

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 30th St. Andrew, Apostle

8:30 am - St. John – Safety & Spiritual welfare of our children by M/M Scott Schoppe
9-9:30 am Confessions at St. John
3:00 pm Confessions at St. John
3:30 pm Confessions at St. Elizabeth
4:00 pm - St. John – Millard & Ethel Belanger by Bob & Priscilla Belanger
4:30 pm - St. Elizabeth – Mass for all Souls

Sunday, December 1st, First Sunday of Advent

7:30 am - Confessions at St. John
8:00 am - Confessions at Queen of Peace
8:00 am - St. John – Virginia Fortin by St. Anne Mortuary Fund
8:30 am - Queen of Peace – Mass for the People
10:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Mass for all Souls
11:00 am - St. John – Frank & Lori Boehm by M/M Reg Haselton

Monday, December 2nd

8:30am - St. Elizabeth – Rita Nerney by the Weaver family
2:15pm - St. J. Health & Rehab Mass
5:15pm - St. John – No Mass

Tuesday, December 3rd St. Francis Xavier

8:30am - St. John – Pauline & Diane Langlois by Ed
5:15pm - St. John – No Mass

Wednesday, December 4th St. John Damascene

8:30am - St. John – Lars Hunt by Mary Ellen Reis
5:15pm - St. John – Deceased members of St. J. K. of C.

Thursday, December 5th

9:00am - St. John – Mass for all Souls
5:15 pm - St John – No Mass

Friday, December 6th St. Nicholas

8:30am - St Elizabeth – deceased members of the Schoppe/Fischer families by M/M Scott Schoppe
4:30 pm – Confessions at St. John's
5:15 pm - St. John – Roger Lacroix by the St. J. K. of C.

Saturday, December 7th

8:30 am - St. John – Safety & Spiritual welfare of our children by M/M Scott Schoppe
9-9:30 am Confessions at St. John
3:00 pm Confessions at St. John
3:30 pm Confessions at St. Elizabeth
4:00 pm - St. John – Marion Handy by Sonia Gage
4:30 pm - St. Elizabeth – James & Gloria Carlton by the family

Sunday, December 8th

7:30 am - Confessions at St. John
8:00 am - Confessions at Queen of Peace
8:00 am - St. John – Tony Greenwood by M/M Bill Young
8:30 am - Queen of Peace – Hap & Betty Hutchins by Barb, Gary, Brent & Cindy
10:30 am - St. Elizabeth – Mass for the People
11:00 am - St. John – Fred & Pat Douglas by Diane & Gerald Collins

Please keep our parishioners who are ill & in need of your prayers, especially: Randy Mackay, Martin Fortin, , George Thurston, Charlie Weis, Randy Thomas, Jerry Prevost & Camilla Dente

Abbreviated Daily Mass Schedule: Father Robert is having his wisdom teeth out on Monday, and will be away until next weekend recovering. Please check the bulletin for the abbreviated daily Mass schedule this week.

DECEMBER 1, 2019

PARISH EVENTS

Sun. Dec. 1st NO Religious Education/All 3 Churches
Rel. Ed. Classes: StJ 8:15–10:45am, StE 9:00-10:15am
QP 9:30-10:45am
6:00pm Confirmation Class & Adult Ed

Mon. Dec. 2nd 6:30 pm Buildings & Grounds Meeting/QP
6:30 pm Ministry Vocations Mtg

Tues. Dec. 3rd 6:45 pm St. Vincent de Paul Mtg/St. J.

Wed. Dec. 4th 9:00 am Rosary for Vocations
6:00 pm St. J. K. of C.
6:30 pm St. E. Women's Group/St. E. Hall

Thurs Dec 5th 7:00pm St. J. Choir Practice

Sat. Dec. 7th 6:00pm K of C Bingo

Please consider using the Online Giving tool for your weekly offertory donations. Visit our website at: nekatholic.com and click "Give Online" to sign up! Leave your checkbook at home, and save the parish the expense of envelopes!

FINANCIAL REPORT

Fiscal Year: 7/1/19-6/30/20 Budget: \$282,000 (\$6,000 needed per week)
Reg. Collection Year-to-date: \$86,610.52 **On-Line: YTD:** \$18,186

Collections and Receipts: November 13, 2019
Regular Offertory: \$3,465.25

The **FORMED** program is available to everyone in our parish. To start enjoying this free gift, please visit the FORMED website:

1. Go to: nekatholic.formed.org
2. Click on REGISTER to create a personal account

Bulletin Sponsors

Each week we want to highlight a business that supports our bulletin.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY Christmas Flowers

New Hymnals & Missals: We're offering parishioners the opportunity to donate individual books in memory of loved ones, whose name would be pasted on the inside cover of the book. For more info, please see the display at the back of the church.

PARKING SPACE AVAILABLE

3 spaces remain; if you or someone you know is in need of a place to park their car this Winter please call the Rectory. Spaces are available on Winter Street adjacent to the Fr. Lively Center. There are different rates depending on if you need yearly or just for the time of the Winter parking ban. Call the Rectory for more details.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEK RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT

**LECTORS PLEASE PICK UP YOUR WORKBOOKS
LOCATED IN EACH CHURCH.**

Sock Drive

The 3rd & 4th Graders at the Good Shepherd School are doing a sock drive as their November service project. Boxes for donations can be found at the entrance of the 3 Churches. Thank you so much for your generosity to our school efforts and those in need this Winter season.

We wish to thank Steve Robertson and his crew from the funeral home for donating their time and machinery to move the Tabernacle at St. John's. Thank you Steve!

The Co-op Giving Tag are here at St. John's!

Once again we will be participating in the giving tree for area seniors and children that are in need of a Christmas gift. We have until December 10th to shop and drop our gifts at the United Community Church (N.Church). The parishioners of St. John's Church are so generous in helping with the Thanksgiving donations and the Co-op giving tree. Thank you so much for your generosity over these years.

Weekly Rosary: In September, parishioners were surveyed to identify what devotions they might like to participate in. The most frequently suggested devotion was a group recitation of the Holy Rosary. In order to do that we need some volunteers from each of the three Churches who would be willing to accept leadership responsibility to organize a weekly rosary in their own Church. Please contact Deacon Pete Gummere if you would be willing to accept or share some leadership responsibility within one of the Churches.

Bishop Coyne has asked Fr. Brian O'Donnell, chaplain for the St. Philip Neri Latin Mass chaplaincy, to offer the Extraordinary Form of the Latin Rite Mass periodically throughout the diocese. On **Sunday, December 8th at 5pm St. Elizabeth church** will host Fr. O'Donnell for the celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This Mass will of course fulfill the Sunday obligation. First-time Latin Mass goers often find the experience of the Traditional Mass a challenge. Some YouTube videos can be helpful to prepare for a fruitful experience of the ancient form of the Mass. One such video is: **"10 Reasons to Attend the Latin Mass with Eric Sammons and Dr Marshall"** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZEcWClenN84>

Please Join Us for this special celebration in honor of our Blessed Mother.

Message from Fr. Hahr: *Last weekend in my homily I mentioned the hope that we could together as a parish turn toward the Lord, especially as we begin the season of Advent. As a sign of this I had intended to offer the Mass ad orientem, viz. toward our Lord in the Tabernacle. While this is a valid choice for the priest celebrant, Bishop Coyne would rather that all public Masses be celebrated versus populum or "towards the people". Therefore in obedience to the Bishop this is what we will do. We should still each try to make that special effort of reverence and devotion toward our Lord's True Presence among us. ~ Fr. Hahr*

The Blessed Virgin Mary plays a prominent role in the liturgical calendar during the month of December. As an Advent spiritual program, Adult Education on Sunday evening will focus on the Blessed Virgin Mary, using the FORMED program: **Lectio: Mary with Dr. Brant Pitre**. Please join us to learn more about our Blessed Mother.

December 7th: Feast of St. Ambrose

"He was a baby, a child, so that you may become a complete, mature person. He was wrapped in swaddling clothes, so that you might be freed from the bonds of death. He was in a manger, so that you may be on the altar. He came to earth so that you may be in the stars. He had no place in the inn, so that you may have in heaven many mansions. He, being rich, became poor for your sakes, that through His poverty you might become rich." – St. Ambrose

The Immaculate Conception

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception teaches that Mary, the mother of Christ, was conceived without sin and her conception was thus *immaculate*. This year, because December 8th falls on a Sunday, the celebration of the Feast in the Ordinary Form of the Latin Rite is moved to Monday, and the obligation to attend Mass on this day is removed.

"Tota pulchra es Maria - You are all fair, O Mary". Today the Church is celebrating the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. If Christ is the day that never fades, Mary is its dawn, shining with beauty. Chosen in advance to be *the Mother of the incarnate Word*, Mary is at the same time the first-fruits of his redeeming action. The grace of Christ the Redeemer acted in her in anticipation, preserving her from original sin and from any contagion of guilt. This is why Mary is *"full of grace"* (Lk 1: 28), as the Angel affirms when he brings her the announcement of her divine motherhood. The human mind cannot claim to understand so great a miracle and mystery. It is faith which reveals to us that the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin is a *pledge of salvation* for every human creature, a pilgrim on this earth. Again, it is faith which reminds us that by virtue of her unique position, Mary is our steadfast support in the arduous struggle against sin and its consequences. ~ Pope Saint John Paul II

WHAT DOES "ADVENT" MEAN?

'Advent' derives from the Latin *adventus* meaning **'arrival'** or **'approach'**. For thousands of years the world waited for the coming of the Messiah to redeem and to save the human race, restoring mankind's relationship to God. We, too, experience this same longing for the coming of Christ. Spiritually, we long for the coming of Christ into our hearts as the Holy Spirit draws us into ever deepening relationship with Him; we also long for Christ in his Second Coming, when He will return physically to earth—as He promised—to restore all things to Himself.

Therefore the Advent season has these characteristics:

It is a season of:

- 1) Hopeful longing,
- 2) Joyful expectation,
- 3) Prayerful penance, and
- 4) Spiritual preparation.

It looks to:

- 1) Salvation history of the past,
- 2) Our present redemption being accomplished, and
- 3) the future coming of Christ.

Advent connects us spiritually with God's whole plan of redemption. Making a commitment to the daily Rosary of our Blessed Mother, and praying the Saint Andrew Christmas Novena each day are good ways to keep the season and grow in your love for Christ.