

ADVENT PENANCE RITE



We are entering this Sunday, the Second Sunday of Advent with the invitation to amend our lives. We have scheduled an Advent Penance Rite on Thursday, December 21st to help us with our spiritual preparation 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. We will have a number of priests to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Come as a family to receive God's mercy.



OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

CELEBRATION OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

This year's feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is next Tuesday, December 12th. However, to ensure greater participation, we will be celebrating the feast tomorrow Saturday, December 9th. All are invited. Mass will be at 5:00pm, followed by a host of activities in the auditorium. Come and enjoy a great fellowship.

LEARN HOW TO PRAY IN THE SPIRIT



LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP

The parish Life in the Spirit Prayer group calls us to join in praying for the varied needs of our families, community and the universal Church. Praying can often be a difficult exercise for some Catholics who have not developed the culture of praying alone, in a group or family. The prayer meeting is an opportunity to be part of a community of prayer. We meet next Saturday, December 16th from 10am till noon. Bring a friend, a family member or even a non-Catholic.

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 Friday, 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.



Year-End Giving





THURSDAY FAITH ENRICHMENT MEETINGS

Our last Thursday Faith Enrichment meeting for 2023 will hold this coming Thursday, December 14th. We will review our discussions this year and give everyone the opportunity to “Ask Fr. Jo Anything.” We meet at the parish hall between 6:30 and 8:30pm. Please join us.



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.