



The first Sunday of Advent, November 30, 2025, marks the beginning of the Advent season, on the Sunday closest to the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle. The season concludes on Christmas Eve.

Marking the beginning of the church's new liturgical year, it symbolizes hope and preparation for the coming of Christ. It is a time to light the first candle, usually purple, representing the hope found in the Messiah's prophecies and the anticipation of both Christ's birth and his second coming. It is also a time for reflecting on scripture, prayer, and focusing on hope, faith, and watchfulness.

- **Hope:** The first candle, also called the "Candle of Hope" or "Candle of Prophecy," recalls the promises made by prophets and anticipation of the Messiah's birth.
- **Preparation:** The start of the Advent season, a period of spiritual preparation and waiting for both the celebration of Jesus' birth and his future return.
- **Spiritual vigilance:** The day encourages people to reflect on their spiritual state, confessing sins and anxieties, and being vigilant and prayerful for the Lord's coming.

### **Activities and symbols**

- *Lighting the Advent wreath:* The first candle is lit, symbolizing hope in the midst of growing darkness.
- *Prayer and reflection:* Christians are encouraged to pray and reflect on their relationship with God, their spiritual health, and the things they need to let go of to be more prepared for Christ. Read scripture and engage in prayer. Common themes include reflecting on God's plan, the hope for Christ's coming, and the call to watch and pray.
- *Symbolic actions:* People are encouraged to "stand up, lift their heads, and be vigilant," and to ask the Lord to lift their burdens.
- *Begin Advent devotions:* Start a daily or weekly Advent devotion to focus on the season's themes of waiting and hope.
- **Engage in acts of kindness:** Some families or individuals commit to doing kind deeds for others, perhaps by drawing names and pledging to do something nice for that person throughout the week.



# December 2025



	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p>7 2nd Sunday of Advent A: 9:00 AM Mass <b>BREAKFAST BRUNCH</b> <b>Social after Mass</b> SA: 11:00 AM Mass <b>Social Sunday</b> Fr. Ashby Tree Lighting 5:00 PM at the Lions BBQ</p>	<p>8 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary A: 9:00 AM Mass SA: 12 (N) PM Mass (HDO)</p>	<p>9 Giving Tuesday SA: Pray the Rosary for the Unborn before Mass SA: 12 (N) Mass A: Eucharistic Adoration 5:00 pm—7:00 pm</p>	<p>10 A: 8:00 AM Mass SA: <b>Craft Day 10 AM - 1 PM</b> B: 7:00PM K of C #15610 Bus. Mtg. @ AOOL</p>	<p>11 SA: Reconciliation @ 6:00 - 6:15 PM Mass 6:30 PM</p>	<p>12 A: 8:00 AM Mass <b>Our Lady of Guadalupe</b></p>	<p>13 SA: No Mass A: Reconciliation @ 4:00 ; Mass 4:30 PM</p>
	<p>14 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) A: 9 AM Mass SA: 11:00 AM Mass -Rosary B: <b>Joint Parish Christmas Party at AOOL at 2 PM Bring a Jingle Gift!</b></p>	<p>15 <b>Fr. Dan on Vacation</b></p>	<p>16 SA: No Mass <b>Fr. Dan on Vacation</b></p>	<p>17 A: No Mass <b>Fr. Dan on Vacation</b></p>	<p>18 Giving Tree Gifts Due in <b>NO EXCEPTIONS</b> SA: No Mass <b>Fr. Dan on Vacation</b></p>	<p>19 A: No Mass <b>Fr. Dan on Vacation</b></p>	<p>20 SA: No Mass A: Reconciliation @ 4:00 ; Mass 4:30 PM</p>
	<p>21 4th Sunday of Advent A: 9 AM Mass SA: 11:00 AM Mass <b>Guild Mtg. Cancelled</b> <b>Decorating Christmas Tree</b> <b>Delivering Christmas Baskets</b></p>	<p>22 A: No CEOS mtg. this mth</p>	<p>23 SA: 12 (N) Mass</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve No daily Mass A: 4:30 PM Mass SA: 6:30 PM <b>Joint Parish Covered Dinner CANCELLED</b> <b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p>25 Christmas Day <b>The Nativity of the Lord</b> A: 9:00 AM MASS SA: 11:00 SA MASS <b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p>26 A: NO MASS <b>Office Closed</b></p>	<p>27 SA: No Mass A: Reconciliation @ 4:00 ; Mass 4:30 PM</p>
	<p>28 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph A: 9:00 AM Mass SA: 11:00 AM Mass</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 SA: Pray the Rosary for the Unborn before Mass SA: 12 (N) Mass</p>	<p>31 A: 8:00 AM Mass <b>New Year's Eve</b> A: 6:30 PM (Vigil)</p>	<p>1 New Year's Day (HDO) A: 9:00 AM SA: 12 (N)</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p><b>LEGEND</b> A: Annunciation of Our Lord Parish SA: St. Anthony Parish B: Both Parishes</p> </div>	