



SHRINE OF OUR LADY, COMFORTER OF THE AFFLICTED

~ESTABLISHED 1963~

www.shrineofthefriars.org

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THE FRANCISCANS AT THE SHRINE

Br. Vit Fiala, O.F.M.

Br. Jules Wong, O.F.M.

Secretary

Mrs. Michelle O'Brien

Newsletter

Published every Saturday of the year 2024

November 30, 2024 Issue 1

1st Sunday of Advent

SUNDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

7:00 AM, 9:30 AM., 12:00 PM

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

7:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 12:00 PM

VIGIL MASS SATURDAY- 4:00 PM

RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE:

Held in or across the office

11:00 AM – 11:55 AM

or any time by appointment.

For Clergy and Religious: any time

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION: by appointment

“H & B” Indicates: Health & Blessings

“L & D” Indicates: Living & Deceased

SI Indicates Special Intention

“+”, “++” Indicates: One or more deceased

Suggested offering for Mass intentions is \$10.00

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2024

Vigil Mass 4:00 ++ Rosemary & Howard O'Malley

rb Tom & Lisa Cook

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024

7:00 ++ Francis, Joe & Jim Firment rb Wife/Mom

9:30 ++ Paul & Dorothy Kraynik rb Family

12:00 ++ Antonette & Edward Sutton rb Daughters

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024

7:00 + Joseph L. Cook Jr. rb Tom & Lisa Cook

12:00 + Ann Uhlar TOF rb Queen of the

Holy Rosary Prayer Group

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024

7:00 + Howard O'Malley III rb Tom & Lisa Cook

12:00 H&B Carole Elias rb Angela Kunze

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024

7:00 + Joseph L. Cook Sr. rb Tom & Lisa Cook

12:00 + Sonny Gallagher rb Wife Terry

INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024

7:00 ++ Deceased Members of Saunders Family
rb Family

11:00 *HOLY HOUR ADORATION*

12:00 ++ Thomas & Frances Cicatiello rb Sons

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024

7:00 H&B Angela Gangloff rb Gina Love

12:00 + Rosa Klein rb Daughter Elizabeth

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2024

7:00 + Br. Vincent DePaul Caraviano, OFM rb Friars

11:00 *HOLY HOUR ADORATION*

12:00 + Dominic DeMaiolo rb Daughter Meg

4:00 Vigil Mass ++ Rosemary & Howard O'Malley
rb Tom & Lisa Cook

~ *FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT* ~

HISTORY OF ADVENT

The historic origin of Advent is not for certain, no evidence exists around the feast of the Nativity of the Lord before the end of the fourth century.

Several homilies and synods made mention of a specific liturgical time before Christmas, but no rule existed until a note on the Mass parts appeared during the time of Pope St. Gregory VII from 1073-1085.

Much like a Lenten period of fasting and sacrifice, the early Church urged Christians to dedicate this time to readying themselves for Christ. Their practices remind us that we are also called to be attentive to the message of repentance and the end times. This may seem unexpected considering the extravagant ways we eat, shop, celebrate, and rejoice as Christmas approaches.

Advent Traditions – The four weeks of Advent are popularly considered to symbolize the four thousand years of darkness before the coming of Christ. We set up Nativity scenes, light Advent candles, and decorate wreaths in our homes to signify Christ's presence coming in the darkness of sin and suffering. Four candles adorn an Advent wreath, one for each week. A fifth candle is sometimes placed in the center for the beginning of the Christmas season.

Advent colors are worn by the priests and deacons and decorate the church. They are represented in the candles that surround the Advent wreath:

Violet: royalty, repentance, and fasting (First, Second, and Fourth Week of Advent).

Rose: abundant joy (Third Week of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday, joy in Latin).

White: light and purity (Christ Candle, center candle completes the season and begins Christmas).

Scriptures and Prayers for Advent – During Advent there are three prevalent themes we see as we wait patiently for the coming of Christ. We long for the Messiah, are urged to be alert for Jesus' Second Coming, and meditate on Christ's presence in our lives now. The Scripture readings for the four weeks of Advent and the Liturgy of the Hours revolve around the first two of these themes. They encourage proper preparation, point to the grace and humility of Mary, show us how to adore God in the Incarnation, and recognize the glory of Jesus and how he frees us from sin and ingratitude. We hear from the prophet Isaiah and are drawn to the compelling message of John the Baptist in the Gospels.

It is important to consider how we can grow in spiritual wholeness during such a busy commercial season. Take time for silence and reflection each day with Scripture, a devotional prayer, or with an Advent calendar. Dwell with the scene of the Nativity. What is it like to imagine the journey of Mary and Joseph and to be with them as the baby

Jesus comes into the world? Consider praying with saints the Liturgy of the Hours, or with the O Antiphons the last week before Christmas. A prayerful journey with the Holy Family and the Church throughout Advent will lead to gifts of gratitude and joy when we enter the Christmas Season. - *Loyola Press*

~ **ADVENT MEDITATIONS—FULTON J. SHEEN** ~
God walks into your soul with silent step. God comes to you more than you go to him. Never will his coming be what you expect, and yet never will it disappoint. The more you respond to his gentle pressure, the greater will be your freedom.

*“The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits.”
James 3:17*

SAVE THE DATE

CHRISTMAS CONCERT * MUSIC AT THE SHRINE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024 at 2:30 PM
(More information to come.)

CONCERT RECORDINGS

CD recordings of the Shrine concert last May will be available to purchase at the upcoming Christmas concert on December 15. Cost for each CD is \$10.00. This will be a lovely stocking stuffer for those who appreciate beautiful music.

CHRISTMAS MASS NOVENA

Envelopes for the Christmas Mass Novena are available on the back table of the church. Please write the names of the persons or intentions on the envelope with your donation. Envelopes may be placed in the collection basket, brought to the office, or mailed to the Shrine.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

If you would like to donate for the purchasing of Christmas poinsettias in memory, or in honor of family and friends, envelopes are on the back table in the Shrine. Please print the names and donation amount on the envelope. Envelopes may be put in the collection basket, brought to the office, or mailed to the Shrine. Your donations help us to prepare a beautiful sanctuary for Jesus. Thank you for your support.

*The Sanctuary Candle for this week is for
the intentions of the Apostolic Sisters of St. John,
donated by the Sisters.*

“Let the Enemy rage at the gate, let him knock, let him push, let him cry, let him howl, let him do worse; we know for certain that he cannot enter, save by the door of our consent.” -St. Francis de Sales