



ST. JOSEPH

CATHOLIC CHURCH

BLUFFTON, INDIANA

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CONTACT US

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OFFICE HOURS: 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

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

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE:

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17TH: 6-7 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

**"WE ARE JOYFUL
NOT BECAUSE
THIS LIFE BRINGS
US REST, BUT
BECAUSE THE LORD
IS COMING TO
BRING US HOME."**

ST. AUGUSTINE OF HIPPO
ON CHRISTIAN JOY, SERMON 256.1



Saturday, December 13

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

4:35 p.m. *Rosary*

5:00 p.m. Leonard Smythe +

Sunday, December 14

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*

7:30 a.m. Our Parish Family

9:40 a.m. *Rosary*

10:00 a.m. Gonzalo Riveros +

Monday, December 15

No Public Mass

Tuesday, December 16

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

8:00 a.m. Sue Meyer +

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

Wednesday, December 17

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

6:00-6:45 p.m. *Confession*

7:00 p.m. Emmanuel Thach +

Thursday, December 18

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

Friday, December 19

8:30 a.m. Martin & Lois Simon +

Saturday, December 20

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. Delfin Rios +

Sunday, December 21

7:10 a.m. *Rosary*

7:30 a.m. Chris Hartman

9:40 a.m. *Rosary*

10:00 a.m. Our Parish Family



MASS READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon., Dec. 15 - Advent Weekday [3] - Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a / Ps 25:4-5b, 6, 7bc, 8-9 / Mt 21:23-27

Tues., Dec. 16 - Advent Weekday [3] - Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 / Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23 / Mt 21:28-32

Wed., Dec. 17 - Advent Weekday [3] - Gn 49:2, 8-10 / Ps 72:1-4b, 7-8, 17 / Mt 1:1-17

Thurs., Dec. 18 - Advent Weekday [3] - Jer 23:5-8 / Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 / Mt 1:18-25

Fri., Dec. 19 - Advent Weekday [3] - Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a / Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6b, 16-17 / Lk 1:5-25

Sat., Dec. 20 - Advent Weekday [3] - Is 7:10-14 / Ps 24:1-6 / Lk 1:26-38

Sun., Dec. 21 - Fourth Sunday of Advent - Is 7:10-14 / Ps 24:1-6 / Rom 1:1-7 / Mt 1:18-24

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - DECEMBER 14, 2025

Thank you to all those who participated in our *Forty Hours Devotion and Consecration to St. Joseph* this past week. May this time given to the Lord bear tremendous fruit in both our lives and the life of our parish.

This weekend (Dec. 13th/14th), the Church celebrates the **Third Sunday of Advent**, also known as **Gaudete Sunday** or **Rejoice Sunday**. This name comes from the beginning of the Entrance Antiphon for today's Mass: ***Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice!*** (*Philippians 4:4*) This brief moment of joy during a penitential season marks the halfway point of **Advent** and emphasizes that the One we await is already drawing near.

The expectant and hope-filled joy of this day is reflected in the rose-colored vestments worn by the priest and the rose Advent candle, both of which mix the penitential violet of Advent with the joyful gold of Christmastide. We also raise our voices for a recessional hymn today, breaking our musical fast for a day's time as a reminder of what silence is meant to prepare us for: That glorious day when "*all God's people shall see together the glory of the Lord.*"

On Wednesday (Dec. 17th), the Church will fully change her **Advent** focus from the second coming of Christ to His coming on **Christmas Day** as we begin the recitation of the "*O Antiphons*." The "*O Antiphons*" are formally recited as a part of *Vespers (Evening Prayer)* at the Liturgy of the Hours, the daily prayer of the Church. Dating back to at least the 6th Century, each antiphon is an Old Testament messianic prophecy fulfilled in Jesus Christ.

By the 8th Century, the "*O Antiphons*" were in regular use throughout Rome. It is believed that Benedictine monks were the first to arrange these antiphons with a definite purpose and order: Working in reverse order, the first letter of each antiphon spells out **E-R-O C-R-A-S**, Latin for "***Tomorrow, I come to you.***" As the "*O Antiphons*" end on **Christmas Eve**, this phrase anticipates the coming joy of the Christ-child on **Christmas Day**.

In our modern day, these antiphons are recognizable from both the Alleluia verse at daily Mass and the lyrics of "*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*" The repeated use of "*Come!*", crescendo-ing with each verse, is meant to emphasize our intense longing and desire for the **LORD**. In the same way, these four weeks of **Advent** are meant to awaken us from slumber, stoke the flames of our hearts, and prepare us to welcome our **SAVIOR** on **Christmas Day**.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE—DEC. 17TH FROM 6:00-7:00 PM

Our **Advent Penance Service** is **Wednesday, December 17th from 6:00 - 7:00 PM** in the Church. We will be joined by three priests to hear confessions. I would encourage you to welcome the peace that is Jesus Christ by coming to the Sacrament of Confession. Here, the Lord heals, strengthens, and reconciles our souls through the power of His forgiveness. In this way, we prepare our hearts for **Christmas Day** by giving it over entirely to the Lord.

PARISH RENOVATIONS—VOLUNTEER WORK DAYS

Though Shawnee Construction will formally begin work on our church renovations Monday, Jan. 5th, we will begin "preparations" for the renovations **following the 10 AM Mass on Sunday, Dec. 28th. Volunteers are welcome to join us after Mass, from 11 AM - 1 PM** to move furniture from the Church to the Parish Social Hall, move tables from the Parish Social Hall to the Parish Gym, and begin arranging chairs in the Parish Social Hall.

On Monday, Dec. 29th, local ***Yaste Painting*** will remove the pews from the Church to begin the needed repair work and re-staining. We will have a second **Volunteer Work Day on Tuesday, Dec. 30th from 1 PM - 3 PM**. On this day, we will begin disassembling cabinets in the sacristy, transitioning the Youth Den into a Calming Room / Cry Room, and tackle a number of other projects as we prepare to celebrate our first Masses in the Parish Social Hall. Please come dressed in work clothes if volunteering on this day.

~Fr. David



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.

G.I.R.L.'s Night Out

G.I.R.L'S Night Out will have their
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY
on Tuesday, December 16th at 6:30 p.m.
in the Parish Social Hall.

Bring an appetizer & enjoy a time of fun & fellowship.
All women of the Parish are Welcome!

ADVENT

PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, Dec. 17th - 6:00-7:00 PM

ST. JOSEPH CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24TH

4:00 PM Vigil Mass
5:30 PM Christmas Carols
6:00 PM Vigil Mass



CHRISTMAS DAY DECEMBER 25TH

12:00 AM Midnite Mass
9:00 AM Mass at Dawn
Brunch following Mass



Join Us in Celebrating the Birth of Christ

PLEASE NOTE...

There will be **NO** Religious Education Classes
on December 21st or December 28th for Christmas Break.

PARISH CALENDAR

- Sat., Dec. 13 - Confession 4:00-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 14 - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Dec. 14 - Religious Education Classes - 8:30-9:45 a.m.
- Mon., Dec. 15 - Children's Choir Practice - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room
- Tues., Dec. 16 - Adoration 7:00-8:00 a.m. / Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confessions 8:30 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 16 - *GIRL's Night Out Christmas Party* - 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- Wed., Dec. 17 - *Advent Penance Service* - 6-7:00 p.m. / Mass 7:00 p.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 18 - Mass 8:00 a.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 18 - Adult Choir Practice - 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room.
- Thurs., Dec. 18 - *Discover Catholicism* - 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Social Hall.
- Fri., Dec. 19 - Mass 8:30 a.m.
- Sat., Dec. 20 - Mass 8:00 a.m. / Confession 8:30 a.m.
- Sat., Dec. 20 - Confession 4:00-4:45 p.m. / Mass 5:00 p.m.
- Sun., Dec. 21 - Mass 7:30 a.m. / 10:00 a.m.
- Sun., Dec. 21 - No Religious Ed. Classes - Christmas Break
- Mon., Dec. 22 - Children's Choir Practice - 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the Parish Conference Room.



WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 20TH & 21ST

MASS Cantors
5:00 p.m. Dan Lautzenheiser
7:30 a.m. Mike Morrissey
10:00 a.m. Adult Choir

Lectors

5:00 p.m. Carol Butler
7:30 a.m. Barb Ault
10:00 a.m. Monica Harris

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

5:00 p.m. Laurisa Roper
7:30 a.m. Jill Morrissey
10:00 a.m. Tammi Helm, Larisa Sudhoff, Kevin Seago
Servers
5:00 p.m. Angel/Zoe Soto, volunteer
7:30 a.m. Charlene/Anna Lynn/Jackson Felger
10:00 a.m. Charlie Andrews, Isaiah/Dominic Bedwell

St. Joseph Parish Finance Report for the Weekend of Dec. 6th / 7th

Adult Envelopes - \$2,592.00

Loose - \$343.15

Repair / Rainy Day - \$994.99

Holy Day Offerings- \$155.00

Christmas Flowers- \$65.00

Hall Rent- \$120.00

Cookbook Sales- \$50.00

Religious Ed. Fund- \$125.00

Total- \$4,445.14

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

Our weekly budget is \$5,116.40

We are **\$671.26** behind
our budget for the month
of December 2025.

St. Vincent de Paul Fund - \$65.00

Online Giving for November -
\$5,905.00. We ended the month
\$7,710.32 ahead of our budget.

Online Giving for St. Vincent de
Paul Fund for November -
\$200.00

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



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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

BISHOP LUERS HIGH SCHOOL | FORT WAYNE

TIPOFF 6:30 P.M. | FREE ADMISSION

DIOCESEFWSB.ORG/CUPERTINO



JOIN BISHOP RHOADES FOR ADORATION AND MASS

ADORATION 3 - 4 P.M. | MASS 4 P.M.

ORATORY (CHAPEL) AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. FRANCIS

2701 SPRING STREET | FORT WAYNE, IN 46808

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

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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