

# Welcome to Our Parish! December 15, 2024 - Third Sunday of Advent

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# Are you new to the Parish?

Visit our website to sign up for weekly emails at www.annunciationorlando.org

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# Mass Intentions

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

8:00am Olga Vucemilovic† 5:00pm Eileen Kahoe†

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

8:00am Adolph and Bridget Jacobs†
10:00am People of Our Parish Joan Oldfield†
12:00pm Martin Mannion†
5:30pm Esteban and Tila Medina†

# MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

7:00 am Mary Martin† 12:15pm Thomas Guinane Jr.†

# TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:00am Carroll Dougal† 12:15pm Charles D'Aiuto† 7:00pm Pedro Nemecio Fajardo†

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00am Peter Zalewski† 12:15pm Catherine Sikorski†

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:00am Georgina Barrica Roque† 12:15pm Diane Ulch†

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00am Emily Trovato† 12:15pm Louis Davison†

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00am Lenny Thorne† 5:00pm Michael Bach†

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00am	Deceased members of the
	Neblock/Roy/Manning families†
10:00am	People of Our Parish
	Pedro Fajardo†
12:00pm	Deceased members of the
	Nixon/Guinane families†
5:30pm	Dr. Bernardino and Natividad Cruz†

# **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

(Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45)

# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# ✤ December 15, 2024

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5pm Sunday: 8am, 10am, 12pm, 5:30pm **Daily Masses** Monday - Friday: 7am & 12:15pm / Saturday: 8am Tuesday: Spanish Mass 7pm

#### RECONCILIATION

Tuesdays at 10:30am by RSVP on our home page. Saturdays from 3:30 to 4:30pm. (no rsvp needed)

#### EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday through Friday from 8am (after the 7am Mass) until 7pm in the Chapel of the Angels. Adoration closes for the 12:15pm Mass.



#### POPE FRANCIS PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For Pilgrims of Hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

# Please Note Christmas and New Year's Adoration Schedule:

Eucharistic Adoration will be close starting at 12noon on 12/20 to 12/26. Adoration resumes 12/27 after the 12:15pm Mass. Adoration closes at 5pm on 12/31 and re-opens on 1/2/2025.

# OFFERTORY AND ONLINE GIVING

Thank you for continuing to support our Parish Community! To contribute online, visit www.annunciationorlando.org/online-giving.



If you are visiting and would like to contribute please use the blue and white envelopes or click on the QR code to donate online. Thank you!

# Sanctuary Candle

In loving memory of Louis Davison

# Weddings - Congratulations!

Sean Smith and Kara Gallelli

# Praying for our Recently Deceased

†Lydia Ponton-Torres
†Dora Hussman
†Maria Miavitz
†Rosario Corpus
†Marguerite Santeramo
†Thomas Wagner

# Christmas and New Year's Schedule

**Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve** *Regular 7am and 12:15pm daily Mass* Christmas Eve Masses at 4pm, 7pm, 9pm and 12midnight

Wednesday December 25 - Christmas Masses at 10am and 12noon



Sunday, December 29 - Feast of the Holy Family

**Tuesday, December 31** - Mary the Mother of God Vigil - 5:30pm -Eucharistic Adoration in the Church -7pm to Midnight

Wednesday, January 1 - Mary the Mother of God - 10am and 12noon Mass (no 7am Mass, no Adoration) Holy Day of Obligation

# Parish Office and Bookstore Christmas and New Years Schedule

The Parish office will be closed on December 24th and 25th and on January 1, 2025. The Book & Gift Store will be closed on Tuesday December 24 and will reopen January 2nd.

How can we pray for you? Everyday life can be challenging and we want to pray for your intentions. We will pray for each specific intention that you submit. Submit your intentions at:

> www.annunciationorlando.org/ prayer-intentions



# REFLECTIONS FROM THE HEART

# by Fr. Ivan

"Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel!" Many have asked where my joy comes from. What is the source and the cause of all that joy? The response itself is a cause and a moment of joy that echoes a joyous memory in my heart and a hymn of praise. Recognizing and recalling those things that fill us most. The greatest joys that make one's eyes smile from ear to ear and one's heart to leap for great joy. That would be Mary. One of my greatest joys. Thankful to God for our Lady of Grace, our Mother of Hope, our Queen of Peace. Thankful for her Immaculate Heart, her Amazing Grace, for bringing us a Savior, for bringing me to Jesus when life feels empty and dry; for bringing me to Jesus when life seems gray and lifeless and I have run out of cheer and there seems to be no more wine. I am thankful to our Lady for beholding me at the Foot of the Cross as her beloved child and for praying for me like the disciples in the Upper Room of her Immaculate Heart when I feel afraid or fearful, worried or anxious in any way. Thankful Mary is our Mother of Perpetual Help, the Help of all Christians, Comforter of the Afflicted, and the Refuge of Sinners. Go to Mary. She will lead and point you in the right direction. She is the Mother of Mercy, the Holy Mother of God, the Holy Mother of the Church and our Beloved Mother Mary. There is so much joy. It bursts forth in knowing that God created and chose Mary for himself to be the Mother of his Son, the Temple of his Holy Glory and the dwelling place of his Holy Spirit. Thankful to God that he created and chose Mary for us, as well to be our Lady of Wisdom, our Lady of Good Counsel, Mother of the New Evangelization, Queen of Heaven and Earth; Queen of the Universe. Our Lady loves us, prays for us, watches over us and never judges us but graciously corrects us and always leads us to her Son that he may heal and reconcile us, cleanse and feed us nourishing us with his precious Body and Blood. What joy to sometimes know and experience our Lady's closeness and presence when one encounters the sweet aroma of a Mystical Rose or the wonderful aroma of purity that fills our minds and senses and every room Mary quietly and gently enters into.

# Advent Outreach - Morning Star Catholic School

Morning Star Catholic School has a long history that began over 60 years ago with the Sisters of St. Joseph. Their commitment was to provide students with special needs an opportunity to receive an education, allowing them to be the best they can be spiritually, socially, academically, physically, and emotionally. This commitment lives on today. Please prayerfully consider donating to Morning Star Catholic School.

Your donation will allow the school to continue to provide a foundation of Catholic faith while providing our students with the resources to learn and receive necessary services to help them achieve their individual goals.

To make a donation, use the blue special collection envelopes and write Morning Star in the memo or visit www.annunciationorlando.org/advent to make a donation online. Thank you!





Morning Star Catholic School is truly a remarkable place that has a rich history of serving God's children with special needs. Believing that every child should have

the opportunity to learn, former Archbishop Joseph P. Hurley tasked the Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Augustine to pioneer five Morning Star schools - these

#### OUR MISSION

Morning Star Catholic School, founded in Catholic tradition, is committed to providing each student with special needs the opportunity to discover their gifts and achieve their personal best as children of God.

became Florida's first schools for children with intellectual disabilities. Under the direction of Sister Elizabeth Marie Stoup, Morning Star Catholic School was officially established in the College Park neighborhood of Orlando in 1960.

Students at Morning Star Catholic School are considered to be intellectually disabled with varying exceptionalities. Intellectual disability is characterized by a significant cognitive impairment combined with limitations in the adaptive skills needed to live, work, and play in the community. Intellectual disabilities can be caused by any condition that impairs development of the brain before birth, during birth, or in childhood years.

## Our ADVENT CALENDAR (below) includes Mission Mondays, Liturgies and many opportunities for Confession.



continue to become a people of great prayer.



Book & Gift Store Advent Candles and Oplatek wafers in stock!

#### **Book & Gift Store Hours**

Mon. to Fri.: 10:30am – 5pm Sat.: 4:30-5pm; 6-6:30pm Sun.: 9am-1:30pm.

# The Breaking of the Oplatek



In many Polish homes throughout the world, a beloved family tradition is the breaking of the oplatek on Christmas Eve. Oplatek is a thin wafer made from flour and water similar in taste and consistency to the hosts that are used for communion during Mass. Oplatki are often stamped with an elaborate Christmas scene.

The oplatek is meant to remind families of the Eucharistic bread at Mass and makes a further connection between Christmas and the gift of the Eucharist, the presence of God among us.



# 407-774-2801 www.annunciationacademy.org

During our Advent Retreat, we journeyed together in faith, service, and fellowship. Beginning the day in Adoration and concluding with a beautiful liturgy in our courtyard, our hearts were focused on the call to be instruments of God's peace. Throughout the day, our students lived out our mission:

- Packing weekend meals and writing cards of encouragement for students at Altamonte Elementary.
- Building STREAM bridges and exploring creative problem-solving.
- Collaborating on "Mission Peace," fostering teamwork and understanding.
- Working in small groups in the gym to accomplish shared goals.

Advent reminds us to prepare our hearts for Christ, and today was a powerful reflection of His love in action. Let us continue to bring His peace to the world!



# GROW IN YOUR FAITH

#### DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH?

Have you been away from the Church... or do you just want to learn more about your faith? Were you raised in another faith or maybe not raised in any faith, but feel called to something deeper? For more information, please contact Deacon Pete at 407-869-9472 or ppronko@annunciationorlando.org



# CATECHISM of the CATHOLIC CHURCH

# Catechism Corner

"The prayer of the Church is sustained by the prayer of Mary and united with it in hope."

**2657** The Holy Spirit, who instructs us to celebrate the liturgy in expectation of Christ's return, teaches us-to pray in hope. Conversely, the prayer of the Church and personal prayer nourish hope in us. The psalms especially, with their concrete and varied language, teach us to fix our hope in God: "I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry." As St. Paul prayed: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope."



# The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was defined on December 8, 1854 by Pope Pius IX. It declares that "the Blessed Virgin Mary, at the first instant of her conception, by a singular privilege and grace of the Omnipotent God, in virtue of the advance merits of Jesus Christ, the Savior of mankind, was preserved immaculate from all stain of original sin." This doctrine is not found explicitly in Sacred Scripture, however it has been part of Catholic tradition from the earliest centuries of the Church and therefore, the liturgy applies Scripture to highlight key aspects of that teaching.

The most important focus for the liturgy (mass) is the Angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary, depicted in our Annunciation window, concerning the birth of Jesus. While this story has many interesting details, today's feast concentrates on Mary. St. Luke goes to great lengths to depict Mary as an ordinary young girl from a humble environment. She is betrothed to be married to Joseph, as were many girls of her young age. Her life was headed along a familiar path towards marriage and family life. But when the Angel Gabriel entered the story, Mary's life changes beyond anything that anyone could ever have imagined. From this moment on, her life will be anything but ordinary.

The first two things proclaimed about Mary from Gabriel is that she is full of grace and that she has found favor with God. Grace and favor are the divine qualifications through which Mary will become mother of the Son of the Most High. It is precisely from this perspective that the Church throughout the centuries has concluded that such an immaculate vessel must be thoroughly without flaw. Thus, the Church's conclusion that Mary was untouched by original sin and immaculately conceived in the womb of her mother, St. Anne.

There is no indication in the Gospel passage from St. Luke that Mary herself was aware of any of this. Her simple response to the Angel Gabriel's explanation of what is going to happen to her is a reasonable one: "How can this be since I have no relations with a man?" The dynamic that is running throughout this entire story is not the knowledge and understanding of how God works – which is impossible for us.

Instead, it is all about faith, and Mary is the central character whose "yes" to God makes God's plan possible. In fact, as we know, Mary said "yes" many times during her life, not just this once. She and St. Joseph were absolutely obedient to God's will. As the Angel Gabriel explained, "Nothing will be impossible for God." Many things are impossible for humans, especially, when they attempt to take the place of God, with control in life. And that never works.

There is a lot to be learned from Mary, the handmaid of the Lord. She firmly believed that nothing was impossible for God. Do we? Therefore, without fear, she could say, "Let it be done to me according to your word." Being immaculately conceived is not an option for humans. Believing that nothing is impossible for God is. Being graced and favored by God empowers Faith, for Mary and for us. God has blessed us in many ways, starting with our Baptisms, and continually through the other Sacraments.

Mary gave of herself generously. At this time of year, as we prepare for Christmas, there are many demands made on us by our family and work circumstances. At times we may feel overwhelmed. These can also be seen as opportunities to be patient, generous, and gracious, because of our love for God and desire to be of service. In so many ways, we are challenged by Mary's example, and by the Church, to respond with generosity and love.

# LOVING AND SERVING OTHERS



Join Queen of Angels Cemetery staff on Friday, December 27th for a Memorial Mass with special intercession for those who were buried since the previous Memorial Mass and for the deceased diocesan priests remembered during that month.

# Praying for our diocesan clergy who passed in the month of December:

Msgr. Vidal Arboleda, Msgr. William Mullally, Reverend Gerard Granahan, Reverend William O'Farrell, Reverend Stephen Phillips, Reverend Vincent Smith



# The St. Vincent DePaul truck

will be here on Thursday, December 19th from 10am until 1pm in the North parking lot by the St. Gabriel Life Center. We will be collecting new or used clothing, furniture and small appliances, to help the poor in our area. WE WILL NOT BE COLLECTING ANY FOOD ITEMS AT THIS TIME. Thank you for your generosity!



Annunciation Habitat for Humanity We have several build dates coming up in Sanford. It is easy to sign-up and get involved and it is very rewarding to work with the families that we are serving. For more information visit

## www.annunciationorlando.org/habitat

# Respect Life Prayer & Action MONTHLY PRAYER GUIDE - USCCB



#### Reflect

Each year during Advent, we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Christ our Savior at Christmas. As we anticipate this joyful celebration, we recall the wellknown journey of the Holy Family from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Far from home, poor, and in great need, Mary and Joseph find refuge in a simple stable. But this humble setting among the livestock soon welcomes the heavenly host of angels and the Son of God himself.

Today, women in our own communities are pregnant, poor, perhaps without a home, and in great need. They may feel alone, scared, and overwhelmed, not knowing where they can turn for help. In challenging circumstances, expectant mothers are in need of a refuge of their own. Like the Holy Family, they are often reliant on the kindness and service of others.

This Advent may the story of the first Christmas inspire us to reach out to mothers in need. May we proactively seek to offer loving support and encouragement as they prepare to welcome their children. By answering this call, may we help mothers experience the joy, hope, and peace brought by the infant Jesus. And may we, too, share in and bear witness to the miracle of new life.

#### Act (Choose one)

- Offer Pope Francis' Prayer for the Immaculate Conception for this month's intention: usccb.org/prayers/pope-francis-prayer-immaculateconception.
- Contact your local pregnancy resource center or diocesan/parish pregnancy support ministry. Ask about ways you can help, such as volunteering or donating baby items.
- Offer some other sacrifice or prayer that you feel called to do for this month's intention.

Visit www.respectlife.org for more information and resources.



# Week of December 22, 2024



# The Story of Christmas | Benjamin Cello Christmas Special

In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.



# O Holy Night - Christmas with the Annie Moses Band

Experience the beauty of the Christmas season with the Annie Moses Band as the acclaimed classical crossover ensemble performs stunning arrangements of holiday favorites.



# Mary's Labor: What Does Catholic Tradition Have to Say?

Join Dr. Scott Hefelfinger and Dr. Michael Barber as they explain the Catholic Church's understanding of Mary's labor and the birth of Jesus Christ.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the PAUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and Imatics press

#### For more information please call our Parish Office at **407-869-9472** or email **info@annunciationorlando.org**

## Clergy

Very Rev. Ivan Olmo, V.F	Pastor
Rev. Mark Librizzi	Parochial Vicar
Rev. Stephen Baumann	Retired
Rev. Augustine Clark	
Rev. William Gohring	Retired
Deacon Joe Gassman	Permanent Deacon
Deacon Pete Pronko	. Permanent Deacon
Deacon Bryan Zornik	Permanent Deacon

## Administration/Finance/Facilities

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Mark Comia	Operations & Finance
Greg Dessert	Facilities Director
Nanci O'Reilly	Office Manager
Sarah Dessert	Records & Data
Allison Khan	Office Assistant
Patti Murphy	Administration
Scott Stafstrom	Communications
Peggy Dobrowolski	Food Outreach
Mathew Novaes	Maintenance
Jack Harrison	Security
Terri Becher	Book Store: <b>407-215-7666</b>

# Annunciation Academy 407-774-2801

Patricia Kahle..... Principal

## Annunciation Pre-School 407-869-9404

Nazly Cabral..... Director

## **Evangelization & Faith Formation**

Deacon Pete Pronko ..... Evangelization & Family Catechesis Vicki Ridgeway....... Elementary / 1st Eucharist Michele Bugallo........ Faith Formation Assistant Michele McCullough.... Faith Formation Assistant Jody North...... Baptism, Marriage Preparation/ Annulment Advocate

# Liturgy and Worship

Mary Ann Fox ..... Director of Liturgy Mark McCabe ..... Director of Music Joan Braun ...... Music & Liturgy Assistant

# **Book & Gift Store Hours**

Mon. to Fri.: 10:30am – 5pm Sat.: 4:30-5pm; 6-6:30pm, Sun.: 9am-1:30pm.

# **Parish Office Hours**

Mondays - Fridays from 9am to 5pm. Sundays from 9am to 12noon

# In need of assistance?



Please contact our Society of St.Vincent dePaul at 407-215-7669 or by email: svdp@annunciationorlando.org

# SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

We look forward to welcoming your child into our family at Annunciation Catholic Church! For information regarding the Sacrament of Baptism for Children, please contact the Parish Office at 407-869-9472.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Experience the joy of forgiveness... If it has been a while since you have been to Confession, do not be afraid! The Priest will guide you through this Sacrament of healing. Visit www.annunciationorlando.org/reconciliation.

# SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit... For information regarding the Sacrament of Confirmation for youth, please contact our Faith Formation for Children and Youth at 407-869-9472. If you are an adult in need of the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact our Adult Faith Formation Office at 407-869-9472.

#### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

...and the two shall become as one. Mark 10:8 For information regarding the Sacrament of Marriage, please contact the Parish Office at 407-869-9472 at least six months prior to your anticipated wedding date.

## VOCATIONS

...I have called you by name. Isaiah 43:1 Do you feel called to Priesthood or Religious Life? We look forward to speaking with you. Please contact our Clergy at 407-869-9472.

# Hospital Visitation ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Are you or a loved one in need of healing? If you or someone in your family is in need of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, please contact the Parish Office at 407-869-9472. In case of emergency or if you or a family member are in the hospital, please contact the Parish Office to receive a pastoral visit.

## **INTERESTED IN BECOMING CATHOLIC?**

Now may be the time... and this may be the place! For more information on the journey of Christian Initiation, please contact Deacon Pete Pronko at 407-869-9472.

## ANNULMENTS

Questions about divorce and re-Marriage? For information regarding Annulments, please contact Jody North at 407-215-7639.

# **Bulletin Information**

Please call Scott Stafstrom at 407-869-9472 or email: sstafstrom@annunciationorlando.org. Bulletin advertising, please call Diocesan Publications at 800-292-9111.



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