

Advent and Christmas at ST. ISIDORE PARISH



Dear Fellow Parishioners,

Advent is the first of all of our sacred seasons of the Church Year. Ad-

vent is the beginning, leading us during its four short weeks into the great celebration of Christmas. During Advent we are challenged to recognize three specific comings of our Lord, Jesus Christ. The first challenge is to look to the future to the Lord's final coming in glory with salvation for his people. The second challenge comes towards the end of the season as we look to the past and tell the story of how the Lord once came among us as one of us through his birth in Bethlehem. And the third challenge (and most important) is to recognize the Lord's presence among us already – today – right now – especially through the Scriptures, the Sacraments and each other. In the darkness, stillness and quiet of Advent, we see the Lord already present among us.

Like you, I face the same struggle with Advent each year. Advent comes at one of the busiest times of the year. We are called to be quiet and still, while everything around is loud. I struggle with the noise, longing to find the peace proclaimed by the angels. I have to consciously seek out moments of quiet so I can hear the voice of the Lord. It is a struggle, but not impossible. Especially in our indi-

vidual prayer, when we are listening, we can find those moments where we can sense the Lord's presence among us and hear his voice. As we begin a new church year, I invite each one of us to make a commitment to Sunday Mass. And I also invite each one of us to find that brief moment in the course of the day when we can be still and to bring our thanks, our concerns and our fears to the Lord. Ten minutes, everyday can make a big difference in living this season.

This brochure provides you with our Advent and Christmas schedules. It also lists some of the special additional celebrations of the communities within our parish – those special opportunities for prayer throughout these holy seasons. We have the celebration of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Patroness of the United States at the beginning of the season. Then we have the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe with the Hispanic Community and the celebration of Simbang Gabi with our

Filipino community. Las Posadas invites us to walk with Mary and Joseph seeking shelter. We have First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and numerous opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All of these lead us into the great celebrations of the Christmas season.

As we become more aware of the Lord's closeness and love for us, I ask you to express your gratitude through your Christmas gift to our parish. Like everyone else around us, we face rising expenses. Please be as generous as possible in considering your Christmas gift to our parish.

Know that you and the concerns of your heart are remembered in our prayers during this holy season. May our ever faithful and present God continue to bless us with everything that we need, and more.

Fr. Jim Murphy

Fr. Jim Murphy
and your Parish Staff

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays in Advent 8:45 - 10 am

Religious Ed, Jr. High, and Confirmation Students: Reconciliation during regularly scheduled sessions.

Communal Reconciliation Service

Monday, Dec. 17, 7pm, Church,
Individual Confessions available in English and Spanish

Additional Reconciliation Opportunities

Fridays, Dec 7 & 14, 12:35-1:30 pm.
Wed, Dec 19, 7:30-8:15am, 12:35-1:30pm, and from 3-5 pm.
Thu, Dec 20, 7:30-8:30am, 12:35-1:30pm.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Nov 25** Feast of Christ the King
- Dec 2** School Christmas Concert, 3pm, MC
- Dec 3-11** Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe (Rosary), 6:30pm, Church
After 7pm Mass on Dec. 4, 7, and 8.
Iglesia Grande, después de la Misa de 7pm á 8 Dec.
- Dec 7-8** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:30am Friday until 8am Saturday; Vocation Rosary at 8pm on
Friday and Rosary for Life Saturday at 8:45am
- Dec 7** Vigil Mass, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, 7pm, Español
- Dec 8** Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation: 8:15am, 10:00am, 11:30am-Español
- Dec 12** Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
Mañanitas, 5am, Church, Español
Danza, 6:30pm, Mass, 7pm, Church, Español
Celebration, 8pm, Ministry Center
- Dec 15** Las Posadas, Español, Sabado, 9am-1pm, Centro Ministerial
- Dec 16** Teen Mass, 4pm, Chapel
- Dec 17** Communal Reconciliation Service, 7pm, Church
- Dec 20** Live Nativity by our school's 6th Grade, 1:30 pm, Chapel
- Dec 21** Simbang Gabi - Filipino Celebration of Light
Mass Friday, 7pm Fellowship in Ministry Center after Mass

*Masses for all weekends in Advent follow our regular schedule.
Interpreted for the Deaf at 10am Mass on Nov 25, Dec 9, and 23.*

Dec 24-25 Mass times listed to the right >> >> >> >> >> >> >>

Dec 24 & 26-29 Weekday Masses at 7am only (no 12:05 Mass)

Dec 29-30 Feast of the Holy Family, Regular Weekend Mass Schedule

Jan 1 Mary Mother of God
Monday Dec. 31 Vigil Mass, 5:00pm English & 6:30pm Español
Tuesday, Jan 1, 8:30am & 10:00am in English, 11:30am Español.

Jan 4-5 Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:30am Friday - 8am Saturday; Vocation Rosary Friday, 7pm
and Rosary for Life, Saturday, 8:45am

Jan 5-6 Epiphany of the Lord, Regular Weekend Mass times

Jan 12-13 Baptism of the Lord, Regular Weekend Mass times

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Dec 24 - Nativity of the Lord Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Vigil Mass - Church*

4:00 pm Vigil Mass - Ministry Center*

4:00 pm Vigil Mass - Chapel*

6:00 pm Misa de Vigilia - Iglesia Grande
- Español

10:00 pm - Church - Concert

10:30 pm - Church - "Midnight" Mass

Dec 25 - Nativity of the Lord Christmas Day

(NO 7:00 am Mass)

8:30 am - Church

10:00 am - Church - Sign Interpreted

(NO 10:30 am Mass)

11:30 am - Iglesia Grande - Español

1:00 pm - Church

**Masses will begin when the worship space is full
(usually about 20 minutes early in the Church).
Please arrive early to assure your seats.*