

Celebrating at St. Anthony & St. Joseph Churches

A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS WHERE THERE'S ALWAYS A PLACE FOR YOU

MASS SCHEDULES

Weekend Masses

Saturday - Saint Joseph Church Campus

4:00 pm Mass

Reconciliation: 3:30 pm

Sunday -Saint Anthony Church Campus

10:30 am Mass 5:00 pm Praise Mass **Reconciliation:** 10:00 am

Weekday Masses

Saint Anthony Chapel Tuesday and Thursday

7:00 am

SA—Hearing assistance is available. Ask any member of the Parish Team.



OFFICE INFORMATION

All Saints Parish Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Friday 9:00 am - 1:30 pm

704 N First Ave Evansville IN 47710-1632

Phone: 812.423.5209 Fax: 812.424.5498

All Saints Website

www.allsaintsevansville.org

All Saints Facebook

www.facebook.com/saintanthonyevansville/

PARISH COUNCIL

Officers

Gina Tucker...Chairperson Fred Mulfinger...Vice-Chairperson Kelly Snyder...Secretary Mike Wathen...Treasurer

Members-At-Large

Justin Collins, Melissa Engler, José Ramirez, Kathy Reitz, Jim Schulz, Landon Wagner

Commissioners

Fred Mulfinger / Building & Finance
Don Kuhr / Community Life
Bartell Berg / Faith Formation
Laura Ackerman / Liturgy
Wilma Spaulding / Justice & Charity
Gina Tucker / Youth

Saturday, December 4

SJ 3:30 pm Confessions

SJ 4:00 pm Mass

Christmas Craft Sale at Mass

Sunday, December 5 Second Sunday of Advent

SA 8-12 St. Nick Breakfast

SA 9:00 am Family Faith

SA 10:00 am Confessions

SA 10:30 am Mass/Children's Lituray

SA Christmas Craft Sale at 10:30 Mass

SA 3:30 pm Praise Music Practice

SA 5:00 pm Praise Mass

Tuesday, December 7 Happy Birthday Fr. Steve!

SA 7:00 am Mass 6:00 pm Parish Council

EVENTS THIS WEEK

Wednesday, December 8 Feast of Immaculate Conception

SA 7:00 am Mass at St. Anthony

SA 8:00 am Bible Study

SA 10:30 am Community Meal

SA 10:30 am Clothes Closet

SJ 12:10 pm Mass at St. Joseph

SA 5:30 pm Mass at St. Anthony

Thursday, December 9

SA 7:00 am Mass

Saturday, December 11

SJ 3:30 pm Confessions

SJ 4:00 pm Mass

Sunday, December 12 Third Sunday of Advent

SA 10:00 am Confessions

SA 10:30 am Mass/Children's Liturgy

SA 3:30 pm Praise Music Practice

SA 5:00 pm Praise Mass

Pastoral Staff

Rev. John Davidson	Pastor, x114	jdavidson@evdio.org			
Fr. Steve Lintzenich	Sacramental Minister	slintzenich@evdio.org			
	Deacon, 812-746-6331	3			
Sharon Vogler	DRE/Pastoral Associate, x109	svogler@evdio.org			
Tom Bogenschutz	Dir. Ministries, x104	tbogenschutz@evdio.org			
Part-Time Staff					
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Judy Wittgen Administrative Asst, x101 jwittgen@evdio.org Amy Eger Financial Coordinator, x103 aeger@evdio.org Machalle Walker Office Secretary, x102 mwalker@evdio.org Peggy Epley Media Specialist, x123 pepley@evdio.org

Fatima Seib......Music Coordinator

Darlene Steffe......Wedding Coordinator

Tina Schutte.....Praise Music Coordinator

Special Points of Interest

Baptism of children should be arranged in advance by contacting Fr. Davidson at the Parish Office.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

(RCIA): Those wishing to become Catholic or learn more about the Catholic faith may call the Parish Office.

Marriage: Couples planning to be married should contact Fr. Davidson at least six months before the wedding date. This ensures time for adequate preparation.

Anointing of the Sick: Please call the Parish Office. It is best to arrange the anointing while the person who is ill can participate.

Catholic Schools: Grades K-12, open to children of our parishioners. Contact Sharon Vogler at the Parish Office to ask about our policy of sponsoring students in Catholic Schools.

Family Faith Formation: Religious Education for families and children is available. Please call Sharon Vogler at the Parish Office.

Prayer Chain: Contact Judy Wittgen at our Parish Office if you would like to join the phone or email prayer chain.

Homebound, Nursing Home or Hospital Visitation: Call the Parish Office.

New Parishioners: Call Tom Bogenschutz at the Parish Office to receive our Welcome Packet and Parish Directory.



The Automated External Defibrillators are located in the back of St. Anthony Church near the restroom and the front west wall in St. Joseph Church.

Christmas Eve Mass with Children

We need your help to tell the story... Celebrating Jesus' birth at our 4 pm Mass on Friday, December 24th at St. Joseph Church.

Calling all angels, shepherds, innkeepers, kings, Joseph, and Caesar Augustus.

Any children who are interested in participating in the pageant are asked to attend as many of the 2 practices as possible. Are you a parishioner and grandparent? Will your grandchildren be at Mass on the 24th? They are welcome to join us and participate in the pageant!

Practice Dates:

Sunday, December 12 after the 10:30 am Mass – meet at St. Joseph Church for practice

Sunday, December 19 after the 10:30 am Mass – meet at St. Joseph Church for practice

If interested, or have questions, please contact

Kristi Wagner at 812-204-6802 or Stephanie Burgdorf at 812-774-8974.

Download our App for \$1.00 off per person for the St. Nick's breakfast this Sunday, December 5.



Forgot Cash? Then use our app to pay.

Text "Give" to the All Saints Parish App # 812.575.4044, then type amount of your gift, choose Fund "A-Men's Club".

If you have already set up an account with our online giving provider, you will then receive your receipt. If you have not set up online giving, then it will prompt you to set up an account. Thank you for joining us for the St. Nick's breakfast.

Thank You for Being So Kind & Generous

As of November 29 you have pledged \$100,275.00 (66%) of our CPC goal. \$69,194.25 (46%) has been paid towards our goal. Our goal is \$151,346.00. All Saints Parish is committed to helping our community thrive, we are hopeful to have 100% participation with this year's Catholic Parishes Campaign. Thank you for your help!

DECEMBER MASS INTENTIONS For All Saints Parish			
Saturday	4	Recorded	Parishioners
	4	4:00 pm	Rose Stofleth & Hyacinth Ryan
Sunday	5	10:30 am	Clarence F. & Joanne Kirby
	5	5:00 pm	John Gerard
Tuesday	7	7:00 am	Carol Witmeier
		7:00 am	Sylvia Goebel
Wednesday	8	12:10 pm	Patricia Welsh
		5:30 pm	Wanda & Carl Adcock
Thursday	9	7:00 am	Jeanie Hobbs
Saturday	11	Recorded	Parishioners
	11	4:00 pm	Bettye Harlen
Sunday	12	10:30 am	Lora Eidson
	12	5:00 pm	Art Weiss

Stewardship at All Sain	nts Parish
Online Contributions	\$6,015.00
WKND Collection Nov 21	\$6,761.20
Total	\$12,776.20
Weekly Amount Needed	\$14,000.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$215.00
Holy Day	\$10.00
Restoration	\$115.00



Stewardship at All Saints Parish			
Online Contributions	\$3,279.00		
WKND Collection Nov 28	\$4,460.65		
Total	\$7,739.65		
Weekly Amount Needed	\$14,000.00		
Budget YTD	\$308,000.00		
Collection YTD	\$237,397.48		
St. Vincent de Paul	\$4,422.00		
Holy Day	\$20.00		
Christmas	\$20.00		
Christmas Flowers	\$230.00		
Other	\$540.00		



All Saints Choir

For the past several months, our All Saints choir has been making a comeback.

Under Fatima's new leadership,
we can say we are in rebuilding mode after a year and a half Covid interlude.

One extra activity that they weaved into their ministry was last Wednesday evening's Taizé prayer.

These "extras" require of course more preparation and practice.

We take this opportunity to say thank you to the

We take this opportunity to say thank you to the Choir and Fatima for their invaluable ministry and for this extra Advent spiritual lift.

If anyone is interested in joining the choir, they would love to have you.

Just express your interest to Fatima.

Donations Made by the Parish in November

All Saints Parish is a steward of God's gifts.

Most "special collections" have been eliminated as we give a portion of our regular collection to the following cause:

Catholic Campaign for Human Development \$1150.00

Lector Schedule

December 5 10:30 Bonne Wink

5:00 Holly Earhart

December 12 10:30 Fred Mulfinger

5:00 Gina Tucker



Second Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5:1-9 pg. 1006 Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11 pg. 1338 Luke 3:1-6 pg. 1204

Third Sunday of Advent Zephaniah 3:14-18 pg. 865

Philippians 4:4-7 pg. 1341 Luke 3:10-18 pg. 1205

Check out our Ministries in Action!

A-Men's Club: 6:00 pm, 3rd Tuesday each month, SA
All Saints Women's Group: 6:30 pm, 3rd Monday each month, SA
Children's Choir: Practice every other Sunday at 9:00 am, SA
Children's Liturgy of the Word: Sundays, 10:30 am, SA

Covenant Choir: Practice every Wednesday at 6:30 pm, SA

Family Faith: Every other Sunday, 9:00 am, SA

Praise Mass Groups: Practice every Sunday at 3:30 pm, SA **RCIA Inquiry**: Call the Parish Office (812) 423-5209, SA **Wednesday Morning Bible Study:** Wednesdays, 8:00 am, SA

Questions of the Week

First Reading:

Baruch offers the captive Israelites in Babylon a vision of hope in which their broken relationship with God will be fully restored. What aspects of your relationship with God are in need of restoration?

Second Reading:

Paul offers an opening prayer of joy for the believers in the city of Philippi. As the season of Advent continues, what brings joy to your life? **Gospel:**

With Luke placing the preaching and activities of John the Baptist in its historical and political context, he communicates the idea that God is acting in real, human history. What do you see as the power of this assertion?

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

We will celebrate this solemnity on Wednesday, Dec. 8th at the following times:

7:00 am St. Anthony Church 12:10 pm St. Joseph Church 5:30 pm St. Anthony Church



Holiday Shopping with SCRIP

All Saints will again offer SCRIP gift card sales at both Churches on the following dates

December 4 & 5 December 18 & 19



Looking for stocking stuffers? We carry small denomination SCRIP cards from the following retailers:

Amazon \$10 Lic's \$2
Arby's \$10 Olive Garden \$10
Azzip Pizza \$10 Papa Johns \$10
Bath & Body \$10 Panera Bread \$10
Burger King \$10 Showplace North \$5
Camilla's Closet \$10 Starbuck's \$5/\$10

Dairy Queen \$10 Sonic \$10
Donut Bank \$5 Subway \$10
Dunkin' Donuts \$10 Target \$10
G. D. Ritzy's \$10 Wal-Mart \$10

Thank you for supporting our Parish through your SCRIP purchases!

Family Faith Formation

"Say the Word and My Soul Shall be Healed." People reaching for God and God reaching for people. We can't get there on our own.

We're looking at the 2nd week of Advent already. A question we are asking in Family Faith....
What signs of Advent have you seen?
How have you lived Advent so far?



Miss Terri teaches us about the Church year.

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT





You can still join us for Family Faith Formation... contact Sharon at the Parish Office...

or you can find the registration and waiver forms online at our parish website...

Go to https://allsaintsevansville.org/ and click on forms at the bottom of the page... or go directly to https://allsaintsevansville.org/wp-content uploads/2021/07/2021-2022-Family-Faith-Formation-Registration-Form.pdf

Justice Challenge

2nd Week of Advent

This week we celebrate two important feasts of Mary—the Immaculate Conception on December 8 and Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12. Even though she was conceived without sin and became the Mother of God, Mary never ceased to be an advocate for the poor. In her Magnificat, she praised God for lifting up the meek and the lowly. And she told Juan Diego, a poor indigenous Mexican man, that he had dignity and that she loved him. **This week's challenge** is to pray in solidarity with those of Mexican descent who have a special devotion to Our Lady. If your parish doesn't have a special celebration the morning of December 12, find one that does and join in serenading this special woman.

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2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT





It is Advent in our Church Seasons!

Check out the new resources we will be putting on our GIFT webpage



http://allsaintsevansville.org/growing/ click on "Seasonal Resources" then click on Advent. Enjoy!

Waiting and Watching

Reflections for Advent

Join All Saints Parish as we read, reflect, pray and put into action Advent Reflections. These inspirational readings will be available each day on our Facebook Page, Website, and Parish App.

Visit https://allsaintsevansville.org, from the Homepage scroll down to Daily Reflections for Advent. From our GIFT page, https://allsaintsevansville.org/growing/ click on the Seasonal Resources tab then choose Advent. Here you will find the entire reflection Waiting & Watching booklet.

On our Parish App—click on the Christmas button then choose Advent Reflections.



Be sure to check out the Christmas button on our App. You can make a Christmas Flower Memorial, read a daily Advent reflection, view our Christmas Mass times, and see many resources for Advent & Christmas.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Collection

During the month of January we will be collecting non-perishable food items for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Panty to help them re-stock their shelves after the Christmas Season. Containers will be at the doors of both churches.

Advent Forgiveness Service



Wednesday, December 15th 2:00 pm and 5:30 pm Saint Anthony Church

Wednesday Morning Bible Study

Our last Bible Study before Christmas Break will be on Wednesday, December 15th. There will be no Bible Study on December 22 and December 29. Bible Study will resume on Wednesday, January 5, 2022.

Vespers Service

Join us for Evening Prayer during Advent on Wednesday, December 22, 5:30 pm at St. Anthony Church.



Christmas Flower Memorials

Remember a loved one this Christmas with a Christmas Flower Memorial. Envelopes are included with your December packet. You may also place a Memorial through our Parish website, allsaintsevansville.org. Choose the "Online Giving" tab then select the Christmas Flower Memorial link. From the App find the Christmas button and select Christmas Flower Memorials. Please submit your Christmas Flower Memorial by Monday, December 13.





If you itemize your deductions
The Adjusted Gross Income
limitation for charitable
contributions is 100%.
You can deduct your cash or
cash-equivalent contributions
from your entire income.

If you don't itemize your deductions

You are able to claim a charitable deduction of **up to** \$300 if filing on your own, or **up to** \$600 if filing jointly with your spouse.

IRA charitable donations

You may be able to avoid paying tax by making a charitable distribution straight from your account to All Saints Parish. It's easy to do! Just notify the custodian of your IRA.



Visit All Saints Facebook Page for daily news. Like our page and be sure to share our site with your friends.

Advertiser of the Week

Thank you Master Tire & Accessories, Inc. for sponsoring All Saints Parish Bulletin.
All Saints Parishioners, please shop our sponsors.
Let them know you saw their ad in our
Sunday Bulletin.



Welcome to...Justice....Our Mission

All Saints Parish Vision Statement: We are called to be a faith filled family, who acts justly, loves tenderly, forgives freely and walks humbly with our God.

As we know living the Gospel teaches us the need for Charity but also the importance of working for Justice. We will be offering resources to help us grow in our understanding of Justice and opportunities to work for Justice.

The Evansville District Council of St. Vincent de Paul

Serving Those in Need. Feeding the Hungry.

Thrift Store.....Food Pantry......Ton of Toys....

Not only do they serve our neighbors, they also try to help neighbors get in touch with services they may need.

The website address is

https://www.svdpevansville.org/resources

Visit the Resources Page **HERE!**

See what else the website has in the way of news, resources, opportunities to take action and more... https://www.svdpevansville.org/



Jandatos Creation Care News

Leave the leaves does not mean ignoring them and leaving them where they fell.

You can move them to places in your yard where they are out of the way, will not kill your turf, and will still help wildlife. A thin layer of leaves can actually help turf—but too much will kill the grass. Consider raking leaves into areas around trees, or use them as winter mulch for perennials or to cover garden beds. A thick layer of leaves in garden beds helps minimize weed problems early in the spring and can be a great soil amendment. Let your neighbors know what you are doing so that they know you are not just being lazy. The messiness is just an extension of wildlife gardening and by making sure people know that wildlife need places to live year round—especially when it is cold and grey outside—it does help them understand why we should all leave the leaves!



Congregations Acting for Justice & Empowerment (CAJE)

Our work for justice in our community continues...

Thank You to everyone who was able to attend the Community Problems Assembly!

CAJE Calendar

- Monday, April 4, 2022 Rally
- Monday, May 9, 2022 Nehemiah Action
- Monday, June 13, 2022 Celebration

Update...2021 CAJE Investment Drive

Last year All Saints Parish raised \$19,020. Thank you to everyone!

Our All Saints Parish goal this year is \$20,000. We have donated \$16,645 (83%) toward this goal! 2021 has been a difficult year.

Let us continue to work together to reach our goal!

Please prayerfully consider investing in the CAJE organization for 2021. Much of our funding pays CAJE staff and allows for our leaders to attend workshops and conferences for all our processes at little or no cost!

There are two ways to invest.

1. Mail your check or money order to:

CAJE P. O. Box 18172 Evansville, IN 47719

2. Via PayPal on CAJE's website:

https://www.greaterevansvillecaje.org/donation



Pope Francis and the Joy of the Gospel

Since his election, Pope Francis has been guiding and nudging our Church

to rise up to meet the challenges of our era. The foundation of his vision can be found in his first encyclical, "The Joy of the Gospel". Tom Bogenschutz has taught and lead several discussions on this document and recently produced a video that summarizes the Pope's encyclical. It is 30 minutes in length and offers an overview of the Pope and his dream for the Church. The video can be found on All Saints website under the Faith Opportunities tab and on the Parish App's Seek button. Please check it out.

Christmas Angel Giving Tree

For our Angel Giving Tree, we are asking you to simply donate gift cards from our SCRIP program or you can put a monetary donation in an envelope marked Angel Tree and we can get the gift card for you. If you would like to give gift cards we especially appreciate those for gas or

gift cards we especially appreciate those for gas or food. We have on hand Circle K, IGA, Marathon, Target and Walmart.

This allows our All Saints Parish families to get essentials and some special Christmas gifts for their family.

PLEASE DO NOT WRAP GIFT CARDS, place in envelope and indicate merchant and the dollar amount for each card on the front of the envelope.

Please turn in all Angel Giving Tree donations to the parish office by **Thursday**, **December 9th**.

Thank you for your continued support!

Monetary donation: \$_

SCRIP Card	Amount	Qty	Total
Circle K	\$25.		
IGA	\$25.		
Marathon	\$25. \$100.		
Target	\$10. \$25. \$100.		
Walmart	\$10. \$25. \$100.		

SCRIP is perfect for all of your Christmas shopping and holiday needs. Anything from dinners to parties, stocking stuffers to teacher gifts. Also, you can check out our Special Order Form on the App and website. Please note—Special orders need to be placed by noon on Monday, Dec. 13th for delivery before Christmas.

lease list bel eed.	ow any addit	ional SCRIP ca	rds you

	-	Order	1	Cash
Name:		Taken By:		
Phone:		Time:		Check #
Product	%	Qty.	Amt.	Total
Amazon.com	2%		\$10/\$25/100	
AMC Theatres	8%		\$25.00	
Arby's	8%		\$10.00	
Azzip Pizza	10%		\$10.00	
Barnes & Noble	8%		\$25.00	
Bath & Body Works	12%		\$10.00	
Bed, Bath & Beyond, Macy's, Sephora	8%		\$25.00	
Burger King	4%		\$10.00	
Camilla's Closet	10%		\$10.00	
Circle K	1.5%		\$25.00	
Cracker Barrel, Buffalo Wild Wings, Red Lobster	8%		\$25.00	
CVS/pharmacy	6%		\$25/\$100	
Dairy Queen	3%		\$10.00	
Donut Bank	10%		\$5.00	
Dunkin' Donuts	3%		\$10.00	
El Charro	20%		\$20.00	
El Patron	20%		\$20.00	
Fazoli's	9%		\$25.00	
G.D. Ritzy's	15%		\$10.00	
Hacienda	10%		\$25.00	
Home Depot	4%		\$25/\$100	
GA-Buehlers	5%		\$25.00	
Tunes®	5%		\$15.00	
JoAnn	6%		\$25.00	
Kohl's	4%		\$25/\$100	
Lic's	20%		\$2.00	
Lowe's	4%		\$25/\$100	
Marathon	3%		\$25/\$100	
McAllister's Deli	6%		\$25.00	
Meijer	3%		\$25/\$50	
Menards	3%		\$25.00	
Michaels	4%		\$25.00	
O'Charley's	13%		\$25.00	
Outback, Bonefish Grill	8%		\$25.00	
Olive Garden, Cheddar's, Longhorn	8%		\$10/\$25	
Panera Bread	8%		\$10.00	
Papa Johns Pizza	9%		\$10.00	i e
Showplace-North	10%		\$5.00	
Starbucks	4.5%		\$5/\$10/\$25	
Sonic	8%		\$10.00	
Subway	4.5%		\$10.00	
Target	2.5%		\$10/\$25/\$100	
TJ Maxx,Marshalls, Home Goods	7%		\$25.00	
Turoni's	10%		\$25.00	
Visa	1.25%		\$50/\$100	
Walgreen's	5%		\$25.00	
Walmart (Sam's Club)	2.5%		\$10/\$25/\$100	



All Saints Parish Advent and Christmas Calendar

Sunday, November 28	First Sunday of Advent	
Wednesday, December 1 St. Anthony Church	Taizé Prayer Service Prayer, Music, Inspirational Readings	5:30 pm
St. Anthony Cafeteria	Second Sunday of Advent St. Nick Breakfast	8 am-12 pm
Wednesday, December 8	Mass Mass Mass	7:00 am 12:10 pm 5:30 pm
Sunday, December 12	•	
Wednesday, December 15 St. Anthony Church St. Anthony Church	Advent Forgiveness Service Forgiveness Service Forgiveness Service	2:00 pm 5:30 pm
Sunday, December 19	Fourth Sunday of Advent	
Wednesday, December 22 St. Anthony Church	Vespers Service Evening Prayer Service	5:30 pm
Friday, December 24	Christmas Evo	
	CIII ISUIIIAS EVE	
St. Joseph Church St. Anthony Church	Christmas Mass with Children Christmas Mass	4:00 pm 9:00 pm
St. Joseph Church	Christmas Mass with Children Christmas Mass	•
St. Joseph Church St. Anthony Church	Christmas Mass with Children Christmas Mass	•
St. Joseph Church St. Anthony Church Saturday, December 25 St. Anthony Church	Christmas Mass with Children Christmas MassChristmas Day Christmas Mass Feast of the Holy Family Mass	9:00 pm 9:00 am
St. Joseph Church St. Anthony Church Saturday, December 25 St. Anthony Church St. Joseph Church Friday, December 31	Christmas Mass with Children Christmas MassChristmas Day Christmas Mass Feast of the Holy Family MassNew Year's Eve Mass for Holy Day	9:00 pm 9:00 am 4:00 pm



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

December 2021

All Saints Parish



Immaculate Conception

On December 8th, we celebrate the conception of Mary in St. Anne's womb without Original Sin. This is the patronal feast of the United States. In addition to attending Mass (it's a Holy Day of Obligation), pray a joyful Rosary to celebrate.

The Magi's Gifts

To help combat consumerism at Christmas, some families limit the number of gifts to three in honor

of the gifts of the Magi. Consider giving children one gift that is their



heart's desire, a piece of clothing that is not just sensible, and one gift that will help them grow (a book or sports accessory, for example).

"Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary, his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength" (Isaiah 40:28-29).

Is Heaven worth the wait?

To many children, a day off from school or a family vacation is like heaven in itself. Sacrificing and doing penance to work toward Heaven after death is too abstract a concept to motivate them toward holiness. Yet, the season of Advent is designed to turn our eyes to Heaven so we can be ready when Jesus comes to bring us there. So how can we help Jesus and His Father forever. youngsters understand how great

All good things start there. "Every good endowment and every perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17). If all good things on Earth come from Heaven, imagine how great it is at the source.

Our life in Heaven will be more wonderful than the most

wonderful experience on Earth. The company is

> best there. When we get there, we will have joyful reunions with beloved grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends who have died before us.

We get to mingle with the saints and angels. Best of all, we get to be with

The one who loves us best is there. As much as earthly parents love their children, it's nothing compared to the love God has for each of us. He is the perfect parent - our true Father - and He is waiting for us in Heaven.

Why Do Catholics Do That

Heaven really is?

Advent is a season of waiting and preparation for the Savior who comes on Christmas. It is a reminder that there is a greater purpose to our lives. So, the Church encourages us to make our hearts

Why do Catholics celebrate Advent?



ready during Advent.

We know that Jesus will come at our death and he will come at the end of time. The season of Advent encourages us to make the necessary preparations so we can joyfully greet Jesus whenever we meet Him next.

Make your family Christmas sparkle with Jesus

What mother or father doesn't cherish the sparkle of excitement in a child's eye at Christmas? As Catholic parents, though, we want our children to have real joy, not just the anticipation of receiving gifts or getting out of school. Try these tips to help children turn their eyes to Jesus on this special day:

Focus on Jesus: On Christmas Eve, read the story of Jesus' birth from Luke 1:5 - 2:39 or Matthew 1:18 - 2:23. Sing your favorite religious Christmas carols. After attending

Mass on Christmas Day (a Holy Day of Obligation), light a candle and sing, "Happy Birthday" to remember the meaning of the day.

Make it come alive. The true joy of the holiday comes from knowing that God really came. Gather around your family nativity scene and act out the story of Jesus' birth by moving the figures. Imagine what a legion (army) of angels looks like and how the shepherds felt when they saw that God was born. Help children experience the wonder of the miraculous birth.



Luke 2:41-52, Jesus led the way

On December 26th, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family during which we recall when Mary and Joseph found Jesus in the Temple.

The Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem for the Passover, as was the custom for Jews of that time. When they started the return trip in their large group, each parent thought Jesus

was with the other one and traveled for a day before realizing that He had stayed behind. Upon finding Him missing, they hurried back to Jerusalem.

They found Jesus in the Temple talking with the priests who were

amazed by the boy's wisdom and understanding. But to

Mary's stunned query about why He remained behind without permission, Jesus' mystifying reply was, "Did you not know I must be in my Father's house?" The boy returned with his parents to Nazareth where He continued to obey them.

What can a parent do? Explain to children that Jesus himself had a mission He was eager to begin but was obedient to his parents. He wants us all to respect our parents and those in authority over us.



December 6 - St. Nicholas of Myra (4th century). St. Nicholas had a very generous heart and always gave to the poor. He is credited with saving three girls from being sold to pay their father's debt. St. Nicholas is also the patron saint of children.

December 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe (1531). The Blessed Mother appeared as a Native American maiden to St. Juan Diego. She had St. Juan carry roses to the bishop as proof. When the roses were emptied from his tilma it retained the image of the Blessed Mother.

December 13 - St. Lucy (304). Amidst pagan Sicily, St. Lucy vowed to remain chaste for Jesus. A disappointed suitor turned her in for being a Christian and she was executed for her faith. December 27 - St. John the

Apostle (1st Century). An apostle and friend of Jesus, St. John was known for his fiery temper. Scholars believe he is the "beloved disciple" who sat by Jesus at the Last Supper in John's Gospel.



6

Parent

In early Fall one year, I got laid off and subsequently started my own business. That meant money was super tight. I wasn't sure how we would buy



Christmas gifts for the children. so we turned to St. Nicholas for help.

We learned that St. Nicholas was born in the third century in Asia Minor. His

wealthy parents died while he was a child and he subsequently used his fortune to help the needy. When he became a bishop, he was a vigorous defender of the truth and was persecuted for his faith.

Immediately, we started a family novena to St. Nicholas. During the first week of December, I received a check for unused vacation pay from a former employer - more than enough to buy some gifts and make a nice Christmas dinner. There is no doubt in our minds that St. Nicholas brought our Christmas gifts that year.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children Success Publishing & Media, LLC Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™ (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax http://www.partnersinfaith.com (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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DIOCESAN CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF

Our Lady of Guadalupe December 11, 2021 11 am Mass followed by a lunch St. Benedict Cathedral 1328 Lincoln Ave. Evansville IN 47714



Once again, St. Vincent de Paul is partnering with WIKY to present the 4th Annual Ton of Toys event. The event is scheduled for December 14th, 15th, and 16th. The toy collection boxes are located at German American Banks and Lucas Oil East and West. Thank you for your continued support of St. Vincent de Paul and our mission to serve those in need during this Christmas season.

Service of the Longest Night set for December 18

Abbey Caskets, a work of Saint Meinrad Archabbey, will host a Service of the Longest Night on Saturday, December 18, 2021, at 6 p.m. Central Time in the Saint Meinrad Archabbey Guest House Chapel in St. Meinrad, IN.

Many people find the holidays a challenging time. Instead of celebrating, they are struggling with grief. They miss loved ones and find that the usual traditions and bright lights serve only to heighten their struggle. Fr. Adrian Burke, OSB, will lead the service with prayer and Scripture that acknowledge those who mourn and struggle with loss during the Christmas season. Everyone is welcome. Light refreshments will follow. RSVP requested, but not required, for planning. Reply to info@abbeycaskets.com or call (800) 987-7380 for further information. Parking is available in the Guest House parking lot.

Guests to Saint Meinrad are asked to wear masks.



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