



# THE OLD CATHEDRAL

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FIRST CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER



FOUNDED IN 1770

PRESENT CHURCH DEDICATED IN 1834

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### DECEMBER 6, 2020

#### PASTORAL STAFF

##### Archbishop of St. Louis

The Most Reverend  
Mitchell T. Rozanski

##### Rector

Father Nicholas Smith  
Director, Office of Sacred Worship  
Faculty, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

##### In Residence

Father Charles Samson  
Instructor, Kenrick-Glennon Seminary

#### MASS SCHEDULE

##### Sunday Masses

5:30 PM (Saturday Evening)  
8:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12 NOON,  
and 5:00 PM

##### Daily Masses

##### Monday through Friday

7:00 AM and 12:10 PM  
**SATURDAY— 7:00 AM**

##### Live Stream Mass

7:00 AM Weekdays  
10:30 AM Sunday

Access the live streams at:  
[oldcathedralstl.org](http://oldcathedralstl.org)

#### SACRAMENTS

##### Confessions

Daily, 11:30 AM—12:00 PM  
Saturdays, 4:30 PM—5:15 PM

##### Marriage

Please arrange at least six months in  
advance of the desired date.  
To reserve a date or for more  
information, please contact  
Tracy Marklein at 314.231.3250.

##### Devotions

Perpetual Help Devotions:  
Tuesdays, 12:00 PM

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sunday, December 6

8:00 AM Celebrant's Intentions  
10:30 AM Charles R. Chernick, Sr.  
(Live Streamed)  
12:00 PM Parish Family  
5:00 PM Celebrant's Intentions

### Monday, December 7

7:00 AM All Souls in Purgatory  
12:10 PM Wiersma Family

### Tuesday, December 8

7:00 AM Mallen Family  
12:10 PM Louis Fagas

### Wednesday, December 9

7:00 AM All Souls in Purgatory  
12:10 PM Tom & Madeline Henly

### Thursday, December 10

7:00 AM Ila Woods  
12:10 PM Anne Hoylman

### Friday, December 11

7:00 AM All Souls in Purgatory  
12:10 PM Amy Coney Barrett

### Saturday, December 12

7:00 AM George M. Dankocsik  
5:30 PM Marie Kricho

### Sunday, December 13

8:00 AM Ila Woods  
10:30 AM Anne Hoylman  
(Live Streamed)  
12:00 PM Celebrant's Intentions  
5:00 PM Parish Family

## Readings for the week of December 6, 2020

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8  
Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26  
Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19  
Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
Next Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

## Observances for the week of December 6, 2020

Sunday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Monday: St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
Tuesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Wednesday: St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin  
Thursday: Weekday in Advent  
Friday: St. Damasus I, Pope  
Saturday: Our Lady of Guadalupe  
Next Sunday: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

## INTRODUCING THE NEW OLD CATHEDRAL WEBSITE

The Old Cathedral is excited to announce the launch of our beautiful, new website. Partnering with eCatholic, we have created a comprehensive, easy to navigate site that is reflective of the beauty and majesty of our Basilica.

You will easily find general information, the weekly bulletin, links to our live stream and more. We will be refining the site over time and we hope this becomes a useful reference and source of current information for parishioners and visitors.

[www.oldcathedralstl.org](http://www.oldcathedralstl.org)

## NEW AND IMPROVED OLD CATHEDRAL ONLINE GIVING

Between demanding schedules, traveling or just trying to get out the door on time for Mass, it can be challenging to tithe on a regular basis. Not to mention the COVID-19 pandemic that has caused us to rethink things in the present and how we move forward. Plus, for many families, the parish is one of the last places where you still have to use a checkbook or cash.

The Old Cathedral is excited to offer a new online giving option for families to easily give one-time and recurring gifts and even virtually light a candle. Provided by eCatholic, the same company that hosts the parish's new website, this online giving service is a secure way to make a gift virtually whether you choose to attend Mass in person or livestream our Sunday Mass or want to light a candle.

Simply make a secure donation via electronic check, debit or credit card by visiting [oldcathedralstl.org/give](http://oldcathedralstl.org/give). After setting up a recurring gift, you will be prompted by email to create your own online donor account to manage your gifts. It's as easy as online shopping or banking!

Please consider sharing your gifts without the hassle of remembering checks and envelopes by visiting:

[www.oldcathedralstl.org/give](http://www.oldcathedralstl.org/give)

NOTE: If you are already giving online through the current Archdiocese option, we ask that you consider switching to our new eCatholic giving option. Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

## THE OLD CATHEDRAL

209 WALNUT STREET  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63102  
PHONE: 314.231.3250

EMAIL:  
OLDCATHEDRAL@ATT.NET

WEBSITE:  
WWW.OLDCATHEDRALSTL.ORG



## WEEKLY GIVING

The Old Cathedral has long been recognized as one of the most historic and beautiful churches of its time.

Our parish is proud of its more than 240 year history as a self-supporting Roman Catholic Parish. Your presence, prayer and generous kindness continue to make it so.

Your weekly envelope donations can still be made by mail or in person by check at the Old Cathedral rectory or you can set up online donations at :

[www.oldcathedralstl.org/give](http://www.oldcathedralstl.org/give)

## Sunday, 11/29/20

Online Donations	\$365.00
Sunday Collection	\$2803.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3168.00</b>

## FROM OUR RECTOR

Dear Old Cathedral Parishioners and Visitors:

John the Baptist is the last prophet before the coming of the Christ, and he is the first to recognize Jesus once he came. John fulfills Isaiah's prophecy as that voice crying out in the desert – *prepare the way of the Lord*. His clothing of camel's hair was traditional garb for prophets, and his diet of *locusts and wild honey* perhaps reflected either Jewish purity laws or a particular communal asceticism. As it was, it stood in stark contrast to the finery of the Jewish religious leaders and elders of that time, namely the Sadducees and Pharisees.

Yet John was drawing large crowds to the Jordan riverbank. Some likely came out of desire, believing he would lead them to the Messiah. Others perhaps came out of curiosity. John spoke like no one else, and called them to conversion, speaking with conviction. With such a following, it would have been easy for John to proclaim himself the Christ, and even easier for the people to believe him. Yet his humility and holiness meant that John could not lie or mislead them. He made it clear that his message and baptism were both inferior to the one, as he said, *who is mightier than I*.

John's preparation of the way for Christ is a model for us, especially in this Advent season. He challenges us to consider whether we lead others to Jesus, or whether our actions are motivated by a need for attention and affirmation. Is our lived faith attractive to those who have none? This last question is especially important, for while we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, we also prepare for his Second Coming. And, as Saint Peter says in our second reading, *The day of the Lord will come like a thief*.

Peter helps us regain the sense of urgency regarding our preparations for the return of our king, when he says, *the Lord does not delay . . . he is patient with you . . . not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance*. Jesus is giving the whole world time for conversion; that we might play a part in sharing the Good News of Christ with the world, for the salvation of the world, is a great and weighty gift. And now is the time.

As we await the new heavens and a new earth, Saint Peter tells us we get to choose what *sort of persons [we] ought to be*. We are given these days to grow in holiness and devotion so that we will be *eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace*, when he comes. During this busy time of year, a time when we are doing so much to prepare for the coming of Christmas, let us make sure to heed the voice crying out in the wilderness – to prepare for the coming of the Christ, not just as a babe in Bethlehem, but his imminent return in glory as our King.

Blessings upon your Advent and week! Stay safe!

-Father Smith

## CHRISTMAS MASS RESERVATIONS

Due to St. Louis COVID-19 mandates that limit the percentage of people gathering and 6-foot social distancing, we will require reservations for Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. 110 person Capacity per Mass.

**There are two ways to sign up.**

**1. EMAIL THE PARISH at:**  
oldcathedral@att.net

Provide:

- Name
- Phone number
- Number in your party
- Date of Mass
- Time of Mass

**2. CALL THE PARISH at::**  
314-231-3250

Monday – Friday 8AM – 2 PM  
Speak with Tracy Marklein or leave a message providing:

- Name
- Phone number
- Number in your party
- Date of Mass
- Time of Mass

### PLEASE NOTE:

Reservations will be taken until the Mass is at full capacity. You will only receive a response if we can not accommodate your reservation. If you do not receive a response, then your reservation is secure.

Reservations are only for the exact date and time of the Mass you request.

### CHRISTMAS EVE

5:00 PM

10:00 PM

### CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 AM

10:30 AM (Live Streamed)

12:00 PM

### **Dispensation for Public Mass Attendance Extended to Holy Days of Obligation.**

**On December 8, we shall only have our two regularly scheduled daily Masses, at 7:00 AM and 12:10 PM (with Confessions at 11:30 AM). Both of these Masses will be live streamed. There will NOT be an 11:00 AM Mass that morning, as there has been in the past; this is due to the dispensation, the rise in COVID cases and hospitalizations in the City, and the reduced business occupancy in the downtown area.**

- In March 2020, Archbishop Carlson issued a dispensation for the faithful regarding their obligation to attend Sunday Mass. This dispensation is still in effect in light of the recent spike in COVID-19 cases.
- The dispensation for public Mass attendance includes the Sunday obligation and the Holy Days of Obligation. For the foreseeable future, this includes:

- > Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on December 8
- > Christmas Day
- > Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on January 1

# SAINTS OF THE WEEK



**Saint Nicholas – (December 6):** Saint Nicholas, who lived from March 15, 270, to December 6, 343, is also called Nikolaos of Myra. He was a 4<sup>th</sup> century saint and Greek Bishop of Myra, in Asia Minor (modern-day Demre, Turkey).

Because of the many miracles attributed to his intercession, he is also known as Nikolaos the Wonderworker. His reputation evolved among the faithful, as was common for early saints, and his legendary habit of secret gift-giving gave rise to the traditional model of Santa Claus through Sinterklaas.

The historical Saint Nicholas is commemorated and revered among Anglican, Catholic, Lutheran, and Orthodox Christians. In addition, some Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, and Reformed churches have been named in honor of him.



**Saint Ambrose, bishop, doctor of the Church (December 7):** Aurelius Ambrosius, better known in English as Saint Ambrose (c. 340 – April 4, 397), was a bishop of Milan who became one of the most influential ecclesiastical figures of the 4<sup>th</sup> century.

He was consular prefect of Liguria and Emilia, headquartered in Milan, before being made bishop of Milan by popular acclamation in 374. Ambrose was a staunch opponent of Arianism.

Traditionally, Ambrose is credited with promoting “antiphonal chant,” a style of chanting in which one side of the choir responds alternately to the other, as well as with composing *Veni redemptor gentium*, a Christmas hymn. Ambrose was one of the four original doctors of the Church, and is the patron saint of Milan. He is notable for his influence on Saint Augustine.

**Saint Juan Diego, hermit (December 9):** Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin (1474-1548), a native of Mexico, is the first indigenous saint from the Americas. He was granted an apparition of the Virgin Mary on four separate occasions in December 1531 at the hill of Tepeyac, then outside but now well within metropolitan Mexico City.

The Basilica of Guadalupe, located at the foot of the hill of Tepeyac, possesses Juan Diego’s mantle or cloak (known as a *tilma*) on which an image of the Virgin was impressed by a miracle as a pledge of the authenticity of the apparitions.

These apparitions and the imparting of the miraculous image (together known as the Guadalupe Event, in Spanish “el acontecimiento Guadalupano”) are the basis of the cult of Our Lady of Guadalupe which is ubiquitous in Mexico, prevalent throughout the Spanish-speaking Americas, and increasingly widespread beyond.

As a result, the Basilica of Guadalupe is now the world’s major center of pilgrimage for Roman Catholics, receiving 22 million visitors in 2010, the vast bulk of whom were pilgrims. Juan Diego was beatified in 1990, and canonized in 2002.



**Our Lady of Loretto (December 10):** The Basilica della Santa Casa (Basilica of the Holy House) is a shrine of Marian pilgrimage in Loreto, Italy. The basilica is known for enshrining the house in which the Blessed Virgin Mary is believed by some to have lived.

A legend claims the same house was flown over by angelic beings from Nazareth to Trsat, Rijeka, Croatia, and then to Recanati, Italy, before arriving at the current site. Pope Benedict XV designated the Blessed Virgin Mary under the same title to be patroness of air passengers and auspicious travel on March 24, 1920.



**Saint Damasus, pope (December 11):** Pope Saint Damasus I was born around 305, probably near the city of Egitania, and died in 384. He preserved papal archives, was devoted to the relics and resting places of the martyrs, combated the anti-pope Ursinus, as well as the Arian and

Donatist heresies. He was the first pope to speak of Rome as the “Apostolic See” and encouraged Saint Jerome to produce a new translation of the Latin Bible, later to form the main part of the Vulgate.



**Our Lady of Guadalupe (December 12):** Our Lady of Guadalupe (Spanish: Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe), also known as the Virgin of Guadalupe (Spanish: Virgen de Guadalupe), is a title of the Virgin Mary associated with a celebrated pictorial image housed in the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City. The Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe is the most visited Catholic pilgrimage site in the world, and the world’s third most-visited sacred site.

Official Catholic accounts state that on the morning of December 9, 1531, a native American peasant named Juan Diego saw a vision of a maiden at a place called the Hill of Tepeyac, which would become part of Villa de Guadalupe, a suburb of Mexico City.

Speaking to him in his native Nahuatl language (the language of the Aztec empire), the maiden identified herself as the Virgin Mary, “mother of the very true deity,” and asked for a church to be built at that site in her honor.

From her words, Juan Diego then sought out the archbishop of Mexico City, Fray Juan de Zumarraga, to tell him what had happened. The archbishop instructed him to return to Tepeyac Hill, and ask the lady for a miraculous sign to prove her identity.

The first sign she gave was the healing of Juan’s uncle. The Virgin also told Juan to gather flowers from the top of Tepeyac Hill, which was normally barren, especially in December. But Juan followed her instructions and he found Castilian roses, not native to Mexico, blooming there.

Juan arranged the flowers in his *tilma*, or cloak, and when Juan Diego opened his cloak before Archbishop Zumarraga on December 12, the flowers fell to the floor, and on the fabric was the image of the Virgin of Guadalupe.

**All you holy men and women, Saints of God, pray for us.**



# CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL POINSETTIAS

The beautiful poinsettias and greenery that adorn our Cathedral are a special part of the celebration of Christmas at The Old Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis, King. This year, we invite all parishioners and visitors to share in the experience through a memorial or thanksgiving gift by purchasing one or more of the poinsettias decorating the cathedral. Memorial Poinsettias are \$10.00 each. **In addition, your name and the name of person(s) being honored will appear in the Christmas week bulletin.**

Please indicate in whose memory, or in whose honor, you wish the flowers to be dedicated. Completed forms and payment may be placed in an envelope and dropped into the offertory baskets, OR send orders/payment to: The Old Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, King c/o Memorial Poinsettias, 209 Walnut Street Saint Louis, MO 63102.

### Wording as you wish it to appear in the bulletin:

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Email Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:  In memory of **OR**  In honor of (those still living):

Name of person/family being honored: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:  In memory of **OR**  In honor of (those still living):

Name of person/family being honored: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:  In memory of **OR**  In honor of (those still living):

Name of person/family being honored: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:  In memory of **OR**  In honor of (those still living):

Name of person/family being honored: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one:  In memory of **OR**  In honor of (those still living):

Name of person/family being honored: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total** number of remembrances \_\_\_\_\_ X \$10 each = **Total** Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to the Old Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, King**

**Order deadline: Thursday, December 14, 2020**

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