



Saint Mary

OF THE ANNUNCIATION CATHOLIC CHURCH

First Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2023

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY 5:00 PM
SUNDAY 8:30 AM
SUNDAY 11:00 AM
People of the Parish

BIENVENIDOS

ALL ARE WELCOME
 TODOS SON BIENVENIDOS
 VŠETCI SÚ VÍTANÍ

VITANI

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

(Office Hours 9 AM - 1 PM Tuesday - Thursday)

Monday, Dec. 4	OFFICE CLOSED; 7:00 PM Religious Education for 10th Grade
Tuesday, Dec. 5	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS; 11:00 AM Prayer Shawl Ministry; 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Food Pantry
Wednesday, Dec. 6	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS
Thursday, Dec. 7	9:00 AM Adoration; 10:00 AM MASS; 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Food Pantry
Friday, Dec. 8	Church closed for cleaning in AM; 7:00 PM Mass for The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Saturday, Dec. 9	4:00 PM - 4:50 PM Confessions; 5:00 PM MASS (+Dorothy Mimnaugh requested by Diane Dye)
Sunday, Dec. 10	SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT - 8:30 AM MASS; 9:30 AM Religious Education; 9:45 AM Spanish Rosary; 11:00 AM MASS



What is Advent?



Sunday, December 3, 2023 - Sunday, December 24, 2023

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of [Christmas](#).

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest wears violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose may be worn (GIRM, no. 346). Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well. Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Our Advent calendar (linked below) can help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ.

 LITURGICAL SCHEDULE ADVENT (12/3/2023) TO NEW YEARS DAY (1/1/2024) 	
Dec. 2-3	First Sunday of Advent (Regular Mass Schedule)
Dec. 8	The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary 9:00 AM—Mass at Saint Ann's in Ashland 7:00 PM—Mass at Saint Mary of the Annunciation
Dec. 9-10	Second Sunday of Advent (Regular Mass Schedule)
Dec. 12	7:00 PM Spanish Mass— Our Lady of Guadalupe
Dec. 14	7:00 PM—Reconciliation Service
Dec. 16-17	Third Sunday of Advent (Regular Mass Schedule)
Dec. 23-24	Fourth Sunday of Advent : MASS—Saturday, 12/23, 5:00 PM MASS—Sunday, 12/24, 8:30 AM ONLY NO 11:00 AM MASS
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve	3:45 PM—4:00 PM Children's Pageant 4:00 PM Vigil Mass of the Nativity (Children's Mass) 6:00 PM Vigil Mass of the Nativity
Dec. 25 Christmas Day	10:00 AM The Nativity of the Lord
OFFICE CLOSED DECEMBER 26th THROUGH JANUARY 2	
Dec. 30-31	Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (Regular Mass Schedule)
Jan. 1 New Year's Day	10:00 AM - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God - COMMUNION SERVICE ONLY 9:00 AM—Mass at Saint Ann's in Ashland

Angel Giving Tree

St. Mary of the Annunciation's Giving Tree program provides for opportunities to relieve some of the burden felt by local families in need and helps to provide a Christmas morning smile to children in our local community. This year, the Caroline County Department of Social Services has identified a few families in our county that have financial stress and need a little holiday help for their children. Please prayerfully consider helping these families by following these simple steps:

1. Select an ornament from the tree and sign it out on the clipboard located on the table by the T.V.
2. Purchase the item(s) identified on your ornament and please consider the stated gender, age, and clothing/shoe size (if applicable) when shopping.
3. For each item, clearly label your unwrapped gift with the item's Ornament containing the Child's Number. Masking/painter's tape, or envelopes (for any purchased gift card) works great. This will ensure the purchased gift gets to the right family/child.

Drop off your unwrapped gift or, if you prefer, in a gift bag no later than Noon on Wednesday, December 13th at the Church. There will be a bin labeled Angel Giving Tree or place it directly under the tree.

Please contact Gina Holewa @ 804 982-8841 or (holewaq@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Note: If you have already taken a tag please do not forget to sign it out! Thank you



WEEKLY MASS READINGS

4 DECEMBER 2023 - MONDAY : **Isaiah 2:** 1-5; **Psalms 122:** 1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; **Matthew 8:** 5-11

5 DECEMBER 2023 - TUESDAY : **Isaiah 11:** 1-10; **Psalms 72:** 1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; **Luke 10:** 21-24

6 DECEMBER 2023 - WEDNESDAY : **Isaiah 25:** 6-10a; **Psalms 23:** 1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; **Matthew 15:** 29-37

7 DECEMBER 2023 - THURSDAY : **Isaiah 26:** 1-6; **Psalms 118:** 1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; **Matthew 7:** 21, 24-27

8 DECEMBER 2023 - FRIDAY : **Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Solemnity**
Genesis 3: 9-15, 20; **Psalms 98:** 1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; **Ephesians 1:** 3-6, 11-12; **Luke 1:** 26-38

9 DECEMBER 2023 - SATURDAY : **Isaiah 30:** 19-21, 23-26; **Psalms 147:** 1-2, 3-4, 5-6; **Matthew 9:** 35 - 10: 1, 5a, 6-8

10 DECEMBER 2023 - SUNDAY : **Second Sunday of advent**
Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11; **Psalms 85:** 9-10, 11-12, 13-14; **Second Peter 3:** 8-14; **Mark 1:** 1-8



MASS TO BE
HELD ON
FRIDAY,
DEC. 8TH,
AT 7:00 PM

AVAILABLE NOW IN THE NARTHEX

LITTLE BLUE BOOKS: Pick one or more up as you leave today. This is a wonderful 5-minute daily meditations for the Advent and Christmas seasons through to Epiphany.

2024 WALL CALENDARS: 2024 Wall Calendars are now available in the Narthex.



SECOND COLLECTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

DECEMBER 3—REPAIR & MAINTENANCE

DECEMBER 8—IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

DECEMBER 25—CATHOLIC CHARITIES

DECEMBER 25—THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



**St. Nicholas Feast Day Party!
IS TODAY, 12/3, AT 1200 PM**

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Advent is a traditional season when Catholics celebrate the Lord's mercy through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This year, our parish reconciliation service will take place on **December 14 at 7:00 PM**. We will begin with a brief Liturgy of the Word, followed by the opportunity for individuals to go to Confession.

Confessions are also available each Saturday afternoon from 4:10-4:50 PM

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Advent begins the weekend of December 2nd-3rd. Be a part of the Advent Celebration by signing up to light Advent Candles at the beginning of Mass during Advent. Signup sheets are in the Narthex. You may call the office at 804-448-9064 or email office@saintmarycc.org to sign up.



Community/Diocesan Events

Celebracion de la Virgen Maria de Guadalupe



Lunes 12 Diciembre 2023

7:00 pm

Iglesia Catolica

Santa Maria de la Anunciacion

Todos son Bienvenidos a
celebrar la Misa en Espanol
en ocasion de la Fiesta de la
Virgen Madre de Las Americas
Nuestra Senora de la
Guadalupe

Para mas informacion llame al 804-450-2977 o
via Correo Electronico JMJClugo@gmail.com

Bishop Knestout encourages anyone aware of sexual abuse of minors on the part of clergy or staff of our diocese to notify civil authorities, call the Attorney General's Clergy Abuse Hotline at 1-833-454-9064, and reach out to the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Jennifer Sloan at 1-877-887-9603.



Pray for the Sick of our Parish



Amber Wilber Anderson, David Arnold, Rosemary Baez, Thad (Pete) Beach, Monica Bell, Susan Bennett, The Biddulph Family, Robert Bingaman, Joe Blackburn, Jr., John Bolecek, Maria Bridge, Theresa Buchanan, Emilynn Butler, Barry Carrington, Aiden Christensen, Daniel Clarke, Nancy Coffield, Doreen Distensa, Brian Eckert, Levie Edmond, Eleanor Elletson, Michael Fisher, Jessica French, Andrew Fresler, Deacon Dave Geary, The Hannick Family, Laura Harris, Paula Hass, The Jayger Family, Alice Karkutt, Tony Ketrick, Deacon Frank Leaming, Nina Leaming, Barbara Litten, Dawn Long, Carly Max, Andrew Newchok, Peggy Opel, Eva Ortiz, Edgar & Rhonda Parks, Robert Pecht, Bill Pickett, Marge Polivka, Anna Porter, Shirley Riden, Chole Rochester, Ritchie Rodebaugh, Beverly Schnarrs, Cindy Schwind, Marjie Schwind, Helen Simulcik, William Simulcik, Isabel Sipe, Rodney Smith, Laurie Snowman, Linda Stanton, Barbara Storen, Ron Summers, The Taylor Family, Julian Thomas, The Townsend Family, Janie Wagner, Pedro Welsh, Bethany Wheaton, The Wheeler Family, Joan Williams, Ron Wisniewski, Judy Yanes

As always, prayer is an important way Catholics can respond to any crisis as we express our dependence on God. We continue to stand in solidarity with all those affected by the COVID disease as well as those health care professionals who care for them. We ask parishioners to keep these people in mind in your daily prayers.

*Names will be removed after 6 months. If you would like to add/remove someone to the Sick of our Parish list, please call Chris Nowark at 804-448-9064 or email her at office@saintmarycc.org. Thank you. **GOD BLESS***

PARISH OFFICE

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 9:00AM to 1:00PM
Phone: 804-448-9064*Fax: 804-448-5464*Email: office@saintmarycc.org
Rev. Alexander Muddu, Pastor.....804-448-9064
.....amuddu@richmonddiocese.org
Deacon Dave Geary.....540-710-3364
.....djgeary4531@comcast.net
Deacon Frank Leaming.....804-761-5714
.....fnleaming@aol.com
Karen Weil, Office Bookkeeper.....804-448-9064
.....bookkeeper@saintmarycc.org
Chris Nowark, Office Manager.....804-448-9064
.....office@saintmarycc.org
Pastoral Council Chairperson, *Jim Lepp*.....540-841-2346
Finance Council Chairperson, *Tina Sebak*.....540-842-4608

Food Pantry, *Barbara & Don Logan*.....804-449-1811
Knights of Columbus, *Ron Wisniewski*.....804-448-4348
Children's Liturgy of the Word, *Annette Jewell*.....804-305-7566
Religious Education Coordinator, *Deacon Dave*.....804-448-9064
.....djgeary4531@comcast.net
Music Ministry, *Valerie Sparks*.....804-572-1768
RCIA, *Deacon Frank Leaming*.....804-761-5714
Prayer Shawl Ministry, *Penny Geary*.....honeybepenny@comcast.net
Liturgical Ministries, *Deacon Frank Leaming*.....804-761-5714
Social Activities Committee Chairperson, *Bette Moore*..703-371-9400
St. Mary and Sts. Cyril and Methodious Cemetery Inquiries,
Gloria Bolecek.....804-633-4320
Oliver Cemetery Inquiries, *Joan Cormier*.....804-466-0458

Sacraments of Baptism, Matrimony (a minimum of 6 months preparation is typical), and Anointing of the Sick, or to receive a home visit or home blessing. Call the office at 804-448-9064.

10306 Ladysmith Road P.O. Box 396 Ladysmith, VA 22501

www.saintmarycc.org