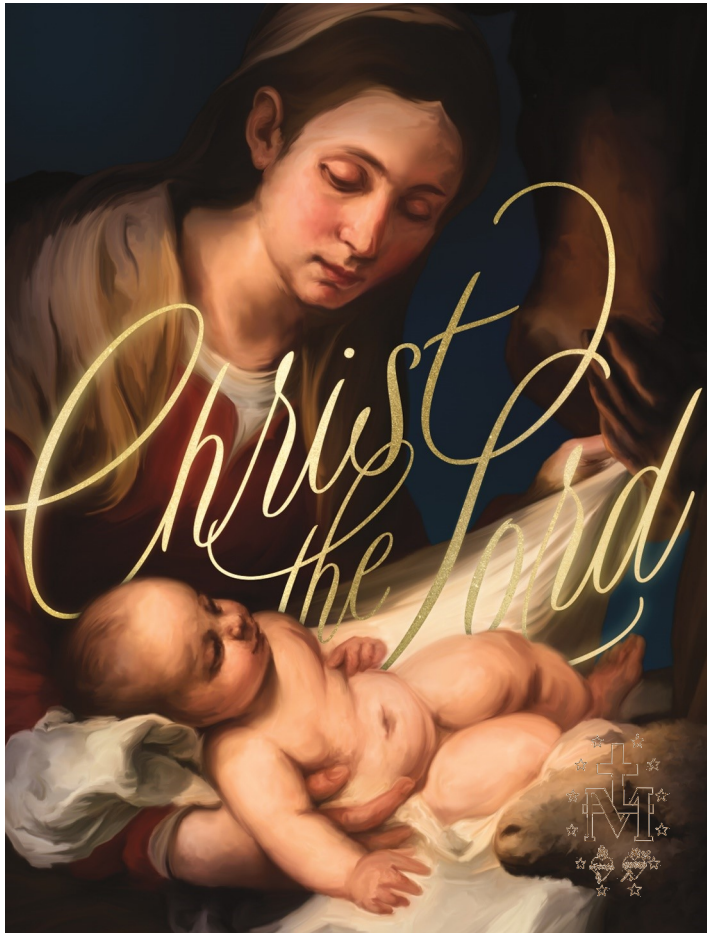


C.O.O.L. NEWS



Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Monthly Newsletter



Christmas Eve Masses - Friday, December 24th
4:00^{PM} VIGIL Mass



Christmas Day - Saturday, December 25th
10:00^{AM} Mass

NO SATURDAY EVENING MASS on Christmas Day

Sunday, December 26th Feast of the Holy Family
10:00^{AM} Mass

NOVENA TO THE DIVINE CHILD JESUS

December 16 through December 24

**Divine Child Jesus, we believe in You;
We adore You; and we love You; have mercy on us,
sinners.**

**We've come to this Temple in response to Your
love.
We've come in response to Your mercy and grace.
We are here because You invited us to come
before You and to pour out the cares of our hearts
to You since You deeply care for each of us.**

**We remember Your words to the disciples: Ask and
you shall receive. Seek and you shall find. Knock
and the door shall be opened.**

**Trusting in your infinite goodness and trusting that
You always keep Your promise, we now ask this
intention which we pray in the silence of our
hearts..... *(STATE YOUR INTENTION)***

**Thank you, Divine Child Jesus, for listening
attentively to our prayers all the time.**

**We hope that You will ask this before Our Heavenly
Father.**

**And, if what we ask for may not be good for our
salvation and sanctification, we trust that You will
grant us instead what we truly need, so that one
day we may be with You for all eternity enjoying
that ultimate happiness of Heaven.**

***Divine Child Jesus, bless and protect us.
Divine Child Jesus, bless and lead us.
Divine Child Jesus, bless and provide for us.***

**All this we ask through the intercession
of your Holy Mother, Mary, and in Your
powerful and Most Holy Name, Jesus.**

Amen.

SOURCE: vcatholic.com/prayers



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday
December 3rd -

From 9:45^{AM} to Noon

Weekly Adoration on Fridays 9:45^{AM} to 10:30^{AM}



Novena to Mary, the Immaculate Conception



OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

November 27
Feast Day

We begin the prayers on Sunday, November 28, but you can join in at any time.

The Novena prayer sheet was inserted in the November 28th bulletin and is also available on the lobby tables. Please join us in praying for Church Of Our Lady and for God's might intercession for our country!



December 8
Feast Day

RESPECT LIFE NEWS

From December 1st -

Please keep in your prayers the intention: "of the Supreme Court as it hears arguments on the Mississippi Law that is designed to overturn Roe vs. Wade." For more information go to: prayfordobbs.com

<https://aclj.org/pro-life/overturn-roe-v-wade-defeat-abortion-save-babies>

Advent Family Reconciliation Service Friday, December 17th at 7:00 pm

This year Church of Our Lady will hold the Family Reconciliation Service on Friday evening, December 17th.

We hope that this change will be beneficial and will make it easier for everyone to attend.



Feast Days in December

December 3 - **First Friday & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & St. Francis Xavier**

December 4 - **First Saturday & St. John of Damascus, Priest & Doctor of the Church**

December 6 - St. Nicholas, Bishop

December 7 - St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church -

Wednesday, December 8 - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY (Patronal Feast Day of the United States of America)

December 9 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin, Hermit

December 11 - St Damasus I, Pope

December 12 - 3rd Sunday in Advent & OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE - EMPRESS OF THE AMERICAS

December 13 - St. Lucy, Virgin Martyr

December 14 - St. John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church

December 21 - St. Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor of the Church

December 23 - St. John of Kanty, Priest

Saturday, December 25 - NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 26 - **Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph & St. Stephen, First Martyr**

December 27 - **St. John the Apostle**

December 28 - Holy Innocents, Martyrs

December 29 - St. Thomas Becket, Bishop, Martyr

December 31 - St. Sylvester I, Pope

Saturday, January 1st - **SOLEMNITY OF MARY of GOD & First Saturday**

Sunday, January 2nd - **Feast of The Epiphany**



Epiphany



MASS SCHEDULE FOR NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND

December 31st City Wide Mass 7:00^{PM}

Vigil for the Feast of the Mother of God

FULFILLS THE HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Saturday, January 1st 9:00^{AM} Mass

Feast of the SOLEMNITY OF THE MOTHER OF GOD

Saturday, January 1st 4:00^{PM} Vigil

Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany

Sunday, January 2nd - 10:00^{AM}

A Special Treat for Midnight Mass!

PSR and our Music Ministry have joined forces!

SAVE YOUR PLASTIC MILK JUGS!

From now until December 17th, we are **collecting gallon jugs** to make luminaries for the Church on Christmas Eve.

Please **wash them and remove all labels** before dropping them off in either lobby. More information will be available soon for anyone who wants to help assemble the luminaries and/or place them around the entryways and walkways prior to Midnight Mass. Thank you!



Act of Consecration to St. Joseph

by St. Bernardine of Siena

O my beloved St. Joseph, adopt me as thy child. Take charge of my salvation; watch over me day and night; preserve me from the occasions of sin; obtain for me purity of body. Through thy intercession with Jesus, grant me a spirit of sacrifice, humility, self-denial, burning love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and a sweet and tender love for Mary, my mother. Saint Joseph, be with me living, be with me dying, and obtain for me a favorable judgment from Jesus, my merciful Savior. Amen.



Our Lady of Solitude Monastery
www.desertnuns.com



2021 GIVING TREE

Our tradition for the giving tree is to set it up on Thanksgiving weekend decorated with gift tags.

We ask you to pick a tag (or tags) and buy the designated gifts.

Bring the gift/s back by Sunday, **December 12th by the 10:00am Mass**. You may put the item/s in a gift bag if you wish, but please do NOT wrap them. The agencies need to see the items in order to distribute them correctly.

We have three agencies receiving gifts this year:
1) Bishop Griffin Center
2) PDHC (Pregnancy Decision Health Center)
3) Women's Care Center

On December 12 when you bring your gift/s, you may redecorate the tree with hats, gloves and scarves.

We will move the tree to the east lobby over Christmas when we decorate the Altar.

The tree will be available for your donated scarves, hats and gloves into the month of January.

Thank you to all who participate. The agencies are so excited to receive the gifts and they appreciate all that you do.

Blessings, Mary Bishel



Prayer for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Mary, Mother of Jesus,

God made you perfect for His Son.

Help me follow the example of devotion and faith

You gave to St. Jude and the other Apostles.

Keep me and those close to my heart safe in God's care

And intercede on my behalf, so I may receive the grace,

Strength, and peace of the Holy Spirit

Throughout my life. Amen.

Submitted by Mary Bishel

OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL
MUSIC MINISTRY PRESENTS:

ADVENT

Lessons and
Carols

11TH DEC

SERVICE BEGINS AT 3:15PM
AND IS FOLLOWED BY MASS AT 4PM

Made with PosterMyWall.com



PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH

Glorious Saint Joseph,
spouse of the
Immaculate Virgin,
obtain for me
and all the members
of my family and loved ones,
a confident, sinless,
generous and patient heart,
and perfect resignation to
the Divine Will.
Be our guide, father and
model throughout life,
that we may merit
a death like yours,
in the arms of Jesus and Mary.
Help us Saint Joseph,
in our earthly strife,
to fulfill our responsibilities
and ever to lead a pure
and blameless life.
Amen.

"Advent is a love poem written to us by God"

If the Season of Advent were a book I would file it on a shelf,
right at eye-level, foremost among the great works of poetry.
Advent is a poem of a bright new beginning.

Advent is a love poem written to us from God.

This poem of the Season of Advent is set to the meter of
eternity, the rhythm of our hearts and in the cadence of now.

In the poem of the Season of Advent we are pregnant with
Mary. We are filled with our hopes for future, our longing for
love and our trust in God. We live each day carrying within our
bellies the expectation and the reality of the Divine.

In the poem of Advent all words rhyme with love. Even
Already, even Not yet.

In the poem of the Season of Advent every line contains hope as
"we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Lord."

Advent is a love poem written to us from God.

And, we all Already know the substance of this poem for it is
inscribed on our heart. "Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ
will come again."

As we come to this sacrificial table the whole of the created
universe responds to God's presence and promise of a new
dawn."

Reprinted from an email written by Deacon Gregory Burch, preaching in 2009
in Concord, Massachusetts.

ADVENT CUSTOMS

Advent begins on the Sunday closest to -- before or after -- St. Andrew's Day (November 30). The focus of the season is preparation for the coming of the Lord -- both in commemoration of His Nativity and His coming again at the end of time. Though most Protestants -- and far too many Catholics -- see this time of year as a part of the "Christmas Season," it isn't; the Christmas Season does not begin until the first Mass at Christmas Eve, and doesn't end liturgically until the Octave of the Epiphany on January 14. It goes on in the spiritual sense until Candlemas on February 2, when all celebrations of Christ's childhood give way to the preparation for Lent.

The mood of *this* season is one of somber spiritual preparation that increases in joy with each day, and the gaudy "Christmas" commercialism that surrounds it in the Western world should be overcome as much as possible. The singing of Christmas carols (which comes earlier and earlier each year), the talk of "Christmas" as a present reality, the decorated trees and the parties -- these things are "out of season" for Catholics; we should strive to keep the Seasons of Advent holy and penitential, always remembering, as they say, that "He is the reason for the Season."

To sum up the similarities and differences between Advent and Lent as penitential seasons, there's this, by Fr. Lawrence Smith:

Advent is the time to make ready for Christ to live with us. Lent is the time to make us ready to die with Christ. Advent makes Lent possible. Lent makes salvation possible. Advent is the time when eternity approaches earth. Lent is the time when time reaches consummation in Christ's eternal Sacrifice to the Father. Advent leads to Christ's life in time on earth. Lent leads to Christ's eternal Life in Heaven. The Cross -- through the Mass, penance, and mortification -- is the bridge connecting Advent and Lent, Christ and His Church, man and God.

Each of the Church's penitential seasons is a dying to the world

with the goal of attaining new life in Christ.

Catholic apologist Jacob Michael wrote something very interesting about how secular America sees "Christmas" as beginning after Thanksgiving and ending on 25 December, and then makes "New Years Resolutions" at the beginning of the secular year:

...what Christians do (or should be doing!) during Advent and leading up to Christmas is a foreshadowing of what they will do during the days of their lives that lead up to the Second Coming; what non-Christians refuse to do during Advent, and put off until after Christmas, is precisely a foreshadowing of what they will experience at the Second Coming.

We Christians are to prepare for the Coming of Christ before He actually comes -- and that Coming is symbolized and recalled at Christmas. Non-Christians miss this season of preparation, and then scramble for six days after the 25th to make their resolutions. By then, however, it's too late -- Christmas has come and gone, Our Lord has already made His visitation to the earth, and He has found them unprepared. This is precisely what will take place at the Second Coming, when those who have put off for their entire lives the necessary preparations will suddenly be scrambling to put their affairs in order. Unfortunately, by then it will have been too late, and there will be no time for repentance. The Second Coming will be less forgiving than the Incarnation. There will be no four-week warning period before the Second Coming, like we get during Advent. There will be no six-day period of grace after the Second Coming during which to make resolutions and self-examination, like the secular world does from Dec. 26 until Jan. 1.

So please, restore Advent and don't think "Christmas is here" until it truly comes.

2021 source:fish eaters



From the Knights:

The membership of the Knights of Columbus, Council #11188, would like to wish everyone a Merry and Holy Christmas!

We also want to thank everyone for their support in 2021 and hope everyone has a Happy New Year in 2022!

Temporal Advent Preparations

Advent is also season of preparation in a more mundane sense.

Homes are cleaned from top to bottom, and Christmas cakes and cookies are often made by the hundreds for family and to give out to friends and acquaintances when Christmas finally arrives.

Christmas trees should not be decorated (or at least lit) until Christmas Eve because Advent itself should remain penitential, but time can be wonderfully spent making Christmas tree ornaments throughout the Season for when Christmas finally arrives.

Christmas Cards

Since Victorian times, Catholics send Christmas cards at this time of year, usually with religious themes and avoiding the secularized language and images so prevalent today (i.e., "Season's Greetings" as opposed to "Merry Christmas"; Santa or Rudolph instead of Mother and Child, etc.) Always, the emphasis should be on Christ! Religious-themed Christmas cards are getting more and more difficult to find; buying them early from a Catholic bookstore is a good idea. At the very least, a Catholic message could be added by hand to the inside of an otherwise non-religious card (by the way, "merry" originally meant, and should mean to Catholics, "blessed and peaceful," not party-like as in "merry-making." For example, the carol, "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" has a comma after the "merry" and addresses "gentlemen," not "merry gentlemen." It means "God keep you peaceful and blessed, men!" And on another note, the angel never said to the shepherds, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, *good will toward men*" as the King James version reads; he said, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, *peace to men of good will*" -- Luke 2:14 -- a vastly different sentiment that doesn't lead to the false idea that there can be peace among ill-willed men.)

Other Customs

[Advent candles](#), [Jesse trees](#), [Christmas cribs](#), and [Advent calendars](#) are all used during Advent. Some pray pre-Christmas Novenas, too -- with [one beginning on the Feast of St. Andrew](#) (November 30), and [the other novena](#) beginning on December 16 and correlating with the [O Antiphons](#).



One particular Advent custom that should be mentioned here and which families might want to consider beginning on the 1st Sunday of Advent is known as "Christkindl" (Christ Child). Maria Von Trapp describes it thus:

Once more the mother appears with the bowl, which she passes around. This time the pieces of paper contain the names of the members of the family and are neatly rolled up, because the drawing has to be done in great secrecy. The person whose name one has drawn is now in one's special care. From this day until Christmas, one has to do as many little favors for him or her as one can. One has to provide at least one surprise every single day — but without ever being found out. This creates a wonderful atmosphere of joyful suspense, kindness, and thoughtfulness. Perhaps you will find that somebody has made your bed or shined your shoes or has informed you, in a disguised handwriting on a holy card, that "a rosary has been said for you today" or a number of sacrifices have been offered up. This new relationship is called "Christkindl" (Christ Child) in the old country, where children believe that the Christmas tree and the gifts under it are brought down by the

Christ Child himself.

The beautiful thing about this particular custom is that the relationship is a reciprocal one. **The person whose name I have drawn and who is under my care becomes for me the helpless little Christ Child in the manger; and as I am performing these many little acts of love and consideration for someone in the family I am really doing them for the Infant of Bethlehem, according to the Word, "And he that shall receive one such little child in My Name, receiveth Me."** That is why this particular person turns into "my Christkindl." At the same time I am the "Christkindl" also for the one I am caring for because I want to imitate the Holy Child and render all those little services in the same spirit as He did in that small house of Nazareth, when as a child He served His Mother and St. Joseph with a similar love and devotion.

Many times throughout these weeks can be heard such exclamations as, "I have a wonderful Christkindl this year!" or, "Goodness, I forgot to do something for my Christkindl and it is already suppertime!" It is a delightful custom, which creates much of the true Christmas spirit and ought to be spread far and wide.

Mexican Custom

The last seven nights of Advent are known as "The Golden Nights," and on these special days, the sense of Our Lord's Coming becomes more intense and focused. The O Antiphons are sung and families can make special devotions at this time.

During the Golden Nights -- the nine days before Christmas -- Mexicans and Mexican Americans have a wonderful custom called "Las Posadas," a nightly procession that brings to life Joseph and Mary's search for an inn. On each night, a house in the parish is chosen as the destination house, and the people of the parish gather to process to it. One young person is chosen to act as Mary (who sometimes rides a real donkey), and another to act as St. Joseph (sometimes a third is chosen to act as an angel, and others as shepherds); they are often all dressed in beautiful costumes.

Behind the "holy family," the people of the parish walk, carrying candles and blowing whistles, until they reach that night's chosen home. There, the group knocks and sings a song that begs repeatedly and pitifully for shelter. They are refused in song over and over again, until the "innkeepers" relent and finally open the door (or, in other places, they knock on the doors of houses whose "innkeepers" refuse them, and then process to another house and another, etc., until they reach the house chosen for the night's festivities). Once allowed entry each night, all go inside and pray (usually the Christmas Novena or the Rosary), and a party follows, with wonderful tamales, churros, and other Mexican foods, and a pinata filled with hard candy, tangerines, and peanuts.

On the last night (Christmas Eve), two children chosen to play Christ's godparents are added to the procession, which is more elaborate and colorful than the first nights. The godparents carry His likeness to the last destination, where a "nacimiento" (nativity scene) has been set up, and lay Him in the manger. Fireworks, food, piñatas, and Mass all follow.

Other Reading

You might enjoy reading St. Bernard of Clairvaux's Sermons on Advent and Christmas, which you can find in the [Fisheaters Catholic Library](#).

source: fisheaters (If you are reading this online the links are active and will take you to more information.)

Scripture Readings to contemplate the names of Jesus for the Golden Nights - The "O Antiphons"

December 17

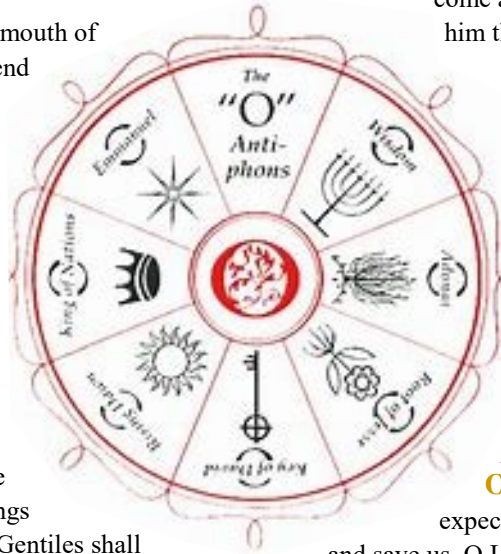
O Wisdom, that proceededst from the mouth of the Most High, Reaching from end to end mightily, and sweetly disposing all things: come and teach us the way of prudence.

December 18

O Lord and Ruler of the House of Israel, Who didst appear unto Moses in the burning bush, and gavest him the Law on Sinai: come and redeem us by Thy outstretched arm.

December 19

O Root of Jesse, Who standest as the Ensign of the people, before Whom kings shall not open their lips; to Whom the Gentiles shall pray: come and deliver us, tarry now no more.



December 20

O Key of David, and Sceptre of the House of Israel; Who openest, and no man shutteth, Who shuttest, and no man openeth: come and lead the captive from the prison house, and him that sitteth in darkness and the shadow of death.

December 21

O Dawn of the East, Splendor of the Eternal Light, and Sun of Justice: Come and enlighten them that sit in darkness, and the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of the Gentiles, yea, and the desire thereof, the Cornerstone that makest both one: come and save man, whom Thou hast made out of the slime of the earth.

December 23

O Emmanuel, our King and Lawgiver, the expectation of all nations and their Salvation: come and save us, O Lord our God.

source:catholiceducation.org



MIDNIGHT MASS?

The practice of vigiling into the night has long been part of our human experience. I can think of many situations in which time is not relevant to our anticipation, when "inconvenience" just doesn't matter. Have you ever awaited news from a surgeon after a procedure for a loved one? Have you ever gathered with family in a hospital waiting area? How about awaiting the birth of a baby? Even on New Year's Eve we watch the clock tick down to signal the beginning of a new day, a new year, a fresh start!

As Catholic's, we demonstrate awaiting in "joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ" in our Advent celebrations and in the rich tradition of Midnight Mass. We gather at night and celebrate the birth of our Lord as night gives way to a new dawn. The symbolism is powerful as we put aside our earthly priorities and arrive to see the luminaries piercing the darkness. The Light of the World has come into our lives!

As a child, celebrating Midnight Mass with my family had a profound impact on me. Our parents strictly

observed bedtimes and curfews. So, the fact that we went to bed early on Christmas Eve, and then were awakened in the middle of the night to get dressed up in our Christmas clothes told us this night was special and even more important than presents!

When we grew older, we followed Midnight Mass with the sharing of gifts. There were years when we attended an earlier Vigil Mass, yet, there was never a time that gathering as a faith community was "second to Santa."

I'm not saying I have always been the same shining example to my kids as my parents were to me. As a music minister, my presence was often required at three Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day; juggling the schedules of a husband and four kids was not always conducive to attending Midnight Mass. In 2009, even the pope began celebrating "Midnight Mass" at 10pm. Many churches have followed suit.

Reintroducing Midnight Mass may not be a popular option for everyone. That's okay, but, for those of you who are looking for ways to "keep Christ in Christmas," or who would like a rich liturgical experience to kick off the Christmas Season, please consider joining us this year for Midnight Mass. Music will begin at 11:30pm. Please share this invitation! Let's create a new memory and a lasting impression for our families and friends; one that will carry us into the new year!

Submitted by Anne Grossman

Five Stewards

By Deacon Stephen A. Venturini



In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, two gentlemen come into Ebenezer Scrooge's office seeking a contribution to help feed the poor. It is Christmas Eve and Scrooge, knowing that his destitute clerk Bob Cratchit, will be asking for another Christmas Day off—with pay—is already in a fouler than normal mood. The gentlemen explain that it is during this time of the year that the poor suffer most. Good old Scrooge gives them every possible reason to not contribute. When one of the gentlemen asks Scrooge how much they could put him down for, Scrooge answers, "Nothing!"

"You wish to remain anonymous, then," says the man.

"I wish to be left alone!" The old miser snaps back.

Realizing the futility of their mission, the two gentlemen leave. Scrooge sits back smugly, obviously pleased with how he handled this unsolicited, unwelcome visitation.

So true it is that the needy suffer most at this time of the year—the Christmas Season. That certainly doesn't negate their needs throughout the rest of the year. The lack of food and basic necessities doesn't just pop up at the holiday season then disappear when the festivities are over. It's simply that the awareness of their needs is felt more keenly in the jolly-holly atmosphere of the holiday reveling and gift-giving.

They see the gross commercialization of Christmas with its touting of products they could never come close to affording. They see endless sales, and hear constant reports of how well the economy is doing. The bright, cheerful, colorful lights and the festive decorations serve only to dim their lives that much more.

This is where we, as Christians, come in. This is where we have an opportunity to make a difference by applying our responsibility as stewards of things on this earth in a special way.

Let's look at stewardship in the framework of the Christmas Season in its broadest sense—from the beginning of our preparation on the First Sunday of Advent to the transition to Ordinary Time following the Baptism of the Lord.

Come; let us climb the Lord's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that He may instruct us in His ways. (Isaiah 2:3a, 1st Advent)

What are God's ways? How can we follow them? Once we have discerned our role on Earth we must act out that role according to God's purpose. Our role on Earth is defined by whatever gifts God has given us, and those gifts are manifold. The very first gift is life, itself, a life that is a reflection of God—we are made in the image and likeness of God. That we are in God's image is a constant; that we are essentially spiritual beings wrapped up in these mortal bodies we cannot change. Being in God's likeness, however, is another story.

In God's likeness we are given the gifts of love, of compassion, of forgiving—even the gift for giving (as God gives to us, we give to others). In fact, we are given all of those attributes of God that could possibly be conferred on us mortals. We can change that likeness to God in how we use or don't use those gifts.

This determines whether or not we are good stewards. We are all given some measure of time, talent, and treasure (to employ a time-honored cliché). Some of us have more of one than another—few are granted all three. The key to employing whatever we have well and wisely is in first unwrapping the gift of love. Out of that gift all others flow. Out of that gift comes stewardship. In the psalm for the 2nd Sunday of Advent we hear:

For He shall rescue the poor when he cries out, and the afflicted when he has no one to help him. He shall have pity for the lowly and the poor; the lives of the poor He shall save. (Psalm 72:12-13)

The "He" doing all this is God, and it is God working His Love through us that fulfills the promise of help. We have a unique opportunity to make life a little better in some way for someone in need, thereby enriching two lives—theirs and ours. Of course, it's not that we expect a reward, but God has this way of repaying us even though we truly are not entitled to such. In the psalm for the Feast of the Holy Family we hear:

Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in His ways. For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork; blessed shall you be, and favored. (Psalm 128: 1-2)

We "walk in His ways" when we follow the teachings of Christ, when we make the Gospel come alive in our hearts and in our actions. But, we must do that out of the love Christ has for us, the love that He molds onto our hearts, not out of the expectation of getting something out of it. When we give from our hearts we should expect nothing—not even a "thank you"! It's called "unconditional love", and that's what stewardship is all about.

When John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River, that signaled the beginning of Our Lord's mission, His ministry on Earth. When we were baptized, we entered into that same mission, that same ministry. It is an awesome, often daunting responsibility, one that we can choose to live up to or not.

The key to good stewardship is using our gifts wisely, and using them often means parting with some of them. When we can see the presence of Christ in someone we don't even know, it becomes easier to pay homage to them and proffer our gifts, whatever their need is that we can satisfy.

They prostrated themselves and did Him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (Matthew 2:11, the Feast of the Epiphany)

Consider the Five Stewards: the three Magi, King Herod, and yourself. Consider these five people, given the gifts of life, love and material goods. The three Magi chose to pay homage and give their gifts to a King of whom they knew nothing. One—Herod—chose to be selfish, much like Ebenezer Scrooge. He promised homage, but in his deceit he knew he would pay none. (The only difference between Herod and Scrooge is that through Jacob Marley's intervention Scrooge is eventually saved). The last? What has the fifth steward done? Only you can answer that. ✦



St. John Kanty

(Latin: *Joannes Cantius*; Polish: *Jan z Kęt* or *Jan Kanty*)
Born June, 23 1390 – Died December 24, 1473
Polish priest, scholastic philosopher, physicist and theologian.

John was a country lad who made good in the big city and the big university of Kraków, Poland. After brilliant studies he was ordained a priest and became a professor of theology. The inevitable opposition which saints encounter led to his being ousted by rivals and sent to be a parish priest at Olkusz.** The people of Olkusz in Bohemia in 1431 had every reason to be suspicious of their new pastor. They knew what a Krakow professor would think of their small rural town. But even more insulting, their town was once again being used as a dumping ground for a priest who was "in disgrace." John had indeed been kicked out of his university position -- unjustly. Rivals who resented John's popularity with the students had cooked up a false charge against him. John was not even allowed to appear at his own hearing or testify in his own defense. So at age 41, he was shipped off to be an apprentice pastor.* An extremely humble man, he did his best, but his best was not to the liking of his parishioners. In the end he won his people's hearts. After some time he returned to Kraków and taught Scripture for the remainder of his life. **

John Cantius was born in the small town of Kęty, Poland, to Stanisław and Anna Kanty. He attended the Kraków Academy at which he attained bachelor, and licentiate (similar to a masters). In 1418 he became a Doctor of Philosophy. Upon graduation he spent the next three years conducting philosophy classes at the university, while preparing for the priesthood.

Upon his ordination, he became rector at the school of the Canons Regular of the Most Holy Sepulcher in Miechow. While there, he was offered a professorship of *Sacra Scriptura* (Holy Scripture) back at his alma mater, the Kraków Academy, which would later be named the Jagiellonian University. He attained a doctorate in theology and eventually became director of the theology department. He held the professorship until his death in 1473. Cantius spent many hours copying manuscripts of the

Holy Scriptures, theological tracts, and other scholarly works.

In physics, he helped develop Jean Buridan's theory of impetus <https://cpb-us-e2.wpmucdn.com/sites.uci.edu/dist/8/1378/files/2013/11/Buridan-copy.pdf> - which anticipated the work of Galileo and Newton!

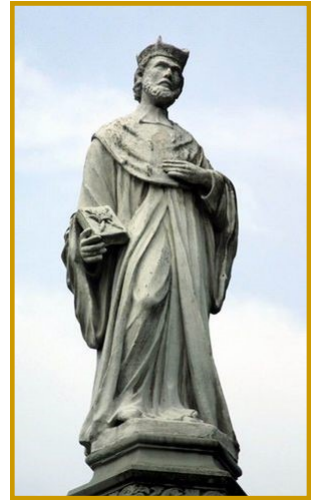
He distributed to the poor all the money and clothes he had, retaining only what was absolutely necessary to support himself. He slept but little, and on the floor, ate very sparingly, and was a total abstainer from meat. He made one pilgrimage to Jerusalem with the desire of becoming a martyr among the Turks, and four pilgrimages to Rome on foot. During his life he performed various miracles, which were multiplied after his death at his tomb. He was canonized by Clement XIII in 1767. The Roman Breviary distinguishes him with three hymns; he is the only confessor not a bishop who is thus honored.***

Michael Miechowita, the medieval Polish historian and Cantius' first biographer, described Cantius' extreme humility and charity; he took as his motto:

*Beware disturbing: it's not sweetly pleasing,
Beware speaking ill: for taking back words is burdensome.*

He died while living in retirement at his alma mater on December 24, 1473, aged 83. His remains were interred in the Collegiate Church of St Anne, where his tomb became and remains a popular pilgrimage site. - He is the patron of the Diocese of Bielsko-Żywiec (since 1992), and of the students.

Sources:*Catholic.org; **FranciscanMedia.org; ***Newadvent.org Wikipedia;



City Wide Mass and Praise Adoration

CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE MIRACULOUS MEDAL

5225 REFUGEE ROAD, COLUMBUS

Saturday, December 11th 9:00am-11:30am
MASS - WORSHIP ADORATION -
PRAYER MINISTRY - TEACHING
- CONFESSION

Friday, December 31st
New Year's Eve at 7:00pm
Vigil Mass for the Feast of the
Mother of God

Bring the
Real You,

to the
Real Jesus!

Guest Speaker: Angela Bonfante
Mass Celebrant Fr. Dean Mathewson
Con-Celebrant Fr. James Coleman
Musician: Mike Melliere
Questions to cshroyer649@sbcglobal.net

Sponsored by Columbus Catholic Renewal
Under the authority of Bishop Robert Brennan

Coffee and prepackaged snacks after Mass

Bishop Brennan's reception on Sunday, October 24, 2021



Photos by Angela Beltz



This photo courtesy of Beth Lao



How wonderful to have the opportunity to thank our Bishop for his service and wish him Godspeed on his new assignment!

Submit your article for the next C.O.O.L. NEWS to:

Editor in Chief Elaine Sturm at Esturm.cool@sbcglobal.net

E-mail the church at cool5225@sbcglobal.net

Or place your submission in the box marked "COOL NEWS" located in the sacristy

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS: December 15th

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St. Joseph's Oratory and St. Andre Bessette

As a final tribute to St. Joseph as his year comes to a close on December 8, the major shrine in North America dedicated to him is located in Montreal, Canada. It seems fitting to discover how this shrine came to be.



Brother Andre (ca. 1920)

Alfred Bessette was born in Mont-Saint-Grégoire, Canada East (Québec), a small town situated about 25 miles southeast of Montreal. His father, Isaac Bessette, was a carpenter and lumberman, while his mother, Clothilde Foisy Bessette, saw to the education of the children. Alfred was the eighth of 12 children, four of whom died in infancy. At birth, Alfred was so frail that he was

baptized "conditionally" in an emergency ritual the following day. In 1849, with employment scarce and his family living in poverty, Alfred's father moved to Farnham, Quebec to work as a lumberman, but soon died in a tragic accident, crushed by a falling tree. Alfred was nine years old, and his mother, at 40, remained with ten children in her care. She died of tuberculosis within three years; Alfred became orphaned at the age of twelve.

The family was divided and Alfred was placed with Timothee and Rosalie Nadeau who lived in Saint-Cesaire, Quebec. There he was instructed in the catechism by the parish pastor, Rev. Andre Provencal. It was during these lessons that Alfred developed his two lifelong devotions: Saint Joseph and the Passion of Christ. He was confirmed at age 12 (1858) by the local bishop. At age 14 Alfred began to attend school but, he was soon removed having only learned to read and sign his name, both with difficulty. His next caretakers were the Ouimet family, Louis was the mayor of Saint-Cesaire. While with them he had a series of short lived occupations: farmer, tinsmith, blacksmith, wheelwright, cobbler and baker; all of which Alfred was too weak to sustain. At the age of 18 searching for work, Alfred moved to the United States, to Moosup, Connecticut where he joined some of his relatives who worked in the textile mills. Alfred returned to Canada in 1867.

Having seen the devotion and generosity of the young Alfred, the Rev. Andre Provencal presented Alfred to the Congregation of the Holy Cross in Montreal, writing a note to the superior, "I'm sending you a saint." Alfred was initially rejected because of his health but Archbishop Ignace Bourget of Montreal intervened on his behalf and in 1872 Alfred was accepted and entered the novitiate, receiving the religious name of Brother Andre. He made his final vows on February 2, 1874, at the age of 28.

André was given the task of porter at Collège Notre-Dame in Côte-des-Neiges, Quebec, with additional duties as sacristan, laundry worker and messenger. "When I joined this community, the superiors showed me the door, and I remained 40 years,"

he said.

His great confidence in Saint Joseph inspired him to recommend the saint's devotion to all those who were afflicted. People claimed that they had been cured through the prayers of the good Brother and Saint Joseph, and they were grateful their prayers had been heard. Brother André steadfastly refused to take any credit for these cures. As his reputation began to spread and people flocked to see him, the Congregation allowed him to see sick people at a trolley station across the street from the college.

Brother Andre's desire to see Saint Joseph honored led him in 1904 to launch a campaign to build a chapel for that purpose. He himself saved the money he earned from giving haircuts at five cents apiece, eventually earning the \$200 needed to build a simple structure. This shrine opened in 1904, and in 1909 Brother Andre was released from his duties as doorkeeper and assigned full-time as caretaker of the Oratory of St. Joseph.



In 1924 construction of a basilica named [Saint Joseph's Oratory](#) began on the side of the mountain, near Bessette's chapel. Brother André died on January 6, 1937 at the age of 91. During



the week that his body lay in state outside of St. Joseph's Oratory, an estimated one million people braved the bitter Montreal winter to pay their respects

Brother Andre was declared venerable in 1978 and was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1982. Pope Benedict XVI approved the decree of sainthood for Blessed André on February 19, 2010, with the formal canonization taking place on October 17, 2010. He was the first saint from the Congregation of the Holy Cross. His feast day is January 6.

Source:wikipedia and HolyCrossCongregation.org

COOL DECEMBER STEWARDSHIP 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1ST SUN ADVENT 28 10:00 Mass BEGIN PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	29 St Andrew Apostle 30 9:00 Mass PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	30 St Andrew Apostle 30 9:00 Mass PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	1 9:00 Mass 10:00 Bible Study ZOOM 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill PRAYERS TO MARY, IMMACON 6:00 – 8:00 PSR ZOOM 7:00 INSTRUMENTS 7:30 COMBINED CHOIR	2 9:00 Mass 8:30 Rosary For Life 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	3 St Francis Xavier 8:30 Reconciliation 9:00 Mass 1st Fri. Adoration til Noon PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	4 St John of Damascene 8:30 Reconciliation 9:00 Mass First Saturday PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 7:45AM-4PM EEE conference 3:00 Reconciliation 4:00 Mass:
2ND SUN ADVENT 5 10:00 Mass PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	6 St Nicholas Bishop 9:00 Mass PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	7 St Ambrose 9:00 Mass PRAYERS TO MARY, THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION 9:00 Mass HOLY DAY OBLIGATION 10:00 Bible Study ZOOM 7:00 Mass 8:00 Combined Choir	9 St. Juan Diego 9:00 Mass 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill	10 9:00 Mass Adoration 9:45 – 10:30	11 St Damasus I 9:00-11:30 City Wide Mass & Praise Adoration 3:00 Reconciliation 3:15 Lessons & Carols 4:00 Mass
3RD SUN ADVENT 12 OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE EMPRESS OF THE AMERICAS 10:00 Mass	13 St Lucy, Martyr 9:00 Mass 6:30 Bible Study	14 St John of the Cross 9:00 Mass 10:30 Liturgy Meeting	15 9:00 Mass 10:00 Bible Study ZOOM 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill 6:00 – 8:00 PSR ZOOM 7:00 INSTRUMENTS 7:30 COMBINED CHOIR	16 9:00 Mass 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill	17 9:00 Mass Adoration 9:45 – 10:30 Jan COOL News upload 7:00PM Family Reconciliation Service	18 3:00 Reconciliation 4:00 Mass
4TH SUN ADVENT 19 10:00 Mass	20 6:30 Bible Study	21 St Peter Canistus 9:00 Mass 9:00 Mass	22 9:00 Mass 10:00 Bible Study ZOOM 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill 6:00 – 8:00 PSR ZOOM 7:00 INSTRUMENTS 7:30 COMBINED CHOIR	23 St John Kanty 9:00 Mass 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill	24 4:00 CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL MASS 11:30^{PM} MUSIC MIDNIGHT MASS	CHRISTMAS 25 HOLY DAY OBLIGATION 10:00AM MASS NO 4:00^{PM} Mass
HOLY FAMILY 26 10:00 Mass	27 St John, Apostle & Evangelist 6:30 Bible Study	28 Holy Innocents 9:00 Mass	29 St Thomas Becket 9:00 Mass 10:00 Bible Study ZOOM 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill	30 9:00 Mass 11:30 Prayer at Abortion Mill	31 St Sylvester I 9:00 Mass Adoration 9:45 – 10:30 7:00PM City Wide – Vigil For the Mother of God FULFILLS THE HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION	MOTHER OF GOD 1 8:30 Reconciliation 9:00 Mass First Saturday HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION 3:00 Reconciliation 4:00 Epiphany Vigil
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY

It's BEST to get your event requests to the office ASAP for availability and the pastor's okay. OR no later than 16th day of month before the event. If there are any changes in an okayed event, PLEASE let us know ASAP. A powerfully instrumental calendar in everyone's hands depends on the cooperation of everyone to make it as useful as possible.