

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29/30, 2025**



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Collection for Nov. 22/23.....\$8,983.50
Collection for CCHD.....\$2,418.00

PARISHIONERS WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY RECENTLY We commended to God all the souls of our faithfully departed. May they all rest in eternal peace. Please remember their families in your hearts and prayers.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION OF THE LORD We are so blessed we can visit Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. For more information or to sign up for your personal hour contact Angela at 421-0426
Sunday: 2:00 AM
Mondays: 1:00 PM
Fridays: 1:00 AM

COLLECTION FOR THE RETIRED RELIGIOUS ON DECEMBER 6/7, 2025
A lifetime of service deserves care in return. Donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides housing, medical assistance and essential support for thousands of aging religious. Please consider giving next week.

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS
The Honorariums and Memorials are due for the Christmas bulletin on December 8, 2025. Envelopes for the Honorariums (Living loved ones) and Memorials (deceased loved ones) are available in the vestibule and your envelope packets. Please fill them out legibly and thoroughly' return them in the collection basket. The proceeds will help decorate the church for Christmas. Thank you!

BUNCO – December 16 at 1:30 PM, call Sally.

PRAYER LINE 870- 404-2039

PLEASE HELP US CLEAN THE CHURCH
We are looking for helpers to assist us in cleaning the church on Monday, December 15th, 2025 at 9:00 AM. Please just come by if you are available. Thank you, The Cleaning Crew

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Praised be Jesus Christ!! It is with immense gratitude in our hearts that we say to you "THANK YOU!" for making our 100th Jubilee Celebration such an extraordinary and beautiful event! We wish we could thank everyone by name, but you know who you are and God has seen all that you did to make this event what it was! We thank everyone who had a hand in planning, shaping, forming and bringing this event about, the many hands who played a role in big and little ways, from the depths of our hearts! We thank all who gave of their treasure to us with special gifts and monetary donations that greatly help support our life and mission here in Mountain Home. We thank Fr. Norbert too, for his constant fatherly care, love and support for us. We are grateful for each one of you, and words cannot express. Therefore, we ask our Heavenly Father to bless you abundantly for all your goodness to us in this wonderful year of Jubilee! He cannot be outdone in generosity, and please know how much we pray in gratitude for you and treasure you in our hearts!

With our love, gratitude and prayers
Your Dominican Sisters

ST. PETERS CONFESSIONS Fr. Norbert will be in the confessional on Saturday, December 6th from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM every hour on the hour.

PENANCE SERVICE: December 14th from 2:00 – 5:30 PM four priests will be here to hear your confession. Please join us and remember to take advantage of the Masses before Christmas during the week. Father will not be hearing confessions at the Christmas Masses.

ATTENTION: EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS, LECTORS AND ALTAR SERVERS The December Ministry Schedule is in the Information Room, ready for you to pick up. Thank you so much for serving, God bless you all!!

CLOTHING ROOM SALE - 50% off CHRISTMAS AND 25% off CHILDREN'S CLOTHING 25% off coats, vests, hoodies and children's clothing. Come soon for best selection Monday through Friday 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM and Saturdays 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. See you soon!!!!

FLU SEASON Please don't be offended if parishioners do not wish to exchange a handshake of peace until the flu season has passed.

MASS TIMES out of town is www.masstimes.org

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 1

Is 4:2-6/Mt 8:5-11

7:15 AM Special Intention of Matthew and Kelly Rue
by Aunt

Tuesday, December 2

Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24

7:15 AM +Richard Buss by William Buss Family

Wednesday, December 3 St. Francis Xavier

Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37

7:15 AM Special Intention of Barbara Paszkewich

5:15 PM St. Joseph's Devotional Mass

Thursday, December 4 St. John Damascene

Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27

7:15 AM +Bob Grabowski by Jo Grabowski

Friday, December 5 First Friday

7:15 AM +Hess Family Members

by Cheryl and Butch Chappell

5:15 PM +Dovie and Joseph Bourque, Sr.

by Veronica Moore

Saturday, December 6 St. Nicholas

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

7:15 AM +Robert Milani

by Kathleen, Austin & Mary Milani

4:00 PM +Frank Holt by Ann Holt

Sunday, December 7 Second Sunday of Advent

Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

8:00 AM +Deceased Members of Williamson Family

by Diane Dean and Family

11:00 AM For the People of St. Peter's

MASS TIMES FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY 7:00 AM, NOON AND 6:00 PM.

This is a Holy Day of Obligation. Church offices closed.

ST. PETER'S KITCHEN ON THURSDAYS

Please join us for free lunch and fellowship from 12:30 to 1:30 PM in DeClerk hall on Thursdays. Last week our cooks were: Vern Rudnik, Theresa Jo Grabowski, and Martha Dieckman. Our greeter was LeeAnna DePriest, our servers were: Connie DeMarco, Eddie Harrision, Jo Grabowski and Lucy Christensen. Our cleaning crew was Kathi Clark. Thank you to all and to Deacon Bob Wochner for always saying a beautiful prayer before our meal. God bless you all!! The Kitchen will be back Thursday, December 4th.

LOST AND FOUND

Are you missing something? Please look in the lost and found boxes above the coat rack in the vestibule of the church. Or call Mary Jo in the church office at 870-425-2832, ext. 1.

PLEASE KEEP ALL THESE PEOPLE IN YOUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS

Paul Oswald, Amy, Bill K. Stapleton, Mick, Tia, Colleen, Clay Kennedy, Jeff Torphy, Joey, David, Pam Pellicane, Joan and Carl Torres, Claudette Hough, Fraser, Ruben Pasillas, Kevin Kennedy, Kaleb, Tina Urban, Mary Eckert, Trish, Tom and Patricia Kelley, Joey H., Tom Handby, Regina Niggemann, Ginny Cox, Clare Joanne Fulton, Dc. Bob Crawford, Schill Family, Victoria Malichi, Mike, Jack Insinga, Amy Spiegle, David Sullivan, Mark, Toni, Jeff Harry, Jay Jeskie, Brett Rorie, Oakley, Aspen, John, Ed and Jean Moranz, Kathleen Szpicki, Louie Dreder, Sandy, Blair, Ida, Baby Emerson, Mary Ann Hoyne, Betty Lindsey, Parker, Sam Ferrara, Lois Runkle, Mary Ann Balwierczak, Stephanie Kratovil, Clark Knight, Beau Dicks, Terry and Kathy Mason, Bob, Carol and Larry Rice, Fred Browning, Ellen and Family, Pat Favara, Ron Dziekan, Sarah, Carol Kennedy, Kristin Meinholz, Jim, Kaleb, Jacob, Jerry Carter and Brandi, Theresa, Hannah, Alex Till, Kennedy, Debra Burley, David Totten, Ron Briggs, Kristina Hale, Samantha Washam, Linda, Alice Mason, Don Dotson, Judie Kubal, Paul Pablo – Garay, David Russell, Joey, Terry, Nick Kennedy, Paul and Barbara Lachel, Jeff Gastron, Savino Mandujano, Anne Middleton, John and Andy Willette, Jack Clarke, Lisa, Kaitlin. Nathan, Aria and Ivy Barbeau, Chris and Carly Webb, Leo, Bonnie, Bill Holstine, Alan Clark, Frank Clark, Jim Allen, Ella, Bond Family, Ellen Moran, Marty Kowalkowski, Kevin, George Ferrara, Sarah Goss, Kathy McAleese, Bill and Deb Brewer, Carolyn, Kenneth, Sarah, Kole

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTER CONTEST

The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a Christmas poster contest for our young parishioners, grades 1st through 8th. Contact person is Bill Balsbaugh at 559-302-8858. All posters are due **December 10th**. There are three age groups: 1st through 3rd, 4th and 5th and 6th through 8th. There will be three winners in each group. Winners will receive a gift card from Walmart. The theme is Keep Christ in Christmas and should be on the poster. Posterboards and entry forms can be obtained from Bill Balsbaugh or from Mary Jo in the church office.

MARIAN MOVEMENT OF PRIESTS

We meet at 3:00 PM on Thursdays in the Adoration Chapel to pray for priests. Please join us, everyone is welcome! For more information, please call Yvonne Perreault at 870-421-3028.

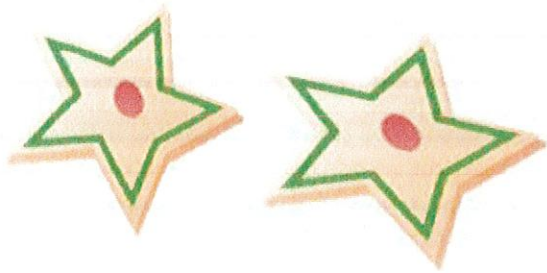
out of office



November 21st, 2025



Mrs. Sarah's last day will be November 21st, and in her absence, Patrick Jean will take over her responsibilities. The email address will remain the same, and you can reach out using the same phone extension for any CYM questions. He will be checking emails and voicemails on Tuesdays and Thursdays but if you need something sooner please contact Mrs.Brandi at brandi.spcc@gmail.com



CALLING ALL BAKERS

ANNUAL PARISH COOKIE WALK

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6th

The generosity of our talented bakers and candy makers is what makes it such a successful sale!

We are hoping you will be able to donate the same quality and quantity of wonderful Christmas cookies, sweet breads and candy that you gave last year.

Please drop off your baked goods in the Family Life Kitchen
Friday December 5th between 8 am and 2 pm.

If all items are delivered then, we will have a nice variety for each tray.

Questions: Please Call Jennie 870-321-4926

If you are unable to bake this year, cash donations are always welcome and appreciated.

Thank you in advance for all your support.

Please remember all proceeds go to St. Vincent de Paul



OUR LADY OF

Guadalupe



Live
Mariachi
Band
at 8 p.m
Mass



PRAYER SERVICE

ROSARY : DEC 11TH AT 11:00 P.M. (SPANISH)

SERENADE TO OUR LADY: DEC 11TH AT 12:00 A.M

MASS: DEC 12TH AT 8:00 P.M

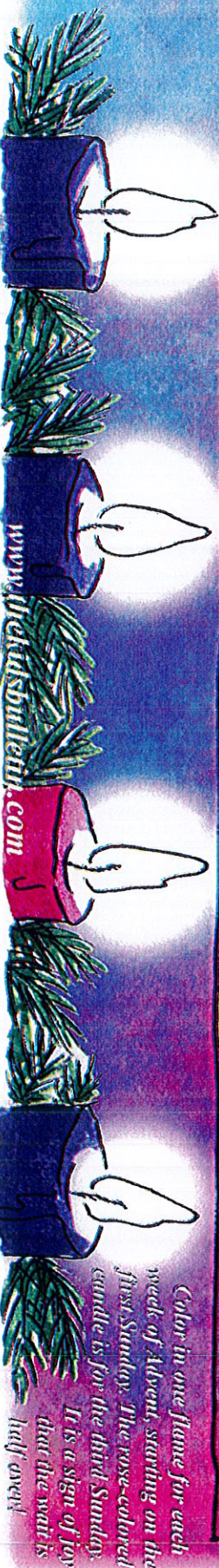
The Kids' Bulletin

Advent 2025

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; for he has come to his people and set them free. Luke 1:67



<p>November 30</p> <p>...the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light... Romans 13:12</p> <p>Pick a good habit to work on for Advent!</p>	<p>December 1</p> <p>I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." Psalm 122:1</p> <p>What can you do to make your house ready for Jesus?</p>	<p>December 2</p> <p>A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse... Isaiah 11:1</p> <p>Thank God for your parents!</p>	<p>December 3</p> <p>The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces. Isaiah 25:8</p> <p>Who can you cheer up today?</p>	<p>December 4</p> <p>Trust in the LORD forever! For the LORD is an eternal Rock. Isaiah 26:4</p> <p>Pray: Jesus, I trust in You!</p>	<p>December 5</p> <p>Out of gloom and darkness, the eyes of the blind shall see. Isaiah 29:18</p> <p>Draw a Christmas picture for someone!</p>	<p>December 6</p> <p>Feast of Saint Nicholas</p> <p>"The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to imitate God's giving..." St. Nicholas of Myra</p>
<p>December 7</p> <p>A voice of one crying out in the desert, "Prepare the way of the Lord" Isaiah 40:3</p> <p>Tell the Christmas story to a friend!</p>	<p>December 8</p> <p>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception</p> <p>Say a Hail Mary to Our Blessed Mother!</p>	<p>December 9</p> <p>Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Isaiah 40:1</p> <p>Remind someone who is sad that God loves them!</p>	<p>December 10</p> <p>Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these things... Isaiah 40:26</p> <p>Look at the sky and thank God for the sun, moon and stars!</p>	<p>December 11</p> <p>Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD Psalm 148:10</p> <p>Go outside and thank God for nature!</p>	<p>December 12</p> <p>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</p> <p>Thank Mary for being our mother!</p>	<p>December 13</p> <p>Feast of Saint Lucy</p> <p>Thank God for the Christmas decorations you see!</p>
<p>December 14</p> <p>Be strong, fear not! Here is your God... Isaiah 41:14</p> <p>What are you afraid of? Trust in God to protect you!</p>	<p>December 15</p> <p>A star shall advance from Jacob, and a scepter shall rise from Israel... Numbers 24:17</p> <p>Pray for the leaders of your country!</p>	<p>December 16</p> <p>I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall be ever in my mouth. Psalm 34:2</p> <p>Sing an Advent hymn!</p>	<p>December 17</p> <p>O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge! Consider the order of the universe God has created!</p>	<p>December 18</p> <p>O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power! Read or recite God's Ten Commandments.</p>	<p>December 19</p> <p>O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay! Thank Jesus for coming to save us!</p>	<p>December 20</p> <p>O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness! Read the story of David and Goliath!</p>
<p>December 21</p> <p>O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: Come, shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death. Jesus' coming is like the dawn after a dark cold night.</p>	<p>December 22</p> <p>O King of all nations and cornerstone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust! Jesus is the kindest king. Serve Him with joy!</p>	<p>December 23</p> <p>O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God! Emmanuel means God is with us. His birthday is in two more days!</p>	<p>December 24</p> <p>The dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness... Luke 1:32-33</p> <p>One more day to prepare your heart and home for Jesus!</p>	<p>December 25</p> <p>Christmas Day!</p> <p>Glorify to God in the highest!</p>	<p>December 26</p> <p>Feast of Saint John the Evangelist</p> <p>Thank God for the love of the Holy Spirit!</p>	<p>December 27</p> <p>Feast of Saint Thomas</p> <p>Thank God for the gift of faith!</p>



Color in one flame for each week of Advent, starting on the first Sunday. The rose-colored candle is for the third Sunday. It is a sign of joy that the wait is half over!

Advent

LIVING IN CHRIST'S LIGHT

As the nights grow longer and the air turns colder, Advent arrives—not only as a season on the calendar, but as a call to our hearts. In a world where darkness can feel overwhelming—through suffering, division, and uncertainty—Advent reminds us that God has already answered with light.

From the beginning, God's light has pierced the shadows. The prophets saw it from afar, speaking of a coming Messiah who would bring justice, peace, and healing. In Bethlehem, that promised light took flesh. In Jesus Christ, the Light of the World stepped into our night with the warmth of love and the power of truth.

Each Advent candle, each quiet moment of prayer, becomes a step on the path from darkness to light. As the candles grow in number each week—hope, peace, joy, and love—we are invited to let Christ's light grow within us. The flicker of a flame reminds us: He is near. He is coming. He is already here.

But Advent is not just about seeing the light. It is about living in it. Christ doesn't shine so we can remain the same; he shines so we can become radiant with his love. His light transforms our hearts, softens our judgments, strengthens our courage, and sends us out as bearers of that same light.

In this sacred season, we are called to reflect his light—to offer hope to the lonely, peace to the anxious, joy to the weary, and love to the forgotten.

Whether we light a candle on the wreath or a string of lights on the tree, let each small flame be a prayer:

COME, LORD JESUS. LIGHT THE WAY.
DWELL IN US. SHINE THROUGH US.

This Advent, may we not only watch for Christ's coming but prepare to live as children of the light—joyful, radiant, and ready to welcome him.



FROM CANDLES TO CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

ILLUMINATING THE MEANING OF ADVENT

Candles have long symbolized Advent, representing the light of Christ coming into a world darkened by sin. The tradition dates back to early Christian customs in Europe, where people lit candles during the darkest days of winter as a sign of hope and expectation. Over time, this merged with Christian liturgical practices—especially in medieval Germany—giving rise to the Advent wreath.

The wreath usually holds four candles—three purple and one pink—lit one by one on each Sunday of Advent. Some include a fifth white candle, the Christ candle, lit on Christmas Day. Each flame represents a theme: hope, peace, joy, and love. As more candles are lit, the growing light reflects the increasing anticipation of Christ's birth.

More than seasonal decoration, candles serve as a visual and spiritual countdown to Christmas. Their soft glow invites stillness, prayer, and reflection in a season often marked by hurry. They help focus our hearts on the mystery and joy of the Incarnation.

Christmas lights continue this tradition in a broader, more public way. Like Advent candles, they symbolize Christ as the Light of the World—a promise kindled in Advent and fulfilled on Christmas Day. The practice of lighting homes and trees began when Christians placed candles in windows as a sign of welcome and hope. With electric lights introduced in the late 19th century, the tradition expanded to homes, trees, and city streets.

Each light we see—whether candle or bulb—echoes the same message: light overcomes darkness. Jesus, the true Light, has come to bring warmth, joy, and peace. As candles call us to quiet reflection, Christmas lights proclaim in celebration that the Light has arrived.



SUNDAY MASS READINGS FOR ADVENT 2025

1st Sunday: Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44

2nd Sunday: Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

3rd Sunday: Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

4th Sunday: Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

Christmas Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18

"MAY WE BE IN THIS WORLD A RAY OF THAT LIGHT WHICH SHONE FORTH FROM BETHLEHEM, BRINGING JOY AND PEACE TO THE HEARTS OF ALL MEN AND WOMEN."

—Pope Francis

WHERE DID ADVENT COME FROM?

Advent originated in the early Church as a season of preparation for baptism, especially for new Christians baptized at Epiphany. Records from 4th-century Gaul and Spain show Christians observing periods of fasting and penance in late autumn. By the 6th century, the focus of Advent shifted in Rome to preparing for the celebration of Christ's birth on December 25. Pope Gregory I (590–604) helped shape the season's liturgical structure, though the number of weeks varied regionally. By the Middle Ages, the Western Church standardized Advent as the four Sundays before Christmas. Its name comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming," and it mirrors the Greek word *parousia*, referring to Christ's return. Over time, Advent became a season marking both Christ's first coming in Bethlehem and his promised return.

ADVENT FACTS

Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming" or "arrival." It translates the Greek word *parousia*, which refers to Christ's Second Coming. Advent invites reflection on both Christ's birth and his return in glory.

Liturgical colors used during Advent are primarily purple (or violet), symbolizing penance, prayer, and preparation. On the third Sunday, called *Gaudete* Sunday, (Latin for "rejoice") rose-colored vestments may be used to signify joy and a shift toward celebration.

The '**O Antiphons**' are a set of ancient prayers recited or sung from December 17–23. Each begins with "O" and addresses Christ by a biblical title, such as "O Wisdom" or "O Emmanuel." They are the inspiration for the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

The **Advent season** begins four Sundays before Christmas and lasts between 22 and 28 days, depending on the calendar year.

Advent

2025



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 November The Lord Is Coming! Be more alert to God's surprising presence in your life. <i>Matthew 24:42</i>	1 December Come and Cure Us, Jesus! Ask Jesus to heal us in mind and body. <i>Matthew 8:5-7</i>	2 Change Our Hearts, Holy Spirit! Ask God's Holy Spirit to transform us. <i>Isaiah 11:2-3</i>	3 St. Francis Xavier The Lord Is My Shepherd Jesus, help feed the hungry today. <i>Psalms 23:1</i>	4 St. John Damascene Trust in God Forever God is our constant guardian, keeping us from harm. <i>Isaiah 26:4</i>	5 God is My Light and Salvation Open our eyes to God's presence around us today. <i>Psalms 27:1</i>	6 St. Nicholas God Will Answer Us When we cry out to God, we know God will be there for us. <i>Isaiah 30:19-20</i>
7 Christ Saves Everyone Welcome others today as Christ would welcome them. <i>Romans 15:7</i>	8 Immaculate Conception Do Not Fear! Like Mary, let Christ live in you today. <i>Luke 1:30-32</i>	9 St. Juan Diego The Good Shepherd Will Find Us Though we feel lost, Jesus always finds us. <i>Matthew 18:12-14</i>	10 Our Lady of Loretto God Will Not Get Weary Ask God to give you strength to change your life. <i>Isaiah 40:28-31</i>	11 St. Damasus I God Will Help Us Ask God to help you become more like Jesus. <i>Isaiah 41:13</i>	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe God Comes to Dwell with Us Ask God to stay with you today. <i>Zechariah 2:14</i>	13 St. Lucy Give Us New Life Let us turn from our sinful ways and let God heal us. <i>Psalms 80:18-19</i>
14 Be Strong, Fear Not! Look for ways to calm yourself and others today. <i>Isaiah 35:4</i>	15 God Is Hidden, but Near Ask God to open your eyes to God's presence. <i>Numbers 24:15-17</i>	16 Bless the Lord Thank God whose plan for salvation is now happening through Jesus. <i>Psalms 34:2-3</i>	17 God Defends the Poor Let us do something today to help someone in need. <i>Psalms 72:2</i>	18 God With Us Pay more attention to God's presence in us and our world. <i>Matthew 1:23</i>	19 Hope In the Lord Hope and trust that God will respond to our deepest longings. <i>Psalms 71:5-6</i>	20 O Key of David! Ask God to open your heart to God's presence. <i>Luke 1:36-38</i>
21 Look for a Sign! Look around for signs that God is present with you now. <i>Isaiah 7:10-14</i>	22 Proclaim the Good News Share the true meaning of Christmas with someone today. <i>Luke 1:46-55</i>	23 St. John of Kanty He Is Coming! Open your heart to receive Jesus and his love. <i>Malachi 3:1</i>	24 The Way Is Prepared! Our Advent Preparation is complete. The Lord Is coming! <i>Luke 1:67-79</i>	25 Christmas Our Savior Is Born Rejoice because God's love is revealed in Jesus. <i>John 1:14</i>	Blessed be the Child who today delights Bethlehem. Blessed is he who has made heaven rejoice and earth sing. Glory to God in the highest! —St. Ephrem the Syrian	