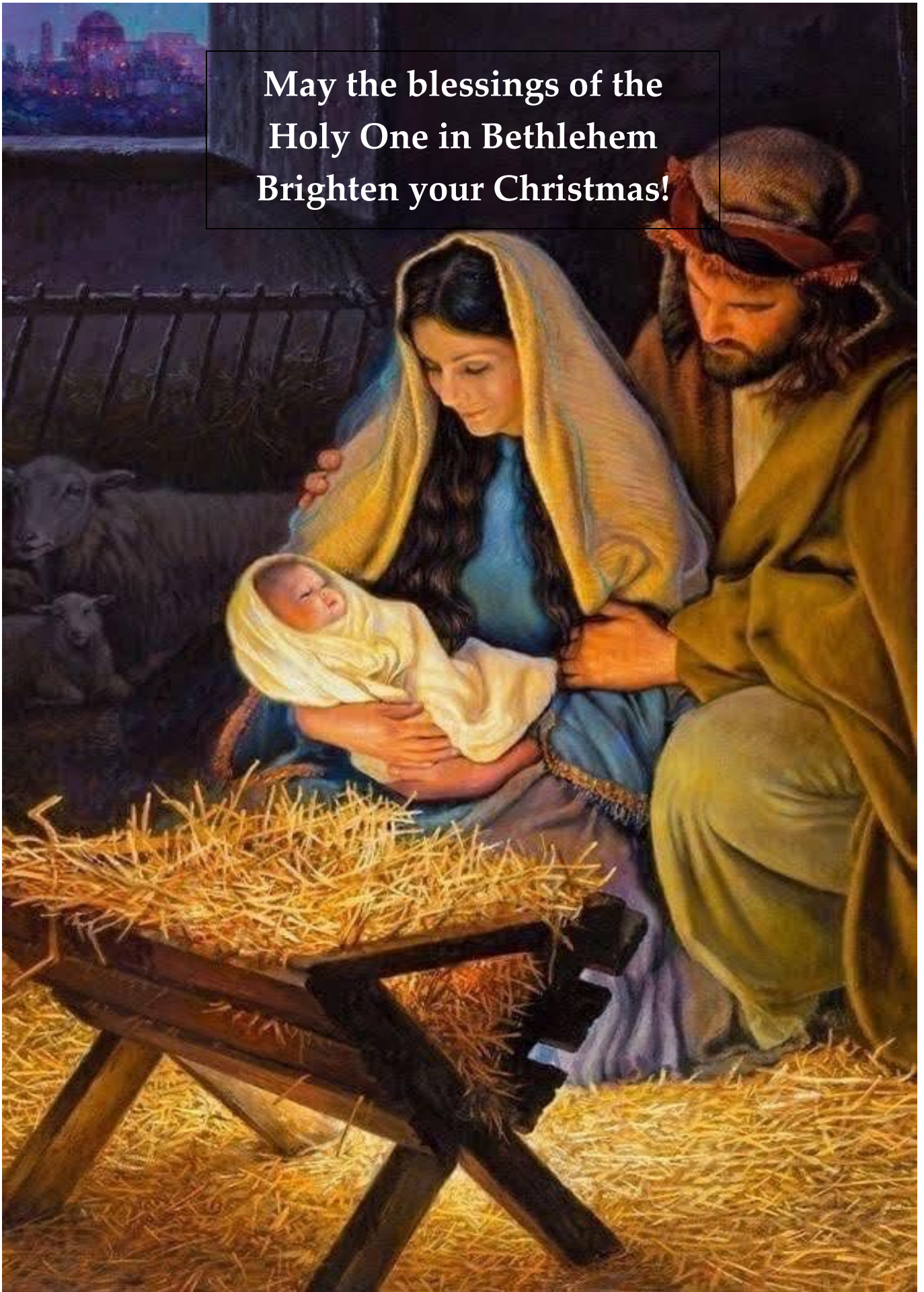


May the blessings of the
Holy One in Bethlehem
Brighten your Christmas!



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

Gifts for God

December 14, 2025

Immaculate Conception

General Collection - \$ 1,986.00
Weekly Budget Need - 2,075.00

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton

General Collection - \$ 951.00
Weekly Budget Need 950.00

Saint Joseph

General Collection - \$ 648.00
Weekly Budget Need 607.00



Stewardship

Reflections

"You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand." JAMES 5:8

Patience is another one of those things many of us struggle with. We want things to go according to our plan and our schedule; we like things to be convenient. Any change brings anxiety and fear. Through daily prayer God reveals to us what He wants us to do with the gifts He has given us. We are able to better align ourselves with God's will and His plan, which is far better than anything we can come up with on our own.



Mass Intentions: IC

December 28, 2025

9 a.m. – For the spiritual benefit of Evelyn Kimberly Jones; by Kim & David Jones.

11 a.m. – For the repose of the soul of IC parishioner Barbara Mary Rogers + (died Nov. 22).

Special Christmas collection for retired priests of the Diocese

Each December at Christmas every parish in the Diocese takes up a second collection to support our retired priests. These men no longer receive paychecks and often have very limited Social Security. Yet they devoted their lives to providing spiritual support to others.

A second collection will be taken at all Christmas Masses. Please be generous and remember the moments where a priest brought Christ's healing sacraments and wise counsel into your life.

"In this season of giving We have another opportunity to show (priests) our love," says Bishop David Konderla. Proceeds go to the diocesan Priest Retirement Fund. You can also donate online at <https://www.dioceseoftulsa.org/support-specific-diocesan-ministry> and click on "Priest Retirement Fund."

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Dcn. Matthew McLain to serve our three parishes!

Big news for our Catholic community: Matthew McLain was ordained a transitional deacon on Friday at Holy Family Cathedral. A seminarian finishing Stage 4 studies at Saint Meinrad School of Theology in Indiana, Deacon Matthew will complete his preparation for priesthood assigned to Immaculate Conception, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and Saint Joseph parish, arriving in January. He will reside in the Poteau rectory.

Upon his ordination to the priesthood next spring, he will stay with our parishes as an associate pastor.

Deacon McLain is a native of Bartlesville (St. John Before the Latin Gate parish). He studied computer science at Oklahoma State University and formerly worked as an Information Technology Analyst at Conoco/Phillips in Bartlesville. He also worked for Monte Cassino School in Tulsa as technology assistant.

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Adoration schedule change for January

Our 24-hour Adoration for January will be held one week later than usual – January 9 & 10 – due to various scheduling issues. Feel free to contact Melisa or David to confirm or adjust your preferences as needed.

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Prayers for Our Sick & Shut-ins

"And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well." (James 5:15)

Carmen Vasquez, Ana Narvaez, Juan Narvaez, Frances Liddy, Jim Norwood, Yuliana Casildo, Anthony Guerrero, Javier Diaz, Theresa Grafton, Donald Hargrove, Marge Frizzell, Donald Brooks, Vera Trout, Pilar Botello, Genia Harber, Oscar San Juan, Brandon Torres, Bobby Jackson, Robin Jackson, Jill Figari, Barbara Rogers, Susan Heavener, Mayra Gavina, Christine Mainard, Anastacio Solis, Katie Malone, John Harris, Lizz Lopez, Roger O'Hara, Cassie Casildo, John Worton, Johnny & Barbara Morris, Nanette Johnson, & Russell Tenison.

Daily Mass Readings

22 Monday of the Fourth Week of Advent (P) / 1 Samuel 1:24-28 / (Psalm) 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd / Luke 1:46-56

23 Tuesday of the Fourth Week of Advent (P) / Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24 / Psalm 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 & 14 / Luke 1:57-66

24 Wednesday of the Fourth Week of Advent (P) Mass in the Morning / 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 / Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 & 29 / Luke 1:67-79

25 The Nativity of the Lord (W) Mass During the Day / Isaiah 52:7-10 / Psalm 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 / Hebrews 1:1-6 / John 1:1-18

26 Feast of Saint Stephen, Martyr (R) / Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 / Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17 / Matthew 10:17-22

27 Feast of Saint John, Apostle & Evangelist (W) / 1 John 1:1-4 / Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 / John 20:1a & 2-8

28 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (W) / Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14 / Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 / Colossians 3:12-21 / Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

This Week's Schedule

Monday, December 22

– No Daily Mass today.

Tuesday, December 23

– 8:30 a.m. Daily Mass in the IC Chapel.

Wednesday, December 24

– No Morning Daily Mass on Christmas Eve.

– **4 PM Christmas Eve Mass at Saint Joseph, Stigler**

– **6 PM Christmas Eve Mass at Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton**

– **8 PM Christmas Mass (English) at Immaculate Conception**

Thursday, December 25 – The Nativity of the Lord

– **11 AM Spanish Mass-Christmas Day, Immaculate Conception**

Friday, December 26

– No Daily Mass today.

Saturday, December 27

– 5 p.m. Vigil Mass at Saint Joseph Church, Stigler.

Sunday, December 28 – Feast of the Holy Family

– No Bible Study at IC this morning

– 9 a.m. English Mass at Immaculate Conception, Poteau

– 11 a.m. Spanish Mass at Immaculate Conception, Poteau

– 1 p.m. Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Spiro

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New Year's Mass Schedule

Solemnity of Mary – The Holy Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation – All Masses on New Year's Day

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SAINT JOSEPH CHURCH – Stigler

12 Noon - English

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SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON – Spiro

3 P.M. - English

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IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – Poteau

6:30 P.M. – Bilingual Mass



Today's Bulletin is the last one for 2025

On behalf of Father Sean and the staff, may you have a blessed Christmas and renewed spiritual vigor for 2026! Thanks to everyone who made 2025 such an exceptional year of growth. May God smile on you!

Daily Mass Readings

29 The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas (W) / 1 John 2:3-11 / Psalm 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 / Luke 2:22-35

30 The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas (W) / 1 John 2:12-17 / Psalm 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 / Luke 2:36-40

31 The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas (W) / 1 John 2:18-21 / Psalm 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 / John 1:1-18

1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God (W) Numbers 6:22-27 / Psalm 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 / Galatians 4:4-7 / Luke 2:16-21

2 Memorial of Saints Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors (W) / 1 John 2:22-28 / Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 / John 1:19-28

3 Christmas Weekday (W) / 1 John 2:29 – 3:6 / Psalm 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 / John 1:29-34

4 The Epiphany of the Lord (W) / Isaiah 60:1-6 / Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 / Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Matthew 2:1-12

Notes for the Octave of Christmas

- ▶ There will be no Mid-Week (Wednesday) Adoration on Christmas Eve or New Year's Eve.
- ▶ There will be no Daily Mass at Immaculate Conception on Friday, Dec. 26, the day after Christmas, nor on Friday, Jan. 2, the day after New Year's.
- ▶ Father Sean and the office staff will take some time off between Christmas and Epiphany Sunday. That doesn't mean that no work will be done, only that our office staff will be in-and-out, on no set schedule. So, if you need anything, please contact us individually and we'll make it happen for you.
- ▶ Father Sean – along with a dozen of our amazing young adults – will attend the SEEK Conference in Denver. Their return is slated for January 6, if all goes well.
- ▶ Father Daniel Gormley, the Associate Pastor of Saint Anne's in Broken Arrow, will preside over Masses on New Year's Day at each of our parishes. Please make him feel welcome.
- ▶ Father Bryan Ketterer will celebrate Vigil Mass of the Epiphany at 5 p.m. on **Saturday, January 3**, at Saint Joseph Church, Stigler.
- ▶ The Very Rev. Gary Kastl will celebrate the Epiphany Sunday Masses (Jan. 4) at Immaculate Conception and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. Father Kastl is vicar general of the Diocese.
- ▶ Family Faith Formation classes are on Holiday Hiatus until January 14.
- ▶ Classes for English OCIA resume on **Wednesday, January 7**, a special night, but will return to Tuesday scheduling on January 13.

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NEXT KARLO BROUSSARD VISIT

Mark your calendar: Dr. Karlo Broussard, the resident Catholic Answers apologist for the Diocese of Tulsa-Eastern Oklahoma, will be coming back to Poteau on **Tuesday, February 3**. His topic will be "Will I be Left Behind" and will give you the official Catholic teaching on the Rapture (and how to explain it to protestant family and friends). You will not want to miss this.