

EL POST DEL PARROCO

ADVENT WISH LIST

Dear Parish Family:

We are coming to the final days of the liturgical cycle as we prepare for the First Sunday of Advent and a new year ahead. I know, for some, it is a time of Christmas lists for Santa Claus and time for consideration on behalf of those who are in need. So with this in mind, can I offer an Advent Wish List of considerations for you and me to hold on to the spirit of this season?

Novena of Grace

On Tuesday, I invite you to pray the Novena of Grace with me. This is a novena prepared to coincide with the Feast of St. Francis Xavier on December 3rd. It begins on November 25th. It is a prayer I pray each year and one that has brought me great consolation. Booklets are available at the doors of the Church and we'll put them online as well. Consider one particular intention to pray for this novena and offer your prayers each day for this intention.

Guadalupe

This is a time of great celebration led by our Hispanic community. We offer celebrations in anticipation of the feast on December 12th. A special novena is offered in homes beginning on the 27th and we have huge procession and Mass on December 7th. On the 9th, 10th, and 11th we offer Masses in anticipation of the great feast on December 12th. The Mass on the 12th is celebrated in Spanish and English. (For information about the novena leading up to this feast, contact the Parish Office.)

Christmas Pageant

We are celebrating the Christmas Pageant early - because we have so many other things happening here! Our first practice was huge so it promises to be a great night for our parish, reminding us of what our Advent focus must be!

Simbang Gabi

Our Filipino Community helps our parish to pray in the days before Christmas as we celebrate Simbang Gabi for nine days before Christmas (from December 15- December 23rd). These Masses invite us in a particular way to join with Mary as we move closer and closer to the day of our celebration of Jesus' birth.

We will offer an additional Mass at 7:30 p.m. each night. These Masses are celebrated in English. Come and pray with us and let us prepare well for the celebration of Christmas.

Bambinelli Sunday

On the Third Sunday of Advent, December 14, we invite you to bring your "Baby Jesus" to Mass for a special blessing on this day. (We carry this out on Christmas Eve at our Spanish language Masses.) And of course, we have our annual Breakfast with Santa in Code Auditorium after the 9:15 a.m. Mass. Now if you're saying, "I don't have a Baby Jesus"....then it's time to get that Nativity set!

Las Posadas - The "Inns"

This beautiful tradition led by our Hispanic Community invites us to journey with Mary and Joseph as they seek an "inn", a place to have the birth of their baby. The journey brings us to nine different homes in our community, including the house of the priests! These celebrations are mostly celebrated in Spanish but all are welcome. This is so popular at St. Brigid's that we have three routes! For more information about locations, please contact the Parish Office.

Christmas Novena

As we move closer to Christmas, we will offer the Christmas Novena of prayers that is put together by our Italian community. We distributed these last year and ran out of them quickly so we'll have more made this year.

Advent Day of Reconciliation

On Monday, December 21, 2025, we will once again offer an entire day of confessions (from 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) in the Church. These days of Advent call us to create as much of a space as possible for Jesus to dwell, for Jesus to find home. This day - and the times we offer for Confession every day - are wonderful opportunities to clear our what needs to go, so Jesus can fully come to me and to you.

All of this is offered on top of the regular prayer life of our parish - Sunday Mass, time for private prayer, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, our commitment to acts of service and mercy and so much more.

We do not do these things just to do them. We offer these moments in the hope that we can make an even deeper space in our hearts to encounter Jesus. From this encounter, we pray by how we live and serve we can inspire others to do the same.

Please pray for me. I promise the same.

Featherman

