



# OLC

EST. 1911

# OUR LADY OF CZĘSTOCHOWA CATHOLIC CHURCH

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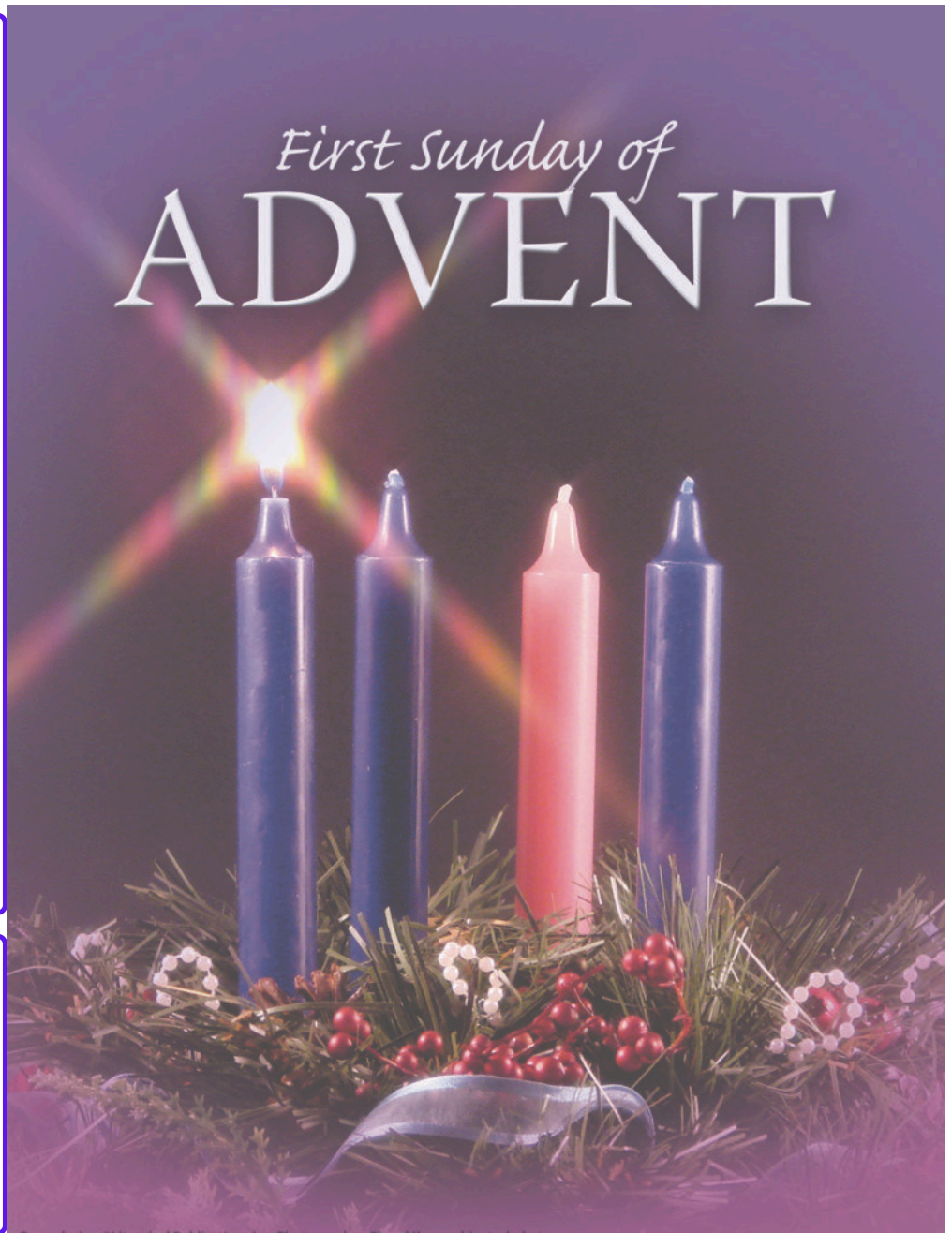
www.olcj.org

**Office Hours**

Monday-Wed., Friday

9:30 am-5:30 pm

Thurs. 11:00 am-2:00 pm



First Sunday of Advent- November 30, 2025

Dear Parish Family,

As we enter the First Sunday of Advent and step into a new liturgical year, I want to begin with thanksgiving. Advent is often described as a season of longing and preparation, and it certainly is, but before we lift our hearts to God in expectation, we must acknowledge the countless ways God has already been present in our lives.

Hopefully we were able to do this last week at the Thanksgiving table, just as the Church asks us to do the same as we gather at the Eucharistic table. Advent starts with gratitude because Advent starts with God, who comes close, God who keeps His promises, God who does not give up on His people.

When we look back on this year, its blessings, surprises, losses, and unfinished stories, many of us experienced moments of clarity, where God's goodness was obviously near. Others weathered storms that forced us to lean on God more than ever. Some are still waiting for answers, yearning for healing or reconciliation. In all situations, especially the painful ones, God has woven grace into the fabric of our lives. Gratitude does not mean pretending everything was easy; it does mean recognizing that we are not alone in our struggles.

One of the most beautiful truths about our faith is that no one prepares for Christ alone, He gathers us into a people. I invite you to let gratitude renew the bonds that hold us together by thanking someone who encouraged you or reconnect with someone who drifted away. It can be as easy as offering kindness where there has been tension and mercy towards someone who has hurt you. The Body of Christ is strengthened by every word and gesture of love.

Embrace a simple Advent practice for the next few weeks. Choose one specific thing each day to thank God for. It may seem small, but gratitude is a spiritual discipline that opens the heart to God's presence. It shifts our attention from scarcity to abundance and it prepares the soil of our souls to receive Christ more deeply when Christmas comes.

In a way, the Eucharist itself teaches us this posture. The word Eucharist literally means "thanksgiving." When we gather at the altar this First Sunday of Advent, we step into a divine rhythm, remembering what God has done so that we can be ready for what He is about to do.

The year ahead will bring opportunities to grow in faith, serve with compassion, and renew our zeal for God. I pray that He fills this new liturgical year with countless moments of joy, as we begin with gratitude because God is already here.

Let's make this Advent a season of peaceful reflection, spiritual renewal, and joyful expectation. May your homes be bright with hope, your hearts open with gratitude, and your lives attuned to the quiet ways God arrives.

God bless,

*Fav. Bayan*



# MASS INTENTIONS

## NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 7

- SATURDAY** 5 PM IN THANKSGIVING  
NOV 29 FROM POSTON FAMILY
- SUNDAY** 10:00 AM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH  
NOV 30 12:30 PM LUIS CARO MOTOLINIA  
FROM LAUREN CARO MOTOLINIA
- TUESDAY** 12:30 PM SPECIAL INTENTIONS OF  
DEC 2 DAWSON C.I.  
FROM TITUS & FAMILY
- WEDNESDAY** 12:30 PM NEELAVATHI ALPHONSE  
DEC 3 FROM TITUS & FAMILY
- THURSDAY** 12:30 PM CHINAMMA  
DEC 4 FROM TITUS & FAMILY
- FRIDAY** 12:30 PM. INTENTIONS OF  
DEC 5 DR. VIC JOSEPH  
FROM ANDREA SELVARAJA
- SATURDAY** 5 PM EVA BLACK  
DEC 6 FROM LINDA BLACK
- SUNDAY** 10 AM ROBERT ST. JOHN  
DEC 7 FROM OLC FINANCE COUNCIL  
12:30 PM PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

### Sunday Scripture

November 30

Is 2:1-5

Rom 13:11-14

Matt 24:37-44

December 7

Is 11:1-10

Rom 15:4-9

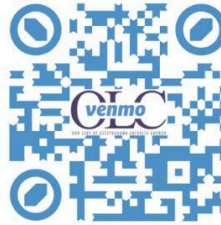
Matt 3:1-12

## DONATIONS



OVER THE WEEKEND OF  
NOVEMBER 22 & 23, 599 PEOPLE  
ATTENDED MASS WITH  
AN AVERAGE DONATION OF \$36.13.

ONE TIME  
GIFTS AND  
VISITORS



THANK  
YOU FOR  
ALL OF  
YOUR  
SUPPORT

CONSISTENT  
SUPPORT AND  
PARISHONERS



## To Do: Support Mercy House!

<b>Donate</b>	Food: pasta, sauce, canned fish/meats, cereal, rice, pancake mix, mac & cheese, milk, juice, snack bars, corn
<b>Donate</b>	Baby items: diapers, wipes, gently used clothes & equipment, toiletries
<b>Donate</b>	Household items: kitchenware, bedding/linens, seasonal decorations
<b>Donate</b>	Personal items: adult & teen clothes, toiletries, fem. hygiene

Bring to Mass

Last Sunday  
of each month



# ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

## CALENDAR @ LC



PENANCE SERVICE

DECEMBER **11**  
**7PM**

TREAT YOURSELF TO THE GIFT OF GOD'S MERCY



THE FESTIVAL OF CHRISTMAS SONG



DECEMBER **14**



**4PM**

TIDINGS OF GREAT JOY



DECEMBER

**MASS 5PM**



**25** **MASS**  
**12MIDNIGHT**

**11:30AM**



# Advent starts now!



*Advent is a time when we prepare for the joy of Jesus' birth.  
Advent always starts four Sundays before Christmas.*

## Celebrating Jesus' Nativity

In the 1200s, Saint Francis of Assisi created the first recorded scene of Jesus' birth. He was inspired by his visit to the Holy Land, and added animals and a humble manger scene to help people understand the incredible reality of Jesus being born when and where He was!



## Celebrate Advent With Your Family!

- Pray together as a family, with each member writing a special intention for each week
- Make an Advent wreath and add one candle each week
- Set up a Nativity scene under your Christmas tree - maybe even make your own pieces!
- Volunteer at a local pantry, shelter, park, or other location
- Bring a gift for a Giving Tree

### December Saints:

St. Lucy - Dec. 13th

St. John of the Cross Dec. 14th



**Saint John of the Cross was a Spanish priest in the 1500s. He is the patron saint of mystics and popularly associated with writing the "Dark Night of the Soul" -the theme to the holiday season is the light in the darkness!**

Saint Lucy was a martyr from Syracuse (no, not New York: Syracuse is a city in Sicily). Her feast day is most celebrated in Sweden, where children sing in candlelit choirs and eat Christmas-themed treats. A girl dresses up as Saint Lucy and wears a wreath with candles on her head as pictured above. "Lucia" means light, and winter, especially in places like Sweden, is a dark time. That's why the holiday celebrates light in darkness and starts at dusk.