

What is Advent?

Sunday, December 1, 2024 - Tuesday, December 24, 2024

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 can help you fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ. (Taken from United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.)

Blessed Sacrament Ladies Group

Please remember our food pantry. December suggestions include baking items such as sugar, flour, cake mixes and frosting, spices, olive and vegetable oil, brownie mixes. Thank you.

DAILY PRAYER

Lord, I don't know what lay before me today, but I commit it all to You. Please give me strength and courage to get through the joys, challenges and happenings of the day. I thank you for my life and for all that I have. I commit this day to You. No matter what happens, I know You have me in the palm of Your hand.

Prayer Requests

Fr. Sebastian Allgaier	Beverly Cochrane	Rob McDaniel	Patricia Landi	Earl McKee
Parker Banks,	Scott Coates	Richard Easton	Sr. Lucy Lang, OSF	MikeMcKee
Laurie Belshe	Sean Crowley	Hctor Fernandez	Penny Nelson	Leo Millburg
Elizabeth Betts	Kevin Crowley	Fr. Tom Hermes	Art McGuire	Bill Untiedt
Mary Jo Clevenger	Karla McDaniel	Monica Krance	Carol McKee	Leonard Wilmes

The Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph is committed to combating sexual abuse in the Church. If you are a victim of sexual abuse, or if you *observe or suspect* sexual abuse:

1. Call the Missouri Child Abuse Hotline at 1.800.392.3738 (if the victim is currently under the age of 18), and
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency or call 911, and
3. After reporting to these civil and law enforcement authorities, report suspected *sexual abuse of a minor or vulnerable adult* to the Diocesan Ombudsman, Joe Crayon, at 816.812.2500 or crayon@ombudsmankcsj.org, if the abuse involves a priest, deacon, employee or volunteer of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph.

The Diocese has a sincere commitment to providing care and healing resources to victims of sexual abuse and their families. Please contact the Victim Advocate, Whitney True-Francis at 816.392.0011 or true-francis@diocesekcsj.org for more information.

DECEMBER 1, 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1728 Saint Joseph Street, Trenton MO 64683

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH, 606 Broadway Street, Princeton, MO 64673

BLESSED SACRAMENT CATHOLIC CHURCH, 1208 S 25th Street, Bethany, MO 64424

MARY IMMACULATE, 409 South Main Street, Gallatin, MO 64640

Pastor: Fr. Timothy Leete, timothy.leete@gmail.com
Fr. Leete's phone number. (816) 266-9248

Trenton Church phone number: (660) 359-2841

Trenton Church email address: stjosephrenton@gmail.com

Trenton/Princeton Church website: www.stjoseph-trenton.org

Secretary in Trenton: Peggy Bradley

Bethany Church phone number: (660) 425-8160

Bethany email address: cathlc@grm.net

Gallatin Church phone number: (660) 663-2416

Gallatin Church email address: shmichurch@gmail.com

Gallatin Church Website: www.shmicatholic.org

Secretary in Gallatin: Sarah Clark

THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS SCHEDULE

St. Joseph, Trenton:	8:30 am Sunday
	6:30 pm Tuesday
	9:00 am Friday
Blessed Sacrament, Bethany:	4:30 pm Saturday
	9:00 am Wednesday
Mary Immaculate, Gallatin:	6:30 pm Saturday
	10:30 am Sunday
	9:00 am Thursday
Immaculate Heart of Mary, Princeton:	Alternating:
	1:30 pm 1st & 3rd Sundays



ADORATION

5:15 pm with Benediction at 6:15
Mass at 6:30 PM
Tuesday's at St. Joseph's

ROSARY

8:00 am Sunday's at St. Joseph's
4:00 pm Saturday's at Blessed Sacrament
1:00 pm at Immaculate Heart of Mary
(1st & 3rd Sunday's)

CONFESSIONS

4:00 pm Saturday at Bethany
6:00 pm Saturday at Gallatin
8:00 am Sunday at Trenton
10:00 am Sunday at Gallatin
1:00 pm 1st & 3rd Sundays at Princeton

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

Sat	Nov 30	4:30 pm	BS	Mildred Cobb
Sat	Nov 30	6:30 pm	MI	Jean Buffington
Sun	Dec 1	8:30 am	SJ	† Dorothy Fries
Sun	Dec 1	10:30 am	MI	People of St. Joseph's, IHM, Mary Immaculate & Blessed Sacrament
Sun	Dec 1	1:30 pm	IHM	
Tue	Dec 3	6:30 pm	SJ	† Scott Bingham
Wed	Dec 4	9:00 am	BS	

Thu	Dec 5	9:00 am	MI	
Fri	Dec 6	9:00 am	SJ	Angela Michael
Sat	Dec 7	4:30 pm	BS	People of St. Joseph's, IHM, Mary Immaculate & Blessed Sacrament
Sun	Dec 8	8:30 am	SJ	† Harvey Fries
Sun	Dec 8	10:30 am	MI	Bob Hausman
Sun	Dec 8	1:30 pm	IHM	(NO MASS)

Announcements

December 9, The Feast of the Immaculate Conception HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Whenever December 8 falls on a Sunday, the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception transfers to Monday, December 9. This year, in the United States, the obligation to attend Mass also transfers. Both Sunday the 8th and Monday the 9th will therefore be days of obligation this year, and the faithful must participate in two Masses. Our Holy Day schedule is as follows:

Monday December 9
9:00 am at Trenton
4:30 pm at Bethany
6:30 pm at Gallatin

Please make plans to attend Mass on this glorious feast honoring our Blessed Mother!

Christmas Holiday Mass Schedule

Tuesday December 24 Christmas Eve
Adoration at Trenton is canceled today.

Tuesday December 24 - 4:30 pm at Bethany
Tuesday December 24 - 6:30 pm at Gallatin

Wednesday December 25 Christmas Day
Wednesday December 25 - 8:30 am at Trenton

Tuesday December 31 New Year's Eve (Mary, the Mother of God)
Adoration at Trenton is canceled today.

Tuesday December 31 - 4:30 pm at Bethany
Tuesday December 31 - 6:30 pm at Gallatin

Wednesday January 1 New Year's Day (Mary, the Mother of God)
Wednesday January 1 - 8:30 am at Trenton

Annual Catholic Appeal

Congratulations on three of our parishes on reaching and surpassing their goal. The Diocese rewards parishes who exceed their goal; however those who don't reach their goal are charged a penalty. See the progress below for our four parishes .

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

November 24

Saint Joseph	\$ 1,082
Blessed Sacrament	\$ 2,364
Immaculate Heart of Mary	\$ —
Mary Immaculate	\$ —

Tax-Free Giving

Every time you give to your parish, a ministry or worthy cause, you are giving a gift to God. If you can live without using withdrawals from your IRA< giving from an IRA account is one of the smartest ways to make a real impact for your parish. IRA QCD's (qualified charitable distributions) are **excluded from taxable income.**

Several of our parishioners have already given to their parishes through this method and have saved taxes in the process. if you have any questions about how to get your gift to your parish contact the diocese's Stewardship and Development's Planned Giving office at (816) 714-2346. Or ask Peggy for assistance. She has access to the forms you will need.

CONFESSION

If you haven't been to Confession in a while, the Catholic Church wants to welcome you back, and invite you to participate in this beautiful sacrament of healing. Take a step in faith. You'll be surprised about how free you feel after taking part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. So many Catholics describe incredible feelings of peace, joy, relief, and love that they never expected. Jesus is calling you to experience His mercy in this way too.

What are some benefits of going to Confession?

1. Confession helps us to better "know thyself."

St. Augustine and countless other saints and doctors of the Church talk about the importance of knowing ourselves well. Through coming to know ourselves better, we realized how fallen we are, and how badly we need God's help and grace to get through life. Frequent Confession helps remind us to rely on God to help rid us of our sins.

2. Confession helps us overcome vice.

The grace we receive from the Sacrament of Confession helps us combat our faults and failings and break our habits of vice much more easily and expediently than we could otherwise do without the sacramental grace.

3. Confession brings us peace.

Guilt from the sins we commit can make us feel all mixed up inside and cause us to lose our peace and joy. When we hear God's forgiving words to us from the lips of the priest in Confession, a burden is lifted off our shoulders and we can again feel the peace of heart and soul that comes from being in a good relationship with God.

4. Confession helps us become more saintly, more like Jesus.

Jesus was perfectly humble, perfectly generous, perfectly patient, perfectly loving—perfectly everything! Don't you wish you could be as humble, generous, patient, and loving as Jesus? Saints throughout history have felt that way too, and they have frequented the Sacrament of Reconciliation to help transform them into people who are more like Christ. Little images of Christ—that's what saints are!

5. Confession makes our will stronger.

Every time we experience the Sacrament of Confession, God strengthens our will and our self-control to be able to resist the temptations that confront us in our lives. We become more resolute to follow God's will and not our own whims.

Of course, the list of benefits of the Sacrament of Confession goes on and on! But you have to go to reap the benefits! Going to Confession regularly will truly change your life. [What's keeping you from Reconciliation?](#)

The words of absolution in the Confessional are truly beautiful: "I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Jesus is waiting to forgive you—all you have to do is ask! **Don't miss out any longer on the healing power of Confession.** (taken from Catholicscomehome.org)

Parish	Sunday, November 3 2024		Goal Status	
	# Gifts/ Pledges	Total	2024-2025 ACA Goal	% Goal
Bethany, Blessed Sacrament (2090)	7	\$1,625	\$1,632	100%
Gallatin, Mary Immaculate (2290)	15	\$7,189	\$3,014	239%
Princeton, Immaculate Heart of Mary (2580)	4	\$2,350	\$1,296	181%
Trenton, St. Joseph (2660)	13	\$1,855	\$2,249	82%