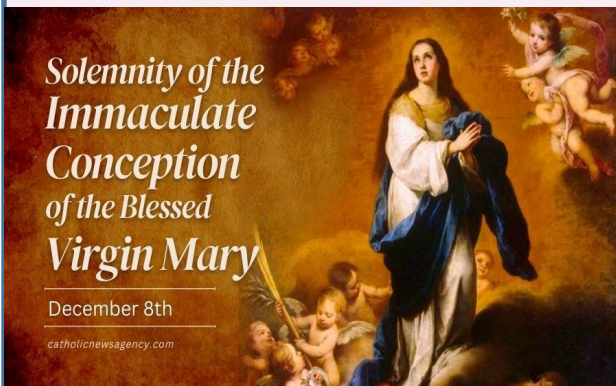




ADVENT 2023/NEW LITURGICAL YEAR

This Sunday, we enter the Advent season. Advent is the beginning of the Church's new liturgical year. It is a time when we earnestly wait for the coming of the Lord—first, as the Incarnate Son of God, born to us; and second, His final coming as Judge of the living and the dead. Advent is a season of hope and penance. We may want to hold on with throwing out the Christmas decorations until—at the earliest—the Third Sunday of Advent when Advent turns to joy at the Lord's coming.



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

The Universal Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary this coming Friday, 8th December. The Church in the United States has Immaculate Conception as her patroness. Universally, this feast is observed as a Holy Day of Obligation. Please make plans to attend any of the two Masses scheduled for the Holy Day at 8:00am or 5:30pm. Eucharistic Adoration will be held after the 5:30pm Mass.



CELEBRATION OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

This year's feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe falls on a Tuesday. To ensure greater participation, we will be celebrating the feast next Saturday, December 9th. All are invited. Mass will be at 5:00pm, followed by a host of activities inside the auditorium. Come and enjoy a great fellowship.

PARKING LOT REPAIR



We recently sustained a serious damage to our parking lot, which necessitated a costly repair. Some parishioners have reached out with financial support for the repairs and a few have thrown in their support through supply of materials and manpower. To enable us complete the work in a few weeks, we request everyone's support, to the measure possible. Reach out to Fr. Jo or call the office for your support. We will let everyone know how much support we got and from whom. Thank you for your generous help.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE



Christmas falls on a Monday. Here's the schedule:
10am Sunday December 24 – 4th Sunday of Advent
5pm Sunday December 24 – Christmas Vigil
12am December 25 – Midnight Mass
9am December 25 – Christmas Day Mass
5:30pm December 27 – St. John the Evangelist
December 30/31 – Feast of Holy Family
January 1 – Mother of God (New Year Mass)

CHRISTMAS PARTY & FAMILY FEAST



The parish and finance councils are inviting parishioners to join a special celebration this year of the feast of our patron saint, St. John the Evangelist. The feast falls on December 27th. It will be a Wednesday in the Octave of Christmas. We will have Mass at 5:30pm followed by a grand reception at the parish hall. A sign-up sheet will be placed at the Church entrance for families to sign up, so we may know how much food to order for the event. Other activities for the day are being planned.



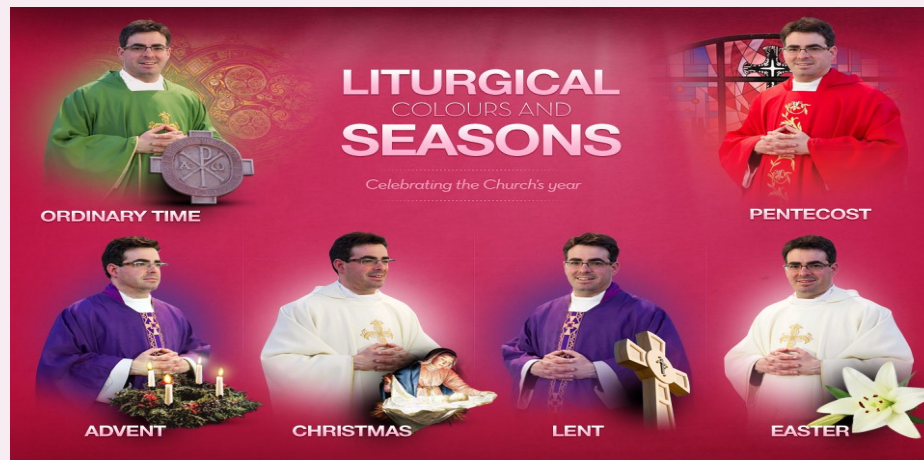
ORDER YOUR SHIRT FOR THE COMING FEAST

We have an order-sheet at the foyer of the Church for parish families to order shirts for Christmas and the celebration of our parish feast day come December 27th this year. You may order some for your children living out of town or for a friend or acquaintance. We have the shirts in two colors, gray and burgundy. The cost is \$25 for kids and youth, and :30 for the adult sizes. You can also call the parish office to place your order on or before December 15th.

YOUR END OF THE YEAR GIFT FOR THE PARISH

As 2023 draws to a close, we request your help in covering our expenses for the year. It has been a tough year financially with inflationary rise in the cost of running the parish as well as the numerous projects that we have undertaken, or are underway. Your gift of stock or cash can help a great deal. We appreciate the effort of those generous parishioners who have always helped, and plead with others to remember the parish when you make your financial decisions this year's end.





THURSDAY FAITH ENRICHMENT MEETINGS

Our Thursday Faith Enrichment will hold this coming Thursday. Our discussion will center on the **Liturgical Year and Preparations for the Coming of the Lord**. We meet at the parish hall between 6:30 and 8:30pm. Please join us to learn the truths of the Catholic faith.



NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS, 2024

The National Eucharistic Congress taking place in Indianapolis, from July 17–21, 2024 will be a transformative moment for the Church in the USA. It will be the high point of the Eucharistic Revival. You can be part of this historic event, as Catholics from around the country gather for this weeklong grace-filled event. If you're interested in attending, call the office or talk to our parish point person, Kelly Drusen, for details.