

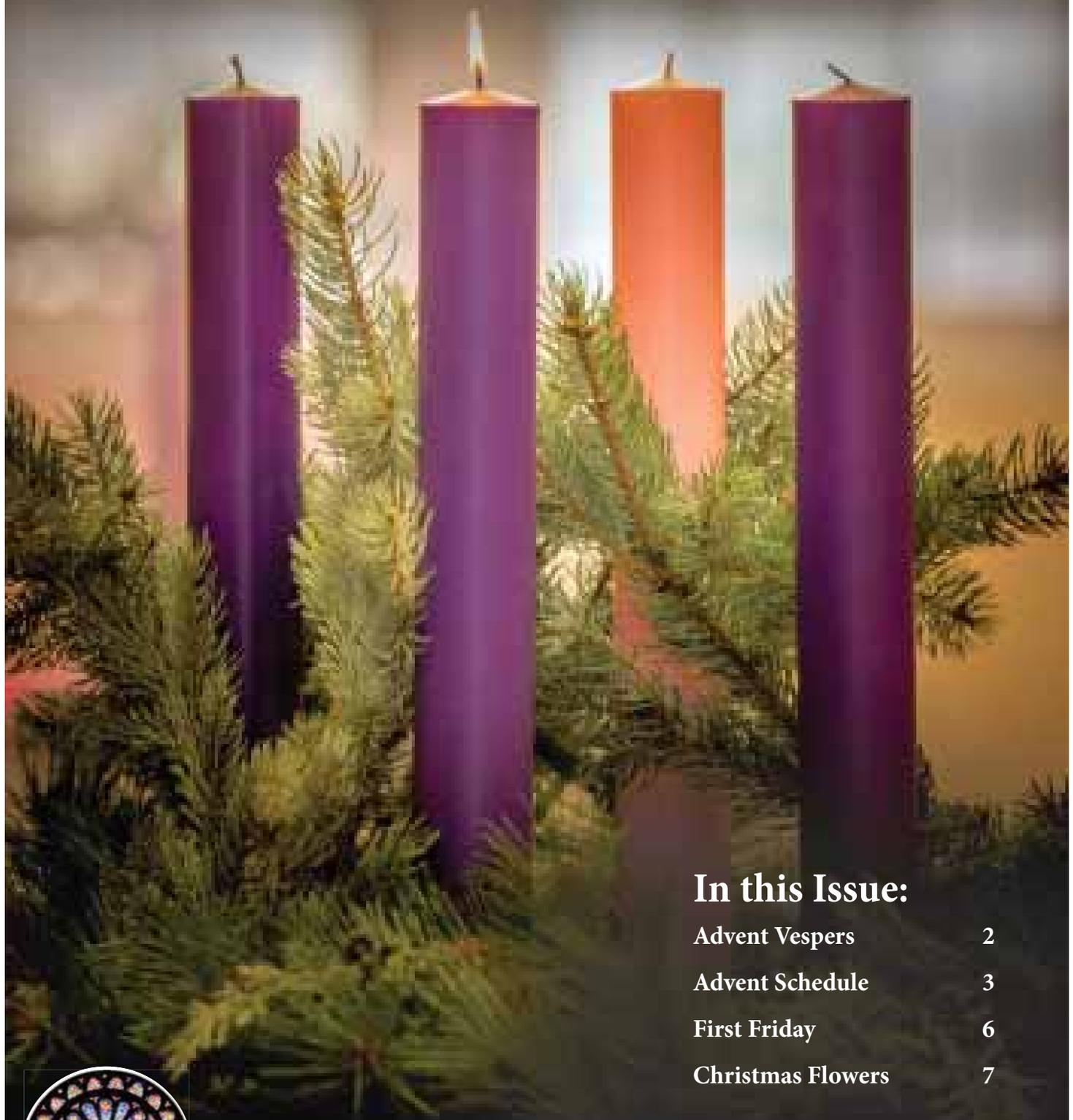
THE Cathedral Courier

Weekly Bulletin for the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling, West Virginia

1 December 2019

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Vol. 9, No. 1



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Saint Joseph Cathedral Parish is called to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a community. We are committed: to our urban neighborhoods, to being the Cathedral of the Diocese, and to fellowship, formation, sacrament, and prayer.

This Week At The Cathedral

December 1 - 8, 2019



SUN 1	FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Sat) 6:00 PM Mass for the Parishioners 8:00 AM Mass for John & Shirley Sheets 10:30 AM Mass for Mildred & Fred Risovich 6:00 PM Vespers
MON 2	Advent Weekday 12:05 PM Mass for Joseph & Sarah Truini
TUE 3	Saint Francis Xavier, priest 12:05 PM Mass for Daniel Krulcik
WED 4	Saint John Damascene, priest, doctor of the Church 12:05 PM Mass for Tom Naegele
THU 5	Weekday in Ordinary Time 12:05 PM Mass for Dr. Edward Thomas Nagem
FRI 6	Saint Nicholas, bishop First Friday 11:15 AM Confessions 12:05 PM Mass for Charles Naegele 12:45 PM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 6:00 PM Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
SAT 7	Saint Ambrose, bishop, doctor of the Church First Saturday 9:00 AM Mass for Barbara Klug 9:30 AM Rosary 5:00 PM Confessions 6:00 PM Mass for Leonard Romanek
SUN 8	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8:00 AM Mass for the Parishioners 9:15 AM Religious Education Classes (<i>Offices</i>) 10:30 AM Mass for Wib & Rose Breiding 6:00 PM Vespers



First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5 • Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Romans 13:11-14 • Matthew 24:17-44

Another Advent is upon us. Why? Why does the Church lead us along the same path every year, repeating the same seasons, even the same readings? Is it for lack of creativity and imagination? Is it out of condescension? Does the Church think we are too unintelligent to understand it the first time around? No, not at all. So what is the reason for another Advent?

The word “advent” comes from the Latin “*ad-venire*”, meaning to come to, to come towards. This season spotlights the three comings of Christ: the first, 2000 years ago; the last, sometime in the future; and the ongoing - Christ’s constant coming into our lives through his grace, his providence, and his sacraments.

We live in the final age of human history, the age which will end in Christ’s second coming, the destruction of the cosmos as we know it, and the creation of a new heavens and earth - the full establishment of Christ’s Kingdom, as today’s Readings described. We are already citizens of that Kingdom, because we are members of his Church. The Church gives us the season of Advent in order to remind us of this, and to give us a chance to check up on the quality of our citizenship.

The beginning of a new liturgical year is important because it should signal a new beginning in our relationship with Christ and in our relationship with the Church and one another. It’s not that we don’t already have a relationship with Christ and the Church; but if we look into our hearts, mine and yours, we will no doubt find that these relationships need to be strengthened. That is why the Church in her wisdom each year takes us through the same cycle of liturgical celebrations: it is our common way as Catholic Christians of following the life of Christ, so that, as individuals and as a community of faith, we may share ever deeply in all the Lord said and did to save us. 🌟

Holiday Project

Angel Tree

The Angel Tree will be in the church beginning on Saturday, November 24

Please return the gifts by
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

All gifts are delivered that week and it is important that we receive your gift and tag by the due date.

Also, please do not wrap the gifts. Rather, place them in a bag and staple it shut with the tag on the outside.

Advent Vespers

Sunday evenings during Advent at 6:00 p.m.

Vespers, also called Evening Prayer, is part of the Liturgy of the Hours, also known as the Divine Office. We encourage you to join us at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph for Solemn Vespers each Sunday evening during Advent at 6:00 p.m. In addition to the prayers and music provided by the Cathedral Schola, there will be an Advent Reflection given by a guest priest.

December: Month of the Divine Infancy

During this month of December, as we look forward to Christmas, we recall the Divine Infancy of Christ. Devotion to the Infant Jesus is to marvel at His having humbled Himself by taking on a human nature, subjecting Himself to all that flesh is heir to (minus the effects of original sin, of course), even subjecting Himself to the earthly authority of Mary and Joseph. Through prayer, let the humble and peaceful ways of the Divine Child Jesus become ours as we strive to serve and love as he continues to do.

Advent & Christmas
AT THE CATHEDRAL

• • • ADVENT SEASON • • • • • • CHRISTMAS SEASON • • •

Sundays at 6:00 p.m.
VESPERS

Sunday, December 15 at 10:30 a.m.
BLESSING OF THE BAMBINELLI
Bring the Baby Jesus from your Nativity scene to be blessed at the Cathedral

Sunday, December 22 at Noon
DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS

Tuesday, December 24
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
Choral Meditations at 5:30 p.m.
Mass: 6:00 p.m.

MASS DURING THE NIGHT
Choral Meditations: 11:30 p.m.
Mass at Midnight

Wednesday, December 25
CHRISTMAS MASS DURING THE DAY
10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, January 1
MARY, MOTHER OF GOD
Masses: (Tues) 6 p.m., (Wed) 9 a.m.

Women's Faith Sharing Holiday Luncheon

Thursday, December 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Perkins Restaurant, Wheeling

The Cathedral Women's Faith Sharing gathering for December will be a Holiday Luncheon at Perkins, Thursday, Dec. 12, 1:00 pm following noon liturgy and Litany of the Sacred Heart. RSVP Diane (304-233-8574) or see Janet after mass by Tues., Dec. 10.

Blessing of the Bambinelli

Sunday, December 15 during the 10:30 a.m. Mass

The blessing of the Bambinelli has been a tradition in Rome for many years. On the Third Sunday of Advent, also called Gaudete Sunday (December 16), we are called to rejoice as we anticipate the birth of Jesus. The children of Rome bring the Christ Child from their family manger to St. Peter's Square for the Holy Father to bless at the time of his Sunday Angelus. Continuing this tradition, everyone is invited to bring their Baby Jesus figurines from their home Nativity scenes to be blessed at the Cathedral of Saint Joseph during the 10:30 a.m. Mass on

In your charity, please keep in your prayers:

Andrew Helfer, Archer Hatch, Arthur Danehart, Austin Cook, Barb Mazzocca, Bertha Wurtzbacher, Betty Lou Galloway, Betty Teater, Bill Wilson, Bob Armstrong, Bob Jones, Brogan Gallentine, Caleb Hlebiczi, Charles Heizer, Children of the Youth Services System, Christina Helfer, Chuck Fair, David A. Kress, Jr., Eva Wood, Father Joseph Wilhelm, Frank Davis, Fred Herink, Frederick C. Schweizer, Gail Koch, George Kirchner, Geri Adams Nagy, Helen Chiazza, Hines Rotriga, Jane Rudari, Marlene Martin, Janet Cupp, Janie, Jean and Chuck Schultz, Jim Antill, Jim and Dee, Jimmy Hocking, John Petrella, Jon-Michael Lasher, Judy Pack, Julia Sheets, Kathy Cooley, Kaitlyn Hanasky, Kenneth Shores, Kermit Klosterman, Liam Manning, Lukie Brown, Margaret Stocke, Mark Davis, Martha Yocum, Mary Ann Fowler, Mary K. Schlosser, Mary Walicki, Michael DeBlasis, Milissa Rose, Milly Burke, Mona Wurtzbacher, Nadine Greenwood, Norma Bosold, Patricia Kalisz, Pete Cuffaro, Pete Mack, Philippa Shores, R. J. Stocke, Richard Simon, Rick Burgy, Ron Hickman, Rosalie Davis, Rose Otey, Sarah Hanasky, Sarah Sargent, Shirley DeCaria, Sr. Mary Florence Burke, Stanley Kyr, Stephanie Bugaj, Susan Graff, Susan Mize, Susan Schulte, Tammy, Teresa Helfer, Thelma Pearson, Thomas Griffith, Trystan Timmons, Victoria Jeskey



Maranatha, an Aramaic expression used by Saint Paul in 1 Corinthians which means "Our Lord, come". The Didache, a document composed in the Early Church, indicates that was apparently a liturgical acclamation like the Hebrew expression "Hosanna" and "Amen". Maranatha is also commonly associated with the Season of Advent. It expresses both the Church's belief in the risen Lord Jesus and its hope in His glorious coming at the last day, already anticipated and guaranteed by His presence in the Eucharist.

*Let us go rejoicing
to the house of the Lord.*

-Ps 122

Weekly Collection

November 24, 2019

Envelopes: \$2238 Loose: \$314

Online: \$350

Thank you for your generosity and support.

Advent has changed with the centuries but its focus remains on Christ

By Mike Nelson, Catholic News Service



An Advent wreath decorates the Apostolic Palace at the Vatican Dec. 14, 2015. Catholics regard Advent as a season of preparation and expectation, of promise and hope. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Since its fourth-century origins in Western Europe, the season of Advent has undergone various configurations, purposes and focuses depending on who was celebrating it, where, how and why.

In 380, the council of Saragossa in Spain declared that Christians were obliged to attend church daily from Dec. 17 to Jan. 6, the feast of the Epiphany. During the following century, fasting on three days of each week from the feast of St. Martin of Tours (Nov. 11) through Christmas was mandated by church authorities in Gaul.

And early Advent observances had a penitential focus, much like Lent, complete with the color purple, the exclusion of the Gloria and alleluia from the liturgy and, for catechumens, their preparation for baptism at Epiphany.”

Over time, however, church leadership in Rome — mindful of Easter’s pre-eminence in the life of the faithful — restored the alleluia to Advent’s Sunday liturgies, and emphasized Jesus’ return as foretold in Scripture (long before Jesus’ birth was connected to the season).

Today, Catholics regard Advent as a season of preparation and expectation, of promise and hope — and not of penitence.

Because, although penance services are a staple of many parish Advent observances, penitential action isn’t anything Catholics aren’t already doing regularly. The penitential rite of every Sunday liturgy calls us to conversion — to examine our consciences, to cleanse our souls — so we

may truly welcome and receive Christ into our hearts and our lives.

Thus, Advent focuses on directing our hearts and minds to the return of the risen Christ into our world (regardless of how much we may care to focus on the sweeter, gentler aspect of welcoming and receiving the Christ Child on Christmas Day).

Our Advent prayer of longing, “Maranatha,” rooted in early Christian liturgy, means “Come, Lord.” The very word “Advent” derives from the Latin “ad-venire,” meaning “to come to” (other sources cite the Latin “adventus,” or a “coming,” from the Greek word “parousia,” defined as “presence” or “arrival”).

By either definition, the word addresses “the Advent of God’s kingdom,” as St. Leo the Great suggested in a mid-fifth-century homily during his pontificate. Jesus, St. Leo said, regularly taught his apostles to focus on what we today might call “the big picture”: the second coming, citing the Gospel of St. Luke 21:34-36:

“Beware,” Jesus said, “that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. For that day will assault everyone who lives on the face of the earth. Be vigilant at all times.”

Sixteen centuries later, we receive the same message on the first Sunday of Advent in this new liturgical year’s Gospel reading from St. Matthew.

Jesus is speaking to his disciples shortly

after he enters Jerusalem, and just prior to his crucifixion and resurrection, events that caught his disciples (and most everyone else) quite off guard. He reminds them of the world’s foolishness in the time of Noah, and of the woes that await those who are unprepared for the coming of the Son of Man.

“Therefore, stay awake!” Jesus warns his listeners. “For you do not know on which day your Lord will come” (Mt 24:42).

The readings themselves are preceded by a collect that is both prayer and exhortation: “Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom.”

These readings and prayers suggest that Advent is a season of expectation as well as preparation. The Catechism of the Catholic Church makes this point clearly:

“When the church celebrates the liturgy of Advent each year, she makes present this ancient expectancy of the Messiah, for by sharing in the long preparation for the savior’s first coming, the faithful renew their ardent desire for his second coming. By celebrating the precursor’s birth and martyrdom, the church unites herself to his desire: ‘He must increase, but I must decrease’” (No. 524).

The “precursor,” of course, is John the Baptist from whom we hear more later in the Advent season — “a voice of one crying out in the desert,” as he too calls for all to prepare, for “the one who is coming after me is mightier than I” (Mt 3:11).

And the coming to which John refers should not be new information to God’s people.

“The coming of God’s Son to earth is an event of such immensity that God willed to prepare for it over centuries,” the catechism points out (No. 522). “He announces him through the mouths of the prophets who succeeded one another in Israel. Moreover, he awakens in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming.”

To be awakened in heart. This is our hope for which we prepare every week — starting with Advent. 🕯️

Matthew 24:37-44

Today, we begin the new Church year. During this year, most of the Gospel readings will come from the Gospel according to Matthew. Scholars tell us that this Gospel was written especially for Jewish converts to Christianity. It contains many references to Jewish Scriptures and often speaks of the messiah who was the hope of Israel.

Sometimes the Church refers to the time in which we live as “between the times.” It is the time between the remember that there will be a second coming and we also recall the coming of Christ to us in our daily lives and in Eucharistic celebrations. So, when you think about it, there are actually three comings of Christ, in the flesh at the Incarnation, in our daily lives, and in his final coming at the end times. In Advent we find references to all three comings.

Today’s Gospel reading speaks of the coming of “the Son of Man.” Who is he? And why is he mentioned in

Matthew’s Gospel? Scholars note that this title for the messiah was quite popular in the years just prior to his coming in the flesh. At the time of Jesus’ birth the Jewish people felt very much under the control of the foreign powers who ruled their land. They felt powerless and enslaved to the wishes of the Roman rulers. They hungered for a messiah, someone sent from God who would deliver them from bondage. Thus, their writing began to mention a certain “Son of Man” who would come and redeem them. What was often emphasized was his coming with power, like one coming from the heavens in a very dramatic fashion. We might think of him as a kind of Superman figure.

So did Jesus come like that? Did Jesus come from the sky breathing lightning bolts that destroyed the Roman occupying force? Of course not; he came as one of us. There’s something in us that wants God to show the kind of power we define as power. But God’s power is the power



of love, not physical force. And where there is love in our world, there is God. God’s presence is often subtle and simple, but it contains great power. We don’t know when Jesus will come again. At the same time, we know he is here among us. Ask yourself: “Where is love happening in my life as a parent? As a spouse? As a grandparent? As a friend? As a neighbor?” Love can be anywhere, and so can God be everywhere, present and acting through us, even in the simplest of activities. The possibilities are endless. “Stay awake” the Gospel warns, because you don’t know when or where God will visit. ☺

Altar Servers Needed

One of the very special and important ministries in our church is the ministry of Altar Server. This a special way for our young people to learn the valuable lesson of service in our faith and to assist at Holy Mass. If anyone is interested in becoming an altar server at the Cathedral, please contact Debbie Fahey at the Parish Offices by e-mailing dfahey@dw.org or by calling 304-233-4121.

Help Needed

The Catholic Charities Neighborhood Center in Wheeling is in dire need of back-up drivers for their meal delivery program that brings hot meals to over 180 homebound residents on a daily basis. They are in need of permanent drivers as well as substitute drivers. If you could donate one day per month it would be appreciated. Interested parties should contact Mr. Keith Miller at (304) 650-9608.

Blessing of an Advent Wreath at Home

The use of the Advent wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the house. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent. Customarily the Advent Wreath is constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which are inserted four candles. According to tradition, three candles are violet and the fourth is rose. However, four violet or white candles may be used. The candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and the number of candles lighted each week corresponds to the number of the current week of Advent. The rose candle is lighted on the Third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday. When the blessing of the Advent Wreath is celebrated in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by the parent or another member of the family.



Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ:

**he is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples,
he is the wisdom that teaches and guides us,
he is the Savior of every nation.**

**Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath.
May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ’s promise to bring us salvation.
May he come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

*Savior of the
nations, come
Show yourself,
the virgin’s son
Marvel heaven,
wonder earth
That our God chose
such a birth*

Scripture Readings

The readings are included each week so that those who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

Week of December 1

Monday

Isaiah 4:2-6
Ps 122:1-9
Matthew 8:5-11

Tuesday

Isaiah 11:1-10
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Luke 10:21-24

Wednesday

Isaiah 25:6-10
Ps 23:1-6
Matthew 15:29-37

Thursday

Isaiah 26:1-6
Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27
Matthew 7:21, 24-27

Friday

Isaiah 29:17-24
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14
Matthew 9:27-31

Saturday

Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26
Ps 147:1-6
Matthew 9:35—10:1, 5, 6-8

Next Sunday

Isaiah 11:1-10
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

Weekly Devotions at the Cathedral

The following devotions are prayed each week following the 12:05 pm Mass:

Miraculous Medal Novena
Monday

Litany of Loreto
Tuesday

Litany of Saint Joseph
Wednesday

Litany of the Sacred Heart
Thursday

Chaplet of Divine Mercy
Fridays

The Holy Rosary
Saturdays after the 9 am Mass



This Week with the Saints

December 3 - Saint Francis Xavier (1506-1552), a native Spaniard, was one of the founding members of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits). Francis Xavier felt called to be a "spiritual soldier" through missionary endeavors to Christianize foreign lands and convert the hearts of unbelievers. One of the many honors Francis received in his life was his appointment by the pope as apostolic nuncio (an ambassador of the Church) to the East. He traveled to many places, including India, the Philippines, and Japan. In his travels, Francis tended to the needs of the sick and infirm, revitalized the liturgical and sacramental life of already existing Christian populations, and drew people to faith in Jesus Christ. *Patronage:* Apostleship of Prayer; foreign missions



December 4 - Saint John Damascene (c.657-749) was a Syrian monk and priest, the "last of the Fathers of the Church." Islam had taken root in Syria, and John worked for the caliph for a time but left to enter the monastery of St. Sabbas near Jerusalem. He is best known for his defense of the veneration of sacred images and his summary of the teachings of the Greek Fathers, *The Fountain of Wisdom*.

December 6 - Little is known about Saint Nicholas (270-343), the "wonder-worker," other than the fact that he lived sometime during the fourth century and was bishop of the city of Myra in Asia Minor. There is some evidence that he was imprisoned during the Diocletian persecutions and later condemned Arianism, a heresy that denied the Son was co-eternal with the Father. Many stories exist about St. Nicholas, but one most frequently passed down speaks of a poor man who could not feed or clothe his three daughters. Upon hearing of this man's dire situation, St. Nicholas tossed three bags of gold through his window one evening so the man could tend to his daughter's needs. *Patronage:* children, bankers, pawnbrokers, sailors, perfumers, brides, unmarried women, travelers, fishermen, dock workers, brewers, poets, prisoners



December 7 - Saint Ambrose (c.340-397) was governor when he stopped the people's riot that erupted during the selection of a new bishop in Milan. The crowd cried, "Ambrose for bishop," and he was chosen, although he was just a catechumen. The Arian heresy - which denied the full divinity of Christ - divided the Church of his time. When Empress Justina demanded that Ambrose give his basilica to the Arians, he and his congregation locked themselves in and sang in what was the first recorded instance of antiphonal singing. *Patronage:* beekeepers; candlemakers

First Friday Cemetery Mass Friday, December 6 at 5:30 p.m. Mount Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling

All are welcome to attend the monthly First Friday Mass celebrated at the Bishops' Chapel located in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Wheeling. Please invite family and friends to join us for the holy sacrifice of the Mass and to remember our beloved dead who are buried within the cemetery.



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FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

The first Friday
of every month,
immediately
following the
12:05 pm Mass.
Benediction
at 6:00 p.m.





Donors Name

Qty Total

6½" (1 plant) Poinsettia	\$12	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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In Memory of

8½" (3 plants) Poinsettia	\$23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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10" Red & White Combination	\$25	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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10" Large Basket (9 plants) Red & White Combination	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Please place your order form and your check in an envelope. Mail or drop it in the collection basket no later than December 20.

15" Terra Cotta Pot (4 plants)	\$35	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Totals Due	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Payment must accompany order form!

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph



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Wheeling, WV 26003
(304) 233-4121
www.saintjosephcathedral.com

CLERGY

Most Reverend Mark E. Brennan
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Mr. James Carroll
FINANCE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Mr. John Petrella
LITURGICAL MINISTRIES SCHEDULER

*Saint Joseph,
pray for us!*

MASSES

Sundays: 6:00 p.m. (Saturday)
8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.

Weekdays: 12:05 p.m. Monday thru Friday
9:00 a.m. Saturday

Holy Days: Please consult the bulletin

Confessions

Friday 11:15-11:45 a.m.

Saturday: 5:00-5:45 p.m.
or by appointment



BAPTISMS / INITIATION

Both Baptism and the Rite of Initiation for Adults can be arranged by contacting the parish office.

MARRIAGE

Engaged couples who are members of the Cathedral parish should contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK / COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

Please call the parish office to arrange for a visit.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Registration forms can be obtained through the parish office.
Please notify the parish office of address changes through the parish office or by visiting the website.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Announcements for the Courier must be submitted to Debbie Fahey by email to dfahey@dwc.org by noon on Monday (5 days prior to publication).

