

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH



Mail:
PO Box 510
Edmond, OK 73083

405-340-0691
stjohn-catholic.org

Visit:
900 S. Littler
Edmond, OK 73034



DECEMBER 06, 2020 • 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

*"I have baptized you
with water; He will baptize you
with the Holy Spirit."*

- Mark 1:8, Second Sunday of Advent



Prepare the way of the Lord! The message of John the Baptist becomes the calling of every baptized disciple of Jesus Christ. Each one of us is asked to prepare the way of the Lord. Given the humble means of our lives, how can we do this? It certainly does not require that we stand on street corners announcing God's future coming! We can more readily take up the task of our lifework by clearing our lives of unnecessary, distracting clutter. By creating solid and deep spiritual lives, we can heighten our awareness of God's presence and help people point to and discover God's presence around them. By conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion, we can speak volumes to

Cont. pg. 11

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Catholic Christian Community, called to be faithful, caring, enthusiastic disciples. We build up the Kingdom of God by worshiping and praising Him, proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and witness, giving loving service to our neighbor and strengthening the parish community.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil, 5:30 pm
Sunday 7:30 am, 9:00 am*
11:30 am*, 5:30 pm

* child care available

Daily & Holy Days

See "Mass Intentions"

SACRAMENT SCHEDULE

Penance

Wednesday 5:00-6:00 pm
Saturday 4:00-5:00 pm

Anointing of the Sick

Please call 405-340-0691
Emergencies call 405-330-7509

Baptism Prep

Melissa Tisdell
mtisdell@stjohn-catholic.org

Matrimony

Contact priest at least six months in advance

READINGS ~ WEEK OF DECEMBER 06, 2020

Sun., 2nd Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Mon., St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26

Tues., The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Wed., St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30

Thurs.

Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
Fri., St. Damasus I, Pope

Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19

Sat., Our Lady of Guadalupe

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

Sun., 3rd Sunday of Advent

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

WORSHIP & EVANGELIZATION

GOSPEL MEDITATION

December 06, 2020 ~ 2nd Sunday of Advent

People knew over a year in advance that the Pope was coming for a visit to America and the preparations began. Security, space limitations and requirements, protocols, crowd management, itineraries, invitations, regulations, and so much more was necessary to pull this event off effectively. It's not every day that we get a visit from such a prominent dignitary. Thought, effort, meticulous attention to detail and vision all are necessary to make this thing work. After all, he can't just show up in the ordinary and normal daily routines of life and catch people unprepared! Tickets have to be purchased, buses rented, hotel rooms reserved, and travel arrangements made early because it will be impossible to see him if we wait too long!

We do this kind of preparing not only for prominent religious figures but for political dignitaries, notable sports figures, people of fame, and even actors. If an individual intrigues us, we are going to want to do all we have to do to get a "good seat" in the house. Does Jesus Christ captivate this much of our attention? We are asked to prepare the way of the Lord and to do so not with frantic frenzy but patient enthusiasm. We do not have to stand on a street corner making profound announcements about God's coming or become overly zealous in our embrace of the Good News. Our task is quieter,

more interior, captivating, and consuming. We are asked to change. We have to conduct our lives with holy devotion.

Is the cost of that ticket too much for you? Don't you want the "best seat" in the house? You don't want to miss Our Lord's arrival when he comes, do you? After all, if he comes while you are going about your daily routines without you even knowing, he may catch you off guard. Or, he may come in disguise looking like a beggar, a prisoner, migrant, refugee, or someone who is lost. Would you be ready to recognize him then? Preparing for the coming of Christ requires a change of mind, heart, and behavior. It is not adequate to simply do the things we always do. We want our lives to speak of the exciting news of Christ's coming and the joy that the Gospel brings. It has to do with our demeanor, values, priorities, choices, and how we structure daily routines. Of course, it involves sacrifice. All anticipations do! Are you excited, captivated, enthusiastic, and sitting on the edge of your seat eager to celebrate his coming among us at Christmas, and waiting for him to come again? If not, why not?

©LPI

MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday 067:30 am..... † Virgil & Lorene Fields
 9:00 am.....People of the Parish
 11:30 am..... Jake Kramer
 5:30 pm.....† Cecily Kumor

Monday 07.....7:30 am.....† Ken & Virginia Burchett

Tuesday 08.....7:30 am..... † Hyun Lee
 9:00 am..... Troy Bodman
 6:30 pm.....† Mike Hoegger

Wednesday 09.....7:30 am..... † Fr. John A. Petuskey

Thursday 107:30 am..... Maggie Doll

Friday 117:30 am..... † Julie Stoner
 5:30 pm.....† Brian Reichenberger

Saturday 127:30 am..... † Ted Bennett
 5:30 pm.....† Christopher Ellmers

Sunday 137:30 am..... † Sam Clemente
 9:00 am.....People of the Parish
 11:30 am..... † Don Nowak
 5:30 pm.....† Don Nowak

WEEKLY GLIMPSE

Sunday 06

9:30 am RCIA ChildrenChapel
 2:00 pm Consecration to St. Joseph ... Council Rm
 2:00 pm FF Parent Mtg.....Great Hall
 7:00 pm HS Youth GroupGreat Hall

Monday 07

Tuesday 08

9:00 am St. Theresa's Guild..... Council Rm
 5:30 pm School Advisory Council.....School
 7:00 pm RCIAGreat Hall

Wednesday 09

10:00 am Hispanic Bible StudyFr Tharp Rm
 6:30 pm Confirmation 1 Commons

Thursday 10

6:30 am Men's MinistryGreat Hall
 8:30 am SEAS 1st Reconciliation Church
 10:00 am Mom's Bible Study..... Council Rm
 10:00 am Wounds of 2020Great Hall
 6:00 pm Scouts.....Great Hall

Friday 11

.....No Events

Saturday 12

8:30 amSurviving Divorce Council Rm
 9:00 am 1st Reconciliation Retreat Church
 7:00 pmJesus 2020 GatheringGreat Hall

Sunday 13

9:30 am RCIA ChildrenChapel
 2:00 pm Consecration to St. Joseph ... Council Rm
 2:00 pm FF Parent Mtg.....Great Hall
 7:00 pm HS Youth GroupGreat Hall

We are blessed to have a very active parish. Not all activities will be listed here each week. The complete calendar can be found at stjohn-catholic.org.

WORSHIP & EVANGELIZATION

PRAYER REQUESTS

Due to space limitations, names are removed from prayer list after three months. Please call 405-340-0691, if you wish to have a name added.

Lou Ackerman	Tammy Ellis	Nalagan Family
Nancy Addington	Paul Engel	Becky O'Brien
All affected by Covid19	Al Ford	Paul O'Brien
Phyllis Amsberg	Leeann Garrington	Old Crow Family
Frank & Patricia Anania	Gene	Mary Passerman *
Mel Ashton	Jennifer German	Rosemarie Pelfrey
Raymond Atkinson	Catherine Godwin	Cathy Phillips
Terry Attebery *	Jackie Grant *	Lindsay Phillips
Angela Ball	Jane Gray	Teressa Reffner
Richard Barker	Dcn Grover Family	Slade Roach *
Liz Benedict	Guinn Family	Wylene Russell
Rylee Bewley *	Callen Hans	Edith Samaniego
Chloe Biddle	Steven Hayden	Sr. Maria Sanguinis
Claudia Bishop	Melvin Hein	Gregg Sasso
Claire Bleau	Steven Henderson	Von & Linda Savary
Jase Bollenbach	Helen Hignite	Amy Shaver
Simon Bourke	Carrol Hochman	Bob Shewmaker
Dakota Boxwell	Jerry Hoegger	Sharon Sisson
Bertha Bradley	A.J. Hunt	Skube Family
Benjamin Brister	Stephanie Hunt	Barbara Smith
John Bruning	Joseph Hunter & Family *	Stone Snodgress
Bruyns Family	Jody	Kathaleena Solis
Allison Buechner	Christy Johnson	Linda Spreacker
Barbara Burdette	Katy	John Steele
Neil Burke	Stan Kelley	Margaret Tharp
Mike, Sharon & Greg Burns	Stephen Kendall	Robbie Thompson
Patty Butler	Jayne Knol	Heather Tisdell
Deb Butterfield	Mary Ann Kraman*	Kelly Tucker
Nancy Byers	Rick Lawson	Rosalee Turk
Mario Calbone	Fr. Marvin Leven	Rose Marie Unrein
Conrad Caldwell	Ruby Lhotsky	Grayson Van Horn
Helen Cammuso	Alice Linnebur	Jan Van Horn
Pat Campbell	Sarah M.	Penny Varvel
Carole	Maguire Family	Linda Watson
Ron Carte	Shawn Malone	Bill Weber
Edgar Chiviliu	Roberta Manel	Brooklyn Whetson
Wade Clark	Gayle Mansour	John Whorton
Annette Conger	Mary Ann Markey	Chloe Windsor *
Verna Cotton	Wade McDonald *	Don Winett
Dan Culkin	Suzanne McGinley	Ginny Wolf
Robert Cullon	Tucker McHugh	Jim Zamboni
Patti & Doug Cunningham	Mary Lou McInturff	* New this week
Liam Davey	Elizabeth McKinney	
Gene Hatcher Davis	Walter Merchant	
Nancy Dees	Jim Miles	
Leslie Derkach	Craig Miller	
Corrine Dinges	Randy & Marcy Millspaugh	
Evan Duncan	Mike Mitchell	
	Angi Murin	
	Bill Naberhaus	



Spend Time with Our Lord

The church will be open during the day for all to adore Monday–Friday after daily Mass until 5pm. Karla Del Rosario 405-509-2245 or 915-790-8091



Patriotic Rosary

Join us Tuesdays, through January, after daily Mass, to pray the rosary for our country. This will be live streamed on Facebook. Pray from your home or in the church. Please practice social distancing and masks are required.

 **Remember in your prayers, those currently serving our Country.**

 **Please pray for vocations and support our seminarians. www.OKCVocations.com**

 **Prayer Bytes** *Throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Rom. 13:12*



MAY THEY REST IN GOD'S PEACE

Karen Ferguson ~ Mother of Debbie & Tom Kastner

Michael Hansen ~ Brother of Anne Keef

Glenn St. John ~ Father of Carrie Mountford

Deacon Armando Cruz-Rodz ~ Parish of Holy Angels OKC

ADMINISTRATION

SACRIFICIAL GIVING REPORT

Parish

Weekly Collection, (11/16 - 11/22)	\$55,592.46
FY 21 Year to Date Collection	1,167,577.40
FY 20 Year to Date Collection	1,283,153.95

Weekly Collection, (11/23 - 11/29)	47,022.00
FY 21 Year to Date Collection	1,220,693.86
FY 20 Year to Date Collection	1,284,070.66
FY 21 Collection Budget	2,860,000.00

Poor Box/Samaritan House

Weekly Collection, (11/16 - 11/22)	\$5,331.46
FY 21 Year to Date Collection	96,842.95
FY 20 Year to Date Collection	113,366.16

Weekly Collection, (11/23 - 11/29)	8,428.00
FY 21 Year to Date Collection	105,153.43
FY 20 Year to Date Collection	116,976.44
FY 21 Poor Box Budget	250,000.00

CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES

Weekend of December 6, 2020

White Envelope—Weekly Offering

Immaculate Conception, December 8, 2020

Retirement Fund for Religious—Help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.



TABERNACLE FLOWERS

*In Memory of
Michael Hansen
By The Priests and Staff
of St. John the Baptist Catholic Church*

If interested in a flower memorial or celebration, please call or email the Parish Office at parish_office@stjohn-catholic.org or 405-340-0691 and they can assist you with available dates.



CHRISTMAS Schedule

Christmas Eve Mass, Thurs., Dec. 24

3:00 pm *

5:00 pm *

7:00 pm

9:00 pm

11:00 pm

Christmas Day Mass, Fri., Dec. 25

10:00 am

Music will begin 20 minutes before Mass.

** limited child care available*

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Vigil Mass, New Year's Eve, Thurs., Dec. 31, 2020

5:30 pm

New Year's Day, Fri., Jan. 1, 2020

10:00 am



YEAR END GIVING LETTERS WILL BE EMAILED LATE JANUARY 2021!!

Do you already have a Realm login? Great! You will receive your year end giving letter via email.

Do we have your current email in our Realm data base?

Please give the parish office a call, 405-340-0691, or send us an email realm@stjohn-catholic.org

Be sure to include your name in the SUBJECT line so we will update the correct family.

Bulletin and Newsletter Content Submissions should be directed to sgraham@stjohn-catholic.org by noon on Friday. (10 days before Sunday) Submissions are accepted as space permits and are subject to editing. Graphics are appreciated and used if space permits.



SAMARITAN HOUSE

42 E. 9th Edmond, OK

Open Monday, Wednesday, Friday

9:00 am–12:00 pm

405-216-7554

Do you or someone you know need assistance with food or utilities? St. John's Samaritan House is here to help.

Call or come by!

Needs:

Canned Green Beans & Jelly

Please drop off donations in the bin marked Samaritan House in the closet in the Commons. Do not leave items on the porch as animals get them and we aren't able to use your donation.

Luncheons 4 Life

The next Luncheons 4 Life is 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Dec. 10 at Embassy Suites by Hilton, 741 N. Phillips Ave. in Oklahoma City. Speaker: Andrew Ochs, mission integration, St. Anthony Hospital. Topic: Building a Culture of Life in Medicine. RSVP at respectlife@archokc.org.

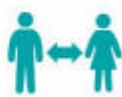
**3 EASY STEPS
TO KEEPING YOURSELF
& OTHERS HEALTHY!**



**WASH YOUR
HANDS**



**WEAR A
MASK**

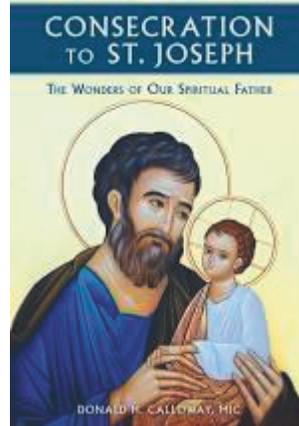


**KEEP YOUR
DISTANCE**

Stay Connected While You're Away.



Go to www.parishesonline.com to view your church bulletin and stay up to date.



Personal Testimony:

Consecration to St. Joseph

It wasn't long after daily Mass had begun anew after the COVID shut down last spring that Ceci Taylor asked if we would be interested in participating in a **Consecration to St. Joseph**. We were indeed eager; the study's timing and subject matter seemed perfect. With the promise that the group would be "socially distanced" and last only six weeks we readily signed up.

The consecration involved thirty-three days of preparation through prayer and study about St. Joseph. Beyond the daily private prayer sessions, our newly formed group met weekly to discuss our preparation and to delve further to better know this beloved saint. The daily prayer opportunities from Fr. Donald Calloway's book *Consecration to St. Joseph* were all based on the various titles found in the Litany of Saint Joseph. Some were inspiring ("Joseph Most Courageous"), others intriguing ("Terror of Demons"), and others appropriately focused ("Mirror of Patience"). We quickly learned why Joseph is considered by the Church as a most important saint, second only to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Calloway's book is eye-opening and the insight of the group's members was inspiring and uplifting. In addition to getting to know the delightful people in our small group setting, the 33 days of prayerful preparation opened our hearts to the strength and beauty of St. Joseph. Now that we have consecrated ourselves to St. Joseph we, through our daily prayers, lovingly embrace and welcome St. Joseph, the Pillar of Families, to be our spiritual father, protector and guide.

May we encourage you to participate in the Consecration to Saint Joseph and discover the wonders of our spiritual father?

Emmet and Virginia Osgood

To register for this study, [visit stjohn-catholic.org/event-registration](http://visit.stjohn-catholic.org/event-registration).



Project Gabriel at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Edmond is a pro-life outreach ministry providing spiritual, personal, and material support, and mentoring women experiencing a crisis pregnancy. Trained volunteers provide a close, supportive relationship with any woman needing help through her pregnancy and after delivery. Call Project Gabriel for confidential support if you or a friend are pregnant! 405-888-2372.

FAITH FORMATION



Erin Snow
Director of Evangelization
& Faith Formation
PreK-5th & First Communion
esnow@stjohn-cathoic.org
405-340-0691 x135

CFO scholarship application

The Catholic Foundation of Oklahoma Scholarship application period opens Jan. 1 and closes Feb. 28. All high school seniors within the Archdiocese of Oklahoma City are encouraged to apply at cfook.org.



Kasey Holt
Coordinator of Youth & Young Adults
6th–12th & Confirmation
kholt@stjohn-catholic.org
405-340-0691 x136

The Value of Memento Mori in this Pandemic

It may be counter-intuitive, but an awareness of our death can make us better people. This is why Catholics have a practice known as memento mori, which is a Latin phrase translating to “remember death.” This isn’t meant to serve as some morbid and macabre exercise or a type of nihilistic negation of life. Rather, it’s to remind us that one day we will die so that we can live better today. Similar to when we begin the Lenten season on Ash Wednesday and are told that we are dust and to dust we shall return, memento mori encourages us to embrace God’s mercy every day we are blessed to be alive. It helps us remember that what we do in this life before we die is of eternal and lasting importance. This pandemic has given all of us more opportunity to remember death — for many, it appears closer than ever. Whether we fear for our own lives, those of our loved ones, or our fellow humans all over the globe, this current pandemic has reminded us that one day we will die...

...Sister Theresa offers a few insights about how we as Christians can respond to our mortality and the fear it can cause. For one, having faith in the midst of our mortality does not mean we are not going to experience fear. Fearing things, people, or events that can harm us and our loved ones — such as the current pandemic — is natural and healthy. Fear allows us to respond in appropriate ways to pro-



GROWING WITH THE Gospel

CYCLE B

esi COLOR

Read the Gospel of the week and color the image.

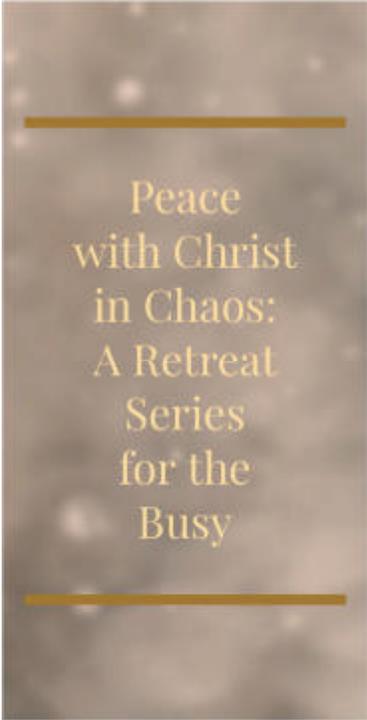


2nd Sunday of Advent • Mark 1:1-8

tect ourselves and others. Embracing our mortality is also not a blithe disregard for the safety of ourselves or others and a nihilistic recklessness. Rather, it’s to accept our fear and respond accordingly to keep ourselves and others safe — all while embracing faith in the One who has overcome death. While we can rightfully be fearful, we are still called to live with courage and trust. Especially today, it’s important that we don’t let fear and our realization of our mortality keep us from loving

others or caring for others due to excessive self-interest or neuroticism. While our health and safety are important, by remembering death we recall that our life is a gift from God — something not to be hoarded — and that we are to share it with others out of love.

Read the rest of this article at <https://grottonetwork.com/keep-the-faith/belief/embracing-death/>



Advent Event: **Wounds of 2020**

Lead by Fr. Alex

Sat. Dec 5, 2:30-4:30p **OR**
Thurs. Dec 10, 10-12p
Childcare provided (limited)
Register now!

Stjohn-catholic.org/
Event-Registration

Advent Event: Wounds of 2020, Christ in Chaos Retreat

Fr. Alex invites you to attend a retreat of healing entitled Wounds of 2020. This retreat offers healing from the reality of the spiritual damage that has occurred. Inadvertently, there have been sins of commission and omission by many institutions and persons. Government, media, the Catholic Church, our local parishes, staff, co-workers, neighbors, and even family members have contributed to the angst felt by many people. In this retreat we seek to find a pathway to peace with Christ.

Retreat dates are Saturday, December 5, 2020 2:30-4:30 pm or Thursday, December 10, 2020 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Limited childcare will be provided. An online option for the retreat is in preparation as well. To register visit our [Realm Event Registration page](#).

Luncheons 4 Life

The January Luncheons 4 Life is 11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Jan. 14 at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 7501 Northwest Expressway in Oklahoma City. Speaker: Dcn. Patrick Lappert, plastic surgeon. Topic: Transgender Issues/Christian Anthropology.



OKLAHOMA Catholic WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Oklahoma Catholic Women's Conference

The 2021 Oklahoma Catholic Women's Conference is Feb. 27 at Embassy Suites, 2501 Conference Dr. in Norman. Tickets \$65 Visit okcatholicwomen.com.

ST ELIZABETH ANN SETON SCHOOL



MISSION STATEMENT

Guided by our Catholic faith, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic School serves God and families by spiritually and academically preparing students for lives of holiness and service.

925 S. Boulevard •
Edmond, OK 73034
Ph: 405-348-5364
Fx: 405-340-9627
Stelizabethedmond.org

Principal
Laura Cain, x137
Assistant Principal
Karen Corrigan, x129

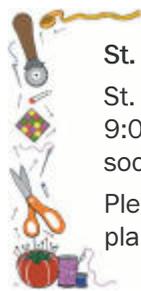


**A HUGE shout out to our Cardinals!
SEAS students recently donated
over 2,000 non-perishable
food items to the Samaritan House.
Well done!
"For it is in giving that we receive"**

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Dec 7—PTO Meeting
- Dec 8—Feast of Immaculate Conception
9:00 am School Mass—Closed to the public,
Streamed on YouTube channel StJohn Edmond
- Dec 15—School Advisory Council
- Dec 18—End of second quarter
- Dec 21-Jan 4—Christmas Break

STEWARDSHIP & COMMUNITY LIFE



St. Theresa's Quilting Guild

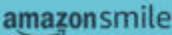
St. Theresa's Guild will meet Tues., December 8, 9:00 am-12:00 pm in the Council Room. We will be social distancing. We look forward to see you.

Please call Kathy Treece at 405-517-2796 if you plan to attend.

Oklahoma March for Life

The Oklahoma March for Life is Jan. 22 at the Oklahoma State Capitol. More information can be found at okmarchforlife.com.

Help bring joy this season

Buy your gifts at smile.amazon.com or with AmazonSmile ON in the app and Amazon donates




Make a difference this holiday. Shop for gifts at smile.amazon.com/ch/73-6095725 to generate donations for St John the Baptist Catholic Church and check out our [AmazonSmile Charity Lists](#) to donate items we need most.

THANK YOU to everyone who set up St. John the Baptist Catholic Church as their Amazon Smile organization. In November, we were issued a \$190.00 donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between July 1 and September 30, 2020.



Virtual Giving Tree Sign-up Information

We have 800 gifts we need to provide this year! Please join us in our virtual giving tree.

Go to St. John's website - stjohn-catholic.org

[Click on Event Registration](#)

[Click on Virtual Giving Tree](#)

Follow the prompts to register to help support this wonderful ministry

Realm users - just log in and go the event tab

Change for Life

As we enter November, the Knights of Columbus will kick off their "Change for Life" Campaign. The campaign goal is to help fund ultrasound machines for faith-based pregnancy centers across the state of Oklahoma, to enable the Pregnancy Centers to provide free ultrasounds in hopes of affecting change in the hearts and minds of abortion minded clients to consider life saving alternatives. As part of this effort, the Knights request that each family take a "Change for Life" cup and keep it in a convenient place, i.e. car, desk, kitchen counter top, etc. as a reminder and contribute spare change each month to enable the Knights to provide this valuable life saving resource, in support of the sanctity of life, which our Lord calls us all to protect. "Change for Life Cups" are available in the Commons after every Mass this weekend or contact any Knight of Columbus to obtain a cup for you, your family and friends. The first collection of donations will be the first Sunday in December.



Parents of St. John's

St. John's has a group for Catholic parents. To join them, visit their [Parents of SJB Facebook page](#).

If you aren't on Facebook and want to join, please email parentssjb@stjohn-catholic.org.

First Friday Adoration

Join the staff of the Catholic Pastoral Center on the first Friday of every month for adoration and the Divine Mercy Chaplet in the St. Francis de Sales Chapel. Adoration is open to the public.



THE CATHOLIC NEWMAN CENTER @ UCO

321 E Clegern Ave, Edmond, OK
Rachel Smith—Campus Minister
405-341-6300

rsmith@stjohn-catholic.org

stjohn-catholic.org/formation/uco-catholic-newman-center

ST. JOHN'S YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY FRIDAY MEETINGS



When: Third Friday of every month

Time: 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Where: The Commons room at St. John's

[St. John's Young Adults Ministry](#) youngadults@stjohn-catholic.org

https://web.groupm.com/join_group/48267267/FFZKkj nW

ST. JOHN'S YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY WEDNESDAY MEETINGS



When: First Wednesday of every month

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Where: ES2 Office
13401 N. Santa Fe Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73114

[St. John's Young Adults Ministry](#) youngadults@stjohn-catholic.org

https://web.groupm.com/join_group/48267267/FFZKkj nW

CODA: CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS



Co-Dependents Anonymous in Edmond is continuing meetings on Zoom. Thurs. 6:30pm and Sat. 11:00am. For information and to receive the meeting link call/text Sherry 405-315-7559 or email edmondstudygroup@gmail.com.

Additional online and phone meetings listed at www.coda.org. Co-Dependents Anonymous is a fellowship of women and men learning to develop healthy relationships with family, ourselves and God.

Join the K Club for a Night of Lights on December 12 from 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. at 1308 NW 168th Street. Enjoy a fantastic Christmas Lights Show and say hello to Santa on this beautiful evening of Christmas joy. Cookies, hot chocolate, and glow sticks will be available for purchase, and all donations benefit [Keaton's Lego Project](#), which gifts awesome Lego sets to local children battling cancer. Bring the whole family to celebrate Christ's birthday and help children in need.



Prayer to St Michael the Archangel

St Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our defense against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou, O Prince of heavenly hosts, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

CONTACTS

Parish Staff

Ph 405-340-0691 • Fax 405-340-5715
Mail PO Box 510, Edmond, OK 73083

Emergency Calls Only..... 405-330-7509
Pastor..... Rev. Ray Ackerman
Assoc. Pastor..... Rev. Anthony Ram
Assoc. Pastor..... Rev. Alexander Kroll
Deacon..... George Butterfield
Deacon..... Randy Hearn
Deacon..... Roy Forsythe
Deacon..... Bill Bawden
Administration..... Jennifer Dolf, x114
Safety & Security.....Anne Keef, x108
Music..... Barbara Meiser, x117

Accounting..... Lynda Hearn, x113
Accounting/S&S..... Angela Holt, x145
Outreach/HR.....Amy Dennis, x115
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UCO.....Rachel Smith, 405-341-6300

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Ph 405-348-5364 • Fax 405-340-9627
PrincipalLaura Cain, x137

Children's Day Out
Ph 405-340-1789
Director Eva Nagykaladi

Outreach—Samaritan House
Ph 405-216-7554
CoordinatorJesus Medina

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Spirituality: Advent the Season of Light

Nancy Vargas

Advent, by design is the season of light. We begin Advent in the darkness of winter when the hours of the night overcome the hours of the day. The first candle of our Advent wreath shines forth alone amidst the dark, with each successive week the light grows as one by one the candles are blessed and lit. Winter Solstice on December 21, the hours of dark and light are equal and in the days that follow, the hours of light will steadily increase. We celebrate Christmas December 25, the day the Light of Christ enters into our humanity in the birth of Jesus of Nazareth: "What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race" (Jn.1:4).

Every Sunday Mass we pray these words during the Penitential Act: "... that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts. ..." In the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. Ignatius advises us to become aware of our interior movements, those thoughts and feelings that come unbidden into our hearts and minds; in what direction are they leading us, closer to God or away from God? While on a silent retreat, I remember a very poignant question posed to us in a homily given by Fr. Vince Hovley, SJ: "What are the color of your thoughts?" Fr. Vince went on to say: "The color of your thoughts colors your soul and the color of your soul colors our world." In this season of Advent perhaps we should spend some time in prayer pondering the color of our thoughts?

Take some time each day this Advent to become aware of where your thoughts have been taking you: ([The Ignatian Adventure](#) by Kevin O'Brien, SJ)



Did they draw you closer to God? Did they help you grow in faith, hope, and love? Did they help you grow in faith, hope, and love? Did they make you more generous with your time and talent? Did they make you feel more alive, whole and human? Did they lead you to feel more connected to others or challenge you to life-giving growth?

Or did your thoughts and feelings lead you away from God, make you less faithful, hopeful, and loving? Did they cause you to become more self-centered or anxious? Did they lure you into doubt and confusion? Did they lead to the breakdown of relationships?

In this winter of darkness in our nation and in our world, let

us ask for the grace to put on the armor of light: "The night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light" (Rom.13:12). Let us become who we receive at Mass, the Light of the world, let us walk as children of the Light: "For you were once in darkness, but now you are the light of the Lord. Live as children of the light" (Eph. 5:8). Let us ask for the grace this Advent for the color of our thoughts to be light

and love, and let light and love color our souls so that the light and love of our souls may renew the face of the earth.

Nancy is a long time parishioner of St. John's and has ten years experience in spiritual direction. She facilitates Re-treat in Daily Life groups for the Archdiocese. She may be contacted at 405-760-4640 or navargas54@gmail.com.

Cont. from pg 1

those we meet. Not by preaching actual words, but by living lives that communicate the comfort God wants His people to know. As the world sometimes frantically unfolds around us, we can be people of patience who show others that it's okay to wait for God's gift to come. Conducting our lives in this manner, we will know the peace that comes from doing what we have been asked to do.

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A Season of Advents

Karen Pourbabaee

“When you look for Me, you will find Me. Yes, when you seek Me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:13 NAB

According to the liturgical calendar, the annual season of Advent commences four Sundays before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the latin Adventus , meaning “coming”. Our Lord’s coming.

The season of Advent affords us an opportunity to share in that ancient longing for the Messiah, to enter into the spiritual-days-gone-by of our Jewish forefathers. Beyond the Nativity, we also look to the Second Coming of Christ, the consummation of all history, when He will arrive in glory. Amen!

So while the season culminates in the celebration of Christ’s birth, the long days of preparation can gift us with many moments of advent. I like to think of these as little advents...little moments of joy within our soul. Divine interruptions in the fast flow of life. But we must be prepared...alert...expectant. For He may come ever so quietly. Even disguised.

Prepare your hearts, and He will come. The Lord arrives along many pathways.

He comes to us in sacrament, in a holy communion. Receive Him. It’s a little advent. In the solitude of adoration, the Lord is near. Speak to Him. It’s a little advent. He arrives in the midst of His people as we gather to worship, for He told us where two or more are gathered together in His name, He will be there among us. It, too, is a little moment of advent.

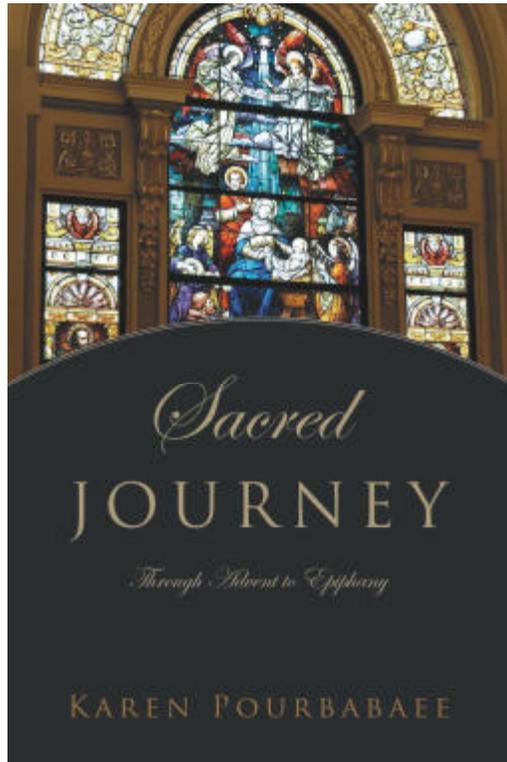
Listen for His footsteps in the reading of the Word. Contemplate His statutes, and the Living Word draws near and speaks to you. It’s a little advent. Walk outdoors in

the cathedral of nature. Here His whispers in the wind. View His touch in every brilliantly colored fall leaf, or the pure white veil of snow blanketing the ground. Bask in those moments of advent. Seek His face in those you meet each day. They may carry His revelation Word to you. You may gift them with His love, offer a cup of water in His Name. He has come in those advent moments, too.

Embark upon a spiritual treasure hunt this Advent season. Many little advents await you.

Dear Lord,

During this wondrous season of Advent, may I grow to more deeply understand the mystery of Your Coming, in the hush of the Nativity, in the glory of Your Second Coming, and in the little advents along the way. Amen.



“Great in His Faithfulness” appears in Karen’s book, SACRED JOURNEY THROUGH ADVENT TO EPIPHANY. On this journey of daily reflections, discover little advents along the way, find hidden, holy treasure beyond the secular signs of Christmas, pray the O Antiphons in the countdown to Christmas, and celebrate Christmastide with candlelight and prayer until you arrive at the glory of Epiphany. Back cover and some interior images taken at St. John’s. Author-signed copies can be requested at karen71682@att.net.

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting service launched

The new Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting service launched on March 16. The third-party reporting service is responsible for receiving allegations of sexual abuse against current or retired bishops in the United States. The hotline does not replace the requirement to contact law enforcement. Allegations can be made to the toll-free number (800) 276-1562 or online at reportbishopabuse.org. The reporting party can choose to remain anonymous. For more information, go online to archokc.org/clergyabuse. To report abuse by clergy, volunteers or church and school employees, call (405) 720-9878. If a child is in immediate danger, call 9-1-1.





In November we welcomed these children into our Faith Community through the Sacrament of Baptism:

Allison Ann Meyer, daughter of Brian & Jennifer Meyer
Connor Joseph Hilbers, son of Anthony & Amy Hilbers
Harper Anne Holland, daughter of Matthew & Kara Holland
John Bradley Patterson, son of Austin & Alissa Patterson



We would like to welcome all newcomers to St John's Church.

Registration forms can be found at all hospitality desks in the church or register online at www.stjohn-catholic.org in the Welcome tab.

Anthony & Stacy Adair
Paul & Kim Jacobs
Bryan & Sofia Smith
James & Sue Ann Webster
Kevin & Karin Williams

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Please join us Sundays, in church, at 11:00 am to pray the rosary.

Join us daily at 7:00 am in the Daily Mass Chapel to pray the rosary.

If you are interested in leading the rosary, please call Ann Sorrels at 405-834-5906.

Sanctity of Life Mass

The 2021 Sanctity of Life Mass/Ignite for Life is Jan. 20 at The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and regional sites. Details coming soon.



COUNSELING CORNER



FINDING HAPPINESS

Mary Brenner, LPC, NCC

As we experience holidays 2020, wishing COVID was over and out of our lives forever. It is easy to lose focus of the beauty and gifts in our lives. Just before the Thanksgiving break I hit a bump in my own happiness. Two people I cared for, one the parent of a dear friend and the other a former student, who went on to be a gifted educator himself, passed away from COVID. They both had serious pre-existing conditions, but it is hard to be prepared. No one could be more familiar with the stages of grief than me. After all, it is my job to teach and help others through the grieving process. Still, I shocked myself with a ridiculous over reaction when my in-laws told us they didn't feel comfortable coming for Thanksgiving. To them on the phone I was totally in agreement. I really thought it was the best decision and one I totally supported. Why then did I spend the next two days totally irritable and intermediately crying? I was grieving and I totally missed what was wrapped up in all of those messy feelings. When I verbalized what I was feeling with my husband, he did not try and fix it, or minimize what I was feeling, he just listened. After I talked about all that was weighing on my heart, I realized I needed to power up with some prayer and positive thoughts, so I reread one of my favorite Christmas articles I thought you might enjoy it too!

Damian Quinn, 12 December 2017

www.accessforsuccessni.org

Five simple things to improve the Holiday Blues:

1. Appreciate the simple things

Take time to appreciate the smaller things! It's easy to get carried away with all the hype and excitement-but sometimes it's the little things which bring us joy; relaxing with family in front of the fire, a walk in the crisp winter air, feeling snugly in a scarf. Take a drive and enjoy the Christmas lights...

2. Do A Good Deed

Christmas is the season of giving so why not do a good deed. There is no better feeling than making a little positive difference to somebody's day. Give someone a compliment, share with others or spending a bit of time with those who have less this festive season such as the homeless or the elderly.

3. Don't Compare

Try not to compare yourself to others, if it be how big their tree is how many presents or cards they got ... IT IS NOT A COMPETITION. Focus on you and what will help you to have the best Christmas possible under these unusual conditions.

4. Make a List

Not a list of all the treats you want from Santa. Rather a list of things that you have to be thankful for this Christmas. It is important to take time out to appreciate people and things that make you happy.

5. SING!

Alone in the shower or getting ready to go or if your confident enough in front of friends and family. It has been proven that singing is a great way to let off some steam. No better time as there are plenty of carol songs or cheesy 80 classic Christmas songs. The best way to spread Christmas Cheer is singing loud for all to hear.

I think it is safe to say why I am not in the choir, but I play Bee Gee's songs and sing with my heart and soul. Laughter has the same healing power. As we go through these trying times we will all have bouts of sadness, unhappiness and perhaps anger. When you do go through a down period be kind to yourself, reach out to those who can lift you up. If it lasts longer than you think it should, don't try and handle it alone. There are people who care. I am wishing you and your loved ones a very peaceful and joyful Christmas.



Mary Brenner, LPC, NCC, is on staff at St. John's. She has a broad source of experience with young people, families, couples, and mature adults. She has also worked with school children. If you or your family are in need of a counselor, Mary may be contacted at 405-359-8539.



ST. JOHN'S YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

We would like to thank all of the members of St. John's for the donations we received for the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma!! We collected 270 pounds for the food drive and were able to donate 225 meals to those living with hunger in our state! Thank you!!



Christmas Card Contest 2020

Thank you to everyone who took the time to create a beautiful entry for the Christmas Card Contest. The winning entry was created by Hannah & Cara Feuerborn. Hannah is the artist and Cara added the verse. Watch for the card in your mailbox soon. They also won second place, for an additional entry. The third-place winner is a watercolor by Connie Moore.

If you are in the office, stop by to see the beautiful display.



Thank you to everyone who joined us for **Advent by Candlelight** on November 28th. A big shout out to Noelle Garcia for providing us with beautiful music. We hope the night filled you with peace and joy!

We would also like to thank you for supporting [Willow Pregnancy](#).

[Mom's of St. John](#)

SUPPORT

COUNSELING: individual, child/adolescence, group, marital and family counseling to help you cope with stress, grief, depression, anxiety, addictions, relationships and adult children issues. Sessions at Raphael House. Call Mary Brenner, LPC, 405-359-8539.

GRIEF SUPPORT. St. John's offers individual sessions for discussing the death, your loss and the corresponding feelings. Call Mary Brenner, LPC at 405-359-8539.

St. Ann's Pregnancy & Early Infant Loss Support Group held each second Thursday of the month from 6:30-8:00. Share stories and resources. Natalie Clevenger at natalie.clevenger@gmail.com or 405-315-1425. Child care available upon request.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP. meets on the third Sunday of the month from 10:15 - 11:30 at St. Andrew's Catholic Church, 800 NW 5th St, OKC, OK 73160. Call Caryl Prati, RN FCN for information at 405-799-3334. St. Phillip Neri, 1107 Felix Pl, Midwest City, OK 73110. Every Other Tuesday 7:00-8:30. Contact Sharon Hebert, 405-455-3608, shebert9@att.net.

CODEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS is a fellowship of men and women who want to develop healthy relationships to support and share with each other in a journey of self-discovery. CODA meets at 6:30 pm every Thursday. Call Sherry at 405-844-1474.

WIDOWED OR DIVORCED The opportunity to find help dealing with the natural grief process is available through the Beginning Experience weekend. With the help of God, the pain of loss can turn into an experience of positive growth. For info or upcoming dates, Contact the Office of Family Life at 721-5651 x108.

CAREGIVER SUPPORT for caregivers of those with some type of dementia meets on the 2nd Monday of each month from 7:00 - 8:30 pm at Santa Fe Presbyterian Church, 1603 N Santa Fe. For information call the church at 405-341-3300 or Cindy Thomas at 405-715-9954.

Autumn Leaves Memory Care, 1001 S. Bryant, 405-406-3858. 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm.

STROKE AND BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUPS. CITYWIDE STROKE SUPPORT GROUP
American Heart Association

3401 NW 63rd, #200, OKC, OK 73116
Contact Janet Spradlin, Ph.D., 405-272-6554 to join from home anywhere in Oklahoma. Meets 4th Monday of month, 6:30-8:00 pm.

Jim Thorpe REHAB SUPPORT GROUPS

INTEGRIS Jim Thorpe Rehab Hospital
4219 S. Western Ave., OKC, OK 73109.

For Rehab Caregiver Support Group
Contact: Allie Weaver, CRC 405-636-7883. Meets 3rd Thursday of the month, 6:00 pm. For Brain Injury Support Group
Contact Karen Bryan, OTR/L 405-644-5381. Meets 4th Thursday of month, 6:00-7:30 pm.

MERCY HOSPITAL STROKE SUPPORT GROUP
4120 W. Memorial Rd. (Glass Pyramid), #102 OKC, OK 73120. Contact: Gary Bulmer 405-721-8453. Meets 2nd Tuesday, 6:00-7:30 pm.

OKC BRAIN INJURY SUPPORT GROUP

Valir Rehab Hospital - 700 NW 7th St., OKC, OK Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday of month, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Contact: Gary Bulmer 405-721-8453 or Rod Davidson 405-517-1608

CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY & GAMBLING.

A CHANCE TO CHANGE, meets on Mondays, from 6:30-8:00 pm, at 3031 NW 64th, off May Avenue, OKC. New programs for individuals with gambling problems and employee assistance programs are now available. Call 405-840-9000.

MENTAL HEALTH. Edmond Support Group for depression, bipolar and related conditions meets every Saturday, 3:00-4:00 pm, in the Edmond Public Library, at 10 S. Boulevard.

LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION CLASS

4 area support groups are available for family members or caregivers of someone with a severe mental illness.

1 area support group is available for those suffering with a severe mental illness.

More details to be found at www.NAMiedmond.org

Family to Family classes Go to www.namigreaterokc.com for information about support groups and classes and continuing education series regarding serious mental illness. You may also call 405-408-8806 for information.

NAMI SUPPORT GROUP

NAMI hosts support groups for families and caregivers of people with mental illness and has a support group for people with mental illness. For more information on mental illness support and events visit NAMiedmond.org or call 405-408-0886

Al-Anon Groups

Edmond Clubhouse, behind Reid Printing
3130 B South Boulevard 405- 330-1160
Monday 12:00 noon
Monday 6:30 pm Preteen - Alateen
Monday 7:40 pm
Wednesday 6:45 pm
Saturday 9:30 am and 11:00 am
Sunday 5:30 pm Al-Anon Adult Children

Alcoholics Anonymous Groups

Peace Lutheran, 2600 E Danforth,
Mon, Wed, 8:00 pm,
Wesley Foundation Student Center, 310 E Hurd St., M, W, F, Sat, 12:10 pm
Edmond Group, 3130 S Boulevard, Every day, 8:00 PM; Tues, Thurs, 12:10 pm; Sat, 11:00 am, Sun, 9:30 am
Edmond Hispanic Group, 3130 S Boulevard, Mon, Wed, Fri, 6:30 pm
American Legion Hall, 101 E. 5th Street, Tues, Sun, 7:30 pm
Simply AA, 19 1/2 West 1st St, Tues, Thurs, Sun, 8:00 pm
Presbyterian Church, 10th and Rankin, Sat, 8:00 am

SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE

Contact: Cindy Rose, 405-919-9195, rose23@cox.net, Crossings Community Church, 14600 North Portland Ave, OKC, OK 73134, every Mon, 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm
Contact: Randy Miller, 405-751-1859, r_miller1012@cox.net or Cindy Siegrist, 405-317-1387, All Souls' Episcopal Church, 6400 North Pennsylvania Ave, OKC, OK 73116, 4th Tues of every month from 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Contact: Phyllis Haley, 405-330-8155, 2109 Silvertree Lane, Edmond, OK 73013, Meet Monthly.

Survivors Support Group

Meerschaert House 2nd Floor - 1901 NW 18th St., OKC, OK. (St. Francis of Assisi Parish). Third Monday of the Month 7:00 - 8:30. A support group for those who have lost someone to suicide. A simple gathering in a caring atmosphere, offering ways to cope and remember loved ones. Denise Short 405-620-7991. Youth Room



DECEMBER 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 RCIA	2 Bible Study Extended Confessions 1st Comm Class Confirmation Class Choir Practice	3 Men's Ministry School Mass Mom's Bible Study Scouts Jesus & Java	4	5 Surviving Divorce Wounds of 2020 Retreat Extended Confessions
6 RCIA-Children FF Parent Meeting Cons to St Joseph HS Youth Group	7	8 <i>Immaculate Conception</i> School Mass (Closed) St Theresa Guild Safety Committee	9 Extended Confessions 1st Comm Class Confirmation Class Choir Practice	10 Men's Ministry School Mass Mom's Bible Study Scouts / Jesus & Java Cons to St. Joseph	11	12 Surviving Divorce 1st Reconciliation Retreat Extended Confessions
13 RCIA-Children FF Parent Meeting HS Youth Group	14 Deep Dive	15 School Rosary RCIA	16 Extended Confessions 1st Comm Class Confirmation Class Choir Practice	17 Men's Ministry School Mass Mom's Bible Study Worship Pillar Scouts / Jesus & Java	18 Young Adults	19 Surviving Divorce Extended Confessions
20 RCIA-Children	21 School Christmas break Dec 21-Jan 4	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Masses 3:00pm, 5:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 11:00pm	25 Christmas Mass 10:00am	26
27	28	29 Convalidation	30	31		

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10904 N. May Ave. OKC 405-286-3112	8966 S. Western OKC 405-631-3797	1612 S. Boulevard Edmond 405-340-3620	
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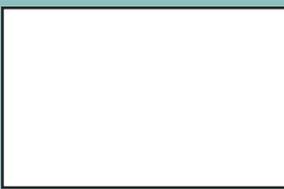
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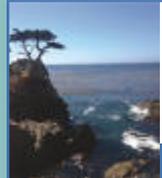
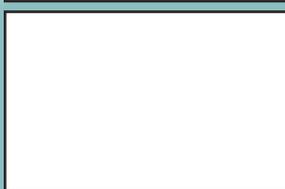
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