

St. Mary of the Rosary, Chewelah

Mass: Saturday 4:00 PM and Sunday 10:00 AM
Sunday 4:30 PM (Dec. & Jan. only; NOT 12/25)
Reconciliation: Sat. 2:30—3:30 PM and by appt.

Holy Ghost, Valley

St. Joseph, Jump Off Joe

Mass: Sunday 8:00 AM (at Holy Ghost)
Reconciliation: Tuesday 6:00—7:00 PM at HG

Sacred Heart, Springdale

Mass: Saturday, 6:00 PM
Reconciliation: 1st Fridays, 5:00—5:30 PM

Mass Intentions

December 6	Bob + and Pam Wester
December 7, 1:00 PM	Supremo Bautista +
December 7, 5:30 PM	John Parsons
December 8, HG, 8:00 AM	Mara Franklin
December 8, SH, 12:15	Fran Wilson
December 9	Jon Schleker +
Dec. 10, 4:00 PM	Jack Wood +

Weekday Mass Schedule

Tuesday	5:30 PM Mass at Holy Ghost in Valley, followed by Adoration from 6:00-7:00 PM
Wednesday	1:00 PM at Prov. St. Joseph Hospital
Thursday	See Holy Day schedule
Friday	9:00 AM Mass at St. Mary followed by Adoration from 9:30—10:30 AM

Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation

- Dec. 7, 5:30 PM St. Mary of the Rosary
- Dec. 8, 8:00 AM Holy Ghost
- Dec. 8, 12:15 PM Sacred Heart

Fr. Jeff's Presentation of Pilgrimage to France

Fr. Jeff will share his slides and stories of his October pilgrimage to France with us **Friday** evening, **December 9, at 6:00 PM** at St. Mary's parish hall. Everyone is invited.

Ski Season Mass Schedule

The Ski Season Mass will begin this weekend, December 4, and will run through January. For these two months, there will be a 4:30 PM Mass at St. Mary of the Rosary every Sunday afternoon to attract the skiers and snowboarders to Mass on their way down the mountain.

Operation Santa

Thank you for your donations to the Kiwanis' "Operation Santa" last weekend. The collections from our four Masses brought in \$628.23, and a matching amount was donated from the Good Sam Fund. This will help the Kiwanis achieve their goal of \$10,000, or \$50/child. Thank you for your generosity.

Advent and Christmas, 2016

Our expanded Advent confession schedule is:

- ♦ Friday, 12/16, 5 to 6 PM, St. Mary of the Rosary (**with Fr. Vic Blazovich**)
- ♦ Sat., 12/17, 2:30 to 3:30 PM, St. Mary of the Rosary (usual time/place, but **with Fr. Brian Sattler**)
- ♦ Sunday, 12/18, 7 to 8 AM, Holy Ghost
- ♦ Tuesday, 12/20, 6 to 7 PM, Holy Ghost
- ♦ Wed., 12/21, 5:30 to 6:30 PM, St. Mary Rosary
- ♦ Friday, 12/23, 5 to 5:30 PM, Sacred Heart
- ♦ Sat., 12/24, 2 to 3 PM, St. Mary of the Rosary

Christmas Mass Schedule

Because Christmas is on a Sunday this year, there might be some confusion regarding the Mass schedule. The normal Sunday Mass schedule is suspended in favor of our usual Christmas Eve / Christmas Day Mass schedule:

- ♦ Saturday, 12/24, 4:00 PM, St. Mary of the Rosary (family Mass; youth group choir and ministers)
- ♦ Saturday, 12/24, 7:00 PM, Sacred Heart
- ♦ Saturday, 12/24, 10:00 PM, St. Mary of Rosary
- ♦ MIDNIGHT MASS, St. Joseph (Jump Off Joe)
- ♦ Sunday, 12/25, 9:00 AM, Holy Ghost

Parish Christmas Party

Everyone from our three parishes is invited to a Christmas gathering at St. Mary of the Parish hall on Sunday, December 18, from 5:00—7:00 PM. There will be music by the Chewelah Brass Quintet, Bingo & other activities, and a Sing-Along.

Please bring a potluck offering based on the first letter of your last name:

- **A—L**, please bring a casserole or main dish
- **M—R**, please bring a vegetable salad or side dish
- **S—Z**, please bring a dessert or jello or fruit salad

Holy Ghost Brunch Potluck

Sunday, December 11, is the second Sunday in December, and the monthly Holy Ghost brunch potluck takes place that day immediately after Mass. Please bring a breakfast item to share and enjoy some parish fellowship!

Knights of Columbus — Meeting is Wednesday, December 14, at 7:00 PM in the former convent.

Catholic Charities Christmas Collection

Without the faithful and generous support of our parishes, we could not continue to transform lives and bring compassion and dignity to over 70,000 vulnerable individuals each year. This Christmas, please donate to the Catholic Charities Collection. Your gift matters!

Food for the Poor

Would you like to contribute towards a house for "Food for the Poor"? We will collect donations through December, and early in January we will send a check to the organization with our request that it be used to provide a family with a house and a well. If 18 families provide a one-time gift of \$200, we can meet this goal. The donation for the well is already given.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Large Group Gathering

Our next Large-Group Gathering for *Family Faith Formation* is this Wednesday, December 7, 6:30 to 8:00 PM, at St. Mary of the Rosary parish hall. Fr. Jeff will be our presenter for the adult faith formation; children K-6 will be with their catechists in the St. Mary's School building. Our theme this month: "The Incarnation," covering Questions 72-74 in *The Apostolate's Family Catechism*. That same evening at 5:30 PM at St. Mary of the Rosary is the Vigil Mass for the Immaculate Conception, a Holy Day of Obligation. Come for Mass, stay for *Family Faith Formation!* Make it a full faith-filled evening. See you there!

By-Heart Catechism

72. Of all of God's works, which is the greatest? The Incarnation is God's greatest work, when God was made man to dwell among us: Jesus Christ, Who is fully God and fully man.

73. What does the Incarnation mean? God the Son became man, taking flesh (*in carx* is Latin for "in the flesh") and living among us.

74. Why did God the Son come into the world? Three main reasons: one, to bring us His own divine life; two, to save us from sin (the Name "Jesus" means "God saves"); three, to renew the world. ("Behold, I make all things new.")

The Season of Advent

The word "Advent" comes from the Latin *ad-venio* ("to come"). With Advent, the new Church year begins, and the faithful are encouraged to prepare worthily to celebrate the birth of the Lord on Christmas. This Advent preparation also helps the faithful be ready for the Lord's final coming as Judge, at death and at the end of the world.

Regarding Advent's historical origin: there is no evidence of Advent being celebrated as a liturgical season prior to the 4th Century because Christmas as such was not a widespread celebration prior to the 4th Century. When Christmas began to be celebrated throughout the whole Church, it was held on December 25 in the West, in near proximity to the winter solstice, when the days begin to get longer; the sun (the Son) returning; it was held on January 6 in the East, which was the date already commemorating the arrival in Bethlehem of the Magi from the East.

Regarding Advent's meaning: in ancient Advent hymns, we find praise for the coming of Christ, the Creator of the universe, as Redeemer, combined with prayer to the coming Judge of the world to protect us from the enemy. Similar ideas are expressed in the antiphons for the *Magnificat* on the last seven days before the Vigil of the Nativity. In them, the Church calls on the Divine Wisdom to teach us the way of prudence; on the Key of David to free us from bondage; on the Rising Sun to illuminate us sitting in darkness and the shadow of death, etc. In Advent Masses, this meaning of Advent is shown in the Church's choice of the Scripture readings and Gospels. The Church's liturgy takes us in spirit back to the time before the Incarnation of the Son of God.

Regarding Advent's ritual: in the Mass, the *Gloria* is omitted, but the *Alleluia* is retained (in Lent, both are omitted). Priests and deacons vest in violet vestments; an exception is made for the third Sunday (*Gaudete* Sunday), when the vestments may be rose-colored. Flowers should not be placed at the altar during Advent Masses, except on *Gaudete* Sunday.

Hopefully, these historical and ritualistic details regarding Advent can help us enter deeper into the spirit of penance and preparation that is the hallmark of what Advent is all about.

Communal Rosary for Healing, Health, and Well-Being of family and friends in need of our prayers immediately following 10:00 Mass Dec. 11.

Sacrament of Baptism: Parents contact Rev. Jeffrey Lewis for information.

Sacrament of Holy Matrimony: Couples contact Rev. Jeffrey Lewis at least four months prior to marriage.

Tri-Parish Office

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Parish Office Hours: Monday & Friday: 10:00—11:30 AM, 1:45—5:00 PM; Tuesday & Thursday, 10 AM-5 PM