



SS. Peter & Paul Catholic "Connection"

608 E Main Street, Weyauwega, WI 54983 920-867-2179
SSPeterPaulWega@gmail.com SSPeterPaulChurch.org

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Dec 1 - Faith Formation Classes at 9:00am
Dec 1 - Scrip Orders Due
Dec 1 - Confession available after Mass
Dec 5 - Adoration after 9am Mass
Dec 7 - Christmas Program Practice - 9-11am
Dec 8 - KC's Meeting at 9:00am
Dec 8 - Spanish Mass at 2:00pm
Dec 9 - Immaculate Conception Mass at 7pm
Dec 10 - Christmas Flower Envelopes Due
Dec 11 - Encounter Youth Group - 6:30-8pm
Dec 12 - Parish Council Meeting at 6:00pm
Dec 12 - Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass at 7pm
Potluck to Follow
Dec 14 - Christmas Program Practice - 9-11am
Dec 14 - St. Anne's Meeting at 3:15pm
Dec 15 - Faith Formation Classes at 9:00am
Dec 15 - Adoration Before Mass 9:30-10:20am
Dec 15 - Children's Christmas Program after Mass, Potluck to Follow
Dec 18 - Evening of Adoration & Confession - 6:30-7:30pm
Dec 19 - Mass & Diocesan Holy Hour at 9am
Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Mass at 4:30pm
Dec 25 - Christmas Day Mass at 10:30am
Dec 23-31 - Office Closed—Christmas Break
Dec 31 - Solemnity of Mary Vigil Mass 4:30pm
Jan 7-9 - No Weekday Morning Mass

DECEMBER 2024

Feed your Faith - and your fears will starve to death.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

SS. Peter & Paul, Weyauwega

Christmas Eve, December 24 at 4:30pm

Christmas Day, December 25 at 10:30am

Sacred Heart, Manawa

Christmas Eve, December 24 at 6:30pm

Christmas Day, December 25 at 8:00am



MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

SS. Peter & Paul, Weyauwega

New Year's Eve, December 31 at 4:30pm

Sacred Heart, Manawa

New Year's Day, January 1 at 9:00am

Wishing you a joyous Christmas and blessings in the coming New Year!

Dear people of God,

The celebration of the Feast of Christ the King brings this spiritual year to a close. Now....we await a new beginning... the birth of that same King...Jesus of Nazareth. Back on March 25th, we celebrated the Incarnation of Mary when she said "let it be done unto me according to thy word!" and the Holy Spirit overshadowed her and she conceived the Messiah! The long-awaited Redeemer of the Jewish people! Nine months are just about over. Preparations are needed for His Arrival or Advent!

What to do? We are excited, we are hopeful but we realize we aren't perfect, like He is perfect. So, the Church encourages Christians to take stock of our lives and clean our dark corners of sin and faults. Time to get

our spiritual houses ready as any good housekeeper does when there's a party being planned. What kind of gifts can we bring to honor our Baby Savior? Fasting? Extra Prayer? Good works? Advent Wreaths? Confession? Times of Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament? Now is our opportunity to ponder and to work on these gifts.

The earliest mention of celebrating Advent is around 380 AD at the Council of Saragossa. It encompasses the four weeks before Christmas focusing on the themes of hope, peace, joy and love! Specific colors to Advent are purple representing fasting and reparation; and pink for joy. Then there is the making of Advent wreaths with five candles: three purple and one pink plus a final white one to be lit on Christmas Day because He is born! The wreath re-

minds us as we light each week's candle that He is coming! He has not left us orphan and we are part of His Family as much as Joseph and Mary!

During this Advent, let us reflect on the importance of having Jesus in our lives. What would we do without Him? Let's prepare ourselves to celebrate His Birth in a deeper and even more meaningful way at Christmas. And let us never forget and always be prepared for His coming in the future when we will see Him as is and be like Him!

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Kris mf



THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MASS

Sacred Heart, Manawa
Monday, December 9 at 5:30pm

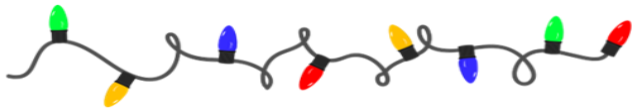
SS. Peter & Paul, Weyauwega
Monday, December 9 at 7:00pm



Encounter

Youth Group

We will be meeting **Wednesday, December 11** at 6:30pm. All 6th -12th grade students are invited for a fun and inspirational evening of games, snacks, connecting with others, a talk, discussion and prayers. Invite your friends of all faiths. All are welcome!

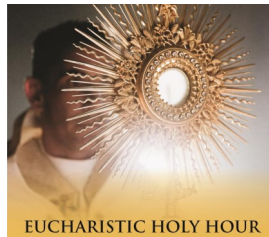


Christmas Scrip Orders

There are some physical cards available and one scrip order will be placed this year. Please have order forms turned into the scrip box in the entrance of the church by **Dec 1st, 2024**.

Diocesan Holy Hour

Thursday, Dec 19th
after the 9:00am Mass.
A great opportunity for
adoration & confession!



If you know of someone in need of prayers, or you would like to be a Prayer Warrior (on the prayer chain) Call the church office at 920.867.2179

To have someone (or yourself) remembered in prayer during General Mass Petitions, sign the book on the narthex stand.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER ENVELOPES

Due to the Parish Office by Tuesday,
December 10th.



La Misa en Español

8 de diciembre de 2024

WEYAUWEGA-FREMONT GIVING TREE

Reminder to have Giving Tree Gifts back to the church by December 15th, the giveaway will be on December 21st. If you have questions please call Pat Shaw at 920-667-5291 or email him at shawclark@centurytel.net. Thanks and God Bless.



Ss Peter and Paul Catholic Church Financial Statement

October 2024

Oct-24

Statement of Activity

Revenue

Church Support
Liturgy and Worship
Other Revenue
Faith Formation & Youth
Fundraising
PPP Loan Forgiveness
Total Revenue

Operating Expenses

Salaries and Wages
Payroll Taxes, Insurance Benefits
Liturgy and Worship
Pastoral Care and Outreach
Faith Formation & Youth
Buildings and Grounds
General Office
Diocesan Assessment
Other Payments+CapEx
Total Payments

Restricted Donation Revenue
Restricted Donation Expense

Net Excess(Deficit)

2,796

Children's Christmas Program

This year's Christmas Program will be on **Sunday, Dec. 15** after 10:30am Mass. Please join us for this heartwarming reenactment of the story of Jesus' birth.

Everyone is welcome to the Potluck Lunch to Follow

(Main dish provided) Families with last name starting with... can you please bring:

A-H bring vegetable/lettuce salad

I-P bring a fruit dish

Q-Z bring a dessert

Children's Christmas Program Practice Times

Just a reminder our K/1st gr.-5th gr. students will be practicing for the Christmas program Saturdays, December 7 & 14, from 9-11:00am. Thank you so much parents for your extra time in making this possible! It will be a joy to watch!



Holiday Historic Home Tour

Saturday, December 7, 2024

Noon - 4 p.m.



\$12 Advance Tickets

(Availability Until 11/30)

Weyauwega Area Historical Society Tour

P. O. Box 294, Weyauwega, WI 54983

Or

Brew Haus, City Hall, J.D.'s Cafe or Weyauwega Library
Or full price: \$15 at host locations day of the event



Tour Locations

Brunner, 603 S Mary Nash-Browning, 100 E South Radtke, E6637 Cty Rd F
Refinery Church, 310 E Main Willow Pond Bed & Breakfast, E5490 N Shore Rd

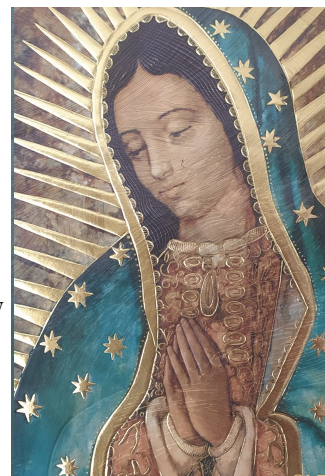
Our Lady of Guadalupe

Please join us for Mass on

December 12 at 7 pm

to celebrate when Mary appeared in Mexico to an Aztec Convert to Catholicism in 1531. Our Hispanic community will be helping with this Mass. They have invited everyone to come early (6:50) if you'd like to process in with Fr. Kris wearing traditional Mexican clothes.

Also, there will be a potluck with delicious traditional Mexican food (and other items people bring) after the Mass. Please join us to honor our Lady of Guadalupe and have fun with our Hispanic brothers and sisters!



Week-ends: Nov 22 - Dec 23, 2024

www.RegistertoRing.com or

Call **920-538-2025**

to volunteer - Thank You!

St. Nicholas | Feast Day December 6

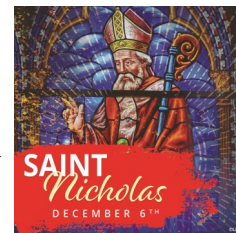
St. Nicholas of Bari, the bishop of Myra in the fourth century, is the saint that Santa Claus is modeled after.

Known for his kindness and generosity to the poor, the story has it that St. Nicholas once tossed bags of gold

through the open window of a poor man's house to help his daughters avoid a life of prostitution.

According to legend, the gold landed in stockings dangling on the corners of the beds, which is why many of us celebrate St. Nicholas Day by hanging stockings and filling them with candy, fruit, and small toys.

Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues to-day.



Advent Reconciliation & Adoration Opportunities

SS. Peter & Paul, Weyauwega

Reconciliation:

Sunday, December 1 after 10:30am Mass
Fr. Kris & another priest will be available

Evening of Adoration & Confession:

Tuesday, December 18 from 6:30-7:30pm

Sacred Heart, Manawa

Wednesday, December 11 from 6:00-7:00pm

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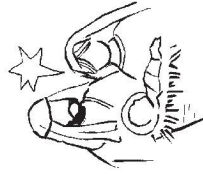
FOR FREE

Rural Life Young Adults

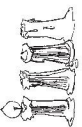
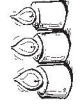
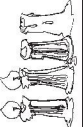
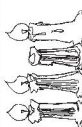
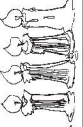
Thursday, Dec 5th at The Hotel Fremont

Young adults aged 18-39 of any faith are welcome to join us for prayer, social time & drinks! Questions? Contact Brittany at bburant@gmail.com





Family Advent Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 December Buy or make an Advent wreath and bless it. Light the violet candle every night this week. 	2  Display the empty Nativity scene. Gradually add figures during Advent but leave out the Holy Family.	3 St. Francis Xavier St. Francis was a Jesuit priest who spread the Good News to distant lands. At dinner, pray especially for Christian missionaries overseas.	4 Assign "Advent Angels." Draw names at random and encourage good works in secret. 	5  At dinner, ask God to bring your family closer together and closer to Him this Advent.	6 Attend First Friday Mass together or make time to visit the Blessed Sacrament in honor of Jesus' Sacred Heart.	7  Decorate a Jesse Tree and discuss its meaning. Learn more at www.usccb.org .
8 Light two violet candles nightly this week. Sing "O Come, O Come Emmanuel." 	9 The Immaculate Conception Attend Mass together and offer a family Rosary for our country.	10 Pick a person or situation in the news and pray for them. 	11 Call or email your parish office and ask how your family can help with upcoming preparations for Christmas.	12 Our Lady of Guadalupe Put a vase of flowers before a statue of Mary and pray, "Hail, Holy Queen" to celebrate.	13 Family Game Night! Take a break from the holiday preparations tonight. Relax, eat pizza, and play games.	14  Get your souls ready for Christmas. Attend Confession as a family and celebrate God's mercy.
15 Gaudete Sunday Light two violet candles and the rose one for joy. Have an after-dinner treat to celebrate. 	16 Before bed, gather around a Crucifix and pray an Our Father, a Hail Mary, and a Glory Be for any family intentions.	17 Christmas is in nine days! Place a candle or light in the window for the Christ Child. Light it every night until Christmas.	18  <i>"Love is patient, love is kind"</i> (1 Corinthians 13:4). Encourage everyone to practice patience today.	19 Offer a Chaplet of Divine Mercy for those who have lost loved ones this year. Find the prayers here: https://www.usccb.org/prayers/chaplet-divine-mercy .	20  Share favorite Christmas family memories over hot chocolate and cookies.	21 The King is almost here! Declutter the house so it's nice for Christmas.
22 Light all the candles in the wreath. Thank God for all the graces you've received this Advent. 	23  Reveal Advent Angels! Read the Good News the Angel shared in <i>Luke</i> 1:26-38.	24 Place Mary and Joseph in the Nativity scene. Add grass or straw to the manger to get it ready for the Baby.	25  First thing in the morning, place Jesus in the manger and sing, "Joy to the World!"	<i>"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn" (Luke 2:1-7).</i>		

Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe presents the Catholic Faith in a way that was immediately understood and accepted by the native Mexican Indians. It is impossible to describe fully the rich symbolism contained on the Tilma of Juan Diego because every detail of color and of form carries a theological message.

Our Lady's **hair**, parted in the middle and hanging loosely, indicates she is a virgin maiden.

Scientific analysis has shown **reflections** of people in the Virgin's **eyes**, just as any human eye would reflect. There are 13 total figures (including Juan Diego and Bishop Zumárraga) that form two scenes in both eyes.

One can **see a cross** in the center of the medallion that she carries on the upper part of her dress. This manifests her consecration to her Son Jesus, whose cross reminds us of both His total sacrifice for love and the moment when he gives us Mary as our Mother.

The symbol of the Cross was seen on the sails of the Spaniards' ships.

The Virgin's identity as a woman of heaven and earth is affirmed by her **garments' colors and decorations**: her reddish tunic is the color symbolic of earth, while the star-speckled green-blue mantle symbolizes the heavens. The mantle's color indicates her royalty, since only the Aztec emperors could wear cloaks of that color. The Virgin, Queen of heaven and earth, points us toward the truth that God is love, and mankind is the recipient of His love.

The **8-petaled flowers** symbolize the day of new creation. The 'blossom' is in the form of a hill, and the stem is presented as a river. The "hill-water" represented the concept of civilization. The 'hill' represents the highest point of encounter between God and man. **Viewed upside down**, the flower/stem takes the form of a heart – source of life, which belongs to and has its origin in God.

Our Lady's appearance is mestiza, both **Aztec and Spanish**, showing the two cultures coming together at this point in history.

The stars on her mantle signify **she comes from heaven** - the Queen of Heaven. The **constellations** are in the **exact position as appeared** before dawn on the morning of December 12, 1531.

Her **hands are joined in prayer** and, therefore, she is not God but clearly there is one greater than she, and she points her finger to the cross on her brooch.

The image of Our Lady of Guadalupe depicts a **dark ribbon above her womb**, indicating that she is a woman anticipating the birth of God's only Son. The Spanish expression is encinta, "adorned with ribbon."

In the **center of her tunic, overlying her womb**, is a four petal jasmine flower which is the sign of the Divine and the center of the cosmic order to the Aztec. The Virgin's Baby, Jesus, is Divine and the true center of the universe.

The **4-petaled flowers** with leaves on her tunic symbolize to the Aztecs that the fifth-age, the Age of Peace, has begun.

The Virgin of Guadalupe is shown **among the clouds**, representing her divine origin.

Our Lady **stands in front of the sun**. The sun symbolized the greatest Aztec god - Huitzilopochtli. She announces the God who is greater than their sun god.



Our Lady stands on the moon. The crescent moon symbolized the Aztec god Quetzalcoatl, the feathered serpent moon god. She has clearly crushed and defeated him. **The Virgin's shoe**, which appears over the moon, has no color, but is simply the raw tilma. This is inexplicable.

An angel with eagle's wings supports the Mother of God. The eagle was the "bird of the sun." Here the angel is the messenger of the Virgin. The angel wears both a tunic of the same color and a brooch like hers. The angel holds her mantle in one hand and the robe with the other, signifying the Son she bears is from both heaven and earth.



SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Mother of America

The well authenticated story of the five apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary is briefly related here:

1st Apparition: At dawn on December 9, 1531, Juan Diego, an Aztec convert, was going to Tlatelolco to attend catechism class and Holy Mass. As he was passing Tepeyac Hill, he saw birds on the summit and heard the strains of celestial music. Filled with wonder, he stopped. Then he heard a feminine voice asking him to ascend. When he reached the top he saw the Blessed Virgin Mary standing in the midst of a glorious light, in heavenly splendor. The beauty of her youthful countenance and her look of loving kindness filled Juan Diego with unspeakable happiness as he listened to the words which she spoke to him in his native language. She told him she was the perfect and ever Virgin Mary, Mother of the true God, and made known to him her desire that a shrine be built there where she could demonstrate her love, her compassion and her protection. "For I am your merciful Mother", she said, "to you and to all mankind who love me and trust in me and invoke my help. Therefore, go to the dwelling of the Bishop in Mexico City and say that the Virgin Mary sent you to make known to him her great desire."

2nd Apparition: The Bishop was reluctant to believe Juan Diego's story. Juan returned to Tepeyac Hill where he found the Blessed Virgin waiting for him, and told her of his failure. She bade him return to the Bishop the next day and repeat her wishes.

3rd Apparition: The Bishop then requested that the Lady give him a sign. Juan reported that evening and she promised to grant his petition on the following morning. But Juan was prevented from coming because of a sudden and severe illness of his uncle, Juan Bernardino.

4th Apparition: Two days later, on December 12, as he was going to the Church at Tlatelolco in order to bring a priest to his dying uncle, Juan Diego was stopped by the Lady, who had come down from Tepeyac Hill to meet him in the road. She listened quietly to Juan's excuse for not having kept his appointment with her the day before. When he had finished speaking she said, "It is well, littlest and dearest of my sons, but now listen to me. Do not let anything afflict you and be not afraid of illness or pain. Am I not here who am your Mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Are you not in the crossing of my arms? Is there anything else you need? Do not fear for your uncle for he is not going to die. Be assured... he is already well."

Having heard these words, Juan Diego rejoiced and asked for the sign he was to take to the Bishop. He was told to climb to the top of the hill where she had spoken to him on three previous occasions. She said he would find many flowers blooming there which he was to cut and bring to her. Juan Diego did as he was told though he knew no flowers had ever bloomed before on the stony summit. He discovered a marvelous garden of dew-fresh blossoms which he cut as she had asked. Placing them in his rough cloak, or tilma, he brought the flowers to the Lady who rearranged them and told him to take them to the Bishop; that this was the sign to persuade him to carry out her wishes.

When Juan Diego, radiantly happy, stood before Bishop Fray Juan de Zumárraga and told him of the fourth encounter with the Lady, he opened his tilma to show the Bishop the sign; the flowers cascaded to the floor - but to the astonishment of the Bishop and Juan Diego, there appeared upon the coarse fabric of Juan Diego's mantle a marvelously wrought, exquisitely colored portrait of the Blessed Virgin, just as Juan Diego had previously described her.

5th Apparition: Earlier that same day, December 12, she had also appeared to Juan's uncle, Juan Bernardino, and restored him to health as she had told Juan Diego. Juan Diego was at that time fifty-seven years old; his uncle was sixty-eight. Both had been among the first of the natives to be baptized into the true faith several years before.



The Name of Guadalupe

Juan Bernardino told his nephew the Blessed Virgin had ordered him to relate to the Bishop in what miraculous manner she had cured him. She also told Juan Bernardino her image was to be known as "Santa Maria de Guadalupe" and thus she has been venerated by this title for nearly five centuries.

The Mantle of Juan Diego

The mantle or tilma on which the Sacred Image of the Blessed Virgin is imprinted is handwoven from the fibers of the Maguey cactus, a fabric which has a life span of little more than thirty years. It is six-and-a-half feet long by forty-two inches wide and has a seam running down the middle.



The Sacred Image

Directly on this rough, burlap-like material is the exquisitely delicate figure of Our Lady, four feet, eight inches in height. This authentic portrait of the Virgin Mary has remained fresh and lovely for nearly five centuries and may be viewed today at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico City where it occupies the place of honor above and behind the main altar.

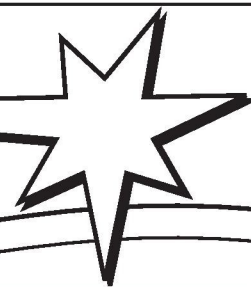
The Codex

The Sacred Image is a codex, or picture writing; every detail is symbolic. She is brighter than the sun; her foot rests upon the moon; the stars on her mantle are in the same relative configurations as the stars in the heavens on the morning of December 12, 1531; the northern constellations on her right - the southern constellations on her left. Further, the golden filigree over her rose colored gown matches the topography of the Mexican lands once ruled by the Aztecs.

WORDS OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE TO JUAN DIEGO

"Know for certain, least of my sons, that I am the perfect and ever Virgin Mary, Mother of the True God through Whom everything lives, the Lord of all things near and far, the Master of heaven and earth. It is my earnest wish that a temple be built here to my honor. Here I will demonstrate, I will exhibit, I will give all my love, my compassion, my help and my protection to the people. I am your merciful mother, the merciful mother of all of you who live united in this land, and of all mankind, of all those who love me, of those who cry to me, of those who seek me, of those who have confidence in me. Here I will hear their weeping, their sorrow, and will remedy and alleviate all their multiple sufferings, necessities and misfortunes."

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

December 2024

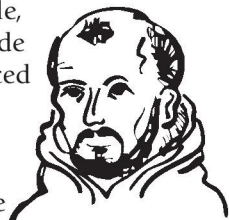
S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Thoughtful Moments

St. John of the Cross

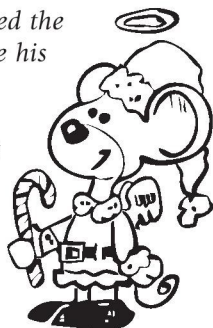
Born in Castile, Spain, St. Juan de Yepes experienced poverty and suffering throughout his life. In 1563, he entered the Carmelite Order. His friend, St. Teresa of Ávila, encouraged and supported him in reforming the Order, even when he experienced intense persecution for them. He was even imprisoned by his religious brothers for nine months. From this experience came the mystical poetry and inspired writings on the interior life that made him a Doctor of the Church.



True joy is found in Jesus

"Christ came to bring joy: joy to children, joy to parents, joy to families and to friends...In a true sense, joy is the keynote of the Christian message and the recurring motif of the Gospels." Pope St. John Paul II

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16).



Embrace the promise of Advent and the wonder of Christmas

In the flurry of holiday preparations, adults can overlook the promise of Advent and the wonder of Christmas. Children never do. This year, try to experience Advent and Christmas through the eyes of a child.

Tie gifts with heartstrings. Give gifts that are simple and heartfelt. Craft personalized bookmarks for book lovers, homemade bread or cookies, or combine Epsom salts, essential oils, and natural ingredients in a small bag for a spa gift.

Offer your hearth. Young children know that everyone needs a friend. Yet, the holidays can be lonely for those separated from their loved ones. Invite anyone who needs a place to go to share the warmth of the season with you.



Listen for peace. Watch your favorite family Advent and Christmas classics and skip the ads. Or rent movies that inspire you spiritually. Better yet, turn off the TV, computer, and phone, and revel in the gift of silence.

Await the Babe. As a family, spend quiet moments in prayer or before the Eucharist as often as you can during Advent.

These peaceful pauses can convey to children the true meaning of Christmas.

Sing like the angels. Check local community events for concerts, Messiah sing-alongs, or other musical celebrations that lift the spirit. Or organize a caroling party and sing with all the joy of the season.

Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why does the priest wear purple in Advent?

Purple – or violet – is traditionally associated with penance and penitential seasons such as Advent, a season marked by hope, simplicity, reflection, and preparation. This season calls us to



repent of our sins and strive to become the individuals God intends us to be. It is a time to ready our hearts for Jesus' arrival, both at Christmas and at the end of time. Purple is also a royal color, reminding us that the King is coming to rule our hearts!

Lessons from the Child in the manger

The image of Jesus lying in a manger is more than a beloved Christmas scene. Its lessons resonate all year long:

Generosity: In Jesus, God gave us everything. When children are tempted to keep the best for themselves, remind them of Jesus in the manger. God's gifts are meant to be shared, not just during the holidays, but in every season.

Humility: Jesus, the King of Kings, chose to be born in a humble stable. This was a profound

choice to be accessible to all of us. When children are hesitant to serve others, the Infant in the manger stands as a gentle reminder. God humbled Himself to serve us (Mark 10:45). How can we serve Him?

Love: True love seeks closeness. God, our divine Lover, came to us as a baby so that He could draw near to us, and we could draw near to Him. God has come close to us (James 4:8) and remains with us always in the Eucharist (Matthew 28:20), a testament of His boundless love.



Scripture LESSON

Luke 2:41-52, Going about the Father's business

In this reading, the Holy Family traveled to Jerusalem when Jesus was twelve years old. This was an important event in Jesus' life. Then and now, when a Jewish boy reaches the age of twelve, he is celebrated as entering manhood in a ceremony known as a Bar Mitzvah.

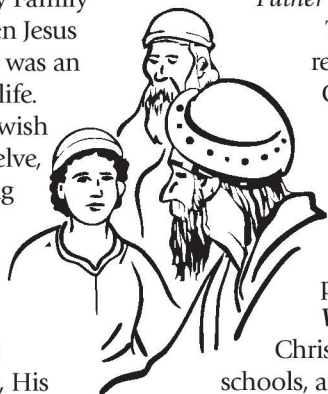
Afterwards, the family started home but Jesus stayed behind. After three days of anxious searching, His parents discovered Him in the Temple, talking with the teachers, who were amazed by Him. Mary and Joseph were shocked: How could He just wander off? Jesus explained He was "about his

Father's business."

This was the first time Jesus referred to His identity as God's only Son. He realized His duties to His heavenly Father. Meanwhile, He returned obediently to Nazareth and fulfilled His duties to His earthly parents.

What can a parent do?

Christians live in neighborhoods, schools, and communities. We are subject to legitimate earthly authority but we can grow in holiness wherever God places us. Find ways to teach children to be holy while still living in the world.



Feasts & Celebrations

December 1 - First Sunday in Advent. We anticipate Christ's birth and His coming on the last day. Catholics everywhere light candles in an Advent wreath to signal the coming of the light of Christ.

December 7 - St. Ambrose of Milan (397). St. Ambrose was an effective pastor, bishop, and teacher, and was devoted to care of the poor in Milan. He guarded the Church against the Arians, who denied Jesus' divinity.

December 9 - Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

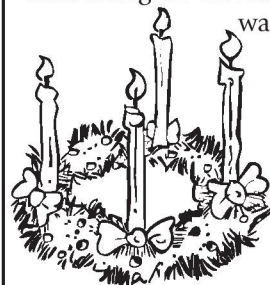
We commemorate that Mary was conceived in St. Anne's womb without original sin, preparing Mary to be the Mother of God. Pope Pius IX declared this doctrine in 1854. This year, it will be observed on December 9 and is a holy day of obligation.

December 21 - St. Peter Canisius (1597). Born in Holland, he became a priest in the Jesuit Order and worked through his writings and teachings to safeguard the Catholic faith after the Reformation. His work, *The Catechism*, is still used today.



Parent TALK

Our holidays were so hectic, I stopped enjoying them. Instead of celebrating on Christmas morning I wanted to stay in bed. Two years ago, I was so cranky and tired, I almost ruined everyone else's day. So last year I asked the guests

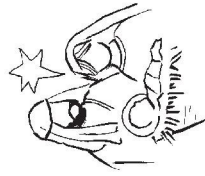


we expected for Christmas dinner to each bring a side dish. That way I wouldn't have to spend the whole day cooking. Next, I drew up a list of our closest friends and family and bought small gifts for them, and the children and I spent a weekend baking cookies and wrapping gift baskets. People loved the homemade touch. Finally, I put the children's bedtime off each night by 15 minutes. We spent that time lighting the Advent wreath and praying the Rosary.

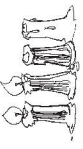
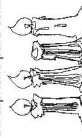
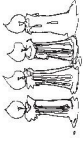
On Christmas morning, I cooked a special breakfast, sang joyfully at Mass, and celebrated Christmas Day. I finally had my blessed family Christmas.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)



Calendario de adviento familiar

Domingo	Lunes	Martes	Miércoles	Jueves	Viernes	Sábado
1 Diciembre Compra o haz un Adviento Corona y bendícela. Enciende la vela violeta todas las noches de esta semana. 	2  Mostrar el vacío Belén. Añadir figuras poco a poco durante el Adviento pero deja fuera lo Santo Familia.	3 San Francisco Javier San Francisco era jesuita Sacerdote que difundió la Buena Nueva en tierras lejanas. En la cena, reza especialmente por los misioneros cristianos en el extranjero.	4 Asignar "Ángeles de Adviento". Sacar nombres al azar y fomentar el bien trabaja en secreto 	5  En la cena, pídele a Dios que acerque a tu familia. Juntos y más cerca Él este Adviento.	6 Asistir al primer viernes Misa juntos o hacer tiempo para visitar al Santísimo Sacramento en honor a Sagrado Corazón de Jesús.	7  Decorar un Jesse Árbol y discutir su significado. Aprende más en www.usccb.org .
8 Luz dos violeta velas todas las noches esta semana. Canta "Oh Ven, Oh Ven Emmanuel". 	9 La Inmaculada Concepción Asistir a misa juntos y ofrecer un Rosario familiar por nuestro país.	10 Elija una persona o situación en las noticias y ore por ella. a ellos. 	11 Llame o envíe un correo electrónico a la oficina de su parroquia y pregunte cómo su La familia puede ayudar con los próximos preparativos. Para Navidad.	12 Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe Coloque un jarrón de flores delante de una estatua de María. y rezar: "Salve, Santa Reina" para celebrar.	13 Juego familiar ¡Noche! Tómate un descanso de los preparativos de las vacaciones. Esta noche. Relájate, come pizza, y jugar juegos.	14  Preparen sus almas para la Navidad. Asistan Confesión en familia y celebrar la gloria de Dios merced.
15 Domingo de Gaudete Enciende dos velas violetas y la rosa para la alegría. Tener una cena después de la cena Un capricho para celebrar. 	16 Antes de acostarse, reúnanse un Crucifijo y rezar un Padrenuestro, un Ave María, y una Gloria para cualquiera intenciones familiares.	17 ¡La Navidad es en nueve días! Coloca una vela o luz en la ventana para el Niño Jesús. Enciéndela todas las noches hasta Navidad.	18  "El amor es paciente, el amor es bondadoso" (1 Corintios 13:4). Animar Todos a practicar Paciencia hoy.	19 Ofrecer una Coronilla de la Divina Misericordia por aquellos que han perdido a seres queridos este año. Encuentra el oraciones aquí: https://www.usccb.org/oraciones/coronilla-divina-misericordia .	20  Compartir favorito Navidad recuerdos familiares terminados chocolate caliente y galletas.	21 ¡El Rey ya casi está aquí! Ordena la casa para que esté bonita en Navidad.
22 Enciende todas las velas de la corona. Agradece a Dios por todas las gracias que nos has concedido. Recibió este Adviento. 	23  ¡Revelamos los Ángeles del Adviento! Lea las Buenas Noticias Ángel compartió en Lucas 1:26-38.	24 Lugar María y José en el belén. Añade hierba o paja a el pesebre para prepararlo para el Niño.	25  A primera hora de la mañana, coloca a Jesús en el pesebre. y cantad: "¡Alegría a la ¡Mundo!"	"En aquellos días se promulgó un edicto de parte de César Augusto, ordenando que se empadronara todo el mundo. Este primer empadronamiento se hizo siendo gobernador de Siria Quirino. Así que todos fueron a empadronarse, cada uno a su ciudad. José también subió desde Galilea, de la ciudad de Nazaret, a Judea, a la ciudad de David, llamada Belén, por ser de la casa y familia de David, para empadronarse junto con María, su esposa, que estaba encinta. Mientras estaban allí, se le cumplieron los días del parto y dio a luz a su hijo primogénito. Lo envolvió en pañales y lo acostó en un pesebre, porque no había lugar para ellos. en el mesón" (Lucas 2:1-7).		

Compañeros en la fe

Diciembre de 2023

Ayudando a nuestros hijos a crecer en la fe católica

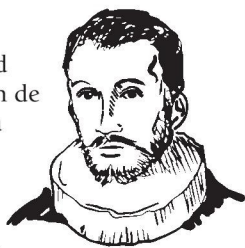
S.S. Peter & Paul and Sacred Heart Parishes



Momentos para pensar

San Edmundo Campion

San Edmundo Campion gozaba de una envidiable posición como docente en Oxford y de la admiración de sus colegas y de la reina Isabel I. Renunció a todo para hacerse misionero jesuita. Viajó en secreto por Inglaterra para administrar los sacramentos a los perseguidos católicos. Fue traicionado por un espía que fingía ser católico y encarcelado en la Torre de Londres. Fue martirizado por negarse a renunciar a su fe.



Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe

En tiempos de gran agitación en México (1531), la madre de Jesús se le apareció a san Juan Diego con mensajes de esperanza y se empezaron a producir conversiones en cantidades asombrosas. Para el año 1539, se habían convertido casi nueve millones de personas. María es la primera y la mejor discípula de Jesús para comunicar el mensaje de esperanza y salvación.

"Porque el mismo Dios que dijo: 'Brille la luz en medio de las tinieblas', es el que hizo brillar su luz en nuestros corazones para que resplandezca el conocimiento de la gloria de Dios, reflejada en el rostro de Cristo" (2 Corintios 4:6).



Añadan paz al Adviento este año

No se puede negar que este año va a ser más complejo que nunca encontrar paz y júbilo durante el Adviento, teniendo en cuenta lo que está sucediendo en el mundo. Pero sabemos que no es en el mundo donde encontramos nuestro júbilo. Procuren seguir el ejemplo de la primera Navidad en su celebración familiar a fin de encontrar más paz y júbilo este año.

Barran la posada. Jesús eligió circunstancias humildes para su nacimiento a fin de estimular nuestro desapego de las cosas del mundo. Elijan juntos ropa, regalos y juguetes en buenas condiciones que no necesiten y donen todo eso a gente que sí lo necesita. Luego limiten el número y el valor de los regalos que

hagan. Esto liberará su atención y su afecto por lo que de verdad importa.

Elijan los pastores. Aunque las personas que cuidaban de las ovejas en los campos esa noche no eran ni las más afortunadas ni las más populares del pueblo, Dios las eligió para que dieran la bienvenida a su hijo recién nacido. Los niños se benefician de la compañía sana y cariñosa. Acepten y extiendan invitaciones estas fiestas sólo a personas con las que pasen tiempo lleno de cariño y de amor.

Mediten en su corazón.

Cuando nació su excepcional hijo, *"María, por su parte, guardaba todas estas cosas y las meditaba en su corazón"* (Lucas 2:19) para poder disfrutar la alegría de cada momento. No se olviden de disfrutar el tiempo con su propia excepcional familia para poder meditar cada maravilloso momento en su propio corazón.



¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

¿Por qué llaman los católicos Emmanuel a Jesús?

"... Y le pondrán por nombre Emmanuel, que significa Dios con nosotros" (Mateo 1:23). Jesús es Dios y vino no sólo para salvarnos, sino también para estar con nosotros. De hecho prometió: "Yo estoy con ustedes todos los días" (Mateo 28:20). Jesús está presente con



nosotros de forma invisible pero poderosa en la Iglesia, en la Sagrada Escritura, en las almas de los fieles, en el sacerdote que celebra los sacramentos, en la oración y, muy especialmente, en la Eucaristía. Dios está verdaderamente con nosotros.

Prolonguen la Navidad...

Para algunos, la Navidad termina cuando las tiendas se vacían y se abren los regalos. Para los católicos, el tiempo litúrgico de Navidad empieza el día de Navidad y termina el 8 de enero, con el Bautismo del Señor. Procuren que el júbilo de la Navidad dure todo este tiempo.

Guarden los adornos. Regocijense en el gran misterio de la Encarnación. Conservar el belén hasta el final del tiempo litúrgico le recuerda a su familia el significado profundo de la Navidad. Enciendan las luces de Navidad para recordar que Jesús llevó luz a la oscuridad.



Celebren una fiesta de Epifanía. La festividad de la Epifanía celebra la visita de los Magos y sus regalos al Niño Dios. Den una fiesta con velas, comida deliciosa, villancicos e himnos y las personas que sean una bendición para su familia.

Hagan una visita. Jesús vino a nosotros esa primera Navidad y permanece en la Eucaristía. Si tienen días de vacaciones en el trabajo y la escuela, procuren ir a misa diaria o a la Adoración. El regalo que desea el Niño Dios es que le hagamos compañía.

Lecciones de las Escrituras

Lucas 2:22-40, Dios cumple sus promesas

María y José eran fieles judíos que hicieron lo que su fe exigía para celebrar el nacimiento de su hijo y agradecerse a Dios. Como no podían permitirse la habitual ofrenda de un cordero, ofrecieron en su lugar dos tórtolas o pichones. Contemplado desde fuera, el nacimiento de Jesús era común y corriente y su familia completamente normal.

Sin embargo Simeón reconoció inmediatamente a Jesús como el Mesías. Inspirado por el Espíritu Santo, profetizó que Jesús sería *"luz para iluminar a las gentes y gloria de tu pueblo Israel"* (Lucas 2:32).



Simeón no fue el único que reconoció la presencia de Jesús en el templo. También Ana fue inspirada por el Espíritu Santo y dio gracias a Dios. Su fe en las promesas de Dios le dio esperanza. La esperanza que Dios pone en nuestros corazones nos inspira el deseo por el reino de los cielos.

¿Qué pueden hacer los padres? Enseñen a sus hijos a que busquen a Jesús en el mundo y le recen con frecuencia.

Díganles que el Espíritu Santo revelará la presencia del Señor a quienes quieran conocerlo, recibirlo y estar con él para siempre.

Hablan los padres

Perdí mi trabajo durante la pandemia y por suerte encontré otro, aunque pagaba mucho menos. Agradezco que mi nuevo trabajo nos permita pagar las facturas importantes e incluso ahorrar un poquito, pero no nos queda para extras.



Al acercarse la Navidad el año pasado, les explicamos a nuestras hijas que habría menos regalos bajo el árbol y les pedimos que recortaran sus listas de regalos navideños.

Las niñas pasaron mucho tiempo repasando sus peticiones, pero no parecían disgustadas. Una noche durante la cena, me entregaron sus listas y cada una pedía sólo tres regalos. Chris explicó que si Jesús tuvo bastante con tres regalos, nosotros teníamos bastante con tres regalos. Lo que realmente querían era tiempo en familia. Todos estábamos de acuerdo. Y la Navidad resultó una alegre y dichosa celebración del Amor.

Fiestas y celebraciones

3 de diciembre – Primer domingo de Adviento. Anticipamos el nacimiento de Cristo y su segunda venida al final de los tiempos. Los católicos de todo el mundo encienden velas en una corona de Adviento para indicar la venida de la luz de Cristo.

9 de diciembre – San Juan Diego (1548). San Juan Diego recibió la visita de Nuestra Señora en el cerro del Tepeyac, México. Nuestra Señora le pidió que construyera una capilla y lo mandó al obispo con rosas como prueba. Cuando san Juan puso las rosas ante el obispo, su manto (tilma) retuvo la imagen milagrosa

de la Santísima Virgen.

17 de diciembre – Santa Olimpia (408). Nacida en el seno de una familia rica en Constantinopla, esta santa viuda dedicó su amplia fortuna al cuidado de los pobres y apoyó la obra de su amigo san Juan Crisóstomo.

31 de diciembre – La Sagrada Familia (siglo I). Celebramos la vida familiar de Jesús, María y José, tres personas que vivieron para Dios. Por su amor y su apoyo mutuo, la Sagrada Familia es el modelo para todas las familias cristianas.



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