

# Our Lady of Guadalupe & St. Patrick's Parishes

Spreading the Gospel on the South Side of Milwaukee

## December Newsletter



### Message from Deacon Ryan Ackmann

Much like we have the four seasons of the year here in Wisconsin—winter, spring, summer, and fall—each with distinguishing characteristics and colors, the Church also celebrates a cycle of seasons. Advent is one of those Church seasons, and we mark it with the color violet. This year, with Christmas being on a Sunday, this is the longest Advent we experience (next year will be the shortest!), so we have some extra time to pray over what Advent means.

Advent is understood as a waiting period for Christmas on December 25, which it is. There's a sense of adventure in all the buildup to Christmas—lights, decorations, gifts, and so on. It's no mere coincidence that the word **Advent** is right there in **adventure**. An adventure is an exciting journey or undertaking, and so is life as a follower of Jesus Christ. The word Advent isn't only about the future though. Advent comes from the Latin word "*adventus*," which actually means "arrival" or "presence." The focus is not on the future, it's on what already is, here and now. Christ's Advent in these weeks before Christmas calls us to recognize Christ *already* present with us.

We spend Advent not by praying on God's absence, but on his presence. The darkening days around us let Christ's light shine through. It's easy enough to feel good about God's presence in our lives when things are going well. But in times of trouble, sickness, hunger, or war, what we call dark times, it can be hard to find God. At the end of Advent, near the darkest and coldest time of the year, we celebrate Christ's birth to show that he truly is with us in the darkest moments of our lives. We know Christmas comes at the end of Advent every year. In our own "personal Advents," those darker moments of struggle in our lives, may that assurance of God's presence be our guiding light.

**FIRST FRIDAY DEVOTION, Dec. 2**

**Eucharistic Adoration @ 5:30p.m.**

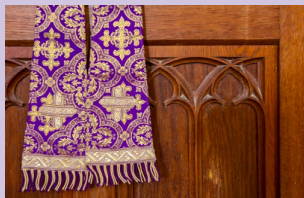
**Mass (bilingual) @6:30p.m.**

## St. Patrick's Church

The tradition of First Fridays is connected to the devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and to the intentions of the Pope.



Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network



**Friday, December 9**  
**Reconciliation Service and Individual Confessions**  
St Patrick's Church from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

## Special Masses



**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**  
**(A Holy Day of Obligation)**

Thursday, December 8th  
St Patrick's Church at 6 p.m.

**December 3 al 11**  
**Novena for the Virgin of Guadalupe**  
at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church

**December 11**  
**Celebration for Our Lady of Guadalupe**

- Procession from St. Patrick's to Our Lady of Guadalupe
- Rosary 7:00 p.m.
- Serenade 7:30-10:30 p.m.
- Vigil Mass at 11 p.m.



**Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
**Celebration Mass**



## Christmas Eve

- English Mass at St. Patrick's at 5:00 p.m.
- Spanish Mass at St. Patrick's at 7:00 p.m.

## Christmas Day

- Mass 10:00 a.m. at OLG
- Mass at 10:30 a.m. at SP
- Mass at 12:30 a.m. at OLG
- NO Mass at 5:00 p.m. at SP



## New Year's Day

- Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

Our offices will be closed on  
Monday, Dec. 26th  
and Monday, Jan. 2nd.



Faith Formation

## Message from Parish Life Director, Silvia Jiménez

Thank you CCD families for your support.  
We hope you have a wonderful holiday season. We will not have classes on 12/17, 12/24, and 12/31. Our class resume on Saturday January 7.

## RESOURCES

[Archdiocese of Milwaukee](#)

[The Jesuit Post](#)

[U S Conference of Catholic  
Bishops](#)

### Get in touch with our Parishes

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