



Issue 12>>>

Volume  
40

*December 8 – The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed  
Virgin Mary*

*December 25 – The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*

*December 26 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and  
Joseph*

Visit our website [www.sjdc-oll.org](http://www.sjdc-oll.org)

## Archdiocese of Detroit

St. John's Deaf Center  
Our Lady of Loretto

CATHOLIC DEAF NEWSLETTER- DECEMBER 2021



## From Fr. MD's Desk

Dear Detroit Catholic Deaf Community,

Happy Advent to all of you! I am sure many of you are looking forward to Christmas. Remember that Christmas is not here yet. That is why the Church has Advent - a period of preparation for our great celebration of Jesus' birth on December 25.

How can we prepare for Christmas during this Advent? Below are listed a few suggestions:

1. Avoid saying "Merry Christmas" until Christmas Eve. Afterwards, we can say "Merry Christmas" until the Christmas Season is over (on January 9)
2. Read the Bible stories associated with the birth of Jesus (e.g., Gabriel making announcement to Virgin Mary that she would become pregnant, Mary visiting her cousin Elizabeth who is pregnant with John the Baptist, Joseph and Mary looking for a place to stay in Bethlehem, etc.)
3. Pray the Rosary concentrating on the joyful mysteries which focus on the stories relating to Jesus' birth and his early childhood.
4. Make videophone calls to people who are sad because they have recently lost their loved ones. Christmas can be very sad for these people who are still grieving over their losses.
5. Donating to a soup kitchen because without it, the homeless would not have a place to eat and celebrate Christmas. By doing so this becomes a birthday present to Jesus from you.

December 8 is a Day of Obligation. What does that mean? It means all Catholics are required to attend Mass regardless if it is not Sunday. Wednesday, December 8, is the Feast of Immaculate Conception. It is the day on which St. Anne, the mother of the Virgin Mary, became pregnant with her. Why is this important? Without the Virgin Mary Jesus Christ, Son of God, would not have been born and lived to save us.

For this feast, I will celebrate in OLL Deaf chapel on December 7 at 4:15 PM. I will celebrate Mass at Holy Innocents' Church on December 8 at 12 PM.

Saturday, December 25, is another Day of Obligation. We will follow the same Mass schedule as on Sundays: 9:30 AM in the Deaf chapel at OLL and 12 PM at Holy Innocents Church.

Please note that, due to various reasons, we won't have Christmas Eve Mass this year.

Have a blessed and holy Advent!  
Yours in Christ,

Fr. MD

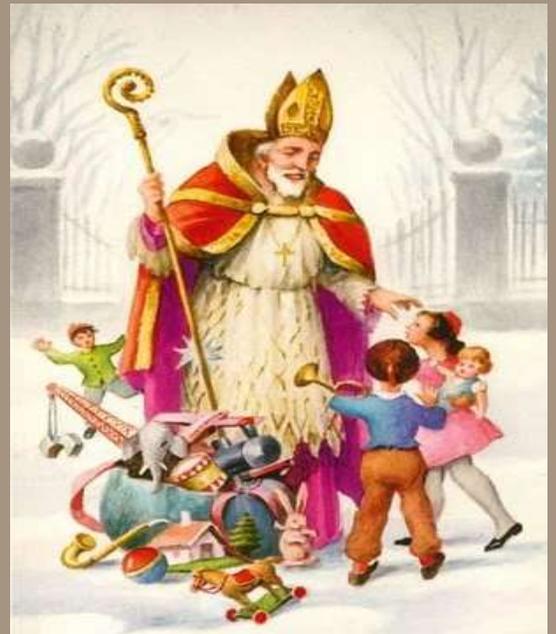
Saints >>>

*By Gail*

## St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas' feast day is on December 6<sup>th</sup>. He was a fourth-century bishop in Lycia, which was southeast of Turkey.

He is the patron saint of sailors, children, pawnbrokers. He spent his life secretly helping the poor all over the world and giving gifts (food, clothing, gold, and money) to the people of his village each night. He reminds people of the greatest gift of all, Jesus Christ.



### Remember in your prayers!

For our faithful departed:

- Loretta Milne
- Loretta Etkie-Decker

For those who are sick, awaiting or recovering from surgery:

- Helen Booker
- Marilyn Burchi
- Jackie Felix
- Ellen Gibb
- Bev Marchuk
- Harold Miller
- Debbie Mitre-Smith
- Mike Rea
- Debbie Shahady
- Betty Schommer
- Kathy Wilson
- Karen Zabik



And for all members of our church who are lonely, grieving and dealing with mental issues.

## CATHOLIC FAITH 101

*Do you have questions about the Catholic Faith? About Mass? About other Faith related topics? Are you interested on discussing these with other members of the Deaf Catholic Community?*

*If you are interested, please join us for another Catholic Faith 101 gathering:*

**When? Friday, December 3rd at 1 pm EST (Suggestion: Join us for Adoration at 11 am, bring a sack lunch and stay for this discussion)**

**Where? SJDC and RingCentral –**

**This is a hybrid meeting-At St. John's Deaf Center for those who are fully vaccinated and can attend in person. For those unable to attend in person, can join us via RingCentral (max 20 participants).**

**To register, visit our website or use this QRcode (use the camera on your phone to get to registration page)**



*Open to members of the Detroit Catholic Deaf community*

# HOPE

## Week 1

**Candle Name:** Prophet's Candle  
**Candle Symbolizes:** Hope  
**Reminds Us:** Justice is coming

**Verse:** Romans 15:12-13

**Prayer:** O God, by whose word all things are sanctified, pour forth Thy blessing upon this world, and grant that we who use it may prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ and may receive from Thee abundant grace. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.

# PEACE

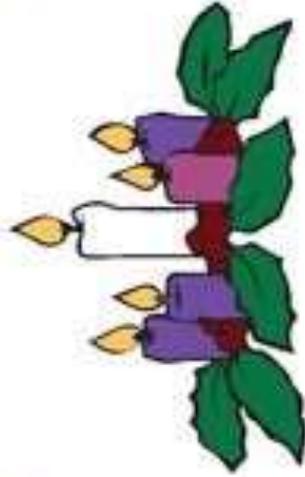
## Week 4

**Candle Name:** Angel's Candle  
**Candle Symbolizes:** Peace  
**Reminds us:** The message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

**Verse:** John 3:16-17

**Prayer:** O Lord, stir up Thy power, we pray Thee, and come, and with great might help us, that with the help of Thy grace, Thy merciful forgiveness may hasten what our sins impede. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.

**Christ Candle**  
Light on Christmas Eve



**Verse:** John 1:29

## Week 2

**Candle Name:** Bethlehem Candle  
**Candle Symbolizes:** Faith  
**Reminds Us:** Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem

**Verse:** Luke 3:3-6

**Prayer:** O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.

# FAITH

## Week 3

**Candle Name:** Shepherd's Candle  
**Candle Symbolizes:** Joy  
**Reminds Us:** The joy the world experienced at the coming both of Jesus

**Verse:** Luke 2:7-15

**Prayer:** O Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thy ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Who livest and reignest forever. Amen.

# JOY

## How to Help the Elderly in Winter

Winter can bring many healthcare challenges for older people. There are different dangers associated with winter weather. There are emotional risks such as isolation from friends and community, and also physical risks, such as falls.

Here are some tips for keeping aged, loved ones safe and healthy during winter months.

1. **Stock emergency resources in their homes.**

Emergency kits including water, flashlight, batteries, and blankets. Seniors should have at least 7-day supply of medications and a 3-day supply of non-perishable food and water.

2. **Watch the temperature**

For elders, there are risks of being too old. People with heart issues tend to get cold faster. Thermostat should be set at 68 degrees.

3. **Identify fall risks**

This is a big problem for seniors. Often, they will take off their wet boots when they get home and walk around the house in stockings. Make sure they wear shoes or slippers. Keep driveways and walkways clear of snow. Contact city hall to see if they offer snow shoveling services.

4. **Eliminate fire risks**

Fires often start from things like overheating electric blankets or space heaters. Candles are always a risk.

5. **Encourage them to stay active and try safe exercises at home**

Many elderlies feel lonely during wintertime. There are programs available to help. Some libraries deliver books or movies. Some church offer visitation program of volunteers who provide companionship to housebound parishioners.

6. **Practice safety precautions in car**

If your elderly loved ones is still driving, be sure they have emergency snow supplies in their car, including heating packs, kitty litter or sand, emergency flares and snow scrapers, water, and blankets. Make sure to keep the gas tank full.

7. **Nutrition**

It's important to maintain balanced diet during the winter when they are less active, at risk of catching colds and lacking vitamin D. Be sure they eat vitamin-rich fruits and vegetables. Meals on Wheels deliver affordable hot nutritious foods daily.

8. **Establish a plan for winter emergencies**

If power is lost, do you and your elder know where they will go and what they will need? Have an emergency bag packed with a change of clothing and all medical and care necessities.

9. **Dress warm for cold weather**

It is a good idea for seniors to get out for some fresh air when possible. Layered loose fitting clothing and waterproof gloves or mittens are best. Wearing a hat protects against heat loss, as close to half of body heat is lost through the head.

10. **Keep in contact**

If possible, make VP calls to home bound seniors to make sure they are ok.

Stay warm,

Kathy Mitchell



## HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

### Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

OLL Deaf chapel on Tuesday, December 7 at 4:15 PM &

Holy Innocents' Church on Wednesday, December 8 at Noon

**Christmas Eve- No mass**

### CHRISTMAS DAY

Saturday, December 25th - Regular Mass Schedule

9:30 am at Our Lady of Loretto & Noon at Holy Innocents Church



Sunday, December 26th – Regular Mass Schedule

9:30 am at Our Lady of Loretto & Noon at Holy Innocents Church

### NEW YEAR'S EVE & NEW YEAR'S DAY- NO MASS



Sunday, January 2nd – Regular Mass Schedule

9:30 am at Our Lady of Loretto & Noon at Holy Innocents Church

## December Servers' Schedule

### December 5, 2021

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Readings – Gail Buchalski  
Response Leader – Carol Kuplicki  
Host- Sandra Goulart  
Sacristan Duty – Beth Ann  
Aylesworth

### December 8, 2021- TBA

### December 12, 2021

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Readings – Beth Ann  
Aylesworth  
Response Leader – Judy Vardon  
Host- Ellen Gibb  
Sacristan Duty – Dan Gibb

### December 19, 2021

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Readings – Sandra Goulart  
Response Leader – Dan Gibb  
Host- Darlene Graham  
Sacristan Duty – Carol Kuplicki

### December 25, 2021- TBA

### December 26, 2021

1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Readings – Judy Vardon  
Response Leader – Beth Ann  
Aylesworth  
Host- Dan Gibb  
Sacristan Duty -James Allen

## Gifts to Jesus... *by Veronica*

Advent is the season to prepare for Jesus' coming, for His birth. During this time, while we are awaiting, we have time to prepare ourselves. Just like we decorate our homes, prepare delicious treats for our guests, and carefully select gifts for our loved ones; the same way, we must find time to clean us souls, to decorate our hearts, and to offer Jesus the best spiritual gifts.

How do we clean our souls? Going to confession before Christmas, asking for forgiveness or forgiving someone who have hurt us (whether they say sorry or not).

How do we decorate our hearts? By doing acts of mercy, like calling, visiting, or writing a card to those who are lonely, sick, or grieving. By donating gently used clothes and shoes to those in need. By making food donations to a food pantry or a person in need. By supporting our family and friends in their time of need. By shoveling the snowy driveway of someone who is unable to do so. By inviting someone to join us for Christmas Mass and/or for a meal so they are not alone.

How do we offer the best spiritual gifts to Jesus? By praying the Rosary (especially the Joyful mysteries), reading the gospels of Luke and Mathew about Jesus' birth. Reading and meditating the daily prayers in the Advent (purple) book. By attending Sunday and Christmas Masses.

We know Jesus was born in the humblest place imaginable. He was not looking for recognition nor praise. He chose to be born in a stable surrounded by animals, shepherds, and angels. He was born so we can have eternal live. He became human for our salvation.

I pray that in the midst of all the Christmas noise and distractions, we can remember that Jesus is not looking for fancy gifts, beautiful, decorated homes, and trees. May we be able to give Jesus the gift of our time and prayers, and our sincere love and homage. May we choose to offer Him the gifts of a clean soul, a beautiful, decorated heart, and the best spiritual gifts from our heart.

May you and your families enjoy His peace, His healing, and His saving grace during Advent and Christmas time!

Have a blessed Advent Season!

## Virtual Rosary meetings >>>



Please send an email to Veronica at [Balcarcel.veronica@aod.org](mailto:Balcarcel.veronica@aod.org) to get the RingCentral link. We meet Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 6 pm, Tuesdays at 12:30 pm and Thursdays at noon EST.



**Join us for Adoration at SJDC  
or virtually via Facebook**

**Friday, Dec. 3 at 11:00 am EST**

## 1700 CLUB

*Congratulations to*

**Cindy Landino**

1700 Club  
\$ 100  
Winner

November 2021



## VIRTUAL ROSARY MEETINGS VIA RINGCENTRAL

We continue to pray the rosary for the needs of our families, friends, our community, our country, and the world.

*We have courage in God's presence, because we are sure that He hears us if we ask Him for anything that is according to His will. He hears whenever we ask Him; and since we know this is true, we know also that He give us what we ask from Him. 1 John 5:14-15*



DETROIT DEAF CATHOLICS Retreat at De Sales Camp March 11- 13, 2022

“The Joy of the Gospel: Loving and living the Good News of the Gospel”



Sister Kathleen Schipani, IHM has a BA in Theology from Immaculata University, M.Ed. in Special Education from the College of New Jersey, and a certificate in American Sign Language Studies from Gallaudet University. Sr. Kathleen is currently the Director of the Deaf Apostolate of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. She has over 30 years of teaching experience with children and adults. Sister has collaborated in international and national projects, presented workshops and trainings and co-authored Teacher Guides and DVD Curriculums to prepare individuals who are Deaf for the Sacraments of Penance, Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Cost: \$90 per person

Sr. Kathleen Schipani, I.H.M.

Administrator, Director of Religious Education for the Deaf Apostolate for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

When: Friday, March 11, 2022, starting at 7 p.m. until Sunday, March 13, 2022, at 11 a.m.

Where: Lawrence Lodge (De Sales Camp), 1142 Ventura Drive, Brooklyn, MI 49230 (See Map and directions on next page)

Please bring Bible. Also bring your own towels and sheets. Or rent them -- \$7 for towels and \$7 for sheets. Other—bring your personal needs items like soap, shampoo, umbrella, and comfortable clothes.

Send in your registration in the mail (see form below), or you register online by visiting sjdc-oll.org or use QR code on the right. Limited to 24 participants on first come, first serve basis.



Registration Form (RSVP by March 1, 2022) To register and make a check payable to “St. John’s Deaf Center”

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ VP: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: St. John’s Deaf Center 16103 Chesterfield Ave. Eastpointe, MI 48021 Attention: Paul Kuplicki, Sr.

To register or questions, please email: Carol Kuplicki (cpag@prodigy.net) Veronica Balcarcel (balcarcel.veronica@aod.org) SJDC Office VP: 586-439-0146

Map and Directions to De Sales Center



De Sales Center and Carls Family Village are located at the end of Daugherty Rd. Daugherty intersects M-50 north-west of US-12 and south-east of the town of Brooklyn. From the Detroit area, take I-94 west or US-23 south to US-12. Travel west on US 12 for 35 minutes, turn right on M-50 and turn right on Daugherty Rd. If you drive into Brooklyn, you missed Daugherty. From the Toledo area, travel north on US-23 to M-50 (Dundee). Turn left on M-50 and travel west until you pass US-12.

Stay on M-50, but start watching for Daugherty Rd. Turn right on Daugherty. If you drive into Brooklyn, you missed Daugherty. From Chicago and Lansing, travel east on I-94, pass Jackson, and go south on US-127 (toward Hudson). Take US-127 south to M-50 east. Travel east on M-50, go through the towns of Napoleon and Brooklyn, and turn left on Daugherty Rd. If you come to US-12, you missed Daugherty. De Sales Center is approximately 50 miles from Toledo, Lansing, or Detroit Metro Airport and 200 miles from Chicago.



## SJDC WILL BE CLOSED

Tuesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> and  
Tuesday, December 28<sup>th</sup>

Merry Christmas!



## CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT HOLY INNOCENTS

SECOND AND FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE  
MONTH DURING NOON MASS

COME AND JOIN US!!

St. John's Deaf Center

16103 Chesterfield Ave.  
Eastpointe, MI 48021

Contact us at **586-439-0146** (VP) [www.sjdc-oll.org](http://www.sjdc-oll.org)