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2nd Sunday OF ADVENT



ST ANN'S PARISH & ITS MISSIONS

PO BOX 2911, TUBAC, AZ | 520.398.2648 | STANNSPARISH3@GMAIL.COM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

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

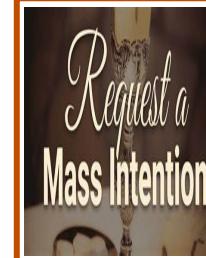
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The practice of requesting a mass to be offered
for loved ones, living or deceased , is a
beautiful and wonderful part of our Catholic
Tradition. Continuing in this long standing
practice, you can remember someone who has
died recently or many years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



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

Announcements/Events from St Ann's & Dioceses

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!

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 Monitory 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

Weekly Prayer

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:

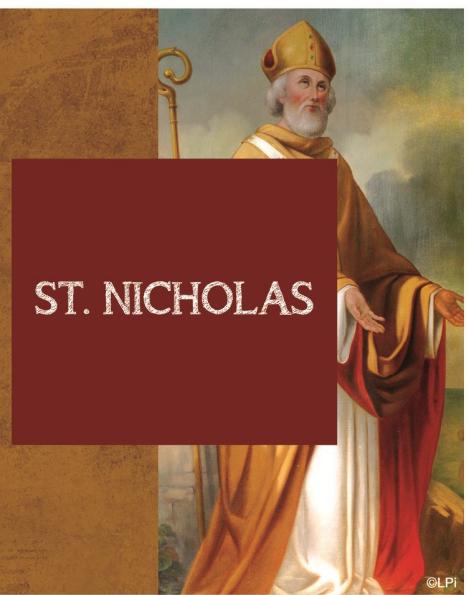
Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you,
for the glory of God. (Romans 15:7)

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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EXAMPLE OF CHRISTIAN SELF-GIVING



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.

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 Cuauhtlatoatzin
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

(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:

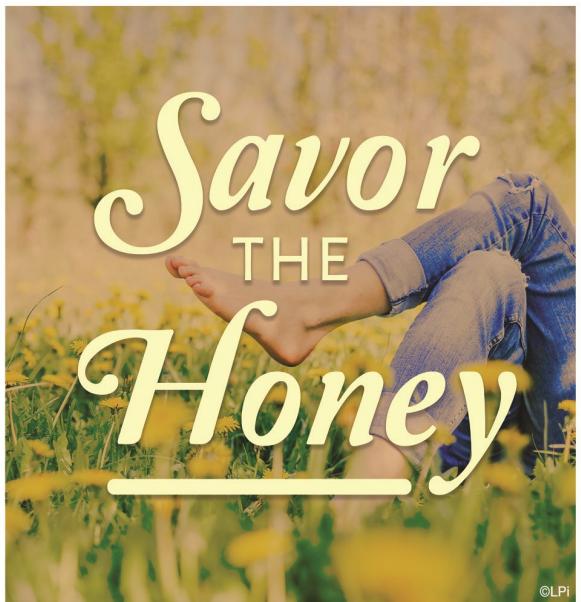
Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16,
18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

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