



Saint John XXIII University Parish/Catholic Center

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The Paulist Fathers Serving the University of Tennessee

2nd Sunday of Advent

Dec 7, 2025

*Is 11:1-10;
Rm 15:4-9;
Mt 3:1-12*

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday at 5:05 pm

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30 pm

Sunday: 9 am, 11:15 am, 5:30 pm, and 9 pm

Starting Dec 14th NO 5:30 or 9 PM

Masses on Sunday

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday and Thursday - 4:00 pm to 4:45 pm
or by appointment

MARRIAGE PREPARATION

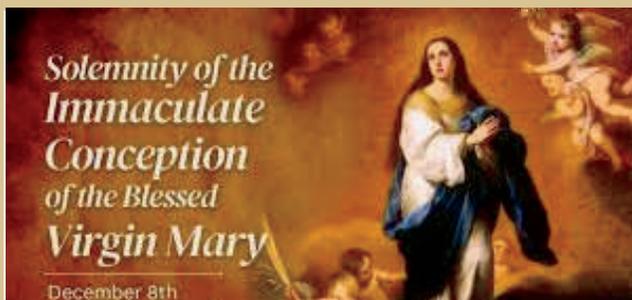
Congratulations!

Please call the office at least 4 months before
your planned wedding date.

WANT TO BE CATHOLIC?

Please contact Fr. Rich at

(865) 523-7931 or rmwhitney3@gmail.com



**Monday,
December
8th
Mass -
5:05 pm
and 7 pm**



Thank you to all who helped with the Thanksgiving Dinner! It as a huge success!



Poinsettias



If you would like to make a donation for poinsettias in memory of a loved one this Christmas, please either put your donation in the collection basket or give it to one of the priests. **Remember to make your checks payable to St. John XXIII and designate in the memo line "Christmas Flowers" and write the name of the person you are honoring.** We will publish the names in our bulletin.



Matching Donations Opportunity:

We have a unique opportunity to raise some very significant support for our ministries! A generous benefactor has pledged to match **all contributions to St. John XXIII between Dec. 1 (Monday) and Dec. 12th (Friday).**

You can give online through our website, you can mail us a check, or contribute in cash, if you prefer. All contributions during this time will be matched up to a total of \$30,000. **Please note on your checks and online notes that this is a contribution to the Matching Gift Sunday.** Thank you for all the ways you support the parish and our campus ministry!

Christmas Events and Holiday Mass Schedule

**Starting Sunday, December 14
No Sunday 5:30 pm, 9 pm Mass or
Sunday Supper until January 18th**

Decorate St. John XXIII for Christmas
Sunday, December 21
after the 11:15 am Mass (lunch will be
provided)

Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 24th
4:45 pm - Christmas Pageant and
Christmas Eve Mass
9:00 pm - Evening Mass

Christmas Day
Thursday, December 25th
Mass - 10:00 am

Church and offices closed
December 26-Jan 2
No Daily 5:05 pm Mass

New Year's Day
Mass - Monday 10:00 am

The Second Sunday of Advent

I believe we could search through manger scenes, blow-up figures, and pictures we will see in the next few weeks and not find one that includes John the Baptist. Wasn't he a new-born infant, a cousin of Jesus when Mary had her baby? How did he make it into the Gospel on this Second Sunday of Advent? Dressed in camel's hair clothing and a leather belt, he lives in the desert by the Jordan River calling people to repent and sternly warning them to change.

Change is however a theme in the Christmas story by Charles Dickens. Scrooge is wealthy, unkind, unable to feel the spirit of this season due to his greed for money. The Ghosts of Christmas called him to change by opening the eyes of his heart to the emptiness of his future.

Pay attention to delight, a feeling born of the fullness of love and beauty. You will sense it in the awe and joy of children. We can feel it in the imagination and energy of parents and lovers in planning special moments for their children or beloved. You have experienced those feelings or seen them in others. They are born of our God who lovingly sent this world its savior. That feeling is loosed among us at Christmas and we share it willingly.

Think of the compassion and tenderness people demonstrate toward the poor, the homeless, and the downtrodden. God's Spirit of love overshadows us all now, healing and comforting those who have been "mourning in lowly exile here" as the song says. And that Spirit animates us mustering gifts, visits, meals, and celebrations that take special care to include people usually excluded.

John says, He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Let that happen now to your heart so Christ will shine forth tenderly from you at Christmas. Let's pray also that this Spirit will govern those who exercise authority in our families, our cities, our state and our nation. Charles Mulligan

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Outward signs instituted by Christ to give grace" is the often-memorized definition of sacrament, but through more than five decades of reform we have rediscovered the power of sacrament to bestow grace by reshaping our lives as individuals and communities. Not so long ago, most people were not attentive to the nature of sacrament as an act of the Church, a power that flows from the Body of Christ. Fifty years ago, we were inclined to see a sacrament as an encounter between Christ and an individual.

Today, we see that definition does not go far enough. God's grace is not a trickle, but a gushing torrent washing over the whole Church. Like a photographer pulling back the camera for a broader picture, today we are not only interested in the person who is being baptized, reconciled, or anointed. We think about how celebrating a sacrament transforms a community. We think about the grace given by Christ to the community that baptizes or marries or ordains or confirms. Sacraments are for the good of the community. Even when it appears to be a private, hidden moment, as in individual confession, a sacrament is always for the sake of the whole body, always more than "meets the eye."

—Rev. James Field

Christmas Pageant

Every year, the children of our parish put on **a Christmas Pageant at 4:45 PM before the 5:00 PM Christmas Eve mass.**

It's always so much fun for parishioners of all ages and is a wonderful way to celebrate our community and the joy of Christmas. If your child would like to participate in this year's pageant, please contact Delaney Klee

at
delaneyklee121@gmail.com



Advent Tree

This year we are again blessed to sponsor gifts for adults with developmental disabilities. We have several ornaments on our Advent Tree. **Remember to please sign out the ornament on our list, then return your wrapped gifts with the name tag attached by Monday, December 15th.**

St. John XXIII Staff

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Scripture Readings: 

Sunday

Second Sunday of Advent

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

Monday

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

Tuesday

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

Wednesday

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

Thursday

Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday

Zech 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12-1-6a, 10ab; Judith 13:18bcde, 19;
Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday

Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

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



NEXT WEEK'S EVENTS

Dec 8 - Dec 14



Monday: Feast of the Immaculate Conception

5:05 pm - Daily Mass
7:00 PM - Mass
4:00 pm - Confessions

Tuesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Wednesday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Finals Finish - Students leave

Thursday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

4:00 pm - Confessions

Friday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Saturday: 5:05 pm - Daily Mass

Sunday: 9:00 am - Mass

10:00 am - Resident Community Bible Study

11:15 am - Mass



If you still have not signed up for Flocknote please do so now. We will be using this to help with announcing weather closures and other immediate changes to schedules. We also send out a weekly email through this to keep you informed.



If you're not a fan of QR codes, you can use your computer to go to: <https://l.ead.me/bf4g2M> and register.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Let us pray for peace and justice throughout the world. Other prayers are needed for Allen McGinley, August Hunter Newell, Bernice Flowers, Bruce Whitcomb, Cheryl & John Newell, Diego Puigserver, Eleanore Hartrick and Family, Ellen Wavrek, Erin Evans, Fiorina Buckner, Fr. John Mulligan, Fred Boucher, Grace and Jack Newell, Gwen Sweden, Jim Romain, John R Sweat, Jordan Family, Julia Biagiarelli, Karen Pearson Rich, Kathy Buckingham, Kevin and Melissa Brott, Mary Ann Haggerty, Mary Pat Hable, Michelle & Scott O'Connell, Pamela Roane, Pauline Lemieux, Peg Hart, Pete, Newell, Raegan Burcham-Hall, Shelly McDonald, Sonny, Stephen Tracy, Susan Herndon, Tom Mulligan, Tom O'Brien, Troy Tagget, Vance Hutchings, Vic and Barbara Kaminsky, and those serving in the military, residents of NHC North, and for any too reserved to let us know.

To watch the 11:15 Mass Online, visit our Website at John23rd.org, where you will find a link at the bottom of the page. or Use the QR Code.



Donate Online to St. John XXIII!
 Your help is needed for us to continue to serve the students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends at the University of Tennessee.

We are contracted with Vanco Services for the processing of both one time and on-going electronic donations!
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