

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 1

5:00 p.m.
Crinny and Bill Stich (L)

Sunday, December 2

8:00 a.m.
St. Louis Parish
10:30 a.m.
Betsy Woodard and Family (L)

Tuesday, December 4

6:00 p.m.
Denise Arnold (D)

Wednesday, December 5

8:30 a.m.
(Communion Service Only)

Thursday, December 6

6:00 p.m.
Ric Carvalis (D)

Friday, December 7

8:30 a.m.
No morning Mass
6:00 p.m.
Bob Schmidt (D)

Saturday, December 8

8:30 a.m.
Mary Richards (D)
5:00 p.m.
Jerry Thompson (D)

Sunday, December 9

8:00 a.m.
Elizabeth Bell (D)
10:30 a.m.
St. Louis Parish



THE PASTOR'S PEN

Dear Parish Family,

Nobody likes to wait, and to that end it is not easy to get ready.

Advent, which starts today, is sometimes understood as a waiting period – waiting for Christmas to arrive (that's what the prophecy in today's First Reading calls to mind). From that point of view this waiting period between Advent and Christmas is also supposed to make us think deeply about another waiting period. The one between now and the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, who will bring history to its fulfillment, judge the living and the dead, and put a definitive end to evil. This second waiting period is what our Lord refers to in today's Gospel passage.

But is Advent really just a waiting period? Is human history a waiting period, an undisclosed number of centuries in which we wait for the Second Coming to happen? No. It is more than just waiting periods; it is a getting-ready period. Advent is a liturgical season, a period of time in which the Church surrounds us with reminders of the greatest event in the whole history of the universe: the incarnation of the Son of God, who came to earth to be our Savior. The Church gives us these reminders to help us get our souls ready to receive the special graces God wants to give us as we celebrate that event this year, in the "right now" of our lives. And those same reminders are also meant to spark a personal examination of conscience. And, if in that examination we notice any sinful or self-centered tendencies, habits, or activities, Advent is the time to get rid of them. That's how we get ready for our Lord's Second Coming,

which will occur either at our personal death or at the end of history, whichever happens first.

These four weeks aren't about waiting; they are about getting ready.

Peace to you and yours,

Fr. Stevens

TIME / TALENT / TREASURE

December 8/9

**Extraordinary Ministers
Of Holy Communion**

5:00 p.m. B. Stich, B. Mueller
8:00 a.m. L. Ogbodo, T. Sobon
10:30 a.m. M. Jimenez, D. Jacobs

Lectors

5:00 p.m. J. Pullen, G. Pullen
8:00 a.m. M. Campos, J. Piotrowski
10:30 a.m. D. Busch, K. Onokpise

Sacristans

5:00 p.m. M. Reeves
8:00 a.m. T. Sobon
10:30 a.m. A. Gorniak

Altar Servers

5:00 p.m. (Open), (Open)
8:00 a.m. J. Lara
10:30 a.m. T. Binitie, Tu. Binitie

Liturgical Assistants

5:00 p.m. J. Mueller
8:00 a.m. G. Brown
10:30 a.m. P. Johnston

For Sunday, November 25

Offertory this week:	\$4,078.00
Target:	\$4,197.59
Collected vs Target for month	\$69.91
Collected vs Target since July	\$15,871.55
Projected Offertory for year:	\$291,344.03
Annual Budget:	\$250,000.00

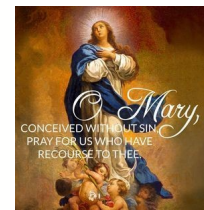
Building Fund this week:	\$363.00
Collected this month:	\$2,338.00
Target for the month:	\$2,713.00
Collected since July 1:	\$12,943.00
Collected vs Target since July 1:	\$622.00

Improvements Collections:	\$79.00
Total collected to date:	\$2,541.00

CHURCH FLOWERS

The Flower Ministry is an important part of creating a beautiful environment for worship. Would you like to donate money for flowers for a special weekend? Your donation could be in remembrance of a loved one or a special occasion in your life. Call the office to get details.

**THE SOLEMNITY
OF THE
IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION**



**A Holy Day of
Obligation**

Mass times:

Vigil Mass Friday, December 7, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 8, 8:30 a.m.

(Volunteers needed for ministry positions)

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE
Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve
Monday, December 24
5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
Christmas Day
Tuesday, December 25
9:00 a.m.



**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST**

December 9
Parish Hall
8:45 – 10:15 a.m.
Pancakes/Bradley's Sausage
/Orange Juice
Cost: \$5.00 (\$3.00 Children)

CONGRATULATIONS

*Volunteer of the Month for December is **Brady Ostendorf**. We appreciate all you do for St. Louis, Brady!

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING RAFFLE! CHRISTMAS LUMINARIES

The Knights of Columbus, St. Louis the Crusader Council #12929 will be selling tickets to their annual Christmas Shopping Raffle!! Tickets go on sale after all weekend Masses starting December 8. Tickets are 1-\$5 or 5-\$20. 1st Prize

\$250, 2nd prize \$150 and 3rd Prize \$5 per Luminary. Please see any member of the Sisterhood or email lorihocking@comcast.net for additional information

ADULT EDUCATION: GENESIS, THE STORIES OF OUR ORIGIN

Come explore the stories you think you already know. Let's look at the first 11 Chapters of



Genesis: The creation stories; Adam and Eve; Noah and the flood; and others. Deacon Joe will lead this class beginning this Wednesday, November 28th, at 7:00 p.m. Each session will last about an hour, and will run for 5 or 6 weeks. All are welcome. Bring a bible (and read Chapter 1 of Genesis before the first session!)

ADVENT RETREAT:

The Sisterhood will be hosting a ladies Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 8th. The event will begin with Mass at

8:30 a.m. Fr. Stevens is our speaker and he will be speaking on "Our Lady of the New Advent". This event is free and is open to all women of the parish and their friends. To register, please e-mail [Lori Hocking](mailto:Lori.Hocking@stlouisparish.org) at, lorihocking@comcast.net or by calling 570-1237. The registration deadline is Wednesday, Dec 5th, by 5:00 p.m.

SISTERHOOD PROJECT

The Sisterhood of St. Louis is working on its annual community service project and we need your help. We ask all parishioners to join us in collecting full-size items to put in gift bags for residents of Casa Calderon. The bags will be made up and delivered in January to coincide with the Gifts of the Magi. Casa Calderon usually has about 100 residents there at all times. We are looking for donations (full-size items) of: toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo/conditioner (combo), deodorant, and socks. Both men and women's items are needed. You may place your items in the back of the Church in the box next to the Shelter bin. Items will be collected thru mid-December. The Sisterhood thanks you in advance for your kindness and generosity.

POLISH HERITAGE SOCIETY OF TALLAHASSEE

Celebrating its 40th year, the Polish Heritage Society of Tallahassee will present its annual Polish Family Christmas Eve Traditions Dinner (Wigilia) on Saturday, December 15, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Blessed Sacrament Parish Hall, 624 Miccosukee Road. A large dish of preferably Polish or Slavic ethnic food to feed 10 or 12 people is required for entrance. Families of three or more, please bring an additional dish. Each family is asked to donate \$1.00 for the evening's expenses and a canned good for the Good News Outreach collection. A gift for the prize table is appreciated. For information e-mail marthapytel@yahoo.com