

Dear Padre,

Is Advent a penitential season?

Strictly speaking, the penitential times in the Church are “every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent” (*Code of Canon Law*, 1250). Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s First Coming is remembered, and this remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. (See *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, 39.) While Advent is more anticipatory than penitential, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops states, “Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.” Although, historically, Advent was similar to Lent as a forty-day period of prayer and fasting, it was less severe than the season preceding Easter, and it lacked uniformity in the Western Church. The Eastern Church still begins the Nativity Fast on November 15, while in the Western Church, Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas.

Regardless, the significant focus of Advent is our Lord’s coming (*adventus* in Latin). The Church reflects this anticipation of Advent through such practices as limiting floral arrangements in the sanctuary, simpler liturgical music, and omitting the Gloria at Mass until Christmas. We can also reflect the anticipation of Advent through such spiritual practices as participation in works of charity, moderation in shopping, celebration of the sacrament of penance, fasting on Fridays, and prayerful contemplation on our Savior’s Incarnation. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4	December 5	December 6	December 7
Advent	Advent	St. Francis	Advent	Advent	Advent	Second Sunday of Advent
Weekday	Weekday	Xavier, Priest	Weekday	Weekday	Weekday	
Is 4:2–6	Is 11:1–10	Is 25:6–10a	Is 26:1–6	Is 29:17–24	Is 30:19–21, 23–26	Is 11:1–10
Mt 8:5–11	Lk 10:21–24	Mt 15:29–37	Mt 7:21, 24–27	Mt 9:27–31	Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8	Rom 15:4–9
						Mt 3:1–12



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

We are called to offer God’s love to everyone, in order to achieve that unity which does not cancel out differences but values the personal history of each person and the social and religious culture of every people. Brothers and sisters, this is the hour for love! The heart of the gospel is the love of God that makes us brothers and sisters.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025



Our Parish COMMUNITY

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent (A)

Isaiah 2:1–5 / Romans 13:11–14 / Matthew 24:37–44



Waiting, but Quick!

MIGUEL DULICK

This is the first Sunday of Advent, and the excitement is palpable. Writing 800 years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah sounds like breaking news: “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks.” The psalmist announces we are already there: “And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem.” Saint Paul tickles our fancy with another whole round of “revelation” yet to come “on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.” Only Jesus himself seems a little cautious: “Be watchful! Be alert!” The Lord “is coming,” but he’s not here yet. Leave it to Jesus to force the paradox for which Advent seems to have been created: Jesus is present, but we dare not “sleep,” lest we miss him!

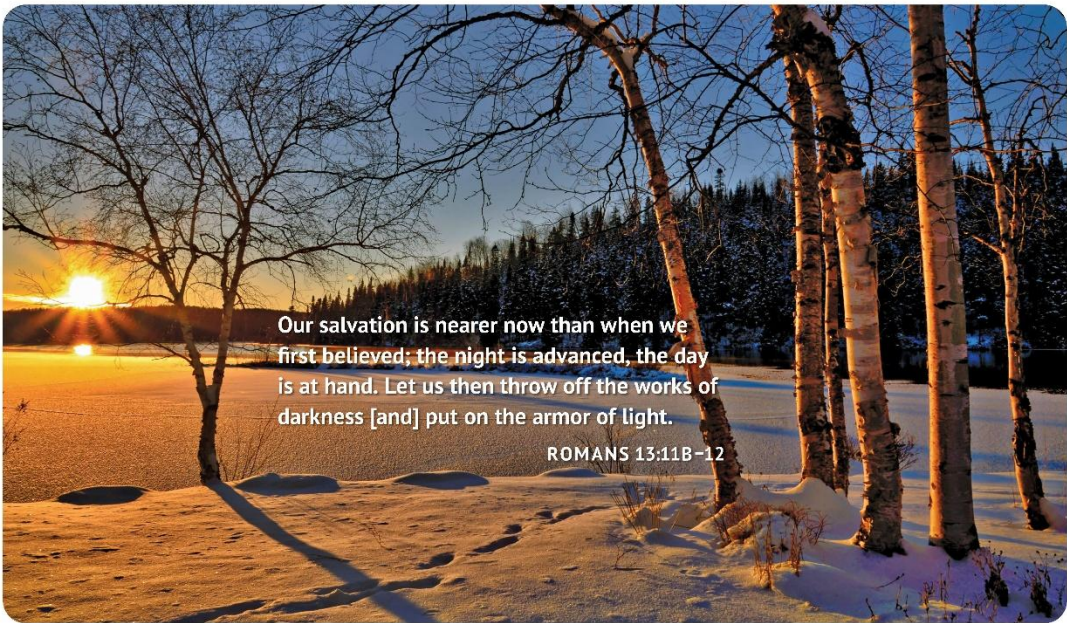
How do we wait for Christmas? After Halloween, the Christmas lights go up, the carols start, the “Merry Christmas!” / “Happy Holidays!” debate begins. Lent is a time for repentance, alms, and fasting. But there’s no fasting in Advent: we fill bags with gifts and stockings with goodies. The Church tries to slow us down and encourage a little reflecting to prepare the way, led by John the Baptist. So let’s keep waiting; let’s hold on to our peace. Christmas Eve will be here soon enough. But let’s not be too austere. A full menu of holiday parties and concerts and family feasts can legitimately “anticipate” Christmas. Let’s cheer each other: Merry Advent! ●

Reflect

What can I do to prepare for Christmas mindfully, peacefully, and joyfully?



SCAN TO
LEARN ABOUT
AUTHOR
MIGUEL
DULICK



Our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness [and] put on the armor of light.

ROMANS 13:11B–12

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April Stephens, Alicia Brown
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WELCOME! NO MATTER WHAT YOUR PRESENT OR PAST STATUS IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, NO MATTER YOUR PERSONAL HISTORY, AGE, RACE OR BACKGROUND, YOU ARE INVITED, WELCOMED, ACCEPTED, AND LOVED AT ST. GENEVIEVE CATHOLIC PARISH.

RECONCILIATION: (Confession) available, following Mass, on Sunday and Wednesday – please contact Fr. Pedro, before mass, to confirm availability. Also by appointment.
BAPTISM: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor, at least one month prior to desired date.
SACRAMENT of MARRIAGE: Please contact the Deacon or Pastor at least six months prior to desired date.

Please remember St. Genevieve Parish in your Will
THANK YOU for your donations!

Weekly Budget: \$1,255.00
11/16/25: \$683.25
11/23/25: \$1646.00
Building Fund Donations: \$10,000.00

***** **UPCOMING EVENTS** *****

Mon, Dec 8, *Feast of the Immaculate Conception*, Mass at 11:00 AM
Thurs, Dec 18, *Advent Reconciliation Service*, 5:00 PM
Wed, Dec 24, *Christmas Eve Vigil Mass*, 4:00 PM
Thurs, Dec 25, *Christmas Day Mass*, 11:00 AM
Wed, Dec 31, *No Mass*
Thurs, Jan 1, *Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God*, 11:00 AM



BUILDING COMMITTEE

People with ideas about the new parish hall, especially those with building skills, are welcome to Contact the Building Committee.

PARENTS: Please do not allow your children to play on/around the new block retaining wall. Thank you!



The Cove is, again, in need of toilet paper. Donations can be left in the basket at the side door.

MANGER MALL is coming soon. Drop off your unwrapped gifts at the church from **Oct 30 – Nov 30** or at the Cove until **Dec 4. THANK YOU!**

Mass Schedule:

Sunday, Nov 30 @ 11:00 am, First Sunday of Advent, Rosary @ 10:20 am
Wednesday, Dec 3 @ 9:30 am, Rosary 9:00 am
First Friday, Dec 5 @ 9:30 am, Anointing of the Sick & Benediction
Sunday, Dec 7 @ 11:00 am, Second Sunday of Advent, Rosary @ 10:20 am



Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 2:1–5 They shall beat their swords into plowshares.
Psalms 122 “Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.”
Romans 13:11–14 Now is the hour to awake from sleep.
Matthew 24:37–44 The Son of Man will come at an hour you least expect.

Jesus paints a scary picture of his second coming in today’s Gospel, warning his disciples to be ready always. We too must prepare ourselves, not only for his return at any time, but also for his coming into our hearts in a deeper way at a time we least expect. The words of the prophet Isaiah and the apostle Paul can help. “Put on the Lord Jesus Christ,” Paul says, or, as Isaiah puts it, “Let us walk in the light of the Lord.” May God’s word inspire us to prepare our hearts so that we may all “go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.”

Question of the Week: How can I prepare my heart this Advent to receive Jesus whenever he comes?



ANNOUNCEMENTS



The 2025 Bishop’s Annual Catholic Appeal (ACA) is now! Please prayerfully consider how you can support the work of the Diocese. Donation envelopes are at church entrances and in the pews.

*** **2025 ACA Goal: \$17,773** ***

Parish Progress Report – Week Nine | 11-23-2025 (no update available)
Total Pledged: \$21,494.06 % to Goal: 120.94%



Rumor has it that St. Nicholas will be joining us after Mass on Sunday, December 7th. Set up will take place on Saturday, 12/06. Please let April know if you can help. **The Altar Society is asked to provide finger food for the event.**

Endow, the women's scripture study on Monday evenings has ended for the year. The program will resume in January after Epiphany. Watch for information on the date and time. Thanks to April for starting this program and encouraging participation among St. Genevieve families! ~ Julie Wehmeyer



HOPE | LOVE | JOY | PEACE



Walk in the Light.



An hour you do not expect.



Please Remember in Your Prayers

John Spannuth
Joseph Carbajal
Mark Crum
Wannita Knox
Roland Cruz
Duncan Bronson
Brooke Stendera
Lupe Garcia
Bill Wilburn
Sheila Kerr
Jonathan Kessler
Fr. Sean Thomson
Thomson Family
Evangeline Grace Knox
Melissa Larson
Howard Burcham
Terry & Barb Anderson
Bernice Morgan



Repose of the Soul of