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Thank you advertiser for your support. Your Ad helps to offset the cost of providing the Church Bulletin to our parishioners and winter visitors.††

Locals and visitors, please visit their shops or offices for that special item to take home.††



**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT**

**ST ANN'S PARISH & ITS MISSIONS**

PO BOX 2911, TUBAC, AZ | 520.398.2648 | [STANNSPARISH3@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STANNSPARISH3@GMAIL.COM)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

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# St Ann's Parish & Its Missions

## Our Mission Statement

**As a Roman Catholic Church in the Diocese of Tucson, our mission is to spread the word of God. Our mission is to promote peace, love and unity to all the people of our community. The doors of Saint Ann's Parish and Its Missions are open to all who wish to enter.**

### Pastor

Rev. Joseph Esson

### Office/Parish Center (for all Churches)

2231 E Frontage Road  
Tubac AZ 85646-2911

### Office Hours:

Monday– Tuesday–Thursday  
9:00 to 2:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 10:00 to 2:00 p.m.  
Friday 9:00 to 1:00 p.m.

### Mailing Address only

P O Box 2911  
Tubac AZ 85646

### Church Address:

St Ann's—11 Calle Iglesias, Tubac, AZ  
Assumption Chapel– 17 Montosa Rd, Amado, AZ  
St Ferdinand's —17140 W Arivaca, AZ

Tel: 520-398-2646

Fax: 520-398-3036

Email: stannsparish3@gmail.com

Website: www.stannsparishtubacaz.org

### Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation

Please contact the parish office



### St . Ann's Parish

Saturday at 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday's at 9:00 a.m.

### Assumption Chapel

Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

### St Ferdinand's

Sunday at 1:00 p.m.

### Weekday Mass

Every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday at  
9:00 a.m.

### Entrance Antiphon

O people of Sion, behold,  
the Lord will come to save the nations,  
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard  
in the joy of your heart.

### Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,  
and behold the joy which comes to you from God..

### Prayer after Communion

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,  
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,  
that, through our partaking in this mystery,  
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth  
and hold firm to the things of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.

## Announcements/Events from St Ann's & Dioceses



### Adoration

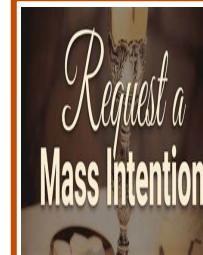
Adoration of the blessed sacrament: ,  
St Ann's Parish.

### Adoration

Will resume the 1st & 3rd Thursday at  
4:pm to 6:pm  
12/18/2025

### Our Bulletin

Delivered Straight to Your Inbox  
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The practice of requesting a mass to be offered for loved ones, living or deceased, is a beautiful and wonderful part of our Catholic Tradition. Continuing in this long standing practice, you can remember someone who has died recently or many years ago. But intentions do not have to be just for the dead. They make beautiful gifts for any special occasion: birthday, anniversary, in thanksgiving for a prayer answered, etc.

You can also offer an intention for †call or come to the parish office to set up a mass intention. Mass intentions are \$10.00 each

All mass intention must be done a week before mass date to be posted in the bulletin.

†Deceased

♥ Health

\*Special Intention

Gustavo Martinez † St Ann's 12/06/25

Roberta Wood † Assumption 12/07



Happy December Birthday  
POINSETTIAS SYMBOLIZE SUCCESS AND CELEBRATION  
PicMix

### Life and Liturgy class.

#### About this Study

In paragraph 10 of the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy - Sacrosanctum Concilium - the Church declares that "The liturgy is the summit toward which the activity of the Church is directed; at the same time, it is the font from which all her power flows."

That's a pretty powerful statement. And what it tells us is that liturgy, particularly the Mass, is central to our lives as Catholics. So, in this study, we're seeking to get to the heart of what liturgy is all about.

And by that, we don't mean that we're simply going to discuss the various parts of Mass or other forms of liturgy. Certainly, that's all important. But we're going beyond the externals, beyond rubrics and rituals, beyond vessels and vestments. We're going to explore the deeper, mystical realities that unite us to Christ and allow us to participate in the divine nature of God.

Practically speaking, we're going to look at the liturgy through the lens of Scripture so that we can discover the inner reality that lies hidden beneath the outward signs. Salvation history—the story told in Scripture—is in many ways all about our salvation through liturgy. In fact, you could say the Bible is a liturgical book. It's the Word of God that helps us understand more deeply how to give him proper worship.

Everyone is invited, especially liturgical ministers.

There is a total of six sessions. Class dates and times are Tuesdays, 4-6pm, starting January 6 - February 24, 2026.

No class on February 3rd and 10th.

Please RSVP to Gloria Salinas at (760) 535-6994. Workbook \$22

Fr. Joseph Esson

## The month of December

**First Saturday Devotion – This Weekend (December 6)**

This Saturday is First Saturday. We will celebrate Mass of Reparation at 9:00 a.m. for Our Lady of Fatima. Before the final blessing, we will pray the Rosary and prayers of consecration. The Five First Saturdays' Devotion is a powerful act of reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It is also a beautiful way to prepare our hearts for Christmas. She is a generous Mother!

**Immaculate Conception of Mary- Day of Obligation -December 8, St Ann's has mass at 9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.**

The parish office will be closed in observance of the Holy Day.

**Parish Penance Service Invitation**

All are warmly invited to join us for our Advent Penance Service on:

**Wednesday, December 10, 2025**  
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Confessions will be available in both English and Spanish. Come prepare your heart for the Lord through this beautiful sacrament of healing and mercy.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Parade-December 13, 2025**

Come and join us as we honor our Blessed Mother of Guadalupe! We will celebrate with a community parade through the town of Tubac.

Participants will gather at **St. Ann's Community Hall parking lot** (Calle Baca, Tubac, AZ 85646) at 3:00 p.m.

All are invited to take part in this joyful procession—decorate your vehicle, ride along in one of our parish cars, walk with Father Joseph, or join us on your bicycle.

Thank you, and we look forward to celebrating this special event with you!

## Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve- December 24, 2025**

**St Ann's Parish**

Family Vigil Mass – 4:30 PM

Midnight Vigil Mass- 8:00 PM

**St Ferdinand's in Arivaca**

Vigil Mass -5:00 PM

**Christmas Day- December 25, 2025**

**St Ann's Parish**

Christmas Morning Mass- 9:00 AM

**Assumption Chapel in Amado**

Christmas Mass- 11:00 AM

May the light of Christ fill your hearts

With peace and joy this Christmas!

Merry Christmas & Blessings to All!

## Poinsettia Purchases for Christmas Mass

Please help us decorate our church with beautiful poinsettias and offer the Christmas Mass on behalf of your loved one.

Each poinsettia is **\$15.00**.

Please place your donation in an envelope **along with the name of the Mass intention**.

Intentions may be offered for:

- Loved ones who have passed away
- Birthday celebrations
- Anniversaries
- Thanksgiving intentions

Your generosity helps brighten our church and honors those dear to your heart.

**Thank you for your support!**

## Giving Tree & Adopt-A-Family Program

This year, with so much going on, we have **many more families in need of assistance**. We invite you to share the Christmas spirit by choosing an *angel* from our Giving Tree.

### White Angels – Child Gifts

- These tags represent individual children.
- Each tag includes a **number, male/female, age**, and a note about the child's interests to help you choose a suitable gift.
- If you prefer giving a **gift card**, please ensure it is **at least \$20.00** so all children receive an equal value.

### Colored Angels – Adopt a Family

- These tags represent an entire family.
- Each tag includes information such as: **number of family members, Please call the office for more detail on this angel.**
- If you adopt a family, please **keep all gifts together** and securely **attach the angel tag** to the family's package.

### Important Dates

- All angels will be delivered during the **Children's Christmas Party on December 17, 2024.**
- Last day to turn in gifts: **December 11, 2025.**
- Last Day to turn in Monetary gifts, food baskets and gift cards for family **December 19, 2025**

Christmas is a season of giving and a time to help families who need a little extra support. Just as we did for Thanksgiving, we ask our parishioners—if you are able—to please support this beautiful cause.

**Blessings,**  
Father Joseph

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him:  
a spirit of wisdom and of understanding,  
a spirit of counsel and of strength,  
a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the LORD. (Isa 11:2)

### Psalm:

Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever. (Ps 72)

### Second Reading:

Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God. (Romans 15:7)

### Gospel:

"I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I." (Mt 3:11)

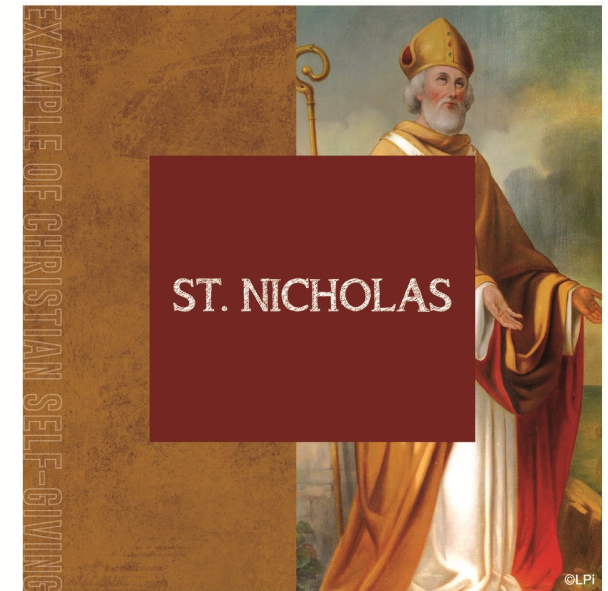
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

The story of Advent is a story of repentance. John the Baptist held up a mirror to the chosen people. He urged them to look at what they saw there. This Advent, will we look in the mirror? Will we choose repentance?

## Observances for the week of December 7, 2025

- Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent
- Monday:** The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Tuesday:** St. Juan Diego Cuahtlatatzin
- Wednesday:** Our Lady of Loreto
- Thursday:** St. Damasus I, Pope
- Friday:** Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Saturday:** St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** 3rd Sunday of Advent



## Devotions, Explained!

St. Nicholas is sometimes merged with the modern figure of Santa Claus in the collective imagination. But St. Nicholas was a real-life bishop, a follower of Jesus whose example of Christian self-giving endures hundreds of years after his death.

## Prayer for Advent - Peace

Come, Lord Jesus!  
Bring your peace to our world.  
Inspire reconciliation, heal  
divisions, bind wounds,  
rewrite scripts.  
You are the Prince of Peace,  
bring that light into every space.  
Amen.

(PRACTICING)  
CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** It is so, so beautiful to be culturally Catholic. But actions, rituals, traditions, sentiments, nostalgia — none of it matters unless it bears the fruit of a transformed heart.

**Culturally Catholic**

Catholic culture is so thick, you could spread it on a scone. Or a baguette. Or a slice of ciabatta bread. Or naan (Wait, do you put butter on naan? I would, because I'm Midwestern, but I sense that this is, perhaps, incorrect).

Okay, maybe my comparison is imperfect, but what I'm saying is this: Catholic culture is delicious, it's versatile, and it's nourishing. It's the same everywhere, even though it also looks and feels totally unique in every place. The Day of the Dead in Mexico, Simbang Gabi in the Philippines, St. Patrick's Day in Ireland, Meskel in Ethiopia, Semana Santa processions in Spain: these are all touchstones of Catholic culture.

It is so, so beautiful to be culturally Catholic. But today, when I hear John the Baptist's words to the Pharisees and the Sadducees, I am reminded that Catholicism is so much more than just cultural expression.

The Pharisees and Sadducees were loyal sons of Abraham and scrupulous observers of the law of Moses. Their culture, you could say, was strong. But John the Baptist is telling them — and he's telling us — that culture isn't enough.

Actions, rituals, traditions, sentiments, nostalgia — none of it matters unless it bears the fruit of a transformed heart.

It's something to remember especially as we approach Christmas, a time when culture and cultural rituals become so (beautifully) prominent. In the cultural practice of Christmas, we are like the Wise Men approaching the manger, bearing our gifts. But how terrible would it have been if the wise men had hurried away, their culture expressed, their ritual complete, and gone back to the world unchanged by the gaze of the Infant?

So be culturally Catholic. Bring these gifts to the Christ Child — but linger there. Reflect. And then when you return to the world, you will bring Catholic culture with you.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Why do we do that?**  
Catholic Life Explained

**Question:**

I've heard people call Jesus' conception by the Holy Spirit being "immaculately conceived." Is that what the Immaculate Conception is?

**Answer:**

While these two events are often confused, they are not the same thing. We celebrated the conception of Jesus on March 25th, the feast of the Annunciation. While that was surely miraculous, it isn't what we refer to as the "immaculate conception." The Immaculate Conception is Mary's conception, and we typically celebrate it on December 8th. If the 8th happens to be a Sunday, the Church moves the feast to December 9th. It is a holy day of obligation. Why does the Church consider it so important to celebrate?

Mary's conception is immaculate because she was conceived without original sin. The angel Gabriel acknowledges this when he hails Mary as "full of grace" (Luke 1:28). Scripture scholars identify several theological ideas that confirm this. In the Old Testament, the sacred, pristine Ark of the Covenant held the presence of God. The presence of God is now held within a new "arc" — the womb of Mary. Genesis 3 also prophesies of a woman who would oppose the devil and whose child would crush the devil's head. Christ is the "New Adam." This passage sets up Mary, then, as the "New Eve." Jesus and Mary are the beginnings of a new creation, one we all can participate in through the grace of our baptism. After all, God's love is more "original" than our sin!

**Readings for the week of  
December 7, 2025**

**Sunday:**

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/ Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

**Monday:**

Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday:**

Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/ Mt 18:12-14

**Wednesday:**

Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/ Mt 11:28-30

**Thursday:**

Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/ Mt 11:11-15

**Friday:**

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**Saturday:**

Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

**Next Sunday:**

Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11



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**Gospel Meditation**  
Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

This week we hear that John the Baptist is out in the wilderness eating "locusts and wild honey" (Mark 1:6). It's not just a strange historical detail. It's a symbolic expression of a healthy spiritual diet. The path to Christ includes both the hard and the beautiful, the gritty and the sweet. We have to learn to gulp the locusts and savor the honey.

I remember working with a young couple preparing for marriage. They were sincere, but raw — barely beginning to discover faith. Part of me wanted to rush them ahead, to fill in all the gaps, to bombard them with scripture and church documents. I swallowed that instinct. It was like eating locusts.

But I also recall them light up as they spoke about each other, about their first child, then their second. And they wanted to be close to God. Something innocent and beautiful was unfolding. That was the honey. I knew God was asking me to savor it.

This Advent, maybe we're each being invited to accept both locusts and honey. Maybe it's time to stop avoiding the difficult parts of faith — prayer that feels dry, the call to repentance, the patience with the troublesome. It's time to eat some locusts.

But we also need to notice the small gifts God gives us: a peaceful moment, a good conversation, the joy of serving someone else, new life, good intentions of our friends. That's the honey. Savor it!

John didn't avoid either. He took it all in. And so can we. What are your locusts? Your honey? If we let God feed us with both, we'll be ready — really ready — for the coming of Christ.

— Father John Muir