

Dear friends in Christ,
Advent is a season to prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord. As we prepare to recall his birth in time, we prepare our hearts for that unknown time when he will come again in glory. So, we wait and watch for him with eager longing and joyful expectation. But we need to be ready. The time-honored spiritual practices of prayer, reconciliation, and giving to those in need, can help make room in our hearts when he comes:

RECONCILIATION – Opportunities for Confession

One of the best ways to prepare our hearts for Christmas is to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation. In this sacrament, God's forgiveness heals our sins, and helps us begin anew. We will have wonderful confessors, all of whom will be eager to help especially for those who haven't been to confession for a long while.

St. Anthony: Friday, December 12, 6-8 PM
Adoration and Confession with 1 confessor

St. Jude: Wednesday, December 17, 7 PM
Confession with 6 confessors

Holy Innocents: Thursday, December 18, 7 PM
Confession with 3 confessors

ALMSGIVING –THE GIVING TREES and GIVING GARLANDS

The GIVING TREE AND GIVING garlands at all three churches help provide a joyful Christmas for so many in need. Gift tags are available on the trees and garlands. You can really make a difference in a person's life by taking a tag. The new unwrapped gifts or gift cards must be returned by the due date to get delivered. If you have any questions about the programs or how you can volunteer to help, here are the contacts:

St. Anthony and Holy Innocents:

Janice Asmus pantry@holynn.org

St Jude: Gary and Susan Pilawski at (425) 417-6590.

PRAYER

Advent is a wonderful time to renew the habit of daily Mass. Going to daily Mass helps keep the meaning of life before our eyes and reminds us to begin each day with gratitude to God.

In addition, we have wonderful opportunities for Adoration in our parish family. As Christmas approaches, do we ponder what "gift" can we present to Jesus on His birthday? "Your present" could be "your presence," every week during Advent, in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Consider: Although we may be an excellent example of Martha's service and hospitality this Christmas Season, but we may have a greater need to sit at our Master's feet,

like Mary, and listen to Him speak to our hearts. If we allow Him, by His presence, the Lord can transform us to be more like Him. What better way to spend this Advent "giving ourselves" to the Lord? A great present indeed.

St. Jude Adoration Friday 9:30AM – 9PM

Holy Innocents Adoration Friday 6PM – 8PM

St. Anthony Adoration & Rosary – Tuesday 6PM

STEWARDSHIP

We still need your help with stewardship. It is really important that we have every family's participation. We cannot do what we need to do for the Lord without everybody's help. Please remember to turn in your stewardship commitment cards if you have not done so already. Many thanks to all who have already made your stewardship pledge. We are so grateful for your commitment to our parish!

HOLY DAY MONDAY, DECEMBER 8

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

Monday, December 8th is a Holy Day, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, the patronal feast of church in the United States. Let us be sure to gather and ask the Blessed Mother's intercession on our country that we may effectively share the Gospel and spread the faith in our nation. This a Holy Day of obligation. Please join us in celebrating the feast.

HOLY DAY MASSES for the IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

St. Anthony: Noon

Holy Innocents: 9AM and 7PM

St. Jude: 9AM and 7PM

Holy Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us.

From Pope Benedict on Advent....

In Advent, the liturgy frequently repeats and assures us, ...that God "comes": he comes to be with us in every situation of ours, he comes to dwell among us, to live with us and within us; he comes to fill the gaps that divide and separate us; he comes to reconcile us with him and with one another. He comes into human history to knock at the door of every man and every woman of good will, to bring to individuals, families and peoples the gifts of brotherhood, harmony and peace. This is why Advent is par excellence the season of hope in which believers in Christ are invited to remain in watchful and active waiting, nourished by prayer and by the effective commitment to love. POPE BENEDICT XIV

May this Advent be a time of great renewal for us.
May we watch and wait with joyful expectation 'til he comes.

Fr. Johnson

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, December 1

9:00 AM Daily Mass
10:00 AM Women of Faith
6:00 PM ASCEND Eucharistic Revival
All-Hands Meeting
7:00 PM Baptismal Preparation Class

Tuesday, December 2

No Daily Mass
5:30 PM Faith Formation K-6

Wednesday, December 3

8:30 AM Confessions
9:00 AM Daily Mass
7:00 PM House of Prayer
7:00 PM Gospel Choir Rehearsal
(for 11AM Masses)

Thursday, December 4

9:00 AM Daily Mass
12:15 PM Steps to Freedom
1:00 PM Rosary Cenacle
6:30 PM Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
(for 9AM Masses)
7:00 PM OCIA
7:30 PM Knights of Columbus-
General Meeting

Friday, December 5

9:00 AM Daily Mass
9:30 AM Adoration until 9PM
10:00 AM Guardians & Angels
7:00 PM Holy Hour

Saturday, December 6

3:30 PM Confessions
5:00 PM Saturday Vigil Mass

Sunday, December 7

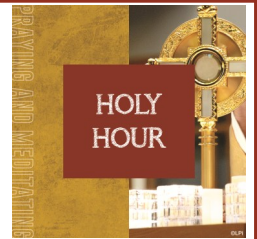
9:00 AM Sunday Mass
11:00 AM Sunday Mass
Coffee & Donuts after both Masses
12:00 PM Christmas Nativities Set-Up
1:30 PM Confirmation Class #5

Holy Hour

Friday 7:00PM

December 5, 2025

Come join the last monthly Holy Hour for 2025, a perfect highlight within the first week of Advent. Taking time to be with the Lord in the quietness of church can be one of the most rewarding and peaceful things you can do. Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you. The hour of prayer will include praise & worship, a talk, and guided Adoration. All are welcome!



**ADVENT
PENANCE
SERVICE**

**DECEMBER
17, 2025
7PM**

ADVENT PARISH PENANCE SERVICE

As we prepare for the coming of Christ, we invite all to begin anew, with souls nourished by the forgiveness and healing of God's mercy.

Multiple priests will be available to hear confessions from the faithful in this Advent Penance Service. A number of Examination of Conscience resources are available on our website at <https://www.stjude-redmond.org/penance> to help you prepare with a contrite heart.



Beware of Scams this Season

With Thanksgiving and the onset of Advent, we expect to see an increase in phishing emails and other scams aimed at targeting those with the giving hearts of the season. This is a reminder that **Fr. Johnson, Fr. Raphael, or any parish staff will not individually email or text with gift or donation requests.**

Be vigilant and double check any suspicious communications before responding to them.



**PARTNERS
IN THE GOSPEL**

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY!

St Jude | Holy Innocents
Mission Church of St. Anthony