

Church of St. Ignatius Loyola

ESTABLISHED IN 1851 • JESUIT SINCE 1866

November 29, 2020 | First Sunday of Advent

Advent: Season of Expectations

Advent is often described as a season of anticipation. Young children are being cheerfully warned that Santa is coming and that they need to be good if they expect Santa to bring them gifts from their wish list. Most adults, even in this pandemic time, are anticipating some scaled back family gatherings during the next month.

Scripture has its own anticipation over the next twenty-six days. The one constant message we'll be hearing is this: "The Lord is coming! The Lord is coming!" This is the promise that resounds through a thousand years of Hebrew Scriptures, a promise Christians believe has been fulfilled with the birth of Jesus Christ. Yet every Advent there's the continual exhortation to "be prepared" and to "stay awake."

What's going on here? Are we playing some sort of "make-believe" game in Advent? Are we supposed to pretend that the Lord has not come as we prepare for Christmas? Certainly not. The Lord has come, and the Church asks us to look back with amazement and gratitude for that first coming — for the birth of Jesus Christ. At the same time, we are to look ahead to when he will come again, as we pray in the Creed every Sunday: "He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end."

So, if you find yourself confused by the Scripture readings this season, it's not your fault! They swivel back and forth, between events leading up to the birth of Jesus, and events still to come when Jesus will come again in glory, and time and the world as we know it will pass away and become a new creation.

At the time when Advent engenders a mood of heightened expectation, I am reminded of how important it is for Christians to be people of great expectations. In fact, the New Testament, if it had another name, might be called the Book of Great Expectations. The Advent refrain, "The Lord is coming," is not just about the coming of Jesus two thousand years ago, nor about his return in glory at some unknown future time. It is also about the Lord's coming to us now.

The Spirit of God who brought the Church to life at Pentecost is still the hidden source of life and power for good in our lives and in the life of the Church. We read in Psalm 121: "Help comes to me from the Lord who made heaven and earth ... This guardian of yours, he does not doze or sleep. He guards your lives ... now and always."

God continues to be who God always has been for us: the guardian who never sleeps but who is constantly seeking to renew our lives. In this season of anticipation, we need to have great expectations for what God can do in us, in the world, and in the Church. Having anything less than great expectations would be terribly unworthy of Him.

— Rev. William J. Bergen, S.J.
Senior Priest





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THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Social Distancing Socials.
Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays.
6:00 PM. Zoom.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29th

Sunday Morning Sing-In.
9:45 AM. Zoom.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1st

Tuesday Night Book Group | *Story of a Soul: The Autobiography of St. Thérèse of Lisieux*. 7:00 PM. Zoom.

Meeting Christ in Prayer: Holy Listening.
7:00 PM. Zoom.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3rd

Angels - Agents of Transformation.
Presented by Brian Pinter.
7:00 PM. Zoom.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5th

Concert | A Chanticleer Christmas.
3:00 PM. Virtual.

Announced Masses and Readings for the Week

Monday, November 30th (St. Andrew)

Romans 10:9–18 Psalm 19 Matthew 4:18–22
8:30 MEM Tony Petychakis
12:10 MEM Charles Glowacki
5:30 MEM William Powers

Tuesday, December 1st

(Ss. Edmund Campion, Robert Southwell & comps.)

Isaiah 11:1–10 Psalm 72 Luke 10:21–24
8:30 MEM Ciro Saracino
12:10 MEM Margaret Gallacher
5:30 MEM Anthony Pflum

Wednesday, December 2nd (First Wednesday of Advent)

Isaiah 25:6–10a Psalm 23 Matthew 15:29–37
8:30 MEM The Choix & Gordon Families
12:10 ANN Daniel Kelly
5:30 MEM Ona Matuleviciene

Thursday, December 3rd (St. Francis Xavier)

1 Corinthians 9:16–19, 22–23 Psalm 117 Matthew 16:15–20
8:30 MEM Antonio Ramirez de Salgado
12:10 MEM Gregorio Dizon
5:30 MEM Jack Kehoe

Friday, December 4th (First Friday of Advent)

Isaiah 29:17–24 Psalm 27 Matthew 9:27–31
8:30 MEM For the Souls in Purgatory
12:10 MEM Marie Rice
5:30 ANN Dolorita Wallace Moore

Saturday, December 5th (First Saturday of Advent)

Isaiah 30:19–21, 23–26 Psalm 147 Matthew 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8
8:30 MEM Caroline Choix

Sunday, December 6th (Second Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11 Psalm 85
2 Peter 3:8–14 Mark 1:1–8



Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Mass Reservations

Phone and online registration for our
Thursday, December 24th Christmas Eve
and *Friday, December 25th* Christmas Day Masses
is now open.



To RSVP, visit ignatius.guestmanager.com
or scan the QR code at left.

CHRISTMAS EVE & CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Masses: 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, and 8 PM
Christmas Day Masses: 8 AM, 10 AM, and 12 Noon.



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To sign-up, scan the QR code at left or
visit stignatiusloyola.org.

Weekday Masses (Monday to Friday)

8:30 AM (Church), 12:10 PM (Church) & 5:30 PM (Church/Livestream)
Saturday: 8:30 AM (Church)

Saturday Vigil	5:30 PM	Fr. Hilbert
Sunday:	8:00 AM	Fr. Yesalonja
	9:30 AM	Fr. Amiot
Solemn	11:00 AM	Fr. Bergen
	7:30 PM	Fr. Bergen