



On the Way to Bethlehem

Rev. Msgr. Stephen Bosso Rector/Pastor bossos@clergy.ptdiocese.org

Maureen Menton, PhD
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Deacon Steve Wulf deacon@stmichael.ptdiocese.org MASS SCHEDULE Sundays 9:00 am & 11:00 am Mon.—Fri. 12:10 pm

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE Mon.—Fri. 11:00 am—11:45 am

ADORATION / EUCHARISTIC EXPOSITION Mon.—Fri. 11:00 am—12:00 pm

OFFICE HOURS Tuesday - Friday 10:00 am—3:00 pm

21 North Palafox Street

850.438.4985

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3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 14, 2025

DID YOU KNOW THESE FACTS ABOUT ADVENT?

While green and red are typically associated with Christmas, the period leading up to December 25 is all about purples or violets. The candles in advent wreaths are usually violet or purple, churches are decorated with violet, and priests may wear the color in the weeks before Christmas. To Christians, purple represents repentance and fasting, though some denominations use blue or pink instead of violet.

Also, the one pink and three purple candles on an Advent wreath signify the four weeks of waiting for Christmas, with the purple candles representing hope, peace, and love, while the single pink (or rose) candle marks the third Sunday (Gaudete Sunday) as a special day of joy, breaking the penitential purple with the nearness of Christ's birth. The progression of lighting them symbolizes growing anticipation, with the colors tied to traditional liturgical meanings of preparation, royalty (purple), and rejoicing (pink).

In France and Spain, Advent was a strict, 40-day fast, mirroring Lent, starting on St. Martin's Day (Nov 11) to prepare for the Epiphany (the coming of the Magi).

Eastern Orthodox churches still observe the longer, stricter "Winter Lent" or "Nativity Fast," beginning November 15th, with abstinences from meat, dairy, and oil.

Poor women in Northern England would carry Advent images (dolls of Mary and Jesus) from house to house, a tradition now lost.

Before paper calendars, German Protestants used chalk marks on doors or lit candles to count the days, and some used blocks.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

12/14: Mary McClellan 12/16: Michael Prickett

12/17: Noel Suarez-Rodriguez

12/18: Alyssa Catalano,

Christine Tran

12/19: Greg Dziadon

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Weekly Offertory for December 7, 2025

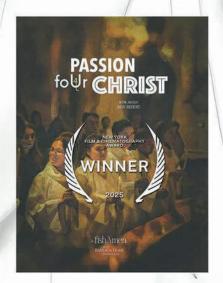
In-Church Offering: \$5,328.00
Online Offering: \$5,359.60
Total Offertory: \$10,687.60

CSA Participation as of December 7, 2025

Pledged: \$138,177 Given: \$136,609 Families Participating: 145

"May the Lord eward your generosity with abundant blessings."

BASILICA FILM WINS CRITICS AWARD



Our film "Passion foUr the Christ" wins the Best Docudrama in the New York Film & Cinematography Awards of 2025.

Thank you for all who shared their spiritual journey in the film and to all the parishioners of the Basilica for their support in our film ministry.

COLLECTION ENVELOPES NOTICE!

For those parishioners who use collection envelopes, the 2026 envelope boxes will be available in the vestibule of the church for pickup beginning Sunday, December 14. Each box has a specific families name on the box, so please ensure you only pickup your assigned box to ensure proper accounting.

The Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee is committed to healing the hurting hearts of sexual abuse victims and has established Victims Assistance Coordinators who are experienced and trained counselors and are available to help persons who have been sexually abused by a priest, deacon, or other church personnel in Northwest Florida. The Coordinator for the program in the Pensacola/Ft. Walton Beach area is Dr. Louis Makarowski; he may be reached at 850-477-7181.



the Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel

DO YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CATHOLIC FAITH???

Please visit the Basilica's website at **stmichaelbasilica.com**. There you will find "Becoming Catholic" under the "Membership" menu for additional information about Catholicism, or to sign-up for classes.

HOLIDAY MASS SCIEDULE

December 24th, 4 PM (Christmas Eve Mass)
December 25th, 12 AM (Midnight Mass)
December 25th, 10 AM (Christmas Day)
January 1, 12:10 + 6:00 PM

Liturgies & Mass Intentions for the Week of December 14, 2025

SUNDAY THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (9 AM) Reinhardt & Gloria Holm †

(II AM)
For the People of the Basilica

THE CARDINAL CHRISTMAS TREE



Our Lady's Sodality 'Cardinal Christmas Tree' is up in the parish hall, ready for you to place a prayer request on it. Stop by the parish hall during the 10:00 am coffee hour on December 7th, 14th, or 21st to place your special prayer request on the tree.

Monsignor Bosso will bless the tree and all prayer requests. All tags with your personal notes will then be placed at the altar for inclusion in the Christmas Day masses.

MONDAY

Paul, Angela Maria & Ann Rosasco †

TUESDAY Sarah Hunt

WEDNESDAY Laurie Murdock †

THURSDAY Charles Morgan †

FRIDAY Mary Peklo†



PARISH "YACHT CLUB" DINNER
FEBRUARY 12TH @ 6:00 PM
(Please register to attend)
Email Brenda Long: brendalong@bellsouth.net

*Coffee & Donuts Available After Sunday's 9 AM Mass

THIS WEEK'S ALTAR FLOWERS

In memory of Beverly Milstead

Thank you for your 2025 flower donations!

\$45 - \$65 per arrangement Contact **Louise Seitz**: 850-780-0410

THE BASILICA BULLETI

Jimmy Andrews
media@stmichael.ptdiocese.org

Online Giving stmichaelbasilica.com



Please consider donating Basilica A tar Flowers in honor of, or in memory of, loved ones.
Contact Louise Seitz: Iseitz@panhandle.rr.com



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Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/4351

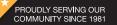


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Stephanie Harrington & Nick Johnson, Parishioners

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