

Saint James Catholic Community

*Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2024*

CLOSER

God • Church • Community
Together We Can Do Great Things



*Advent is a Time of
Expectation*



St. James Catholic Church

309 S Stewart Road, Liberty MO 64068

Office (816) 781-4343

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am-12:00noon

School (816) 781-4428

On the web @ www.stjames-liberty.org

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/stjamesliberty/>

Mass Schedule:

Weekdays: Monday - Friday, 8:15am

Saturday, 5:00pm

Sunday, 8:00am, 10:30am, 5:00pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday 4pm and Anytime by request

Our Pastoral Team

Rev. Mike Roach, Pastorx201
 frmike@stjames-liberty.org

Rev. Michael Volkmer, C.P.P.S., 816-349-2844
Senior Priest in Residence

Deacon Chuck Koesterer
 chuck@stjames-liberty.org

Katie Klassen, Business Manager
 Katie@stjames-liberty.orgx220

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 danny@stjames-liberty.org.....x207

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Sandy Gagnon, Dir of Christian Initiation Ministry
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 stjamesoffice@stjames-liberty.orgx200

Ernie Collins, Director Children's Choir
 ernie.collins@stjames-liberty.org..... N/A

Front Desk.....x202

Pastoral Council:

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Mission Statement

We, the community of St. James, are a prayerful and Eucharistic people who treasure our Catholic traditions. We strive to grow in our faith by being good stewards of the gifts God has given us; sharing God's truth with all. As the Body of Christ, we are called to love and serve everyone, especially the marginalized, with joy and hospitality.

CHRISTMAS AT ST. JAMES



Christmas Eve

Tuesday, December 24

3:00 p.m. Mass

6:00 p.m. Mass

9:00 p.m. Concert before Mass

10:00 p.m. Mass

Christmas Day

Wednesday, December 25

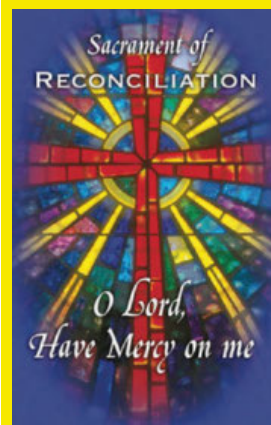
9:00 a.m. Mass

COMING SOON!

Another outstanding study from
 the St. James Adult Faith Program

Be sure to listen to next week's
 announcements before Mass
 or watch for information in next week's
 bulletin, and on the St. James website.

Registration begins on December 22nd
 Classes start Thursday, January 16th, 2025



Additional Confession Times This Advent

Monday, December 16
 11:30am - 12:30pm

Wednesday, December 18
 4:00 - 5:00pm

Thursday, December 19
 5:30 - 6:30pm

These are in addition to our
 regular Saturday 4:00pm
 confession time

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combatting sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you observe or suspect sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. If the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, report the suspected abuse to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate at 816.392.0011 or victimadvocate@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

From the Pastor's Pen

This Third Sunday of Advent has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday," gaudete being the Latin word for "rejoice." Why rejoice? Because we, the People of God, are coming near to the celebration of the Nativity of the Lord. We rejoice because the Word of God is made flesh and lives among us.

Yet, how very difficult it can be to stir up in our hearts a spirit of rejoicing. So many events sadden our lives. Sometimes on a personal level there may be bad blood in families, divorce, disappointments with the lives of teenagers and adult children. There may be issues with bad health or finances or problems at work. How can we rejoice? On a national level our country is beset with polarization, political divisions, race and gender issues. People in the southeastern part of our country are feeling overwhelmed by the destruction caused by the two hurricanes. There are very worrisome international issues: on-going bitterness and violence in the Middle East, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the threatening gestures of North Korea. Drought continues to afflict parts of our country and world. How can we rejoice? Sometimes we may feel like covering our eyes and ears, hole up, and not face all these afflictions.

And yet the words of the Scripture and the voice of our Church ring out: "Rejoice." The only way to heed that call is to find comfort in our faith. Advent is the season of expectation, of hope, of inviting the intervention of the Lord. We find comfort in the words of The First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians, words we hear in the Scripture readings this weekend: "Rejoice always. In all circumstances give thanks." No matter how dire the world, national, and family circumstances might be, still we cling to the promise that the Lord will be with us always. That's the hope we carry in our hearts, rejoicing as we anticipate the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

My prayers are with you each day.

Fr. Michael

Mass Intentions

Week of December 16 - December 22

Monday 8:15am	Rachel Johnson Joe & Eileen Barry
Tuesday 8:15am	†Joan Horn †Fr. Thomas Y. Minniece
Wednesday 8:15am	†Sherry Glenn Gerry Kimmel-Carr
Thursday 8:15am	†Fr. Emil Kapun Alec Eslick
Friday 8:15am	†Kinzie Laire †Fr. Tomas Y. Minniece
Saturday 5:00pm	†Harriet Erwin †Nancy Rutliff
Sunday 8:00am	†Dee Ward †Jean Lyons
10:30am	†Nancy Rutliff Victoria Lopez Families
5:00pm	†Dan Habiger Military Veterans & Families



Contact Info

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Sat 4pm until finished; any time requested.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Baptismal Preparation Classes: Once a month
Contact Kirsten Maggi in the parish office, ext. 204 or
kirsten.maggi@stjames-liberty.org

Religious Education: For Preschool through adult spiritual development, please notify office of needs.

New Parishioners: Please register at the parish office.

We Welcome You!

St. James School: PS-8th grade offered.

Call the School Office, to inquire, 781-4428

Sacrament of Marriage: 9 months advance notice

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the parish office.

To Schedule an event in our Parish Facility:

stjamesoffice@stjames-liberty.org

or call the Parish Office, ext. 202.

All Bulletin articles must be submitted by Monday

12Noon to: bulletin@stjames-liberty.org

Honor Your Loved Ones With Flowers



The sanctuary will be decorated this Christmas Season with flowers in honor or memory of our families and friends.

To add your loved ones, drop an envelope with your name, the names of the people to remember or honor, and your donation in the collection basket or bring your envelope to the parish office weekdays from 9:00am to 12 noon.

Use the Christmas Flower Offering envelope from your packet or another envelope, marked Poinsettias, to make our donation.

Thank You For Adding To the Beauty Of Our Church This Christmas

New Pledge Cards Available

Tithing Pledge cards for 2025 are available in the book rack located in the hallway just off the Gathering Space.

Please return by December 31.

You may drop them in the collection baskets or the Parish Office during regular business hours, or mail to St. James, 309 S. Stewart Rd., Liberty MO 64068.

Someone is Watching and Wondering



Today as we light the third candle of advent which symbolizes **Joy**, I continue my inward journey seeking the **Hope**, **Peace**, and now **Joy**

of Advent. I find myself asking Joy, where is my Joy? I feel joy with family and friends. I enjoy good food, music, literature, and movies. I find joy in gardening and hiking. I am grateful for a good report concerning my health. Do any of these things, however, reflect the **true Joy** I seek.

There have been very few days that I remember, when I awoke with feelings of dread. I may not be happy but I feel joyful to be alive. I begin my day able to exercise, shower, dress, prepare coffee, and sit quietly with daily scripture and prayer. I am a creature of habit, and if this routine must be altered I feel somewhat disoriented; I especially miss my quiet time with Jesus. If weather permits, I will be sitting in my backyard enjoying the sunrise, birds, and natural beauty surrounding me. If it is raining, snowing, or too cold, I have a very comfortable chair in my living room where I sit with Jesus. Later I may attend Mass, or begin work. Whatever the remainder of the day brings, if I have started with Jesus, I feel He is with me all day. There are days I am frustrated or discouraged, I may feel great or experience physical pain, at times I face problems, other times I find solutions, there may be other people with me or perhaps I spend the day by myself. Whatever the day presents, however, I know I am not alone; I have Jesus with me. Putting these thoughts into writing, I realize whether I feel happy or sad, energetic or tired, anxious or relaxed, depressed or hopeful, the true peace I experience comes from God. This peace is a sure sense of God's mercy, forgiveness, and grace. My inner peace is an awareness that I am not alone. God does not reject me or withhold love. God chose me but also gave me the free will to choose my own path. I can choose to embrace and follow Jesus, to surrender to the Father's will and guidance, or I can cling to my selfish, self-centered, ego (which so often has lead me into darkness). Perhaps I needed years of feeling alone and rejected, of fighting for my rights and recognition, of intellectual pursuit and hard work, to finally realize I cannot accomplish anything alone. I remember what Fr. Mike says: "All things are possible with God." I feel the **Joy of Advent**, through my experience of God's presence each and every day as I awake. Only when I allow myself to be blinded by negativity do I lose sight of Jesus, and the light He shines in and through my darkness. My Joy is living in His presence. I wish you the Joy of a life in Christ.

Your Sister in Christ, *Sandy Gagnon*

St. James Parishioner		2025 Tithing Pledge	
Name _____	Envelope Num. _____		
Address _____			
I/we will give a gift of \$ _____ (Please indicate option below)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly	<input type="checkbox"/> Annually
Other _____			
I/we wish to use Automatic bank withdrawals.*		Signature (required for draw) _____	
*Bank Draw is made 1 st Wed of each month (see reverse side)		(voided check needs to be attached)	
Best way to reach you:			
Email _____	Phone: Primary _____	Secondary _____	

Let's approach Christmas with an expectant hush, rather than a last-minute rush.

Why The 3rd Sunday of Advent is Called Gaudete Sunday



By week three we have passed the half-way point of Advent. Jesus is near. Christmas is almost here.

The word "Gaudete" is Latin for "Rejoice." In times when the focus of our anticipation is often

on the negative and fearful, this celebration is a reminder that God who loves us is still in charge and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy.

The Third Sunday has traditionally been a respite from the penitential themes of Advent emphasizing instead the joy of the coming of the Lord. It is a reminder to seek and spread joy in the coming of Christ. Thus, the third Sunday is also known as Gaudete Sunday.

The third candle is pink and symbolizes joy. It is called the "Shepard's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. Priests may also wear rose-colored vestments on this Sunday.

In his 2014 Gaudete Sunday homily, Pope Francis said that Gaudete Sunday is known as the "Sunday of joy", and that instead of fretting about "all they still haven't" done to prepare for Christmas, people should "think of all the good things life has given you.

HELP CLOTHE THOSE IN NEED BY SHARING NEW AND GENTLY USED WINTER COATS and WARM CLOTHES FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Winter Coat Drive again this year.

Many coats are needed as well as socks, gloves, scarves and other warm clothing.

This coat drive begins next weekend and will run weekends through December 21/22, except the weekend of December 7/8.

Please bring your donations to the Narthex on Saturdays or Sundays between now and December 21/22 from 7am and 6:30pm. There is a section for adults and one for children's. Signs will be posted.

Monetary donations will also be accepted.

Please scan the QR Code to make your donation.

Monetary donations will be sent to St. James Midtown to purchase coats and warm clothing for those in need.

Donated coats and outerwear will be distributed to St. James Midtown and homeless veterans.



Thank you in advance for your donations

Novena to the Christ Child and The Holy Family



The beautiful reflections and prayers of this Novena focus on the birth of Jesus and His family in the early years of His life.

The last Novena held at St. James will be in the AV Conference Room (lower level of the church from 6:30 - 7:30pm on the following date.

Wednesday, December 18

Everyone is Invited and Welcome to Participate

This is a wonderful way to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child.



GIFTS THAT DON'T COST A CENT

- THE GIFT OF LISTENING**
Listen without interrupting.
- THE GIFT OF A SMILE**
Give a smile to those around you.
- THE GIFT OF LOVE**
Give a hug, a compliment or a loving detail.
- THE GIFT OF GRATITUDE**
Say "thank you" to the people in your life.
- THE GIFT OF FAVOR**
Every day try to do someone a favor.



**PRECIOUS BLOOD
Renewal Center**
a ministry of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood

All Are Invited To Attend

**Awaken The Night
Embracing The Light
A Winter Solstice Celebration**

Led by Fr. Joseph Nassal, C.P.P.S.

Sunday, December 21 • 6:30pm - 8:30pm

The Winter Solstice invites us to pause and to pray on the longest night of the year by embracing the light that dwells within each of us. This is the night to rest in the darkness, trusting the light of Christ, the light of hope, of peace, of love will grow ever brighter in the days ahead.

This is the night for honoring endings and embracing new beginnings. In our prayer, reflection, ritual, and conversation on this holy night, we release regrets from the past year as we make room for new hope to be born.

Our gathering this evening will once again include a contemplative walk to the Reconciliation Labyrinth with luminaries to light the way. We will conclude with a simple supper and fellowship.

In-person and Zoom options available.

Suggested Donation \$15, includes supper

To Register

Email: info@pbrenewalcenter.org

Phone: 816-415-3745

Online: pbrenewalcenter.org/events

Precious Blood Renewal Center
2120 St. Gaspar Way - Liberty MO

Blessing of the Christmas Tree

Before celebrating this blessing, you will need to invite one family member to be ready to light the tree, and another family member to be ready to hang a new or special ornament upon the tree. Begin by inviting family members to gather around the unlit Christmas tree.

Sing together a verse of a favorite Christmas carol, pray together the Sign of the Cross, and then offer the following prayer of blessing:



*God of all creation,
As we gather around this tree,
we ask your blessing upon us.*

(The appointed family member should light the tree)

*May your light surround us, and show us the way
to love and serve you
throughout this Christmas season.*

(The appointed family member should place
the ornament upon the tree)

*May all who gather here with us enjoy
the beauty of this tree,
the warmth of laughter,
and the gift of friendship.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord, Amen



“And the crowds asked him, ‘What then should we do?’ In reply he said to them, ‘Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.’” - Luke 3:10-11

Are you ever at a loss for what gift to buy a person who has everything?

This Christmas season, why not use the money you would spend on them to donate to a charity in their name? Pick a charity or a cause that is important to them and then let them know what you have done. Such a gift will have no negative environmental impact, and it can be your version of sharing a coat or food with someone who has none, rather than giving more to someone who already has plenty.

Besides, *not* buying something is the first step in the “refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle” continuum.

Pick Up Your 2025 Calendar



2025 calendars
are available
in the
Gathering Space

Thanks to Park Lawn Northland Chapel
for providing these complementary calendars.

ST. JAMES PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2024

Chairperson Joan Peluso called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following council members were present: Fr. Mike Roach, Eddie Baker, Phil Baumert, Kevin Casel, Chris Fullinwider, Betsy Lewey, Yvette Lopez, Joan Peluso, Jeff Ridder, and Corrine Sebranek. Prior to the beginning of the meeting, the Council met in the church sanctuary for a group picture. Yvette Lopez started the meeting with the opening prayer.

Guest Report: The Council was honored to welcome two staff members who told about their jobs here at St. James.

Scheduling Coordinator, Jeanne Greenwald told the Council about the varying responsibilities of her job here at St. James. Jeanne's main function is scheduling groups and individuals who want to use a room or rooms throughout the campus. In addition, she secures and opens the buildings and takes care of any heat or air conditioning needs. Also, she has a variety of other jobs that keep the parish running smoothly. If there is a need for volunteers for a specific project such as the Hope Gift Cards, she will contact parishioners to volunteer. In addition, Jeanne takes care of scheduling for Mass intentions and any voice mail updates and getting new church guide books and calendars.

Stephanie Ladenthin, Director of Religious Education, told the Council her main job concerns anything regarding the development and organization of pre-K through middle school religious education. This is the first year for pre-K RE and currently 22 children are enrolled. Stephanie is guiding the transition of 6th graders to be confirmed in the future. This is a gradual process to move this sacrament from 9th graders to 6th graders and will take several years for this transition to be complete. Currently, there are 152 families that have children participating in RE in pre-K through 8th grade. She also reported that 71 students will receive their first sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion and 125 teens are preparing for Confirmation. She told the Council that there is a need for Adult Catechists. There is currently a Student/Adult Parent Teacher organization. This group organized and ran the recent Truck or Treat program with 250-300 students participating. This organization also is assisting the high school students wanting to go to Steubenville next summer to raise money. The spaghetti dinner held in October raised \$1800. The next endeavor for our RE program is to start a young adult program for adults under 30.

Chairperson Joan Peluso and the Council thanked Jeanne and Stephanie for their expertise and work in helping to make St. James the outstanding parish it has become.

Old Business: Joan told the Council that the goal to contact college students and working young adults who are members of St. James is a work in progress. There has been contact made with William Jewell College. The Council discussed possible methods to make contact, as well as, a timeline to do so. There was also discussion about calling this mission Alumni Outreach.

New Business: The Council discussed the needs of the parish and ways in which the Council can assist our parish community. Kevin Casel suggested the importance of creating and organizing traditions in our parish that will help to strengthen our community. Another idea was for the Council to work with Religious Ed to sponsor a project to assist parishioners and their families to make an Advent wreaths for their homes. Another suggestion was to sponsor a weekend where parishioners can view the new event space which is now open for some events. Also discussed were ways the Council could establish communication with various ministry heads to be able to assist those ministries with any needs they may have.

There was a short discussion on having holy water holders of some type on the walls of the church near the Gathering Space exit. After a short discussion, it was decided that this was not needed. Finally, it was decided to take another look at the survey given at the beginning of this year to see additional concerns and needs of the parish. Discussions will continue at the December meeting concerning these and other possible ways to assist our growing parish.

Closing: Fr. Mike closed the meeting with a prayer and the members prayed "The Lord's Prayer" together. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m. The Council's next meeting is Monday, December 16th at 7:00pm in the AV Conference Room. If you have any ideas or concerns for the Council, please contact Fr. Mike or Chairperson Joan Peluso.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Porterfield, Pastoral Council Secretary



Pastoral Council

Front Row: Chris Fullinwider, Corrine Sebranek,
Joan Peluso, Betsy Lewey, Yvette Lopez

Back Row: Phil Baumert, Eddie Baker, Fr. Mike Roach,
Kevin Casel, Jeff Ridder .

Not Pictured: Sherri Porterfield

Parish Religious Education

FIRST RECONCILIATION



We congratulate the following students for completing their preparation for the First Reconciliation program!

They and their families participated in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on November 18 and December 2.

Layla Adams
 Claire Becnel
 Audrey Beltran
 Kinsley Boeckman
 Corbyn Brown
 Jameson Brown
 Braelyn Buckman
 Khloe campos vargas
 Grayson Carullo
 Olivia Coultis
 James Deere
 Connor Diegel
 Mila DiGiovanni
 Wren Dixon
 Ellyanna Doering
 Jace Fuentes
 Grace Grogan

Law Haskins
 Eynn Herman
 Hayden Herman
 Owen Hughes
 Vivian Hurt
 Gus Kazanowski
 Kallen Kirkbride
 Jack Klinginsmith
 Leila Knese
 Henry Koch
 Violet Kortum
 Piper LaRue
 Piper LaRue
 Grayson Loving
 Gabriella Mancuso
 Kasen Manda
 Patrick McCarthy

Christian Messina
 Anthony Miele
 Reece Miller
 Greta Mordy
 Hagan Neff
 Averyana Paredes
 Adam Pasqualucci
 Avery Payne
 Bo Pedroza
 Molly Pelej
 Ava Peluso
 Gerardo Matias Radilla Lopez
 Patricia Geraldine Radilla Lopez
 Owen Rodriguez
 James Rogers
 Rosabella Russell
 Israella-Jeanna Samey

Calvin Santo
 Max Scott
 Giovanni Serrone
 Lucas Shatto
 Sam Shumate
 James Simon
 Cecilia Smith
 Liam (William) Smith
 Grayson Soppe
 Jude Sprung
 Jade Stoeckle
 Elias Swanson
 Christopher "CJ" Tipton
 KC Tungal
 Rory Wilson
 Evan Young
 Finley Zimmerman

Next Classes

12/15 – PreK-5: 9:10-10:20am (St. James School)

1/12 – Middle School: 6-7:15pm (Parish Hall)

12/8 – Camino: 6:00-7:30 (Christmas Caroling)

12/15– Confirmation: 6-7:30pm (Parish Hall)

The Advent journey invites us to reflect on the gift of peace, which Christ came to bring. For the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, reconciliation is at the heart of this peace. As we draw closer to Christ during Advent, we're invited to seek forgiveness, both to give and receive it, as a reflection of God's mercy.

May this season remind us that true peace is not just the absence of conflict but the presence of Christ in our lives, healing and reconciling all things in His love.

PEACE THROUGH RECONCILIATION

Birthdays this week: Today we celebrate all that you with God's help, have accomplished.

- | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Stephanie Bauer | Jackson Coultis | George Jedwski |
| Nikolas Bray | Dorothy Doering | Kaitlyn Klinginsmith |
| Timothy Flanigan | Michael Heiman | Julia Mattingly |
| Jacob Guenther | Evynn Herman | Oliver Robinson |
| John Hughes | Hayden Herman | Marc Ruiz |
| Lori Janacaro | Carl Infranca | Dean Schropp |
| Ella Jorgensen | Cameron Kieffer | Emma Stauffer |
| Carrie Klebenstone | Lisa Kixmiller | Marcella Steinbauer |
| Areli Lea | Christopher | Edward Winkler |
| Lincoln McCoy | Natividad | Makeyla Akers |
| Shari Mutchler | Diane Neubecker | Anna Ballard |
| Shelby O'Dowd | Travis Oakes | Amelia Fore |
| Patricia Radilla Lopez | Rachel Richardson | Ronnie Heinse |
| Oakley Schoen | Jared Sigler | Rhett Henderson |
| Samantha Seggerman | Wailan VanDusen | Damien Jones |
| Jeffrey Weiler | Brittanie Baker | Alek Kapetanovich |
| Rozanne Witherow | Hazel Culli | Nicholas Kazmaier |
| Inez Bartlett | Alec Eslick | Michelle Llewellyn |
| Nicholas Biesemeyer | Manuel Garcia | Jan Moubry |
| Michael Blakemore | Gerry Kimmel-Carr | Michael Nedeau |
| Nicholas Brown | Teagan Kinne | Leslie Paredes |
| Elizabeth Cox | Wade Mann | Debra Sutlief |
| Brenda DePalma | Andrew Martin | Bridget Bruening |
| Peter Gusman | Michelle McCloskey | Jackson Brulja |
| Brendan Heinzler | Ron McCombs | Aaron Burson |
| Liam Jewell | Taylor Neal | Holly Cacioppo |
| Andrew Klosak | Leonard Platt | Cecilia Davidson |
| Victoria Lopez | Donna Schmitt | Suzanne Eggers |
| Patrick O'Donnell | Loki Skylizard | Joy Hanson |
| Neil Surber | Stephanie Steffensmeier | Colin Haynes |
| Stella Brown | Gena Wells | Christopher Lux |
| James Burgdoerfer | Joanna Aguirre | Kathryn Mendyk |
| | Theresa Bacon | Raymond Smith |
| | Arla Couch | Jacob Streich |
| | Noelle Herman | Michaela Wight |
| | Matthew Hobbs | |

The 'O' Antiphons Of Advent



'O' Antiphons are the prayers of Advent, prayed since the 8th Century in the seven days before Christmas Eve. They make this time of preparation for the birth of Christ holy, allowing us the opportunity to meditate on Christ's coming and what it means for us.

The word "Antiphon" is not a familiar one to many. In a few words, it is another psalm selected for a specific day to go along with the readings for the Mass of the day. They are referred to as "antiphons" because traditionally, they were sung by multiple choirs.

The O Antiphons of Advent are a series of seven antiphons beginning with "O", that are prayed (or sung) in the Alleluia verse before the gospel during Mass from December 17 through December 23. Each Antiphon invokes the coming of the Messiah, beginning with a biblical title and closing with a specific petition.

Each of the seven antiphons begins by addressing Jesus using an Old Testament title for the Messiah, based on Isaiah's prophecies. The "O" in these antiphons comes from the Latin word "vocare", to call. Each individual text is a cry, an invocation, welling up from humanity's desire for God. The word "come" is used in every O Antiphon. Each has its own symbol (pictured above).

The Latin versions of each of the titles of the Messiah are: **Sapientia** (Wisdom), **Adonai** (Lord), **Radix** (Root), **Clavis** (Key), **Oriens** (Rising Sun), **Rex** (King), and **Emmanuel** (Emmanuel). If you take the first word of each of these Latin titles, starting with the last to the first, you spell, you'll spell: EROCRAS or 'ero cras' which is Latin for 'tomorrow, I will come'.

As we sing the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" we are singing texts from the O Antiphons, as each verse is modified from one of the seven O Antiphons.

Many families add the O Antiphons to their prayers during Advent. These beautiful antiphons are like a drum roll growing to a crescendo as the seven days bring us closer to the Christmas miracle of God made flesh, born as a babe.



Your gift helps support more than 30 ministries along with administrative support for both parishes and the Diocese.

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We Pray to our Lord Jesus for healing

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Contact Dan Bacon (816-589-7958) or David Jones (816-868-5718).

You Are Invited To Eucharistic Adoration



Jesus invites you to meet with Him in the Chapel every Tuesday and/or Thursday from 9am- 9pm.

Please come for a few moments or for an hour anytime that works best for you.

Please notify us to remove your name from our prayer lists when it is time.

In respect of HIPAA we will add names to the prayer list only by request of the person or immediate family.



Join Us In Prayer Rosary For Healing Thursdays at 6:30pm



Did you know that there are many in our parish who are struggling with serious health issues? Some are on our prayer chain. And then, there are others we don't know about - they prefer to keep their health issues private.

We invite all to become "prayer warriors" and join us every Thursday at 6:30pm in the church as we pray the rosary for all those who are in need of healing prayer.

The prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well. James 5:15

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