

GREETINGS FROM FR. SCOTT Dec. 8, 2013 2nd Sunday of Advent

Advent has many rich symbols. But what is the true reason for the season of Advent? Here are eight symbols that are not the reason for the season of Advent, but they help remind us what is.

Evergreens: Evergreens are “ever green.” They never die. They symbolize Christ, who died, is now alive, and who will never die again.

Blue Candle Holder: Blue candle holders remind us of Mary, the Mother of God. She bore Jesus in her womb and brought Him into our world on Christmas.

Purple Candle: Purple signifies expectation, purification, and penance.

Rose Candle: Rose is only used on the third Sunday of Advent. The color is symbolic of Christmas joy and means to rejoice.

Light: As candles are lit, the light increases. The birth of the Light of the World is coming closer.

Wreath: The circle is eternal and does not have a dead end. Saint Thomas Aquinas says, “The end of all our desires is eternal life. For God himself is the reward and end of all our labors.”

Holly Berries: The red berries are significant of the drops of blood Jesus shed while on the cross.

Holly: The prickly leaves of Holly remind us of the crown of thorns Jesus wore on the cross.

THE REASON FOR THE SEASON OF ADVENT.

Baby Jesus: The Baby Jesus is the reason for the season of Advent. Our Catechism states that during Advent, “God awakens the hearts of those who don’t attend church and gives them an idea of how great the birth of Jesus is.”

This week, get excited about the biggest event in world history. The reason for the season of Advent is to prepare ourselves for the birth of our Savior.

STEWARDSHIP

Dec. 1, 2013	\$6258.10
Last Year	\$8420.60
Property Improvement	\$766.05

Daily Mass Readings

Monday Dec. 2

Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2,7-8,12-17 Mt 3:1-12

Tuesday Dec. 3

Gn 3:9-15,20 Ps 98:1-4 Eph 1:3-6 Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday Dec. 4

Is 40:25-31 Ps 103:1-10 Mt 18:12-14

Thursday Dec. 5

Zec 2:14-17 Jdt 13:18-19 Lk 1:26-38

Friday Dec. 6

Is 48:17-19 Ps 1:1-6 Mt 11:16-19

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday

5:00pm

Sunday

9:00am

11:30am

Monday

9:00am

Tuesday

9:00am

Wednesday

9:00am

Thursday

9:00am

Friday

9:00am

Dec. 7

For the People of the Parish

Dec. 8

+Shirley Hoffman

+Frank Durso

Dec. 9

Dec. 10

Dec. 11

Dec. 12

+Shan Satterfield

Dec. 13



FAITH FORMATION

Classes for Faith Formation and Confirmation meet on Sundays. Registration is on line. If you would like more information, contact the office. 1st grade students who plan to celebrate 1st Eucharist next year must be enrolled in 1st grade faith formation this year. 8th grade students who plan to celebrate Confirmation in high school must be enrolled in Middle School faith formation.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES 1PM

Scott and Val's Class meets in the All Saints Center; the New Class meets in the social hall.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GOOGLE QUESTION

What did Juan Diego have in his *tilma* and why was this significant?

2013 RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS DEC 7 & 8

Please give to this weekend's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. This collection supports the day-to-day care of thousands of senior religious, the cost of which has increased. Help care for those who have dedicated their lives to serving the people of our Church. Thank you!

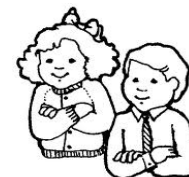
ACTS BAKE SALE

The ACTS Christmas Bake Sale runs in conjunction with St. Jude's Quilt Holiday Bazaar on Dec 7-8th. The Bake Sale will be after all Masses and will feature an assortment of Holiday foods: Cookies, Candies, Cakes, Breads—yummy holiday treats. The proceeds will be used for ACTS Retreat Scholarships.

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Thank you to all who bought an Annual Raffle Ticket. Ticket drawings have started! Each day until December 13, there will be a \$50 drawing, and final drawings for 1st 2nd and 3rd prizes will be on that day. Follow us on Facebook at "Our Lady of the Valley Catholic School -Wasilla" and Good luck!!

In observance of Remembrance Day, OLV will be having a special performance at the American Legion Post #35 this Sunday, December 8th at 3pm. The students will be singing a variety of Patriotic songs in appreciation for all their service and sacrifice. Please come and honor our Vets with us!



COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 7/8 St. Jude Holiday Bazaar Retirement Fund for Religious Collection
- 9 Centering Prayer 6:30pm Advent Reconciliation OLL 6pm
- 9 Advent Reconciliation St. Michael's 7pm
- 10 Advent Reconciliation Sacred Heart 5:30pm
- 12 Rosary 7pm
- 15 Knights Breakfast

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

OLV will provide ministry and music for the Monday Mass at 9:00am in honor of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. There will not be a Sunday Vigil mass because this is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year because the Feast falls on Sunday.

GET MY PEOPLE GOING!

Week 8: The Promise: The Journey Ahead
Thank you for journeying with others during this eight-week trip toward wholeness in Get My People Going! Please meet with your coordinators to complete a one-page survey about your experience with the program.

ST. JUDE QUILT HOLIDAY BAZAAR DEC 7 & 8

The holiday bazaar will be after the masses. Quilts, potholders, table runners, and more!!! Notecards featuring the historical Quilt, church, crucifix, and Guild will also be for sale. The Guild is sponsoring a silent auction after the Masses.

FOOD BANK NEEDS

Rice, Flour, Sugar,
Pasta, Beans,
Oatmeal, Pwd Milk,
Canned Fruit and
Vegetables

357-3769

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL ENVELOPES

Memorial envelopes will be available through December 16.

BEARS FOR MAGADAN

We are collecting new and gently used stuffed bears, new hats, gloves, scarves, and new baby or toddler snowsuits. Please drop items at the Church or office.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Children must be accompanied to the rest rooms by an adult and supervised on the playground. Due to meetings, children cannot run and scream in the halls—Thank you for helping make our parish safe.