

# Catholic Churches of **Sts. Mary & Luke**

saintsml.org

St. Mary, PO Box 110, 505 Park ST E, Park River, ND, 58270  
St. Luke at 14207 63 ST NE, Grafton, ND 58237

Nov. 27—Dec. 5, 2021

First Sunday of Advent/C

## **Parish Office**

Phone: 701-284-6165  
Fr. Bert cell: 701-793-3482

Hours: After Mass till noon;  
Closed on Fridays.

Email:

[stmarys@polarcomm.com](mailto:stmarys@polarcomm.com)  
[FrBert@polarcomm.com](mailto:FrBert@polarcomm.com)

## **Team members:**

**Pastor:** Fr. Bert Miller

### **Faith Formation:**

Cheryl Daley, St. Mary

### **Support Staff:**

Anna Mae Daley, St. Mary  
Position open, St. Luke

## **Weekend liturgies:**

### **Saturdays:**

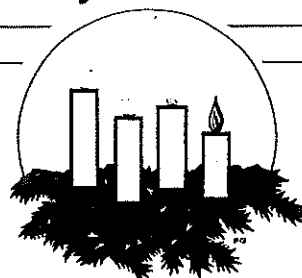
Good Samaritan, 9:30 a.m.  
St. Mary, 5 p.m.

### **Sundays:**

St. Luke, 8 a.m.  
St. Mary, 10 a.m.

## **Purple/Violet:**

Is the color of  
Dec. 4 & 5!!!



## **Giving Tree:**

Is located in the West Entrance near the Friendship Room door. Please take an angel. Return the items to the area in front of the altar by Wednesday, Dec. 15.

**Bible Study:** "CHOSEN" continues on Mondays, Nov. 29; Dec. 6, 13 & 20, and Jan. 10 & 31 at 7 p.m. in the Friendship Room. See Bulletin Board.

**Reconciliation:** Tuesday & Thursday, Nov. 30 and Dec. 2, 7-8 p.m., St. Mary's.



## **Advent Faith Formation**

**Night:** Wednesday, Dec. 1, 7 p.m., Church. K-8, parents, families and parishioners! Someone special is coming for a visit. Hope to see all!!!

**Liturgies – Nov. 27 to Dec. 5:**

**Saturday, Nov. 27**

Readings: Daniel 7:15-27, Luke 21:34-36  
**5 p.m./St. Mary – + Eleanor Baria**

**Sunday, Nov. 28 – First Sunday Advent/C**

Jer 33:14-16, 1 Thes 3:12—4:2, Luke 21:25-36  
**8 a.m./St. Luke – The Parishioners**  
**10 a.m./St. Mary – + Roger Kovarik**

**Monday, Nov. 29**

Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5, Matthew 8:5-11  
**NO Liturgy Today!**

**Tuesday, Nov. 30 -- Andrew**

Readings: Romans 10:9-18, Matt 4:18-22  
**9 a.m./St. Mary – + Trudy & Jerry Cicha**

**Wednesday, Dec. 1**

Readings: Isaiah 25:6-10, Matthew 15:29-37  
**2 p.m./Good Sam – + Rev. John Fallon**

**Thursday, Dec. 2**

Readings: Isaiah 26:1-6, Matt 7:21, 24-27  
**9 a.m./St. Luke – + Stanley Zolondek**

**Friday, Dec. 3 – Francis Xavier**

Readings: 1 Cor 9:16-23, Mark 16:15-20  
**9 a.m./St. Mary – + Dan Dub**

**Saturday, Dec. 4**

Readings: Isaiah 30:19-26, Matt 9:35—10:8  
**5 pm/St. Mary – The Parishioners**

**Sunday, Dec. 5 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent/C**

Baruch 5:1-9, Phil 1:4-11, Luke 3:1-6  
**8 a.m./St. Luke – + Vic Sobolik**  
**10 a.m./St. Mary – JoAnn Farrington**

**Donations  
needed at  
both parishes!**

**Cash Flow**

**Nov. 20-21:**

**at St. Mary:**

**Envs: \$4,668**

**Plate: \$57**

**Youth: \$0**

**Total: \$4,725**

**Year to date**

**Actual: \$127,173**

**Budget: \$131,600**

**Need:**

**\$2,800 per week**

**at St. Luke:**

**Nov. 21:**

**Envs: \$1,487**

**Plate: \$85**

**Candles: \$5.50**

**Total: \$1,557.50**

**Year to date**

**Actual: \$21,223.01**

**Budget: \$32,900**

**Need:**

**\$700 per week**

**Tithing Norm:**

**10% of income**

**back to God:**

**Parish: 5-8%**

**Diocese: 1%**

**Community: 1-4%**

## **Prayer List:**

Morris Vondra,  
Cynthia Schiernbeck,  
Jack Misialek,  
Pauline Daninger, Clem Dub,  
Randy Irmen family, Judy Hultin,  
Jeremy Lund, Remy Bosh,  
Bill Alkofer, Kay Morehead,  
Rev. Adam Hamness,  
Elaine Vareberg,  
Irene & John Janda,  
Jane Grzadzielewski,

*Please advise Fr. Bert  
when you have improved  
at [FrBert@polarcomm.com](mailto:FrBert@polarcomm.com)*

## **Things to Know:**

### **Bulletin Deadline:**

Tuesday Noon  
Note that anything submitted will  
be edited, cut and shortened.

### **Bulletin boards & Reading tables:**

Please submit all items to Fr.  
Bert for approval and placement.

### **Baptisms & Marriages:**

Please call Fr. Bert before  
you make any plans!!!

### **Hospital Visits, Communion calls, & Anointing of Sick:**

Please make contact with  
Fr. Bert (numbers on Page 1)  
or at [FrBert@polarcomm.com](mailto:FrBert@polarcomm.com)

### **Reconciliation:**

Saturdays: 4-4:30 p.m./St. Mary  
Thursdays: 8:30 a.m./St. Luke  
Anytime by request.

## **\*\*\* FAITH FORMATION \*\*\***

### **Wednesday, Dec. 1**

... All Parish Faith Formation Night!  
7 p.m./Church/See more on Page 1

### **Wednesday, Dec. 8**

... Feast -- Immaculate Conception  
Holy Day of Obligation  
7 p.m. liturgy  
All students & parents expected

### **Wednesday, Dec. 15**

... Faith Formation FUN Night!  
7 p.m./Parish Center  
K-8, parents & parishioners

\*\*\*\*\*

**Exposition:** Friday, Dec. 3, after 9  
a.m. liturgy until Noon. Sign-up sheet  
is near the Cry Room window.

**Recycle paper:** St. Mary's has about  
15 reams of mostly white paper  
printed on one side only. It could be  
used by young children for drawing or  
by an adult who needs to print written  
materials for editing by hand, etc.  
Cost: \$1/ream. Inquire at the St.  
Mary's Parish Office, or call 284-6165.

**Prayer Blankets:** Check out the blanket  
supply center located outside the Altar  
Society Store at St. Mary's and in the entry  
at St. Luke's. Be sure to leave the name of  
the recipient!

**Take as is:** The Rectory has some furniture  
that could make your basements comfortable  
– a television, a sofa & a large desk. See Fr.  
Bert. Call 284-6165.

**East Coast Pilgrimage:** Visit shrines with Bishop Folda, Sept. 10-14, 2022. Featured cities include: Washington D.C., Emmitsburg and Philadelphia. Sites include: the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception, St. John Paul II National Shrine, Elizabeth Ann Seton Shrine, and the saints in Philadelphia: St. John Neumann and St. Katherine Drexel, along with many other historical sites. Pilgrimage cost based on double rooms: \$2,195. Deadline to register is January 20, 2022. Visit [Fargodiocese.org/events](http://Fargodiocese.org/events) for more details and registration link. Or call the Diocese of Fargo for registration forms, 701-356-7900. Organized by Peter's Way Tours.

**Reading Table Book: Music for the Soul**

Mary Lou Williams by Deanna Witkowski

In this book, Witkowski bring a fresh perspective to the life and music of the legendary jazz pianist-composer Mary Lou Williams (1910-1981). Witkowski examines how Williams created networks of support and friendship through her decades-long letter correspondence with various women religious, her charitable work, and her tireless efforts to perform jazz in churches, community centers, concert halls, and schools. Throughout this fascinating story told with equal amounts of deep love and scholarly research, Witkowski illumines Williams's passionate mantra that "jazz is healing to the soul."

Witkowski is an award-winning jazz pianist and composer. She has seven recordings and is a frequent guest music leader. Visit her online at [deannajazz.com](http://deannajazz.com)

**Stewardship Moment**

*"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."* – Luke 21:28

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.



**PARK RIVER  
DENTAL CLINIC**

FAMILY DENTAL CARE

**DR. NICHOLAS BENEDA  
DR. BRIAN LARSON**

701-284-6131

*Serving Our Communities for Over 30 Years!*



The Pregnancy  
Help Center

Box 626, Park River, N.D. 58270  
Phone: 701-284-6601



Park River—284-7676  
Drayton Drug—454-3831

**Serving  
the Assembly  
at St. Luke's:**

**Lectors:**

**December:**

Brian Schanilec

**January 2022:**

Mike Dvorak

**February 2022:**

Ryan Sobolik

**March 2022:**

Andy Sobolik

**Cemetery  
Worker**

**needed: See**

Michael Dvorak

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

November 2021

St. Mary/St. Luke  
Rev. Bert F. Miller, Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### Happiness

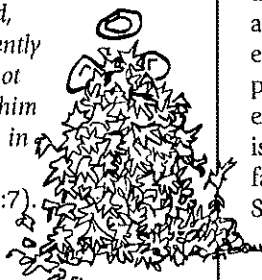
As a loving Father, God wants us to be happy. True happiness is: "Joy and beatitude over receiving the fulfillment of our vocation as creatures: a sharing in the divine nature and the vision of God. God put us into the world to know, love, and serve Him, and so come to the happiness of paradise" (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, # 1720). The happiness the world offers doesn't last, but the happiness God offers is forever.

### Nurture faith

Spiritual growth doesn't stop with formal religious education. To know God better, start with the Bible and consider adding spiritual reading. (Hint: ask a priest for recommendations.) Read so that you may learn more about God's ways.

### Patience makes sense

Don't be tempted to compare yourself to others. God's plan for you is unique. *"Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over him who prospers in his way"* (Psalm 37:7).



## Prepare for an amazing truth

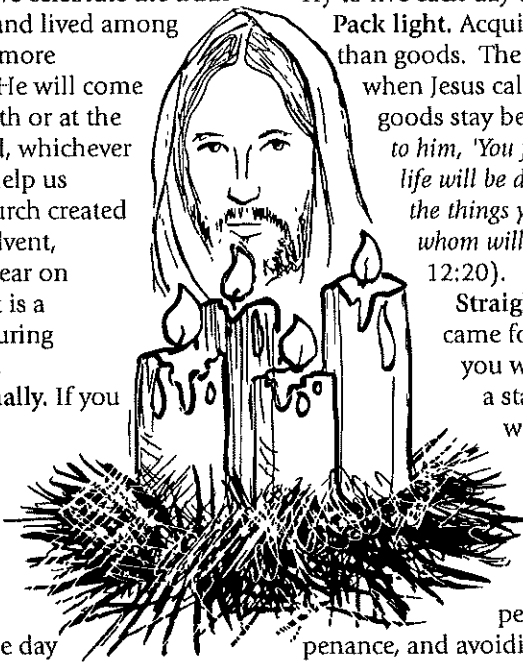
At Christmas we celebrate the truth that God came and lived among us. What's even more amazing is that He will come again at our death or at the end of the world, whichever comes first. To help us prepare, the Church created the season of Advent, beginning this year on November 28. It is a watchful time during which we can ...

**Live intentionally.** If you knew that Jesus would come for you tomorrow, how would you spend today? Chances are you would devote the day to asking and granting forgiveness, spending time with loved ones, and preparing your heart for your Savior.

Try to live each day that way.

**Pack light.** Acquire graces rather than goods. The graces come along when Jesus calls for you, but the goods stay behind. *"But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?'"* (Luke 12:20).

**Straighten up.** If Jesus came for you tomorrow, you would need to be in a state of grace to go with Him. Prepare now by never missing Mass, going to Confession regularly, performing heartfelt penance, and avoiding sin so that you'll be ready to greet Jesus with joy anytime. The truth is, Jesus really could come tomorrow – or even today!

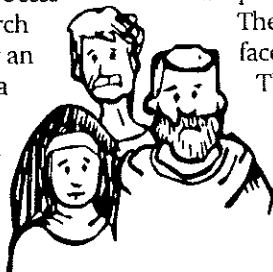


## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics honor saints?

Canonization is the process through which the Church acknowledges that, after an extensive investigation, a person demonstrated extraordinary virtue and is now in Heaven, face-to-face with God. Saints are offered to us

as spiritual guides to lead us to God. The saints were real people who faced problems similar to our own. They allowed God's grace to transform them. When we are facing difficulties, trials, and temptations, we can look to the saints and be encouraged by their faithfulness.



# Thankfulness is good for the health

Studies show that people who are thankful are less likely to be depressed or unhappy, and find they enjoy simple pleasures like sunsets and good health. Here is how you can join them ...

**Calculate your ratio.** For three days straight, keep track of how many times you think grateful thoughts versus complaining. This is your Grateful to Grumbling Ratio. The higher your G2G Ratio, the happier you will be.

**Gather inspiration.** Ask others what inspires their gratitude. You will probably discover something for which



you can also be thankful but haven't thought of.

**Fast.** Forgo something you like such as food, TV, the internet. It will make you thankful for it when you get it back.

**Guard the company you keep.** Attitudes are contagious. Do the people around you encourage gratitude or griping? Consider changing your environment or your friends to lean toward gratitude.

**Detach.** Have you noticed that the people who have the least seem the happiest? Take stock of your possessions. Keep only what you need.

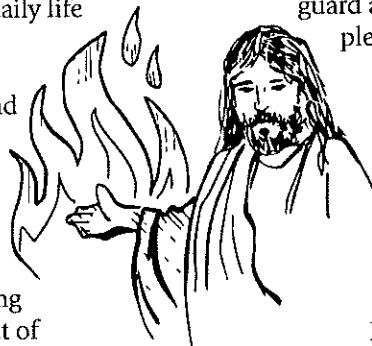
## from Scripture

### Luke 21:25-28, 34-36, the Advent of hope

The virtues of patience and perseverance aren't strengths for most of us. Often the concerns of daily life overshadow our pursuit of holiness. We can get lured into sin by the comforts and pleasures the world has to offer. We can forget our ultimate goal is Heaven. Knowing this, Jesus warned His followers about the end times, hoping to shake them (and us) out of "drowsy" complaisance.

Imagine the terrifying scene Jesus described – the shaking of the earth, sea, and sky and people dying of fright. In the midst of that terror, though, people living

in God's friendship will have no reason to fear. The key is, He said, to stay on guard against sin and worldly pleasure.



Advent is a time of waiting for the coming of Christ. God has promised us that if we are faithful to Him, we will be rewarded. This is a time when we must pray for patience and perseverance to keep us ready

for the arrival of our Savior. Then we can hold our heads high and stand confident expecting our promised reward.

## Q & A Is our belief in Purgatory rooted in the Bible?

In the Old Testament, the Jewish leader Judas Maccabee required his soldiers to offer prayers and sacrifices for dead comrades who died wearing "magic" amulets in service of pagan gods – a serious violation of the covenant. *"Turning to supplication, they prayed that the sinful deed might be fully blotted out"*



(Maccabees 12:42). By offering prayers on their behalf after their death, Judas Maccabee demonstrated his faith that the prayers could still benefit the dead.

In the New Testament, Jesus speaks of the sin of blasphemy against the Holy Spirit that won't be forgiven in this life or in the next (Matthew 12:32). We conclude that other sins are forgiven in the next life.

If we die in God's friendship but still have attachment to venial sin, purification will be necessary. It is difficult to see a beautiful landscape through a dirty window. To enjoy the view, the window must be cleaned. Likewise, Purgatory cleans us up so we can enjoy the view, in this case, the beatific vision of God.

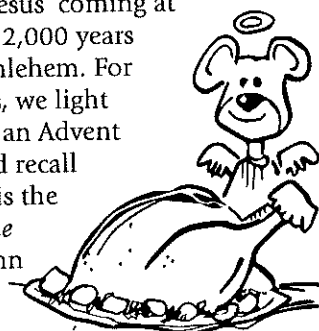
## Feasts & Celebrations

**November 17 – St. Elizabeth of Hungary (1231).** The daughter of the King of Hungary, she married at the age of 14. Her beloved husband was killed after only six years of marriage. She joined the Secular Franciscan Order and spent her life caring for the poor.

**November 21 – Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe.** God promised his people a king who will be triumphant over their enemies. Jesus is our King. In Baptism and Confirmation, we are brought under His kingship.

**November 22 – St. Cecilia (230).** A native of Rome, St. Cecilia was forced to marry although she wanted to consecrate herself to God. She eventually converted her husband and both were martyred for the faith.

**November 28 - First Sunday in Advent.** During Advent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus' coming at Christmas 2,000 years ago at Bethlehem. For four weeks, we light candles in an Advent wreath and recall that Jesus is the "Light of the world" (John 8:12).

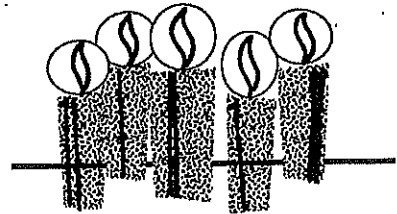


### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.  
 Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
 Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™  
 (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>  
 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

# Advent to Christmas

Nov. 27-28 – First Sunday of Advent



Nov. 29, Dec. 6, 13 & 20 – CHOSEN Bible Study, 7 p.m., Church

Nov. 30, Dec. 2, 9, 14, 16 & 21 – Reconciliation, 7-8 p.m.  
at St. Mary

Dec. 1 – Faith Formation Night, K-8 with parents & parishioners  
7 p.m. in the Church; Reception to follow in PC



Dec. 4-5 – Second Sunday of Advent

Dec. 7 – Vigil of Immaculate Conception  
7 p.m./St. Luke (Holy Day of Obligation)

Dec. 8 – Immaculate Conception  
7 p.m./St. Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)

Dec. 13-14 – Third Sunday of Advent

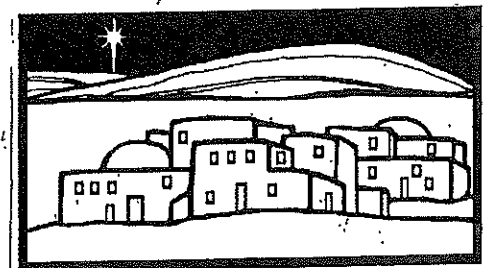
Dec. 15 – Faith Formation Fun Night  
7 p.m./K-8 & parents/Parish Center

Dec. 18-19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

## Christmas Vigil & Day

Dec. 24 -- 5 p.m. Vigil of Christmas at St. Luke

Dec. 25 -- 10 a.m. Christmas liturgy at St. Mary



Dec. 26 – Feast of the Holy Family – 8/St. Luke; 10/St. Mary

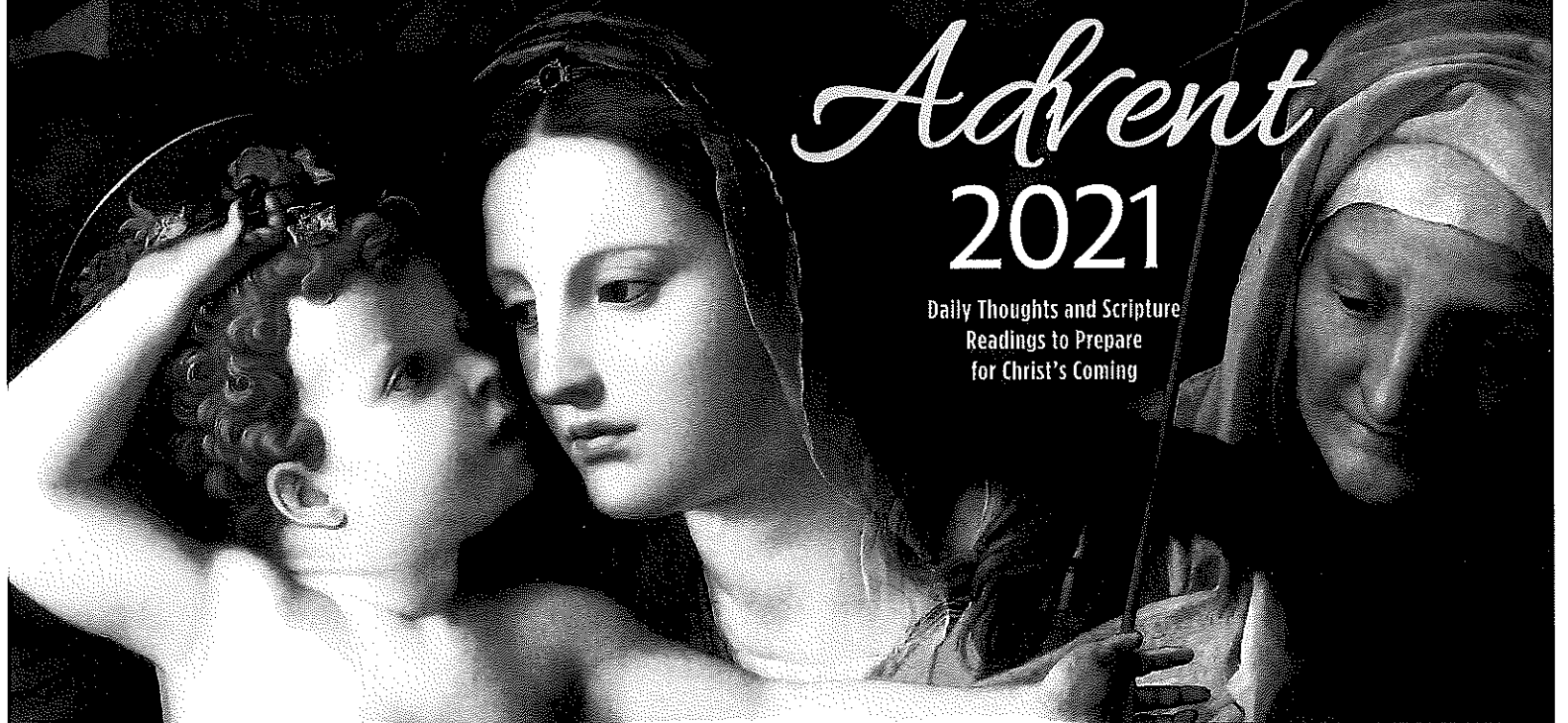
Jan. 1, 2022 – Mary, Mother of God (NOT a Holy Day)

Jan. 2 – Epiphany – 8 a.m./St. Luke; 10 a.m./St. Mary

Jan. 8-9 – Baptism of the Lord (regular Sat/Sun Mass schedule)

# Advent 2021

Daily Thoughts and Scripture  
Readings to Prepare  
for Christ's Coming



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28 November	29	30 St. Andrew	1 December	2	3 St. Francis Xavier	4 St. John Damascene
<b>Be Vigilant</b> Jesus asks us to be attentive to the signs of his presence with us. <i>Luke 21:36</i>	<b>Walk in God's Light</b> How might I imitate Jesus' loving service today? <i>Isaiah 2:5</i>	<b>Come Holy Spirit</b> Ask the Holy Spirit to be with and guide you today. <i>Isaiah 11:2-3</i>	<b>Moved with Compassion</b> How can I imitate Jesus' compassion for others? <i>Matthew 15:32</i>	<b>Trust in God</b> How might I deepen my trust in God with me today? <i>Isaiah 26:4</i>	<b>Heal My Blindness</b> Ask Jesus to heal what keeps me from seeing him clearly. <i>Matthew 9:28-29</i>	<b>Give Without Cost</b> How can I give to others today without expecting any return? <i>Matthew 10:8</i>
5	6 St. Nicholas	7 St. Ambrose	8 Immaculate Conception	9 St. Juan Diego	10	11 St. Damasus I
<b>Prepare the Way</b> Let us remove any obstacles for God to draw near to us today. <i>Luke 3:4</i>	<b>Your Sins Are Forgiven</b> Trust in God's forgiveness for your failings and sins. <i>Luke 5:20</i>	<b>Help the Little Ones</b> How might I seek out and help someone in need today? <i>Matthew 18:14</i>	<b>Hope in the Lord</b> How might I increase my hope because God is drawing near? <i>Isaiah 40:31</i>	<b>I Will Help You</b> How has God's promise to help been most evident to me? <i>Isaiah 41:13</i>	<b>I Will Lead You</b> How has God been leading me most during this Advent? <i>Isaiah 48:17</i>	<b>Look Down Upon Us</b> How have I experienced God's care for me this Advent? <i>Psalms 80:2-3</i>
12	13 St. Lucy	14 St. John of the Cross	15	16	17	18
<b>Rejoice in the Lord!</b> How might I show my joy that Christmas will soon be here? <i>Philippians 4:4</i>	<b>Show Us Your Love</b> Ask God to draw nearer today to be with you. <i>Psalms 85:8</i>	<b>Bless the Lord</b> Spend time today giving thanks to God for all God's blessings. <i>Psalms 34:2-3</i>	<b>Near Is Our Salvation</b> How am I preparing for God's greater presence in my life? <i>Psalms 85:9-10</i>	<b>God Calls You Back</b> How might I return to a better relationship with God today? <i>Isaiah 54:7</i>	<b>Justice Shall Flourish</b> How have I been making my relationships better this Advent? <i>Psalms 72:7</i>	<b>God Is With Us</b> What most excites me that Jesus became fully human like me? <i>Matthew 1:23</i>
19	20	21 St. Peter Canisius	22	23 St. John of Kanty	24	25 Christmas
<b>Sharing the Good News</b> How might I share my Christmas beliefs with others today? <i>Luke 1:45</i>	<b>Let It Be!</b> How might I say "yes" to God's desire to be born in me this Christmas? <i>Luke 1:38</i>	<b>Let Me Hear Your Voice</b> Take time today to read the Bible to hear God's voice. <i>Song of Songs 2:14</i>	<b>Proclaim the Good News</b> Share the true meaning of Christmas with someone today. <i>Luke 1:46-55</i>	<b>You Are My Savior</b> Rejoice and thank God that Jesus has become human like us. <i>Psalms 25:4-5</i>	<b>A Child Born or Us</b> Look for ways to help those most vulnerable and needing help. <i>Isaiah 9:5</i>	<b>Glorify God!</b> Let us give thanks and praise for the joy of God with us now. <i>Luke 2:15-20</i>