

## ✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOVEMBER 30, 2008 • ADVENT I

•Today is *Advent Sunday*, the beginning of a new liturgical year and the opening of the holy season of penance and preparation for our Lord's Birth. The *Advent Procession and Blessing of the Advent Wreath* takes place *before* the 9:00 AM High Mass.

Congratulations to Bishop Dolan on the 15th Anniversary of his Episcopal Consecration.

Catechism Classes for children and adults are at 10:45 AM. The beautiful **St. Andrew Vespers**, a lyrical praise of the Holy Cross, are sung this afternoon at 1:10 PM with Benediction.

### CONGRATULATIONS & PRAYERS

To Dean and Carolyn McClorey on the Baptism of their newborn son Austin Michael, last Wednesday.

### THIS WEEK

Tomorrow's transferred feast of St. Andrew begins the "work week", which includes the great Advent Saint Francis Xavier, First Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

### FIRST FRIDAY

10:45 AM Confessions  
11:25 AM High Mass and Benediction  
5:15PM Confessions and Rosary  
5:45 PM Low Mass, Exposition, First Friday devotions, novena and confessions  
6:45PM Parish Potluck Supper  
7:30 PM All Night Adoration

*Intention of All Night Adoration Friday in Reparation for all who do not keep Advent, and asking the Sacred Heart for a most holy one.*

### FIRST SATURDAY

6:30 AM Low Mass  
7:10 AM Rosary and First Saturday Devotions and Meditations.  
7:40 AM Closing Benediction  
8:00 AM Low Mass

*First Saturday Intentions: In reparation for blasphemies against the Immaculate Conception.*

### ADVENT

It's not too late to visit our Gift Shop to get ready for this season of getting ready. Advent Wreaths, as well as good spiritual reading are available. Be sure to prepare an Advent Wreath (three purple and one pink candle) for your family dining table or shrine. Consider saying the Sunday Collect each Saturday evening when you light a new candle.



### NEXT SUNDAY

**St. Nicholas** will be visiting our children after all morning Masses in Helfta Hall.

Set your missal: Advent II, 2nd collect of St. Ambrose. Preface of the Trinity. **Early First Vespers of the Immaculate Conception and Benediction** are at 1:10 PM.

Next Sunday is the **First Sunday of the Month**. The Monthly Second collection is for the support of our Seminary in Florida. The **Blessing of Religious Articles** follows morning Masses at the communion rail. The **Legion of Decency Pledge** will take place at all Masses.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, December 8th**, the *Feast of the Immaculate Conception* is a **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**. All are bound to assist at Mass under the pain of mortal sin. The Mass schedule for the Holy Day is as follows: (N.B. special times -) **6:30 AM** Low Mass, and **9:00 AM** High Mass, **5:45 PM** Low Mass and Benediction.

### NURSING NEEDS

Can anyone, especially an LPN or RN, recommend a good Christian employer in the area? Please contact Margaret Sutton at (513) 892-2088

### ADVENT PROJECT

Please help the Rosary Confraternity help our Nigerian Catholics with Sacramentals. We need Rosaries, small books, medals, etc. to box and send to the faithful there. Contributions for postage welcome. Contact Gerry Keaveney

## ✠ POETRY CORNER

### THE POOR

THE poor I saw at the cloister gate  
Mutely beg with patient eyes  
An alms, for the love of Him who sate  
And supped with the poor in human guise.

And there were monks saw the nails' deep scars.

In the shrunken hands that reached for bread,

Who heard a Voice from beyond the stars  
In the broken thanks of them they fed.

I, too, at the gates of God each day  
Seek for an alms of strength and grace,  
Beggam I that wait and pray  
To feast my soul on his beauteous Face.

-Speer Strahan C.S.C



### NOVENA PRAYER FOR ADVENT

*Hail and blessed be the hour and moment, in which the Son of God was born of the Most Pure Virgin Mary, at midnight in Bethlehem, in piercing cold. At that hour, vouchsafe O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ and His Blessed Mother. Amen.*

*(Traditionally said 15 times a day from St. Andrew's Day until Christmas.)*

### Servers

DECEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 7, 2008

\*MON 12/1 5:00 PM Low: C. Ritze  
\*TUE 12/2 5:00 PM Low: J. Bayer  
\*WED 12/3 5:00 PM Low: G. Keaveney  
\*THU 12/4 5:00 PM Low: MASS C. Ritze  
\*FRI 12/5 5:45 PM Low: G. Keaveney, C. Ritze, J. Bayer  
\*SAT 12/6 7:30 AM Low MASS: C. & T. Simpson  
8:00 AM Low MASS: G. Keaveney, M. Briggs  
7:30 AM Low: D. & S. Brueggemann  
\*SUN 12/7 9:00 AM High: MC: T. Simpson  
ACs: T. Simpson, G. Wnek TH S. Corzens  
TORCH: D. Wnek, J. Simpson, P. Duff, N. McClorey  
11:30 AM Low: G. Miller, M. Ribar  
1:10 PM VESPERS: G. Miller,  
5:45 PM Low: M. Derksen

### Ushers

DECEMBER 7, 2008

7:30 AM Joe Andreotta, Kent Maki, Jim Kolenich, Joe Bayer  
9:00 AM Dale Wilker, Jim Gebel, Richard Smith, Bernice Brueggemann  
11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Dennis Hille, Kirby Bischel, Will Wiegand  
5:45 PM John Seyfried

### Collection Report

Sunday November 23rd .....\$5,407.38

*Thank you for your generosity!  
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!*

## ✠ THE CALENDAR

MON	12/1/08	ST. ANDREW, AP 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Bishop Dolan - 15th Anniversary</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass - †Barbara Schmelzer ( <i>Kirby &amp; Jean Bischel</i> )
TUES	12/2/08	ST. BIBIANA, VM 11:25 AM High Mass †Albert Kinnett <i>5th Anniversary of death (Margaret &amp; Albert D. Kinnett)</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>Mary Rose Uhlenbrock (Lee Speray)</i>
WED	12/3/08	ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, C. 6:30 AM Low Mass †Barbara Schmelzer ( <i>The Swinney family</i> ) 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Return of health for Tony &amp; Mary Ann Quinter (Patsy McConnell family)</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>In honor of St. Philomena</i>
THUR	12/4/08	ST. PETER CHRYSOLOGUS, BPCD St. Barbara 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Fr. Ramolla (SGG School 3rd &amp; 4th Grade)</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>Alter Christus</i> 7:00 PM Compline
FRI	12/5/08	FERIAL DAY, ST SABBAS, AB. FIRST FRIDAY 10:45 AM Confessions 11:30 AM High Mass, <i>Family Conversions (Tom Simpson)</i> Benediction 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:45 PM Low Mass, †Barbara Schmelzer ( <i>Bernie B.</i> ) Exposition, First Friday Devotions & Novena, & Confessions 6:45 PM Parish Potluck Supper 7:30 PM Holy Hour, All Night Adoration
SAT	12/6/08	ST. NICHOLAS, BPC, Vigil of the Immaculate Conception, First Saturday 6:30 AM Low Mass <i>In honor of Our Mother of Perpetual Help for graces &amp; benefits received (Patrick &amp; Anne Marie Omlor)</i> 7:10 AM Rosary and First Saturday Devotions with Meditations 7:40 AM Closing Benediction 8:00 AM Low Mass, <i>In honor of the I.H.M. for Kathleen West (Norman &amp; Janice West)</i>
SUN	12/7/08	ADVENT II, St. Ambrose BPCD 7:30 AM Low Mass, †Barbara Schmelzer ( <i>Patsy McConnell family</i> ) 9:00 AM High Mass <i>Susan Ackley's Intentions (Gerry Keaveney)</i> 10:30 AM Catechism Classes 11:30 AM Low Mass †Ellen Cekada ( <i>Anniversary of Death</i> ) 1:10 PM First Vespers of the Immaculate Conception 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>for the people of St. Gertrude the Great</i>

### CROSSES

Many more crosses are necessary for some people than for others, just as some people require more food or more light or more rest than others. Some, too, require more pain and more sorrow to bring out the divine conformity our Blessed Lord wishes to see in them.



## ✠ BISHOP'S CORNER

Advent, the great season of the coming of our God, contents itself this year with being tucked into a tiny corner at November's end. This "Sunday after Thanksgiving" is the first of the world's Christmas celebration— "Christmas I" if you will. But we don't, and we **will** keep this season of preparation in a prayerful way, with Mary Immaculate.



Start today, and keep your promises for private and family prayer, for penance and the poor. Give up or leave behind one practice that "keeps you busy" in this season, or postpone it until Christmas starts. Lower your expectations (and your blood pressure!) as you raise your eyes to look for salvation.

Now all of this, remember, takes creativity and imagination as we reconfigure our Christmas preparation and celebration. The fact that we are "Traditionalists" should **not** mean we unthinkingly do the same thing each year "because that is how we have always done it." Change is good. It is a sign of life, particularly change which fosters a true spiritual life, and more of a Catholic home life, at this happy, holy time. Start by praying. Ask Our Lady to show you God's will. She will. Let me give you an example.

St. Andrew, Apostle of the Cross, comes this afternoon to lead us into the first week of Advent. What about attending Vespers? It is a sad and shameful thing that we are one of the few churches in Christendom to keep this last weekly remnant of the Divine Office, this once universal and obligatory evening offering of thanks and yet (as last week) only one or two of the laity attend vespers on so many Sundays.

Plan the Lord's Day ... for the Lord. Pack a lunch and stay after the 11:30 when we sing early Vespers for your convenience. Start Sunday afternoon dinner in time to be able to end it by attending Vespers **sometimes**. The chant is beautiful. A translation is provided. You would ever be welcome to help or sing. 'Tis the season of giving! What will it take? If I stood outside at Vespertime, dressed like a Salvation Army Santa, ringing my bell, would you consider giving a bit more of your Sunday to God? Pope Pius XII tells us that Catholic society, Christendom, will never be restored without Sunday Vespers regaining their place of honor. If each of you would resolve each year to attend **sometimes**... This is my equation: A little imagination added to some planning and sacrifice = Vespers. After the Holy Eucharist this is the Catholic Church's Thanksgiving service—not Puritan turkey! This is only one example of things **we could rethink**. Now's your time.

May Our Lady lighten your load this Advent, and inspire you. A Blessed Advent!



—Bishop Dolan

*Give thanks frequently to God for all the benefits He has conferred on you, that you may be worthy to receive more.*

St. Louis IX, King of France

## ✠ ADVENT SUNDAY SPIRITUAL READING

### ST. BARLAAM, M.

AN obscure country life, which this saint had led from childhood, in a village near Antioch, in manual labor, which he sanctified by a heroic spirit and practice of Christian piety, prepared him for the crown of martyrdom. Though he was a stranger to every other language but his mother-tongue, and to all learning except that of the maxims of the gospel, he was an overmatch for the pride and tyranny of the masters of the world. His zealous confession of the name of Christ provoked the persecutors, who detained him a long time in the dungeons at Antioch before he was brought to his trial; during which rigorous confinement, in the simplicity of an upright heart, he continually entertained himself with God, so as to want no worldly company to relieve his mind, and God had embellished his soul with his choicest graces. When he was called to the bar, the judge laughed at his rustic language and mien; but, in spite of his prepossessions and rage, could not but admire exceedingly his greatness of soul, his virtue, and his meek constancy, which even gathered strength by his long imprisonment. He was cruelly scrouged; but no sigh, no word of complaint was extorted from him. He was then hoisted on the rack, and his bones in many parts dislocated. Amidst these torments, such was the joy which was painted in his countenance, that one would have judged he had been seated at some delicious banquet, or on a throne. The prefect threatened him with death, and caused swords and axes fresh stained with the blood of martyrs to be displayed before him; but Barlaam beheld them without being daunted, and, without words, his meek and composed countenance spoke a language which confounded and disconcerted the persecutors. He was therefore remanded to prison, and the judge, who was ashamed to see himself vanquished by an illiterate person, studied to invent some new artifice or torment, resolving to revenge his gods, whom he thought injured by the saint's constancy. At length he flattered himself

that he had found out a method by which the martyr should be compelled, in spite of all his resolution, to offer sacrifice. Barlaam was brought out of prison, and an altar with burning coals upon it being made ready for sacrifice, the martyr's hand was forcibly held over the flames, and incense with live coals was laid upon it, that, if he shook the coals off his hand, he might be said to offer sacrifice by throwing the incense into the fire upon the altar. The saint, fearing the scandal and very shadow of the crime, though, by throwing off the fire to save his hand, he could not be reasonably esteemed to have meant to sacrifice, kept his hand steady whilst coals burnt quite through it, and so, with the incense, dropped upon the altar. At such an instance of fortitude, the taunts and scoffs of the heathens were converted into admiration. God, soon after this victory, called his soldier to himself, to crown him with glory. This happened during the course of the persecution first raised by Dioclesian.



### THE CRUCIFIX

The Crucifix should constantly remind us to love our Blessed Lord. "My Jesus, I thank You for having died on the Cross for my sins." The Crucifix will remind us, if we are thoughtful:

1. Of the greatest of all Advents in the world- His Coming.
2. The purpose of His Coming.
3. All the virtues He is teaching us.
4. His infinite love for His Father.
5. His wish that we are always preparing to receive the Holy Ghost into our hearts.
6. The banquet He offers for us in the Blessed Sacrament.
7. His sweet condescension in giving us Mary as our Mother.



### THE CHILD ON CALVARY

The Cross is tall  
And I too small  
To reach His hand  
Or touch His feet,  
But on the sand  
His footprints I have found,  
And it is sweet  
To kiss the holy ground.

### MATER DOLOROSA

Again maternal Autumn grieves,  
As blood-like drip the maple leaves  
On Nature's Calvary  
And every sap-forsaken limb  
Renews the mystery of Him  
Who died upon a Tree.

### A RUBRIC

The aster puts its purple on  
When flowers begin to fall  
To suit the solemn antiphon  
Of Autumn's ritual;  
And deigns, unwearied, to stand  
In robes pontifical  
Till Indian Summer leaves the land,  
And Winter spreads the pall.

-Fr. Tabb



Yea, though I sin each day times seven  
And dare not lift the fearfullest eye to  
Heaven,  
Thanks must I give  
Because that seven times are not eight or  
nine,  
And that my darkness is all mine,  
And that I live  
Within this oak-shade one more minute  
even,  
Hearing the winds their Maker magnify.

-Coventry Patmore

*One act of Thanksgiving, when things go  
wrong with us, is worth a thousand thanks  
when things are agreeable to our  
inclinations.*

-Bl. John of Avila

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM: Tom & Tim Kunkel & Dale Wilker  
 8:00 PM - 9:00 PM: Gerry Keaveney, Ken Gilliam  
 9:00 PM - 10:00 PM: Peter Gebel, Richard Smith  
 10:00 PM - 11:00 PM: Joseph Manzardo, James Kolenich,  
 11:00 PM - Midnight: Alphonse Capetillo, Michael DiSalvo  
 12:00 AM - 1:00 AM: Tom Simpson, H. O. Hinton, Mario Derksen  
 1:00 AM - 2:00 AM: Chris Brueggemann, Paul Puglielli  
 2:00 AM - 3:00 AM: Keith Monnin, Will Weigand  
 3:00 AM - 4:00 AM: Vic Ritze, Chris Ritze  
 4:00 AM - 5:00 AM: B. & R. Uhlenbrock  
 5:00 AM - 6:00 AM: John Wiesman, B. Brueggemann  
 6:00 AM - 7:00 AM: Jim Soli, Scott Richesson

N.B. The Adoration Guard of Honor ends at 7:00 AM, due to the new schedule

*“The Holy Hour is not a devotion; it is a sharing in the work of redemption...He [Jesus] asked for an hour of reparation to combat the hour of evil; an hour of victimal union with the Cross to overcome the anti-love of sin” (ARCHBISHOP SHEEN).*

*Evil must be overcome with good. Greater evil must overcome with greater good. The extraordinary evils of the world today must be overcome with the extraordinary good of Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration!*

#### THE HOUR OF GUARD

THROUGH MARY’S HEART IMMACULATE  
 I OFFER, LORD, TO THEE  
 EACH ACTION OF THIS HOLY HOUR,  
 UNWORTHY THOUGH I BE.

IN SPIRIT AT THINE ALTAR NOW  
 THIS HOUR OF GUARD I’LL SPEND;  
 OH MAY EACH WORD, EACH BREATH I DRAW,  
 AS REVERENT LOVE ASCEND.

OH THAT I COULD FROM MARY’S HEART  
 ONE SPARK OF LOVE NOW TAKE,  
 AND EVERY MOMENT, DEAREST LORD,  
 THUS REPARATION MAKE.

FOR AM I NOT THY FAVORED SPOUSE,  
 OH PRIVILEGE MOST HIGH!  
 SHOULD I NOT REPARATIONS MAKE,  
 E’EN TO MY LATEST SIGH?