



# ST. CATHERINE CHURCH

[www.saintcatherine51.org](http://www.saintcatherine51.org) 5101 West Center Street, Milwaukee, WI 53210

## What Are You Doing?

It might sound crazy if someone said, "Happy New Year" at this time of the year, and yet we have a couple of weeks to go before the new year begins. The First Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of the liturgical year. Advent comes from the Latin word meaning "coming." Jesus is coming, and Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for His arrival. While we typically regard Advent as a joyous season, it is also intended to be a period of preparation, much like Lent. Prayer, penance and fasting are appropriate during this season.

Advent is not as strict as Lent, and there are no rules for fasting, but it is meant to be a period of self-preparation. The purple color associated with Advent is also the color of penance. The faithful should fast during the first two weeks in particular and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Have you ever heard of "reverse chronology?" It is a method of storytelling whereby the plot is revealed in reverse order. In a story employing this technique, the first scene shown is actually the conclusion to the plot. The readings we have been hearing towards the end of the liturgical year and today's Gospel talk about the end of time. This is what I refer to as reverse chronology. It's a reminder we came from God, and we will go back to Him. He holds everything; He is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

The first reading from the prophet Jeremiah is a message of hope to the children of Israel who have been exiled in Babylon for a long time: "In those days, in that time, I will raise up for David a just shoot; he shall do what is right and just in the land. In those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure; this is what they shall call her, 'The LORD our justice.'" The Lord God was promising a Messiah who would come to save. Advent is a time for preparation for Christmas and, at the same time, the second coming for Jesus. Many times we get so focused on Christmas -- food, decorations, travel and so on, and we forget the main purpose of this season. What are you doing to prepare for Christmas? Can you make this Christmas meaningful in your spiritual journey? The Kingdom of Heaven is not only eating and drinking; it is more than that. We always need to be reminded who we are and always seek the purpose for which we were created.

The message for this First Sunday of Advent is, "Watch and pray!" Watch and pray that the Lord may be able to say to us when he comes, "Welcome, dearest friend; after all the years, it is indeed good to meet you face to face." Have a blessed Advent season as you prepare for Christmas and His second coming. Give this Christmas deep meaning by preparing well.

*Fr. Peter Patrick*

*Here to Stay, Here to Serve!*

*We are a Christ-centered community,  
the vital and spiritual presence  
of the Catholic Church  
in Sherman Park and beyond.  
Living the Gospel,  
we welcome, learn, serve and celebrate.*

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"THE DAYS ARE COMING, SAYS THE LORD,  
WHEN I WILL FULFILL THE PROMISE  
I MADE TO THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AND JUDAH."

—JEREMIAH 33:14

Member of the Milwaukee Westside Catholic Parishes  
with Saint Sebastian



**First Sunday of Advent**

**November 28, 2021**

**Parish Office** ... 445-5115 ... Fax 445-5198  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm, Monday - Friday  
secretary@saintcatherine.org - ppkimani@saintcatherine.org  
cpoth@saintcatherine.org  
St. Sebastian Office ... 453-1061

#### Parish Staff

Rev. Peter Patrick Kimani, *Pastor*  
Ralph & Jane Kornburger, *Deacon Couple*  
Jon Metz, *Adult & Young Adult Formation Minister*  
Margaret Lee, *Youth Minister and Human Concerns*  
Joe Sheehan & Morgan Frank, *Child Formation Ministers*  
Doug Scott, *Music Director*  
Carole Poth, *Director of Administration and Operations*  
Joann Perleberg, *Director of Finances*  
Sister Pat Russell, *Parish Office Assistant*

**Parish School** 445-2846 Fax 445-0448  
Jade Cottrell, *Principal* Office Open 7:30 am - 3:30 pm

#### Parish Trustees

Toni Wagner, *Secretary* - Mary Brooks, *Treasurer*

#### Pastoral Council

Kathy Kent, James Napper, Lisette Quintanilla, Brenda Scharping, Bill Thorn, Becky Troy, June Wessa

### The Week Ahead

Sunday, November 28	9:00 am	Mass
Tuesday, November 30	8:30 am	Mass
	9:00 am	Alpha Program (FKCC)
	10:30 am	St. Vincent de Paul (R)
	6:00 pm	Alpha Program (St. Seb)
Friday, December 3	8:30 am	Mass
Sunday, December 5	8:45 am	CGS (Atrium)
	9:00 am	Mass

### Advent Mission

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee is excited to host Advent Missions at 18 parishes throughout southeastern Wisconsin— including St. Sebastian. This Mission is based on “The Gift of Sunday,” a theological reflection issued by Archbishop Jerome Listekki. Join us on **Wednesday, December 1**, from 7 to 8:30 pm for a beautiful prayer service and presentation that encourages everyone to come to Mass and rediscover Jesus’ presence in the Eucharist—this Advent Season and beyond! Presented by Fr. Brad Krawczyk.

### Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

There will be a Mass of Anticipation here at St. Catherine for the holy day on **Tuesday, December 7, at 5 pm**. St. Sebastian’s will celebrate the feast on Wednesday, December 8, at 8:20 am. This holy day, honoring Mary as the patroness of the United States, is celebrated on the actual date rather than on the Sundays closest to their liturgical dates.

### Plan Ahead for “La Fiesta”

We will celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on **Sunday, December 12**, with a re-enactment of the story of Juan Diego and our Lady. After Mass, we’ll continue the celebration in the Fr. Jack Kern Community Center with a taco lunch. Be sure to mark your calendar to attend.

## Mass Intentions & Scripture Readings

### Sunday, November 28 First Sunday of Advent

9:00 am † Ted Bandoni (Marianne Hondel)  
Jer 33:14-16/1Thes3:12-4:2/Ps25:4-10, 14/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

### Monday, November 29

8:30 am Mass at St. Sebastian  
Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-9/Mt 8:5-11

### Tuesday, November 30 St. Andrew

8:30 am That We Lead People to Christ  
Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8-11/Mt 4:18-22

### Wednesday, December 1

8:20 am Mass at St. Sebastian  
Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-6/Mt 15:29-37

### Thursday, December 2

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a /Mt 7:21, 24-27

### Friday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier

8:30 am Missionaries in the U.S. and Around the World  
Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

### Sunday, December 5 Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 am † Bonnie Dougherty (Lieb Family)  
Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2-6/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

## Liturgical Ministers

### Sunday, November 28 - Fr. Peter Patrick

Lectors Bernadette Davel & Mary Miller  
Acolyte Brendan Holahan

### Sunday, December 5 - Fr. Larry

Lectors Harold Beal & Tony Amoroso  
Acolyte Bill Thorn

## Reflections on this Sunday’s Readings

I don’t think I am alone when I say the readings for today do not provoke the natural images of Advent. When I think of Advent, I think of waiting, anticipation, preparation, even excitement. Today’s readings remind us of the readings from a couple of weeks ago when we were reminded to stay alert. Remember the line from Harry Potter: “Constant Vigilance!” The readings today, especially the ones from Jeremiah and Luke, have that same theme of alertness. They describe a world that is stressed and anxiety filled.

Maybe these are perfect readings for this Advent. Here we find ourselves 18 months into a pandemic that just won’t let go. People are tired, weary and frustrated. There are divisive perspectives on how we should move forward, and that is making people feel isolated.

Even through this time of stress, we turn our attention to what we know is coming. As Jeremiah puts it, “I will rise up from David a just shoot.” The Lord is coming. Prepare the way! Let us embrace the spirit of coming hope in the incarnation. Yes, life is not always easy right now. In my mind, the timing of Advent is perfect. As the old Christmas carol proclaims, “The weary world rejoices!” Prepare our hearts, oh Lord, for your coming!

- Do you feel the weariness of the world right now?
- What brings you hope?
- How are you preparing your heart for the Incarnation of the Lord?

## Pray for Our Sick

Fr. Dick Aiken, Maryl Barrett, Michael Barton, Carol & Joe Brien, Tom Cavanaugh, Annie Coleman, Maureen Crowley, Barb Haig, Ernest Herre, Carla Jones, James Krutina, Evelyn Martinez, Carmen Napper, Bev Narus, Diane Neicheril, Steve O'Connell, Andréa Olds, Tom Plakut, David Pleskatcheck, Ron & Trudy Ranallo, Don Richards, Margaret Schmidt, Sr. Mary Ann Schmidt, Doug Scott, Carmel Stage, Bill Steger, Larry Teufel, Nancy & Eduardo V, Kathy Zambo

## School News

Seton North Basketball practice began November 16. We are recruiting players for an 8th grade boys' team and an 8th grade girls' team -- plus boys' and girls' teams for 5th, 6th and 7th grades. The teams will practice at St. Catherine's gym. In school, we are very happy to welcome Ms. Miller back to the K4 classroom. The students missed her and so did we.



Fr. James Loehr, a retired priest of the diocese, died recently. May he rest in peace in the Savior's arms!

## Senior Ministry

Reflecting on the aging process, singer-songwriter Mike Love commented, "The great thing about getting older is that you get a chance to tell the people in your life who matter what they mean to you." Most seniors have learned the value of time. They know the value of loving and encouraging words.

## Sustainability Tip

Americans throw away 25% more trash during the Thanksgiving to New Year's holiday period than any other time of year. Consider more environmentally-friendly gifts for the upcoming season instead of just shopping for more "stuff" that eventually reaches the landfill: home-baked cookies, breads or jams, a houseplant or tree, a gift certificate or subscription, or an IOU for household tasks. Read more at <https://lbre.stanford.edu/pssistanford-recycling/frequently-asked-questions/frequently-asked-questions-holiday-waste-prevention>

## Facing Racism

We pledge to promote understanding, inclusion, and mutual respect, and thus build community within all races, ethnicities and cultures. *Excerpt Sisters of Mercy Commitment to Action*

## Reflections of Faith Asks You . . .

to consider offering your reflections on "Community," the theme of the upcoming issue. All of us are part of a community: our family, our work, our neighborhood, our Church. Why/how do those communities enrich your life? What do you/can you contribute to make them more life-giving? Send articles to [secretary@saintscatherine.org](mailto:secretary@saintscatherine.org)

<b>Regular Contributions thru 11/14/21 - Week 20</b>	\$59,237
Prior YTD Amount	60,419
<b>Surplus/Deficit vs. Prior Year</b>	\$ (1,182)

## Recovery Groups-All groups meet in the Community Ctr.

AA: Sunday	11:00 am	AAA: Thursday	7:00 pm
	Tuesday		6:30 pm
	Friday		6:30 pm



We express our sympathy to the friends and family of  
*Ellie Cunningham*

May she rest in peace in the arms of her Savior and Lord!

## Church Cleaning Tomorrow

Come for an hour or more **at 9 am, tomorrow, November 29**. Bring a pail and some rags. Enter off the playground. Save the date, Thursday, December 16, for additional cleaning. Thanks in advance for your help.

## The Pledge Cards . . .

are coming in! The simple action of returning your pledge cards shows you belong to the faith community and want to see it succeed. Whether you help with projects, come for liturgy, serve on a committee or participate in a service ministry, this is the time to renew your monetary pledge to this parish for 2022. Stand up and be counted!

## Centennial Report

The opening celebration of our centennial year will be after Mass on January 9, and a final celebration will be on November 20, 2022. All parish members will receive a desk calendar and/or a wall calendar with parish photographs and special dates throughout the year. We have teams working on: creating a video of the past, present and future of our Church; arranging a pilgrimage to civil right sites; preparing for a concert by our choir; and getting ready to open our doors to Doors Open Milwaukee. We are also getting the church ready for guests by making it more accessible. During Mass for the next 5 weeks, we will be saying the following intention: "As Saint Catherine Church, we enter into our centennial year with hearts open to living our mission to be a Christ-centered community, the vital and spiritual presence of the Catholic Church."

## Come to the Miracle on 10<sup>th</sup> St. Boutique to Shop

This annual St. Seb's event is Saturday, December 4. Boutique shopping begins at 9 am till noon in the Church Hall. **Note that all attendees will need to show proof of their Covid 19 vaccine upon entering.** The elevator is out of service; attendees may be dropped off at the 55th St. entrance where there are fewer steps. Ring the bell to alert someone to open the door.

## Book Club . . .

is taking an "Advent Break." Members will individually choose a book of spiritual reflections to read in preparation for Christmas and share insights at their next meeting.

**Eucharistic Liturgies** are celebrated on Sundays at 9:00 am. Weekday Mass is at 8:30 am in church, T & F; at St. Sebastian, 8:30 am, M & W

For an **Infant's Baptism**, contact the parish office during the prenatal time to begin preparation.

Those discerning a call to **Marriage** should contact the parish office at least six months prior to the wedding date.

For **Non-Infant Baptisms, First Communion, First Reconciliation, Confirmation** and **Information about the Catholic Church**, call the parish office.

**Confessions/Reconciliation** -Schedule with Fr. Peter Patrick at 445-5115 for an appointment.

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