



Our Lady of the **WAYSIDE PARISH**

434 W. Park Street
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
Phone: (847) 253-5353
Website: olwparish.org

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Arthur Marat
Pastor

Rev. Gilbert Mashurano
Associate Pastor

Rev. Daniel J. Brady
Retired Priest & Resident

Deacon Jerry (and Veronica)
Brennan

Deacon Thomas (and Irene)
Corcoran

Deacon Dr. Donald
Grossnickle

Deacon Peter (and Jan)
LeTourneau
Director of Parish Ministry
and Evangelization

Deacon Paul (and Lisa)
Onischuk

Mr. Dan McMahon
Director of Music

Mrs. Kathy O'Neill
Coordinator of Pastoral
Healthcare

Ms. Danielle Pitzer
Director of Lifelong Faith
Formation

Mr. David Wood
School Principal

Parish Office Administration

Ms. Patricia Porzezinski
Parish Office Manager

Mr. Sean Reilly
Director of Communications

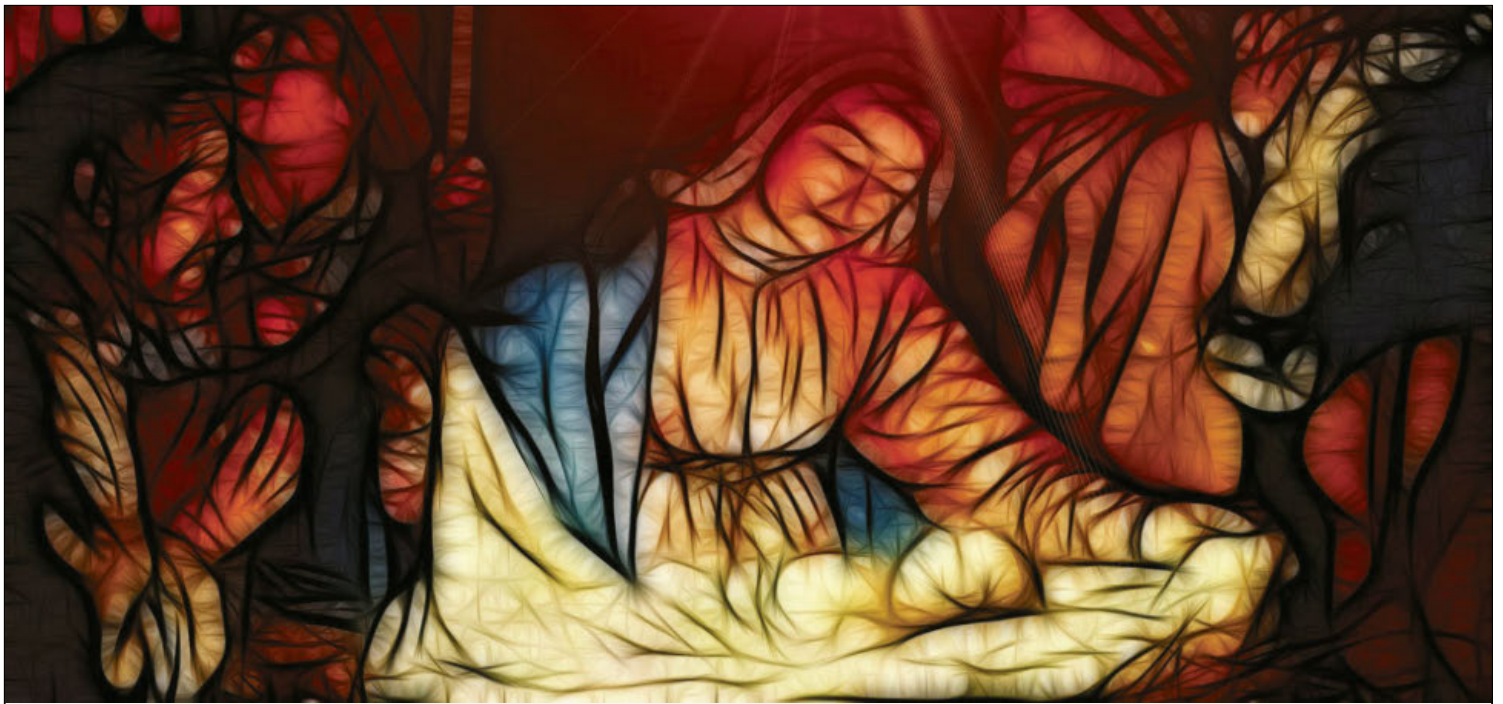


4th & 5th Graders perform "The Reindeer Hula" at Our Lady of the Wayside School's Christmas Concert 2023

December 24, 2023

The Fourth Sunday of Advent





CELEBRATE THE CHRISTMAS SEASON WITH OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE!

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

VIGIL OF CHRISTMAS – Sunday, December 24
3:00 (Family Mass), 5:00, 7:00, 9:30 (carols), 10:00 pm

CHRISTMAS DAY – Monday, December 25
7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am

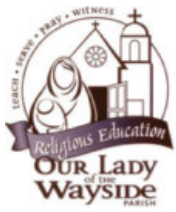
THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Saturday, December 30, 5:00 pm
Sunday, December 31, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Sunday, December 31, 5:00 pm (Vigil), 6:00–11:00 pm (Adoration),
11:00 pm (New Year Spiritual Celebration)
Monday, January 1, 9:30, 11:30 am

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
Saturday, January 6, 5:00 pm
Sunday, January 7, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am, 6:00 pm



Our Lady of the
WAYSIDE PARISH



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

REP Schedule for the Weeks of Dec 25, 2023 & Jan 1, 2024

Sunday, December 24 3 pm, Christmas Eve Family Mass

Monday, December 25 MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Tuesday, December 26 No REP classes

Monday, January 1, 2024 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Tuesday, January 2 No REP classes

REP classes resume on Tuesday, January 9.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent: The Candle of Love



As we light the Angel Candle on the fourth Sunday of Advent, we remember the love shown to the world through the birth of Christ to the Virgin Mary. This amazing act of mercy brought about the redemption of the world. This gift of

love is too precious and wonderful to keep to ourselves; we must share it with others. *From Advent Week 4 : Activity Guide | Cross Catholic Outreach*

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

We're looking for friendly students (16 or older) to work as part-time receptionists at the Parish Center.

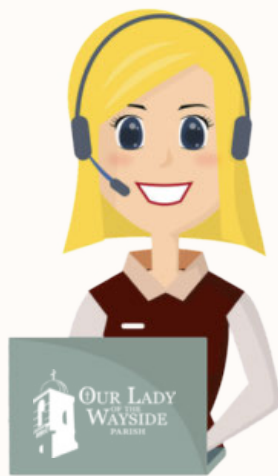
The hours are...

- Monday–Friday:
4:00 pm to 7:30 pm
- Saturday–Sunday:
8:30 am to 1:00 pm

The schedule alternates so you don't work 7 days a week.

To apply, please contact our office manager, Patricia, at (847) 253-5353.

Thank you!



JESUS CHRIST IS BORN

4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas 2023



Father Arthur Marat

My Dear Brother and Sister Parishioners,

In this time of Christmas 2023, I come to you to share the Christmas wafer – a crumb of holy bread, a symbol of the newborn Child Jesus. I come as a shepherd, along with you, to pay homage to the God-Man. My wish for you is that we as one community, renewed by grace, grow in faithfulness to God and the Church.

In gratitude we look at how much this Bundle of Love changes our hearts, but we also see how much is transformed because of Him. This year has been fruitful. Involvement in the spiritual life and participating in different religious practices has created a greater sensitivity to matters of the church, parish and school families. God who is Love, in a festive manner assures us that we are dear and precious in His sight.

Thank you for your great understanding and sincere cooperation in the work carried out for the benefit and development of our parish. I open wide our rectory door, any time you would like to talk, need an explanation, or would like to work together. I invite you to promote our Church through concern for its life, faith, love, fraternity and solidarity.

Just as the shepherds of Bethlehem, in disbelief and – at times – in fear of the unknown, let us continue with courage as the voice of an angel which resounds in us predicting to the world the height of the glory of God, and peace to all people who do well on earth.

Merry Christmas, my brothers and sisters!

Yours in Christ,
Father Arthur

BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL
CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON,
AND THEY SHALL NAME HIM
EMMANUEL, WHICH MEANS
“GOD IS WITH US.”
~Mt 1:23



Christmas 2023

We Remember In Beauty

Our Loved Ones ...

In Honor Of...

Cardinal Blase J. Cupich
Archdiocese of Chicago

Rev. Daniel J. Brady
Retired Priest & Resident

Johnny Reisel
Joan & Kevin O'Keefe
By Larry & Kathy O'Neill

Rev. Arthur Marat
Pastor of Our Lady of the Wayside

Our Lady of the Wayside
Parish Staff
By Judith Amberg

Rev. Gilbert Mashurano
Associate Pastor

James Giuffre
By Gerri Greifenstein

In Memory Of...

Francis Cardinal George
Archbishop Emeritus

Dr. Salvatore Vainisi
Josephine Vainisi
Lt. Jack Vainisi
Mr. Anthony Alfini
Lucille Alfini
Diana Gust
By Dr. & Mrs. R.W. Alfini

Bill Banach
The Banach & Ziebka
Families
Donna Cunningham
By Muriel Banach

Rev. Harold T. O' Hara
Founder of Our Lady of the Wayside

Rev. John J. Mackin
Pastor Emeritus

Jerome & Helen Allen
By Jerome R. Allen

Joanne M. Beczek
By Robert W. Beczek

Rev. Richard J. Ehrens
Pastor Emeritus

Tom Amberg
By Judith Amberg

Keith Bendel
Helen & Joseph Waterloo
Florence Bendel
By LeRoy & Laverne Bendel

Deacon J. Brendan Foley
Parish Staff at O.L.W.

Erin Sampey
Michael Sampey
By Marge & Megan Bailey

Albert & Juliet Habib
James & Aletha Bennett
James & Cameron Fritz
By Jeff & Bernadette Bennett

Sister Adrienne Weseman
Parish Staff at O.L.W.

In Memory Of...

Caroline Banach
By Sally & Jim Bintz

James Cadogan
By Margie Cadogan

Naim Makhlof
Rafaella Makhlof
By The Cairo Family

Frank & Mildred Cantalupo
By Diane Cantalupo

Gerald Cherwin
Rosemary Cherwin
Dolores Mentzer
Andrew Pelc
Jennifer Mirecki
Dan Klaus
Chris Dunlavy
By The Cherwin Family

Jean M. Loiacono
By The Cieniawa Family

Bruno & Victoria Cortesi
Kenneth J. Cortesi
Vienna Cortesi
By Gary A. Cortesi

Bill & Mary Cole
Virginia Darrow
Pam Brandon
By Chris & Cathy Darrow

Robert & Opal Deitelhoff
Bob & Marie Stehley
Brad Stehley
By The Deitelhoff Family

Perpetuo, Francisca, Apolonia, Mercedes, Pedro & Nilda Dilay & Mindorinia Jarlos,

Gonzalo Hernandez & Ligaya Alday
By Art & Nattie Dilay

George Anderson
Andrew Dorner
Lorraine Dorner
By Mike & Patti Dorner

Edward & Eleanor Dubiel
Roman Bojan
Erwin Eckert
By Edward & Mary Dubiel

Kathleen Freiburger
By Lee, Beth, Mike, Matt & Jimmy Erbach

The Ferraro Family
By Robert Ferraro

Dennis A. & Timothy Gabel
By The Fino Family

Anthony & Mary Wiszowaty
Casey & Helen Florczak
Fr. Lenard Korosacki
By Bob & Rosemary Florczak

Kathleen Freiburger
By The Freiburger Family

The Deceased of the Gordon Family
The Deceased of the Maloney Family
The Deceased of the McCauley Family
By Kathy Gordon

Frederick Gorman
Joseph Halka
Marian & Bruce Dent
Bruce F. Dent
By Lorraine Gorman

Helen V. Granzeier
Kate Mitchell
By Art Granzeier

Frank R. Greifenstein
William & Frances Bills
Dorothy & Louis Greifenstein
By Gerri Greifenstein

Mark Gruendl
Mr. & Mrs. Chester & Marianna Gawarkiewicz
Joe Gawarkiewicz
By Tish Gawarkiewicz Gruendl

Edward Guska
Linda Marie Guska
By Marie Guska

Fred Heiss
By Dave Heiss

Jo & Robert Ryan
Thomas & Mary Henegan
Michael Ryan
By Mary Jo & Jim Henegan

James & Barbara McGue
By Cheryl Herrera

The Deceased Members of the Holland & Jones Families
By Jane Holland

Alice Kennedy
Brendan Kennedy
Nick Montesano
By Kathy & Pat Kennedy

Bill & Peggy Kissane
John & Evelyn Czurylo
By Bill & Karen Kissane

In Memory Of...

**Ed & Rita Hendricks
Andrew & Margaret Kokotis**

By Greg & Rita Kokotis

Paul Konopacki

By Joan, Elizabeth & Timothy Konopacki

Stanley Kopielski

**John & Martha Filar
Julius & Elizabeth Kopielski**

By Camille Kopielski

Stephen T. Harkins

By Tom Krakowiak

John & Ilda Marini

John Marini

Ed & Harriet Krupnik

Lee & Ken Grant

Charles McGee

Rob Jasin

Ron Hauhe

By Ed & Mary Anne Krupnik

John & Victoria Kus

Mary Chmielowski

By Mr. & Mrs. John Kus & Family

Ruth Aquilina

Josephine Kuta

By Celeste Kuta

Ed & Ann Lamich

By Ginny Lamich

**The Deceased Members of
The Buccieri & Lawrence
Families**

By Larry & Beth Lawrence

**Deceased Members of the
Sweeney & Lee Families**

By John Lee

Rita LeTourneau

Normand LeTourneau

Mark Schuldt

Sandra Schuldt

Marguerite Hand

Lloyd Hand

Rudolph Schuldt

Rosalie Schuldt

By Deacon Pete & Jan LeTourneau

Jack & Joyce Bowes

By Libby & Kevin Lewis

Robert & Donna Lichner

Randall Lichner

By Ann Marie Lichner

William Lohmeier

Barbara Lohmeier

By The Lohmeier Family

Frank Lowe

Alexander & Monica Bettis

By Arlene Lowe

Oliver, Marion & Mary Kay

MacKenzie

John Reichenbach

Jimmy Bahna

Joseph Kling

By Jane MacKenzie

Jack Malarski

Marge Malarski

By Jackie, Sam & Eddie Malarski

Michael LaRocco

James Maloney

By The Maloney Family

Phyllis Hinz

Harry & Phyllis Mamsch

Terry Mamsch Johnson

By The Mamsch & Rosenberg Families

Lou Marchese

**Deceased Members of the
Murphy & Marchese
Families**

By Marge Marchese

**Leonard & Genevieve
Netzel**

**Anthony & Madeline
Mazzone**

Lucretia Segreto

By The Mazzone Family

Winston T. Casis

By Cassandra McKenna

June Marie McNett

Gerald McNett

By Maureen McNett

Jane & Sam Miller

By Pam & Larry Miller

Jerrold Molepske

By Rita Molepske & Family

Walter Hrastnik

Theresa Hrastnik

By Brian & Erika Newell

**The Olivo & Bodor
Families**

By Kay Olivo

In Memory Of...

**Deacon Bob O'Keefe
Danny O'Keefe
Roberta & Dennis O'Neill
Mary Fricke**
By Larry & Kathy O'Neill

**Theresa Caracci, Nick
Cavaliero,
Joseph Cavaliero, Doris
Cavaliero**
By Mike & Chris Otero

Kathy Pawula
By John Pawula

Nicholas A. Pecora, Sr.
By Miriam Pecora

**The Deceased Members of
the Odrunia, Pena, Soller,
Ugalino & Unico Families**
By Edith Pena

**Roberto Aspoen
Laureana Aspoen
Alfredo Aspoen**
By Lisa Pendleton

**Frank Fehring
Eric Collins
John & Pearl Peterson**
By The Randy Peterson Family

**Greta Saelens
The Deceased Members of
The Saelens & Fiessinger
Families**
By The Saelens Family

**Ray & Frances Kaminski
Leon & Doris Samulak
Bill Johnston**
By Mary Samulak

**Giovanni Saso
Rita Wall**
By The Saso Family

**Grandma Jeanette Verciglio
Grandma Frances Scardami**
By The Scardami Family

Joe & Anne Skiba
By Al & Barbara Schladt

**Paul & Elizabeth Sansone
Rudy & Irene Seifert**
By The Seifert Family

Ray Shields
By Dodie Shields

**The Deceased Members of
the Barry, Mullen & Sloan
Families**
By Catherine Sloan

**William & Irene Wicher
Joan & Donald Smith
Pamela Seitz
Diane Kaye
Kevin Knorst**
By The Smith Family

**Mary Ellen Spiekerman
John Spiekerman
Susan Spiekerman**
By Elizabeth Spiekerman

**Donald Petterson
Barbara Petterson
John & Victoria Tarzon
Patricia & William Dawkins**
By John & Ann Marie Tarczon

Bryan Thomas
By Mr. & Mrs. Robert Thomas

**Raymond & Teresa
Yendzejowsky
Dr. Thomas C. Tomasik**
By The Tomasik Family

**Kyle Tovella
The McCabe & Sullivan
Families**
By Ann Tovella

**Frank Tripicchio
Carol Tripicchio
Karen Tripicchio O'Malley**
By Donna Tripicchio

**Helen & Maurice Healy
Anita & Frank Trunk**
By Flo & Bud Trunk

Romano Valentini
By Edda Valentini

**Giovanna Boyle
Elizabeth Whitnell
Marilyn Pallot**
By Jeffrey & Marisa Whitnell

**Bill & Bertha Martinkus
Mary Ellen Martinkus
Louis Skulavik
Marisa Talbert
Donald & Pauline Wren
Ruth Wren**
By Frank & Betty Wren

Bruno Zachman
By Loretta Zachman

**The Boehm Family
Michael Pearson
Wayne Zahorski**
By Marlene Zahorski



Knights of
Columbus®

Grotto Action Update



The Knights of Columbus, Holy Rosary Council, are **in action** here at Our Lady of the Wayside. The Knights are more than just those guys in the funny hats and capes. At the request of Fathers Arthur and Gilbert, they are building a grotto on the south side of the church, located between the rectory stairs and the stairs leading to the priests sacristy. Landscaping is nearly complete.

The Grotto budget is \$30,000. The Knights secured the services of a landscape architect, horticulturist/artist, a tree removal service and a landscaper to insure the work is done properly. The statue of the Blessed Virgin (pictured), is scheduled to arrive from Italy next March. Target completion is May 1, 2024.

The Knights secured pledges and donations from numerous generous individuals and now ask for your help in meeting the goal. We still have invoices to pay and work to complete the project. You will see your donation to the Knights of Columbus **in action**, for years to come.

Thank you for your support and generosity.

Patrick J. Fitzgerald,
OLW Parishioner
PGK, Trustee
Holy Rosary Council



PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO:

Our Lady of the Wayside
Attn: Chris Otero
434 W. Park Street
Arlington Heights, IL 60005
(or use the QR Code)



OLW's Healthy Eating Jumpstart for Those 55+

Join health and wellness coach Catherine Marsden. Set your intention and commit to your own healthy eating 5-Day Jumpstart in 2024!

DATE: Monday, January 8, 2024

TIME: 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm

LOCATION: Neumann Room, Parish Center

Questions? Please email Kathy O'Neil, RN, BSN
at parishnurse@olwparish.org or
call Kathy at 224-518-1780.



Bible Study

In Person & Online / Friday Morning 9:30



Join us for lively discussion of
next Sunday's readings:

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14; Genesis 15:1-6,
Colossians 3:12-21; Luke 2:22-40

Join us in the Cabrini Room of the Parish Center
or email biblestudy@olwparish.org for a sign-in code.

For a sample video, visit: <https://bit.ly/46I6Wib>

LET US HELP YOUR LITTLE ONE
LEARN, GROW, BELIEVE, DREAM
IN A SAFE, CARING ENVIRONMENT



Early Childhood Education Parent Information Night
Wednesday, January 24 at 7:00pm



Cut and save this as a reminder!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

Soiree

IN CELEBRATION AND SUPPORT OF
70 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION AT
OUR LADY OF THE WAYSIDE

02.24.2024

METROPOLIS
BALLROOM OF
ARLINGTON
HEIGHTS
6 S. VAIL AVENUE
ARLINGTON
HEIGHTS

ENJOY

LIVE AUCTION
SILENT AUCTION
PADDLE RAISE
HORS D'OEUVRES
COCKTAILS
DANCING
FELLOWSHIP

TICKETS ON SALE JAN 1
EARLY BIRD PRICING AVAILABLE

WWW.ONE.BIDPAL.NET/OLWISOIREE/WELCOME

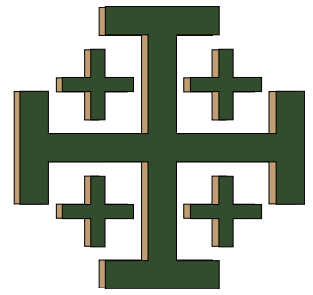


OUR LADY
OF THE
WAYSIDE
PARISH



The Our Lady of the Wayside
Youth Ministry presents...

Kairos 12



A 4-DAY OVERNIGHT RETREAT FOR
HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS & SENIORS

Friday, February 16 - Monday, February 19, 2024

VENUE: BISHOP LANE RETREAT CENTER
7708 E. MCGREGOR RD, ROCKFORD, IL. 61102

COST: \$320 PER PARTICIPANT (cash & checks accepted)
price includes: transportation, meals, housing, shirt, supplies

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: January 21st, 2024



Scan this QR code
for online registration!

**do not let the price stop you from attending! Contact Thomas Mckenna about scholarships.
email: youthmin@olwparish.org - text: (847) 350-8008*

Forms and checks must be brought to the Parish Center
Checks payable to Our Lady of the Wayside Parish, cash accepted

Kairos is a Christian experience of prayer and reflection run by a team of adults & students.
Kairos is a safe, fun, and rare opportunity for high school students to step back from their
daily stress to gain new perspective and insight into what is important in their lives.

Maybe you question your faith.
Maybe you are trying to decide about college.
Maybe you are hurt.
You may have found healing and wish to express gratitude.
Maybe you want to discover who
you are and how you want to live.
Maybe you are scared to find out
how much God deeply cares.
Each year thousands of teens go on Kairos.
They had their own reasons to attend.
This is the time for you to choose for yourself.
We all come for our own reasons.
We all leave with a renewed understanding.

*Why past retreatants think
you should go to Kairos:*

"because it's one of the greatest ways to
learn to know and love God"

"It was very meaningful and made me truly
feel loved by God and the people around me."

"It's a great place to meet like-minded people. I
met amazing people on my Kairos retreats that I
still talk to today."

"it is a life altering experience that makes your
values the center of your life going forward"

Maybe the best reason to go is that someone cares enough about you to invite you.
Talk to past Kairos participants, youth ministers, or priests and ask them why.
You owe it to yourself to explore why so many people go!

Questions? Contact us at: youthmin@olwparish.org

9 Ways to Prioritize Your Health This Holiday Season

Living a healthy lifestyle can become more challenging during the holidays with an influx of indulgent treats, less movement and increased stress. Prioritize your health by managing these concerns so you can feel your best and tackle the holiday season.

How to prioritize nutrition

- Think simple. Make quick, healthy meals and snacks your go-to choice. Prepare meals on the weekend for quick meals during the week. Make a large pot of brown rice, roast a bunch of veggies or cook a large batch of chili or soup to use for several meals. For snacks, stock your home and desk with energizing and long-lasting snacks like nuts, fruit, veggies, string cheese, yogurt and popcorn.
- Be a mindful eater. Watch all those holiday BLT's (bites, licks, tastes) that can turn into hundreds of extra calories. At parties, keep an arm's length or more from the food table and candy dishes. Load your plate with a lot of vegetables and fruit before eating other foods to help fill your stomach. Keep tempting foods out of sight at home and at work. Ride out cravings by waiting 10-15 minutes before eating. Drink water, take a short walk, chew sugarless gum and don't think about food.
- Limit alcoholic drinks. Alcohol can add hundreds of extra calories and also lowers our inhibitions, making it harder to resist tempting treats. Decide ahead of time how many drinks you'll have. Aim for moderation which is one to two drinks per day. Alternate drinks with water or choose lower-calorie options such as wine spritzer, hard seltzer, lite beer or club soda with diet soda or juice.



How to prioritize physical activity

- Short bursts. Sneak in movement by sitting less and moving more. Even 5 to 10 minutes at a time helps the body in various ways. Try setting a timer on your phone or computer to get up and move after 30-60 minutes of sitting.
- Multi-task. Pair exercise with other activities such as watching a show or listening to music or a podcast.
- Mix it up. Try fun winter activities to socialize with family and friends. Some options include sledding, tubing, ice skating, curling, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing and winter hiking. It's even more beneficial to your health to do these activities during the day. Getting sunlight during the day helps regulate our circadian rhythm and ease the winter blues.

How to prioritize stress management

- Set expectations. Be realistic with your time and how you'd like to spend it. Decide on important traditions and let go of less important items.
- Deep breaths. Breathe deep for a minute or two when you feel stressed or overwhelmed. This immediately helps to dampen stress hormones.
- Self-care. Create a stress-busting toolbox of activities you enjoy. Some ideas include coloring, doing a puzzle, taking a relaxing bath, sipping tea or hot cocoa, meditation, going for a short walk or listening to music.
- It's important to note that the risk for heart attack goes up during the winter and holiday season. This is due to stress and splurging on more unhealthy food and beverages.

Article contributed by Heather Klug, registered dietitian at Aurora Health Care.

Sunday, Dec 24, 2023

An embarrassment of riches

Every so many years, we experience this happy collision of observances: the last Sunday of Advent blossoms into Christmas Eve in a single day. Which means next week, the Feast of the Holy Family will roll into the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God by nightfall. It's a mad scramble for presiders, preachers, choirs, and liturgists to keep up with the whole, holy mess of these occasions. Parishioners too will be obliged to untangle the remarkable Mass schedule this landslide of liturgies creates. Consider it a cheerful reminder that liturgy gathers us into mysteries that are not finite but everlasting.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38 (11). *"Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God."*

Monday, Dec 25, 2023

The wonder of it all

In the early church, Christmas was actually not a major feast, but over the centuries it grew in importance, and Saint Francis of Assisi catapulted its popularity in 1223 by creating the first nativity scene in a cave with live animals. Christmas Midnight Mass was celebrated there and it was a huge hit with the whole town. The tradition of the Christmas crèche was born. Francis loved Christmas, considering it the "Feast of Feasts," because God chose to take the humble form of a poor baby. Let the wonder of the Incarnation imbue your day.

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

TODAY'S READINGS: Vigil: Isaiah 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25 (13); Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (14); Dawn: Isaiah 62:11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20 (15); Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18 (16). *"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."*

Tuesday, Dec 26, 2023

For the love of Saint Stephen

On this second day of Christmas, consider words about true love—and Saint Stephen—from Saint Fulgentius, a North African bishop of the sixth century: "Love was Stephen's weapon by which he gained every battle, and so won the crown signified by his name. His love of God kept him from yielding to the ferocious mob; his love for his neighbor made him pray for those who were stoning him." Celebrate the Christmas octave with the same steadfast love the first Christian martyr showed his persecutors.

FEAST OF STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22 (696). *"They could not withstand the wisdom and the spirit with which he spoke."*

Wednesday, Dec 27, 2023

Through thick and thin

Beloved! That's what we know about today's saint—John the apostle is the "disciple whom Jesus loved." John was the last apostle to leave Jesus at the cross and one of the first to discover his Resurrection on Easter Sunday. He earned the title of evangelist by writing the fourth gospel (likely with help from his

followers). His account of Jesus' life has a more spiritual and mysterious air than those of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. But that doesn't mean he's otherworldly—after all, John is the patron saint of loyalty and friendships. Honor him today by visiting with a friend.

FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697). *"What we have seen and heard we proclaim now to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us."*

Thursday, Dec 28, 2023

Mortal consequences

Amid the Christmas festivities, today the church has a somber reminder of the infants in the vicinity of Bethlehem who were slaughtered by King Herod in his fruitless effort to destroy Jesus. They were "collateral damage" that paved the way for Christianity, a faith that confesses to protecting the most vulnerable. In honor of the Holy Innocents, we might consider the many innocents who die prematurely because of lack of healthcare, pollution that results in disease, and isolation that leads to early death. Strive to be a force for life.

FEAST OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 1:5—2:2; Matthew 2:13-18 (698). *"God is light, and in him there is no darkness at all."*

Friday, Dec 29, 2023

The Catholic bucket list

Gift-giving at Christmastime is a common custom. Whether it's at home under a lit tree or at the secret Santa party at work, it's fun to give and receive. "Experience" gifts are becoming more a part of this custom: tickets to see a ballgame, an art class, a hiking trip. Experience gifts can be given any time, and we can even treat ourselves. Since it's the season of Christmas, let's think of Catholic experiences that we'd enjoy and create a kind of "Catholic bucket list." See the pope? Run a food pantry? Visit Assisi? Take a scripture class? Spend the rest of the Christmas season creating your own list.

FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:3-11; Luke 2:22-35 (202). *"It had been revealed to [Simeon] by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Christ of the Lord."*

Saturday, Dec 30, 2023

What is the purpose of life?

This age-old question has as many answers as there are questioners. For Catholics though, there is one simple answer: love. But when is love ever simple? Deep love can be complicated and even gut-wrenchingly hard. It can bring pain, longing, disquiet, questioning, loneliness, and sacrifice. Yet, "The pain that comes from deep love makes your love ever more fruitful," writes Henri Nouwen. Love is our purpose, and we join with those celebrating Kwanzaa who are reflecting this day on the principle of Nia, that is, purpose.

SIXTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 John 2:12-17; Luke 2:36-40 (203). *"Whoever does the will of God remains forever."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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GOSPEL MEDITATION:

**December 24, 2023 -
4th Sunday of Advent**

Life is troubling. Who among us has not struggled with anxiety and difficulties, sometimes massive ones? I certainly have, as have many of my loved ones. If we do, does this mean that we don't trust the Lord or just need to toughen up?

I don't think so. How encouraging for us anxious and troubled souls to hear Luke describe the Blessed Mother Mary in these words, **"But she was greatly troubled at what was said."** An archangel has visited her. An inconceivable promise has been made to her. Her life has become wildly unpredictable, perhaps more so than any person before or since. The first point for us: the Lord is with her precisely when she is troubled. Her anxiousness and God's presence are not mutually exclusive. Christianity is not about a trance-like robotic indifference. It's about the presence of divine love. Even in — especially in — troubled circumstances.

Our troubled soul can become our greatest treasure. What seems so troubling at first to Mary becomes the best possible thing, Jesus, the Savior and Lord, is now her son. All the difficulties and troubles remain, and yet her movement into the fullness of God is accelerated. What is troubling you right now? This scripture invites us now, this week, to hear the Lord's messenger say to us what he said to Mary, **"Do not be afraid! You have found favor with God."**

— Father John Muir ©LPi

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 24, 2023

Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29/
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Monday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25 **Night:** Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14 **Dawn:** Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20 **Day:** Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

Tuesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Thursday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8/Mt 2:13-18

Friday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6/Lk 2:22-35

Saturday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Lk 2:36-40

Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40



SACRED LITURGY:

Monday, December 25, 2023

8:30 am – Deceased Members of Our Lady of the Wayside

Tuesday, December 26, 2023

8:30 am – Frank Gordon

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

8:30 am – Judith Boldt, Philip Quattrocchi

Thursday, December 28, 2023

8:30 am – Deceased Members of Our Lady of the Wayside

Friday, December 29, 2023

8:30 am – Frank Lowe, Lorraine Lysiak, Michael Simon,
Rosemary Cota

Saturday, December 30, 2023

8:30 am – Marie Julius, Philip & Rosemary Quattrocchi
5:00 pm – Sylvia Shubert, Kenneth Mason, Jack Jennings,
Greta Saelens, Irene Sabados

Sunday, December 31, 2023

7:30 am – Deceased Members of Our Lady of the Wayside
9:30 am – For the Living & Deceased Members of Our Lady
of the Wayside
11:30 am – Edward Nowak
5:00 pm – Deceased Members of Our Lady of the Wayside
11:00 pm – Deceased Members of Our Lady of the Wayside

MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY:

5:00 pm Saturday, December 30, 2023

Presider: Fr. Bill Zavaski & Deacon Peter LeTourneau

7:30 am Sunday, December 31, 2023

Presider: Father Arthur Marat

9:30 am Sunday, December 31, 2023

Presider: Fr. Bill Zavaski & Deacon Paul Onischuk

11:30 am Sunday, December 31, 2023

Presider: Fr. Mark Augustine & Deacon Jerry Brennan

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

5:00 pm Sunday, December 31, 2023

Presider: Fr. Mark Augustine & Deacon Peter LeTourneau

11:00 pm Sunday, December 31, 2023

Presider: Father Arthur Marat





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WEEKEND EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 am and 6:00 pm

DAILY EUCHARISTIC LITURGIES

Monday through Saturday: 8:30 am

Daily and Saturday Vigil Masses are livestreamed on the parish YouTube and Facebook pages.

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Neal Loughery

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Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays at 9:00 am – following 8:30 am Mass.

Tuesdays Together (Through May 30, 2024)

6:00 pm – Mass
Adoration & Confession (immediately following Mass)

Holy Communion for the Homebound & Hospitalized

Please contact Kathy O'Neill at the parish office.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Adults interested in learning more about the Catholic faith in order to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and/or Confirmation, please call the parish office.

Pray the Rosary

Monday through Saturday at 8:00 am – preceding 8:30 am Mass.

Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Homebound or ill wanting to receive this Sacrament and the Eucharist, please contact the parish office.

Sacrament of Baptism

Contact Deacon Peter LeTourneau at the parish office to schedule a baptism. A baptismal preparation session is required for your first child.

Sacrament of Marriage

Contact the parish office at least six months prior to a preferred date for necessary preparation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 9:30–10:30 am. Or, contact the parish office to schedule a time.



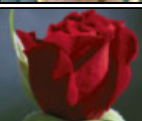
Pray for those celebrating the Sacrament of Matrimony

III Kevin Burke & Nicole Penhersi – December 31 at 3pm



Pray for the Sick

Gloria White Bonomo, Helene Bottalla, Bill Brewer, Marie DeSanto, Victoria Haddock, Donna Hames, Theresa Hansen, Valerie Lund, Mary Mader, Carol Maglietta, Daniel & Delores McCloy, Larry McKone, Cherie Miskey, Patricia Murray, Frances Pitzer, Marianne Saas, Stacey Scott, Fr. John Topper



Pray for the Deceased

Salvatore Latona