

OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND ST. JOSEPH

20 RIVER RD PITTSFIELD NH 03263/844 FIRST NH TRNPK RT4) NORTHWOOD NH 03261

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
DECEMBER 14, 2025**



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**“SAY TO THOSE WHOSE HEARTS ARE FRIGHTENED, BE
STRONG, FEAR NOT! HERE IS YOUR GOD HE COMES WITH
VINDICATION, WITH DIVINE RECOMPENSE.**

HE COMES TO SAVE YOU.

ISAIAH 35:4

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH!

We pray that you enjoy celebrating with us this weekend. Whether you are new to the community or live here, know that you are invited to join our Parish family. Please be sure to introduce yourself to Father after Mass. You may register with us by dropping in or calling our rectory during the week at 435-6242.

If you are just visiting for the weekend, we hope you enjoy your visit with us and consider us your "home away from home".

MASS INTENTIONS

Weekend Masses

Saturday, December 13

4pm Kathy Janelle by Ellen Barbasso OL

Sunday December 14

8am Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Reynolds OL

10am For Our Parishioners SJ

Weekday Masses

Mon. Dec.15 No Mass

Tues. Dec.16 9am Birthday Blessings for Linda Konal by Annette Bilodeau OL

Wed. Dec.17 9am TBA SJ

Thurs. Dec.18 8am TBA OL

Fri. Dec.19 9am TBA SJ

Weekend Masses

Saturday, December 20

4pm Intentions of Margaret Kemper OL

Sunday, December 21

8am For Our Parishioners OL

10am Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Reynolds SJ

Weekly amount needed to meet Budget Requirement: \$ 4,000

Due to the upcoming holidays, our publisher has moved up all deadlines, so the collection has not been taken at the time and creation of this Bulletin.

We are, as always, very grateful for all who share, in a generous way, their Time, Talent and Treasure.

Lay Ministries	Dec.13/14	Dec. 20/21
4:00 PM	Ben Brown	Kathleen Pauquette
5:30 PM	No Mass	No Mass
8 AM	Karen Cote	Charlie Hauck
10:00 AM	Betsy Bosiak	Jennifer Klingensmith

PARISH STAFF

Rev. John B. MacKenzie-Pastor
Ellen Barbasso-Secretary
Debbie Wheeler-Bookkeeper
Kathi Thoms-Religious Ed. Coordinator.
Jeannie Garcia-Ministry Coordinator
stgar@outlook.com

OFFICE HOURS- MON.—FRI. 8AM-12PM

PHONE LISTINGS

Rectory-603-435-6242

Religious Ed. Ctr. St. Joseph-603-942-8716

Fax-603-435-5531

Email Parish- ololstjoseph@metrocast.net

Website- ourladyoflourdes-stjosephs.org

CCD- kathyt_o@hotmail or 942-269-4143

Catholic Charities: 1-800-562-5249



Parish Online Giving Code



READINGS

3rd Sunday

In Advent

Pg.40

What We See in the Desert **By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman**

I've always wanted to see a real desert.

I know all about frigid, snowy winters and warm, wet summers. I grew up on rich soil that yields lush vegetation and bountiful harvests. But I've never experienced a desert, not in my own country or abroad, and I'm curious.

I know there must be something magical about the desert for it to feature so heavily in Scripture, for it to provide a backdrop to so many crucial moments of salvation history. The Israelites following the cloud, the temptation of Christ, the voice crying out: "Prepare the way for the Lord."

Why do these moments have to happen in a desert? Why do they make so much less sense in a tropical rainforest or a verdant forest?

I think it's because the desert doesn't have anything to offer us, at first glance. No one longs for the physical sensation of a dry heat and a beating sun. But the vast emptiness and the almost mystical harshness — even if we don't desire and delight in it, this is a setting that we understand, somehow, intrinsically. We know it deep within our soul. God is there.

We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert.

Why? What are we expecting to see?

If we expect to be entertained, we will be disappointed. If we expect reassurance, we will be disappointed. If we expect to feel pleasant and safe and sheltered, we will be disappointed.

The desert is there to challenge us. The desert is there to show us who we are, and who we can be.

So go.

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Mass Schedule

Weekdays: Our Lady of Lourdes — Tues. 9am & Thurs. at 8am,
St. Joseph's — Wed. & Fri. at 9am
First Saturdays: Our Lady of Lourdes — 8am —
Every Saturday at 4pm
Saturdays at St. Joseph — 5:30pm
(Memorial Day - Columbus Day)
Sundays: Our Lady of Lourdes 8am & St. Joseph 10am

Confessions

Saturday 3-3:45 at OLOL
Sundays before and after the 10am Mass at SJ by request

Baptism

Families must be registered parishioners at Our Lady of Lourdes or at St. Joseph. Please call the rectory for arrangements.

Parish Ministries

Interfaith Community Kitchen Monday Meals —
Drive up take-out dinners are offered every Monday at 4:00

The Clothes Closet Open-

2nd & 4th Mondays of the month 2:30-3:30
Open Thursdays 12am-1pm
First Saturday of the month 9:30 - 10:30

The Northwood Emergency Food Pantry -

The pantry is located at the Congregational Church. The parish will offer prayers, monetary donations and food drives, supporting the needs of the food pantry.

Serving God, Our Parish and Our Community.
Our Lady of Lourdes-St Joseph's Church
Parish Center

Religious Education Coordinator- **Kathy Thoms**

Contact Phone: 603-397-8016
Email: kathyt0@hotmail.com

Our Lady of Lourdes/St Joseph's Faith
Formation: ourladyoflourdes-stjosephs.org.

Eucharistic Adoration Schedule

Our Lady of Lourdes-Tuesday mornings - following the 9am Mass. Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Benediction

Thursdays, 5:30pm.-Rosary & Divine Mercy Chaplet, as we pray for our nation, our parish, our families, and peace for our world

St. Joseph Church - Tuesday & Thursday evenings from 6-8 pm for Adoration, quiet prayer and reflection before the Blessed Sacrament . Come at 6 or whenever you can make it, and leave whenever you want.

A Blessing is awaiting you!



Emmaus Men's Ministry

Wednesdays, 6:00 PM

Men's prayer and small group scripture reflection.
All Are Welcome.

Please check the website for weather cancellations

The Four Advent Candles

Did you Know ...

Advent wreaths traditionally hold 4 candles (three purple and one pink). The candles represent Jesus coming as a light in the darkness. One candle is lit each Sunday. As Christmas draws near, each candle brings a little more light into the darkness. Sometimes a white candle is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolize Jesus is with us This can be referred to as the "Christ candle" Each of the candles lit before Christmas represent an aspect of preparation during the season of Advent.

The First week of Advent

Candle name :The Prophecy candle

The First week of Advent represents: Hope

Candle color: Purple

Purple is the primary color associated with Advent. Within the Catholic Church it symbolizes penance, preparation, and sacrifice. During the first week of Advent we remember the Old Testament prophets who foretold of Jesus's coming with hope and anticipation. Are you ready to discover the hope Jesus is inviting you to experience this Advent?

The Second week of Advent

Candle name: The Bethlehem candle

The 2nd week of Advent Represents: Peace and Preparation

Candle color: Purple

During this second week of Advent ,we reflect on our lives and focus on becoming better-versions-of-ourselves in preparation of Jesus's coming. We remember the journey Joseph and Mary took from Nazareth to Bethlehem. What has your journey toward Christmas been like so far?

The Third week of Advent

Candle name: The Shepherd's candle

The third week of Advent Represents :Joy

Candle color: Pink

The third candle is pink and symbolizes rejoicing. During the third week of Advent we are filled with joy for the near arrival of Jesus on Christmas day. This Sunday is often called "Gaudete Sunday" as we reflect on the joy the shepherd's felt at the birth of Jesus. How is Jesus inviting you to experience greater joy this Advent?

The Fourth week of Advent

Candle name: Love

The fourth week of Advent Represents: Love

Candle color :Purple

During this final week of Advent we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. We reflect on the good news of God's love brought to us from the angel Gabriel. This is the last week to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas. Are you ready?

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him shall have eternal life"



Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve Vigil 5pm at St. Josephs

Christmas Day Masses

8am at Our Lady of Lourdes

10am at St. Josephs

Advent Deanery Penance Service
Sunday, December 14, 2pm
Immaculate Heart of
Mary Parish
180 Loudon Road, Concord

The Catholic Church offers additional opportunities to receive the sacrament of confession during the Advent season to prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. (Priests from our local parishes are available to hear confessions).

Mary, The Holy Mother of God
Holy Day of Obligation

Dec.31-New Year's Eve Vigil:

5pm at Saint Josephs

Jan. 1-New Year's Day:

9am at Our Lady of Lourdes

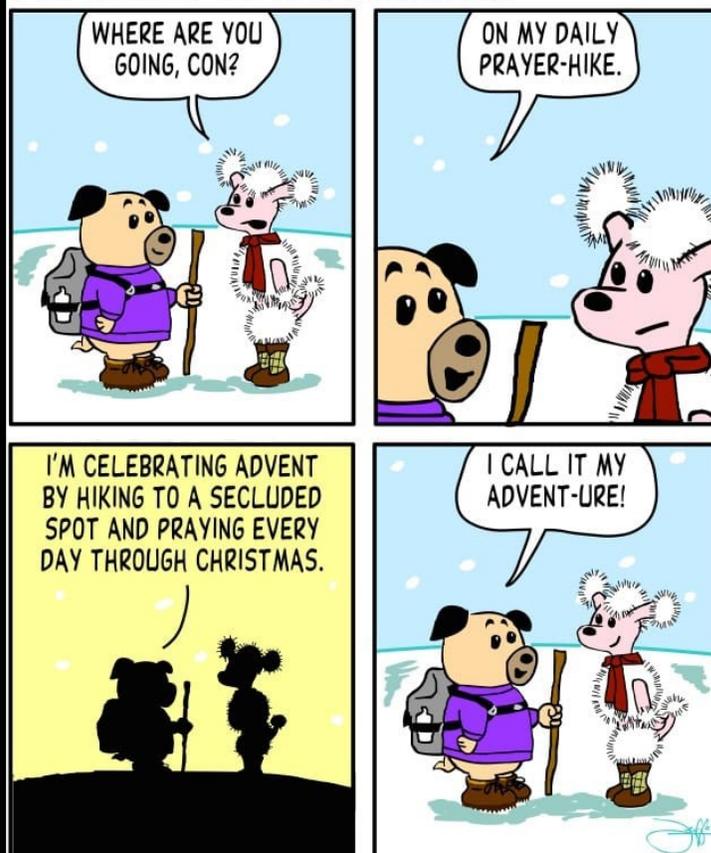


Christmas Cookie Project! Dec14.

Volunteers are needed to package the festive cookies after the 10:00 Mass on Dec 14.

The Christmas cookie tins are then distributed to the Community Kitchen families.
Thank you all!

PRAYER PUPS BY JEFFREY SMITH



ADVENT IS A TIME OF ANTICIPATION,
HOPE AND NEW BEGINNINGS.