens and the earth cannot contain, chooses to dwell among us and in our hearts? I tremble at the thought of the second coming of Christ at the end of time to judge the world. For this reason, I am grateful that the Church gives us this season to prepare our hearts for that day and hour which no one, neither the angels, nor the Son knows (Matthew 24:36; Mark 13:32)

The season of advent speaks to me of the Love the Father has for all his creatures. Advent is the prelude to the great mystery of the Incarnation. In sending his Son Jesus Christ into the world, the Father made visible his eternal will to come to us, who are unable to ascend to him on our own. Advent helps us to prepare for the great exchange that took place once and for all, when the transcendent God took on human nature and became immanent so that we can be taken into the community of love that is the Blessed Trinity. God became man in order that man may become God. This is a mystery too big for my frail mind.

The gap between God and humans, between heaven and earth, is infinite; and God's transcendence would crush us if not mediated. The Incarnation was therefore God's way of bridging the infinite gap between heaven and earth. It was the wedding between the eternal and temporal orders. God reached out to us, who are most undeserving, yet loved infinitely. This is why the season of Advent should evoke a sense of awe and gratitude. We should marvel at the love in the heart of the Father, that he loves us regardless of our constant rebellion against divine love. And this love has no limits.

I would like to suggest a few practices to assist you with your advent preparation for the coming of Christ.

1. Take some time during this Advent to make a good confession and repent of all known sin. Our Advent Penance Service is December 19 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Several priests will be in the church for individual confessions.

Forgive any known hurts and ask forgiveness from those you have offended.

2. Read and meditate on one chapter of St. Luke's Gospel each day.

3. Spend at least one hour each week in adoration before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

4. Do a quick scan of your closet and give away clothes you no longer wear, or have not worn for some time, to people who might be in need due to the cold weather, or because they cannot afford it. If we are sincere, we do not need most of what we have.

5. We are grateful to the family who have generously donated Holy Moments, a book by Matthew Kelly for our parishioners' spiritual growth during advent and Christmas. May God bless them for their kindness. Please take one copy per family and read it together.

6. Pray the Saint Andrew Christmas Novena daily with your family (beginning from the Feast of St. Andrew, November 30th until Christmas Day, December 25th). The Novena prayer is traditionally said 15 times each day. The prayer can be found below:

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. In that hour, vouchsafe, O my God! to hear my prayer and grant my desires, through the merits of Our Savior Christ, and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.

May Jesus bless you, and may Our Lady protect you!



Fr. Julius

Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedules

December 24th/25th - Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

Saturday, December 24th - 4:30pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm
Sunday, December 25th - 9:00 am

December 31/January 1 - Mary, Mother of God

Saturday, December 31st - 5:30 pm
Sunday, January 1 - 9:00 am, 11:30 am (NO 8:00 pm)

WE ARE A COMMUNITY THAT
WORSHIPS TOGETHER

Scripture Readings For the Week of December 04, 2022

Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9;
Mt 3:1-12

Monday Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk
5:17-26

Tuesday Memorial of Saint Nicholas, Bishop

Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 & 10ac, 11-12, 13;
Mt 18:12-14

**Wednesday Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and
Doctor of the Church**

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10; Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6,
11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Friday Memorial of Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday Memorial of Our Lady of Loreto

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt
17:9a, 10-13

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.; Jas 5:7-10;
Mt 11:2-11

Christmas Eve Mass & Nativity Pageant

All children are invited to participate!

3 - 10 years old

- Nativity Roles
(Holy Family,
Shepherd,
angel, etc.)

11+ years old

- Mass servers
- Reflection
Reading
- Gift Bearers
- Greeters

Pageant Rehearsal - Dec. 18th, 10 - 11:20 am
Mass & Pageant - Dec. 24th

- Pageant starting at 3:45 pm
- Mass beginning at 4:30 pm



Please contact Alexis to sign up or with any
questions: alexis@littleflowerchurch.org

This week's Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 3

5:30 pm †Fr. Jeff Largent

Sunday, December 4

9:00 am †Matthew Vu Phong Pham
11:30 am The Parish Family of St. Thérèse, Little Flower
8:00 pm †Bill Perkins

Monday, December 5

8:30 am †Deceased members of the Byrne-O'Malley families

Tuesday, December 6

8:30 am In honor of the Wedding Anniversary
of Jeanne & Leon Bendit

Wednesday, December 7

8:30 am †Pearl Koczwara
6:00 pm †Nancy Dickey

Thursday, December 8 - Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30 am No intention at this time
12:00 pm No intention at this time

Friday, December 9

8:30 am Miracle for Katie Schwab

Saturday, December 10

8:00 am No intention at this time
5:30 pm †Veronica Marie Espiritu

Sunday, December 11

9:00 am †Linda Konecny
11:30 am †Mr. & Mrs. Sonney Kerr
8:00 pm The Parish Family of St. Thérèse, Little Flower

An Evening of Hope & Healing for those in a Season of Infertility

*Thursday, December 8th, 7:00 pm,
Sacred Heart Parish Center at Notre Dame*

If you are in a season of infertility, please join us for An Evening of Hope and Healing on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. We will begin with Mass in the chapel followed by time to pray silently, to be prayed over by members of the prayer ministry team, or to speak with someone and be prayed over in private. The evening will end with fellowship and refreshments in the parish center dining room. This event is sponsored by Marriage & Family Ministry. For questions or more information, please contact Lisa Everett at leverett@diocesefwsb.org.



Advent Reflections

God has a passionate desire to bring all men to Him, renewing all things.

The prophets often spoke in the midst of sorrow and confusion, the aftermath of destruction and displacement, and when God's people had turned away. They relayed His call for repentance and reform, the hope of restoration, and the promise of all nations coming to know Him.

Isaiah declared images of peace, and restored relationships – between God and man, men with each other, and creation. Joel proclaimed the promise of God's Spirit being poured out on all people.

In our broken world, we retain these longings: For an end to violence and injustice, for people to return to God or to encounter Him for the first time, and for a deeper communion with God ourselves. As much as these longings can make us impatient, God desires them even more than we do. He is patient with His timing (2 Peter 3:9), and relies on our cooperation in order to fulfill His plans.

Jesus said His family are those who do the will of His Father. Although it is rare to be greeted by an angel announcing God's will, God comes to us daily through the Holy Spirit, speaking to our hearts in numerous ways. It is, perhaps, the humble and courageous, like the Holy Family, who, because they have placed the Lord at the center of their lives, most fully respond with the gift of self to God and others.

As we make more room for God in our hearts this Advent, may we find peace in His words of hope. And may we yield more fully to the Spirit, bringing good news to the poor, soothing the broken-hearted, setting free the captive, and comforting the mournful until all are united in the family of God.



Paula Lent

Parishioner

Register for Our Winter Bible Study: The Eucharist in Scripture

Journey through Scripture with us on Friday mornings following Mass and Adoration in the Upper Room.

10:00 am ~ 11:30 am | January 13, 2023 ~ February 17, 2023

Visit littleflowerchurch.org/info
or scan the code to register!



Celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Spanish Heart Dance and Music Company will present a luncheon/theater concert celebrating Our Lady of Guadalupe, Sunday, December 11 after the 11:30 Mass in the Parish Center.

The Knights of Columbus will host a taco bar. This is a fund raiser for Little Flower Church and the Ultra Sound Fund for the Women's Center.

Theater tickets are: Adults \$10.00; Children 12 and under \$5.00. The taco bar will be a separate price.

For more information, contact: Carolynn Hine-Edington (Phone: 574-329-2977)



Join us for Simbang Gabi!

"Simbang Gabi" which literally means "Night Mass" or "Misa de Gallo" in Filipino (Tagalog) is traditionally celebrated for 9-days at early dawn usually when the rooster crows and before the farming folks start their work in the rice fields. It is a series of novena masses to our Blessed Mother, asking her intercession to help us with our temporal and spiritual needs as we prepare for the coming of her son, Jesus. The Filipino faithful in diaspora or those who reside in wintry countries celebrate this for at least one night to express the people's faith, hope, joy and love as they await their Savior's coming.

All are welcome to join us for 5:30 pm Mass here at Little Flower and a "Noche Buena" (feast!) following in the Parish Center until 10:00 pm!

WE ARE A COMMUNITY THAT SERVES THE POOR



St. Margaret's House GIVING TREE

Join in the spirit of giving!

Purchase a Christmas gift for a mother or child in need! Pick one (or more!) ornaments off the giving tree in the back of the church.

Please place the requested gifts (unwrapped + with ornament) under the tree by December 18th. Thank you!

WE ARE A COMMUNITY THAT EXTENDS THE KINGDOM OF GOD



SAVE THE DATE!
COOKIES WITH SANTA

DECEMBER 18TH
12:30-2:00 PM
PARISH CENTER



Hunger Series Continues

Hunger was the number one issue raised by parishioners in the Social Justice Commission survey on charity and justice issues. Don't miss sessions two and three of the SJC sponsored series on hunger: Hunger Is Not a Game. Thursdays, December 8 and 15, 7:00pm in Rooms 2/3 of the Parish Center.

December 8 – Fr. William Orbih will speak on Catholic Social Teaching on hunger, referring both to Scripture and documents of the Church.

December 15 – Marijo Martinec, Executive Director and CEO of the Food Bank of Northern Indiana, will speak on the scope of the problem of hunger in our region and efforts to address it.

LET'S STOCK OUR FOOD PANTRY!

Add these most needed items to your shopping list and drop them off in the baskets in the back of the church.

- DICED TOMATOES
- TUNA
- SPAGHETTI SAUCE
- DRY CHILI MIX
- DRY RICE
- DRY BEANS

THANK YOU!



Breakfast with St. Nicholas

December 11th, 9:00 am - 12:30 pm,
St. Patrick Parish Center, 308 S. Scott St

Games & prizes for kids

Adult Ticket \$12.00

Child (under 12) \$6.00

Family Ticket \$30.00

Menu: Pancakes, Sausage, eggs, hash browns, & coffee

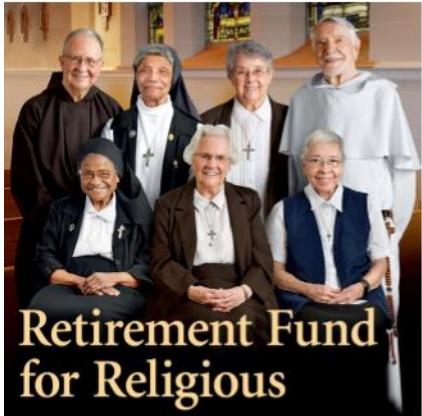
Tickets available at door or at Parish Office (331 S. Scott St)

Stewardship of Sacrificial Giving: October

Adult Collection	\$ 43,971.00
Loose Collection	\$ 13,154.89
Total Collections	\$ 57,125.69
(Under)/Over Budget	\$ (1,207.64)
Year to Date Under Budget	\$ (30,556.13)

Capital Campaign	\$ 911.00
Food Pantry	\$ 1,270.00
Whatsoever You Do	\$ 10,962.90

Thank you for your sacrificial generosity!



Retirement Fund for Religious

Retirement Fund for Aging Religious

Aging religious have offered a lifetime of service. Most do not have adequate retirement funding. You can help. Please donate to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection at Mass next weekend. Learn more at retiredreligious.org.

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Reconciliation Times

Monday, Wednesday & Friday 9:00-9:30 am
Saturday 8:30 to 9:30 am, and 4:30 to 5:00 pm

Eucharistic Exposition & Adoration

Monday, Wednesday, & Friday 9:00-9:30 am
Saturday 8:30-9:30 am

Additional Sacraments

Baptism & Anointing of the Sick—Contact the office for more information.
Marriage—Please contact the office at least 6 months in advance.

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Closed Wednesdays 1:00-2:00 pm

Bishop's Appeal Update

Thank you to everyone who has already contributed to the Annual Bishop's Appeal. We have received \$49,619 in pledges toward our goal of \$78,564. We still need \$28,945 to reach our goal. If you have not donated yet, please consider supporting this year's appeal. You can drop your pledge/payment in the collection basket at Mass or mail/drop off at the parish office. You can also donate online at www.diocesefwsb.org/aba look for Little Flower, South Bend in the dropdown bar so the donation will be credited to our parish. The parish is still responsible for the total \$78,564 to the diocese. The amount short will be taken out of the parish general fund. Any overage will be used for capital improvements. Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you to our bulletin Sponsor of the Week:

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OUR STAFF

Pastor Rev. Julius Okojie
217-8848 fatherjulius@littleflowerchurch.org

Parochial Vicar Rev. William Ikhianosimhe Orbih
272-7070 fatherwilliam@littleflowerchurch.org

Parish Business Manager Gail Waltman
243-3443 gail@littleflowerchurch.org

Director of Evangelization Abby Kyle
243-3441 abby@littleflowerchurch.org

Director of Catechesis Alexis Duffy
243-3439 alexis@littleflowerchurch.org

Pastoral Associate For Discipleship Brenda McDonald
272-7070 brenda@littleflowerchurch.org

Food Pantry Director Janet Lentz
243-3438 janet@littleflowerchurch.org

Director of Music & Liturgy Joseph Higginbotham
272-7070 joe@littleflowerchurch.org

Communications Coordinator Megan Gettinger
272-7070 megan@littleflowerchurch.org

Office Assistant Jenny Peterson
272-7070 jenny@littleflowerchurch.org

Maintenance Darlene Pruitt-Taylor and Roy Lawson
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Gregory Calhoun & Family

George Grochowski & Family
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Barbara and Richard Tjarksen
Ouellette & Parent Families

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