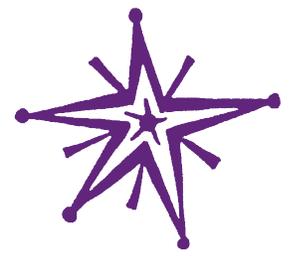


# Advent 2020

AT ST. ANTHONY DE PADUA CATHOLIC PARISH



Dear Saint Anthony Community,

This is sure to be an Advent like none we have experienced in most of our lifetimes. Even though we cannot observe every tradition and celebrate this time of preparation in every way we would like, we hope to bring you meaningful opportunities to help make your hearts ready for the Lord when he comes to dwell in them anew at Christmas.

For those of you who cannot attend the events we have listed, we will continue to send out emails and bulletins to you with resources to help you celebrate Advent wherever you are.

And for those who are struggling in any way this season, we are here to help. Please reach out to our parish with your needs at 574-282-2308.

As Christians, we can take comfort in knowing that the struggles and sorrows the pandemic has brought have not been forgotten or left unseen by the Lord. Although COVID-19 is in our midst, it is not stronger than Jesus, who God sent to dwell with us at the first Christmas, and who dwells with us *and* in us at every Eucharist. Christ, who the Father sent to this very earth on our behalf knows beyond measure the suffering each of us might endure, and beyond measure he loves each of us more than we can imagine.

We hope to see you if you are able to attend, and we will be praying for all of you in this beautiful parish community throughout Advent and always.

## Advent and Christmas at St. Anthony

*Advent and Christmas 2020 will look a little different this year, but we are committed to helping you prepare your hearts to receive Jesus at Christmas while maintaining the health and safety of our parish community.*

### Giving Tree: Saturday, November 21-December 6

Help a family in need by purchasing gifts from the tags located on the Giving Tree in the vestibule. The tree will be up on November 21, and tags can be mailed to anyone who cannot come to the church. **Gifts are due back by Dec. 6**, and help is needed for delivery on Dec. 12. Learn more at [www.stasb.org/GivingTree](http://www.stasb.org/GivingTree)

### Saint Nicholas Visit & Surprise, Saturday & Sunday December 5-6

Sunday, December 6 is the Feast of Saint Nicholas! The jovial and generous Bishop of Myra, will pay a special visit to St. Anthony **after all Masses on the Weekend of December 5-6**. Kids, he'll have a surprise for all parish families, so be sure to pickup yours!

### Advent Reconciliation Service: Thursday, December 10

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available with several priests starting at **6:15pm on Thursday, Dec. 10** (after 5:30pm Mass) until 7:00pm or the last person is served. Simply enter the church and follow signs to the confessor of your choosing. Resources on how to go to Confession along with a handy guide are available at [stasb.org/Reconciliation](http://stasb.org/Reconciliation).

### Comfort & Joy, Be the Light Gathering: Thursday, December 17

The St. Anthony Women's Group will gather on Thurs. **December 17 at 7:00pm** to assemble goodie boxes for Eucharistic Homebound parishioners. We'll have a gloved cookie exchange for the boxes that we'll decorate and assemble with hand-written notes. For full details and to RSVP, please visit [stasb.org/women](http://stasb.org/women).

### New! Christmas Eve Mass Times & Gym Seating, December 24

We will celebrate Mass for the Nativity of the Lord on **Thursday, December 24 at 4:00pm and 8:00pm**. We plan to provide additional seating in the gym building on Christmas Eve, where we hope to live-stream the Mass. **Christmas Day Mass** will be celebrated at **10:00am**. If you cannot attend in person, tune in to our live-stream Masses on Christmas Eve or view the recordings on our website at [www.stasb.org](http://www.stasb.org).

# Advent Events Calendar

All are invited to attend these opportunities for prayer, the sacraments, and celebration during this blessed Season of Advent.

## WEEK 1

### 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Let us walk in the light of the Lord! (Is 2:5)

#### NOV. 21- DEC. 6

##### Giving Tree

Help a family in need by purchasing gifts.

Take a tag and return your wrapped gifts with the tags attached by December 6.

#### DECEMBER 2

##### Family Rosary Live!

Join our Zoom Rosary at [stasb.org/AdventRosary](https://stasb.org/AdventRosary) 7:00pm Wednesdays in Advent

#### DECEMBER 5

##### Prepare Your Home for the Feast of Saint Nicholas

This is a wonderful feast day to celebrate at home.

Children leave shoes out the night before hoping to find a small treat in them on St. Nicholas Day!

For more information, visit [StNicholasCenter.org](https://StNicholasCenter.org)

## WEEK 2

### 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. (Mt 3:3)

#### DECEMBER 5-6

##### Visit from Saint Nicholas and Family Surprise

After all Masses Sat and Sun in the vestibule

#### DECEMBER 8

Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation Masses Dec. 7 at 5:30pm (vigil) Dec. 8 at 8:15am and 5:30pm

#### DECEMBER 9

##### Family Rosary Live!

Join our Zoom Rosary at [stasb.org/AdventRosary](https://stasb.org/AdventRosary) 7:00 pm Wednesdays in Advent

#### DECEMBER 10

##### Parish Reconciliation Service

Several Priests available for Reconciliation 6:15pm-7:00pm in the church or until the last person is served.

## WEEK 3

### GAUDETE SUNDAY!

They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song! (Is 35:2)

#### DECEMBER 12

##### Giving Tree Gift Delivery

We need your help! 9:00am in the church

#### DECEMBER 16

##### Family Rosary Live!

Join our Zoom Rosary at [stasb.org/AdventRosary](https://stasb.org/AdventRosary) 7:00pm Wednesdays in Advent

#### DECEMBER 17

##### Be the Light Gathering

Comfort & Joy! Goodie boxes for homebound parishioners.

7:00pm in the gym building RSVP appreciated.

#### DECEMBER 17-23

##### O Antiphons

On each day in the octave before Christmas.

For how to use antiphons in your daily prayers and traditions visit [stasb.org/AdventAndChristmas](https://stasb.org/AdventAndChristmas)

## WEEK 4

### 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel. (Mt 1:23)

#### DECEMBER 20

##### Church Decorating

Help decorate for Christmas Cookies & cocoa to go! 11:30am in the church

#### DECEMBER 23

##### Family Rosary Live!

Join our Zoom Rosary at [stasb.org/AdventRosary](https://stasb.org/AdventRosary) 7:00pm Wednesdays in Advent

## Christmas Masses

#### Christmas Eve

4:00pm and 8:00pm with live-stream & gym seating

#### Christmas Day, 10:00am

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God, December 31 at 5:30pm January 1 at 10:00am (Holy Day of Obligation)

## Faith Resources for Advent

Discover ways to grow closer to the Lord throughout Advent, at home or on the go, with your family or solo.

### PRAYER, DAILY REFLECTIONS & SCRIPTURE

#### Best Advent Ever: Let Your Soul Shine

from [DynamicCatholic.com](https://DynamicCatholic.com)

Quick, daily reflection videos delivered to your inbox.

#### Hallow

from [Hallow.app](https://Hallow.app)

A Catholic meditation and prayer app.

#### Advent Gospel Reflections

from [AdventReflections.com](https://AdventReflections.com)

Bishop Barron, from Word on Fire, offers daily reflections on the Gospel reading via email.

### FAMILY ACTIVITIES, GUIDES, AND BLESSINGS

#### 3D Nativity Coloring Kit

from [McGrath.nd.edu/Resources](https://McGrath.nd.edu/Resources)

#### Treasury of Digital & Print Resources and Activities

from [LoyolaPress.com/Advent](https://LoyolaPress.com/Advent)

Advent Wreath Blessing, Jesse Tree Crafts, Advent Calendars, Crafts, Digital Retreats for Kids and Adults, & more.

#### Reconciliation Guide

from [stasb.org/Reconciliation](https://stasb.org/Reconciliation)

Video, guide on the sacrament, and a step by step cheat sheet for the confessional.

For more information visit [stasb.org](https://stasb.org)