

December 3, 2017 First Sunday of Advent



Happy
Birthdays 

Prayers for the Ill

To better facilitate this list it will be completely deleted on **February 4th** unless you contact the office at 447-2685 and ask for your loved one to remain.

Gladys Bishop	Tim Koenig
Mary Boisen	Kathy Lee
Carl Burrell	Margaret &
Johnnee Curtis	Kevin McGlocklin
Don & Judy Deerwester	Yesenia Sandoval
Clifford Doty	Nancy Sanger
Matt Finnegan	Family of Tara Serino
Russ Fletcher	Jerry Tefft
Dave Floyd	Roman Vasquez
Jim Hines	Rosie Yepez
Rose Kirby	Tony Yepez



This Month's Birthdays

Rick Obrien.....	12/03
Holly Waterman.....	12/06
Casey Keck.....	12/12
Patricia Mauro.....	12/12
Virginia Brown.....	12/13
Ray Dirks.....	12/20
Susan Galipeau.....	12/21
Tripp McCann.....	12/23
Lawana Pahler.....	12/24
Robert Leuttgen.....	12/25
Sean Winkler.....	12/30
Luke Winkler.....	12/31



PRAYER CHAIN CONTACT

Gail Davaz @ 509-292-2601
Nellie Graham @ 509-951-1020



A Joyful Christmas

THE CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

is scheduled for December 17th, following the 11am Mass. We need helpers to set up the trees and decorations both today and next week, Dec. 10th.

All help is appreciated.

The Knights will be cooking that day, however it would be nice to also have cookies and treats for everyone.

Why do we have Advent?

Advent as we know it today developed many centuries after Jesus' life on earth. Because of the number of persons being baptized in the early Church, a practice developed of having another time for baptism in addition to the Easter Vigil. Christmas was chosen as another baptismal season. Since Lent served as a time of preparation for the baptisms at the Easter Vigil, the weeks leading up to Christmas became a time of penance and preparation. Combined with this penitential practice, of course, was the preparation for Christmas. The Sunday and weekday Scriptures during Advent recall the centuries of longing for the coming of the Messiah, the conception of John the Baptist, and the family history of Mary and Joseph. Today the writings of the prophet Isaiah are featured during Advent because they so eloquently speak of Israel's longing for salvation. Among the special signs and symbols that the Church uses to recall and enter into these central parts of our Christian heritage are the Advent wreath, vespers, reconciliation services, the O Antiphons, Scripture readings, the Jesse tree, the giving tree, the Christmas tree, the crèche, gift-giving, and of course, Midnight Mass. Hopefully, these symbols of the season will remind you of your own birth in baptism and your own commitment to living a life filled with peace and love.

Fr. Thomas Santa, CSsR

DEAR PADRE

Dear Friends,

Happy Advent!

I'm pleased to present to you the booklet "Daily Reflections for Advent and Christmas." You can find them at the doors of the Church. We have an anonymous donor who has been providing us with these booklets for Advent/Christmas and Lent. I hear from so many of you how spiritually nourishing these booklets have been.

Secondly, another anonymous donor has purchased books for St. Anthony's entitled "Joy to the World: by Scott Hahn. I took a look at the book earlier and think you will very much enjoy this spiritual reading.

A very special thanks to our two anonymous donors. A heartfelt "Hail Mary" for them would be an appreciative way to thank them sometime during the Season of Advent!

Another addition was made to the Parish website (www.pocoparishes.org). We've included the daily Advent Reflections by Bishop Robert Barron. Please check it out!

The first week of Advent starts off with a Holy Day of Obligation: the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It was difficult to get an idyllic Mass schedule for us as the Holy Day, December 8, falls on a Friday. Hence, the Mass Schedule will be as follows:

Thursday, 12/7, vigil Mass: 5 pm at St. Anthony's

Thursday, 12/7: 5:30 pm Communion Service at St. Joseph's.

Friday, 12/8: 12:15 Mass at St. Jude's

I'll be up for Mass at St. Bernard's this Wednesday, 12/6, at 5:30 pm, with confessions available from 5-5:30 pm. Following Mass will be our potluck and then our faith enrichment discussion.

Thanks for being so attentive to request from Bishop Daly regarding posture at Mass. He asks that the faithful in the diocese to kneel after the Lamb of God and to kneel after returning to their pew after Communion (if physically possible). Thanks for making the transition so smooth.

Last, but certainly not least, a huge **THANK YOU** to those of you who have contributed/pledged to the Annual Catholic Appeal for this fall. Each of our parishes not only met, but exceeded their goal! Because of this, we'll be getting a check back around the end of next year for the overage!

Although we exceeded our goals, we did not make 100 percent participation. For those of you who haven't pledged, it is not too late to make a pledge/contribution, especially considering that the amount will eventually return to the parish. Thanks for your consideration!

Wishing you all a wonderful Advent!

Fr. Vic

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When it comes to giving, some people stop at nothing.



**GIVE.
EVEN WHEN YOU
KNOW YOU CAN GET
NOTHING BACK.**

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