

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

Sun Dec 5	<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
	9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed. Gr. K-9
	10:30 AM <i>Interpreted Mass for the Deaf</i>
	1:30-3:30 PM Retreat-Grade 3 (Social Hall)
	6:30-8:00 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 10
Tues Dec 7	6:10 PM Bingo
Wed Dec 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception
	5:45-6:30 PM Pro-Life Rosary
	6:30 PM 8:15 Choir Rehearsal
	7:30 PM 10:30 Choir Rehearsal
Thurs Dec 9	9:00-11:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration
Fri Dec 10	6:10 PM Bingo
Sat Dec 11	9:30-10:30 AM Children's Choir
Sun Dec 12	<b>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
	9:15-10:15 AM Religious Ed. Gr. K-9
	10:30 AM <i>Interpreted Mass for the Deaf</i>
	6:30-8:00 PM Religious Ed. Gr. 10 & 11



**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, Dec. 6 St. Nicholas**

8:30 a.m. † Armida & Antonio Santarsieri (*Dr. Joseph & Kathleen Santarsieri*)

**Tuesday, Dec. 7 St. Ambrose**

8:30 a.m. † Robert Hoover (*Evelyn Miller & Family*)  
7:00 p.m. † Ronald A. Geis Jr. (*Family*)

**Wednesday, Dec. 8 Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary**

7:00 a.m. † Matthew Zakrzwski (*Matthew & Crystal*)  
8:30 a.m. † Fritz & Mary Werkmeister (*Family*)  
7:00 p.m. † Rita Chverchko (*Fred Chverchko*)

**Thursday, Dec. 9 St. Juan Diego**

8:30 a.m. † Mary S. Maniglia (*Dean & Judy Rossi*)

**Friday, Dec. 10**

8:30 a.m. † Stanley Kawtoski (*M/M George D. Frederick*)

**Saturday, Dec. 11 St. Damasus I**

8:30 a.m. † Tom & Susan Scherzinger (*Fred & Clemmie Hunter*)  
5:30 p.m. † Frank Skupien (*Family*)

**Sunday, Dec. 12 Third Sunday of Advent**

7:00 a.m. † Josephine Kotecki (*M/M Fred Beck*)  
8:15 a.m. † Mary Louise Hallinan (*Jerry & Dolores Schirf*)  
10:30 a.m. † Guiseppi & Maria Mangano (*Gregory & Barbara*)  
12 NOON Mass For The People

**PARISH SACRIFICIAL GIVING - Nov. 27-28, 2004**

Regular	\$7921.26	Christmas	\$ 244.50
Capital Campaign	\$ 234.00	Rose	\$ 160.48
Thanksgiving	\$ 729.25	Flowers	\$ 114.00
Initial	\$ 6.00	Human Dev.	\$ 65.00
All Saints	\$ 15.00	Perquisites	\$ 135.00
All Souls	\$ 5.00		
Immac. Conception	\$ 15.00	Total	\$ 9644.49

**MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEK**

**Vigil for Immaculate Conception, December 7, 2004**

7:00 p.m. Tim Link, Volunteer

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2004**

8:30 a.m. St. Rose School Children

7:00 p.m. David Horvath

**Altar Servers for December 11-12, 2004**

Saturday, December 11, 8:30 a.m. Loretta Bobetich, Max Sheedy

5:30 p.m. Stefan Beard, Alex Baker, Brianna Spayd

Sunday, December 12, 2004

7:00 a.m. Nicole Altiero

8:15 a.m. Tai Irwin, Kaitlyn Lersch, Alex Askey

10:30 a.m. Johnny Brown, Justine Shultz, Andy Pagliara

12 Noon Sully McConnell, Justin Wiley

**Vigil for Immaculate Conception, December 7, 2004**

7:00 p.m. **Readers:** Todd Cammarata, Chris Mingyar

7:00 p.m. **Eucharistic Ministers:** T. Heiss, M. Tillard, P. Tillard

**Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2004**

7:00 a.m. **Readers:** Frank Fochler

7:00 a.m. **Eucharistic Ministers:** R.M. Fochler, G. Miller

8:30 a.m. **Readers:** St. Rose School Children

8:30 a.m. **Eucharistic Ministers:** B. Altiero, V. Bettwy

7:00 p.m. **Readers:** Jean Chirdon, Frances Hesser

7:00 p.m. **Eucharistic Ministers:** R. Novack, S. Baker, T. Goss

**Eucharistic Ministers for December 11-12, 2004**

5:30 p.m. G. Bettwy, J. Frena, P. Tillard, J. Scarfone, M. Tillard

7:00 a.m. R.M. Fochler, C. Sharbaugh, R. Fox

8:15 a.m. P. Engelman, G. Stoltz, B. Stoltz, M. Engelman

K. Ansman

10:30 a.m. P. Fromknecht, T. Goss, K. Zelnosky, K. Madariaga,

J. Fromknecht

12 Noon C. Eberhart, R. Skupien, C. Anslinger

**Lectors for December 11-12, 2004**

5:30 p.m. Frances Hesser, Vi Bettwy

7:00 a.m. Frank Fochler

8:15 a.m. Laverne Previte, Joseph Campbell

10:30 a.m. Patrick Labriola, Tony Labriola

12 Noon Michael Nazaruk

*FROM OUR PASTOR*

**RECONCILIATION SERVICES** Seventeen priests will be here for our Advent Penance Service, Monday, December 20, at 7:00 P.M. Other opportunities for reconciliation are: St. Matthew's, Tyrone, December 5, 2:00 P.M.; Our Lady of Lourdes, December 10, 5:30 P.M.; St. Theresa's, December 11, 10:00 A.M.; St. Mary's, Hollidaysburg, December 12, 4:00 P.M.; St. John's, December 13, 6:30 P.M.; Cathedral, December 15, 6:30 P.M.; Sacred Heart, December 16, 5:30 P.M.; and St. Mary's Altoona, December 19, 5:00 P.M.

**CATHOLICS, COME HOME** Our team that welcomes returning Catholics hopes that the letter you received this week is informative and helpful. Advent and especially Christmas are times when family and friends think about getting back to church. Those who want to return have issues and questions. The letter tells of the same meeting offered twice at 7:00 P.M. (December 16 and January 3) for those who know someone who wants to return to the church. The sessions for the returning Catholics are 7:00 P.M. January 17 and 31. All the sessions will gather in the church foyer.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### ST ROSE OF LIMA SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you to Al and Betty Covino for their donation to the school library in memory of Betty Drabic and Ben Urso.

There is a Technology Committee meeting on Monday, Dec. 6 at noon in the computer room.

The school students will attend the 8:30 Mass on Wednesday, Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. They will not attend Mass on Friday morning.

Our school **CHRISTMAS PROGRAM** is Thursday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Maria Parish Center. All are welcome to attend the performance.

We are conducting our annual TOY / SMALL GIFT DRIVE to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society's Family Kitchen which is under the direction of Sr. Paula DelGrosso. We will be collecting **new, unwrapped** toys or children's gifts (**MAXIMUM \$20.00**) until Friday, Dec. 17. You may give your donation to any St. Rose School student or bring it to the school office. We would appreciate your support.

### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Wednesday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a holy day of obligation. All Catholics are expected to gather for Mass on this day. Our country is placed under the patronage of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception. Sinless from the moment of her own conception, Mary had a faith that the Spirit prepared and a love that never knew sin. May our hearts model her readiness of faith.

### 2004 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Collection Sunday, December 12, 2004

This year marks the 17 annual collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, an appeal that has raised over \$400 million in support of retired religious men and women across America. Many of you who have given faithfully may wonder if the need that inspired this collection has been met. Unfortunately, it has not. In fact, the cost of care each year for frail, elderly religious exceeds the amount raised during the entire history of this collection. Please share in the care of our elderly religious by giving generously to the collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Please use the envelope that is located in your pack of envelopes.

### CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Any parishioner that would like a Christmas Flower on our altar dedicated for a loved one is asked to use your Christmas Flower envelope or use a plain envelope. Kindly drop the envelope in the collection basket by Dec. 19. Your memorials will be in our Christmas Bulletin. **PLEASE PRINT YOUR REMEMBRANCE.**

### PLEASE VISIT OUR SHUT-INS

Join us in our Spiritual and Corporal works of Mercy. Please take an ornament from the box, and take the tag off of the ornament of the person to visit. Place the ornament on the tree. The ornament is to remain on our parish tree. It is not to be given to the shut-ins.

Please pray for these people and take a small gift to them. So let's get together and give something back to God.

**CANDLES:** For the Men & Women in the Military who are serving our Country by the Christian Mothers, Fritz & Mary Werkmeister by Joyce & Toby Kjarsgaard, Rita Chverchko (Mother) by Ronna Lee & Family, Thanksgiving For All Blessings & Fr. Bill.

Once again during Advent, Christian Mothers will have the Angel Tree in the foyer. Please take an angel, put the name or intention to be prayed for and place it back on the tree.

Flowers for the shut-ins will be delivered Dec. 11 & 12. If you are able to help please call Mary Engelman at 943-3796 or Zerelds Geis at 942-6554.

### PRAYER CORNER

Jesus, impeccable judge of mankind, generous giver of all blessings, grant us the strength to model after You.

Help us to not judge others, but to share with those in need. By Your grace, may our charity towards others truly reflect Your magnificent nature.

Blessed be Your Glorious Name! Amen

**ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT** Class will be held on December 12, 2004. We will meet in the St. Rose Reading Room from 9:15 -10:15. Topic: **Opening Our Hearts to Jesus**. Refreshments will be provided. Sponsored by the Adult Faith Formation Team (AFF). Join us whenever you can. You are welcome to one or all of the gatherings.

### OFFERTORY PRESENTERS

Dec. 11	5:30 p.m.	Mary Lou Moffitt & Ron Skupien
Dec. 12	7:00 a.m.	Ed Kotecki & Mary Ann Fox
	8:15 a.m.	Theresa & Timmy Link
	10:30 a.m.	Mike & Lois Mignogna & Family
	12 Noon	Steve & Pam Brumbaugh & Family

### "IN DEFENSE OF LIFE"

As we acknowledge Christ's kingship over us and prepare to celebrate His approaching birth, it is an appropriate time to remember that He alone is the Lord of life. To Him alone is entrusted the power to give life and to take it away. Christ is both Child and King. He is the Beginning and the End, the Alpha and Omega. To Him belong both the beginning of each human life and the moment of death for each human person destined for eternal life with Him.

**Readings for the Week of December 5, 2004**

Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12  
Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6a,10; Ps 146;  
Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

**PLEASE** do not remove Today's Missals or 2005 Music Issues from the church pews. The blue vinyl covers with both books should remain in the pews at all times. If you have a need for a Today's Missal or Music Issue please see Sue Cossitor at the rectory to request one. We must keep six books in each pew so that our congregation has the necessary worship aids for Sunday Masses. Thank you for your cooperation.

**ST.VINCENT DEPAUL CONFERENCE:**

Next meeting Wednesday, December 8, at 8:00 p.m. in the school library. Please plan to attend.

**SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

All parishioners and friends are welcome to attend the school Christmas program, *Miracle on Bethlehem Street*, on Thursday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Maria Parish Center. Students from kindergarten through the eighth grade are all part of this delightful show that is sure to put you in the true Christmas spirit.

**WELCOME**

Last weekend Samuel Miles Tirone, son of M/M Samuel D. Tirone and Marian Elizabeth Stephens, daughter of M/M Douglas Stephens received the light of Christ in the sacrament of Baptism.

**" DEFINITION OF TERMS"**

Advent – From the Latin term used in a secular context to denote the coming or arrival of the emperor, this four –week liturgical year. The Holy See offers this description of the season: "Advent has a two fold character: as a season to prepare us for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation."

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade at St. Rose of Lima School would like to thank all who donated at the 2004 Oxfam Hunger Banquet. We would especially like to thank those who served food, prepared food, and cleaned up. We would never have been able to pull this off without our sponsors. We also would like to thank the Christian Mothers for donations.

We would also like to show our gratitude to the following restaurants and supermarkets:

Martin's – Spaghetti	Hoss's – Soup & Crackers
DelGrosso-Sauce & Meatballs	McDonald's – Juice
Olive Garden- Breadsticks	Outback – Rice
Leonardo's- Salad	W.S. Lee – Bowls, Cups, & Utensils
Budget Beverage – Soda	Weis – Napkins
Crackle Barrel- Dessert	
Creative Expressions – Flower Piece(s)	

**FAMILIES AND THE GOSPEL**

December 5 Matthew 3:1-12  
The gospel today is stern. It is not enough that we survive. Every family must "bear good fruit" and make a positive impact on the world. We can't say we are a Christian family, we actually have to be one. Words alone just won't cut it!

**Stewardship Reflection**

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Let us begin a new Liturgical Year with a deeper appreciation for the gift that is the Eucharist, Pope John Paul II reminds us that the Eucharist calls the members of the Church to share their spiritual and material goods.

**LITURGICAL REFLECTION...**

In the year of the Eucharist, the Church renews the understanding stated at the Second Vatican Council, "the liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time it is the fount from which all the Church's power flows." The Eucharistic sacrifice contains the very presence of Christ Himself. This is the heart of the Church's mystery. As believers gather to celebrate the Mass, we stand in the presence of the Redeemer. As followers of Christ who are sent out to serve the Lord, we always return to gather at the altar of sacrifice  
Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy Number 10

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

This Wednesday, December 8, is a holy day of obligation for Catholics. This commemoration originated in the seventh century as the feast of the "Conception of Mary by Saint Anne." Pope Clement XI established the solemnity for the entire Church in 1708. The Sixth Provincial Council of Baltimore in 1846 made the Immaculate Conception the patronal feast of the United States. In 1854 Pope Pius IX defined the dogma of faith, "the doctrine which hold that the most Blessed Virgin Mary was preserved from all stain of original sin in the first instant of her Conception, by a singular grace and privilege of almighty God, in consideration of the merits of Jesus Christ, Savior of the human race, has been revealed by God and must, therefore, firmly and constantly be believed by all the faithful." This year marks the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of this doctrine. All are expected to participate at Mass on this solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.



# Share in the Care

Please give

The cost of care  
for our elderly  
religious exceeds  
**\$1.3 million**  
each day.

Sister Mary John Code, DC, 74 (standing),  
staff member at Our Lady of Wisdom  
Healthcare Center in New Orleans and  
resident Sister Ignace Schell, RSM, 80.

*Why do Catholic sisters, brothers, and order priests need your help? Doesn't the church pay their health care costs?*

No. In the U.S., religious institutes are independent, autonomous organizations whose income, earnings, and expenses are separate from diocesan structures.

*How were costs of care met before there was a Retirement Fund for Religious?*

Decades ago, young, wage-earning members were able to meet the needs of their elder religious counterparts. Then, too, Catholic physicians and hospitals were able to donate much more care than they can in today's economic and healthcare environment.

*Ninety-six percent of donations are awarded through grants to religious institutes.*

*Hasn't the number of Catholic religious declined?*

The number in need of care has actually increased because the majority of religious are now well past age 65! Today, more than 12,000 Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests need skilled care or help with tasks of daily living.

*What if there aren't any religious motherhouses in my diocese? Who benefits?*

Many dioceses were and are still served by religious whose institutes are based elsewhere. Retirement Fund grants are awarded to more than 500 religious institutes in 47 states, Washington, D.C., Guam, and Puerto Rico.

**Retirement Fund  
for Religious**

**National Religious  
Retirement Office**

3211 Fourth Street, NE  
Washington DC 20017-1194  
Telephone (202) 541-3215  
Fax (202) 541-3053  
[www.usccb.org/nrro](http://www.usccb.org/nrro)

*The Retirement Fund for Religious Annual Report is available at [www.usccb.org/nrro](http://www.usccb.org/nrro).*

# The Second Sunday of Advent

## *A Prayer for the Second Sunday of Advent*

God of justice

You hear the cries of the poor, the sick,  
the lost, the weary, and the weeping.  
Your Son, Jesus Christ, came  
to bring light to the world,  
to show all people the love and care of God,  
and to call all people to discipleship.

Come again.

Enter our lives

so that we might burn with new fire.

Enter our hearts

so that we might show love and care  
for all people.

Enter our souls

so that the world might know that you  
are here. Amen.



*December 5, 2004*

*God of Endurance, God of Surprise*

On the Second Sunday of Advent, the Church contemplates the identity of the one for whom we wait. Isaiah describes him as “a shoot from the stump of Jesse” in whom the Spirit of the Lord rests (Isaiah 11:1–10). John the Baptist expects one who will reap justice in the world through baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire (Matthew 3:1–12). In either case, the world is turned upside down as the natural order of relationships is reversed. Mortal enemies like the wolf and the lamb lie down with each other. Babies play in the lairs of snakes. Those in power (such as the Pharisees and the Sadducees of the Gospels) are thrown down and the faithful and the righteous are gathered into God’s kingdom. This God

surprises us by changing nearly everything we take for granted.

As Christians, we welcome such a day, even if it means changing our lives/in expectation of it. The day of the Lord is the day in which right relationships will be restored as they were at the beginning of creation.

We endure what is present and hope for what is to come. God lends strength to our endurance and gives us the courage to do right and holy things even if it is difficult. This week, as we light the second candle of the Advent wreath, we remember that a child once came to the waiting world and changed it forever.

## This Week at Home

### Monday, December 6

#### *Saint Nicholas*

The forerunner of Santa Claus, Saint Nicholas, is the patron saint of children, sailors, bankers, pawnbrokers, and prisoners. Nicholas was a bishop from the fourth century in what is now modern-day Turkey. His kindness, particularly to those in need, was legendary. Around the twelfth century, children in European households began to leave shoes outside their bedrooms on Saint Nicholas eve, filling them with carrots or hay for Saint Nicholas's horse. Legend had it that Saint Nicholas took the treat for his horse and replaced it with fruit, little candies, or small gifts. The treats were meant to be shared with everyone. Make a card or little gift for someone you love today.

### Tuesday, December 7

#### *Christmas Cookies*

This recipe for German spice cookies (a traditional Saint Nicholas and Christmas favorite) is adapted from *To Dance with God: Family Ritual and Community Celebration* by Gertrud Mueller Nelson, pp. 90, 91 (Paulist Press, 1986). Mix in order: 1 cup shortening, 2 cups white sugar, 4 eggs (add one at a time), 3/4 teaspoon salt, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 4 cups flour, 1 tablespoon cinnamon, 2 teaspoons allspice, 2 teaspoons nutmeg, 1 teaspoon ginger, 1 teaspoon cloves.

Turn out onto a floured board. Knead in about one cup additional flour or as much as you need until dough is no longer sticky and is easy to handle.

Put into a plastic bag and refrigerate until chilled and stiff. Roll the dough until it's thin and cut it into desired shapes. Bake at 350° F until golden-brown (about 10–12 minutes). Decorate as desired after baking.

### Wednesday, December 8

#### *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*

The Immaculate Conception celebrates Mary's freedom from original sin—a sign of grace from God—and the acknowledgment of her special place as the mother of Jesus. Even more than that, though, Mary represents God's dream for all people. When our lives are given over to God, we too shall be free from sin, and God will dwell within us. Then the world will know that the Lord is here.

### Thursday, December 9

#### *Memorial of Saint Juan Diego*

Today's Mass commemorates Juan Diego, who was canonized in 2002 by Pope John Paul II. The Blessed Virgin appeared to Juan Diego on Tepeyac hill outside Mexico City. She asked Juan to tell the bishop that she

wanted a church built on the site. When the bishop demanded proof of the vision, Our Lady showed Juan Diego where to find roses growing on the hillside in the frozen ground. He gathered the roses in his cloak and brought them to the bishop. When he emptied his cloak, a glowing picture of the Virgin was imprinted there. The church was built and Our Lady of Guadalupe became the patron of the Americas.

### Friday, December 10

#### *Looking beyond Our Senses*

Today, Matthew's Gospel (11:16–19) challenges all who look for Jesus but refuse to see him. The people of the New Testament didn't know if they were looking for an ascetic person who fasted from food and drink like John the Baptist or someone who ate and drank with sinners like Jesus. In truth, Jesus is found in the most unlikely places. We must listen with our hearts and see beyond our senses to find him in those around us and in ourselves.

### Saturday, December 11

#### *Giving to Others*

With Christmas preparations in full swing, this might be a good day to think about those who do not have enough. Donate a toy to the local shelter for women and children (the YWCA is often a resource for such places) or visit the elderly in a local nursing home. Many cities and churches provide a way for people to adopt families and see to their needs for Christmas. Check with your local city hall or the deacon or social service director of your church to see what you can do.

