

1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Therefore, stay awake!
For you do not know
on which day your
Lord will come."
- Mt 24:42

Excerptis from the Lectionary for Mass G2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

SACRED HEART CHURCH

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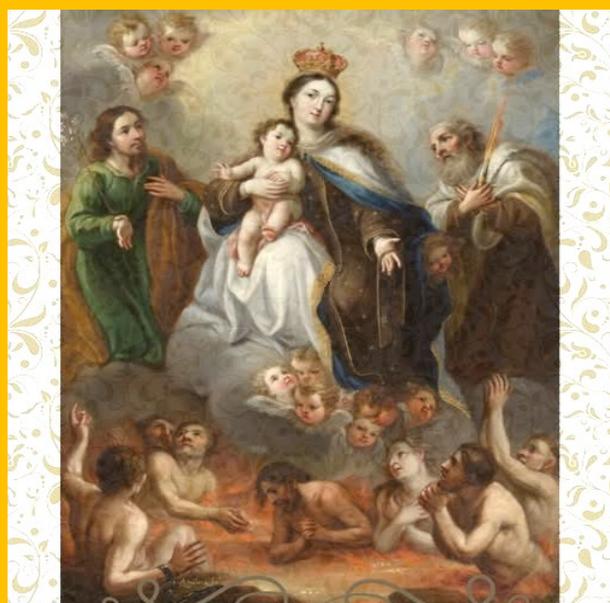
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THE SEASON OF ADVENT

LA TEMPORADA DE ADVIENTO



November
Month of the Holy Souls in Purgatory

*O Sacred Heart, O Love Divine
Do keep us near to Thee
And make our love so like to Thine
That we may holy be*

[REFRAIN]

*Heart of Jesus, hear
O Heart of Love Divine
Listen to our prayer
Make us always Thine*



*O Temple pure, O House of gold
Our Heaven here below
What sweet delights, what wealth untold
From Thee do ever flow [REF]*

*Ungrateful hearts, forgetful hearts
The hearts of men have been
To wound Thy side with cruel darts
Which they have made by sin [REF]*

THE SACRED HEART'S CHURCH & COMMUNITY'S MISSION:

In the example, imitation & guidance- of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus - our Divine Patron, we will strive to fulfill the Catholic Church's mission, that is, to evangelize; which means to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all, ultimately seeking to lead everyone to a deeper relationship with God . In this mission, we will embody Christ's love through service, teaching the Catholic faith, and foster the salvation and sanctification of our brothers & sisters, which we will devotedly & zealously manifest in the ongoing efforts to serve the poor, the marginalized, and all those in need in our community.

THE ST. CECILIA'S CHURCH & COMMUNITY'S MISSION:

In the example & intercession of our Patron Saint: St. Cecilia - a Virgin & a Martyr- we will strive to fulfill the Catholic Church's mission, that is, to evangelize; which means to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all, ultimately seeking to lead everyone to a deeper relationship with God . In this mission, we will embody Christ's love through service, teaching the Catholic faith, and foster the salvation and sanctification of our brothers & sisters, which we will devotedly & zealously manifest in the ongoing efforts to serve the poor, the marginalized, and all those in need in our community.

† Wine & hosts for the altar at *Saint Cecilia* for the month of *November* have been graciously sponsored in loving memory of *Sal Furnare*, by his wife *Michelle & family*.

† Wine & hosts for the altar at *Sacred Heart* for the month of *November* have been graciously sponsored in loving memory of *Louis & Irene Zanella* by *Wendy & Bill Hall*.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sat. 29, 4:00 pm (SH) - † *In memory of the deceased members of the Taboleski & Wright families, requested by Denise & Peter Madigan.*

Sun. Nov 30, 9:00 am (SC) - † *In memory of Pat Neri, requested by Andrea Moran.*

Sun. Nov 30, 5:00 pm (SC) - *For the people of the parish.*

Tues. Dec 2 thru Sun. Dec 7, 2025

Tue. Dec 2, 8:00 am (SH) - *For the people of the parish.*

Wed. Dec 3, 8:00 am (SC) - *For the health and healing of Kerrin Furnare, requested by Michele & family.*

Thurs. Dec 4, 8:00 am (SH) - *For the weary and broken by the grip of addiction.*

Fri. Dec 5, 8:00 am (SC) - *For the health and healing of Kerrin Furnare, requested by her godchild, Grace..*

Sat. Dec 6, 4:00 pm (SH) - 1.) † *In loving memory of Frances Opalka, requested by her daughter, Barbara.*
2.) † *In loving memory of Val Krawiecki, requested by his loving wife Barbara.*

Sun. Dec 7, 9:00 am (SC) - † *In memory of Norbert & Verna Bicheler, requested by John & Sheila Cranker.*

Sun. Dec 7 5:00 pm (SC) - † *In remembrance & recollection of the 84th anniversary of the Pearl Harbor tragedy.*



PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Father, you are the Lord of the Harvest. You made each one of us to use our gifts in the Body of Christ. We ask you to inspire young men and women of the Diocese of Albany, whom you call to the priesthood and consecrated life, to boldly follow Your will. Send laborers into Your great harvest to preach the Gospel, to serve the poor with love, to comfort those who suffer, and to strengthen these your people with the Holy Sacraments. We ask through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

ALL: Holy Mary, Protector & Mother of holy Vocations, Intercede for us.

ALL: Send O Lord, Holy Apostles to your Church!

GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

Nov 30, 2025 - First Sunday of Advent - Matthew 25: 37-44

A few years ago, my house was broken into on Super Bowl Sunday. Turns out, it's a great day for burglars. If the TV isn't on, people are probably watching the game somewhere else, so ... easy pickins'. I'll never forget walking into my bedroom and realizing someone had been there. My stuff was thrown all over the floor. The closet was torn apart. It was disorienting and disturbing — someone had invaded the space I thought was secure. After that, I bought an alarm system. And every Super Bowl Sunday since, I'm extra careful to lock the doors and keep the lights on. That experience made me more alert. Not scared. Just attentive.

That's much like the spiritual place Jesus wants us to be on this first Sunday of Advent. He doesn't start the season with soft candlelight and cozy manger scenes. He starts with two brutal images: a flood and a thief. In other words, chaos and violation.

Why? Because life will flood us. Chaos will come. And in the midst of it, Christ will come like a thief — not to steal from us, but to steal us back. He is the intruder we should want. The one who breaks in, not to ransack, but to rescue.

Christ presents himself as the thief but also the new Noah. He builds the ark of the Church to carry us through the flood. And he invites us to join him. How? By participating fully in our parishes. By making our homes places of prayer. By guarding our hearts with truth. By refusing to let spiritual complacency leave us exposed. By repentance.

This Advent, don't just stay vaguely "awake." Prepare. Build. Watch. The flood will come. But so will he.

-Father John Muir

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Second collections

Nov 29/30 (SC) Food Pantry

Lector/Eucharistic Ministers

Nov 29 (SH)	Mark Caffrey Tony Stellato	Dec 6 (SH)	Cathy Parry Tony Stellato
Nov 30 (SC)	Ken Stuff Bill Quinn	Dec 7 (SC)	Ann Mahon Michele Furnare

Counters Schedule

Dec 1 (SH)	Barb Bilins Kathy Avery	Dec 8 (SH)	Katherine Downing Wendy Hall
Dec 1 (SC)	Sandy Hayes Kathy Marcais	Dec 8 (SC)	Flo Stanton Margaret Smith

Food Pantry



Dec 3 (SH)	Barb Bilins Wendy Hall
Dec 23 (Tue) (SC)	Andrea Moran Margaret Smith Michele Furnare



Remade for Mission: On this Remade for Mission Synod discussion about "Stewardship". We are reporting to you the financial summaries & the current financial state of our Parish; Help us assess & evaluate our financial resources. And please participate in answering the following questions:

1. Is this current financial state of our parish sustainable?
2. Is this aligned with what we need to fulfilling our mission?
3. Are we willing to change to create a sustainable future for generations to come?
4. What is/ are your recommendations for financial sustainability?

Food Pantry Donations: With the holiday season upon us, the need for food is even greater. There are baskets in the vestibule of each parish, placed there for food donations for the pantry.

Sacred Heart Pie Raffle: Our weekly pie raffle has returned, just in time for the holidays. Purchase your tickets in the vestibule before Saturday's Vigil Mass

Sunday Raffle at St. Cecilia: We will gladly accept donations as we continue our Sunday raffle. As always, we appreciate your support.

*150th Anniversary Commemoration of Sacred Heart Parishioners
~ Nov 30th thru Dec 6th ~*

Baptisms

*November 30, 1996 Ryan Francis Mihalek
December 1, 1974 Denise Michelle Peterson
December 1, 1974 Jodie Ann Hawker
December 1, 1974 Joy Lynn Gardner
December 5, 1976 Christopher Todd Rohling
December 6, 1981 Katie Lynn Abel
December 2, 2006 Ginanna Marie DiNatale
December 4, 2011 Kennedy Rae Cuddy
December 3, 2016 Bentley Baker*

Marriages

*December 1, 1971 Donald L. Meachem & Debra M. Adams
December 1, 1984 Stephen Howard Care & Nancy Anne Nowak*

Deaths-Funerals

*December 3, 1980 David O. Hamer, Jr.
December 4, 1983 Stella Jacobs
December 2, 1987 Isabel C. Keehan
December 2, 2011 Helen Jowett
December 4, 2011 Alexander A. Peluso
December 5, 2012 John (Larry) Willi
December 1, 2020 Edward J. Murphy
December 4, 2020 Val Krawiecki*

Liturgical Schedule Update

Dec 8th, Monday, Immaculate Conception of Mary – St. Cecilia 6:30pm

Dec 24th, Wed, Christmas Eve – St. Cecilia 4:00pm Vigil Mass/Children's Xmas Mass - Christmas Vigil Mass – Sacred Heart 6:30pm

Dec 25th, Thursday, Christmas Day Mass – St. Cecilia 8:15am - Sacred Heart 10:15am

Foundations for a Flourishing Future Part 6/6

Becoming beacons of hope

The journey we have undertaken calls each parish to face reality with honesty and to walk forward with courage. We have named our challenges — declining numbers, limited resources and shifting cultural landscapes. Yet through every page, one truth shines clear: God has not abandoned His Church. The mission remains the same and the Spirit continues to guide us.

Our task is to embrace renewal as disciples. This means re-centering parish life on the Gospel, stewarding resources with faith, listening deeply to our communities and making decisions with both courage and compassion. It means leadership that is shared, planning that is prayerful and evaluation that keeps us faithful to our mission.

The way ahead is not without sacrifice. Some buildings may close, structures may change and traditions may evolve. But every act of letting go makes space for something new — ministries that reach the lost, communities that serve the poor and parishes that shine as lights of Christ's love.

Hope is our anchor. Christ promised, "I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Mt 28:20). With this assurance, we can look to the future with confidence, knowing that transformation is not only possible, but already unfolding. Together, we are being remade for mission — called to be not just maintainers of the past, but builders of a flourishing future.

Our parishes, renewed and outward-facing, can truly become beacons of hope — signs of God's presence in our neighborhoods, sources of light for the weary and places where the Good News is lived and proclaimed. This is the Church Christ calls us to be, and with faith, courage and love, it is the Church we will become.

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