

November 27, 2022

First Sunday of Advent



Our Lady of the Woods Parish

10731 West 131st Street

Orland Park, IL 60462

(708) 361-4754

Fax (708) 361-5965

parishoffice@ourladyofthewoods.org

web site—www.ourladyofthewoods.org

Religious Education Office

(708) 361-9435

religioused@ourladyofthewoods.org



Dear Parishioners,

Welcome to Advent!

In some ways this is probably an overlooked season in the church year. We may light the candles on the Advent wreath or be vaguely aware of the readings, but it is often consumed by the early Christmas activities. The heavy push of the merchants and the emphasis on gift giving on Christmas day inevitably means that the secular season of Christmas actually begins well before well Advent. Added to this is the fact that we often celebrate parties and receptions prior to Christmas Day. Ironically, this was not always true. In centuries past, the celebrations for Christmas began on Christmas Eve and continued through Epiphany and this is still true in some countries. Gifts are exchanged on January 6th and this means the bulk of the activities actually occurred after December 25th.

Yet, we do not live in centuries past and we do not live in other countries so we must acknowledge the tension.

The greater problem with Advent, I suspect, is that it is a season of depth and much of the season before Christmas has an element of superficiality. It is parties, lights, decorations and a myriad of activities that can crowd out the deeper desires to know God and His will. Like Las Vegas, there can be lots of glitter but not a great deal of substance.

Let us make this a spiritual season. This First Sunday of Advent the Cardinal asks us to Renew our baptismal vows rather than simply recite the creed. This is an invitation to claim what we say we believe. The Cardinal is also lifting the dispensation not to attend Sunday Mass without due cause. It is his hope that more will return to receive the Lord in person and reconnect with their faith communities.

It is my prayer that this Advent we all will have some opportunity to wait, with patience, for that which is waiting to born in us!

Next Sunday, all our small children will be invited to our annual Saint Nicholas Mass at 9:30. During the morning the Knights of Columbus will be hosting their Annual Pancake Breakfast. Please join us for hospitality after Mass.

In Christ,

Fr. Mike

Father Mike

REV. MICHAEL G. FOLEY, PASTOR
REV. ROBERT MARCHWIANY, ASSOCIATE PASTOR
MOST REV. JOHN R. GORMAN, RESIDENT
REV. ED MIKOLAJCZYK, RESIDENT
REV. WILLIAM J. FINNEGAN, PASTOR EMERITUS
DEACON JOHN J. AND TERE MACAROL
DEACON DOUG AND CAROLYN SZARZYNSKI
TRANSITIONAL DEACON FRANCISCO PAGAN

MIKE CALLAHAN
Pastoral Minister
SHELLY STANKO
Business/Office Manager
ERIN KUTA
REP Secretary
BRIAN ZIELINSKI
Athletic Coordinator

MICHELLE HILLIARD
Pastoral Associate
KIMBERLY DUDA
Director of Religious Education R.E.P.
ANDY PERZ
Director of Music Ministry

DIANE VANDERPOOL
Parish Secretary

JOHN MAIER
Sacristan
LAURIE LYONS
Parish Outreach
CHRISTINE COLLINS
Youth Minister

WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday — 8:30 AM, 5:00 PM

Sunday — 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM

WEEKDAY MASSES: 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM

CONFESSIONS: Saturdays at 9:00-9:30 AM
and after 5:00 PM Mass

BAPTISMS: Sunday at 12:30 PM. Arrangements must be made in advance at the Parish Office.

MARRIAGES: Arrangements should be made at the Parish Office six months in advance. Pre-Cana required.

REGISTRATION IN THE PARISH: Newcomers are welcome to the Parish and are requested to register at the office.

PARISH BOUNDARIES: East 80th Ave., (west side), North Rte. 83 (south side), West Bell Rd. (east side) to 123rd Street to Parker Road (east side), South 135th Street (north side)

LECTORS

Saturday, December 3

5:00 PM—Karen Wagner, Mary Hauwiller

Sunday, December 4

8:00 AM—Mary Ellen Stanley, Ron Simmons

9:30 AM—Steve Kahn, Judy Nocek

11:00 AM—Brian Goebel, Ann Marie Zapolis

6:00 PM—Tom Cleary, Kelly Peltz



Please consider continuing your weekly donations via online giving by visiting: ourladyofthewoods.org. Just look for the little gift box.

You can easily set up an account to make recurring gifts, or you can make a one-time donation through Give Central.

Under payment type, you can choose either a Debit/Credit Card or Bank Account.

Thank you for your prayers and generosity!

thank you!

Due to the early production of the bulletin, collection figures for last weekend are not yet available.

Thank you for your continued support.



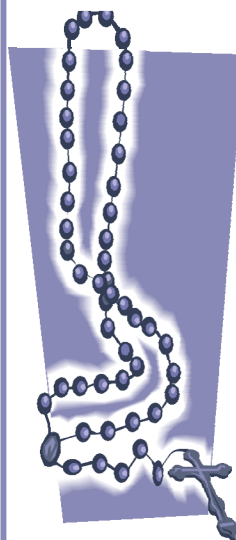
If your family or someone close to you is in need, please contact us at

(708) 606-5360.

A representative will return your call as soon as possible

to arrange a confidential conversation.

Confidentiality and compassion are the cornerstones of our Ministry.



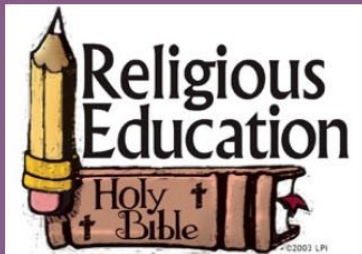
Please join us every morning after the 8:30 Mass to say the Rosary and the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy.

Every Friday after 8:30 Mass a Holy Hour for the Sacred Heart of Jesus with Benediction is hosted. Please feel free to join us.

First Sunday

IN ADVENT

NOV. 27, 2022



Important Dates:

First Reconciliation

Tuesday, Nov. 29, 7:00pm

Grade 7 Rite of Enrollment:

Sunday, Dec. 11, 6:00pm



REP



RESPECTFUL
ENGAGED
PRAYERFUL

The readings for the 1st Sunday of Advent speak of readiness for the coming of Jesus Christ. This is a time to prepare for our Lord to come into our hearts. Preparations for Christmas often involve putting up decorations, purchasing gifts, and making food. But these are not the only things we need to do to prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ. We need to prepare our hearts also. The gospel tells us that we must think ahead. Eating and celebrating and being with families are not bad things. But if our hearts are not turned toward God, then we have missed the point.

(Lk 21:17-18). To read the Gospel Mt 24:37-44 visit <https://usccb.org/bible/readings> .

Reflection Questions to discuss with your family:

- What is my focus as I prepare for Christmas?
- Do I see Christ in the people around me, particularly in the marginalized?
- What else do I need to be ready for the coming of the Lord?



Today 8th Grade Confirmation candidates and their sponsors are invited to attend a special mass at 6:00PM.



Please keep these young people and those accompanying them in your prayers as they prepare to receive this Sacrament in just a few short months!

Please support our 8th Grade service project: Stockings for Soldiers by donating the following items to the Religious Education program office by Nov. 30th:

- Slim Jims or Beef Jerky
- Packages of Holiday nuts
- Single serving drink mix packets (i.e. Crystal Light)
- Playing cards
- Puzzle book (Crosswords, Sudoku, Word Find)
- Holiday-themed writing pens or pencil
- Holiday candy (in sealed wrapping or small unopened bags)
- Candy Canes, Peanut Brittle,
- Socks, travel sized games
- Card games (Uno, Phase 10)
- Stress balls (holiday-themed preferred)
- Gloves (preferably black; winter; one size fits all)
- Single serving cookie packages
- Apple cider packets
- Hot chocolate Small notepads
- Holiday-themed lip balm (wrapping and scent)
- Caps (warm winter)
- Other holiday-themed items



Our Lady of the Woods Church-Religious Education Program
(708) 361-9435 religioused@ourladyofthewoods.org

ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO



Office of the Archbishop
835 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611-2030
312.534.8230
archchicago.org

November 12, 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

In so many ways—large and small—the pandemic has upended our lives together. Families and, in a special way, young people, have faced distressing struggles. The pandemic made our connections with one another challenging and difficult. Exactly in that moment when we truly needed supportive relationships with one another, we found ourselves separated. Sadly, this included the relationships and connections that we have in and through the Church.

We did our best to move forward and I am proud of our collective response to the challenges of the pandemic. When I announced a general dispensation from the obligation to participate in Sunday Mass, many parishes offered on-line Sunday Masses, and went even further and established prayer lines and reached out to those in need. The TV Mass that I celebrated helped to keep us connected as a community of faith in Chicagoland. So many of you have told me how healing and comforting those Masses have been.

In the meanwhile, we are in a new moment. With vaccinations and boosters, restrictions on public gatherings have eased up. Many people feel more comfortable returning to Church. Yet, we know there are some elderly and immuno-compromised persons who are still not ready to return. And they should not return. These vulnerable brothers and sisters have an excusing cause for being absent and for this reason I will continue the TV Mass on ABC for the present time. But for the rest of us, I have decided, in consultation with my advisors, to lift the general dispensation from the obligation of attending Sunday Mass as we begin a new Church year on the First Sunday of Advent, November 26-27.

My hope is that the First Sunday of Advent will provide us with a fresh start to take up again our life together as a community of faith that gathers to worship God. I have asked our pastors to begin the Masses on November 26-27 with the traditional lighting of the Advent wreath. After the homily your pastor will lead the community in a renewal of baptismal promises, acknowledging that we owe our obligation to participate in Sunday Mass to God but also to each other. Our common profession of faith and of our desire to turn away from sin, will be concluded by a sprinkling rite with the waters of baptism.

Let this occasion of our renewal of faith and life, which we all so much want, provide us with a fresh start as we recommit ourselves to worship God and to be supportive of each other week after week as we gather around the Table of the Lord to be nourished and renewed.

Sincerely yours in Christ,


Archbishop of Chicago



GIVING TREE

There is still time to **get your Giving Tree Tag.** Email your request: **OLWGivingTree@aol.com** or pick one up in the **Gathering Space at weekend Masses.**

Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 4th with the original colored ribbon/yarn attached. The Giving Tree shares your Christmas generosity with seven organizations, each with a special emphasis of helping those in need:

Casa Catalina Food Pantry, a Catholic Charities facility, meets many basic human needs. We will provide gifts through an “Angel Program.” YOU are considered those sharing angels who make Christmas happen for these families.

Mother of the Americas created by the Renew My Church grouping of **St. Roman, Assumption and Our Lady of Tepeyac**, is made up of struggling families, with no extra money beyond essentials. Our generosity would provide the Religious Education students with a Christmas gift.

St. Coletta’s of Illinois Foundation’s residential program is designed to provide quality housing for special needs individuals, allowing clients to be integrated into the community and become productive members of society. The program consists of group homes within southwest suburban communities. We are assisting with gifts for some of the group home residents.

Port Ministries provides the fundamental needs of mind, body and spirit by offering free services and resources to South Side Chicago residents so they can better themselves and their families and strengthen their community. The children of the After School Program receive tutoring, mentoring, homework help and social activities. And your Giving Tree gifts!

Sertoma Centre (Service to Mankind) is a nationally accredited, not-for-profit agency that provides services to individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities including small Community Integrated Living Arrangements for adults diagnosed with an intellectual/developmental disability. We are furnishing gifts for some of their clients in group homes as well as individuals struggling with homelessness.

Our Lady of Sorrows, one of only three Basilicas in the state, is located in Garfield Park. Our generosity would provide a Christmas gift to needy children within the Parish.

The Women’s Center of Greater Chicagoland provides crisis pregnancy counseling, medical and social service referrals and material goods assistance. Our gifts are for pregnant and new mothers to purchase a Christmas meal and gifts for their children.

Please have gifts back by Sunday, December 4th - Thank you!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Crusaders Council 10151

St. Nicholas PANCAKE BREAKFAST

**Pancakes, Chocolate Chip Pancakes,
GF Pancakes, Ham, Sausage,
Tater Tots,
Juice, Coffee, Tea
Take Out Available**



**Sunday, December 4
8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Finnegan Center Gym**

**Adults: \$10
Seniors: \$8
Children (under 12): \$5
Family Package Pricing Available**

Santa and St. Nick will be available for photos.

Split the Pot

Please come join us!

**Our Lady of the Woods Youth,
Young Adult, & Family Ministries
ourladyofthewoods.org**



**Youth Ministry
Jr. High School and Older**



**Drop-In/Open Gym
Thursdays 6-7:30pm
High School & Young Adult
Basketball Games at 7:30pm**

Upcoming Event!

**Jr. High Ministry
Bowling Party**

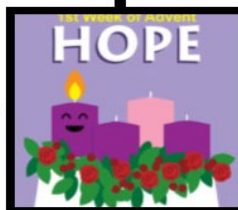


**Saturday, December 3rd
1-3pm at Palos Lanes
\$20—Registration on our
website**

**Issue Meeting
Sunday, November 27th
After 6pm Mass**



**Young Adults: 18-30
Friendsgiving at OLW on
December 11th after 6pm
Mass. Join us!**



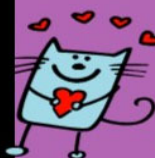
Upcoming Event's

**Join Us!
Family Ministry Tree
Lighting Ceremony and
Madrigal Singers
Presentation
Sunday, December 11th
After the 6pm Mass**



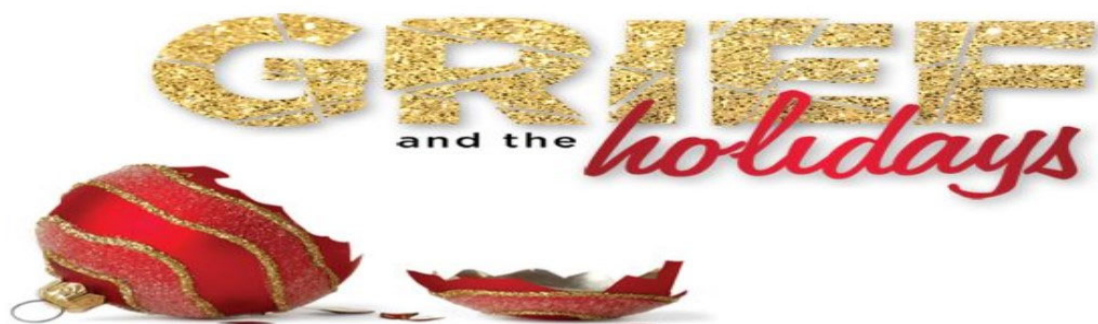
**Please visit the Giving Tree
in the Gathering Space to
help offer presents this year
to those that need it.**

**Thought of the Week
*Once you choose Hope,
anything is possible.***



**Come join us for lots of fun!
Please Call Christine Collins at (708)269-6315 or
email at ccollins@ourladyofthewoods.org
Weekly updates can be found at
ourladyofthewoods.org or on Facebook's
Our Lady of the Woods Family & Youth Ministries
All are Welcome!**





Grieving Through the Holidays

Sponsored by OLW Bereavement Ministry

**Are you fearful of the
upcoming holidays? Are you
wondering how to cope?**

Come join like minded people at Our Lady of the Woods, to listen, talk and share experiences of the loss of a loved one.

You are invited to bring your loved ones favorite mug or cup to use for coffee or tea as Kathy Beary, R.N, BSN of Palos Hospice offers ways to cope with the holidays

Wednesday, December 14 ~ 7:00 PM

For more information call

708-361-4754

GRIEF SHARE®

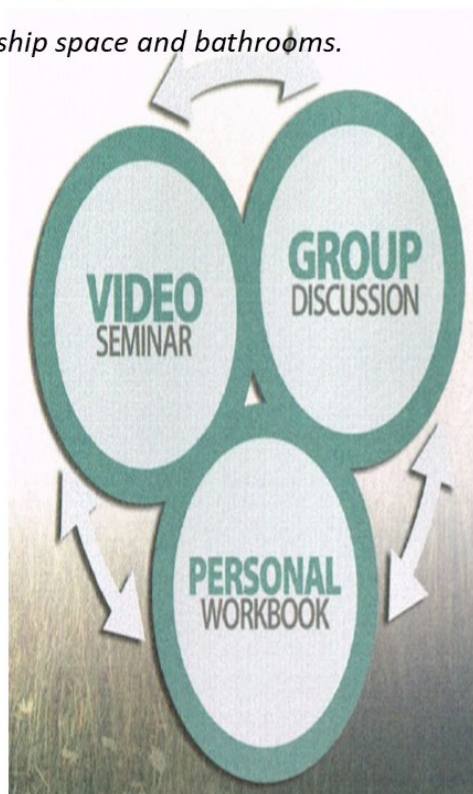
GriefShare is a grief support group which meets on the first and third Mondays of the month (see schedule below). You will find that it is a warm, welcoming and caring environment at Our Lady of the Woods Parish where you will be with other adults who are on a similar long journey of grief.

*Register today at
ourladyofthewoods.org*

Or call the parish for more information 708-361-4754

*Each session will start at 1:30pm to 3:00 pm in the
Hospitality Room located to the right of the worship space and bathrooms.*

Nov 14 Session 1	Is it Normal?
Nov 28 Session 2	Challenge of Grief
Dec 12 Session 3	The Journey of Grief Part 1
Jan 9 Session 4	The Journey of Grief Part 2
Jan 23 Session 5	Grief and Your Relationships
Feb 13 Session 6	Why
Feb 27 Session 7	Guilt and Anger
Mar 13 Session 8	Complicating Factors
Mar 27 Session 9	Stuck
Apr 10 Session 10	Lessons of Grief Part I
Apr 24 Session 11	Lessons of Grief Part II
May 8 Session 12	Heaven
May 22 Session 12	What do I Live for Now?



Our Lady of the Woods Wreath & Poinsettia Sale
After all Masses on December 9th & 10th
25" Traditional Wreaths, Swags,
Holiday Pots & 6" Poinsettia Plants will be
available for sale.



-Quantities are Limited-

Proceeds will support the Youth Ministry programs of Our Lady of the Woods Parish. We thank you for your support.

***Don't Forget to participate in our Gift Certificate program. Orders can be placed in our Parish Office.**

Elf the Musical

The Women of the Woods is sponsoring a trip to Drury Lane Theater to see Elf the Musical on December 4th at 2:00pm.



Tickets are \$75 and are available in the Parish Office. If you would like to reserve a ticket please call the Parish at 708-361-4754.

Please join us!! This is a wonderful way to kick off the Holiday Season!

**UPCOMING HOLIDAY
DUE DATES FOR SUBMITTING
BULLETIN ITEMS:**

- Items for the Dec. 18th. Bulletin are due by end of day on Tuesday, Dec. 6th.**
- Items for the Dec. 25th. Bulletin are due by end of day on Monday, Dec. 12th.**
- Items for the Jan. 1st. Bulletin are due by end of day on Monday, Dec. 19th.**

Thank you for your cooperation!!



#GivingTuesday with The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul, Chicago

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul Chicago has been helping our friends in need for over 169 years, and 2022 is no exception. SVdP Chicago is partnering with the #GivingTuesday movement to make a significant impact on the homeless population in Cook and Lake counties and we need your help. Our goal is to reach \$35,000 to help feed our homeless friends in need, provide winter clothing essentials, and provide short term rental assistance along with any miscellaneous requests.

Want to Donate and Help the Homeless in Cook and Lake Counties?
Simply scan the QR code by using your phone's camera.



If you prefer to mail in a donation, please make your check payable and send to:
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Chicago - PO Box 233 // Blue Island, IL 60406
Attention: Harry Ohde // Please note in the "Note" section of your check, "#GivingTuesday
For more information, please visit www.svdpchicago.org

We welcome to the Family of God:

Georgiana Duffy



Weddings



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*II. Shannon Winters & Jeremy Mendrala
December 10, 2022*

**Those needing good health:
We wish you comfort and peace**



Baby Antonio, Baby Hailey, Rosemary Bingenheimer-Rissler, Bernie Dion, Helen Evertowski, Mary Gibson, Kristie Kaczmark, Bronislaw Krzysiak, Katie Lucarelli, Linda Lucas, Linda McDonald, Brodie McIntosh, Deacon Michael McLynn, Maeve McKeough, Robin Moll, Mark Monahan, Logan Muchowski, Judy Nocek, Rosemarie Noga, Joey Oberholzer, Mary O'Boyle, Katie Olsen, Cathy Onak, Bill Owens, Lynn Pacetti, Maggie Pack, Gerald Pavlovic, Kim Pillischafske, Pauline Pracz, Brian Raimondi, Daniel Ray, Kathy Rowan, Andrew Schutzius, Ellen Schutzius, Anne Shanahan, , Dan Sloan, Robert Strejc, Jerry Szymanski, Leianna Tanedo, Julie Tkachuck, Dominic Tocci, Thomas and Judy Veen, Zenon Wiercimak, Erin Wiley, Vic-ki Wiley, Mark Wisinski, Jerold Wojcki, John Wozniak, Greg Zander, Deirdre Zielinski

Let us Pray

Please join Our Lady of the Woods Parish as we continue to pray for those who have or are serving in the military. We pray for those who protect our country, for their safety, and well-being, especially,

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Adam Rodrigues</i> | <i>Peter Michael Czerwien, Navy</i> |
| <i>Captain John Brooker</i> | <i>Robert Owens</i> |
| <i>CPL John P. Cherry</i> | <i>Larry Stolinski</i> |
| <i>CPL Brandon D. Gabry</i> | <i>Major Tom Buller</i> |
| <i>LCPL Steve Olson</i> | <i>Sgt. Greg Danko</i> |
| <i>Lt. John Spannuth</i> | <i>Mario Danko</i> |
| <i>Sgt. David A. Delach</i> | <i>PFC Tim Radcliffe</i> |
| <i>Brian Allen</i> | <i>Sgt. David Darwent Gavril</i> |
| <i>Bryan Lampinen</i> | <i>Robert Micham</i> |
| <i>Sgt. John P. Micham</i> | <i>Danielle Batton</i> |
| <i>Sgt. Jesus M. Flores</i> | <i>CPT Brendan Girouard</i> |
| <i>Cpt. Benjamin Feithen</i> | <i>LT Matthew E. Lodwich</i> |
| <i>Lt. Dylan Conover</i> | <i>CSM Joseph Cistaro</i> |
| <i>Sean Girouard</i> | <i>SPC Rebecca Buhs</i> |
| <i>CPL Rowen N. Barker</i> | <i>LTC Nicholas Kamon</i> |
| <i>1Lt. Jack McGuire</i> | <i>LT Christa Kamon</i> |
| <i>2Lt. Patrich McGuire</i> | <i>AB Kevin Schwenn</i> |
| <i>Ian Altieri</i> | <i>AB Sean Schwenn</i> |
| <i>Battalion Chief Douglas Mayer</i> | <i>CPT Allen Dagens</i> |
| <i>LTJG Garrett Green,</i> | <i>CPT Justin T. Halligan</i> |
| <i>Gabe Duda, USN</i> | <i>Sgt. Gavril</i> |
| <i>E5-VN Francisco J. Gaytan</i> | <i>AJ Pfeiffer</i> |
| <i>E4-SA Michael A. Gaytan</i> | <i>Sgt. Rafal Hodur</i> |
| | <i>SFC Rosalinda Jaime</i> |



Our Deceased:

Nancy Schoenberg



“Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord.”

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY
Our Ministry Team is here to help you during this difficult time:
Michelle Hilliard—708-361-4754
“Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”
Matthew 5:4



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY, November 26

8:30 AM—Mary F. Arndt, Mildred Hosty

5:00 PM— Marian Johnston, Michael & Marelyn Gorman

SUNDAY, November 27

8:00 AM—People of Our Lady of the Woods, Michael Travaglio

9:30 AM—Thomas Wisinski, Sr. Christetta

11:00 AM—John Boyle, Jose & Ana Manglano

6:00 PM— MaryPat O'Connor, Neil Borgstrom

MONDAY, November 28

6:30 AM—Rosario Bongiovanni

8:30 AM—Margie Gallagher, Lucre

TUESDAY, November 29

6:30 AM—Rose Nebel

8:30 AM—John E. Barrett, 47th Wedding Anniversary – Mike & Arlene Kelly

WEDNESDAY, November 30

6:30 AM—Peter DelRicco

8:30 AM—Charles Maier, Neil Borgstrom

THURSDAY, December 1

6:30 AM—Nancy Schoenberg

8:30 AM—Martin Winters, Mary F. Arndt

FRIDAY, December 2

6:30 AM—Tom Schoenberg

8:30 AM—Ana Manglano, Neil Borgstrom

SATURDAY, December 3

8:30 AM—Laurie Kaput, Paula Panfil

5:00 PM— Raffaella & Antonio Gentile, Joseph & Dolores Bergen

SUNDAY, December 4

8:00 AM—People of Our Lady of the Woods, Nancy Savor

9:30 AM—Steven O'Flaherty, Joe Bruno

11:00 AM—Jim DeFay, Edward Mills

6:00 PM—Carmelo & Maria Chiaro, Walter & Genevieve Atkenson

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — All the peoples shall stream toward the LORD's house (Isaiah 2:1-5).

Psalm — We will rejoice as we go up to the Lord's house (Psalm 122).

Second Reading — It is the hour to cast off the dark and clothe ourselves in the light (Romans 13:11-14).

Gospel — Stay awake! Be prepared! The Son of Man will come when you least expect (Matthew 24:37-44).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 4:2-6; 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: Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

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: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 — 10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: First Sunday of Advent

Wednesday: St. Andrew

Thursday: World AIDS Awareness Day

Friday: First Friday

Saturday: St. Francis Xavier; First Saturday





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At Sunrise of Palos Park, you will receive personalized care from our compassionate and tenured team in a warm, intimate setting. Nestled in a residential neighborhood, our community is located on beautifully landscaped grounds, featuring a relaxing courtyard, cozy sun porch, and a secure Reminiscence® Neighborhood for residents with memory loss.

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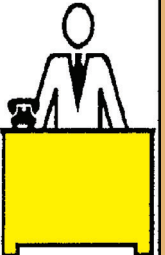
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