



## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES



### Christmas Eve—Sunday, December 24

† 4:00 pm – Family Mass; Pageant & Live Animals, Main Church

▶ ALSO LIVESTREAMS

† 7:00 pm – Old Madeleine Church • *With Madeleine Musicians & Jazz Trio*

† Midnight – Main Church • *The Madeleine Choir & Chamber Orchestra; Carols 11:20*

### Christmas Day—Monday, December 25

† 9:00 am – *NOTE: NEW TIME!* • Main Church • *The Madeleine Choir & Guest Musicians*

## CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES: NOTES & REQUESTS

When arriving for Christmas Eve Masses, please be respectful of all.

### Respect our honored citizens

Several pews will be reserved for honored citizens for whom getting around is not as easy as it once was.

Also, look around! If you are fit and able, and see someone who is in greater need of the seat than yourself, please offer

them a place to sit.

### Speaking of seats, please don't save

It's a dubious tradition here—people using coats, papers, ribbons, prone bodies, etc., to save vast swaths of seats for late-arriving friends and family.

Please, on this night, let's not do that. Bring your entire family early, and enjoy the pre-Mass music together. Thank you!

## Ministries, teachers, service groups— send us photos by December 19

Please send in photos by December 19 for the annual *The Madeleine in Service* edition of our parish bulletin on Christmas! [www.themadeleine.edu/photos](http://www.themadeleine.edu/photos)

## Third Sunday of Advent

TODAY WE ARE IN THE RHYTHM of both gratitude and yearning. We are learning to be a patient people, continuing on, grateful but also impatient, in hope. We don't give up hoping just because some of the things we long for in God's reign of peace and justice have already happened. We're there, and yet we're not. So much remains unfinished; so many have not yet experienced what has been promised.

### MASS NOTES: DECEMBER 23-24, 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Yes, even though Christmas Eve is on Sunday next weekend, we do still celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent on Saturday, December 23 and Sunday, December 24. Mass times will be as usual for a weekend...**Saturday, 5:00 pm, Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:00 am.** Confessions will also be held as usual at 4:40 pm Saturday in the Main Church.

### PRAY FOR OUR FAITHFULLY DEPARTED

- ▶ Keith Kern
- ▶ Michael Lavin
- ▶ Jack Evans
- ▶ Debbie Laskowski

### PRAYER REQUESTS

For those who are ill, or in need of our prayers

- ▶ Fr. John McGrann
- ▶ Ed Fenzl
- ▶ John Keith
- ▶ Aaron Stevenson

### WORSHIP & PRAYER

- 12/19, Tues. .... Ron Hunerlach †
- 12/20, Weds. .... Michelle Bell †
- 12/21, Thurs. .... Ronald Krebs †
- 12/22, Fri. .... Michael Lavin †
- 12/23, Sat. .... Margie O'Connell
- 12/24, Sun, 8:00 am, The Madeleine Community
- 10:00 am, .... Betty Couch †
- 4:00 pm, .... Ed Reilly †
- 7:00 pm, .... Christie Kmetz †
- Midnight .... Donna Hendrickson †
- 12/25, Mon, 9:00 am The Madeleine Community

# Calendar This Week

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

▶ Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 am: Mass—Church

10:00 am: Mass—Church  **ALSO LIVESTREAMS-**

11:30 am: RCIA—St. Catherine Room

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

9:00 am: St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Box Assembly—Parish Hall

10:00 am: Discerning Catholic—St. Catherine Rm

6:30 pm: FA Meeting—Fireside Rm

7:00 pm: Madeleine Choir—Church

7:00 pm: 45th Parallel Concert—Old Church

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 am: Mass—Church

9:00 am: St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Box Assembly—Parish Hall

9:00 am: Adoration—Church

7:00 pm: Madeleine Singers—Church.

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00 am: Mass—Church

9:00 am: St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Box Assembly—Parish Hall

7:00 pm: Madeleine Choir—Church

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00 am: Mass—Church

9:00 am: St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Box Assembly—Parish Hall

4:00 pm: Confessions—Church

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00 am: Mass—Church

9:00 am: St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Box Assembly—Parish Hall

9:00 am: Confessions—Church

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

10:00 am: Christmas Pageant Practice—Church

5:00 pm: Mass—Church

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

▶ Fourth Sunday of Advent

▶ Christmas Eve

8:00 am: 4th Sunday of Advent Mass—Church

10:00 am: 4th Sunday of Advent Mass—Church

4:00 pm: Christmas Eve Mass—Church

 **ALSO LIVESTREAMS-**

7:00 pm: Christmas Eve Mass—Old Church

Midnight: Midnight Mass—Church

## MONDAY, DECEMBER 15

▶ Christmas Day

9:00 am: Christmas Mass—Church

## SAVE THE DATE

▶ **Wine Tasting:** Postponed to Feb. 3, 2024

▶ **Ash Wednesday:** February 14, 2024

▶ **Lent Begins:** February 15, 2024

▶ **Easter Sunday:** March 31, 2024

# PARISH LIFE

## St. Vincent de Paul Needs Your Help



In today's Gospel John the Baptist says, "I am the voice of one crying in the desert; make straight the way of the Lord." Let us ask for the grace to help others to know the love of the Lord. Christmas is a time of love and gift giving...please give to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that those who do not have food and clothing can share in the blessings of Christmas.

—Mary Clare O'Brien, 503-309-7639

## MADELEINE BOOK CLUB

Joyous Christmas greetings to each of you as we await the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ, the Light of The World.



We invite you to join our discussion group in the New Year. We are currently reading *Mystic Tea*, by Rea Nolan Martin to be reviewed in January. For complete reading list and other details, please contact our ministry coordinator Gretchen Stevenson at gypsyfrau47@yahoo.com or call 503-312-6834.

## MARRIAGE SAVING—THE WEEKEND PHASE

During the weekend phase of Retrouvaille, a series of presentations are given by a team of three couples and a priest. The team presents a technique of communication that enables you to take a good look at most areas of your relationship. After each presentation you have time in the privacy of your room to discuss the previous presentation. Retrouvaille is for any couple who would like to rediscover their marriage and improve communication.

Visit [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org) for program information and emotional testimonials. For confidential information or to register for the January 26-28, 2024 weekend at Our Lady of Peace Retreat Center in Beaverton, Oregon, call (503) 225-9191.

## Adoration and Prayer for Peace

December 30 • Led by Therese Fenzl

9:00 am–10:00 am—Hour of Adoration and Prayer for Peace in our Country and World.

## A NOTE ABOUT FR. JOHN MCGRANN

Fr. Bonaventure shares this note:

*I spoke with Father John today [Thursday]. He let me know he is anticipating a medical procedure after Christmas, and although he is otherwise doing well, he would very much appreciate the prayer and support of The Madeline community. He's expecting to celebrate the 7:00 pm Mass on Christmas Eve about which I'm delighted! Please keep Fr. John in your prayers.*

## THE MADELEINE IS HIRING: EVENT COORDINATORS

Part-time opportunity • Flexible hours

The parish is looking to hire Event Coordinators to assist with use of event rental spaces. Responsibilities include set up and take down of event spaces, maintaining relationships and professionalism with clients, and overseeing the responsibilities of dishwashers and bussers. We are looking for someone who is personable and can maintain a high attention to detail in a fast paced environment. Hours are flexible and are on an "as needed" basis. Apply or information: My Schoning: [mhoang@themadeleine.edu](mailto:mhoang@themadeleine.edu)

## ANNUAL SOCK DRIVE—IT'S NOT TOO LATE

Please join us in helping our neighbors in need this winter. The Madeleine Knights of Columbus and The Madeleine School are sponsoring the annual Sock Drive. Blue barrels are in the church vestibule and the school entrance.

*NOTE: Please look for socks with a wool blend and no cotton.* Socks will be donated to those in need through Transition Projects and Saint André Bessette.

Don't have time to go sock shopping? Or would you prefer we take your cash and purchase wool socks in bulk? Just scan the QR code at right, or drop off a donation at the Parish Office.



# PARISH STEWARDSHIP AND END-OF-YEAR GIVING

Visit [www.themadeleine.edu/christmasgiving](http://www.themadeleine.edu/christmasgiving)

Each year, we budget for separate Christmas donations in addition to our regular Sunday offertory....and it's almost as much as a typical month's collection amount. This year is particularly tricky as Christmas Eve is on Sunday and Christmas on Monday, so remembering two collections that weekend can be challenging.

As you know, your donations are what keep our parish working. So if you are able, please take a moment to consider The Madeleine this holiday season.

### Parish Stewardship Drive

If you did not have the opportunity to make your pledge for the 2023-24 fiscal year during our main Stewardship Drive in May, please consider doing so today. If you are regularly contributing, but did not complete a pledge card, doing so can help us know to "count on" your generous gifts.

This campaign is the backbone of our parish budget, offering us the financial stability and means to keep our parish running smoothly and carrying out our ministries to the community.

We know there are a lot of asks for donations at this time of year. And even through the years of the pandemic—prudent fiscal management and good response to our Stewardship Campaign have kept your parish on strong financial footing.

### Matching Gifts

Many employers will match tax-deductible contributions. If you work for such a company, please consider checking to see if either The Madeleine or The Madeleine School is eligible.

### Many ways to give

In addition to regular stewardship via Sunday donations, there are many ways to support The Madeleine:

- One-time gifts
- Estate planning or bequests
- Life Insurance
- Appreciated securities
- Real estate and personal property.

If you wish to consider an additional gift to The Madeleine, please contact My Schoning, Business Manager at 503-281-5777 or [mhoang@themadeleine.edu](mailto:mhoang@themadeleine.edu)

**Important:** For your donation to be included in 2023 year-end statements, please have donations to the parish office by end of business day December 31. Online donations available at [www.themadeleine.edu/christmasgiving](http://www.themadeleine.edu/christmasgiving)

## ADORATION: SEND HIM A SPIRITUAL BOUQUET

How pleased Jesus must be to receive even a simple spiritual bouquet as a Christmas gift. With His everlasting eyes and heart of infancy, He would see its true value, as He did when He praised the widow who gave her last two coins to the temple. Our smallest efforts of promised prayers

or good works for anyone, faithfully carried out, give our Creator great delight. In Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, we can ask Him to suggest such a gift to make for Him, knowing it will be no less acceptable than the gifts of the Magi.

*Tuesday Adoration begins after the 8 am Mass, and ends at 2 pm.*

## SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BEDDING DRIVE

Through Christmas, Sleep in Heavenly Peace is accepting bedding donations at The Madeleine. Please look for the blue bins located in the church vestibule or bring your donations to the Parish Office during business hours.

Sleep in Heavenly Peace has provided 300 beds to children in the Portland area. Many of those beds were built and delivered by Madeleine parishioners and provided with sheets, blankets and pillows from Madeleine bedding drives.

Bedding needs to be for **twin size beds** (not extra long, please) sheet sets, blankets and comforters, mattress protectors and pillows. All donations must be new and still in the original packaging.



## WEEKLY MASS TIMES

### Regular Mass Times:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday . . . . . 8:00 am  
 Thursday . . . . . School days: 2:00 pm  
 Days school not in session: 8:00 am  
 Saturday Vigil . . . . . 5:00 pm  
 Sunday . . . . . 8:00 am, 10:00 am

**Penance** . . . . . Saturday, 4:00–4:40 pm  
**Adoration** . . . . . Tuesdays, 9:00 am–2:00 pm

## PARISH OFFICE

**Hours** . . . . . Monday–Friday, 9:00 am–3:00 pm  
**Phone:** 503-281-5777 . . . . . **Fax:** 503-281-0673  
**School Office** . . . . . 503-288-9197

## PARISH STAFF

- Rev. Bonaventure Rummell**—Administrator  
[fatherbonaventure@themadeleine.edu](mailto:fatherbonaventure@themadeleine.edu) . . . ext. 111  
**Deacon Mike O'Mahoney**—Permanent Deacon  
[deaconmike@themadeleine.edu](mailto:deaconmike@themadeleine.edu)  
**Tresa Rast**—School Principal  
[trast@themadeleine.edu](mailto:trast@themadeleine.edu) . . . . . 503-288-9197  
**Darlene Maurer**—Pastoral Assistant  
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**My Schoning**—Business Manager  
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**Linda Scheurman**—Bookkeeper  
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**Therese Fenzl**—Director of Spiritual Ministries  
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**Maria Manzo**—Director of Music  
[mmanzo@themadeleine.edu](mailto:mmanzo@themadeleine.edu) . . . . . ext. 113  
**Guy Allen**—Facilities Manager, Events Manager  
[gallen@themadeleine.edu](mailto:gallen@themadeleine.edu)  
**Janeen Reilly**—Parish Administrator  
[jreilly@themadeleine.edu](mailto:jreilly@themadeleine.edu) . . . . . ext. 110  
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**Julie Kupers**—Special Events  
[jkupers@themadeleine.edu](mailto:jkupers@themadeleine.edu) . . . . . 720-936-5635  
**Rich Hammons**—Director of Communications  
[rhammons@themadeleine.edu](mailto:rhammons@themadeleine.edu) . . . . . ext. 129

## SACRAMENTS

- Funerals, Infant Baptism**—  
 Darlene Maurer . . . . . ext. 125  
**Marriages, Anointing of the Sick**—  
 Fr. Bonaventure Rummell . . . . . ext. 111  
**First Reconciliation, First Eucharist**—  
 Rose Horton . . . [sac-prep@themadeleine.edu](mailto:sac-prep@themadeleine.edu)  
**RCIA**—Donna Mason . [rcia@themadeleine.edu](mailto:rcia@themadeleine.edu)  
**Confirmation**—Therese Fenzl . . . . . ext. 116

## COUNCILS & CONTACTS

- Pastoral Council**—Amy Moran . . .617-470-7926  
**Finance Council**—Jim Jones . . . . . 503-284-3301  
**Buildings & Grounds**—Erin Couch . . .503-281-9575  
**School Advisory**—Tim Resch . . . . .503-984-4607  
**Facility Requests**—[themadeleine.edu/facilities](http://themadeleine.edu/facilities)  
**Maintenance Requests**—My Schoning  
[mhoang@themadeleine.edu](mailto:mhoang@themadeleine.edu) . . . . . ext. 114  
**Knights of Columbus**—  
 Dan O'Donnell . . . . . 503-440-9415  
**Ministry Schedule**  
[www.themadeleine.edu/minister-schedule](http://www.themadeleine.edu/minister-schedule)

**Bulletin submissions due 5:00 pm Tuesday**  
 Email to [bulletin@themadeleine.edu](mailto:bulletin@themadeleine.edu)

# In Memoriam

## THE MADELEINE FAMILY REMEMBERS

### KEITH E. KERN

A Funeral Mass was held for Keith Kern on Friday, December 15, 10:00 am at The Madeleine.

Keith Edward Kern, age 88, of Beaverton, Oregon, passed away Saturday afternoon, November 25, 2023, at Providence St. Vincent Medical Center, Portland, Oregon, following a prolonged illness with multiple medical complications.

Born November 21, 1935, in Portland, Oregon to the late Carl H. and Grace (Sheffield) Kern, Keith grew up in the Irvington neighborhood in Northeast Portland where he developed many of his life-long friends and attended Madeleine Grammar School. He attended St. Martin's Academy, an all-boys boarding school in Lacey, Washington, for one year and, after a short attendance at Grant High School, attended Central Catholic High School in Portland, where he was a co-captain of the basketball team. He subsequently graduated in 1954 from Columbia Preparatory School in Portland.

Keith was a Korean War Veteran, having proudly served in the U.S. Army from 1954-1956 as part of the German Occupation Forces stationed in Baumholder, Germany. He was a Personnel Specialist at Headquarters, was on the 5th Army Boxing Team, and served three terms as President of the Enlisted Men's Club, the largest enlisted men's club in Europe at that time.

In 1957, Keith married Sharron Matlock and, together, they raised six of his seven children in the Lake Oswego area near Portland. They divorced in 1979.

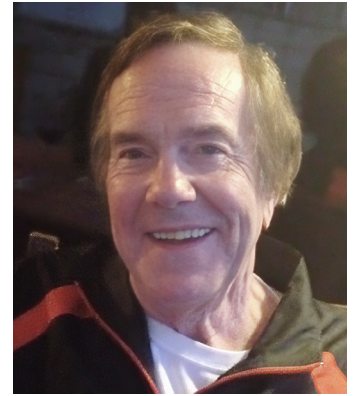
On May 28, 1983, Keith married Jayne Holthaus at St. Patrick Church near Fort Loramie, Ohio and, together, they raised their son, Kyle, in the Gales Creek and Beaverton areas

near Portland. They had recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary.

Keith worked as a salesman for Peter-Paul Volkswagen, Dee Thomason Ford, Smith's Home Furnishings, and R. Rich & Co., before becoming self-employed in security lock sales. He was an avid racquetball player, and enjoyed family activities, greyhound and horse racing, chess, craps, and spending time in his man-cave discussing life, sports, current events, and politics with his family and friends. His outgoing personality, sense of humor, and warm, friendly smile were shared freely with family, friends, acquaintances and strangers alike.

In addition to his wife, Jayne, survivors include his children, Stephen (Dana), Daniel, Gregory, Julie Oka, Douglas, Sheri (Boyd) Hamilton, and Kyle; grandchildren, Courtney (Karl), Kelsey, Clayton, Jessica, Kevin, Matthew (Isabel), Kayley, Bennie, Chelsea, Mitchell, Taylor, Terah and Krysta; great-grandchildren, Coen, Cy, Laszlo, Eloise, Zuri and Hayden; sister, Clara Reames; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his grandson, David Oka; and sisters, Joanne Thompson and Sara Warren.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to The Madeleine Parish or the charity of your choice.



*Please pray for Keith, his family, and all the faithfully departed from The Madeleine*

World class virtuosity coming to Northeast Portland!

45th Parallel Universe  
presents

## ELLINGTON'S NUTCRACKER SUITE

Monday, December 18  
The Old Madeleine Church  
7:00 pm

Featuring The North Pole Cello Sextet



Purchase tickets at

[45THPARALLELPDX.ORG](http://45THPARALLELPDX.ORG)



45<sup>TH</sup> PARALLEL  
UNIVERSE

# RMD for 2023?

If you are at least 70½ years of age and are required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA, you can donate part or all of that distribution to The Madeleine, tax free! For information, contact parish Business Manager, My Schoning, 503-281-5777 or [mhoang@themadeleine.edu](mailto:mhoang@themadeleine.edu)

## PARISH LIFE



### Upcoming Concerts

OC=Old Madeleine Church MC=Main Church

- ▶ **Dec. 18, 7:00 pm** OC • 45th Parallel Universe • Ellington's Nutcracker Suite • 45thparallelpdx.org
- ▶ **Feb. 6, 7:00 pm** OC • 45th Parallel Universe • Teresa and Florence • 45thparallelpdx.org
- ▶ **Jan. 21, 2:00 pm** OC • CDZ Collegium Music of Argentina • cdzcollegiummusica.org
- ▶ **Feb. 11, 3:00 pm** OC • Bravo! Concerts Northwest, Quartet for the End of Time • bravoconcerts.com

## CATHOLIC FRIENDSHIP GROUP

The Catholic Friendship Group is for single Catholics ages 40 to 60 throughout the Archdiocese of Portland who are looking to grow in faith and fellowship! Join us for our Christmas Party potluck and game night on Friday, December 22nd from 7:00-8:30pm at St. Birgitta Parish (11820 NW St. Helens Rd.). For more info see [www.catholicfriendshipgroup.com](http://www.catholicfriendshipgroup.com)

“To celebrate Mary is to celebrate the closeness and tenderness of God who meets His people, who does not leave us alone, who has given us a Mother who cares for us and accompanies us.”

—Pope Francis via X (Twitter) @pontifex

“Jesus says to every believer and to his Church: be open because the Gospel message needs you to witness to it and proclaim it! Church, be open to the breath of the Holy Spirit who pushes you to be missionary, to evangelize!”

—Pope Francis via X (Twitter) @pontifex

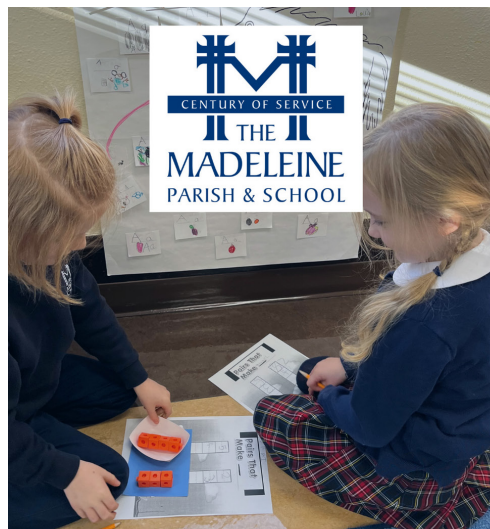
# MADELEINE PARISH CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CHRISTMAS EVE MASS NATIVITY STORY. THERE WILL BE TWO PRACTICES THAT WE ASK YOU TO ATTEND. DURING THIS TIME WE WILL ASSIGN PARTS AND DO A RUN THROUGH OF THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT. WE ARE ALSO IN NEED OF ADULTS WHO CAN SUPERVISE THE SHEPHERDS IN THE FIRESIDE ROOM AND THE ANGELS IN THE FRONT OF CHURCH. PLEASE EMAIL US IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP IN EITHER OF THESE ADULT ROLES.

**Meet at the Front Church Doors for Required Practices:**  
**Tuesday, December 12th 3:30-4:30pm**  
**& Saturday December 23rd 10-11am**

If you are unable to make a practice, please email  
**Theresa - [theresamwikander@gmail.com](mailto:theresamwikander@gmail.com)**  
**OR Anna - [annakmoran@gmail.com](mailto:annakmoran@gmail.com)**

**Thank you!**



CENTURY OF SERVICE  
THE MADELEINE  
PARISH & SCHOOL

Our PreK students are encouraged to participate in an active learning process — to ask questions, consider deeply, reflect mindfully, and contemplate the larger social world of shared experiences and opportunities.

The world is interesting and learning is fun. So why not teach children to discover it for themselves....

## THE MADELEINE SCHOOL PRE-K

ENROLLING FOR FALL 2024



Our PreK classroom invites an emergent curriculum, one that celebrates each individual child and what they can bring to the community of learners, while also capturing student curiosity, prior knowledge, and cognitive skill sets.

# ADVENT

## THREE COMPANIONS FOR OUR JOURNEY

**The Season of Advent** makes our journey toward Christmas more meaningful by revealing our deepest longings and greatest hopes, and teaching us to focus all our desires on Jesus Christ. Advent celebrates three dimensions of Christ's coming—first into the world some two thousand years ago, second into our hearts right now, and finally in his coming at the end of time.

As you journey through Advent, you will begin to understand Jesus more fully and recognize that his birth began our redemption and that his return in glory will complete it. Advent draws together the joy of his arrival as a helpless babe with the hope of his return when evil will finally be eradicated from our world.

Advent also presents us with **three companions** for our journey who speak to us about matters of the heart—about longing, fulfillment and hope.

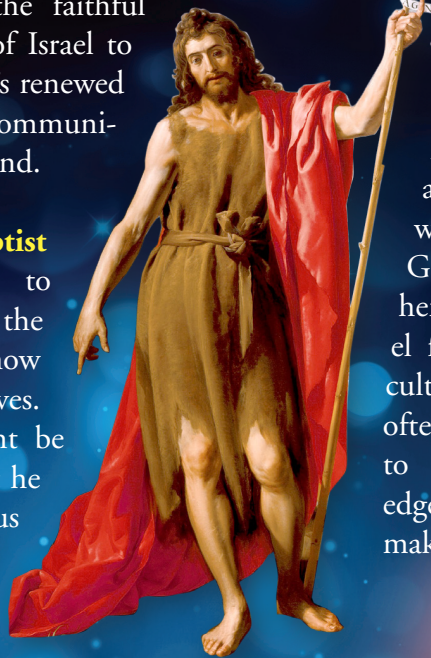
### Isaiah

The great prophet foretold the coming of the promised Messiah and his kingdom. Isaiah's words are remembered especially during Advent because of his confident hope that God would restore the faithful remnant of Israel to live as God's renewed covenant community in their land.



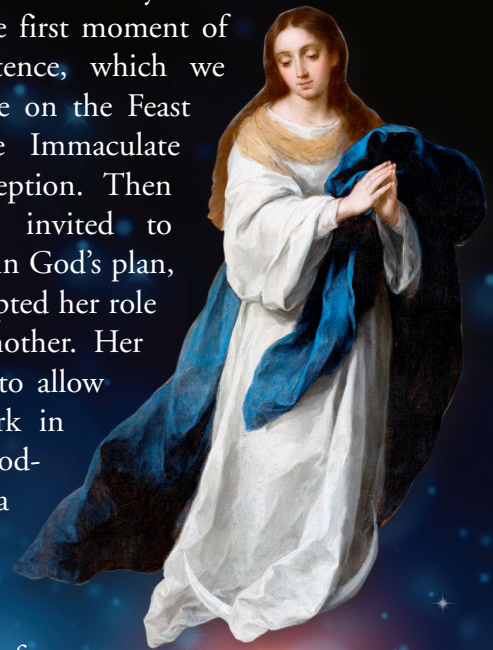
### John the Baptist

John announced to the people that Jesus, the Messiah, had finally come and now was the time to change their lives. While some thought John might be the Messiah, he knew clearly that he was only the messenger and Jesus was the promised one. When we look carefully at our lives and those of others, we learn what we must change to follow him.



### Mary

Mary was transformed by God's grace from the first moment of her existence, which we celebrate on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Then when invited to share in God's plan, Mary accepted her role as Jesus' mother. Her willingness to allow God to work in her life is a model for us in a culture that often refuses to acknowledge God and fears to make any commitment.



# Origins of Advent

Advent began sometime after the 4th century as a time of preparation for Epiphany—not in anticipation of Christmas. Epiphany celebrates the manifestation of Christ by remembering the visit of the Magi and the baptism of Jesus. At this time new Christians were baptized and received into the faith, and so the early Church instituted a 40-day period of fasting and repentance.

Later, in the 6th century, Pope St. Gregory the Great was the first to associate this season of Advent with the coming of Christ. Originally it was not the coming of the Christ-child that was anticipated, but rather, the second coming of Christ.

By the Middle Ages the Church had extended the celebration of Advent to the familiar format we know today. The early weeks are rich with the prophecies of Isaiah, reminding us to wait and prepare for the coming Messiah. Later, the pace quickens and we focus more directly on the events leading up to Jesus' birth.



## The Three Arrivals of Christ

### Jesus Comes in Human History

Our celebration of Christmas focuses on the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem. The Christmas crèche at home or in the church, Christmas pageants and liturgies all help us recall the moment Jesus was born as a human being to live his destiny as the Son of God and our redeemer.

### Jesus Comes in Our Hearts

Alive and among us through the Holy Spirit, Jesus continually reaches out to us. Advent renews our desire for the daily coming of Jesus as we recall the story of our salvation and look forward to the coming of the kingdom. We “wait in joyful hope,” as the eucharistic liturgy says, for the coming of that kingdom.

### Jesus Comes in Glory

The haunting melody and refrains of *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* serve to remind us of our longing for the completion of Christ's reign at the end of time. This season gives special meaning to the phrase from the Lord's Prayer, “thy kingdom come.”

# ADVENT F • A • Q

### What is the origin of the Advent Wreath?

The origin dates to pre-Christian Germany and Scandinavia where the people gathered to celebrate the return of the sun after the winter solstice. For us, the lighting of the Advent candles represents the promise of the coming of Jesus, the light of the world.

### Why is the rose-colored candle lit on the third Sunday of Advent?

The third Sunday of Advent is known as *Gaudete Sunday* because in Latin, the first words of the opening antiphon for that day's Mass are *Gaudete in Domino semper* (Rejoice in the Lord always) from Philippians 4:4-5. On this Sunday a rose-colored candle is lit as a reminder that we are called to rejoice.

### Was St. Nicholas Real?

Yes, St. Nicholas (270-343) was the Bishop of Myra (now Demre in southwest Turkey). He was imprisoned during Emperor Diocletian's persecution (303-5) and attended the first ecumenical council at Nicaea (325). Famous for his pastoral care, the many legendary stories of his charitable deeds became the basis for the figure of Santa Claus.

### What is a Jesse Tree?

An ancient tradition revived in the mid-20th century as an Advent practice, the Jesse Tree represents the family of Jesse, father of King David. Each day of Advent a home-made ornament is added to the Jesse Tree, a small tree made of evergreen branches. These symbolic ornaments each represent a prophecy foretelling of Christ.



## MASS READINGS FOR ADVENT 2023

- First Sunday** . . . . . Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7  
1 Corinthians 1:3-9 • Mark 13:33-37
- Second Sunday** . . . . . Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11  
2 Peter 3:8-14 • Mark 1:1-8
- Third Sunday** . . . . . Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11  
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 • John 1:6-8, 19-28
- Fourth Sunday** . . . . . 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Romans 16:25-27 • Luke 1:26-38



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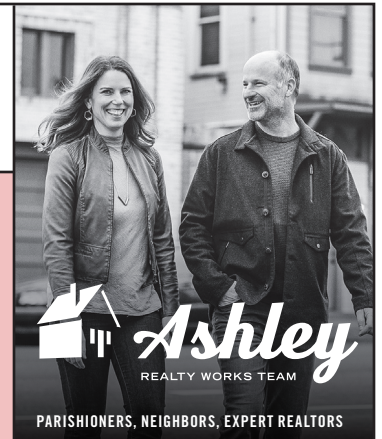
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