



SAINT LOUIS CATHOLIC CHURCH

DIOCESE OF PEORIA - PRINCETON, ILLINOIS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2021

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb." - Lk 1:41-42

PASTOR NOTE

An Ancient Advent Meditation

In these last days before Christmas, the Church meditates on eight titles of Jesus Christ. These were composed in the 7th Century. Each title describes Christ and begs him to come and set us free. The Advent Hymn, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*, is based on these ancient titles. For your meditation I offer you these titles and a brief explanation. I hope they will help you as we continue our Advent preparations. I included the first few last week, now I share the rest. God Bless. – Msgr. Kruse.

Dec. 20th: *O Key of David, O royal Power of Israel controlling at your will the gate of heaven: come, break down the prison walls of death for those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death; and lead your captive people into freedom.*

Isaiah prophesies that the Messiah will be the key who will unlock our human bondage to sin and open the way to eternal life. Jesus, as a child of King David, is this royal key leading us to heavenly freedom. Christ gave these keys to Peter.

Dec. 21st: *O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death.*

The coming of the Messiah was often referred to as a new dawn, the start of a new day. In Christ, the long night of sin and darkness has given way to the brightness of Christ: light of the world and the eternal living day of resurrection.

Dec. 22nd: *O King of all the nations, the only joy of every human heart; O Keystone of the mighty arch of man, come and save the creature you fashioned from the dust.*

Everyone knew that the Messiah was going to be a king of endless glory. All nations would bow before this king. Christ is King of Kings. The Magi bow in praise; but later, Pilate places a sign over our suffering Messiah: King of the Jews. Jesus is born a king; but, he ascends his throne through suffering.

Dec. 23rd: *O Emmanuel, king and lawgiver, desire of the nations, Savior of all people, come and set us free, Lord our God.*

Isaiah prophesied that a virgin shall conceive, bear a son and call him Emmanuel, God is with us. The baby in the manger is the Son of Mary and the Son of God. God has assumed a human nature: God is with us. Praise Christ, our king and our Redeemer. Praise Emmanuel, God is with us: like us in all things but sin.

NOURISHED IN SPIRIT BY MSGR. KRUSE

We continue our Litany of the Nativity. I hope that it can inspire you to enjoy a similar experience and even come with your own.

O Animals making room for Jesus. I praise you for you were present as God created the first-born Adam, father of the human race. It is only right that you witness the birth of the new-born Adam, Jesus, the source of humanity being re-born as children of God.

O ox. I praise you. You were used in sacrifices of old. But, now you are spared as the new, perfect and eternal sacrifice is welcomed. The old forms of worship are replaced by the new.

O ass. I praise you. You remind us of the times in which we are a dumb ass – choosing sin over the glories of heaven. But, even in our stupidity, Christ makes known His presence.

O little lambs. I praise you. You are ready to welcome the new born shepherd leading us with care.

O Holy waiting. Ever since long ago when sinful Adam was first given the promise, the world has waited for this moment. Wait for God. Be patient. Wait for God. He will act.

O Sacred Silence. The minds of this world are rendered silent. Wisdom is mute. Science fails. Logic is undermined. With God all things are possible – even the utter impossibility of divine humility. The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

O Sacred Humility. Eternal Son of God, I praise your humility: “Though He was in the form of God, Jesus did not deem equality with God, rather, He emptied Himself and took the form of a slave, being born in the likeness of men.” O Divine birth!

O Virgin Mother. I bow before you as you give forth your most prized possession. For nine months you have been the tabernacle of the Most High. Now you give Him up for us.

O sweetest of Mothers, you are the Mother of all grace. Through you, salvation has come into the world. You gave us your holy child so that we can become holy children of God. Words cannot express your honor and greatness, so we are reduced to silence as we embrace this holy moment.

O Joseph, filled with Joy. I praise you. Most august man, you were found worthy to be present at these sacred events. You represent all of us who long to be close to Jesus. We are inspired by your tenderness, prudence, service, humility, piety and virtue.

Christmas Scout Elf: Did our young one's see the Elf?

	<u>Parish Staff</u>
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	Keep in touch with us via email or text Text SLP To 84576 or Connect with us online at stlouiscatholicchurch.flocknote.com

The Parish Office will be closed the following dates for Christmas: Thursday, December 23rd through Friday, December 31st.

If you have an immediate need for a Priest for a medical emergency or funeral planning please call the Parish Office (815-879-0181) and select **option 5**. Your call will then be transferred to Msgr. Kruse's cell phone as an emergency call.

Readings for the week of December 19, 2021

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
Monday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 /Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8/Lk 1:46-56
Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66
Friday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
Saturday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

	<u>Mass Intentions</u>
Monday, December 20 <u>Advent Weekday</u>	7:00 am + Dane Arnold by Joanne Stocking
Tues, December 21 <u>St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church</u>	5:15 pm +Richard DeBord by Nancy DeBord 4-5:00 pm Holy Hour
Wed, December 22 <u>Advent Weekday</u>	7:00 am + Christine Kalil by the mermaids
*Thursday, December 23 <u>St. John of Kanty, Priest</u>	7:00 am +Russell Gibe by Jennifer Gibe
**Friday, December 24 <u>Christmas Eve</u>	4:00 pm +Arnold McCauley 7:00 pm + Hank Skibinski by Jean Kelly 10:00 pm +Tom Makransky
***Saturday, December 25 <u>The Nativity of the Lord</u>	9:00 am +Duane Quiram by Pat Quiram
Sunday, December 26 <u>The Most Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</u>	7:30 am People of the Parish 9:00 am +Adelaida Green by Marcia Obenhaus 10:30 am +Joan Panzica by Janet Hyder
	*Thursday, December 23rd Mass will be 7:00 am; Holy Hour and Confessions are cancelled for this day ** Friday, December 24th—No 7am Mass ***Saturday, December 25th—No 4pm Vigil Mass; Confessions are cancelled for this day

**A PRAYER FOR THE
Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Jesus, you are constantly coming to your people,
even when we fail to see you.
In each and every moment that we are blessed
to recognize you hear and now,
give us the courage to leap with joy at your coming.
Amen.



Liturgical/Volunteer Roles

Christmas Eve, Friday, December 24th

4:00 pm

Altar Servers Gretchen & Gabby Carden,
Cameron Lawrence

Lectors Katie Lawrence

Sacristan Susanna Prushinski

Ushers Ken Lough, Pat Mason, Tom Tracey

EMHC Tim Smith, David Lawrence, Rita Tracey,
Mary Beth Crowe

Camera Operator—Marty Makransky

7:00 pm

Altar Servers Elizabeth Keutzer

Lectors David Roden

Sacristan Chris Romagnoli

Ushers Cynthia Tracy

EMHC Patty Daluga, Gene Menard

10:00 pm

Altar Servers Luke Smith

Lectors Julie Hassler

Sacristan Julie Hassler

Ushers Gary Blessman

EMHC Mandy Robinson, Tim Smith

Nativity of The Lord, Saturday, December 25th

9:00 am

Altar Servers Jessica Carlone

Lectors Gene Menard

Sacristan Mandy Robinson

Ushers Dan Legner

7:30 am: Sunday, December 26th

Altar Servers Brady Peach

Lectors Mary Murphy

Sacristan Lori Atilano

Ushers Tom Tracey

9:00 am: Sunday, December 26th

Altar Server Chris Harmon, Luke Smith

Camera Operators Marty Makransky

Lectors Marcia Obenhaus

Sacristan Chris Romagnoli

Ushers Dave & Judy Moore

10:30 am: Sunday, December 26th

Altar Server Emily Jaeger, Brennan Roden

Lectors Patty Daluga

Sacristan Tim Smith

Ushers Ken Lough, Pat Mason **(Additional Ushers
needed—please contact parish office to volunteer)**

EMHC for Homebound: Pat Galassi-Carlson, Mary
Beth Crowe, Chris Williams, Gene Menard, Tim Smith,
Chris Williams

ST. LOUIS SCHEDULE FOR CHRISTMAS WEEK

MASS

Monday, Wednesday, *Thursday 7:00 AM
Tuesday 5:15 PM

HOLY HOUR

Tuesday 4:00 PM

*Thursday Holy Hour cancelled

ADVENT CONFESSION TIMES

Sunday, December 19, 11:30am to 12:30pm

Tuesday, December 21, 4:30pm to 4:50pm

Wednesday, December 22, 6pm to 7pm

Friday, December 24, 12pm to 1pm

*Thursday, December 23 Confession time cancelled

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve:

*4pm Mass, 7pm Mass, 10pm Mass

5pm Distribution of Holy Communion

*4pm Live-streamed on YouTube & FaceBook

Saturday, December 25th, Christmas Day:

9am Mass (Incense Free Mass)

10am Distribution of Holy Communion

Sunday, December 26th, The Most Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:30am, *9:00am, 10:30 AM

10am Distribution of Holy Communion

*9:00am Live-streamed on YouTube & FaceBook

PRIVATE PRAYER: The Chapel is open for Private
Prayer— if you need the access code please contact the
parish office.

Please note changes to schedule for Christmas week:
Thursday, December 23rd Mass will be 7:00 am; Holy
Hour and Confessions are cancelled for this day; Fri-
day, December 24th—No 7am Mass; Saturday, Decem-
ber 25th—No 4pm Vigil Mass; Confessions are can-
celled for this day.

STEWARDSHIP

Church Monetary Support Through December 12, 2021

Amount Budgeted	\$ 6,500.00
Amount Received	\$ 6,895.00
Amount Over (Under)	\$ 395.00

Fiscal Period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Amount needed to date:	\$156,000.00
Amount Received to date:	\$151,003.00
Over/(Under) budget to date:	(\$ 4,997.00)

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION \$ 708.00

The 12 Days of Christmas Catechism

We are all familiar with the song, *The Twelve Days of Christmas*. Did you know that it is really a code for teaching the faith? It is a tool for catechism:

- 1 Partridge: Jesus
- 2 Turtle Doves: Old and New Testaments
- 3 French Hens: Faith, Hope and Charity
- 4 Calling Birds: Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
- 5 Gold Rings: First five books of bible, The Pentateuch
- 6 Geese a-laying: Six days of creation
- 7 Swans a-swimming: Seven Sacraments
- 8 Maids a-milking: Eight Beatitudes
- 9 Ladies dancing: Nine Fruits of Holy Spirit
- 10 Lords a-leaping: Ten Commandments
- 11 Pipers piping: 11 faithful Apostles
- 12 Drummers Drumming: 12 tenets of the Creed



Please note the following calendar changes for parish activities in January—The New Year's Eve party will replace the usual Wine and Cheese gathering on the first Saturday, January 1st. There will not be a Catholic Forum Q&A held in January.



A Holy Hour for Life Benediction, Rosary, and other Prayers

All are welcome to gather in prayer on the fourth Sunday of each month from 6-7 pm in the Church for the intention of respect for the sacredness of all human life.

Please join us Sunday, December 26th

MARCH 4 LIFE PRAYER EVENT

Date: Saturday Jan. 8, 2022
Where: St. Patrick's Church
725 Fourth St.
LaSalle, IL 61301
Time: 10 AM to 12 PM

ProLife Speaker, Beads for Life Rosary, Mass Celebrated, Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Sponsored by the Mendota Knights of Columbus Council 2090

THANK YOU!

My dear friends of St. Louis Parish, Words cannot express our deep gratitude to you for your generous donations for our mission work in Cameroon, Africa. We have also started a mission and formation house in the Congo. The hospital in Cameroon continues to be in construction for the poor of the area. What started as a seed by the Bishop's invitation in 1956 for our Sisters to come there has now become a tree of many services and native vocations. God is in our midst. You are always in my memory and prayers. Sister Anne Germaine Picard SMP

Knights of Columbus Meeting

Our next meeting will be **this Monday, January 3rd**. All prospective Knights, men of the parish (18 and older), are welcome to join us for fellowship and dinner, served at 6:30pm in Harkrader Hall. Our business meeting will commence at 7.



CCW News

A BIG Thank you St. Louis Parish for your continued support with donations for the Cookie Walk, Angel Tree and Christ Child Society programs sponsored by CCW. All the gifts for the Angel Tree were beautifully wrapped and we know the Gateway Clients will be so thrilled to receive them.

The Filipino musicians and choir did an outstanding job at our CCW Christmas Party. Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, January 25th** at 6pm. We are starting the new year off with a potluck supper, fun and games, laughs and prizes.



Please remember to pray for Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life especially from St. Louis Parish!

St. Therese, Patroness of Vocations, pray for us!

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