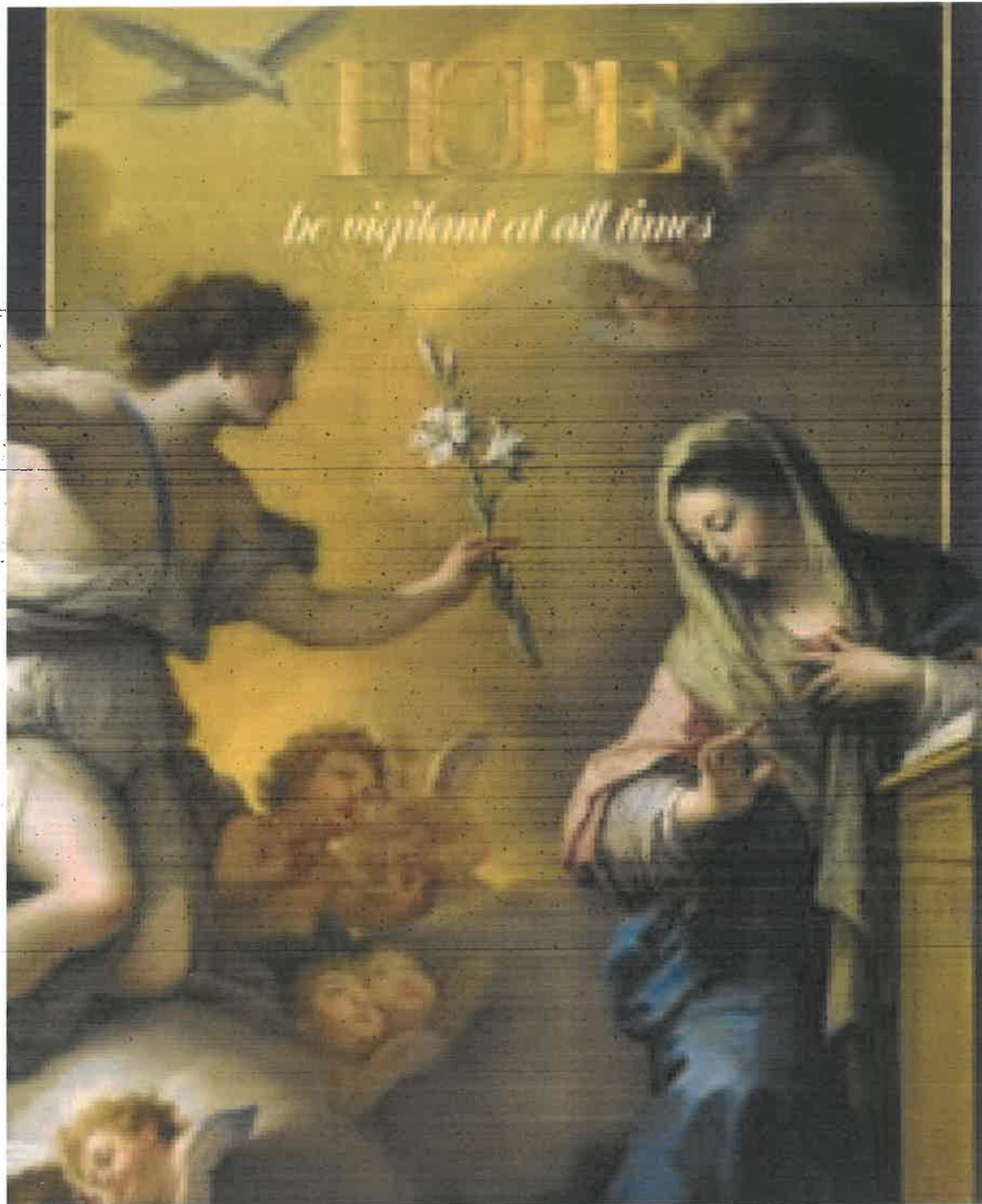


HOPE

be vigilant at all times





ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC CHURCH

14936 W. Wilmington - Peotone Rd.

Manhattan, Illinois 60442

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 30, 2025

Most Reverend Bishop Dennis Spies
Administrator

Office Phone 815-478-3440

Facebook St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Mass is celebrated on Saturday evening only

Nov. 29	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Deceased Members of The Stromski Family Parish Family of St. Patrick
Dec. 6	4:00pm	+Jerry & +Vicky Phelan req. by Ed & Judy Phelan Gladys Meyer req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick
Dec. 8	5:00pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Grace Niemiec req. by The Family +Eleanore Price req. by Steve Niemiec
Dec. 13	5:45pm	+Gladys Meyer req. by The Family +Grace Niemiec req. by The Family Parish Family of St. Patrick

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Minister</u>
Nov. 29	Amy Pfeifer	P. Engler
Dec. 6	Sherrie Ashley	L. Cakora
Dec. 8	Linda Cakora	L. Cakora
Dec. 13	Jerry Kinsella	C. Kinsella

SERVERS & USHERS

Please volunteer at the Mass you are attending

Please Remember our sick;

especially: Jim Kreske, Ann Marie & Tori Jasinski, Lisa Price, Marshall & Duncan Lorenzen, Barbara Schriver, Leslie Lund, Joe & Carol Price, Beth Oniel, Bernice & Dominick Marino, Tom Lane, Peggy Schiesow, Haley Donzella, Ken Smith, Laura 'Hanson, Steve Niemiec, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernard. Joe Hanson

**Scripture Readings
For the Week of November 30, 2025**

Sunday First Sunday of Advent Is 2:1-5; Ps 122, 1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Rm 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

Monday Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday Memorial of Saint Francis Xavier, Priest Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday Second Sunday of Advent Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rm 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12



**WEEKLY OFFERING FOR
11/16/2025**

**Sunday - \$1,034.00
CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT -
\$80.00**

11/23/2025

Sunday - \$690.00

Maintenance \$225.00

CHD—\$10 Retired Religious \$25

Christmas Flowers \$75.00

Our weekly budget goal is \$1,211.54

THANK YOU For your faith - filled support



*Welcome to the
Parish Family
HAZEL LYRA WYANT
Infant daughter of
Dale Wyant &
Jordan Robbins
Who was Baptized
Saturday, November 29,
2025*



**REMINDER
PARISH HOLIDAY POT LUCK**

Saturday, Dec. 6

After 4:00PM Mass

Sign up sheet available

In vestibule

**To bring either a Salad, vegetable,
Potatoes, or dessert**



**During the Month of
Our Blessed Mother Candle
Is burning for
GRACE NIEMIEC
Req. by The Family**



**Our St. Joseph Candle
Is Burning for
ELEANORE PRICE
Req. by Steve Niemiec**

ADVENT



C	L	K	D	L	L	S	R	L	S	B	V	R	E	F	X
E	I	K	J	U	V	C	C	X	A	E	U	E	J	V	S
B	F	W	K	T	F	A	B	G	V	L	R	J	O	B	Q
E	P	P	K	I	J	N	V	F	I	I	X	O	S	E	A
G	K	M	S	G	A	D	Y	L	O	E	G	I	E	N	Z
O	Y	V	B	A	V	L	K	U	U	V	L	C	P	Q	M
O	J	L	B	B	O	E	E	S	R	E	C	E	H	M	E
D	G	B	I	E	S	E	E	M	A	C	D	F	J	N	R
N	L	A	S	U	R	R	K	R	M	V	T	F	F	O	C
E	U	P	D	L	R	F	S	U	W	A	S	G	C	E	S
W	A	K	U	V	S	I	C	K	L	W	N	F	K	A	A
S	B	J	C	R	E	S	A	M	A	R	Y	U	Y	M	L
A	N	G	E	L	P	N	M	Y	A	V	H	R	E	I	Q
I	L	L	E	Y	L	L	T	B	P	N	F	T	L	L	P
S	N	Q	H	L	Y	F	E	B	X	K	D	P	J	D	L
J	E	S	U	S	I	W	R	E	A	T	H	R	D	R	G

WORDSEARCH



MARY
ANGEL
JESUS
ADVENT
CANDLE

JOSEPH
PURPLE
WREATH
BELIEVE

REJOICE
SAVIOUR
EMMANUEL
GOODNEWS
ISRAEL



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**CHRISTMAS FLOWER
REMEMBERENCES NEED TO BE
RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 13 TO BE PUBLISHED IN
THE BULLETIN**



First Sunday of Advent Do What You Can

The reading from the prophet Isaiah this Sunday contains a remarkable prediction – the end of war between nations (Isaiah 2:4). While most of the good predictions of the prophets were fulfilled in Jesus, we still await the end of all wars. So why hasn't that one been fulfilled? We can look to the second reading and the Gospel for some hints.

Both readings talk about being awake and ready for our salvation (Romans 13:12) or the coming of the Son of Man (Matthew 24:39). Being awake doesn't mean consuming lots of coffee or turning the music volume all the way up. Paul calls it "putting on the Lord Jesus Christ" as a soldier would put on armor before a battle. He even mentions rivalry and jealousy as attitudes to avoid. Both of those vices have been the cause of many wars in our history. What if we not only avoided them, but also taught our children to avoid them? What if everyone eventually learned not to be jealous and hateful?

We are a long way from ending all wars. There are still people who teach hate to the poor instead of helping to feed them. There are still people who get rich selling the weapons of war. This brings us back to the first reading, in which Isaiah speaks of beating swords into plowshares. Do we have enough faith in God's love to stop building weapons and use those resources to feed the hungry or cure diseases in underprivileged countries? Until we convert everyone to following Jesus, that's not likely. The Gospel calls us to be ready. Maybe we need to be ready to share our faith. Maybe we have to be awake to any opportunity to show God's love to those around us. Are we afraid to offer to pray for someone in need? Maybe we need to put on the "armor of light," as St. Paul calls it. Instead of trying to stop all wars, could we at least show forgiveness to someone who has hurt us?

Jesus never said to do the impossible. If we can be ready to see Jesus in those around us, to show his love to those who need it, or just be patient with other people's faults and weaknesses, we may not stop all wars, but we will be prepared for the coming of the Prince of Peace.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



HOLIDAY GIFT TAGS

WE WILL BE HELPING THE CHRISTIAN HELP ASSOCIATION OF WILMINGTON COLLECTING GIFTS FOR THOSE IN NEED THIS SEASON.

GIFTS TAGS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE VESTIBULE. PLEASE RETURN UNWRAPPED GIFTS TO THE VESTIBULE BY DECEMBER 6. THANK YOU



Candlelight CHRISTMAS CONCERT



**catholic
charities**
Diocese of Joliet

Join Catholic Charities for a beautiful evening of music surrounded by thousands of candles. Holiday favorites will be performed by a live classical string quartet. Proceeds support Catholic Charities' programs and services.

Friday, December 5, 2025 at 7:30PM

Hollywood Casino, Joliet

Tickets: \$50

**To learn more or purchase tickets, scan
the QR code or call 815-724-1140.**





2025 Retirement Fund for Religious

retiredreligious.org

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Soon, our parishes will participate in the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection. This important annual appeal benefits more than 21,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives in service to the Church.

These faithful servants have long been a source of inspiration and support in our communities. I am personally grateful for the religious who helped shape my own faith journey. Perhaps you, too, have known an elderly sister, brother, or religious order priest whose quiet dedication, prayerful presence, or selfless acts left a lasting impression on your life.

Today, the challenges many of these senior religious and their communities face in meeting their retirement needs are greater than ever. Most received little to no pay for their service, and their communities struggle to cover rising health care expenses and the increasing cost of day-to-day eldercare. The financial burdens continue to grow, and the need is urgent.

Gifts to the Retirement Fund for Religious make a real, tangible difference to these many women and men religious. Contributions directly support their ongoing care today and help ensure that their communities can plan wisely for their future.

I know you are asked to support many worthy causes, and I thank you for the many ways you give. Please consider making a gift to this year's collection if you are able—and continue to pray for all our elderly religious. They also remember us daily in their prayers.

May God bless you and your loved ones abundantly with peace and health.

As I remain –

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ Ronald A. Hicks

Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

Stay Awake

As we enter the first week of Advent, we hear in Matthew's Gospel, "Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." This is a familiar verse and one that we might be tempted to gloss over. Yet, Advent is an invitation to a time of expectation, of quiet waiting, and deep spiritual preparation. It is a time to slow down and consider what it means in our lives in 2025, to stay awake.

Have you ever been so exhausted that you cannot physically stay awake? I am a nervous flyer. I have no problem staying awake on long flights because the adrenaline coursing through my body guarantees that I will not fall asleep. However, my inability to sleep on these flights makes my first day of travel very challenging, excruciating even, and I struggle to stay awake without drinking coffee or espresso. Merely resisting sleep in this exhausted state is not what this passage means by staying awake. Sure, I can keep my eyes open after a long flight, but I am not alert enough to pay attention and perceive what is happening around me.

Today's Gospel reading is a call not just to have our eyes ajar, but to be alert, attentive, and expectant. That is what it means to stay awake. In this passage, Jesus invites us to recall the Old Testament story of Noah when people were going about their daily lives. They were "eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark." Though Moses and his family were building an ark with precise measurements in the midst of their community, onlookers were not sufficiently alert or awake to realize that a great flood was coming. Many people found themselves unprepared when the flood arrived.

In a similar way, we too, can live life in a distracted state. Especially in this modern age, our lives are fast and overstimulated. During the holiday season, we zip from parties, to shopping, to school plays and concerts, fueling ourselves on cookies and coffees. Our bodies are in motion but not necessarily alert or awake to the miracle of Advent: Christ is coming.

The invitation to stay awake beckons us to be conscious of the virtue of hope, of the miracle of life, and the prodigious love that our God has for us in choosing to become incarnate. Let us stay awake this season to be attentive to the details surrounding Jesus' birth and to prepare ourselves for His ultimate return in glory.

By Elizabeth Tomlin