

# Dear Padre,

*I've been Catholic all my life, but I don't understand Advent. It's too much like Lent and seems an odd way to prepare for the birth of a baby.*

In a society that is primarily secular, one skill of the believing Christian is the ability to balance competing realities. From a secular perspective, Christmas is part of the period identified as the "holidays," beginning with Thanksgiving until New Year's Day, when it abruptly ends and stores begin advertising Valentine's Day.

For Christians, Christmas is the day we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the great promise fulfilled after centuries of waiting and expectation. The creative energy of the Father is displayed in wonder and awe as the angels sing and people of good faith gather to celebrate. We join our ancestors in anticipation of this event through the liturgical season of Advent, a time of waiting and preparation.

The Christian holy day is a singular day, the feast of the Nativity of the Lord—Christmas—but the Church continues the celebration of God's life and love through the days that follow, culminating in the Baptism of the Lord, the beginning of the public ministry of Jesus.

We are invited to hold the secular and the liturgical experiences in an integrated balance. We can celebrate the secular holidays and we can enter the liturgical season that helps us contemplate something much grander and more spectacular. ●

*Fr. Thomas M. Santa, CSSR / DearPadre.org*



KIRKODI / SHUTTERSTOCK

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 1, 2024

First Sunday of Advent (C)

Jeremiah 33:14–16 / 1 Thessalonians 3:12–4:2 / Luke 21:25–28, 34–36



## The Waiting Time

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**A**dvent is a time of hope but also a time of waiting. Different than wishing, hope is the belief that, one day, all will be well. Teenagers eagerly wait to be out on their own, believing then all will be well. Students are eager to graduate and get away from papers to write, books to read, and exams to take—then all will be well. Some singles long to find a partner, marry, and settle down, believing—then—all will be well. Always there is the faith that, although life may not now be what we wish, the future will bring a time when all will be well. We are inveterate people of hope.

Yet life is a process that cannot be rushed. Author Annie Dillard once watched a butterfly hatch from a cocoon. A bit impatient, she decided to gently warm

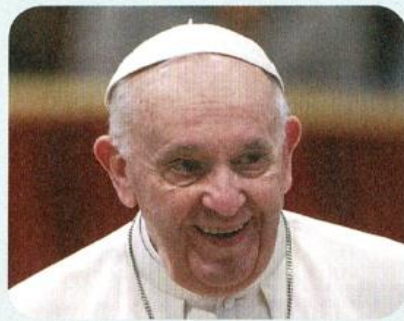
the cocoon and so hasten the process. It worked, except by rushing the process the butterfly's wings were undeveloped, too weak to fly. All that we hope and long for in life must happen at its own pace, faithful to the process.

How, then, do we negotiate the waiting? The Gospel's encouragement is to pray, but not for what we want. Rather, we are to pray for the strength to stand with hope before the Son of Man, trusting that God will bring forth the goodness we need. Though it may be different than what we seek, it will be what we need. ●

### Reflect

*How can you better enjoy times of waiting?*

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 2 Advent Weekday Is 2:1–5 Mt 8:5–11	December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest Is 11:1–10 Lk 10:21–24	December 4 Advent Weekday Is 25:6–10a Mt 15:29–37	December 5 Advent Weekday Is 26:1–6 Mt 7:21, 24–27	December 6 Advent Weekday Is 29:17–24 Mt 9:27–31	December 7 St. Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church Is 30:19–21, 23–26 Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8	December 8 Second Sunday of Advent Bar 5:1–9 Phil 1:4–6, 8–11 Lk 3:1–6



STEFANO DAL POLOZZO / CNS

### A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*Vigilance means this: not to allow our hearts to become lazy or our spiritual life to soften into mediocrity. Be careful because we can become "sleepy Christians"—and we know there are many Christians who are asleep, who are anesthetized by spiritual worldliness.... This is a sad life going forward this way since there is no happiness.*

ANGELUS, ROME, NOVEMBER 28, 2021

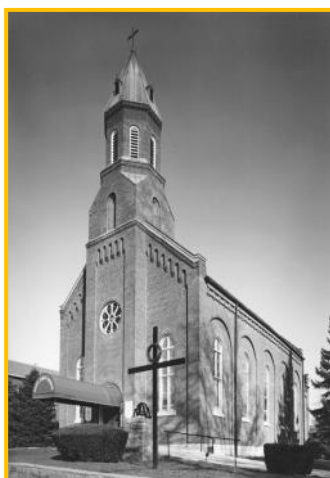


May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all... to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones.

1 THESSALONIANS 3:12–13

# St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street  
Potosi, MO 63664



## December 2024

### Mass Schedule

St. Joachim	Mon:	8:00 AM
St. James	Tues:	8:15 AM
St. Joachim	Wed:	8:15 AM
St. James	Thurs:	8:00 AM
St. Joachim	Fri:	8:00 AM
St. James	First Sat:	8:00 AM
St. James 1st & 3rd	Sat:	4:00 PM
St. Joachim 2nd/4th	Sat:	4:00 PM
St. James	Sun:	8:00 AM
St. Joachim	Sun:	10:00 AM

### HOLYDAY SCHEDULE:

Please check the Bulletin for Mass Times.

**E-MAIL:**  
stjameschurch@centurylink.net

**WEBSITE:** \*\*\*\*\*  
[www.stjames-potosi.org](http://www.stjames-potosi.org)

**FACEBOOK:** St. James Catholic Church

**Office Hours:**  
Tuesday and Thursday after Mass-until 2:00  
Wednesday 8:00-2:00  
Phone: 573-438-4686  
Closed Holy Days

**Parish Hall or Parish School of Religion**  
Phone: 573-366-5235

### STAFF

**Rev. Anthony Dattilo**—Pastor  
[AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org](mailto:AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org)  
573-436-0580(St. Joachim rectory)

**Rev. Vince Nyman** - Part-time Senior Associate Pastor  
314-614-0718

**Katie Williamson:** Office Mgr.  
[stjameschurch@centurylink.net](mailto:stjameschurch@centurylink.net)  
573-438-4686

**Judy East**—Custodian  
**Tommy Roy:** On Call Maintenance

[stjamespsr@gmail.com](mailto:stjamespsr@gmail.com)  
**Laura Allen**— Coordinator of Religious Ed. 573-366-5235

**Confessions:**  
Saturday: 3:15 - 3:45 PM;  
prior to Sat evening Mass  
Or by appointment

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK OF: December 2, 2024

MON	8:00 AM	Mass @ St. Joachim
Dec 03 TUE	8:15 AM	Theresa West
Dec 04 WED	8:15 AM	Mass @ St. Joachim
Dec 05 THU	8:00 AM	Anthony Killian
Dec 06 FRI	8:00 AM	Mass @ St. Joachim
Dec 07 SAT	8:00 AM	Parish Family
Dec 07 SAT	4:00 PM	Lisa Gillian
Dec 08 SUN	8:00 AM	Bess Lalumondier

### November 24, 2024

Envelope.....\$	1000.00
Loose collections..\$	546.00
SVDP.....\$	143.00
Votive Lights.....\$	36.75
Main & Repairs.....\$	00.00
On-Line donations....\$	80.60



## December 7th & 8th 2024

### Lectors

Saturday 4:00pm Sunday 08:00 am  
**Laura Allen /Mary Susan Campbell**  
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

**C: Vikkie Neier**      **Don Thompson**  
**L: Anette Portell**   **Jamie Thompson**  
**R: Paul Villmer**      **Jim Politte**

### Servers

Sat: 4:00 pm Lane & Madison Battreal  
Sun: 08:00 am Ava & Garryn West

### Music:

Sat: 4:00 pm. Chala  
Sun: 8:00 a.m. Rebecca Richards  
Sun: 10:00 am **Anita Govero or The Little Way Band**

St Vincent DePaul November collection: Soup, Crackers, and Peanut Butter. :)

## Faith, Hope, and Charity

Heavenly Duster: 11/29: **Marilyn & Jeanne**  
Altar Linens: 12/02: **Glenda Farrow**

Would anyone be interested in starting a group for decorating the church? Duties would include managing the flower fund and decorating the church for all seasons. Please let the office know if your interested.



Don't forget to bring back the gifts for the Giving Tree by 12/8

December 19th will be our Christmas Concert starting @ 7PM



### \*\*\*\*\*Formed\*\*\*\*\*

**This week on formed:**  
Spirituality of Thanksgiving  
30 Minutes BC: A Nativity Play  
Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession

### First Sunday of Advent – December 1, 2024 ( Daily Reflection)

Action Item: Prepare with vigilance and prayer for the coming of Christ  
December 2, 2024  
Action Item: Strengthen your faith as we meditate on God's promises being fulfilled  
December 3, 2024  
Action Item: Strive to see the fulfillment of God's promises and grow strong in faith.

Formed is free to the parishioners, paid for by St. James parish. It is simple to put on your phone.

- Go to : <http://signup.formed.org/>
- Enter our parish's zip code 63664
- Enter your name and your email address. That's it, you are in!

## What's on the Calendar???

Dec 03: Ladies Sodality mgt @ 1pm  
Dec 05: Christmas Parade  
Dec 06: St. Nicholas  
Dec 09: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Dec 10: Parish Council Mgt @ 5:30pm  
Knights of Columbus mgt 6:30pm  
Dec 12: Our Lady of Gaudalupe  
Dec 13: Clarity House  
Dec 16: Rural Parish Clinic  
Dec 16: St Vincent De Paul mgt @ 6pm  
Dec 19: Christmas Concert @ 7pm  
Dec 25: The Nativity of the LORD



### Cemetery Lots

New prices have been sent for the purchase of cemetery lots at Calvary Cemetery. The new prices will be put in place January 1, 2025. Perpetual care is a one time only fee, however, envelopes for continued care, maintenance mowing, cleanup of the cemetery will be an ongoing request. Parishioners (Envelope, registered) \$400 plus \$100 for perpetual care Non-Parishioner (Non Envelope, family member of registered member) \$600 plus \$100 for perpetual care Section 100 (Cremation & Babies) FREE (infant under 1 years old) \$200 plus \$100 for perpetual care (1 person) \$300 plus \$100 for perpetual care (2 persons)



LET JESUS FEED YOUR MARRIAGE!  
Renew your Sacrament, deepen your communication strengthen your relationship, and rekindle your romance by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience. The following upcoming weekends are available In 2025. Sign-up now as space is limited! For more information or to apply, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call Terry & Eric Engholm @ 314-649-7317

1/31/25-2/2/25 St. Peters, MO  
4/4/25-4/6/25 St. Peters, MO  
6/13/25-6/15/25 St. Peters, MO

### DAILY REFLECTION

(Take a moment and ask yourself)

How can I better integrate my faith into my daily life?

Are there any areas of my life where I need to repent and seek

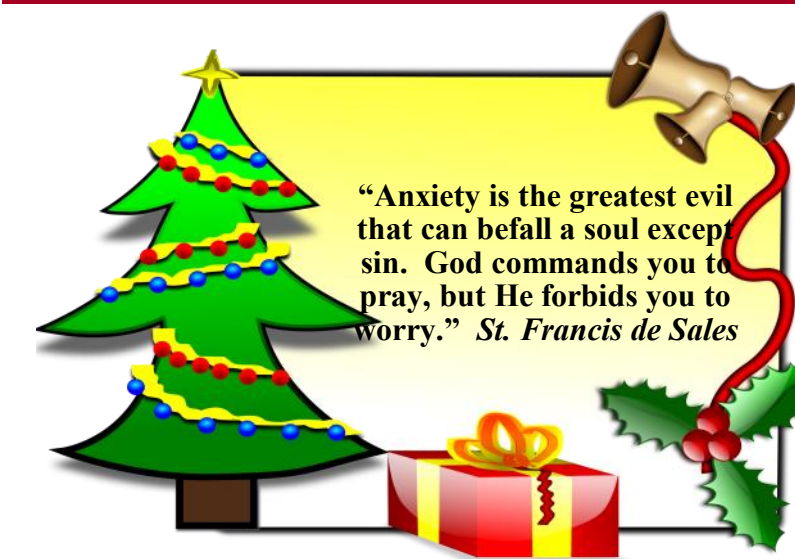
forgiveness?

## Christmas Country Church Tour Announcement

The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (Saint Mary's of the Barrens Church) in Perryville, Missouri, will once again be participating in the Christmas Country Church Tour along with 38 other churches and chapels. The tour will take place on December 19 and 20, from 2:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. All of the participating churches welcome visitors to view their Christmas decorations and to spend a few moments in silent prayer during the Advent season. Here at the Shrine, a tree will be decorated with prayer petitions from local students. There will be live music both nights from 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Light refreshments will be served in the Visitor Center, where unique Christmas items, including nativity sets, will be on display. If you have any questions, please call the Association of the Miraculous Medal at 1-800-264-6279 or visit our website at [www.amm.org](http://www.amm.org). We look forward to your visit.

## Help provide scholarships to Catholic Schools!

100% tax credits available to individuals and Businesses. Participate in the MOScholars Program today. For more information call the Today and Tomorrow Educational Foundation@ 314-792-7032, visit our website at <https://ttef-stl.org/moscholars/>



“Anxiety is the greatest evil that can befall a soul except sin. God commands you to pray, but He forbids you to worry.” St. Francis de Sales

### St. James PSR NEWS

#### December Class

\*11th (1st Reconciliation 2nd grade...grades 3-6  
18th Class and classroom Christmas Party

**DON'T FORGET CHRISTMAS PARADE** on the 5th and decorating the van on the 3rd @ 6pm

Contact Laura at 573-366-5235 with any questions.

