

November 30, 2025 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Parish Pastor:

Fr. Vincent Joseph, VC
238-3300 ext. 2 or 573-238-2450
vincentvc@dioscgo.org

Secretary/Bookkeeper:

Cindy Thele 238-3300 ext. 1
cindythele@hotmail.com

Bulletin: Jennifer Rosanna
sjsabulletin@gmail.com

DRE: Holly Hoesli 238-5452
holly.hoesli7@gmail.com

HS Youth Group:

Tannie Smith 309-262-2420

MS Youth Group:

Kyla Langston 573-225-0608

Adult Education/OCIA Coordinator:
Cindy Jansen 573-238-6767

Confirmation Coordinator:

Michael Smith 309-530-1803

Cursillo Parish Contacts:

Bobby & Kristi Jansen
573-208-8271, 573-208-8270

Music Director: Daniel Seiler 208-8997

SJ Cemetery: Ashton James 579-7158

SA Cemetery: Alfred VanGennip 450-6600

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Please contact Pastor at least 6 months in advance. Participation in a Marriage Preparation program is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Please contact the pastor

NEW PARISHIONERS

Please register. Forms in office.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

sjsabulletin@gmail.com Bulletin submission deadline is Tuesday by noon.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

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Founded 1905 | Glennon, MO

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<https://stjohnchurchleopold.com>



Parish & Finance Councils

ST. JOHN COUNCIL MEMBERS

Cody Harris, Chairperson	
Sarah Deck	Alan Elfrink
Mark Deck	Bonnie Thiele
Kim Vandeven	Matt Beussink
Roberta Jansen	Edna Seiler

ST. JOHN FINANCE MEMBERS

Rene Landewee	Dennis James
Marian Hutchings	Ted Eftink
Bob Clubb	Roger Bucher
Amanda McDonough	

St. Anthony Gifts 11/23/25

Due to early bulletin deadlines collection totals were not available at time of publication.

St. John Gifts 11/23/25

Due to early bulletin deadlines collection totals were not available at time of publication.

Online giving is now available.

<https://osvhub.com/stjohnchurchleopold/funds>

The Bulletin is Online! Go to the parish website to find the weekly bulletin.

ST. ANTHONY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Chris Horrell, President (573) 450-4669
Judy Ford, Rents Hall (573) 576-5896
Dorothy VanGennip

ST. ANTHONY FINANCE MEMBERS

Rhonda Horrell Chris Horrell

For ALL sacramental related inquiries, please contact Fr. Vincent directly at 573-238-2450. You do not have to go through the parish office since Father keeps his own calendar and makes his own appointments.

Welcome! We're so glad you've come to worship with us this weekend. If you are not currently registered with either St. John Church or St. Anthony Church and would like to do so, registration forms in the vestibule of either parish or on the parish website. We would love to have you as a part of our parish family!

Liturgical Roles

December 6 - 7, 2025 2nd SUNDAY of ADVENT

Saturday, December 6, 5 PM (SA)

Servers: Blaire Elfrink, Emily James
Lector: Andrea Bueter
Extraordinary Min. *Richard Eeftink
Ushers: Mike & Caleb Rosanna
Offertory: Family of Martin & Mattie
VanderMierden
Sacristan: Rita Holshouser
Rosary: Rita Holshouser

KC Sunday

Sunday, December 7, 8 AM (SJ)

Servers: Finn Beussink, Jacob
Beussink
Lector: Nick Elfrink
Extraordinary Min.: *Matt Beussink,
Ron Wesbecher, Jason Van de Ven
Choir Min.: Cody Van de Ven
Ushers: Francis Nenninger, Roger
Bucher
Offertory: KC Family of Month: Chad
VanGennip Family
Sacristan: Pam & Ron Wesbecher
Rosary: KC - Stan Seiler

Sunday, December 7, 10 AM (SJ)

Servers: Blaine Hoesli, Jude Felter,
Holden Burger
Lector: Jeff Eftink
Extraordinary Min.: *Harlan Elfrink,
Addison Engelen, Abby Jansen
Choir Min.: Sarah Deck
Ushers: Scott & Drew Engelen
Offertory: Tim & Annette Wiseman
Sacristan: Lori Graham
Rosary: Eva Dunn

StoneBridge & Homebound

Extraordinary Minister for
December 7: Cindy Jansen

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Contact Steve Seiler:
573-238-3314 (day) or
573-238-4409

It should be ready for
pickup around
December 12.

Sacrament Schedule and Weekly Schedule

SJ= St. John | SA= St. Anthony

Monday, December 1, church office closed

6:55-7:15 AM - CONFESSIONS (SJ)
7:20 AM MASS - L/D Members Ed & Agatha DeBrock Family (SJ)
8:00 AM - 7:00 AM - EUCHARISTIC ADORATION (SJ)
6:30 PM - St. Johns Parish Council Meeting (St. Anne's Room)

Tuesday, December 2, church office closed

8:05-8:25 AM - CONFESSIONS (SJ)
8:30 AM MASS - Eleanor Macke † (SJ)

Wednesday, December 3, church office closed

3:15 PM - Rosary Club (church basement)
5:30 - 5:55 PM - CONFESSIONS (SA)
6:00 PM MASS - L/D Members Ron & Norma Parker Family (SA)

Thursday, December 4, church office closed

8:05-8:25 AM - CONFESSIONS (SJ)
8:30 AM MASS - Carolyn Schreckenber † (SJ)
12:00 - 10:00 PM - KC ADORATION (SJ)

Friday, December 5, church office closed

6:55-7:15 AM - CONFESSIONS (SJ)
7:20 AM MASS - Betty Frank † (SJ)

Saturday, December 6

6:30 AM - Men's Group (KC Hall)
8:00 AM - Women's Cursillo (Church Basement)
4:15-4:45 PM - CONFESSIONS (SA)
5:00 PM MASS - L/D Members Martin & Mattie VanderMierden Family (SA)

Sunday, December 7

7:20-7:50 AM -and - 9:30-9:50 AM CONFESSIONS (SJ)
8:00 AM MASS - Virgil & Thelma Beel † (SJ)
10:00 AM MASS - Families of St. John & St. Anthony Parishes (SJ)
3:00 PM - PARISH ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE (SJ)
5:00 PM - OCIA (Parish Office)

As we prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ this Advent, all are encouraged to participate in the **St. John/St. Anthony Penance Service on Sunday, December 7 at 3:00 PM in St. John Church.** Several priests will be available to offer individual confession and absolution. Through this sacrament, we are able to find spiritual renewal and peace in our relationship with God and the Church. What a wonderful gift to us from Jesus!

DECEMBER EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES:

Due to the publishing company closing for Christmas and New Years they are requiring the following early bulletin deadlines:

Sunday, December 14 Bulletin Items are due Sunday, Dec. 7 at noon

Sunday, December 21 Bulletin Items are due Thursday, Dec. 11 at noon

Sunday, December 28 Bulletin Items are due Sunday, Dec. 21 at noon

Sunday, January 4 Bulletin Items are due Tuesday, Dec. 23 at noon

Please Note the
church office will be
closed December
1st - 5th

Notes from Fr. Vincent:

First Sunday of Advent

The Church Year A begins with the First Sunday of Advent. Year A focuses primarily on the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew shows Jesus as the fulfillment of God's promises—a Savior long awaited and lovingly given. As we listen to Matthew's Gospel in the coming months, may we let Jesus' teachings shape our choices, His compassion inspire our hearts, and His presence guide us into a year of grace and growth.

Advent begins with a call to wake up. In today's Gospel, Jesus urges us: 'Be vigilant at all times.' Advent is not just preparing for Christmas; it is preparing our hearts for Christ's daily coming and His final coming in glory. The distractions of life can lull us to sleep, but God invites us to stand firm, lift our heads, and live with hope. As we light the first candle, may we renew our desire to walk in God's ways, stay alert in faith, and welcome Christ with joyful hearts.

Advent wreath. In the Catholic Church, the Advent wreath is a beautiful symbol that helps us prepare spiritually for the coming of Christ. Each part has meaning: The circular shape has no beginning or end, symbolizing God's eternal love. The evergreen branches represent hope and the everlasting life Christ brings.

Advent Candles: The four candles—three purple and one rose—mark the four weeks of Advent. Purple candles symbolize repentance, waiting, and preparation. The rose candle (lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday) symbolizes joy.

Advent Penance Service: Advent is a season of hopeful waiting, but the Church also calls it a time of conversion, and the Sacrament of Reconciliation is the most powerful way to prepare our hearts. Just as we prepare our homes for the holiday, the Church invites us to prepare our hearts. Confession removes the obstacles that hinder Christ from entering our lives more fully. ***Our Parish Advent Penance service will take place on Dec 7th at 3 PM.*** Many priests will be here to hear confession. Let us make use of this opportunity to remain spiritually alert.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, amid the busy schedule of life, help me to halt a while and listen to you to be attentive to Your presence as a friend.

St. John the Evangelist and St. Anthony, pray for us and protect us.

Fr. Vincent Joseph VC

Adult Education Notes

ADVENT 2025: WHEN DOES IT START AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN:

This year the Advent season begins on November 30. Between then and Christmas Eve, many families spend time preparing the house for Christmas day while also racing to finish the Christmas shopping.

The meaning of the word Advent comes from the Latin Ad (to) and Venire (come) and translates as arrival. So, Advent is the period of time when Christians wait for the arrival of Jesus who, according to tradition and custom, was born on Christmas day. Advent is a special family time where people wait together and share in the excitement and anticipation of the arrival of Jesus on Christmas. Advent changes each year, since the first Sunday of Advent is a moveable feast, whilst Christmas Day itself is fixed. Advent always begins on the Sunday closest to St Andrews Day.

History of Advent: While the exact origins of Advent are unknown, records of the season have existed since at least the year 480. According to St. Gregory of Tours, Advent was introduced in the 5th century by Bishop Perpetuus, and was initially a period of fasting that lasted from November 11 to Christmas Day, known as the Nativity Fast.

Throughout the centuries fasting fell out of fashion, stopped being compulsory, and instead became an optional observance of the Advent season. Only the most devout Christians fasted for the whole of Advent, while some practiced fasting for a few days before Christmas.

The official liturgical color of Advent is purple, or violet, which adorns churches and is worn by the clergy. In the past, however, the liturgical color was black, it represented the feeling of atonement that accompanied the preparations for Christmas. Only in 1963, at the Second Vatican Council, did the spirit of Advent change from fasting and repentance to hope, joy, and anticipation for the coming of Jesus Christ and officially ends on Christmas Eve.

The Sundays of Advent: In Christianity, candles are used to mark each Sunday, there are traditionally 5 candles. Each Sunday has a candle used with a specific symbolic meaning: The **PINK** candle represents the joy and celebrations of a child being born. It is traditionally lit on the third Sunday before Christmas. The **PURPLE** candles represent the sovereignty of Jesus in the bible and solemn devotion to him. That solemn devotion, used to be in the form of fasting and repentance. The purple candles are usually lit on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of Advent. The **WHITE** candle in the middle represents Jesus. White has historically been associated with purity and perfection. It is often lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Sometimes it is lit at midnight mass on the night of Christmas.

Each Sunday during Advent has a theme: **The First Sunday of Advent:** This first candle usually has the theme of prophecy, and in particular, the prophets in the Old Testament who predicted the arrival of Jesus are remembered. For this reason, it's known as The Prophecy Candle, representing hope of Christians in the anticipation and arrival of Jesus. **The Second Sunday of Advent:** Known as The Bethlehem Candle, is lit to remind Christians of the journey Mary and Joseph took to get to Bethlehem from Nazareth. For many Christians, it is an example of trust in God and a demonstration of Faith. It's known as the peace candle. **The Third Sunday of Advent:** The third candle is Pink. It represents joy at the happy occasion of Christ's birth. It's known as The Shepherds Candle. In the Bible, the Shepherd who visited Jesus first encountered angels. This Sunday is also known as Gaudete Sunday derived from the Latin word gaudete, meaning "rejoice." angels said to the shepherds "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people." It is this Joy that Christians remember on the third Sunday. **The Fourth Sunday of Advent:** The last Sunday before Christmas Day is when the fourth candle is lit also known as The Angel's Candle and represents love, which is at the core of Christmas, so get your Advent Wreath and calendar out and have a **HAPPY BLESSED ADVENT!!!**

Ministry Notes & Updates

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 5898:

The Fish fry Friday coming up this week on December 5 from 5-7.

Shooting matches start this Friday, December 5 and occur weekly until Easter.

Knight of Month for July-August was Victor Vandeven and for September-October was John Bohnsack. Family of the Month for July-August was Alan Beussink family and for September-October was Chad VanGennip family. Youth of the Quarter for third quarter was Ayden McWilliams.

VOCATION MINISTRY:

"Therefore, stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." (Matthew 24:42) God calls us to be vigilant, ready to respond to His invitation. Could He be stirring your heart toward priesthood or consecrated life, to serve His Church, with unwavering dedication? Stay awake to His call through prayer. Talk to Fr. Vincent at 238-3300, ext. 2. **Vocation Crucifix for November: Cody & Emily Harris** *For the Church, that our faithful witness may inspire men and women to respond generously to God's call to serve as priests and consecrated men and women, let us pray to the Lord.*

ST. JOHN PCCW:

Thank you for donating to the Amen Center Food Drive. Delivery was made on Tuesday and was appreciated very much.

Country Christmas Home Tour in 2 weeks. Buying tickets in advance is appreciated. Groups 6-7 called to make soup and cookies.

Nursing Home gifts tree is up in back of church. Please remember to write your name and telephone number on sheet by numbers you have taken.

With the success of the Hotze Mission Breakfast, the PCCW will be sending a check for \$3200. to the missions in honor of the Hotze brothers, Father Leo, Father Al and Father Clem. Thanks to all.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH:

The giving trees are up at both churches. Please take a tag and return gifts by December 17. Contact Amanda McDonough at 573-238-5199 if you have any questions.

St. Anthony Parish Christmas Party December 6, 2024 after 5 pm Mass in Parish Hall

*A-M bring side dish, N-Z bring a dessert.
Meat & drinks will be provided.*

Diocesan Traveling Exhibition

MIRACLES OF THE EUCHARIST ACROSS THE WORLD



*Come
Discover
Pray*

Do you wonder if the bread and wine at Mass really becomes the Body and Blood of Jesus? Or is it a symbol? How can I show family and friends that the Eucharist is Jesus?

If you have any of these questions, you are invited to visit the Miracles of the Eucharist exhibit. It was designed by Saint Carlo Acutis and documents the many miracles of the Eucharist throughout the world and across the centuries.

The exhibit will be at St. John's the week of Dec 3-10. Watch flocknote and Facebook for more information.

St. John Catholic Church
Leopold, Missouri

In preparation for the Diocesan Eucharistic Congress to be held on August 15, 2026, Bishop Rice launched a prayer campaign. He formed parish partners for this. Accordingly, St. John Parish, Leopold; St. Anthony Mission Parish, Glennon and St. Joseph Parish, Billings are parish partners. Bishop requests the communities in these parishes to support one another in prayer. Feel free to reach out to the parish office of St. Joseph, Billings and assure them of our prayers.

Diocese & Area Events

26th Annual St. Denis Winder Wonderland

Treasure Sale: Saturday, December 6.
8 AM - 2 PM in parish center at Benton.
Christmas décor, items, jewelry, signs, candles, lotions, and other homemade items.
Breakfast and lunch available. 50/50 drawing and raffles. Admission by donation.

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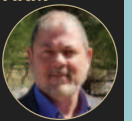
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