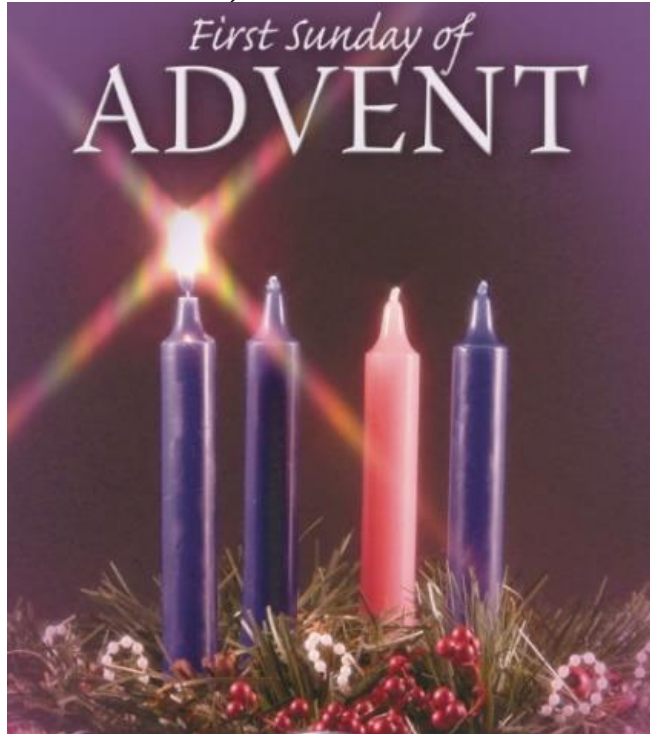




November 28, 2021



Reading 1: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Lord will fulfill his promises to Israel and Judah.

Psalms 25:5, 8-9, 10, 14

The Lord will teach us his paths.

Reading II: Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be holy and to please God.

Gospel: Luke 21:25-28,34-36

Jesus teaches about the signs of the coming of the Son of Man.

Advent/Christmas schedule coming next week!

Advent – a time for prayer, reflection, and preparing our hearts and minds for Christ’s light coming into the world.

The Prophets’ Candle symbolizes *hope*.

The Bethlehem Candle symbolizes *faith*

The Shepherds’ Candle symbolizes *joy*

The Angel’s Candle symbolizes *peace*.

November 28th – Hymns for

5:30pm Mass:

24 People, Look East

32 Waiting In Silence

Communion Antiphon

40 The Advent of Our King



LECTORS NEEDED: Seeking individuals to participate in our Ministry in proclaiming the Word of God. Lectors are asked to sign up in advance. Talk with Fr. Robert Fath, Jim Radigan, or Mary Pat Boger if you have questions. Commit to our community and help by participating at Mass! Looking for singers for the choir, too!

Dates to Remember

- ✚ **Nov 28: Advent Candles, Calendars, & other items to prepare your house will be available after 5:30pm Mass.**
- ✚ **No Religious classes this Nov 28.**
- ✚ **Nov 28 – Diocese of Fairbanks Special Collection** split between Diocese of Cuddpah in India, Maiduguri in Nigeria, and Mutare in Zimbabwe. Currently we have priests in our Diocese come from these foreign countries.
- ✚ **Dec 3rd: First Friday Devotions at ICC – 5:30pm Mass, 6:00PM-6:00AM Adoration, 7:00AM Mass.**
- ✚ **Dec 7-12: UAF Final Examinations**
- ✚ **Jan 12, 2022 – Ordination to the Priesthood for Deacons Piotr Oprych and Dominik Wojcik** are scheduled to be ordained at 10AM at SHC. The ordination will be live-streamed.



Diocese of Fairbanks Synodal Nature of the Church

Sign on to the diocesan webpage at <https://dioceseoffairbanks.org> and go to “What’s Happening” tab and then to “Current News” to fill out the Synodal Nature of the Church questionnaire. Bishop Chad’s letter on this can be found at www.stmarksuaf.org/letters. The Diocesan Missionary Disciples online magazine has a special edition covering this topic.

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Go to the St. Mark website <http://www.stmarksuaf.org> to read “Why a Parish Census/Registration?”. We are asking everyone to fill out the paperwork or online form to update our records. Drop finished paper form off in donation basket at church. If you have questions, contact Mary Pat at stmark@cbna.org.

Prayer Request From Bishop Chad

Bishop asks that for the remainder of the month of November, during your intercessory prayer, you include praying for the canonization and intercession of individuals going through the process to become a saint. Details of those individuals can be found in this link <https://www.usccb.org/committees/african-american-affairs/road-sainthood-leaders-african-descent>

Connecting the Gospel

... **to the First Reading:** The Second Reading spells out quite clearly what our daily vigilance looks like. We are to abound in love, be blameless in holiness, conduct ourselves to be pleasing to God, receive instructions given "through the Lord Jesus."

... **to experience:** Given our present experience of wars, poverty, natural disasters, some people conclude that the end of the world is at hand and are fearful. Rather than inviting fear of an imminent end, these same things call us to become more vigilant about the way we live and witness to the Gospel.

<https://liturgy.slu.edu>



Commentary for the Readings from the 1962 Roman Missal:

First Sunday of Advent

"There will be signs in the . . . (heavens). . . and upon the earth, distress of nations. . . they will see the Son of Man coming. . . lift up your heads, because your redemption is at hand" (Gospel).

On His second Advent at Parousia at the end of time, Jesus will come in the fullness of Divine Power. Then will we be obliged to accept Him as King of Justice. So today let us begin to prepare for this year's anniversary of His first Advent as King of Mercy. Because His coming is "nearer" we are warned to "rise from sleep, . . . lay aside the works of darkness. . . and put on the Lord Jesus Christ" (Epistle).

Aware of the dangers ahead during this preparation, we call upon His "power" to protect us (Prayer) and to "cleanse us" (Secret). Finally, we promise to "prepare with due reverence for the coming festival" (Postcommunion). Excerpted from *My Sunday Missal*.



Looking for Crafters, Cooks, and Bakers!

Sacred Heart Cathedral's Christmas Bazaar is scheduled for Dec. 4th from 9AM-5PM and after Sunday Masses on Dec. 5th. If you have any questions, contact Katerina at (907) 451-1051.



The SHC Hospitality Bake sale was a huge success! "Thank You" to all our wonderful bakers, the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Cathedral, St. Mark's Parishioners, and various visitors. You all donated \$1800 towards Our Ministry. All donations are used for our SHC parish. Through your generous donations, you are all part of the hospitality ministry.

If you'd like to become active members of the Hospitality Ministry (we would love to have you), or find out more about us, please contact Katerina at k_placha@yahoo.com, or attend our meeting on November 29, at 6:30pm in the social hall.

Our next event is our Parish Christmas Bazaar, Saturday, December 4, 9am-4pm, and after the 4:30pm Mass; on Sunday, December 5, after all scheduled Masses (if items are still available). We're still looking for items to sell. Please drop off any of your donated bazaar items into a collection box by the cathedral office. Thank you again for your support

Immaculate Conception Soup Kitchen needs fresh fruits, vegetables, eggs, bottled water, granola bars, applesauce cups, cocoa mix, black tea, Ziploc sandwich and snack bags, disposable forks and spoons, napkins, and winter gear. If we all pitch in, we can make a difference. If you can't get out to shop, think about getting a gift card from COSCO to give ICC for the soup kitchen! More information can be found on their website: <https://iccfairbanks.org/soup-kitchen> .

Faith & Family Formation Advent Challenge

The office of Faith and Family Formation has put together an Advent challenge to help you grow in your preparation and prayer as we near the Christmas season. Each week there are certain challenges that households are encouraged to check off, such as praying before a meal, saying the rosary, or simply talking to a friend about faith. Check out the handout on the table before/after mass or go to our website and download to check off each challenge. Remember to follow instructions and mail in for the raffle prize!



the joy of giving

When thinking of holiday and year-end tax contributions, consider looking at giving a donation toward one of the many needs of our rural parishes

<https://dioceseoffairbanks.org/joomla/>



Nov 28, 2021 * 1st Week of Advent - Justice Challenge: This week marks the beginning of Advent. We are challenged by the Scriptures to be alert and vigilant, and to recognize that the Messiah the

Jews prayed for would bring justice to our world. The first reading describes Jerusalem in the era of the Messiah as “The Lord Our Justice.” Your challenge this week is to reflect on how you have helped bring more justice into the world, and to pay attention (being very vigilant) to an injustice that exists in your local community. Then decide as a household one specific step you can take to end the injustice and uphold the human rights of all.

PREPARING THE MANGER

Where do you fall in the “Christmas-songs-in-November” debate — do you like them, tolerate them, or outright hate them? There’s no theological problem with Christmas songs in November outside of worship, even if it’s not everyone’s cup of tea. But there is a problem with getting so caught up in the baggage of the season — the trimmings, the gifts, the celebrations, all of which are marvelous in their own way — that you forget to prepare the manger.

Every good Catholic knows that Lent is a penitential season. It’s hard to miss that point — Lent doesn’t even have any fun songs you can groove to on the radio. We are pretty good at recognizing that Lent calls us to examine ourselves. To deny ourselves. To give of ourselves. And most of all, Lent calls us to prepare, as a good steward does, for the return of our master.



It’s harder for us to remember that with Advent, but Advent is just as much of an opportunity for penance, preparation, and reconciliation to God — and just as much reason, too. The very name of the season — “advent” — encourages us to focus on what is coming, not what is already here. Be on guard, the readings tell us today, “so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and (the coming of the Lord) catch you unexpectedly, like a trap.”

So let us not forget — our master’s advent is upon us. And let us ask ourselves: how can we prepare the manger?
— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Holy Father’s Prayer Intentions – People Who Suffer from Depression. We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.



Why do Catholics confess their sins to a priest? Why can’t I just confess my sins directly to God?

The first and best answer to this question is: because Jesus said so!

In St. John’s Gospel, Jesus appeared to His Apostles after His Resurrection and said to them: “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.” —John 20:21-23

Christ clearly states in this passage that He wishes to act through the Apostles in order to forgive men their sins. Since the Church is founded on Peter and the Apostles, the powers given to them are communicated to their successors.



Why might Jesus have chosen to effect the forgiveness of sins in this way?

One reason is so we never have to worry about whether our sins are forgiven. God has given us a simple formula—Confession—for getting back into His graces when we have failed. It’s not based on subjective feeling, but a sacred rite. Within Confession, our contrition doesn’t even have to be perfect, although perfect contrition is the ideal. “Perfect contrition” is being sorry for a sin because it offended God. “Imperfect contrition” is sorrow for sin due to a natural fear of punishment.

Imperfect contrition is all that is necessary within the Sacrament of Confession. God does the rest.

Wow, what a gift. A way to confess and do penance without all the worry of “Have I done it right?”

Other reasons include the sacramental graces we receive in Confession and the advice of the priest, both of which assist us in avoiding sin and growing in virtue.

Jesus is Wisdom Itself. He is the Word of God. He never did anything that was unnecessary—sacramental confession included. He knows us far better than we know ourselves and knows just what we need.

You’ll find more passages to help you understand and defend sacramental confession and other Catholic doctrines in Patrick Madrid’s *Where is THAT in the Bible?* In the short, concise chapters of this pocket-sized book, a veteran apologist takes you through the basic doctrines of the Church and the biblical passages that support them. A vital tool, especially for discussing our beliefs with our Protestant brethren.

<https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed>

Catholic Student Association & Catholic Young Adult

We are a community of faith and caring.

CSA/Young Adults is a ministry where Mass, the sacraments, and church teachings remain the mission. Help us define the needs of Catholic students at UAF. We will continue meeting students in December at Arctic Java!

Need a ride to Sacred Heart Cathedral for 5:30pm Sunday Mass or willing to provide a ride? Contact Mary Pat Boger at 907-374-9564.

Stewardship Moment

“But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.” (Luke 21:28)

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation for the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. What will you do differently this Advent season to grow in friendship and love with Jesus? How will you inspire others to do the same? Start by sharing your God story with others, especially those closest to you. Invite and accompany them on their faith journey this Advent.

First Sunday of Advent -- November 28, 2021

“Strengthen your hearts in holiness.” Are you being called to grow in holiness as a priest, deacon, religious brother or sister? Contact the Vocation Office at (907) 374-9504 or email: rfath@cbna.org.



Weekly Collections will be updated at the end of the month.

November 21, 2021, Total: \$ 1,007.00
Total (7/1/21-6/30/22): \$22,419.50

Thank you for your generosity and continued support!

St. Mark Parish: Ph.907-374-9564

Email: stmark@cbna.org

Website: <http://www.stmarksuaf.org>

Office Hours: Tues-Fri: 10am – 12noon.

Pastor: Fr. Robert Fath Ph. 907-374-9504

Email: rfath@cbna.org

Podcast: <https://frobertfath.podbean.com/>

Deacon: Warren Lucero

Parish Admin.: Mary Pat Boger Ph. 907-374-9564

Bookkeeper: Marilis Bennett Ph. 907-590-9291

Music Director: George Stefan Ph. 907-978-6953

Sacraments & Becoming Catholic:

Contact Mary Pat Boger at stmark@cbna.org

Vocations: See Fr. Robert Fath

Parish Council: Marilis Bennett, John Fox, Cynthia Klepaski, Ritchie Musick, Jen & Sean Tucker

AREA WEEKEND MASSES

Sacred Heart Cathedral 474-9032

Saturday Vigil: 4:30pm

Saturday Latin Mass: 6:30pm – 10/23, 11/20, 12/18

Sunday: 8:00 & *11:00am (*Live-Streamed)

Sunday Spanish Mass: 1:00pm

St. Mark Sunday Mass: 5:30pm

<https://www.sacredheartak.org/>

Immaculate Conception 452-3533

Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm; Sunday: 7:30am, 10:00am

<https://www.iccfairbanks.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ICCFairbanks>

Saint Raphael 457-6603

Saturday Vigil: 6:00pm; Sunday: 9:30am

<https://www.straphaelfairbanks.org/>

Saint Nicholas, North Pole 488-2595

Saturday Vigil: *5:00pm; Sunday: 9:00am, 12:00pm

<http://www.stnicholasnp.org/>

Good Shepherd, Ft. Wainwright

Sunday: 9:00am, SLC

Adoration: Thursday 6:00 – 7:00 pm, SLC

Catholic Women of the Chapel: Wed - 9am, SLC

Our Lady of Snows, Eielson Air Force Base

Sunday: 10:30am

Daily Mass: Tuesday-Friday – 11:30am

Let Us Pray For: Pope Francis; Bishop Chad Zielinski, Fr. Robert Fath & all our Priests, Deacons, and Seminarians; an increase in vocations into the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. Members of our community who are isolated illness. The St. Mark Community and University students on campus as we begin the new liturgical year (C) and for the safe return of Thanksgiving travelers. Grant our dearly departed eternal rest and bring peace to their families.

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly
Kingdom.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.