

St. Joseph's Catholic Church



Risen Lord Catholic Church



All Saints Catholic Church



ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS



St. Joseph's Catholic Church

78 St. Josephs Lane
Woodlawn VA 24381-1101
Sunday English Mass 11:30am
Spanish Mass: 2:30 PM
Daily Mass: Wednesday & Friday
9:00am
Spanish Weekday Mass : Thurs. 6:00
pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Before Mass 11:00-11:15 am

Risen Lord Catholic Church

59 Mountain View Park
Stuart, VA 24133
Sunday Mass: 8:30 AM
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sun. 7:45-
8:15am

All Saints Catholic Church

598 Needmore Lane, NE
Floyd, VA 24091 (540)763-6000
Mass: English
Saturday Vigil at 5:00 PM
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 4:15-
4:45pm
First Saturday of the month: Traditional Lat-
in Mass 10am, followed by Holy Hour and
Benediction.

Father Herman Katongole, Pastor

Pastor's E-mail: [pas-
tor@stjosephswoodlawn.org](mailto:pas-tor@stjosephswoodlawn.org)
**Ken Miller - Admin. Assistant/
Bookkeeper**
Office Hours : Tue-Thu 8:00 AM- 3:00PM
E-mail: office@stjosephswoodlawn.org
Website for all parishes: [http://
stjosephswoodlawn.org](http://stjosephswoodlawn.org)
Mailing Address for All Parishes
78 St. Josephs Lane
Woodlawn, Virginia 24381-1101
(276)236-7814



MASS SCHEDULE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

December 7- 5:00PM All Saints Floyd
December 8- 9:00AM St. Joseph (English)
December 8- Noon Risen Lord
December 8- 6:00PM St Joseph (Spanish)

VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

Las Mañanitas de la virgen de Guadalupe serán de las 11:45PM a la
1:30 el 11 de Diciembre y la misa será el 12 a la tendremos el ultimo
Rosario de la novena y misa a las 2:30 y después habrá un convivio

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24- 5:00PM All Saints Floyd
December 24- 8:00PM St Joseph (English)

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25- 8:30AM Risen Lord
December 25- 11:30AM St Joseph (English)
December 25- 2:30PM St Joseph (Spanish)

December 26- 8:30AM Risen Lord
December 26- 11:30AM St Joseph (English)
December 26- 2:30PM St Joseph (Spanish)

NEW YEARS DAY 2022

January 1- 10:00AM All Saints Floyd (Latin Mass)
January 1- 5:00 PM All Saints Floyd (English)

**ALL MASSES ON JANUARY 2, 2022 WILL BE AT NORMAL
TIMES AND LOCATIONS**



St. Joseph Pastoral Council:

Mickey Dubs	276-236-5688
Richard Koske	276-235-0142
Ken Miller	276-779-4068
Fabian Hernandez	276-728-0130
Gregorio Sierra	276-233-8954
Cristina Hernandez	276-233-0518

St. Joseph Finance Council:

Barbara Dwyer	276-728-2045
Olga Carranza Torres	276-238-4635
Michael Riccitiello	276-728-0130
Amy Theuer	276-744-2613

Risen Lord Pastoral Council:

John Abadie	276-930-2298
Marcus Brinks	
Julia Hennessy	276-694-3883
Nichols Hughes	276-694-5471
Trevor Foltz	276-957-1503
Stephanie Flores	571-926-0297

Risen Lord Finance Council:

John Coffey	276-694-4360
Helen Barnard	276-694-3504
Sue Ann Ehmann	276-957-4479
Jim Keesee	276-591-7013
Steve Jones	276-591-7013

All Saints Pastoral Council :

Dan Bowen	804-405-3739
JJ Mammi	540-763-2253
Monica Ogle	540-789-4789
Dana Postiglione	919-201-6449
Kevin Stokes	540-312-5841
Vickey Borin	704-534-9108
John Wells	276-728-9439

All Saints Finance Council:

Lorna Wanner	540-929-8006
Nanette Showalter	540-789-4123
Chris Borin	704-534-9108

FATHER HERMAN'S CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

God has brought us again to this festive season of the year when we joyfully celebrate a couple of days that derive all their importance from the Birth of Jesus Christ on Christmas. Christmas is undoubtedly a very important festival, a feast which we celebrate in our emotional and special way.

On Christmas we celebrate the word that became flesh through incarnation. God is now with us, He is Emmanuel, he is no longer in the abstract, however, this Incarnation of God poses a great challenge to us. Jesus said, "Be perfect as the heavenly Father is perfect".

In other words, Jesus now becomes the benchmark or the model of our life as God's adopted children. We cannot anymore hide behind the old saying that we cannot move forward on account of the frailty of our human nature. Through Jesus we can achieve what he has achieved, for he was also human like us.

For us Christians and Catholics in particular Christmas reminds us of Jesus' coming which is in three ways. First, Jesus came in history when he was born at Bethlehem, which is what we celebrate every Christmas. Second, Jesus will come again in glory at the end of time. Third, Jesus comes to us always through the ordinary events and people in our lives, in prayer and sacraments especially in the daily celebration of the Eucharist.

The four-week period preceding Christmas commonly known as advent, offers us that great opportunity of spiritually preparing ourselves for this great event. The best way to practically prepare ourselves, is to recognize the daily coming of the Lord in the ordinary events and people in our lives.

That is why we are called upon to reach out to others (and kindly respond to those who come to us) and share with them what the Lord has blessed us with. These can include food items and other necessities of life.

We can share our precious time with the needy around us by visiting the sick in homes and hospitals, the elderly, the bereaved families, those in prisons, etc. All these will help us to prepare ourselves for the Lord's coming.



We have to make at least one person more comfortable, happier, more appreciated during this holy season of Advent. Advent is a time when we expect mercy and liberation because our Lord, the King of the universe comes to reign over his people. He is the Lamb that takes away the sins of the world.

As Christians, we have to take on the message of John the Baptist who prepared the people to receive the Messiah. His message was on preparing the way of the Lord, he was encouraging them to set their life straight to deserve welcoming the messiah.

We need to repent and seek forgiveness from God and those we have injured: John's message calls us to confront and confess our sins. We need to turn away from them in sincere repentance and receive God's forgiveness.

Next, we need to forgive others who have offended us and ask forgiveness for our offenses. Jesus explicitly declares: "For if you forgive men their transgressions, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men, then your Father will not forgive your transgressions."

By all means, let us rejoice! God is with us in Jesus. But we have to face the challenge to remain pleasing in the eyes of the Lord all the days of our life. May this Season of Advent bring us the grace of true repentance and conversion to the Lord.

I appreciate your generous contribution towards the success of pastoral ministry in our parishes since the beginning of this year.

My prayer is that Jesus be reborn in your heart and life during Christmas and every day of the New Year 2022. May He radiate His presence from within you to others through unconditional forgiveness and humble service.

May the Holy Baby of Bethlehem bless you with health in body and soul and grant you a peaceful and blessed New Year. Let us pray for one another during our Christmas Holy Masses and every day in the New Year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

MENSAJE DE NAVIDAD DEL PADRE HERMAN



Dios nos ha vuelto a traer a esta época festiva del año en la que celebramos con alegría un par de días que derivan toda su importancia del Nacimiento de Jesucristo en Navidad. La Navidad es sin duda una fiesta muy importante, una fiesta que celebramos de nuestra manera emotiva y especial. En Navidad celebramos la palabra que se renovó a través de la encarnación. Dios ahora está con nosotros, es Emmanuel, ya no está en abstracto, sin embargo, esta Encarnación de Dios nos plantea un gran desafío. Jesús dijo: "Sed perfectos como el Padre celestial es perfecto".

En otras palabras, Jesús ahora se convierte en el punto de referencia o el modelo de nuestra vida como hijos

adoptivos de Dios. Ya no podemos escondernos detrás del viejo dicho de que no podemos avanzar debido a la fragilidad de nuestra naturaleza humana. A través de Jesús podemos lograr lo que él ha logrado, porque él también fue humano como nosotros.

Para nosotros, cristianos y católicos, en particular, la Navidad nos recuerda la venida de Jesús, que es de tres maneras. Primero, Jesús entró en la historia cuando nació en Belén, que es lo que celebramos cada Navidad. En segundo lugar, Jesús vendrá de nuevo en gloria al final de los tiempos. En tercer lugar, Jesús viene a nosotros siempre a través de los acontecimientos ordinarios y de las personas de nuestra vida, en la oración y los sacramentos, especialmente en la celebración diaria de la Eucaristía.

El período de cuatro semanas que precede a la Navidad, comúnmente conocido como Adviento, nos ofrece la gran oportunidad de prepararnos espiritualmente para este gran evento. La mejor manera de prepararnos de manera práctica, es reconocer la venida diaria del Señor en los eventos y personas ordinarias de nuestra vida.

Es por eso que estamos llamados a acercarnos a otros (y responder amablemente a aquellos que vienen a nosotros) y compartir con ellos lo que el Señor nos ha bendecido. Estos pueden incluir alimentos y otras necesidades de la vida.

Necesitamos arrepentirnos y buscar el perdón de Dios y de aquellos a quienes hemos herido: el mensaje de Juan nos llama a confrontar y confesar nuestros pecados. Necesitamos apartarnos de ellos con sincero arrepentimiento y recibir el perdón de Dios.

Luego, debemos perdonar a otros que nos han ofendido y pedir perdón por nuestras ofensas. Jesús declara explícitamente: "Porque si perdonas a los hombres sus transgresiones, tu Padre celestial también te perdonará a ti. Pero si no perdonas a los hombres, tu Padre no perdonará tus transgresiones".

Por supuesto, ¡regocijémonos! Dios está con nosotros en Jesús. Pero tenemos que afrontar el desafío de ser agradables a los ojos del Señor todos los días de nuestra vida. Que este tiempo de Adviento nos traiga la gracia del verdadero arrepentimiento y conversión al Señor.

Agradezco su generosa contribución al éxito del ministerio pastoral en nuestras parroquias desde principios de este año.

Mi oración es que Jesús renazca en tu corazón y en tu vida durante la Navidad y todos los días del Año Nuevo 2022. Que Él irradie Su presencia desde tu interior a los demás a través del perdón incondicional y el servicio humilde.

Que el Santo Bebé de Belén te bendiga con salud en cuerpo y alma y te conceda un Año Nuevo lleno de paz y bendición. Oremos los unos por los otros durante nuestras Santas Misas de Navidad y todos los días del Año Nuevo. Feliz Navidad y próspero año nuevo.

A Christmas Time Prayer for Country Living

Lord Jesus Christ, when,
on a winter's night I look up through the clear air at the stars,
I can be very close to You
and to Your native Bethlehem.

It was at night that You first came to this earth.
It was under the same stars that now gleam in this night sky
that Mary first held You in her arms.

It was by the faint light of these stars
still shining tonight that the shepherds found their way to the
stable,

and discovered You,
as the angels had said they would,
lying in a manger.

Dear Christ,
it is especially at Christmas time
that I see and understand how close You are
to those who live on the land.

We have so many reminders of You!
The stars and moon at night and the sun by day,
the same stars under which You were born;
the same moon that shone that night on Bethlehem;
the same sun that brightened Your first days on earth.
The stable, and the farm animals
that shared their quarters and their warmth with You, their
creator.

The sheep and the shepherds that came to adore You,
rough men, but good, truthful, honest, and sincere.

O Jesus, Son of the everlasting God,
You are so wonderfully made one of us at Christmas time!

You are our God,
but You are our Brother, too.

You are our King,
but You come as a helpless little baby,
longing for our love.

Help us today and always to see You
in all those with whom we come in contact.

Let us never forget Your own instruction,
that whatever we do for the least of those around us,
we do for You.

Help us always to serve You in the generous,
selfless spirit of this season,
and we shall then be real Christians,
more and more like You, other Christs.

Amen.



#IGIVECATHOLIC

Thank you for the generous support we received during our iGiveCatholic campaign. St Joseph had twelve donors and raised \$3114.00 including ; \$839 collected offline by the Hispanic Community, a \$250 Morning Rush prize and \$600 in matching donations. All Saints raised \$350 from three donors

December 2021

December 2021

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2022

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Nov 28 8:30am RL Sunday Mass 11:30am SJ Sunday Mass 2:30pm Misa en Español	29	30	Dec 1 9:00am SJ weekday Mass	2 6:00pm SJ Misa en Español seguida con Adoracion del Santisimo Sacramento	3 9:00am SJ weekday Mass	4 10:00am AS Latin Mass 10:00am, followed by Holy Hour and Benediction 5:00pm AS Vigil Mass
5 8:30am RL Sunday Mass 11:30am SJ Sunday Mass 2:30pm Misa en Español	6	7 5:00pm Immaculate Conception Mass AS	8 9:00am Mass Imm. Con. SJ 12:00pm Mass Imm. Con. RL 6:00pm Misa (Esp) Imm.	9 6:00pm SJ Misa en Español seguida con Adoracion del Santisimo Sacramento	10 9:00am SJ weekday Mass	11 5:00pm AS Vigil Mass
12 8:30am RL Sunday Mass 11:30am SJ Sunday Mass 2:30pm Misa en Español	13	14	15 9:00am SJ weekday Mass	16 6:00pm SJ Misa en Español seguida con Adoracion del Santisimo Sacramento	17 9:00am SJ weekday Mass	18 5:00pm AS Vigil Mass 6:30pm AS Covered Dish
19 8:30am RL Sunday Mass 11:30am SJ Sunday Mass 2:30pm Misa en Español	20	21	22 9:00am SJ weekday Mass	23 6:00pm SJ Misa en Español seguida con Adoracion del Santisimo Sacramento	24 5:00pm AS Christmas Eve Mass 8:00pm SJ Christmas Eve	25 8:30am RL Christmas Mass 11:30am SJ Christmas (Eng) 2:30pm SJ Christmas
26 8:30am RL Sunday Mass 11:30am SJ Sunday Mass 2:30pm Misa en Español	27	28	29 9:00am SJ weekday Mass	30 6:00pm SJ Misa en Español seguida con Adoracion del Santisimo Sacramento	31 New Year's Eve (United States) 9:00am SJ weekday Mass	Jan 1, 22

1 December 2021 – Wednesday
First Reading: [Isaiah 25: 6-10a](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 23: 1-3a](#), 3b-4, 5, 6
Gospel: [Matthew 15: 29-37](#)

2 December 2021 – Thursday
First Reading: [Isaiah 26: 1-6](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 118: 1 and 8-9](#), 19-21, 25-27a
Gospel: [Matthew 7: 21, 24-27](#)

3 December 2021 – Friday
First Reading: [Isaiah 29: 17-24](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 77: 1, 4](#), 13-14
Gospel: [Matthew 9: 27-31](#)

4 December 2021 – Saturday
First Reading: [Isaiah 30: 19-21, 23-26](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 147: 1-2](#), 3-4, 5-6
Gospel: [Matthew 9: 35](#) — 10: 1, 5a, 6-8

5 December 2021 – Sunday
Second Reading: [Baruch 5: 1-9](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 126: 1-2](#), 2-3, 4-5, 6 (3)
Second Reading: [Philippians 1: 4-6](#), 8-11
Gospel: [Luke 3: 1-6](#)

6 December 2021 – Monday
First Reading: [Isaiah 35: 1-10](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 85: 9ab and 10](#), 11-12, 13-14
Gospel: [Luke 5: 17-26](#)

7 December 2021 – Tuesday
First Reading: [Isaiah 40: 1-11](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 96: 1-2](#), 3 and 10aC, 11-12, 13
Gospel: [Matthew 18: 12-14](#)

8 December 2021 – Wednesday
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE Blessed Virgin MARY Solemnity, Holy Day of Obligation
First Reading: [Genesis 3: 9-15](#), 20
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 98: 1, 2-3ab](#), 3cd-4
Second Reading: [Ephesians 1: 3-6](#), 11-12
Gospel: [Luke 1: 26-38](#)

9 December 2021 – Thursday
First Reading: [Isaiah 41: 13-20](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 145: 1 and 9](#), 10-11, 12-13ab
Gospel: [Matthew 11: 11-15](#)

10 December 2021 – Friday
First Reading: [Isaiah 48: 17-19](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 1: 1-2](#), 3, 4 and 6
Gospel: [Matthew 11: 16-19](#)

11 December 2021 – Saturday
First Reading: [Sirach 48: 1-4](#), 9-11
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 80: 2ac and 3b](#), 15-16, 18-19
Gospel: [Matthew 17: 9a](#), 10-13

12 December 2021 – Sunday
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
First Reading: [Zephaniah 3: 14-18a](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Isaiah 12: 2-3](#), 4, 5-6 (6)
Second Reading: [Philippians 4: 4-7](#)
Gospel: [Luke 3: 10-18](#)

13 December 2021 – Monday
First Reading: [Numbers 24: 2-7](#), 15-17a, 6 and 7bc, 8-9
Gospel: [Matthew 21: 23-27](#)

14 December 2021 – Tuesday
First Reading: [Isaiah 40: 1-11](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 96: 1-2](#), 3 and 10aC, 11-12, 13
Gospel: [Matthew 18: 12-14](#)

15 December 2021 – Wednesday
First Reading: [Isaiah 45: 6c-8](#), 18, 21c-25
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 85: 9ab and 10](#), 11-12, 13-14
Gospel: [Luke 7: 18b-23](#)

16 December 2021 – Thursday
First Reading: [Isaiah 54: 1-10](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 30: 2 and 4](#), 5-6, 11-12a and 13b
Gospel: [Luke 7: 24-30](#)

17 December 2021 – Friday
First Reading: [Genesis 49: 2, 8-10](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 72: 1-2](#), 3-4ab, 7-8, 17
Gospel: [Matthew 1: 1-17](#)

18 December 2021 – Saturday
First Reading: [Jeremiah 23: 5-8](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 72: 1-2](#), 12-13, 18-19
Gospel: [Matthew 1: 18-25](#)

19 December 2021 – Sunday
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
First Reading: [Micah 5: 1-4a](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 80: 2-3](#), 15-16, 18-19 (4)
Second Reading: [Hebrews 10: 5-10](#)
Gospel: [Luke 1: 39-45](#)

20 December 2021 – Monday
First Reading: [Isaiah 7: 10-14](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 24: 1-2](#), 3-4ab, 5-6
Gospel: [Luke 1: 26-38](#)

21 December 2021 – Tuesday
First Reading: [Songs 2: 8-14](#) or [Zephaniah 3: 14-18a](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 33: 2-3](#), 11-12, 20-21
Gospel: [Luke 1: 39-45](#)

22 December 2021 – Wednesday
First Reading: [First Samuel 1: 24-28](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [First Samuel 2: 1, 4-5](#), 6-7, 8abcd
Gospel: [Luke 1: 46-56](#)

23 December 2021 – Thursday
First Reading: [Malachi 3: 1-4](#), 23-24
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 25: 4-5ab](#), 8-9, 10 and 14
Gospel: [Luke 1: 57-66](#)

24 December 2021 – Friday
Advent Weekday
First Reading: [Second Samuel 7: 1-5](#), 8b-12, 14a, 16
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 89: 2-3](#), 4-5, 27 and 29
Gospel: [Luke 1: 67-79](#)

25 December 2021 – Saturday
THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD Solemnity, Holy Day of Obligation / Vigil
First Reading: [Isaiah 62: 1-5](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 89: 4-5](#), 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)
Second Reading: [Acts 13: 16-17](#), 22-25
Gospel: [Matthew 1: 1-25](#)

26 December 2021 – Sunday
HOLY FAMILY Feast
First Reading: [First Samuel 1: 20-22](#), 24-28 or [Sirach 3: 2-6](#), 12-14
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 84: 2-3](#), 5-6, 9-10
Second Reading: [First John 3: 1-2](#), 21-24 or [Colossians 3: 12-21](#)
Gospel: [Luke 2: 41-52](#)

27 December 2021 – Monday
First Reading: [First John 1: 1-4](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 97: 1-2](#), 5-6, 11-12
Gospel: [John 20: 1a and 2-8](#)

28 December 2021 – Tuesday
First Reading: [First John 1: 5](#) — 2: 2
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 124: 2-3](#), 4-5, 7b-8
Gospel: [Matthew 2: 13-18](#)

29 December 2021 – Wednesday
First Reading: [First John 2: 3-11](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 96: 1-2a](#), 2b-3, 5b-6
Gospel: [Luke 2: 22-35](#)

30 December 2021 – Thursday
First Reading: [First John 2: 12-17](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 96: 7-8a](#), 8b-9, 10
Gospel: [Luke 2: 36-40](#)

31 December 2021 – Friday
First Reading: [First John 2: 18-21](#)
Responsorial Psalm: [Psalms 96: 1-2](#), 11-12, 13
Gospel: [John 1: 1-18](#)

THE 4 WEEKS OF ADVENT - THE CANDLES AND THE WREATH

Advent is celebrated four consecutive weeks before Christmas. With the season of Advent, starts the lighting of different candles.

Traditionally, each of the five Advent candles have a deeper meaning which is depicted in the four weeks we celebrate this season of waiting, watching and expecting Jesus.

FIRST CANDLE SIGNIFIES HOPE

"PROPHECY CANDLE"

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes hope. It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.



Here's the specific meaning of the four weeks of Advent: **WEEK 1**
The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes HOPE with the

"PROPHET'S CANDLE" reminding us that Jesus is coming. (Purple Candle)

The first week of this Advent reminds us of the coming of Jesus Christ the Redeemer. The first week marked with a purple candle has the meaning of HOPE. We all look forward to Christ's coming full of joy and hope. The first candle this week is called the Candle of the Prophet who reminds us that the coming of Jesus as Messiah has been preached by the prophets.

And again, Isaiah says,
"The Root of Jesse will spring up,
one who will arise to rule over the nations;
in him the Gentiles will hope."

(Isaiah 11:10)

WEEK 2

The 2nd

Sunday

of Ad-

vent

symbol-

izes

FAITH

with the

SECOND CANDLE SIGNIFIES PEACE

"BETHLEHEM CANDLE"

The second candle, also purple, represents peace. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.



"BETHLEHEM CANDLE" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. (Purple Candle)

The second week of Advent has the meaning of FAITH and LOVE. In this second week the second purple candle is lit, reminding us to remain faithful to prepare the way for the coming of the Lord. We are required to prepare our hearts and love for the coming of Christ.

The second candle is called the Bethlehem Wax which means that our Savior Jesus Christ will be born in our hearts.

As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

"A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

"Prepare the way for the Lord,

make straight paths for him.

Every valley shall be filled in,

every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,

the rough ways smooth.

And all people will see God's salvation."

(Luke 3: 4-6)

WEEK 3

The 3rd Sunday

of Advent sym-

bolizes JOY

with the

"SHEPHERD'S

CANDLE" re-

mindin

g us of

the Joy the

world experi-

enced at the

coming birth of

Jesus. (Pink

Candle)

The third week

of Advent is

marked by two purple candle bars and one pink candle. This

third week reminds us of JOY. We are together delighted to wel-

come the birth of Jesus our Savior.

The third candle is called the Shepherds Candle because the

news of joy about the birth of Jesus Christ was first communicat-

ed to humble and sincere people. The rose candle is lit on the

third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose

vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing,

because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent,

when their preparation is now half over and they are close to

Christmas.

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good

news that will cause great joy for all the people."

(Luke 2:10)

The third candle is rose and symbolizes joy. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy.

"SHEPHERD'S CANDLE"

SIGNIFIES JOY

THIRD CANDLE



SAINT JOSEPH FINANCIALS LAST MONTH AND YTD	
NOVEMBER 2021	
INCOME	\$18,074.89
EXPENSES	\$8,475.18
NET +(-)	\$9,599.71
YEAR TO DATE	
INCOME	\$68,301.18
EXPENSES	\$38,120.40
NET +(-)	\$30,180.78
Source: PARISHSoft® Accounting Statement of Activity FYTD through NOVEMBER 30, 2021	

ALL SAINTS FINANCIALS LAST MONTH AND YTD	
OCTOBER 2021	
INCOME	\$6,275.41
EXPENSES	\$4210.42
NET +(-)	\$2064.99
YEAR TO DATE	
INCOME	\$38,515.88
EXPENSES	\$24,082.57
NET +(-)	\$14,433.31
Source: PARISHSoft® Accounting Statement of Activity FYTD through NOVEMBER 30, 2021	

RISEN LORD FINANCIALS LAST MONTH AND YTD	
OCTOBER 2021	
INCOME	\$5,476.00
EXPENSES	\$3,151.02
NET +(-)	\$2,324.98
YEAR TO DATE	
INCOME	\$33,558.12
EXPENSES	\$16,951.70
NET +(-)	\$16,606.42
Source: PARISHSoft® Accounting Statement of Activity FYTD through NOVEMBER 30, 2021	



WEEK 4
The 4th
Sunday
of Advent
symbolizes
Peace
with the
"ANGEL'S
CANDLE"
remind-
ing us of
the mes-
sage of
the an-
gels:
"Peace
on Earth,

whiter than snow.

The Christ Candle is the fifth Advent Candle, positioned in the center of the wreath. This Advent Candle's color is white. It is lit on Christmas Eve as a remembrance of Christ coming into the world.

THE WREATH

The Advent wreath first appeared in Germany in 1839. Lutheran minister Johann Hinrich Wichern working at a mission for children created a wreath out of the wheel of a cart. He placed twenty small red candles and four large white candles inside the ring. The red candles were lit on weekdays and the four white candles were lit on Sundays.



The Advent wreath, which has German origins, is probably the most recognized Advent custom. It is a wreath made of evergreens that is bound to a circle of wire.

The evergreens used for the wreath itself are a reminder of continuous life. The shaping of them into a circle reinforces that meaning.

The circle is also a sign of everlasting life as well as the eternity of God. It symbolizes the many years from Adam to Christ in which the world awaited its Redeemer; it also represents the years that we have awaited His second and final coming. The wreath holds four equally spaced candles, the three purple ones lit on the penitential Sundays and a pink one for Gaudete, the joyful third Sunday in Advent. The seedpods, nuts and pinecones used to decorate the wreath are symbolic of resurrection, and fruits represent the nourishing fruitfulness of the Christian life.

Additional decorations, like holly and berries, are sometimes added. Their red color points ahead to Jesus' sacrifice and death on the cross, shedding his blood for our sins.

The laurel signifies victory over persecution and suffering; pine, holly, and yew, immortality; and cedar, strength and healing. Holly also has a special Christian symbolism: The prickly leaves remind us of the crown of thorns, and one English legend tells of how the cross was made of holly.

Good Will Toward Men." (Purple Candle)

This is the last week of Advent. The fourth week of special significance PEACE is characterized by three purple candle bars and one pink candle.

The fourth week of Advent reminds us of the glory of God, the owner of the universe. Together we rejoice in His coming.

The fourth candle is called the Angel Candle that symbolizes happiness and joy to welcome the Savior.

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

(Luke 2:14)

WHITE CANDLE OR THE CHRIST CANDLE

The fifth candle which is placed at the center of the wreath is called the "CHRIST CANDLE" which reminds us of Jesus who is at the center of the season. It is lit on Christmas Eve. Jesus alone is the reason why we celebrate Christmas.

(White Candle)

White is the color of Advent representing purity and light. Christ is the sinless, spotless, pure Savior. He is the light come into a dark and dying world. Also, those who receive Jesus Christ as Savior are washed of their sins and made

World Synod of Bishops to take place in October 2023

Over the next several months, our ad hoc Diocesan Evangelization Commission will be working to facilitate responses from diocesan advisory groups as well as from parish councils on these synodal questions:



Pope Francis gives the homily during a Mass to open the process leading up to the World Synod of Bishops, in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican Oct. 10, 2021. (CNS photo/Remo Casilli, Reuters)

Adsumus, Sancte Spiritus (Here we are, Holy Spirit)

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

What is a synod?

That is a question many have likely been asking themselves often since Pope Francis called for the World Synod of Bishops to take place in October 2023.

A synod is a gathering of bishops for specific kinds of issues. Synods are meant to be consultative, to be able to hear from those who are participating in the life of the Church.

Pope Francis has asked that the Synod of Bishops in 2023 would be about synodality, or how we as disciples are journeying together to reflect on and respond to the Holy Spirit's call to us. The synod's theme is "communion, participation and mission."

Pope Francis formally opened the synod process with a Mass at St. Peter's Basilica on Oct. 10.

More details about the Holy Father's Mass and the synod can be found in [The Catholic Virginian](#).

How will the Diocese of Richmond participate in a worldwide synod?

In his Oct. 18 "Christ Our Hope" column, Bishop Knestout discussed how our diocese will be participating in the synod:

those gathered that a synod is "a journey of spiritual discernment that takes place in adoration, in prayer and in dialogue with the word of God." The faithful can reflect on how they encounter the Holy Spirit. Consider how you encounter others who are participating in the life of the Church. How are you journeying together with others to be in communion with the Lord?

And, of course, we can pray! "Here We Are, Holy Spirit" is a great prayer to invite the Holy Spirit into your heart for guidance on your journey.

If you would like to read more about the synod process, you can visit <https://www.synod.va/en/documents/versione-desktop-del-documento-preparatorio.html>

How can I participate in the synod?

- How is journeying together happening today in our parishes and diocese?
- What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our journeying together?
- What experiences of our local Church does this question call to mind? What joys did they bring? What difficulties and obstacles have they encountered? What wounds did they reveal? What insights have they revealed? Where in these experiences does the voice of the Holy Spirit resound?
- What is the Spirit asking of us?
- What are the points to be confirmed, the prospects for change, the steps to be taken?
- Where do we register a consensus? What paths are opening up for our local Church?

The answers to these questions will be analyzed and sent to the USCCB, who will submit a synthesis of all the U.S. dioceses' responses to the Vatican's General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops.

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