

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CHURCH



Father Mark Seiker
3301 Echo Drive
North Platte, Nebraska 69101

Rectory / Office [308-534-5461](tel:308-534-5461)
Parish Hall: 534-0511

Parish email: rectory-office@seas-np.org
Webpage: <http://www.seas-np.org>

1st Sunday of Advent *December 2, 2018*

Welcome to St. Elizabeth's: It is our hope that you feel at home and among friends here at St. Elizabeth. If you are a visitor for a day, we pray God's speed on your journey. If you are looking for a parish community, we would be delighted to welcome you into our parish family. Please introduce yourselves. Registration forms are available in the entry racks or contact us anytime at 308-534-5461.

Religious Services

Mass Schedule For Sunday Obligation:

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

Weekdays & Holy Days

As published in the Bulletin.

Rosary

Prayed **8:30 a.m.** Monday mornings, and
30 minutes before weekend Mass.

Sacrament of Confession

Offered 30 minutes before most all daily Masses
Saturday 4:00 p.m. – 4:55 p.m.
Sunday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:55 a.m., or by appointment.

Sacrament of Baptism

Parents are asked to attend a baptism preparation class. This is recommended, and easiest to do before the birth of the child, but must be done before the baptism.

Sacrament of Matrimony

To assist those who plan to marry, all couples will be required to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation policy, which includes the FOCCUS & Engaged Encounter Programs. This requires a minimum of 4-6 months. The assessment process must be completed before a wedding date is set. Contact pastor early to begin the preparation.

Parish Information

Bulletin Deadline

All material is to be submitted to the parish office before noon Wednesday prior to the Sunday it is to appear. Email to: rectory-office@seas-np.org

New or Moving Parishioners

Please call the office to arrange an appointment with the Pastor to register in the Parish. Please call the office to notify us of any address change.

Your Will

Ask your attorney to include remembrance of your Church in your will.

Religious Vocations

Any young woman interested in religious life, or young man interested in a vocation to the priesthood should contact your pastor. Please pray for vocations!

Education

C.C.D. Programs

Sunday mornings (Sept-May) 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.)

For those interested in possibly joining the Catholic Church. Usually on Wednesdays (Sept-May), 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in Parish Hall. Please contact the parish office for more information.

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Monday	Dec. 3	8:00 a.m.	Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
Tuesday	Dec. 4	7:00 a.m.	Janice Moser Dyer +
Wednesday	Dec. 5	5:30 p.m.	John L. Sullivan +
6:00pm-10:00pm Eucharistic Holy Hour => Spend time with Jesus			
Thursday	Dec. 6	8:00 a.m.	Carlos Barron, Sr +
Friday	Dec. 7	12:10 p.m.	Martha Burbach +
*** Solemnity of Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation) ***			
Friday	Dec. 7	5:30 p.m.	Parishioners with Birthday in December
followed by: <i>Exposition of Blessed Sacrament & all night Adoration</i>			
Saturday	Dec. 8	8:00 a.m.	Conception Barron +
		12:10 p.m.	People of Our Parish
* *** **			
Saturday	Dec. 8	5:00 p.m.	People of Our Parish
8:00pm - Midnight: <i>Exposition of Blessed Sacrament, Nat'l Night Prayer for Life</i>			
Sunday	Dec. 9	10:00 a.m.	Bryson David Rieker

INTENTIONS

***I will raise up for David
a just shoot;
he shall do what is right
and just in the land.***

— Jeremiah 33:15

*“Beware that your hearts do not become
drowsy from carousing and drunkenness
and the anxieties of daily life, and
that day catch you by surprise like a trap.”*

*Spend time with Jesus (Eucharistic Adoration)
Are you preparing for a **Person** or for a **Day**?*

Stewardship: November 25, 2018

Adult Envelopes:	\$1,780.00
Loose Plate:	\$82.00
Children:	\$0.00
Holy Day ()	\$0.00
Total:	\$1,862.00

Joy of the Gospel Campaign

Total Pledged:	\$958,770.00
Gifts last week:	\$2,315.00
Total Gifts Received:	\$740,748.05
Original DIAL Loan:	1,485,000.00
Total Received (CTTF Camp):	\$1,025,440.07
Misc Donations Received:	\$739,940.31
Total Payments on Loan:	\$1,566,480.04
Balance on DIAL LOAN:	\$192,296.27

Contemplative Sisters	\$2,566.00
NP Catholic Pantry	\$90.00
<u>CCD Information ... Nov. - Dec. Schedule</u>	
Dec. 2.....	CCD Class (regular schedule)
Dec. 9..	NO Class (McDaid Christmas Program)
Dec. 16.....	CCD Class (regular schedule)
Dec. 23.....	NO Class (Church Decorating)

Parish Calendar

Sunday	Dec. 2	11:00am	CCD CLASSES
Wednesday	Dec. 5	6-10pm	Eucharistic Adoration, 6:15pm=Choir Practice, 7:00pm=RCIA Class
Sunday	Dec. 9	11:00am	Knights of Columbus Breakfast NO CCD CLASSES 11:30am=Daughters of Charity
		1:30pm	NPCS Christmas Program 3:30pm=Cursillo SW NE Utreya at SEAS

Catholic School News:

Find a full list of activities or follow our IRISH as they compete ... follow North Platte Catholic Schools on Facebook or visit <http://npcschools.org>.

NPCS Annual Turkey Trot: Thank You to all those who organized and participated in this year's Turkey Trot!!

Congratulations: to the newest School Board Members seated at the November Meeting. The board also elected officers: Hank Knisley, President; Cassie Condon, Vice President; Scott Castillo, Secretary.

Next Board Meeting: Tues-12/18 7:00pm

Winter Sports Season is Here!: To stay up to date on all the activities the busy winter season brings, follow NPCS on Facebook. Here is a brief of the upcoming activities for the Week of 12/3 through 12/9: 12/3 - 2:00pm JH G&B Bball vs Maywood; 12/4 - 4:30pm G&B Bball vs Sandhills Thedford; 12/6 - NSAA State Play Production, 5:00pm G&B Bball @ Maxwell; 12/7 - 3:00pm WR @ St. Pat's; 12/8 - Immaculate Conception, 9:30am JH G&B Bball @ Sutherland, 2:30pm G&B Bball @ Hershey; 12/9 - 1:30pm - McDaid Christmas Program.

7:30am I.R.I.S.H. December Rosary Dates: Mon-12/3; Tue-12/11; Wed-12/19. *Mon & Wed at McDaid. *Tues & Thurs at St. Pats HS Chapel

It's time to think SCRIP for the holidays!: Shop the Endowment's SCRIP inventory, order online, or special order through the office. SCRIP has something for everyone on your list! Visit www.shopwithscrip.com to view a complete list of national retailers. Don't forget "SCRIP of Choice" certificates too! You choose the denomination, & the recipient can pick out their own gift cards. Perfect for teachers! Call Endowment office (534-5939) with SCRIP questions.

North Platte Catholic School:
Faith and Knowledge for a Brighter Future

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) Meeting:

will be **Sunday, Dec. 9, at 11:30am** in Rectory Conference Room. All women are invited & encouraged to attend.

Daughters of Charity (Altar Society) News:

On **Sunday, December 9** after enjoying the Knights of Columbus breakfast, the Daughters of Charity will have a brief meeting, then they will assemble 'cookie plates' to be delivered to our home-bound Parish friends. The Daughters of Charity ask the following; parish families with the last name of:

- **A to H ...** bring one, six-count pack of single-serve applesauce, peaches, pears or mixed fruit. (This will keep better than fresh fruit.)
- **I to Q ...** bring one dozen, home-made cookies.
- **P to Z ...** bring one, CHRISTmas ornament.

Join together with your parish family to spread the JOY of Christmas with others! Please place your items in the K-1 classroom before Sunday, Dec. 9. If you have any questions call Heather Johnsen: 308-386-8530. Thankfully, The Daughters of Charity.

Breakfast by Knights of Columbus ... Sunday, Dec. 9, in the Parish Hall after 10:00am Mass; serving pancakes, eggs, fixings, biscuits & gravy, coffee & juices. Free Will offering accepted ... Proceeds go to the purchase of Missalettes.

Knights of Columbus Meeting ... Mon, Dec 10, 7:00pm, Parish Hall. All Knights are invited to attend.

Keep Christ in Christmas! The Knights of Columbus will sell religious Christmas cards after Mass for the next few Weekends. The supply is limited. Send your relatives and friends a card that expresses the true meaning of the Christmas season.

Healing Mass: Sunday, Dec. 16, 4:00pm St. Patrick, McCook ...
All are welcome to receive physical, spiritual, & mental healing.
Celebrant: Rev. Christopher Barak, Lincoln. Come early to participate in
3:30pm=singing of Divine Mercy Chaplet & Confessions. (postponed 2 wks)

Women at the Well ... is hosting an **Advent Retreat for all Women.** **Sunday December 2,** Spiritual Life Center, St. Patrick Church, **6:30 - 7:30 = Dinner & Feather River Wine; 7:30 - 8:30 = Adoration & Confession.** Advent is a special time of year to gain spiritual fruits, particularly peace and joy. A special mediator of these graces is our Blessed Mother Mary. This year, we have the opportunity to share these engaging Marian Advent reflections in video and journal form through Ascension's Rejoice! program. Every person will receive a Rejoice! Journal, filled with beautiful art and meaningful meditations to accompany them throughout the entire Advent season. Join us for a special evening as we prepare for this Advent Season. A free will offering is appreciated RSVP; Kira @ 308-532-0942.

St. Gianna's Art and Gift Gallery ... Artists will display and sell their unique collection of Christian artwork and gifts on Friday, Dec. 7, 6pm-9pm & Saturday, Dec. 8, 9am-6pm in Guadalupe Center by Gianna's Java & Gelato, 2241 O St, Lincoln, NE. 15% of all proceeds donated to benefit St. Gianna's Women's Homes, Lincoln.

National Night of Prayer for Life ... It was on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception (then celebrated Dec. 9) that Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas and the Unborn, first appeared to St. Juan Diego. The **National Night of Prayer** bridges these two feasts. We ask our Mother to re-establish a culture of life, to restore God's law, to protect the Church & the Faithful from persecution, & to bring peace. **All are invited to spend an hour of adoration from 8:00pm to Midnight on Saturday, Dec. 8.**

Catholic Daughters of America ... Catholic Daughters of America, Our Lady of Fatima Court #1549 will meet Dec. 3 at 7:00pm in Spiritual Life Center at St Patrick Catholic Church, North Platte. Come early to help wrap presents for the Catholic Daughter ministry's Christmas gift giving. Please bring your membership books with you to the meeting. All Catholic women are invited to the meetings.

Consecration to Jesus through Mary ... Bishop Conley is encouraging the faithful to consecrate/re-consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary on Dec 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. The Rosary Crusade (*specifically Br. Julian, KHE*) has made video meditations for each day as a way to go deeper with our consecration this year. [Links on our Parish webpage.](#)

Creighton Model NFP Introductory Sessions ... are held throughout the Diocese. Single women, engaged or married couples are welcome to attend to learn more about this revolutionary form of women's health tracking and natural family planning. Sessions meet Diocesan requirements for marriage prep. For more information visit www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp

From someone who had an abortion... "[The abortion] gave me grief and sorrow beyond expression. I was petrified to tell anyone. I have committed the most heinous of all crimes. Yet, the Lord forgave me, just as he forgave Paul. Yet I will always regret what I did and will probably always feel grief. But I pray that my experience can somehow prevent other women from making the same fatal mistake. I'm a nurse now, so I wear my uniform to all the pro-life things I do! It helps." Forgiveness and healing are available. Visit www.RachelsVineyard.org.

Nebraska Walk for Life ... Jan. 26, 2019 Keynote speaker=Catherine Adair (*former Planned Parenthood employee*).

Practice for Christmas Choir ... Please come to practices on Wednesdays, beginning **Wednesday, Dec. 5, 6:15pm in Parish Hall.** Please contact Matt Perlinger (308) 289-3187.

Put a Retreat into Your Schedule ... You can register at www.goodcounselretreat.com & receive immediate confirmation or call Good Counsel Retreat House (402-786-2705). Our parish made a \$1,500 donation to the Retreat House (which covers 9 persons).

December – July Schedule:

Dec. 14-16 Bishop Conley & Fr. Coulter Men /Women
(*The Mysteries of Christmas*)
Jan 11-12 Fr. Lux & Fr. McGuire..... Women
(*LDCCW Winter Symposium*)
Jan 18-20 Fr. Eric Clark / Knights of Holy Eucharist Men
(*Acolyte / Lector Retreat: Discipleship at the Foot of the Cross*)
Feb 1-3..... Fr. William Holoubek Men / Women
(*Unbound: Breaking Free from Spiritual Wounds*)
Feb 15-17..... Sr. Ann Shields..... Men / Women
(*Faith: More Precious than Gold*)
Feb 22-24 Fr. Angelus Montgomery, CFR. Men/Women
(*American Saints and Heroic Virtue*)
Mar 8-10..... Fr. Karl Millis..... Men / Women
(*St. Teresa of Avila in Light of the Joy of the Gospel*)

Christmas Gift for Dad or Husband ... if he belongs to the Knights of Columbus Council here at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, you could pay his Membership Dues to Jim Griffin, 2401 N Buffalo Bill Ave, North Platte, NE 69101 and Jim will send your Dad's or husband's 2019 Membership Card with a Christmas Greeting from you before Christmas. Thank you and God Bless. Loren Baxa, Grand Knight, Father McGivney Council #12530. Dues are \$25 / yr.

Annual Mass of the Holy Innocents ... will be celebrated on **Friday, Dec. 28.** All are invited to attend this Memorial Mass, especially those families who have suffered the loss of a baby through miscarriage, stillbirth, infant death or abortion. Reading of names will begin at **6:30pm (Mass at 7:00pm)** at John XXIII Diocesan Center Chapel, 3700 Sheridan Blvd, Lincoln. If you would like your child's name to be remembered & placed on the banner for this year, please call the Family Life Office (473-0620) **before 5:00pm on Dec 19.** *If you placed your child's name previously, it will remain on the list.*

Journey Through Faith: Grief, Suffering, Salvation ...
Grief work, though very painful, is good and holy. Jesus tells us, "*Blessed are those that mourn for they shall be comforted.*" (Mt 5:5) Grief is the way God intended us to deal with loss. Come join a small group of presenters as they share their faith journey through grief & suffering at St. Patrick Spiritual Life Center (in Parish Hall if needed) on Saturday, January 5, 10:00am - 2:00pm. Bring your family and friends. (includes a Free Lunch). RSVP's are welcome; call Robin (532-0942 = St Patrick Office). Father Josh Brown will be sharing his personal story of grief and his experiences walking with others through their grief. Father Mark Seiker will speak on the Redemptive Power of Suffering.

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER:

Rejoice! Advent Meditations with Mary ...
video on our webpage; meditation & journal book available for \$3.00.

Wednesday Eucharistic Adoration ... at the suggestion of parishioners, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on MOST (*there may be some rare exceptions due to schedule conflicts*) **Wednesdays of the year, 6:00pm (after the 5:30pm Mass) - 10:00pm.**

Since the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the Monstrance, we need at least one (1) person present during each of those four hours. **Anyone is invited to just "drop in" to spend some time with our Eucharistic Lord ... but we need 4 persons each week.**

On many Wednesdays in December, the Choir will be practicing in the Parish Hall, & RCIA class will be in the Rectory Conference Room. **Spending time with our Eucharistic Lord is worth a few little adjustments!**

Holy Land Pilgrimage ... Steve & Janet Ray, Producers of the Footprints of God documentaries & Fr. Mark Seiker invite you on a Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, **Wed, May 8 – Fri., May 17, 2019.** Brochures will be available soon, there is an electronic brochure on our webpage, pray about being on Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

Liturgical Minister

	Sat., Dec. 8, 5:00pm	Sun., Dec. 9, 10:00am
Lector	Jim Nisley	Michael Lafleur
Acolyte	Jerry Volesky	Conrad Buhrman
Server	William Krondak	Jace Grunden
	Nicholas Krondak	Weston Hammond
Music	Greg Vandenberg	Peggy Orr
Gifts	Jim Griffin, Ed Rieker	Duane & Heather Johnson
Ushers	Jerry Beckius	Jeff Orr
	Sharon Beckius	Shane Lowrey
Rosary		

Readings for the Week

Monday:	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Prayers for the sick: Dave Hoedel (Reiny Burbach's son-in-law), Annie Vieyra, Theresa McCarthy-Garth, Mary Lou Robles & Patricia Zamora (Toni Barron's sisters), Kelly Henry (Mitch Gregg's sister), Peggy Fleecs, Patti Caudillo, Renate Nordquist, Sharon Beckius, John Kahl, Mike & Kim Paul, Eileen Boltz, Jim Beckius.

Prayers for the deceased: Carol LaBrie (Loren Baxa's sister-in-law), Leona Cloutre, Virginia Waechter (Peggy Orr's mother), Mary Jane Vitt (Chris Behm's mother), Bob "Junior" Barron (Toni Barron's brother), Bernadine Torres, Father Jim Novakowski, Martha Burbach, Jerry Kenny (Charles/Toni Barron's son-in-law), Bernadine Duryea, Luke Ranck, Margaret Baxa, Mary Portz, Phyllis Beckius.

Birthdays: 12/1 - Kate Wartman, Denise Burbach, 12/5 - Mike Paul, Cindy Swanson, 12/6 - Adam Burbach, 12/7 - Philip Heimann, 12/9 - Grace Ryland.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION ... Occasionally, someone raises a surprised complaint that while Christmas arrives on Santa's sleigh at the Macy's parade on Thanksgiving Day, the Church doesn't catch on too fast. They may even say that Advent is a new fangled idea. Not so. To trace its beginnings, we have to go back to the fourth or fifth century in France (then Gaul), when Epiphany was the favored day, next to Easter, for baptism. The old pagan structures of Rome were collapsing then, and many people sought to be baptized. Since adults always prepared for baptism by fasting, folks counted back a few weeks for a kind of retreat. Before too long, bishops were advising everyone to attend church frequently beginning on December 17. Soon, artists were imagining ways of expressing the Advent mystery, and in Italy this gave rise to beautiful mosaics of empty thrones awaiting the arrival of the Lord of all creation. Advent as we know it develops on two separate tracks: the first having to do with our spiritual preparation for celebrating the Christmas feast, and the second having to do with the way this is organized and expressed in the liturgical readings and prayers every day of the season.. —James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

THE PROMISE OF JUSTICE ... We are in fairly good company when we ask God for justice. Often enough we hear and agree with the lament of the people of Israel asking God why the wicked prosper. However, when we call out for justice, we usually want someone to get his or her comeuppance. God's justice is something other than this, of course. God's justice comprises a wonderful rightness between God and humankind. Today, Jeremiah looks ahead to a time when a just one will sprout from the shorn-off stump of Jesse of the house and family of David. Life was not fair in Jeremiah's time. Israel's kings held the promise of God's fidelity, but it was difficult to see how God's promise could be realized through them. Nevertheless, Jeremiah lifts his voice and announces that the Promised One will come. Luke's Gospel echoes that announcement, and Paul is filled with sturdy encouragement. And so Advent begins with a promise. — Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT ... There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind. —St. Bernard: Third Sermon for Advent

HEARTFELT ... Remember that God prefers the poverty of our hearts to the most sublime thoughts borrowed from others. —St. Peter Julian Eymard

Pray for our Seminarians: Caleb Daniel Hile, from St. Joseph, Lincoln. He entered the Seminary in 2013. He is in Theology 3 at St. Charles Borromeo Seminary.

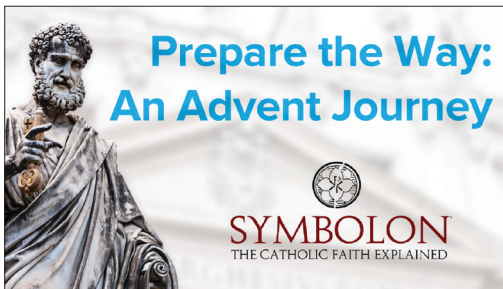
Pray for our Religious Sisters: School Sisters of Christ the King, Marian Sisters of the Diocese of Lincoln, Sisters at the Carmel of Jesus, Mary & Joseph, Pink Sisters, Sisters of Mary, Queen of Mercy.

HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS ...

(December) Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith - That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

FORMED RECOMMENDATIONS

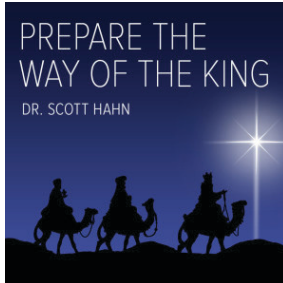
FEATURED IN DECEMBER
ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS



STUDY



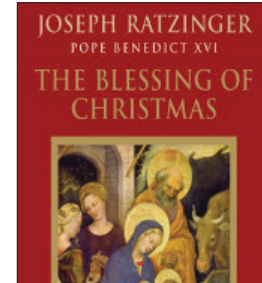
WATCH



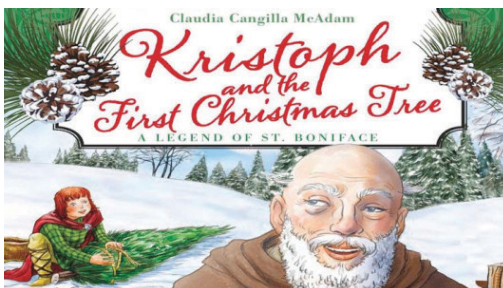
LISTEN



YOUTH



READ



FOR CHILDREN



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DECEMBER 2018

A Whole Month of Liturgical Content on formed.org!

2

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Study: [Prepare the Way, Week 1*](#)
Study: [YDisciple: Advent, Session 1: Prepare the Way](#)
Listen: [Prepare the Way of the King](#)

6

SAINT NICHOLAS

Watch: [Nicholas: The Boy Who Became Santa*](#)

8

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

Study: [Footprints of God, Mary: The Mother of God](#)
Watch: [Mary of Nazareth](#)
Read: [Mary: the Church at the Source](#)
Listen: [Mary: Handmaid of the Lord](#)

9

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Study: [Prepare the Way, Week 2*](#)

12

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Watch: [1531*](#)
Listen: [Our Lady of Guadalupe and St. Juan Diego](#)
Escuchar: [Guadalupe y el Misterio del Verbo Encarnado](#)

16

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Study: [Prepare the Way, Week 3*](#)

23

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Study: [Prepare the Way, Week 4*](#)

25

CHRISTMAS

Watch: [The Story of the Nativity](#)
Watch: [Brother Francis: O Holy Night*](#)
Watch: [Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree](#)
Listen: [The True Meaning of Christmas](#)

27

SAINT JOHN THE APOSTLE

Study: [Lectio: Eucharist, Session 7: Bread of Life Discourse](#)

30

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Study: [Beloved: The Mystery and Meaning of Marriage*](#)
Study: [Symbolon: Living the Faith, Session 7: A Love That Lasts*](#)
Watch: [Marriage: God's Design for Life and Love](#)

* Available in Spanish



WHAT IS ADVENT?

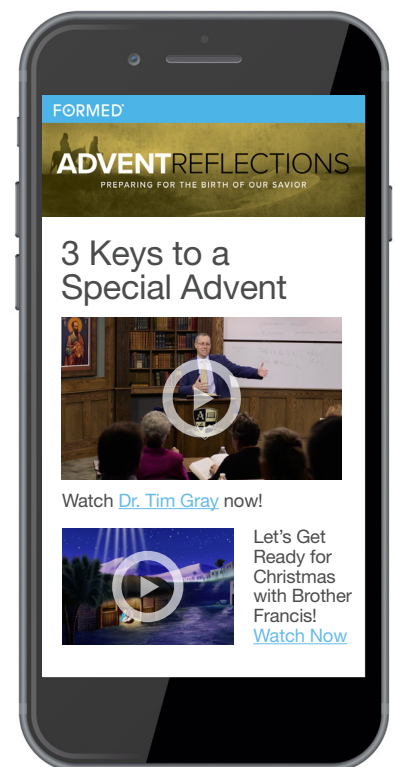
FORMED®

Get FORMED Advent Reflections for You and Your Whole Family

How will you prepare for Christmas? Enrich your Advent with daily reflections for you and your kids sent directly to your inbox! Walk with Dr. Tim Gray on a journey of renewal to ready your heart for the coming of Christ! Plus, add children's reflections to your daily email, and Herald Entertainment's beloved *Brother Francis* will help your kids get ready for Christmas with joyful songs and valuable lessons.

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FORMED®

Advent means “arrival”. The Jewish people had been anticipating for centuries the arrival of the Messiah who would bring them a new deliverance, a new covenant, a new temple, and a new promised land. Advent invites us to joyfully and prayerfully anticipate the birth the Messiah, Jesus Christ.

Tips to Make the Most of Advent



Participate in the Prepare the Way Advent Video Study

The themes for Advent are: 1) how God has saved His people in the past; 2) how God is saving His people in the present; 3) how Jesus Christ will ultimately come again in glory to judge the living and the dead. Episodes from the *Symbolon* series deliver beautiful and insightful teaching on each of these themes.

- ▶ *Week I: The Story of Salvation*
- ▶ *Week II: Who is Jesus?*
- ▶ *Week III: The Paschal Mystery*
- ▶ *Week IV: The Last Things*



Display an Advent Wreath

Display a wreath in your home, light the candle that corresponds to the week in Advent, watch *Opening the Word* to prepare for the Sunday readings, and use the guide for discussion and reflection.

- ▶ *Opening the Word Year C (Advent through Epiphany)*



Bless Your Christmas Tree

Read along to the animated storybook *Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree* and recite the blessing for your own Christmas Tree.

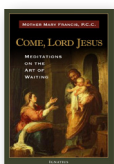
- ▶ *Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree*



Celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas with Your Children

Watch *Nicholas* on December 5th and have your children place a shoe in the entryway before going to bed so they awake on the Feast of St. Nicholas with a shoe full of candy.

- ▶ *Nicholas*



Commit to Daily Devotional Reading

Commit to reading an excerpt from one of the following inspiring e-books every day during Advent and Christmas.

- ▶ *Come, Lord Jesus: Meditations on the Art of Waiting - Mother Mary Francis*
- ▶ *Advent of the Heart - Alfred Delp*



Read to Your Children

Spend quality time reading to your children the charming story *Christmas with Bernadette*.

- ▶ *Christmas with Bernadette*



Watch Only Religious Movies

Advent is a great time to refrain from secular entertainment and fix our attention on the things of God.

- ▶ *Mary of Nazareth*
- ▶ *Brother Francis: O Holy Night*
- ▶ *The Story of the Nativity*
- ▶ *Hildegard's Gift*