



ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CONTACT US

ADDRESS: 1300 NORTH MAIN STREET
BLUFFTON, IN 46714

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EMAIL: STJOSEPHCHURCH@ADAMSWELLS.COM

WEBSITE: STJOSEPHCHURCHBLUFFTON.ORG

PARISH OFFICE: MON-FRI, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

EMERGENCY PHONE: (260) 296-0511

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY VIGIL: 5 PM

SUNDAY: 7:30 AM & 10 AM

DAILY MASS:

TUESDAY, THURSDAY, SATURDAY: 8 AM

WEDNESDAY: 7 PM

FRIDAY: 8:30 AM

CONFESIONS:

TUESDAY: 8:30-9 AM

WEDNESDAY: 6-6:45 PM

SATURDAY: 8:30-9 AM & 4-4:45 PM

FIRST FRIDAY: 3-3:45 PM

ADORATION:

TUESDAY: 7-8 AM

WEDNESDAY: 6-7 PM

STAFF

PASTOR: FR. DAVID VIOLI

EMAIL: FRDAVIDVIOLI@GMAIL.COM

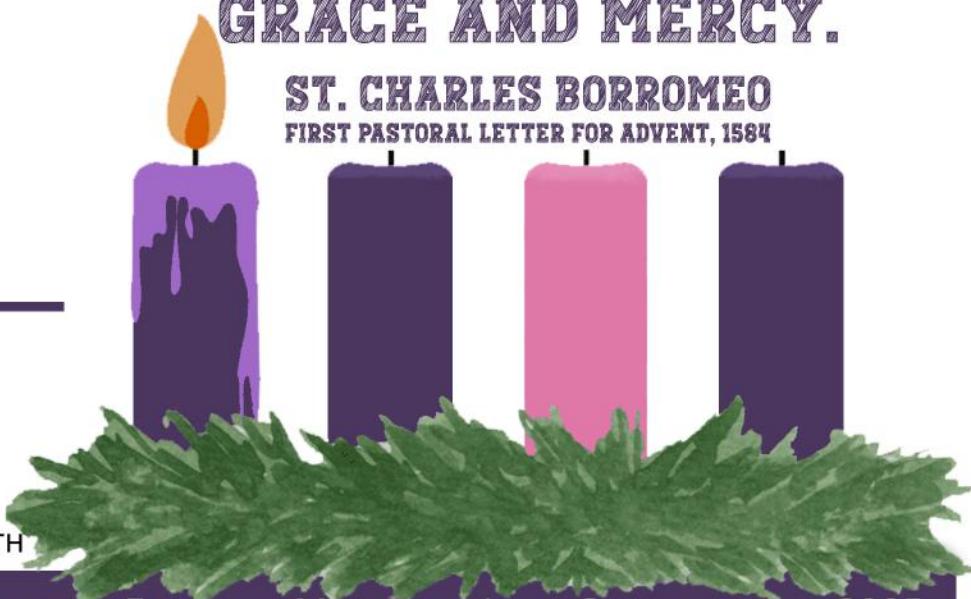
ADMIN. ASST. / DRE: MICHELLE PAXTON

DIRECTOR OF SACRED MUSIC: TERESA SMITH

**BELoved,
THE CHURCH TEACHES
US THAT THIS IS THE
SEASON OF WAITING.**

**LET US LIVE AS IF
EACH DAY THE LORD
MIGHT COME, FOR HE
DOES INDEED COME
TO US EACH DAY IN
GRACE AND MERCY.**

ST. CHARLES BORROME
FIRST PASTORAL LETTER FOR ADVENT, 1584



Saturday, November 29

4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*

4:35 p.m. *Rosary*

5:00 p.m. Beth Kaiser +

Sunday, November 30

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*

7:30 a.m. Our Parish Family

9:40 a.m. *Rosary*

10:00 a.m. Rose Mary Helm +

Monday, December 1

No public Mass

Tuesday, December 2

7:00-8:00 a.m. *Adoration*

8:00 a.m. Daniel & Audrey Mayer Family

8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*

Wednesday, December 3

6:00-7:00 p.m. *Adoration*

6-6:45 p.m. *Confession*

7:00 p.m. Robert Scheidler +

Thursday, December 4

8:00 a.m. Leo Gillig Family

Friday, December 5

8:30 a.m. Roque Volpe +

Saturday, December 6

8:00 a.m. Special Intention

8:30-9:00 a.m. *Confession*

4:00-4:45 p.m. *Confession*

4:35 p.m. *Rosary*

5:00 p.m. Our Parish Family

Sunday, December 7

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*

7:30 a.m. Connie Herr +

9:40 a.m. *Rosary*

10:00 a.m. Raymond "Bud" Helm +

5:00 p.m. (*Holy Day*) Parish Family



MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 1 - Advent Weekday [1] - Is 4:2-6 / Ps 122:1-9 / Mt 8:5-11

Tues., Dec. 2 - Advent Weekday [1] - Is 11:1-10 / Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 / Lk 10:21-24

Wed., Dec. 3 - St. Francis Xavier, Priest - Is 25:6-10a / Ps 23:1-6 / Mt 15:29-37

Thurs., Dec. 4 - Advent Weekday [1] - St. John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church - Is 26:1-6 / Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a / Mt 7:21, 24-27

Fri., Dec. 5 - Advent Weekday [1] - Is 29:17-24 / Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 / Mt 9:27-31

Sat., Dec. 6 - Advent Weekday [1] - St. Nicholas, Bishop - Is 30:19-21, 23-26 / Ps 147:1-6 / Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sun., Dec. 7 - Second Sunday of Advent - Is 11:1-10 / Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 / Rom 15:4-9 / Mt 3:1-12

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - NOVEMBER 30, 2025

Happy Liturgical New Year! This weekend (Nov. 29th/30th), the Church celebrates the **First Sunday of Advent**. During this season, we look back with gratitude to Bethlehem and forward with hope to Christ's return in glory. This season, its roots reaching back to at least the 4th Century, serves as a time for prayer and fasting in preparation for the *coming (adventus)* of **Christmas Day**.

This season was often referred to as "*little Lent*" and ranged anywhere from three to six weeks, depending on the local custom. It has held to the four week structure that we know today since the 9th Century. Overall, the purpose of this preparatory and penitential season is to open our hearts to the Lord who has come into the world. Or, in the thought of St. Augustine of Hippo: *To love His first coming so that we may be ready to rejoice at His second coming.*

"Advent invites us to a daily discipline of silence, to hear the voice of God in our hearts." These words of Pope St. John Paul II highlight one of the ways we can best enter into the Advent season. Going against the busyness and noise of the world, we embrace the silence that will lead us into that holy and quiet night on which Christ was born. In silence and stillness, we open our hearts to hear the voice of the Christ-child calling out to us.

Liturgically, we embrace this call to silence by inviting more silence into our liturgy. Throughout **Advent**, the **Gloria** is not intoned or prayed (*save for solemnities*). This hymn of praise will not spring forth from our lips until we join our song with that of the angelic choir that first proclaimed "*Glory to God*" to the shepherds. Likewise, our closing hymn will give way to silence to reflect that quiet anticipation and longing of the heart for the Christ-child.

Similarly, with the new liturgical year, we have now completed praying our **Parish 150th Anniversary Prayer** before each Mass. We will now take those few moments before Mass as a time for recollection. Likewise, we will conclude our Communion Hymn at the reposition of the Most Holy Eucharist after the distribution of Holy Communion. The purification of the vessels will take place in silence to allow for a few extra moments of quiet contemplation.

Our liturgical accoutrements also take on a more "*silent*" nature as well. Our gilded candlesticks and altar crucifix are switched for their wooden replacements. The wood lacks that luster of the more precious metals. Similarly, the bleached candles are replaced with unbleached beeswax. These elements provide a visual "*silence*" that is muted in color, humble in appearance, and reminiscent of the simplicity of Bethlehem.

ANNUAL ADVENT BABY SHOWER

In preparation for the coming of the Christ-child, we will once again have the opportunity of helping families in need. Please see the included insert in this weekend's bulletin for our annual **Advent Baby Shower**, supporting the needs of *Helping Hands*, one of our local pregnancy and family resource centers. Thank you for your generosity to this good cause.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

As a reminder, the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**, a **holy day of obligation**, is quickly approaching. In 1846, the Sixth Provincial Council of Baltimore dedicated our nation, on its seventieth anniversary, under the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary through the title of the Immaculate Conception. Interestingly enough, this dedication was done several years prior to the infallible promulgation of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception.

To aide in our obligation to assist at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass for this holy day, we will offer four Masses for the Holy Day. There will be a Vigil Mass on Sunday, December 7th at 5 PM and Masses on Monday, December 8th at 7 AM, Noon, and 7 PM.

Please Note: We have an obligation to assist at Masses for **both** the **Second Sunday of Advent** and the **Holy Day of the Immaculate Conception**. The special Sunday Vigil Mass can count for **ONE** of these obligations, **NOT** both.



Becky Biberstein, Michael Green, Frances Carr, Tom Richhart, Troy Cook, Bobbie Jackson, Kimberly Abney, Sydnee Bradburn, Leanne Lee, Jeff Tillman, Mike Holland, Richard Payne and Matt Norris.

**ANNUAL ADVENT
BABY SHOWER
November 30th
thru December 21st**



Our Annual Advent Baby Shower will be supporting **Helping Hands Pregnancy Center**.

Requested Items:

- Pull ups
- Wipes
- Diapers size 4, 5, and 6
- Baby and kids clothes sizes 2T and up
- Sippy cups
- Aquaphor
- Baby shampoo/wash



Items can be placed in the playpen in the narthex.

Thank you for your generosity!



**FORTY HOURS DEVOTION
Eucharistic Adoration**

Opening Mass (Holy Day Mass)

Monday, Dec. 8th - 7 PM

Eucharistic Speaker: Dcn. Rob Lortie

Tuesday, Dec. 9th - 7 PM

Closing Mass & Consecration

Wednesday, Dec. 10th - 7 PM

PARISH CALENDAR

- **Sat., Nov. 29** - Confession 4:00-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Nov. 30** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Nov. 30** - NO Religious Education Classes - Thanksgiving Break
- **Sat., & Sun., Nov. 29 & 30** - Holy Land items for sale in the narthex after all Masses this weekend.
- **Mon., Dec. 1** - Children's Choir Practice - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room
- **Tues., Dec. 2** - Adoration 7:00-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- **Tues., Dec. 2** - Knights of Columbus meeting - Holy Rosary at 6:40 in Church and meeting in the Parish Social Hall at 7:00.
- **Wed., Dec. 3** - Adoration - 6-7:00 p.m. / Confession 6-6:45 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- **Wed., Dec. 3** - Parish Council Meeting - 7:45 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room.
- **Thurs., Dec. 4** - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- **Thurs., Dec. 4** - Adult Choir Practice - 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room.
- **Thurs., Dec. 4 - Discover Catholicism** - 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- **Fri., Dec. 5** - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Dec. 6** - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- **Sat., Dec. 6** - Confession 4:00-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- **Sun., Dec. 7** - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- **Sun., Dec. 7** - Religious Education Class - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- **Sun., Dec. 7 - Vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** - Vigil Mass Time 5:00 p.m.
- **Mon., Dec. 8 - The Feast of the Immaculate Conception** - Mass Times 7:00 a.m. / Noon / 7:00 p.m.
- **Mon., Dec. 8 - 40 Hours Devotion following 7:00 p.m. Mass**

WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 6TH & 7TH



Mass Cantors

5:00 p.m. Mike Morrissey

7:30 a.m. Donna Geisel

10:00 a.m. Adult Choir

Lectors



5:00 p.m. Ginny Fenstermaker

7:30 a.m. Sarah McCorkle

10:00 a.m. Mike Dunn



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

5:00 p.m. Laurisa Roper

7:30 a.m. Dale McCorkle

10:00 a.m. Laurisa Sudhoff, Kevin Seago, Rick Singer



Servers

5:00 p.m. Angel/Zoe Soto, Volunteer

7:30 a.m. Angela/James Mayer, Annie Herr

10:00 a.m. Charlie/Louis Andrews, Isaiah Bedwell

**St. Joseph Parish Finance Report
for the Weekend of Nov. 22nd / 23rd**

Adult Envelopes - \$2,371.75

Loose - \$308.00

Repair / Rainy Day - \$10.00

Bequests - \$145.00

Holy Days Offerings - \$30.00

Christmas Flowers - \$10.00

Total - \$2,874.75

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are \$4,528.71 ahead of our budget for the month of November 2025.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund - \$15.25

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

To set up **Online Giving** through ***Our Sunday Visitor***, visit: www.osvhub.com/stjosephchurchbluffton or Scan the QR Code on the right.



WELCOME, CHILD OF GOD!



Through water and the word, Mary Therese, daughter of Connor and Harper Gunkel, became a child of God and was sealed as Christ's own forever through the Sacrament of Baptism on Sunday, November 23, 2025 by Fr. David Violi.

Mariachi LOCO
MEXICAN GRILL
1595 HARRISON PLZ
BLUFFTON, IN 46714
PHONE: 260-827-0616
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Francisco Sanchez and Family, Parishioners

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RIGHT TO LIFE
OF NORTHEAST INDIANA
Fall Banquet
October 14th, 2025
Allen County War Memorial Coliseum
ichooselife.org/banquet

Keep your smile bright!



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Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words.
St. Francis of Assisi

Dan Gordon, Tony Crowell, Michelle Adler,
Matt Hayes & Brigitte Washburn
TEL 260.824-9377
gordonlegal.net
Dan Gordon, Parishioner
Matt Hayes, Parishioner, St. Vincent de Paul

GORDON | ADLER | HAYES | WASHBURN

GOODWIN - CALE & HARNISH MEMORIAL CHAPEL
3320 East State Road 124
Bluffton, IN 46714
260-824-3852
Douglas L. Cale / Mitch Harnish

Thursday's: 3pm-8pm
Friday's: 3pm-8pm
Saturday's: Noon-8pm
See us on Facebook & Instagram!
The Herr Family
Parishioners

dash90wines.com

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BECOME A KNIGHT
IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.

Before you speak....
T H I N K !
T - is it true?
h - is it helpful?
i - is it inspiring?
n - is it necessary?
k - is it kind?

“Saint Joseph was a just man, a tireless worker, the upright guardian of those entrusted to his care. May he always guard, protect and enlighten families.”
- St. John Paul II