

# Cathedral of Saint Joseph



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**The Most Reverend  
Leonard P. Blair  
Archbishop of Hartford  
Pastor**

#### **Parish Staff**

The Very Reverend  
Daniel J. McLearn  
**Rector**

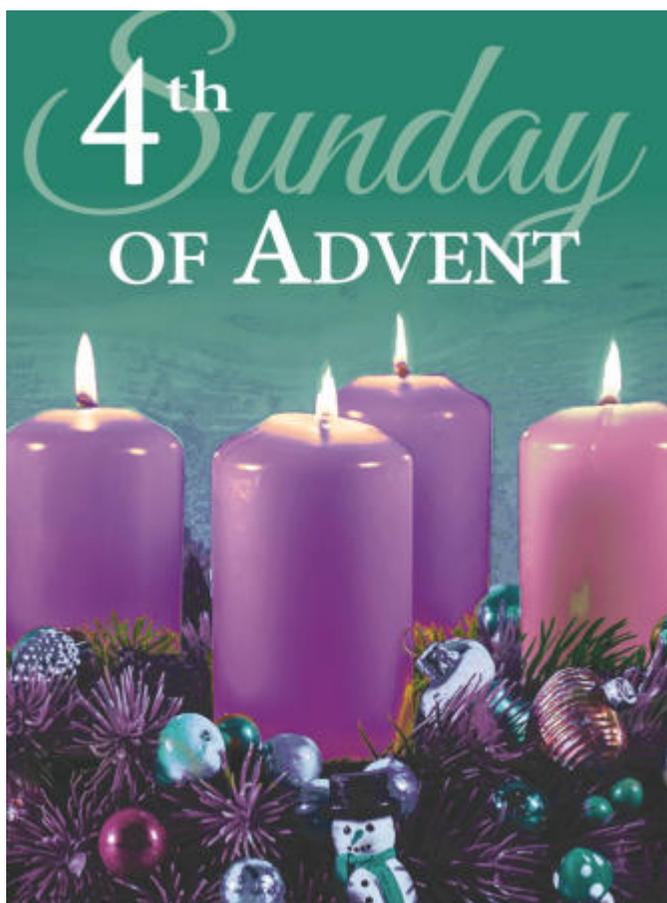
Deacon Norris Taylor  
**Deacon**

Dr. Ezequiel Menéndez  
**Director of Music  
Ministry and Organist**

Judith A. Stonger  
**Lay Ministry**

Gioia Zack  
**Faith Formation  
Coordinator**

Peter Turczanik  
**Sacristan**



#### **Parish Schedule**

##### **Weekend Masses**

Sunday 8:30 & 11 am;  
Saturday Vigil 4 pm

##### **Daily Masses**

Monday-Friday  
7:30 am & 12:10 pm;  
Saturday 9 am

##### **Confession**

Saturday 3-3:30 pm

##### **Devotions**

Saturday 9:30-10:30  
am; Holy Hour on first  
Saturday of each month

##### **Virtual Masses**

Sunday Mass  
livestreamed  
on parish website

##### **ORTV Masses**

Televised on WCCT &  
WCTX; More options on  
ORTV.org & WJMJ Radio

##### **Parish Office Hours**

Monday-Friday  
9:30 am-5:30 pm  
Claude-Evelyne Odiaka  
Parish Secretary

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of Saint Joseph** on social media?

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## Fourth Sunday of Advent

**F** For all parents awaiting the birth of their child: May they look to the Blessed Mother and Saint Joseph and follow their example of cherishing and protecting human life. We pray to the Lord.

**Lighting of the Advent Wreath:** During the Advent season, we begin each weekend liturgy with the lighting of the Advent Wreath. We are most grateful to the families of the parish who have volunteered to join us in the procession at the beginning of Mass and assisting in the lighting of the Advent Wreath. The families assisting us this week are:

Saturday, December 19th - 4:00 pm -  
Carlo Fernando and Krizia Fernando

Sunday, December 20th - 8:30 am -  
Jacqueline Dawson

Sunday, December 20th - 11:00 am -  
Francis Saint Mary Sr., Agnes Saint Mary,  
Francis Saint Mary Jr., & Pambari Saint Mary

**Christmas Memorial Flowers:** Please use your Christmas flowers envelopes to indicate the intention of a Christmas flower that is in memory of a loved one. These envelopes have been included in your envelope packets and extra forms are also in the entrances.



### Holiday Schedule

**The Cathedral Food Pantry** provides free grab & go bags of food. It will only be open on two special Mondays, December 21st & 28th, from 10 am-12 pm. The regular food distribution schedule on Thursdays from 10 am-12 pm will resume on January 14, 2021.

**Mobile Foodshare** provides free grab & go bags of food every other Wednesday from 11:30 am-12:15 pm in our Asylum lot. The next dates are December 30th & January 13th.

**Malta House of Care Mobile Clinic** provides free primary health care to uninsured adults. It visits on Tuesdays from 11 am-4 pm and Wednesdays (temporary) from 12-4 pm.

**Baby Jesus Carriers at Christmas Eve Vigils:** May the wondrous birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ awaken our hearts to the priceless gift of every child! We are most grateful to the parish families who have volunteered to assist us by carrying the Baby Jesus in the procession at the beginning of our Christmas Eve Vigil Masses on Thursday, December 24th. They are:



2:30 pm - Phillippia DeNovellis & Sasha Jankovic

4:00 pm - Soe Family

8:00 pm - Simpini Family

## MASST INTENTIONS

### Saturday, December 19, 2020

9:00 am Richard Henry Bobowski †  
Requested by our Funeral Ministry  
4:00 pm Simcic and Tabol Families  
Requested by the family

### Sunday, December 20, 2020

8:30 am Fran Botsford †  
Requested by the family  
11:00 am Florence Mossner Hinks †  
Requested by her son Peter P. Hinks

### Monday, December 21, 2020

7:30 am The People of the Parish  
12:10 pm Michael F. Conard †  
Requested by the family

### Tuesday, December 22, 2020

7:30 am No Mass Intention  
12:10 pm Rev. John C. Blackall †  
Requested by the Blanchfield family

### Wednesday, December 23, 2020

7:30 am The Soul of Marzena Skrzynska †  
on her 53rd Birthday  
Requested by her family  
12:10 pm Healing of Patricia Neiderhauser  
Requested by Gary and Marie Pelletier

### Thursday, December 24, 2020

2:30 pm The Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass  
4:00 pm The Nativity of the Lord Vigil Mass  
8:00 pm The Solemn Mass of Christmas

### Friday, December 25, 2020

10:00 am The Nativity of the Lord Mass  
**Saturday, December 26, 2020**

9:00 am Rev. Salvatore J. Rosa †  
Requested by a friend

4:00 pm Americo Troy †  
Requested by the Family

### Sunday, December 27, 2020

8:30 am No Mass Intention  
11:00 am Marie Deristel †  
Requested by the family



### Sanctuary Candle

is lit in prayer for  
Monalita Romasanta



## VIRUS PREVENTION

**Safety Protocols Thank You!** On behalf of the entire parish community of the Cathedral of St. Joseph, I would like to thank you, one and all, for your diligence in following our protocols to help keep us safe as a community from the coronavirus. After a positive test result from within our community on Tuesday, December 1st, out of an abundance of caution, we closed the Cathedral for four days of extensive cleaning and closed the office for one week while the entire staff went for testing, all with negative results.

As you may have noticed, we have moved our daily Mass from the Blessed Sacrament Chapel to the main church in order to provide more personal distancing. We have also marked off an extra row between pews, again for distancing. We want to assure you that we are continuing to thoroughly clean between each liturgy, and insist that all who are attending Mass follow protocols for distancing and wearing of masks as well as proper and safe reception of communion. Here at the Cathedral, we are certainly blessed with more than adequate square footage to provide safe distancing, and we hope that you and your families feel as comfortable and as safe as possible as you come to be with the Lord and to gather with those who love Him.

With my prayers for a holy, safe, and healthy remainder of the Advent Season and Christmas ahead. ~Father Dan

**2020 Cathedral Giving Tree Thank You!** A heartfelt thank you to the many parishioners who supported our annual Cathedral Giving Tree program! Although the tree certainly looked different this year, your generous and supportive spirits helped to make the program a success. Chelsea Place Care Center and Fernwood Manor will certainly feel your care and love this Christmas season and we pray that each of you enjoy the same. Thank you again for your loyal and faithful support!



**2020 Archbishop's Annual Appeal:** Looking for year-end giving ideas? This may be your last chance to help the Archbishop's Annual Appeal achieve this year's goal for the 2020 tax year! Please visit the Appeal website at [archdioceseofhartford.org](http://archdioceseofhartford.org) and follow the link *Growing in Faith, Giving in Love* to learn more and make your gift today. All pledges can be paid through December 31, 2020 towards this year's Appeal.

All funds contributed to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal are used exclusively for the purposes outlined in the Appeal literature, which can be found at [archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal](http://archdioceseofhartford.org/appeal). No Appeal funds are ever used for legal fees or settlements.

### Everyday Stewardship - The Journey:



Advent comes along every year and will continue to do so until Jesus returns. As this season draws to a close, we can each ask ourselves, "Am I now any better a disciple of Jesus Christ and more of a steward of all my gifts than before the Advent season started?" I have been on this earth for 40+ years. I have had 40+ Advents to draw closer to God and to work on taking more seriously my baptismal call. Some have gone better than others, but I would like to think my spiritual life progressed at least a small amount during each of them.

Conversion is a process. Stewardship is about a way of living and it is about more than simply being generous when a situation calls for it. Stewardship and conversion go hand-in-hand and we are always moving closer to holiness in Jesus Christ. Living in this way takes practice and commitment. If this Advent didn't go as you had hoped, remember is not really an end. It is just another step along your journey.

This Christmas, while you are giving and receiving gifts and hopefully spending time with those you love, may you take the time to cherish the true gift that came to us over 2000 years ago and continues to call us to this day: Jesus. Let us be grateful beyond measure for this gift above all gifts, let us continue on our journey, and let our lives give testimony to the one who leads us. ~Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

## Readings of the Week

**Sunday:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

### First Reading:

"When your times comes and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins, and I will establish his kingdom firm." (2 Sm 12)

### Psalm:

For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord. (Ps 89)

### Second Reading:

According to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages but now manifested through the prophetic writings and, according to the command of the eternal God.  
(Rom 16:25b-26a)

### Gospel:

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High." (Lk 1:31-32a)

**Monday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45

**Tuesday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56

**Wednesday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

**Thursday:** *Morning-* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

**Friday:** *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 Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

**Saturday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22

**Next Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

**Year of Saint Joseph December 8, 2020 – December 8, 2021:** On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Pope Francis proclaimed that the next 12 months will be a Year of Saint Joseph. The Holy Father made this announcement on the 150th anniversary of Pope Pius IX's proclamation of Saint Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.

The decree, authorized by Pope Francis, said that he had established a Year of Saint Joseph so that "every member of the faithful, following his example, may strengthen their life of faith daily in the complete fulfillment of God's will." It added that Pope Francis had granted special indulgences to mark the year.

In the decree, the Apostolic Penitentiary said that, "to reaffirm the universality of Saint Joseph patronage in the Church," it would grant a plenary indulgence to Catholics who recite any approved prayer or act of piety in honor of Saint Joseph, especially on March 19th – the Solemnity of Saint Joseph, the Husband of Mary, and May 1st – the Feast of Saint Joseph the Worker. Other notable days for the plenary indulgence are the Feast of the Holy Family on December 27th this year and Saint Joseph's Sunday in the Byzantine tradition, as well as the 19th of each month and every Wednesday, a day dedicated to the saint in the Latin tradition.

The decree stated: "In the current context of health emergency, the gift of the plenary indulgence is particularly extended to the elderly, the sick, the dying, and all those who for legitimate reasons are unable to leave the house, who, with a soul detached from any sin, and with the intention of fulfilling as soon as possible the three usual conditions in their own home or where the impediment keeps them, recite an act of piety in honor of Saint Joseph, comfort of the sick and patron of a happy death, offering with trust in God the pains and discomforts of their life." The three conditions for receiving a plenary indulgence are sacramental confession, the reception of Holy Communion, and prayer for the Pope's intentions.





Dear Parishioners,

Christmas is a special time for us – a time to recognize the love and goodness of God; a time to know that Christ has come among us; a time to remember that God now shares the same joys and sorrows that we do; a time to rejoice in the hope of eternal life that Jesus brings to each of us.

We welcome all of you, those who celebrate with us daily, and weekly, and those who have been away for a while. We invite each of you to celebrate with us, either in person or on live-stream. We ask that you please think about having a friend or family member who perhaps has been away from the church for a while celebrate with us as well.

Thank you for all the kindness, support, encouragement, and generosity you have shown throughout the year. Having joined you here at the Cathedral of St. Joseph just two weeks before the world fell into the grips of COVID it has certainly been an interesting time to begin a new assignment, but please know that I am most honored and humbled to be here to serve you.

May the newborn Christ Child bless you, your families and your homes this season and in the New Year ahead.

Father Dan McLearen  
Rector

**Christmas Eve Vigil December 24, 2020**

2:30 pm The Nativity of the Lord Mass celebrated by  
Very Rev. Daniel J. McLearen, Rector

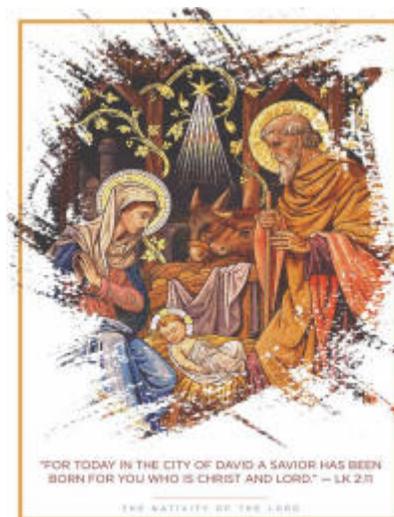
4:00 pm The Nativity of the Lord Mass celebrated by  
Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair, Archbishop of Hartford

7:00 pm Christmas Recital

8:00 pm The Solemn Mass of Christmas celebrated by  
Very Rev. Daniel J. McLearen, Rector

**Christmas Day December 25, 2020**

10:00 am The Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord Mass  
celebrated by Most Rev. Leonard P. Blair,  
Archbishop of Hartford



Due to COVID-19 restrictions, **you must reserve your seat(s) at Mass** by registering at our parish website: [hartfordcathedral.org](http://hartfordcathedral.org). Must wear masks and practice social distancing.

**Broadcast Schedule:** At 4 pm on Christmas Eve and 10 am on Christmas Day, we will be live streaming Masses on [ChristmasMasses.com](http://ChristmasMasses.com) as well as our parish website. The two Masses will also be broadcast on WCCT (CW20) and WCTX (MyTV9).

**Mass Dispensation:** The Archdiocese of Hartford continues to dispense the faithful from the obligation to attend Mass through February 16, 2021. When circumstances prevent one from receiving Holy Communion such as being unable to attend Mass, it is possible to make an **Act of Spiritual Communion**, which is a source of grace, by praying the following:

*My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.*

*I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul.*

*Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.*

*I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You.*

*Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.*

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