

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish

December 5, 2021

Second Sunday of Advent

342 South Chillicothe Road • Aurora, OH 44202 • 330-562-8519 • Website: [www.olphaurora.org](http://www.olphaurora.org)  
Parish Office Hours: Mon –Thurs: 9:00am - 5:00pm Fri: 9:00am - 1:00pm

### PARISH DIRECTORY

**Pastor:** Fr. Shawn Conoboy- x111, [sconoboy@olphaurora.org](mailto:sconoboy@olphaurora.org)

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**Maintenance:** Mr. Tony Pollarine- x162

**Webmaster:** Mrs. Shelene Studzinski, [shelene1967@gmail.com](mailto:shelene1967@gmail.com)

**Choir Director/Pianist:** Mrs. Barb Dzurilla

**Band Director:** Mr. Jeff Botos

**Organist:** Mrs. Christine Weisenberger



**Executive Team, Pastoral Council:** Mark Demyan, Alfred Beckstrom,  
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**OUR MISSION...** Inspired by Mary,  
we strive to witness to Christ, to celebrate the  
Eucharist, and to serve others.

### OUR VALUES...

- We celebrate the Eucharist as the center of our lives
- We offer a warm welcome to all
- We are committed to life-long formation in the Gospel
- We are a diverse community seeking holiness
- We are faithful stewards of the gifts entrusted to us
- We work for biblical justice
- We joyfully spread the Good News of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit

### LITURGIES

SATURDAY: 4:30pm, SUNDAY: 9 & 11 AM

WEEKDAY: 9 AM TUES-FRI

TUESDAY: 6:30pm

### RECONCILIATION

TUESDAY - 6:00pm SATURDAY - 3:30pm



### THE HISTORY OF ADVENT

Advent traditions will vary by country, but the heart behind Advent is mostly the same across cultures and denominations. Derived from the Latin word “adventus”, the word advent means “arrival” or “coming”. In this instance, it is used to indicate set time(s) during the month of December to commemorate the coming of the Messiah in Jesus Christ. Advent, like Christmas, is a season of expectation, celebration, and hope, connected to the birth of the prophesied Messiah and the promise of Christ’s subsequent ministry.

There are a few historical accounts that put the inception of Advent as a church tradition somewhere around the 4th or 5th century. Other traditions use Advent as a way to anticipate the second coming of Jesus Christ, which has yet to transpire. However, most of what we know and practice today, can be traced back to the Middle Ages and later 19th century. In 1851, the first mention of an Advent calendar was seen in Elise Averdieck’s picture book, and in 1839, the advent wreath first appeared.

### THE ADVENT WREATH

As the story goes, in 1839, a Lutheran minister working at a children’s mission in Germany created a wreath out of the wheel of a cart. The minister placed 20 small red candles out the outer ring of the wheel and four larger white candles inside the ring, lighting the red candles on weekdays and the four white candles on Sundays as a way for the children to countdown the days until Christmas.

Advent wreaths were eventually fashioned out of evergreens, twisted together in a circle to symbolize continuous life across the seasons, from the death of winter to the new life of spring. Naturally, this earthly symbolism also points to the spiritual symbolism of newness and the promise of eternal life and salvation offered through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ (John 3:16). The circular nature of the Advent wreath, similar to a wedding ring or band, is further meant to reflect the unending love of Christ and eternal life offered through salvation.

Holly leaves, berries, and seeds are sometimes added to the Advent wreath as well. Holly leaves can be prickly and therefore used to represent the crown of thorns placed on Jesus’s head during his crucifixion. Berries, which are typically red, also point to Christ’s sacrifice and the blood shed for sins. Pinecones, seeds, and nuts are also placed within the wreath as a symbol and promise of new life. Together, the elements of the Advent wreath reflect the new life and eternal salvation offered through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, who we now celebrate.

### THE ADVENT CANDLES

In almost all Advent traditions, the lighting of candles is also a prominent feature of each week’s commemorative celebration. Some candles are placed within or near the Advent wreath itself. Other times, they are lit separately on each Sunday beginning four weeks prior to Christmas. Candles and the light they produce are a reflection of the light that came into the world with the arrival of Jesus Christ. Some traditions light a single candle on each of the 24 days leading up to Christmas. Other traditions place one large candle in the center of the Advent wreath and light it every day of December until Christmas.

The most common tradition, however, typically uses four candles. Each advent candle is lit on one of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas. The color of these candles can vary, but it is common that the first, second, and fourth candle is purple, while the third candle is rose-colored, red, or a pinkish hue. In some cases, all the candles are red, blue, or white, and often, a fifth white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Day itself. Catholic tradition even states that the four candles, representing the four weeks of Advent, each stand for 1,000 years to total the 4,000 years from the time of Adam to the birth of the Messiah.

In most traditions, the lighting of the four candles (or multiple candles) is meant to be done as a family and will often be used to reflect on the hope, faith, joy, peace, light, and purity that came into the world with the gift of the Messiah. Families will typically light the candle together, often encouraging children to take part in the celebration. Many modern churches light an Advent candle during Sunday services to prepare for Christmas as a church family.

Regardless of specific Advent traditions and differences in how it is celebrated across cultures and countries, Advent is a time for all believers and families to commemorate the arrival of the Messiah, prepare for his second coming, and celebrate the joy of Christmas together.



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### FIRST READING: BAR 5:1-9

Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name. For God will show all the earth your splendor: you will be named by God forever the peace of justice, the glory of God's worship.

Up, Jerusalem! stand upon the heights; look to the east and see your children gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you: but God will bring them back to you borne aloft in glory as on royal thrones. For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low, and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God. The forests and every fragrant kind of tree have overshadowed Israel at God's command; for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company.

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM 126:

R. The Lord has done great things for us;  
we are filled with joy.

### SECOND READING: PHIL 1: 4-6, 8-11

Brothers and sisters:

I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you, because of your partnership for the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value, so that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

### GOSPEL: LUKE 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias was tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert. John went throughout the whole region of the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah:

A voice of one crying out in the desert:

*"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.  
Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill  
shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made  
straight, and the rough ways made smooth,  
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."*



### DR. MARIANNE'S REFLECTIONS

For more reflections on the readings see  
Dr. Marianne Ivany's blog page at

[www.marianneivany.com](http://www.marianneivany.com) or scan the QR code.

## FFP INFORMATION



### CHRISTMAS PAGEANT & DEVOTION

All parishioners are invited with the FFP families on Sunday, December 12, 6:00pm in the Church for the story of the Nativity.

There will be a donut and hot chocolate reception in the hall after.



### BREAKFAST WITH ST. NICHOLAS

**THIS** Sunday, December 5, after each of the Sunday Masses, St. Nicholas will be visiting Our Lady as he gets ready to celebrate his Feast Day, December 6. Come hear about this generous saint, have your picture taken with him, get a special treat and enjoy the December Hospitality Pancake Sunday. Bring the kids but everyone is invited.

## ADVENT



### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration is held every Tuesday  
morning & evening,  
9:30am -12:30pm & 7:00pm - 8:30pm  
in the church.

There will be an **ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE** on Thursday, December 16, at 7:00pm at St. Patrick Church in Kent. The priests of Portage County will be here to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation.

Please note that this will be the only Communal Penance Service in our county in preparation for Christmas.

### LIVING BREAD RADIO

Fr. Joe Witmer will be presenting **Daily Gospel Reflections** on Living Bread Radio AM 1060 the week of Dec 5-11, 2021. Reflections will be aired throughout each day to give listeners multiple opportunities to hear Fr. Witmer's daily reflection. So keep your dial tuned to Living Bread Radio.

### ADVENT REFLECTIONS

The Diocese of Youngstown will post on **Facebook** and **Twitter** *Daily Advent Reflection* videos recorded by Catholic leaders around the diocese. (They will also be available on the DOY YouTube Channel.) These will be great for your own personal use during the season and to share with your fellow parishioners, family members, and friends.

**Twitter:** @DOYoungstown  
<https://twitter.com/DOYoungstown>

**Facebook:** "Catholic Diocese of Youngstown"  
<https://www.facebook.com/DOYoungstown>

**YouTube:** "Catholic Diocese of Youngstown" Channel  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UcKwcSOhoUOePs1qJtGlGxA>

**OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**CONTRIBUTIONS for NOV 20/21, 2021**

146 Weekly/Monthly Envelopes & Cash . . .	\$	9,666.00
134 On-Line Giving Contributions . . . . .	\$	6,408.00
0 Children's Contributions . . . . .	\$	0.00
<b>Total Contributions . . . . .</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>16,074.25</b>
<i>Budgeted . . . . .</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>15,000.00</i>
Parish Assistance . . . . .	\$	150.00
Building Fund . . . . .	\$	270.00
Christmas Flowers . . . . .	\$	1,110.00
Retirement Fund . . . . .	\$	190.00
Missionary Collection . . . . .	\$	5.00

**God Bless You & Thank You For Your Generosity**

**CONTRIBUTIONS for NOV 27/28, 2021**

155 Weekly/Monthly Envelopes & Cash . . .	\$	8,576.00
131 On-Line Giving Contributions . . . . .	\$	6,023.25
0 Children's Contributions . . . . .	\$	0.00
<b>Total Contributions . . . . .</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>14,534.50</b>
<i>Budgeted . . . . .</i>	<i>\$</i>	<i>15,000.00</i>
Parish Assistance . . . . .	\$	105.00
Building Fund . . . . .	\$	400.00
Christmas Flowers . . . . .	\$	493.00
Retirement Fund . . . . .	\$	2,343.00
All Saints/All Souls . . . . .	\$	40.00
Missionary Collection . . . . .	\$	10.00

**God Bless You & Thank You For Your Generosity**

**MASS ATTENDANCE FOR NOV 20/21 & 27/28, 2021**

<u>4:30pm</u>	<u>9:00am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
182/128	140/151	228/290

**STEWARDSHIP**

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..."* (Philippians 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

**RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND APPEAL:**

**Help Aging Religious**

Religious Retirement Fund Appeal: Religious give thanks. A sister writes, "Our prayers belong most of all to the generous benefactors whose donations have made this financial assistance possible." Thank you for supporting last week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection, or by giving online at [www.doy.org](http://www.doy.org). Visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org) to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

**PARISH NEWS**



**THE ADVENT GIVING TREE** is a Charity & Justice Committee project to collect and distribute gifts to those in need in Portage County.

All gift cards and/or checks are due back **NO LATER THAN Dec. 5th**. Thank you in advance for your support. (If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen Sloe at 330-388-7107.)

**CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATION**

You may remember your loved ones through a **Christmas Flower** donation. Simply return your envelope from the packet, pick an envelope up in the Narthex.



These monies are used to decorate the church the entire Christmas season.

Deadline to be included in the Christmas weekend bulletin is Wednesday, December 15.

**OPLATKI** the traditional Christmas Wafer is available in the Narthex of the church. A donation of \$3.00 is requested.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD** books for the new Liturgical year are available for \$5.00 in the Narthex of the church.



**OUR LADY'S LADIES**

We will be taking December off so all can spend time with family and friends.

Our next gathering will be held on **Wednesday, January 5, 5:30pm** in the Parish Hall. We will have a Pot Luck Dinner and White Elephant /Gift Exchange. Items may be new or repurposed with at least a \$20 value!

Any questions, please call Mary in the office, x0.

**MASS INTENTIONS / VIGIL CANDLE**

Dates for 2022 are now available. Stop in or contact the office to schedule.

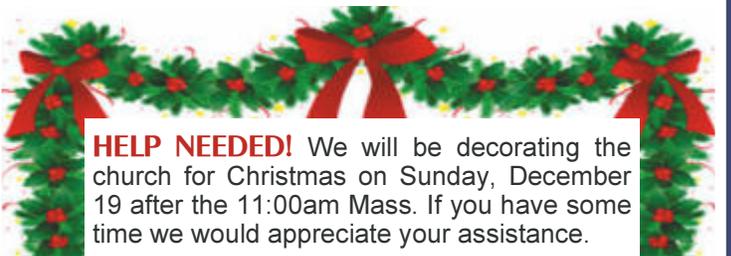


**ALPHA @ OUR LADY**

Thank you to our Pastoral Council for the wonderful Lasagna dinner and desserts! It was just delicious.

Our last Alpha session is Monday, December 6, 6:30-8:30pm in the Parish Hall. What a wonderful journey this has been! Thank you Kevin for bringing it to Our Lady!

**FREE MEAL • SHORT VIDEO/TALK • CONVERSATION**



PARISH CALENDAR

<b>MON</b>	<b>DEC 6</b>
6:30 pm	LAST ALPHA session
<b>TUE</b>	<b>DEC 7</b>
9:00 am	Mass
9:30 am	Adoration
6:00 pm	Confession
6:30 pm	Mass
6:30 pm	Stewardship Mtg
7:00 pm	Worship Committee Mtg
<b>WED</b>	<b>DEC 8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION VIRGIN MARY</b>
9:00 am	Mass (Followed by Confession)
9:45 am	Yoga - Upper Quad - after Mass
6:30 pm	Mass (Followed by Confession)
<b>THU</b>	<b>DEC 9</b>
9:00 am	Mass
7:00 pm	Choir Practice
7:00 pm	Scouts/Pack Mtg
<b>FRI</b>	<b>DEC 10</b>
9:00 am	Mass
6:00 pm	Christmas Pageant Rehearsal - Church
<b>SAT</b>	<b>DEC 11</b>
3:30 pm	Confession
4:30 pm	Mass
<b>SUN</b>	<b>DEC 12 - 3rd Sunday of Advent</b>
9:00 am	Mass
11:00 am	Mass
6:00 pm	Christmas Pageant & Devotion - Church Reception to follow. <b>All are welcome.</b>

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** at Our Lady are reminding you to mark your calendars for two upcoming events with our council.

First, our monthly **social meeting** is scheduled for **7:30 pm, December 13** at the parish. All men of the parish 18 and older are invited to attend. Food and drink will be provided and don't be afraid to bring a friend or two! This is how many of our 88-member-and-growing-council received their first introduction into what our organization is about.

Secondly, another **movie night** is on the books with Fr. Shawn! He has chosen a somewhat untraditional "Christmas" movie-"**Diehard**," starring Bruce Willis. We will begin with food at **7:00pm, Monday, December 15** and the movie will start about 7:30 pm after a short presentation from Fr. Shawn. As you may know, he is quite the fan of the big screen and has seen thousands of movies in his life-time. This a way to get to know Fr. Shawn in another light and for him to get to know you!

For more information about our council, call or text Grand Knight Dan Rondini at (330) 562-2541 or e-mail him at dan.rondini@gmail.com.

**SEMINARIAN FEEDBACK:** One of the elements of my formation for priesthood is feedback, especially from YOU!

Using the link or QR Code below, you can submit feedback about my preaching, teaching, or general comments about my ministry. Once a month, I will be sharing a preaching reflection. I welcome positive or challenging

feedback based on how you have observed me.

Please also feel free to email me if you have questions:

[kbterleff@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:kbterleff@youngstowndiocese.org)

Thank you! ~ Kevin



<https://www.percorso.app/givefeedback/kbterleff>

VOCATIONS

Are you called to be "A herald's voice in the desert" preparing the way of the Lord in the hearts of His people?

If you are considering a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life, contact Father Scott Kopp at 330-744-8451 or email: [skopp@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:skopp@youngstowndiocese.org).



Date: Tuesday, January 11, 2022  
 Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm  
 Place: The Overlook at Twin Lakes  
 Tickets: \$30 Buffet Dinner 6:00pm,  
 Cash Bar, Speaker 7:00pm

**Living the Gospel Challenge: Solidarity & Community**  
 Presented by: Vicki & Terry Vicars

Terry and Vicki Vicars have both worked in the Diocese of Youngstown in a variety of capacities for over 34 years. For the past 24 years, Terry has worked at Catholic Charities Regional Agency as a case manager for those who are experiencing homelessness. After 30 years in parish ministry, Vicki has two positions. She works as Lead Community Organizer for ACTION, Inc, a faith-based community organizing collaborative. She is also the Director of Mission, Equity and Resilience for the Ursuline Sisters Mission. They are parents of two adult children, foster parents to a 53-year-old young man and grandparents to 5 incredible kids. They have discovered that the principle of solidarity is a gift that guides them in their family life, their daily work and in their interaction with many diverse and beautiful communities

Last day to make a reservation is Tuesday, January 4. For more info please contact Mac Clapp.



OUR LADY has a Facebook page!

"Like Us" to receive all the latest info about our parish community! Mass streamed live at 4:30pm Saturday and 11:00am Sunday

<https://www.facebook.com/olpauroraoh> or search Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Aurora, Ohio.

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**Kathy Vinson, Parishioner**  
 216.390.1913  
 vinson.kathy@reagan.com

**Struggling with addiction?**  
 Call the Portage Addiction helpline: **330-678-3006**  
 Treatment works, Recovery is possible!  
 Mental Health & Recovery Board

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