

St. Joseph Catholic Church

1300 N. Main St., Bluffton | (260) 824-1380 | stjosephchurch@adamswells.com | stjosephchurchbluffton.org

The O Antiphons

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.



O Sapientia or O Wisdom (December 17)

O wisdom (Sirach 24:3), you came forth from the mouth of the Most High (Sirach 24:3), and reaching from beginning to end You ordered all things mightily and sweetly (Wisdom 8:1). * Come, and teach us the way of prudence (Isaiah 40:14).



O Adonai or O Lord and Ruler (December 18)

O Adonai (Exod. 3:14) and Ruler of the house of Israel (Matt 2:6; Micah 5:1; 2 Sam 5:2), You appeared to Moses in the fire of the burning bush (Exod. 3:2) and on Mount Sinai gave him Your Law (Exod. 20). * Come, and with an outstretched arm redeem us (Jeremiah 32:21).

O Radix Jesse or O Root of Jesse (December 19)

O root of Jesse, you stand for the ensign of mankind (Isaiah 11:10); before You kings shall keep silence and to You all nations shall have recourse (Isaiah 52:15). * Come, save us, and do not delay (Habakkuk 2:3).



O Clavis David or O Key of David (December 20)

O key of David (Isaiah 22:22, Rev 3:7) and Scepter of the house of Israel (Numbers 24:17): You open and no man closes; you close and no man opens (Isaiah 22:22). * Come, and deliver him from the chains of prison who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death (Ps 107:10).

O Oriens or O Rising Dawn or Morning Star (December 21)

O Rising Dawn, (Jer. 23:5; Zechariah 3:8; 6:12), Radiance of the Light eternal (Habakkuk 3:4; Wisdom 7:26; Hebrews 1:3) and Sun of Justice (Malachi 3:20): * come, and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death (Ps 107:10; Lk 1:78).



O Rex Gentium or O King of the Nations (December 22)

O King of the Gentiles (Jeremiah 10:7; Haggai 2:7), and the Desired of all, You are the Cornerstone that binds two into one (Isaiah 28:16; Matthew 21:42; Ephesians 2:20). * Come, and save man whom You fashioned out of clay (Genesis 2:7).

O Emmanuel (December 23)

O Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:14; 8:8; Luke 1:31-33), our King and Lawgiver (Genesis 49:10; cf. Ezekiel 21:32), the Expected of the nations and their Savior (Isa 33:22): Come, and save us, O Lord our God.



Pastor: Fr. David Violi

Fr. David's Email: frdavidvioli@gmail.com | **Sacramental Emergency Number:** (260) 296-0511

Administrative Assistant / DRE: Michelle Paxton | **Director of Sacred Music:** Teresa Smith

----- (cut here) -----

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

e-mail address: _____

[] New Parishioners, please send a Parish Registration Form [] We've Moved, here is our new information

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 10

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Gonzalo Riveros +

Sunday, December 11

Third Sunday of Advent

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Parish Family
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. David Black +

Monday, December 12

No Public Mass

Tuesday, December 13

7:00-8:00 a.m. Adoration
8:00 a.m. Marty Lohmuller +
8:30 a.m. Confession

Wednesday, December 14

6:00-7:00 p.m. Adoration
6:00-6:45 p.m. Confession
7:00 p.m. Abe & McKenna Herr

Thursday, December 15

8:30 a.m. Joseph Whitacre +

Friday, December 16

8:30 a.m. Barney Berghoff +

Saturday, December 17

8:00 a.m. Special Intention
4:00-4:45 p.m. Confession
4:35 p.m. Rosary
5:00 p.m. Parish Family

Sunday, December 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:10 a.m. Rosary
7:30 a.m. Edna Knapke + & Edna Pearson +
9:40 a.m. Rosary
10:00 a.m. Rose Marie & Robert Bates +



MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 12 - Third Week of Advent - Our Lady of Guadalupe - Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Tuesday, December 13 - St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr - Advent Weekday - Zep 3:1-2,9-13/ Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 14 - St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church - Is 45:6c-8, 18,21c-25/ Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday, December 15 - Advent Weekday - Is 54:1-10/ Lk 7:24-30

Friday, December 16 - Advent Weekday - Is 56:1-3a,6-8/ Jn 5:33-36

Saturday, December 17 - Late Advent Weekday - Gn 49:2,8-10/ Mt 1:1-17

Sunday, December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Is 7:10-14/ Rom 1:1-7/ Mt 1:18-24

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 11, 2022

This weekend (December 10th/11th), the Church celebrates the **Third Sunday of Advent**, or *Gaudete Sunday*. This Sunday has had the name of *Gaudete* given to it from the first word of the Introit / Entrance Antiphon: "*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.*" We are called to "*Rejoice!*" as we are at the half-way point of **Advent** and the Lord, though not yet here, is nearer than before.

This moment of joyous expectation is reflected in various ways throughout our liturgy. Most noticeably, the chasuble, chalice veil, burse, and Advent candle are all rose-colored, mixing the colors of penitential violet with joyous gold. The sanctuary, which was previously fairly sparse, is adorned with greater decoration this weekend. Though we will return to our more austere practices tomorrow, let us, with the Church, be glad today as we keep in mind that our Lord is now so near unto us.

This coming Saturday (December 17th), the Church will change her focus from the coming of Christ at the end of time to His coming on **Christmas Day**. On Saturday, we will begin the recitation of the "*O Antiphons*," which are included on this weekend's cover, during Vespers or Evening Prayer. Dating back to at least the 8th Century, each antiphon represents an Old Testament messianic prophecy that is brought to fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

In our modern day, these antiphons are perhaps most recognizable from the lyrics of "*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*" The repeated use of "*Come!*", crescendoing with each verse, is meant to emphasize our intense longing and growing desire for Jesus Christ. In the same way, these four weeks of Advent preparation are meant to awaken us from slumber, stoke the flames of our hearts, and render us worthy to receive the Christ-child on **Christmas Day** and every day.

ADVENT SPECIAL EVENTS

With these last two weeks of Advent, we still have a number of offerings coming up. Join us this Wednesday evening (December 14th) as we welcome Fort Wayne-based praise group *Shema Culture* to lead our evening Holy Hour from 6:00 - 7:00 PM. On Thursday, December 15th, come learn about *Lectio Divina*, an ancient meditative approach to praying the Sacred Scriptures, in the Parish Social Hall.

Next Wednesday, December 21st, we will welcome three additional priests to assist with our Advent Penance Service. Confessions will be heard from 6:00 - 7:00 PM by myself, Fr. Steve Colchin, Fr. Nathan Maskal, and Fr. Bill Sullivan during the Penance Service. Finally, on Thursday, December 22nd, join us in the Parish Gymnasium at 7:00 PM for a free showing of the classic 1992 film, **The Muppet Christmas Carol**, projected on the gym wall. (*While chairs will be brought over from the Social Hall to the gym for the movie night, you are more than welcome to bring your own chair.*)

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

As a reminder, Christmas Day falls on a Sunday this year. Please note that, because of this, our weekend Mass schedule for December 24th/25th, will look different than a normal weekend schedule. Masses will be offered on Christmas Eve (December 24th) at 4:00 PM (*with the Children's Choir*) and 6:00 PM. (*Join our Choir in singing Christmas Carols at 5:30 PM on Christmas Eve.*)

On Christmas Day (December 25th), Masses will be offered at Midnight (*by candlelight*) and 9:00 AM. If you are planning to join us for our Christmas Day Brunch at 10:00 AM in the Parish Social Hall, please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or call the Parish Office (824-1380). All are welcome!

The following weekend (December 31st/January 1st), we will resume our normal weekend schedule for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, with a vigil Mass offered on Saturday, December 31st, at 5:00 PM and Masses on Sunday, January 1st, at 7:30 AM and 10:00 AM.

~Faithfully in Christ, Fr. David



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Carol Leitner, Pat Pfeifer, Troy Cook, Bobbie and Cheryl Jackson, Bonnie Burns, John Houlihan, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Dr. Doug Phillips, Jeff Tillman, and Marj Pogue.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 - Recitation of the Holy Rosary at 6:40 p.m. in the Church, and meeting in the **Conference Room** at 7:00 p.m.

G.I.R.L.'s night out (*Growing, Inspiring, Rejoicing, Loving*)

Will hold their monthly meeting Tuesday, December 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the **Parish Social Hall** for appetizers, games and fellowship. All women of the Parish are invited and welcome to attend!



Come and experience *Shema Culture* "Worship Night" and Mass beginning at 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. *Shema Culture* Mission is to teach, revive and unite. It is a beautiful way to give praise to God through music, singing and giving glory to Him for our many blessings.

What is Lectio Divina?

Join Fr. David Thursday,
December 15th at 7:00 PM
in the Parish Social Hall for
An Introduction to *Lectio Divina*.



PARISH CALENDAR

- Sat., Dec. 10 - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30-9:00 a.m.
- Sat., Dec. 10 - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 11 - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Dec. 11 - Religious Education Classes - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 13 - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 13 - Children's Choir Practice - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.
- Tues., Dec. 13 - Knights of Columbus - Recitation of the Holy Rosary at 6:40 p.m. in the Church, and meeting in the **Conference Room** at 7:00 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 13 - G.I.R.L.'s Night Out - will meet in the **Parish Social Hall** at 6:30 p.m.
- Wed., Dec. 14 - Shema Culture "Worship Night and Mass" 6-7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 15 - Catholicism Explained (RCIA Program) - 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- Thurs., Dec. 15 - *Lectio Divina* 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- Sat., Dec. 17 - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30-9:00 a.m.
- Sat., Dec. 17 - Confession 4-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 18 - Mass 7:30 a.m. / Mass 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Dec. 18 - Religious Education Classes - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 20 - Adoration 7-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 20 - Children's Choir Practice - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Conference Room.
- Wed., Dec. 21 - Adoration - 6-7 p.m. / Advent Penance Service 6:00 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- Wed., Dec. 21 - Choir Practice - 7:30 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 21 - Catholicism Explained (RCIA Program) - 5:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.

Weekend of December 17/18, 2022



5:00 Nick Boratenski
7:30 Donna Geisel
10:00 Jay Crisp/ Adult Choir



5:00 Carol Butler
7:30 Geoff Frank
10:00 Monica Harris



5:00 Volunteers
7:30 Volunteers
10:00 Volunteers



5:00 Alex/Audrey Mechling, Melanie Bedwell
7:30 Spencer McCorkle, Phillip/Jacqueline Mayer
10:00 Charlie Andrews, Ellie Coyne, Luke Miller

St. Joseph Parish Finance Report for the Weekend of December 3/4

Adult Envelopes- \$2,491.00
Loose- \$299.00
Repair/Rainy Day Fund- \$1,035.38
Immaculate Conception Collection- \$71.00
Christmas Offering- \$20.00
Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary - \$10.00
Religious Ed.- \$125.00
Votive Candles- \$78.00
Hall Rent- \$130.00
Total- \$4,259.30

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$857.10 behind our budget for the month of December. Online Giving for November was \$6,380.00 we ended \$4,315.04 ahead of our monthly budget for November.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund- \$111.00
Online Giving St. Vincent de Paul for November- \$215.00

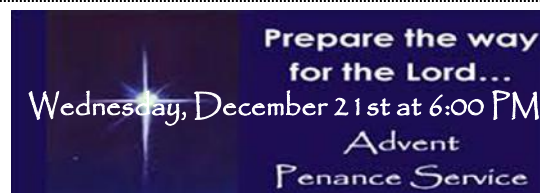
*Your gifts to St. Joseph Parish are greatly appreciated.
Thank you!*

osvonlinegiving.com/4741

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FUND REPORT - November

Housing- \$270.00
Total Charitable Donations- **\$2,70.00**

Thank you for helping us help others!



FAMILY CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT

Join us Thursday, December 22nd for a Family Christmas Movie Night in the Parish Social Hall at 7:00 p.m. We will be showing Jim Hensen's *The Muppet Christmas Carol*.



If you plan to attend the Christmas Brunch following the Christmas Morning Mass at 9:00 on December 25th, please make sure to RSVP by signing up on the sheet in the narthex by December 15th. Thank you!

St. Joseph Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve Mass December 24 * 4:00 PM-
Children's Choir
Christmas Eve Mass December 24 * 6:00 PM-
Adult Choir
Candle Light Mass at Midnight
Christmas Day Mass December 25- 9:00 AM



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THINK!
T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
I - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?

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EVERYDAY



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