

ONE IN FAITH Area Catholic Community of

St. Mary, Melrose, Sacred Heart, Freeport, Immaculate Conception,
New Munich, St. Rose of Lima, St. Rosa, St. Michael, Spring Hill
St. Andrew, Greenwald, St. John the Baptist, Meire Grove

Advent

A Season of Hope
& Expectation 2021

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, focus particularly on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas).

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Advent calendars can help you fully enter in to the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare you spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ. Here is the link to the USCCB's Advent Calendar and other resources for you: <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year/advent/>

-United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

An Advent Wreath Prayer

"Come Jesus; come. Give power to light and to good. Come where falsehood, ignorance of God, violence and injustice predominate. Come Lord Jesus, give power to the good in the world and help us to be bearers of your light, peacemakers, witnesses of the truth.

Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.

—Pope Benedict XVI

Sacrament of Confession

- **Communal Celebration with Individual Confession:**
Wednesday, December 1—5:30 PM & 7:00 PM—*St. Mary*
Wednesday, December 15—7:00 PM—*Sacred Heart, St. Andrew*
- **Individual Celebration:**
Tuesday, December 21—*St. Rose of Lima*—before & after 8:15 AM Mass
7:30 PM *St. Andrew, St. John the Baptist*
Wednesday, December 22—*Sacred Heart*—before & after 8:15 AM Mass
7:30 PM *St. Mary, St. Michael*

Mass Schedule for Holy Days of Obligations during the Advent and Christmas Season

- **Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary:**
Tuesday, December 7—5:00 PM—*St. John the Baptist*
7:00 PM—*Immaculate Conception*
8:00 PM—*St. Andrew*
Wednesday, December 8—8:15 AM—*Sacred Heart*
8:30 AM—*St. Mary*
9:00 AM—*St. Michael*
6:30 PM—*St. Mary (Spanish)*
7:00 PM—*St. Rose of Lima*
 - **Our Lady of Guadeloupe:**
Saturday, December 11 5:30 PM—*St. Mary (bilingual)*
 - **Christmas:**
(Vigil) Friday, December 24:
4:00 PM—*St. Mary, Sacred Heart, St. John the Baptist*
6:30 PM—*St. Mary (Spanish)*
7:00 PM—*Immaculate Conception*
9:00 PM—*St. Michael, St. Andrew*
Saturday, December 25:
8:00 AM—*Sacred Heart*
9:00 AM—*St. Mary, St. Rose of Lima, St. Andrew*
- **Sunday Obligation Masses will only be held Sunday morning, December 26.**
- **Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God:**
(Vigil) Friday, December 31:
4:00 PM—*Immaculate Conception, St. Andrew*
5:00 PM—*St. Mary*
6:30 PM—*St. Mary (Spanish)*
Saturday, January 1:
8:00 AM—*Sacred Heart*
9:00 AM—*St. John the Baptist, St. Michael, St. Rose of Lima*