

Dear Padre,

Is Advent a penitential season?

Strictly speaking, the penitential times in the Church are “every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent” (*Code of Canon Law*, 1250). Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas when Christ’s First Coming is remembered, and this remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time. (See *Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the General Roman Calendar*, 39.) While Advent is more anticipatory than penitential, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops states, “Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.” Although, historically, Advent was similar to Lent as a forty-day period of prayer and fasting, it was less severe than the season preceding Easter, and it lacked uniformity in the Western Church. The Eastern Church still begins the Nativity Fast on November 15, while in the Western Church, Advent begins four Sundays before Christmas.

Regardless, the significant focus of Advent is our Lord’s coming (*adventus* in Latin). The Church reflects this anticipation of Advent through such practices as limiting floral arrangements in the sanctuary, simpler liturgical music, and omitting the Gloria at Mass until Christmas. We can also reflect the anticipation of Advent through such spiritual practices as participation in works of charity, moderation in shopping, celebration of the sacrament of penance, fasting on Fridays, and prayerful contemplation on our Savior’s Incarnation. ●

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
December 1 Advent Weekday Is 4:2-6 Mt 8:5-11	December 2 Advent Weekday Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24	December 3 St. Francis Xavier, Priest Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37	December 4 Advent Weekday Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21, 24-27	December 5 Advent Weekday Is 29:17-24 Mt 9:27-31	December 6 Advent Weekday Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	December 7 Second Sunday of Advent Is 11:1-10 Rom 15:4-9 Mt 3:1-12



A WORD FROM POPE LEO XIV

We are called to offer God’s love to everyone, in order to achieve that unity which does not cancel out differences but values the personal history of each person and the social and religious culture of every people. Brothers and sisters, this is the hour for love! The heart of the gospel is the love of God that makes us brothers and sisters.

HOMILY, ROME, MAY 18, 2025

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St. James Catholic Church

201 N. Missouri Street

Potosi, MO 63664

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025



(Photo courtesy of Jeremy Boyer)

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PHONE NUMBER: 573-438-4686

PSR: Phone: 573-366-5235
stjamespsr@gmail.com

Mass Schedule December 2025

Mon: 8:00 AM (St. Joachim)

Tues: 8:15 AM (St. James)

Wed: 8:15 AM (St. Joachim)

Thurs: 8:00 AM (St. James)

Fri: 8:00 AM (St. Joachim)

Sat: 8:00 AM (1st Sat. of the
Month @ St. James)

Saturday: 4:00 PM
(1st & 3rd weekend @ St. James; 2nd &
4th weekend @ St. Joachim)

Sunday: 8:00 AM (St. James)
10:00 AM (St. Joachim)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Dec. 1st
@ St. Joachim

Tuesday, Dec.
2nd
Dan Declue

Wednesday, Dec.
3rd
@ St. Joachim

Thursday, Dec.
4th:
Mark Coleman

Friday, Dec. 5th:
@ St. Joachim

Saturday, Dec.
6th:
8am: **Bob Short**
4pm: **Loren &
Phyllis Merkel**

Sunday, Dec. 7th:
Bob Jost

Confessions:

Saturday: 3:15-3:45pm
Prior to Sat. evening Mass or by
appointment



CHRIS ROLWES

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

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St. James Parish Family

201 N. Missouri Street
Potosi, MO 63664



December 6th & 7th

Lector:

Saturday 4pm: Bob Mills
Sunday 8am: Jamie Thompson

Eucharistic Ministers:

Saturday 4pm	Sunday 10am
C: Maureen Mills	Glenda Farrow
L: Judy East	Don Thompson
R: Laura Allen	Jim Politte

Servers

Saturday 4pm: Aubrianne McGovern
Sunday 8am: Ava West

Music:

Sat: 4:00pm. Chala
Sun: 8:00am Rebecca Richards
Sun: 10:00am Anita Govero or The Little Way Band



Heavenly Dusters

Faye Jarvis 12/5-12/12
Diane Mull 12/19-12/26

Altar Linens

Connie Scott 11/24-12/1
Faye Jarvis 12/8-12/15
Glenda Farrow 12/22-12/29

Money Counters

Pat & Tina 12/2
Mary Ann & Donna 12/9
Becky & Rhonda 12/16

(FYI: The office is open on Monday if you would like to count on Monday)

Staff

**Rev. Anthony Dattilo-
Pastor**

AnthonyDattilo@archstl.org
Phone: 573-436-0580 (St. Joachim Rectory)

**Rev. Vince Nyman-
Associate Pastor**
Phone: 314-614-0718

Angie Mitchell
Office Manager (part-time)

Vicki Thurmond
Parish Secretary (part-time)
stjameschurch@centurylink.net

Judy East: Custodian

Tommy Roy: On Call Maintenance

St. James PSR
Dr. Melissa Cordia
Co-Coordinator
Laura Allen
Co-Coordinator
Jamie Thompson
Co-Coordinator
stjamespsr@gmail.com

Weekly Collection 11/23/2025

Envelopes: \$1200.00

Loose: 170.00

Online Giving 15.00

Maintenance: 0.00

St. Vincent de Paul: 50.00

Votive: 0.00

Retired Religious 10.00

Human Development 5.00

Archdiocese of the Military 30.00

Total Giving: \$1480.00
of Contributors: 24

Thank you for your generosity!



November 30, 2025 1st Sunday of Advent

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." MATTHEW 24:42

People who have had health issues or near-death experiences generally have a greater appreciation for each day being a gift from God. The rest of us usually take for granted that we will be around tomorrow. But when you start to look at each day as a gift, you realize all the little miracles that happen daily and you begin to see God's active presence in your life. You grow in gratitude, each day, for all that we have been given.

FORMED

Rooted: Rediscover the Jesse Tree This Advent

Hosted by Dr. Scott Hefelfinger, Rooted guides Catholics through a daily Advent reflection using the Jesse Tree model traditionally practiced by families. Each seven-minute episode introduces the ancestors of Jesus Christ, shares a Scripture passage, and offers an engaging, practical reflection.

Week One | Adore: Advent with Fr. John Burns

Join Fr. John Burns as he journeys deeper into the theme for week one: watchfulness.

Week One | Encountering Emmanuel with Heather Khym

In week one, Heather speaks about the first reason for the Incarnation—Jesus saves us. Heather helps us to give our sorrows to Jesus, and open our hearts to the saving power of Christ.

***Go to <http://signup.formed.org>**
***Enter our parish's zipcode 63664**
***Enter your name and your email address.**
***Enjoy!**



MONDAY
December 1
Advent Weekday
Is 4:2-6
Mt 8:5-11

TUESDAY
December 2
Advent Weekday
Is 11:1-10
Lk 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY
December 3
St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Is 25:6-10a
Mt 15:29-37

THURSDAY
December 4
Advent Weekday
Is 26:1-6
Mt 7:21, 24-27

FRIDAY
December 5
Advent Weekday
Is 29:17-24
Mt 9:27-31

SATURDAY
December 6
Advent Weekday
Is 30:19-21, 23-26
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

SUNDAY
December 7
Second Sunday of Advent
Is 11:1-10
Rom 15:4-9
Mt 3:1-12

Good News!

November 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent (A)

Isaiah 2:1-5 / Romans 13:11-14 / Matthew 24:37-44

MIGUEL DULICK

This is the first Sunday of Advent, and the excitement is palpable. Writing 800 years before Christ, the prophet Isaiah sounds like breaking news: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." The psalmist announces we are already there: "And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem." Saint Paul tickles our fancy with another whole round of "revelation" yet to come "on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ." Only Jesus himself seems a little cautious: "Be watchful! Be alert!" The Lord "is coming," but he's not here yet. Leave it to Jesus to force the paradox for which Advent seems to have been created: Jesus is present, but we dare not "sleep," lest we miss him!

How do we wait for Christmas? After Halloween, the Christmas lights go up, the carols start, the "Merry Christmas!" / "Happy Holidays!" debate begins. Lent is a time for repentance, alms, and fasting. But there's no fasting in Advent: we fill bags with gifts and stockings with goodies. The Church tries to slow us down and encourage a little reflecting to prepare the way, led by John the Baptist. So let's keep waiting: let's hold on to our peace. Christmas Eve will be here soon enough. But let's not be too austere. A full menu of holiday parties and concerts and family feasts can legitimately "anticipate" Christmas. Let's cheer each other: Merry Advent! ●

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Forming Catholics for Life.

Week One | Adore: Advent with Fr. John Burns

Join Fr. John Burns as he journeys deeper into the theme for week one: watchfulness.

Our parish has a free Formed subscription for you! Simply scan the QR code or visit formed.org/signup to create your account and select our parish to get free access to this content and much more!



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

Interested in Becoming Catholic? (OCIA: Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Rite of Acceptance

The following candidates, Joey Thebeau, Anthony Pashia, Judy Vance, and Kaitlyn Gibson have completed the period of Inquiry (Precatechumenate) and will be received into the Order of Catechumens. We also greet Tiffany Lilly Pashia, Chris McCoy and Jerry Randall who wish to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church. We give thanks and praise to the God who has led them by various paths to oneness in faith. In the months to come they will prepare for their initiation and continuing conversion into the Christian faith by Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Catechumens and Candidates express their intention to follow the way of Christ by participating in the Liturgy of the Word on Sunday/Saturday, and holy days with the community when possible, to continually purify their motivation for Baptism and receive the sacraments, to live an upright life, and to be ready to witness to their conversion to Christ as they seek to grow in their knowledge of and assent to what the Church believes and teaches. Catechumens and Candidates may participate in apostolic and charitable works of the church especially works of mercy, take advantage of opportunities to provide religious education for their children, to be buried in a Catholic cemetery and to be a lector or serve on the altar during the Liturgy.

The responsibility of the Catholic Communities of St. Joachim & St. James is to pray for and support the catechumens and candidates by example and through invitation to become a part of this Faith community.

If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming Catholic, in being fully received, or in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, contact the parish office, or call coordinator, Joyce Politte 636-328-1343. All are welcome.

Caring Hearts Christmas Meal

Join us for a Christmas meal on Friday December 19 from 11:30am-12:30pm at the Caring Hearts Family Resource Center located in the shopping center next to Save a Lot grocery store. RSVP to Mande by 12-12-25 at 573-436-2000

Bulletin Advertising

We are now accepting advertisers for the back of our bulletin. The cost is \$180 per year. This will help offset the cost of paper & ink for the bulletin. Please call or email the office for more details. If you are interested, all we need is a business card to get you added onto the back. Thanks!

December Reconciliation Services

We will have Reconciliation Day at St Joachim from 10am-2:00pm. on Thursday December 11, 2025. Fr Tony will hear Confessions from 10am.-12:00pm. and Fr Dyer will hear Confessions from 12:00pm-2:00pm.

St James Reconciliation Service with Confessions will be on Tuesday December 16, 2025 from 6:00-8:00pm. Three priests will hear Confessions: Fr Dyer Fr Huber and Fr Tony.

Please take advantage of these opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation!



Attention!!

Sign up sheets will be posted in the vestibule of church for the Holy Days of Obligation for Immaculate Conception and Mary, Mother of God and also for our Christmas Masses soon. If you would like to volunteer for any of the lector, servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Ushers and Giftbearers, please sign up on the sheets or you can also email or call the office. Thanks so much!!

Parish Calendar

Nov 24: Men's Faith Sharing Group 6:30pm

Nov 27: Thanksgiving Day Mass at 8am

Nov 28: Decorating for Advent

Nov 30: Sunday Brunch after 10am Mass

Dec 2: Ladies Sodality meeting 5:30pm

Dec 3: 1st Reconciliation for PSR students @ St. Joachim 6pm- All Students are encouraged to attend

Dec 4: Christmas Parade

Dec 8: Men's Faith Sharing Group 6:30pm

St. James PSR NEWS

There are some calendar updates for PSR as there have been a few changes.

*On 12/3 in lieu of class here at St. James, everyone is encouraged to attend the Reconciliation service at St. Joachim. The service will be at 6:00pm with confessions after. Our 2nd grade students will be making their 1st Reconciliation that evening. There will be multiple priests available there.

*We will be decorating the float in the church parking lot at 4:00pm on 12/4. Anyone that can attend is needed. Immediately following, we will move to Red Wing to line up for the parade. We ask that all PSR students that can attend the parade do so.

*Our "Welcome Baby Jesus" party has been moved to 12/10. This is a regular PSR night.

*Our Parish Christmas play & choir celebration will be on 12/17. As this is also a regular PSR night, all children will participate and families are encouraged to attend.

From Dr. Melissa Cordia

THE COUNCIL'S CORNER

Parish Council met on Nov 11 @ 5:30PM. There will be no meeting in December. Any parishioners with questions or concerns feel free to contact Eric Aubuchon so they can be addressed.

*We want to thank our St. James ladies and our St. Joachim ladies for working together for the funeral dinner for Aurelia Wills. By our two parishes working together, we had a wonderful dinner that was greatly appreciated by the family.

*We want to extend a big thank you to all of the ladies who participated in the Paint Party fundraiser for our PSR. Again, we had ladies from both parishes as well as other friends who supported us. Thanks to all who came!

**Don't forget to RSVP for the November brunch! Email or call the parish office.

***IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, FEEL FREE TO**

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

St. James Food Pantry provided food to 250 families (677 individuals) on Nov.15th. We only packed for 200 families. If it hadn't have been for the 500 items collected by our PSR students, we would have run out of food! Thanks to all our amazing volunteer! Also thanks to those who bought turkeys or contributed financially. Our mission thrives because of you!

If God is the center of your life, no words are necessary. Your mere presence will touch hearts.

St. Vincent de Paul

***St. Vincent de Paul collection:
Canned meat, canned chili w/meat, spaghetti w/ meat,
canned stew, tuna***

Ladies Sodality

We would like to welcome new members to join our Ladies Sodality. Our next meeting is on Dec. 2nd from 5:30pm-6:30pm in the Parish Hall. Please consider joining us!




SUNDAY KIDZ
ADVENT

C L K D L L S R L S B V R E F X
 E I K J U V C C X A E U E J V S
 B F W K T F A B G V L R J O B Q
 E P P K I J N V F I I X O S E A
 G K M S G A D Y L O E G I E N Z
 O Y V B A V L K U U V L C P Q M
 O J L B B O E E S R E C E H M E
 D G B I E S E E M A C D F J N R
 N L A S U R R K R M V T F F O C
 E U P D L R F S U W A S G C E S
 W A K U V S I C K L W N F K A A
 S B J C R E S A M A R Y U Y M L
 A N G E L P N M Y A V H R E I Q
 I L L E Y L L T B P N F T L L P
 S N Q H L Y F E B X K D P J D L
 J E S U S I W R E A T H R D R G

WORDSEARCH

MARY	JOSEPH	REJOICE
ANGEL	PURPLE	SAVIOR
JESUS	WREATH	EMMANUEL
ADVENT	BELIEVE	GOODNEWS
CANDLE	ISRAEL	

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The Many Titles of Mary
A Mini-Retreat for Women

Sunday, December 7, 2025
11:00 am to 2:00 pm
St. Joseph - Bonne Terre

Join us for a Women's Advent Retreat
with guest speaker Jennifer Meehan
as we prepare our hearts
for the season of hope and expectation.

**There is no cost to attend.
A light lunch will be provided.**

**Please RSVP by November 24
call or text 573-631-5076**



Photo credit: www.Hallow.com

Advent Prayers: Catholic Advent Prayers for the 2025 Advent Season

Sometimes it feels as if we're in a rush to speed through the calendar. Pumpkin-flavored *everything* seems to be ubiquitous by Labor Day. Christmas decorations will start popping up on store shelves long before Halloween costumes fly off the shelves. Advent challenges the hectic pace of our lives and the sometimes indomitable march toward Christmas. It gives us time to prayerfully remember Jesus's birth and the majesty of the Incarnation while looking ahead to His second coming. Advent prayers can help us focus on this important liturgical season when it seems like so many forces pull us from summer to Christmas Eve. Praying during Advent can help us keep in mind the true purpose of all of the build-up to Christmas.

Short Advent Prayers

Advent is a relatively short liturgical season, so perhaps it's fitting that short, simple prayers are all we need to feel God's calming presence in our lives amid the many distractions of November and December.

Consider these brief Catholic prayers this Advent season:

Dear Lord, please allow me to embrace Advent in the way the Church intends: as a way to prepare for Your arrival. May everything I do—every gift I send, every party I attend, every meal I share—remind me to prepare space in my heart for You. Amen.

Heavenly Father, heal my heart during this season of Advent. Help me to love more fully. To forgive more generously. To wait more patiently for Christmas, embracing each day and hour knowing the joy that awaits. In Your name I pray. Amen.

Lord, send down Your Spirit to guide me during Advent this year. May the Holy Spirit help me journey closer to You and lift me up when I feel down and led me when I feel lost. I may stumble at times, but I know my ultimate journey is to draw closer to You and build Your kingdom here on earth—a kingdom that Jesus's birth, life and death helped secure. Amen.

I pray for focus today, dear God, because during Advent, my mind and attention tend to wander. There are so many distractions, many of them well-meaning. But nothing gives my heart rest like resting in You. I pray that keep You at the focus of my day today, because I know the peace that only You offer. Amen.

Daily Advent Prayers and Meditations

During the four weeks of Advent, these daily prayers and meditations can help calm your heart during a season filled with distractions. Pray these prayers each day to draw close to God during Advent in 2025.

God, be with me today. Help my heart be open to the ways Jesus is at work in my life. Amen.

Give me peace today, O Lord. Help me to live this day in eternal hope knowing Jesus will come again.

Heavenly Father, Give me the strength to have the same trust in You that Mary had, as she awaited the birth of Jesus.

I pray for humility today, Father. Our Savior entered this world in a manger with animals. When I feel too proud, let me remember the Holy Family and Jesus's humble birth.

Scriptures to Read During Advent

Spending time with Scripture is important to our prayer lives during all liturgical seasons.

These simple Bible verses also resonate during Advent:

Isaiah 40:3: "A voice of one calling: "In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD ; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

Hebrews 6:15: "And so, after patient waiting, he obtained the promise."

Luke 1: 34-38: "But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her." **Article credit <https://hallow.com/blog/advent-prayers-catholic-meditations/>**