



Eucharistic Food For Thought for This First Sunday of Advent 2023

How can we look at today's readings with the sharp eye of the watchful gatekeeper? And what is our responsibility, as God's People, to respond to God's initiative in our lives (and in our history)?

We can keep this season of joy and be watchful because we too will be challenged by some terrifying events in our world and in our families, just as Mary and Joseph were.

For it is within this season of invitation and giving, that we will be faced with some strange dilemmas and choices.

How can we stand in the office party, the school assembly, the tree lot, or drive along I-44 on a snowy or rainy Friday, or in rush hour traffic of city streets, where we are confronted with the homeless and hungry pointed out on Christ the King Sunday, and still sing in our hearts:

"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"?

We can. But only by quietly smiling at God's Eucharistic paradox as we prepare for the greatest paradox of all: God coming to us in our own flesh, in the flesh of a tiny baby born in the little town of Bethlehem, the king of all creation. Yet he, too, is homeless and hungry.

Because of this Incarnation we are blessed with the fulfillment of this ancient plea, "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down!"

During Advent, we are not waiting to see if Christ will be born again this year. We are waiting to see how Christ will be born anew in each one of us and in our world. And this paradox is best pondered as we sit in adoration before the Eucharist today, before or after Mass, on this the first Sunday of Advent.

Yours in Christ,

Deacon Hicks

HOSPITALIZED OR HOMEBOUND?

Contact Father or the parish office to continue receiving pastoral care.

The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive this Sacrament. When the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is given, the hoped-for effect is that, if it be God's will, the person be physically healed of illness.

- from the United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

HOLY GHOST CATHOLIC CHURCH



**120 W. Sequoyah Avenue
Vinita, Oklahoma**

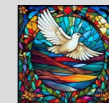
Mass: Sunday 10:00 am
Wednesday 6:00 pm

PARISH STAFF

- REV. MICHAEL E. CASHEN, Pastor
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EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Fr. Valentine Ndebilie	St. Mark, Pryor	918.825.4186
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Fr. Leonard Higgins	St. Catherine, Nowata	918.534.3420

THE HOLY POST

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 3, 2023

TODAY'S READINGS

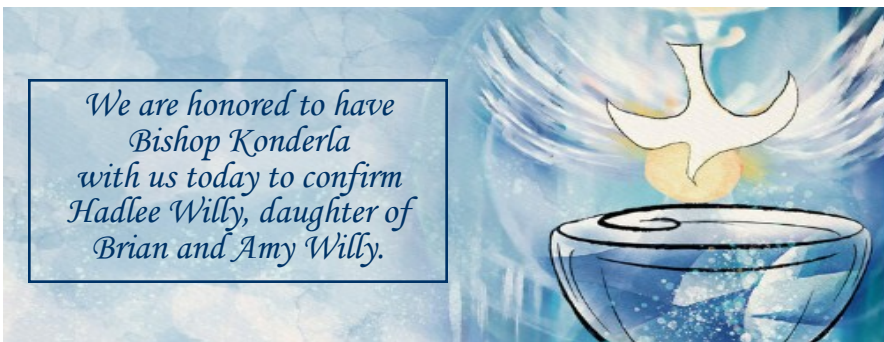
FIRST READING: Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down!
(Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7)

PSALM: "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved."
(Psalm 80)

SECOND READING: We wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.
(1 Corinthians 1:3-9)

GOSPEL: Be watchful! You do not know when the Lord of the house is coming.
(Mark 13:33-37)

"Watch!" In today's Gospel, Jesus warns us that he will come again when we least expect. He is referring to the end of the world, but in truth he can also come to us in our hearts at any time: During a traumatic event, in a chance encounter with a stranger, or even through someone who's prematurely spreading the Christmas spirit. We are reminded that Christ's coming was not a single, one-time-only event. May we remain vigilant for our Lord's coming -- in whatever way or whatever time it may happen.
- Pastoral Patterns



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SNACK SCHEDULE Bring to CCD Center before Mass

December 3: Carolyn Hicks, Angie Keath

December 10: Terri Kemohah

December 17: Father Cashen

NOVEMBER 2023							DECEMBER 2023						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3	4					1	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
26	27	28	29	30			31						

PARISH SCHEDULE

SUNDAY MASS Dec 3
1st Sunday of Advent 10 am

- Hadlee Willy Confirmation
- RE Classes in CCD Center

WEDNESDAY Dec 6
No Mass

FRIDAY (Holy Day of Obligation) Dec 8
The Immaculate Conception 6 pm

SUNDAY MASS Dec 10
2nd Sunday of Advent 10 am

- RE Classes in CCD Center

WEDNESDAY Dec 13
Weekday Mass (Note Time Change) 5 pm

SUNDAY MASS Dec 17
3rd Sunday of Advent 10 am

- RE Classes
- Parish Christmas Potluck Luncheon

WEDNESDAY Dec 20
Weekday Mass 6 pm

+ Park Carter
+ K.C. Montana Randolph

PRAYER LIST

Jeanette Crowell, Roben Carter,
Gail Curley, Desiree & Caleb
Curry, Mae Davis, Ann Geyer,
Jeanne Heidlage, Karen
Janssen, Nancy Keene, Tate
Riney, Norah Sisemore,
Roseline Brown Sparks,
Alice Nolen-Walston, Debbie
Page, Jimmie & Lynnda Sooter,
Jimmy Sweeney



Marines: Gage Gardner
Air Force: Zerek Albarez,
Eric Wilks, Adam Crane,
Cale Schumacher, Michael
Ecterhoff, Tiffany Calabasa



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, Dec. 17 after Mass

PARISH POTLUCK

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Shout & Sack provides meat,
scalloped potatoes, green
beans, a green salad and rolls.

Bring a side dish or dessert.

Sign-up sheets posted!



POINSETTIA DONATIONS

Pick up a donation envelope and form
in the entrances for our Christmas
Poinsettia fund, and write in the
names of your loved ones to honor
and/or remember this Christmas.
Donations benefit *A NewLeaf*
and our *Ladies CCW* group.

SACRAMENTS

Confession: By appointment only. To schedule, call 918.256.2281.

Baptism: Contact Father several weeks in advance.

Marriage: Contact Father 6 months prior to wedding. Do not schedule a date before talking with Father.