



**CATHEDRAL of
ST. BERNARD
of CLAIRVAUX**

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Third Sunday of Advent

December 14, 2025

*"Make your hearts firm,
because the coming of the Lord is at hand."
-James 5: 8*



MASS SCHEDULE

WEEKDAYS

MONDAY 6:30pm (2nd-5th)
TUESDAY-FRIDAY 7:45am
1st SATURDAY 7:45am, with
confessions following

The Rosary is prayed after daily Mass. For a full listing of daily Mass devotional prayers, please visit our website or call the office.

WEEKENDS

SATURDAY 4:30pm
SUNDAY 8:00am & 10:00am
Confessions 9:15am

PRAYER LINE

The parish has many dedicated parishioners ready to assist you with prayer in times of need. To place your intentions on the Prayer Line, please call Carol (244-4817).

CONTACT

BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF MADISON

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**DIOCESE of
MADISON**

PASTOR’S PULSE ON THE PARISH



SUNDAY
DECEMBER 14
2025

Dear Friends,
It’s hard to believe, but we’re already to the third Sunday of Advent, and the Church’s call to prepare the way for the Lord is a message received with great joy on this Gaudete Sunday. The liturgical color of rose returns to remind us of the impending coming of the Lord’s birth and the dawning of our salvation.

St. Juan Diego

This past week, we commemorated the memorial of St. Juan Diego, who was a servant of Mary and of the Church as he brought to the bishop of his area a bouquet of roses that had been picked on the hill of Tepeyac.

Juan had gathered them into his tilma, and when he presented them to the bishop as evidence of the proof he had asked for to corroborate the appearance of our Lady to him, he also received another very special gift: the imprint of our Lady’s face upon the tilma.

There was much rejoicing, and the modern-day Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe welcomes hundreds of thousands of pilgrims each year in Mexico City.

St. Juan Diego has a special love for those discerning God’s will. Up until the time of our Lady’s apparition to him, he was a simple peasant farmer.

There was really nothing extraordinary about his life. He loved the Lord most deeply and was very humble. Those qualities endeared him to our Lord’s heart as the Spirit chose him for something great. That something great, however, didn’t come along until he was 50 years old! ☺

God’s time is not our time

I hear so often from our young people, “Father, I just don’t know what God has in store for my life. I wish I could understand what He is calling me to do.”

Not only was St. Juan Diego an important part of the construction of the basilica in our Lady’s honor, but after its construction, he was the greeter – welcoming pilgrims



from near and far to encounter the Blessed Mother and to rejoice in her love as he did.

The Lord reveals Himself to us in His time, and while we wish His time and our time were united together, that’s not always the case.

I tell our young people not to be discouraged, and to remain close to the Lord through His Church, a strong life of prayer, and an ever-present spirit that listens for the voice of God in the whispers of daily living.

Discerning God’s will

Some will be called to be great public figures who stand out and are recognized by many. Others will be called to live far simpler lives and to respond to the Lord’s call to be a good wife, husband, mother, or father. The world may not know of our notoriety, but our Heavenly Father surely does. God will reveal who He wishes you to be, and sometimes, perhaps that vision is not congruent with the vision we have established for ourselves. “Yet not my will be done, but yours.”

St. Juan Diego teaches us a beautiful and important lesson: live in God, and wait for those moments in which He asks you to do things in His name. Whether big or small, do them with love and with a deep desire to serve Him and help His love reach to the ends of the earth.

Additional Confession times

As the second half of Advent is upon us, I’ve made some additional times available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please see the purple box at the right which highlights

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- Fr. Michael

these opportunities. I hope that all of us can make a good Confession before Christmas and prepare a heart worthy of the Lord to dwell there. If the additional times don’t work into your schedule, our neighboring parishes are offering various opportunities for Confession, and you’re welcome to take advantage of one of those options as well.

Calendar raffle update

We’re not quite to the 50% mark as yet for raffle ticket sales. If you haven’t had a chance to purchase raffle tickets, please do so. I’m very grateful for your assistance in making the calendar raffle a success, as it’s the most important (and only) fundraiser of the year.

Closing Mass for Jubilee Year

The Feast of the Holy Family will be special this year as we conclude the Jubilee Year with a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Hying. He’ll be the principal celebrant at the 10:00am Mass. Following that Mass, those in attendance will be encouraged to visit the cathedral and see the progress that’s been made.

We may have a few more faithful at this Mass than we usually do. Extra seating will be set up and available to accommodate the added number of people. It will be a beautiful celebration!

May we find the Lord in all things – both the ordinary and extraordinary – and always remember the motto of St. Therese to do little things with great love.

With love in the Sacred Heart,

Fr . Michael

EXTRA CONFESSION TIMES
Additional opportunities for Confession and quiet prayer time will be offered during Advent:
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17, 5-8PM
Confessions and quiet prayer time
TUESDAY, DEC. 23, 4-7PM
Confessions and quiet prayer time

OUR GIFT OF TREASURE

2024-25 OFFERTORY BUDGET

Envelopes.....	\$370,000.00
Loose (Cash).....	\$ 75,000.00
TOTAL.....	\$445,000.00

NEEDED EACH WEEK.....\$ 8,558.00

OFFERTORY:
DECEMBER 7, 2025 (Week 23 of 52)

Envelopes.....	\$ 4,836.00
Loose.....	\$ 782.20
St. Vincent de Paul...	\$ 205.00
TOTAL.....	\$ 5,823.20

OFFERTORY PROGRESS:

Collected to date.....	\$178,448.75
Needed to date.....	\$196,834.00
Surplus/(Shortfall)...	(\$ 18,385.25)

CORRECTION: Please note the Dec. 7, 2025 offertory budget had a typo. The correct shortfall was \$15,445.45.

Cathedral of St. Bernard

OVER 180 CHANCES TO WIN!!

CALENDAR Raffle Tickets

Pick up your tickets today!

Ticket stubs can be returned with a check payable to the Cathedral of St. Bernard through the offertory basket, by mail, or drop them off in the Parish Office through the mail slot.

Contact the Parish Office to purchase tickets by credit card!

Only 400 tickets will be sold - each ticket has a chance to win each day from January 1 to June 30, 2026!

Raffle Ticket Sales Progress

Our goal is to sell 400 tickets! We have currently sold 160 or 40% of our goal. We still need to sell 240 or 60% more!

40% 60%

Tickets sold
Tickets to reach goal

The Bishop Hying warmly invites you to ponder the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary this Advent with “Joyful”! This four-part program is perfect for individuals, families, and small groups and features videos from Bishop Hying for each of the four Sundays of Advent, reflection questions, and prayers. The full program can be found at madisondiocese.org/joyful.

Joyful
ADVENT STUDY
WITH BISHOP DONALD J. HYING

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Monday, December 15th	Weekday
The Third Week of Advent	
Num 24:2-7, 15-17a ✕ Ps 25 ✕ Matt 21:23-27	
5:45pm	Confessions
6:30pm	In honor of Fr. Eric Nielsen
Tuesday, December 16th	Weekday
Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13 ✕ Ps 34 ✕ Matt 21:28-32	
7:45am	Cathy Thompson †
Following	Rosary
Wednesday, December 17th	O Wisdom (O Sapientia)
Gen 49:2, 8-10 ✕ Ps 72 ✕ Matt 1:1-17	
7:45am	In honor of the Tataje family
Following	Rosary
Thursday, December 18th	O Lord & Ruler (O Adonai)
Jer 23:5-8 ✕ Ps 72 ✕ Matt 1:18-25	
7:45am	Richard Fuszard †
Following	Rosary
Friday, December 19th	O Root of Jesse (O Radix Jesse)
Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a ✕ Ps 71 ✕ Lk 1:5-25	
7:45am	In memory of Bob Stader †
Following	Rosary
Saturday, December 20th	O Key of David (O Clavis David)
Isaiah 7:10-14 ✕ Ps 24 ✕ Lk 1:26-38	
8:00am	Holy Mass at the Schoenstatt Shrine
Sunday, December 21st	Fourth Sunday of Advent/ O Dayspring(O Oriens)
Isaiah 7:10-14 ✕ Ps 24 ✕ Rom 1:1-7 ✕ Matt 1:18-24	
4:30pm (Sat.)	L/D members of the Huemmer Hellenbrand & Weston families †
8:00am	Pro Populo
9:15am	Confessions
10:00am	Andrew Kim †
HIGHLIGHTED TIME = LIVESTREAMING	

BULLETIN SPONSORS

This week’s bulletin is sponsored in honor of:

For forgotten individuals
who have no one to pray for them

Each week our bulletin will feature the names of those who made a donation toward our bulletin, which is now published in-house.

For more information, contact the Parish Office.
Thank you so much for your support!



O ANTIPHONS DURING ADVENT

December 17-23, 2025

The following information is found at www.usccb.org/prayers/o-antiphons-advent:

O Antiphons

The Roman Church has been singing the “O” Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the Magnificat canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative “Come!” embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.



December 17

O Wisdom of our God Most High,
guiding creation with power and love:
come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18

O Leader of the House of Israel,
giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai:
come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19

O Root of Jesse's stem,
sign of God's love for all his people:
come to save us without delay!

December 20

O Key of David,
opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom:
come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21

O Radiant Dawn,
splendor of eternal light, sun of justice:
come and shine on those who dwell in darkness
and in the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of all nations and keystone of the Church:
come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law:
come to save us, Lord our God!

— From *Catholic Household Blessings & Prayers*

CURRENT CATHOLIC EVENTS

BLESS OUR PRIESTS COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND



Please remember the retired priests of our diocese by making a gift to the Bless Our Priests collection. This collection directly supports the welfare of all retired priests of the Diocese of Madison, including the rising cost of healthcare, long-term care, and medical costs.

Envelopes for your gift are available at all Masses this weekend. Please use them to make your donation. Your generosity supports retired priests from all 11 counties of our diocese!

NOVENA OF MASSES AT THE SCHOENSTATT SHRINE

The Schoenstatt Shrine (5901 Cottage Grove Rd., Madison) is hosting a novena of Masses in preparation for Christmas from Dec. 15 through Dec. 23. All Masses are at 7pm (except for Dec. 23; Mass that day will begin at 6:30 pm, followed by a potluck). Celebrants include: Dec. 15, Fr. Bill Nolan; Dec. 16, Fr. Mark Niehaus, ISP; Dec. 17, Fr. Cristobal Ansejo, ISP (Spanish); Dec. 18, Fr. Mick Moon; Dec. 19, Fr. Michael Radowicz; Dec. 20, Fr. Eric Sternberg; Dec. 21, Fr. Mark Foley; Dec. 22, Fr. Steve Brunner; Dec. 23, Fr. Michael Tarigopula (Mass at 6:30 pm followed by a potluck).



SCRIP WILL BE SOLD TWO WEEKENDS IN DECEMBER



Please note that SCRIP sales will not be held Dec. 27-28. Instead, SCRIP will be sold after all Masses during the weekends of Dec. 13-14 and Dec. 20-21.

PRAYING FOR OUR BELOVED DEPARTED

Mark your calendar and join us for Mass at Resurrection Cemetery on the third Friday of each month. Our next Mass is Dec. 19 at 10am. Check <https://madisondiocese.org/cemeteries> for updates.



JOIN US FOR A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS ON DEC. 21



All are invited to attend a service of Lessons and Carols at 4pm on Sunday, Dec. 21 at the Holy Name Oratory, 702 S. High Point Rd., Madison.

CATHEDRAL DATES AT A GLANCE

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 4:30pm Vigil Mass for Christmas

Wednesday, Dec. 24, 9pm Vigil Mass for Christmas, preceded by 8:15pm prelude by Cathedral Choir & Chamber Orchestra



Thursday, Dec. 25, 9:30am Mass for Christmas Day (with Women's Schola)



Wednesday, Dec. 31, 4:30pm Vigil Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

Thursday, Jan. 1, 9:30am Mass for Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)

JUBILEE 2025 CLOSING CELEBRATION

Sunday, December 28

10:00 am Mass with Bishop Hying
Cathedral of St. Bernard of Clairvaux
2438 Atwood Ave., Madison
(Mass will be in the Gymnasium)

Featuring a
Cathedral open house
from 12:00 to 1:30 pm!

Come learn about and tour
our new cathedral!

