Saint Joseph Church

✠ Roman Catholic ✠

Pre-Vatican II - Traditional Latin Mass

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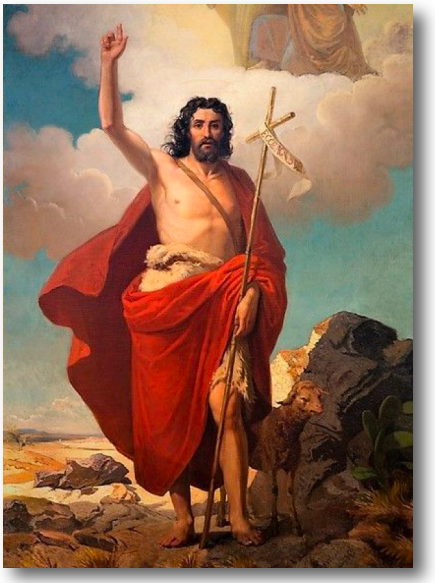
First Sunday of Advent

November 29th, 2026

Rev. Carlos A. Ercoli - Rev. Stephen McKenna



The preaching of St. John the Baptist

"The voice of one crying in the desert:
Prepare the way of the Lord" (Isaiah 40, 3)

⁜ Mass Times This Week ⁜

Sunday, November 29th	**First Sunday of Advent** My brothers -living & deceased *(Br. Michael)*	**5:30 P.M.**
Monday, November 30th	**St. Andrew**, Ap Father Oscar Saavedra -birthday *(Mrs. Angela Goggins)*	
Tuesday, December 1st	**Ferial Day** ✠Elton Wineman -death anniv *(Mrs. Angela Goggins)*	
Wednesday, December 2nd	**St. Bibiana**, VM Mrs. Juliet F. Pablo -birthday *(Mr. Wilfredo A. Pablo)*	
Thursday, December 3rd	**St. Francis Xavier**,C ✠Charlotte Caron -death anniv *(Mr. Alan Caron)*	
Friday, December 4th	**St. Peter Chrysologus**, BpCD Michael Goggins Jr. -birthday *(Mrs. Angela Goggins)*	
Saturday, December 5th	**Ferial Day** Carleen Pang -birthday *(Mrs. Joan Pang)*	
Sunday, December 6th	**Second Sunday of Advent** Anthony Pamon -conversion *(Mrs. Zahrah Pamon)*	**5:30 P.M.**

⁜ Announcements ⁜

• **First Friday Devotions.** Please note that there is **no** First Friday Mass this week.
• **Holy Mass at St. Joseph's:** Sundays at 5:30 P.M.

Wisdom of the Saints

Prayer

• *"It is a great help to humility to accustom ourselves to draw from all things reflections suited to raise our hearts to God, by beholding in them all His perfections, or else the love He bears us, and our obligation to serve Him faithfully" —Scupoli*

• *"There is a certain method of prayer which is both very easy and very useful. It consists in accustoming our soul to the presence of God, in such a way as to produce in us a union with Him which is intimate, simple, and perfect. Oh what a precious kind of prayer is this!." —St. Francis de Sales*

Upcoming Events

☐ **Dec. 8th** Immaculate Conception: Holy Mass at **7:30 A.M**

Instructions on Advent *by Rev. Fr. Leonard Goffine's*

What is the meaning of Advent? The word Advent signifies *coming*, and by it is understood the visible coming of the Son of God into this world, at two different times. It was when the Son of God, conceived of the Holy Ghost in the womb of the immaculate Virgin Mary, was born, according to the flesh, in the fullness of time, and sanctified the world by His coming, for which the patriarchs and prophets had so longed *(Gen. 49:10; Is. 64:1; Lk. 10:24)*.

Since Christ had not yet come, how could the Just of the Old Law be saved? Immediately after their sin, God revealed to our first parents that His only-begotten Son would become man and redeem the world *(Gen. 3:15)*. In the hope of this Redeemer and through His merits, all in the old covenant who participated in His merits by innocence or by penance, and who died in the grace of God, were saved, although they were excluded from heaven until the Ascension of Christ.

When will the second coming of Christ take place? At the end of the world when Christ will come, with great power and majesty, to judge both the living and the dead.

What is Advent, and why has the Church instituted it? Advent is that solemn time, immediately preceding Christmas, instituted by the Church in order that we should, in the first place, meditate on the Incarnation of Christ, the love, patience and humility which He has shown us, and prove our gratitude to Him, because He came from the bosom of His heavenly Father into this valley of tears, to redeem us; secondly, that we may prepare ourselves by sincere repentance, fasting, prayer, alms-deeds, and other works pleasing to God, for the coming of Christ and His birth in our hearts, and thus participate in the graces which He has obtained for us; finally, that He may be merciful to us, when He shall come again as judge of the world. *"Watch ye, for ye know not at what hour your Lord will come" (Mt. 5:42). "Wherefore be you also ready; because at what hour you know not, the Son of man will come" (Mt. 24:44)*.

How was Advent formerly observed? Very differently from now. It then commenced with the Feast of St. Martin, and was observed by the faithful like the Forty Days' Fast, with strict penance and devotional exercises, as even now most of the religious communities do to the present day. The Church has forbidden all turbulent amusements, weddings, dancing and concerts, during Advent. Pope Sylverius ordered that those who seldom receive Holy Communion should, at least, do so on every Sunday in Advent.

How should this solemn time be spent by Christians? They should recall, during these four weeks, the four thousand years in which the just under the Old Law expected and desired the promised Redeemer, think of those days of darkness in which nearly all nations were blinded by saran and drawn into the most horrible crimes, then consider their own sins and evil deeds and purify their souls from them by a worthy reception of the Sacraments, so that our Lord may come with His grace to dwell in their hearts and be merciful to them in life and in death. Further, to awaken in the faithful the feelings of repentance so necessary for the reception of the Savior in their hearts, the Church orders that besides the observance of certain fast days, the altar shall be draped in violet, that Mass shall be celebrated in violet vestments, that the organ shall be silent and no Gloria sung. Unjust to themselves, disobedient to the Church and ungrateful, indeed, to God are those Christians who spend this solemn time of grace in sinful amusements without performing any good works, with no longing for Christ's Advent into their hearts.

⁜ A Note to Newcomers ⁜

Welcome to the traditional Latin Mass, and to the unchanged Catholic Faith. The priests and parishioners of St. Joseph Church reject the changes of Vatican II. They want to preserve the Roman Catholic Faith by maintaining everything that was taught and done by the Church prior to Vatican II. In order to receive the sacraments here, it is therefore necessary that you attend exclusively the traditional Latin Mass, and avoid the new Mass and reformed sacraments. We also invite you to take our booklet entitled *The Traditional Latin Mass*, which is very informative. We encourage you to visit our bookstore for some additional reading & information about the present crisis in the Church.

⁜ Please, observe our Dress Code ⁜

For Men: A shirt and tie, with either suit coat, jacket or sweater, and dress shoes on Sundays and holy days of obligation. No earrings. **For Ladies:** A dress or skirt is required; no pants. The skirt must at least cover the knee, and should not be tight or otherwise revealing in any way. Immodest slits are forbidden. Clothing should be loose and not form-fitting. A head covering is also required. See-through blouses are forbidden, as well as clothing which is low-cut. **For Everyone:** No tennis shoes, sandals, denim, even on weekdays. The standards of Catholic modesty must be observed.

⁜ Appointments & Other Information ⁜

If you wish to make an appointment with the priest, please call the rectory at **(206) 299-1522**. **Baptisms** are by appointment. At least one of the **Parents & Godparents** must be practicing Catholics in good standing who reject the changes of Vatican II. If you are contemplating **Matrimony**, catechism instructions may be needed; depending on the case, you may need to contact the priest as early as one year in advance of your wedding. When making arrangements for **Funerals**, please contact the priest before contacting the funeral director. **Extreme Unction & Sick Calls**, please do not put off making arrangements until the last moment. Let us know if a member of the Chapel is sick, hospitalized or in danger of death. For any emergency, please call **Fr. Ercoli** at **(586) 215-3251**.

Advent Wreath. - Prayer for the First Week of Advent

Let us pray. Raise up, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy power, and come; that by Thy protection we may deserve to be rescued from the threatening dangers of our sins, and to be saved by Thy deliverance. Through our Lord. ***Amen.***

Rorate Caeli Masses in honor of the BVM on Saturdays of Advent

"In many regions of Europe it is a beautiful Advent custom to celebrate a solemn votive Mass in honor of the Blessed Virgin early in the morning while it is still dark, with the church illuminated only by candles... The darkness of the church reminds us of the darkness of sin and error that enveloped the world before the coming of the Redeemer, while the flickering candles represent the light of faith and expectation burning in the hearts of the patriarchs, the prophets, and the Virgin Mary." — Fr. Pius Parsch, *The Church's Year of Grace*, Vol. I: Advent to Candlemas.