

DECEMBER 6, 2020
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Advent is the time for spiritual research and a new awareness. It is the time to prepare a way for the Lord in the everyday wilderness of our lives. The great thing, of course, is that The Lord shows us how to do so through Prayer, Reflection, Reconciliation, Charity, and simply Walking Up to His Presence inside of us and all around us.

In The First Reading, The prophet Isaiah gives us a powerful image of God: a caring good shepherd. This shepherd does four things: feeds, gathers, carries, and leads. God not only created us, but also feeds us. He gathers us together in community, longing for all to be one.

In The Second Reading, St. Peter tells us that God is a promise maker and a promise keeper. God shows generous patience in dealing with his creatures. The divine plan is that none be lost, but all come to repentance. God's justice will bring about a new heaven and a new earth.

In The Gospel, St. John the Baptist preaches repentance and promises a new baptism with water and The Holy Spirit. He invites us to turn away from sins and turn toward righteousness. He invites us to come out of our comfort zones so that we can love and care for the needy, build a more just world, and share God's love with those in darkness.

So let us sincerely pray for the grace to accept God's Call for Conversion and prepare ourselves spiritually and properly for the celebration of Christmas and also for the coming of Christ at the end of the world.



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OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	December 5
5:00 PM	Mass: Rudolph DiCenzo, Sr. (RIP)
Sunday	December 6
8:00 AM	Mass: O'Connell Family (RIP)
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Lena Family (RIP)
Monday	December 7
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: The Grandchildren of Mary O'Reilly: Dunn, Cavanagh, O'Reilly, & Crane
Tuesday	December 8 Immaculate Conception
9:00 AM	Mass: People of the Parish
7:00 PM	Mass: For the Forgotten Souls of our Deceased Parishioners
Wednesday	December 9
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Wodziak & Tarsa Families
Friday	December 11
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS	
5:00 PM	Mass: Dr. Paul E. Boucher (RIP)
8:00 AM	Mass: Bertha St. Arnauld (RIP)
10:00 AM	Mass: Cecile Doré (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

The New Stations of the Cross

The New Stations of the Cross in our church were donated by St. Aidan parish, Cumberland, RI 02864. These stations of the cross were all hand carved in Italy.

The Stations of the Cross that were in the church before have been moved to our Sacristy St. Anne Chapel

Fr. Doré

Immaculate Conception

This Tuesday, December 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a Holy Day of Obligation, and Mass will be celebrated at 9AM and 7PM.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a Gift of Mercy

Prepare to celebrated Christmas with joy and peace that comes with forgiveness when we seek reconciliation with God and those we love.

When you approach the confessional, know this: that I Myself am waiting therefor you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of Mercy. Tell souls that from this font of mercy souls draw graces solely with the vessel of trust. If their trust is great, there is no limit to My generosity. Think about God's mercy waiting for you...and consider going to Confession...

Sunday, December 20: Here at St. Paul's, after the 10AM Mass until 12PM.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my life. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally, come then spiritually into my heart. So that I may embrace you and unite myself completely to you. And never let me be separated from you.

Let's Stay Connected

We've been emailing a weekly parish update to help us stay informed and to share resources. Please add your name and email to the list via our website:

www.stpaulsfoster.org

Your information is never shared with anyone else and is only used to communicate with you about the parish.

2020 Operation ROVAC Drive

Remembering our Veteran's at Christmas

We appreciate all your donations! Please return items this weekend! Thank you!

The Christmas Bazaar Raffle

Thank you so much to those who bought and returned raffle tickets. We raised **\$4,265** with all the ticket sales and donations. We thank all of our Gift Card Tree Donors, we thank Carol Dubay and Dubay Tractor for donating the Emeril La Gasse Air Fryer and the Chain Saw and Back Pack Blower.

Drawing will be Monday Dec 7th and winners will be called and announced in next weekend's bulletin!

Christmas Gift Tags

Please return **UNWRAPPED gifts to the church by December 6**. Gift bags and wrapping are gladly accepted.

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online. Details below.

Support St. Paul's

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at stpaulsfoster.org, and click the "Donate Now" button.

Thank you!

Second Collection—Dec 5/6

This weekend's second collection will be used to help with cost of **utilities**.

Second Collection—Dec 12/13

Next weekend's second collection will support senior Catholic sisters, brothers, religious order priests who spent years working in Catholic schools, hospitals, & social-service agencies, often for little, if any, pay.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - Nov 28/29

\$2,441.00

Thank you for your support!

Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Contest

St. Paul's Knights of Columbus Council 95 is sponsoring the Keep Christ in Christmas poster contest which is open to all children in our parish including friends and relatives of our parishioners.

Winners will be judged in three age categories: 5-7, 8-10, 11-14

\$50 First Place prize awarded in each age group.

Submission deadline, Sunday Dec 6.

Application forms and full contest details can be found in the Narthex, or call office for more information.

Christmas Gift Tags

Please return **UNWRAPPED gifts to the church by December 6**. Gift bags and wrapping are gladly accepted.

Dynamic Catholic Best Advent Ever

This Advent, signup for Dynamic Catholic's Best Advent Ever: LET YOUR SOUL SHINE.

Every day during Advent, you'll receive an email with a short video from Matthew Kelly. It's completely free and easy to sign up. All you have to do is go to BestAdventEver.com and enter name and email address.

Symbolism of the Advent Wreath

Whether displayed in our homes or in our Church, the Advent Wreath is a visible reminder of the 4-week season waiting and preparing for the celebration of the Lord's Birth at Christmas. Advent is also a time of watching, listening, and waiting for the 2nd coming of Jesus in glory at end of time.

The 4 candles, 3 violet and 1 rose, symbolize the 4 weeks of Advent preparation. The rose candle is the signal that Advent is about half over; the rose color stands for "rejoicing" because the Lord is near! As Christmas Day draws nearer, the flames of the candles increase and grow brighter, for the Lord's coming brings light to any and every darkness.

The wreath is a reminder of eternity ... a circle having no beginning and no end and the greens symbolize new life, new growth, new hope!