

ST. JOSEPH AND ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCHES

DECEMBER 14, 2025

"GAUDETE SUNDAY"

Third Sunday of **ADVENT**



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MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass

Monday & Friday | 8:30 am
St. Joseph
Tuesday & Thursday | 8:30
St Francis

Weekend Mass

Saturday | 4 pm St Joseph's
Sunday | 8:30 am St Francis
10:30 am St Joseph's

Confession

Saturday | 3:15 pm St Joseph's
Sunday | 8 am St Francis
Or by appointment

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev Jun Segura, Pastor
Dcn. Gregg Wilbur, Deacon
Bonnie Aldi
(religion.sfnsjb@yahoo.com)
Coordinator of Faith Formation
Linda Quant, Bookkeeper
Jim Ryan, Facilities Manager
Ann Marie Simonson,
Director, Youth Ministry
Alesha Hoffman, Secretary SF
Amy-Lin Slezak-Nelson, Music Director

Our Mission

We, the Roman Catholic community
of St. Francis of Assisi and
St. Joseph's
are called to live the Gospel message
of Jesus through Hospitality, Worship,
Faith Formation and Service to others.

Trustees

SJ	SF
Sheila Bleyl	William D. Saksen III
Carm Greco	Judy Morrison

ST. JOSEPH'S MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday (Dec. 13)

Living & Deceased Galiardo Family +Mary Pisanti

Sunday (Dec. 14)

Teresita J. Segura +Penny Szumowski
Jaime Gatusang + SJ Thrift Shop Staff

Monday (Dec. 15)

Friday (Dec. 19)

Saturday (Dec. 20)

Jon DuBois +Ron & Paula Cornell
MaryLou & George Lockyer +Christine Lockyer

Sunday (Dec. 21)

Diana LaDue +Cheryl & Richard Palmer
Theresa Ritz +Ritz Family
Nenita Chvilicek + SJ Thrift Store

The red Sanctuary Candle burns all week to remind people of the Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. You can memorialize our candle at either parish for a week for a deceased loved one, a living person or a special intention. The Intention and Donor's names will be published in our weekly bulletin.

The suggested donation for the 7-day candle is \$20.

All submissions must be made at least 2 weeks prior to the week you are requesting to accommodate bulletin printing deadlines. Please call the office for scheduling requests.

ST. FRANCIS MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday (Dec. 14)

Nenita S. Chvilicek +St. Francis Parish
Healing of Lorrie Intrabartola By Rick Koval

Tuesday (Dec. 16)

Thelma Misko +Bonnie Preston

Sunday (Dec. 21)

Renee & Kimberly Koval +By Rick Koval
Deceased Galligan Family members +By Betty Richardson

Mass Intentions:

Those wishing to honor a loved one during the celebration of Mass may do so by stopping into or calling the office. Mass cards are available for the living, deceased & for healing; Masses provide opportunities for prayerful remembrance of special occasions.

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE: December 14, 2025

When I was 11, I was riding my bike on a Friday night in Scottsdale, Arizona. I saw giant spotlights swirling in the sky. Something amazing had to be happening. I pedaled after them with excitement. Sweaty and tired, I arrived, only to find a used car lot. Bright lights, flapping banners, inflatable balloon men swaying wildly in the wind. I stood there, heart sinking. All that spectacle, and all my effort ... for this?

As life proceeds, we learn what it is like to pursue promising but fruitless searches. This week we hear Jesus ask the crowds regarding John the Baptist: "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?" (Matthew 11:7). He's not just describing the crowd's mis-aimed pursuit. He's naming our tendency to chase after what's flashy but flimsy.

What are our swaying reeds? For me, it is endless video reels on my phone, worldly pleasures, entertainment in sports, and the good opinion of others. Inflated distractions that bend whichever way the wind blows. But they can't satisfy my soul. What are your flimsy reeds?

John the Baptist wasn't a swaying reed. He was rooted, grounded, unafraid to speak the solid truth. The people went to see him because, deep down, they were starving for something real.

This Advent, the Church asks us to reassess: What are we really looking for? Are we chasing the dazzling but hollow? Or are we seeking what is solid and lasting — that which points to Christ? ©LPi

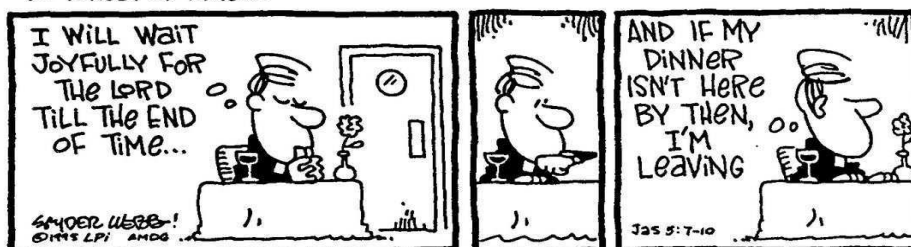
Readings for the week of December 14, 2025

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23/Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17/Mt 1:1-17
Thursday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25
Friday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25
Saturday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38
Next Sunday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

Observances for the week of Dec. 14, 2025

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent
Monday:
Tuesday:
Wednesday:
Thursday:
Friday:
Saturday:
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent

OR SUNDAY OF ADVENT



St. Joseph

Pastoral Care:

If you know of someone who is ill & needs to have communion at home or in hospital, please call the office, so a pastoral minister knows to visit them.

St. Francis' office
518-863-4736
St. Joseph office
518-883-3774

UPCOMING EVENTS

Each Monday & Friday after SJ 8:30 am Mass - Pray the Rosary
1st Sundays of the Month - SF - 8 am pray the Rosary
1st Mondays - SF 7:30 pm Knights of Columbus meeting
1st Tuesdays - SF (Apr-Dec) 1 pm Rosary Society Meeting
Each Wednesday - SF 2 pm Prayer Group in John Paul II Hall
2nd Wednesdays - SJ 6 pm Knights of Columbus Meeting
Jan. 2, 2026, Mar. 6, 2026: Adoration, SF at 6:00 PM
Jan.31 ~ Filipinos Sponsored Gathering: Mass 11am,
pot luck to follow.
July 16, 17, 18 2026 ~ SJ Annual Summer Festival

Fr. Jun will be in the Philippines for home vacation from December 10 to January 8, 2026(Weekday Masses will be livestreamed if WiFi will be available)

St. Francis

LENDING LIBRARY NEWS

ADVENT (1st Sunday of Advent: Nov. 30)
Advent meditation, reflection and prayer books will be available during Advent. They will help us as we journey and prepare our hearts for Christmas.

Mini reflection: We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert. Why? What are we expecting to see?

I've always wanted to see a real desert.

I know all about frigid, snowy winters and warm, wet summers. I grew up on rich soil that yields lush vegetation and bountiful harvests. But I've never experienced a desert, not in my own country or abroad, and I'm curious.

I know there must be something magical about the desert for it to feature so heavily in Scripture, for it to provide a backdrop to so many crucial moments of salvation history. The Israelites following the cloud, the temptation of Christ, the voice crying out:

"Prepare the way for the Lord."

Why do these moments have to happen in a desert? Why do they make so much less sense in a tropical rainforest or a verdant forest?

I think it's because the desert doesn't have anything to offer us, at first glance. No one longs for the physical sensation of a dry heat and a beating sun. But the vast emptiness and the almost mystical harshness — even if we don't desire and delight in it, this is a setting that we understand, somehow, intrinsically. We know it deep within our soul. God is there.

We go to Mass. We go to Confession. We pray. We read Scripture. In doing all these things, again and again, we go out to the desert.

Why? What are we expecting to see?

If we expect to be entertained, we will be disappointed. If we expect reassurance, we will be disappointed. If we expect to feel pleasant and safe and sheltered, we will be disappointed.

The desert is there to challenge us. The desert is there to show us who we are, and who we can be.

So go.

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
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St. Joseph's Closet
Thrift Store hours:

Tues: 4-7 pm
Wed: 10 am - 1 pm
Saturday: 10 am - 1 pm

Thank you
for your support
& patronage

*"Remember where your treasure is,
your heart is also."*

Matthew 6:21

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or online at

<https://onrealm.org/StJosephsBroadalbin/Give>

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11/27,29 & 11/30	SJ 4 / 10:30 /Thanksgiving	SF 8:30/Thanksgiving
Attendance	67/ 95 / 23	90/25
Contribution	\$ 618.00/ \$ 1,540.00 /348	\$2,707.00/ 335.00
October e-giving	\$972.10	\$1,132.25
Poor & Votive	52	65.00

Prayer for Advent - Peace

Come, Lord Jesus!
Bring your peace to
our world. Inspire
reconciliation, heal
divisions, bind
wounds, rewrite
scripts. You are the
Prince of Peace, bring
that light into every
space. Amen. @Lpi

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