

Sharing  
the Spirit  
of Love

Catholic Church Community of

# St. Thomas More

115 Kings Highway, Hauppauge NY 11788

www.stmli.org | (631) 234-5551

November 30<sup>th</sup> 2025

# STAY AWAKE



### This Week's Readings

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalms 122:1-9

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:37-44

## First Sunday of Advent

### Religious Ed

631-234-0397 (call)

reled@stmli.org (email)

### Rectory

631-234-5551 (call)

631-213-6882 (text)

rectory@stmli.org (email)

### Outreach

631-234-3149 (call)

outreach@stmli.org (email)

# This Week's Masses

**Saturday, November 29th**  
5:00pm The People of the Parish

**Sunday, November 30th**  
First Sunday of Advent

8:00am Christine Brucculeri

9:30am Richard Allen Haas

11:30am Marie Gragniello  
Charlie Kirk

**Monday, December 1st**  
9:00am Richard Lanzetta

**Tuesday, December 2nd**  
9:00am Antoinette Pepe

**Wednesday, December 3rd**  
9:00am Carlo Matteucci

**Thursday, December 4th**  
9:00am Irene Valenti

**Friday, December 5th**  
9:00am Al Weidig

**Saturday, December 6th**  
5:00pm Patricia Hatta

**Sunday, December 7th**  
Second Sunday of Advent

8:00am John J Thompson  
Juanita Williams

9:30am Arputha Mary Asir  
Rose Marie Guarin

11:30am Cora Taday  
Eugene Kelly



## Parish Mission

St. Thomas More Roman Catholic Church is a parish community striving to share the Spirit of Love through Prayer, Worship, the Sacraments, the Teachings of the Church, and our concern for others, through Christian Stewardship.

## Saints of the Week

St. Andrew the Apostle (11/30)  
St. Francis Xavier (12/3)  
St. John Damascene (12/4)  
St. Nicholas (12/6)  
St. Ambrose (12/7)

Saints in heaven, pray for us

## Prepare for Next Weekend

Second Sunday of Advent  
November 30<sup>th</sup> 2025

### Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10  
Psalm 72:1-2,7-8,12-13,17  
Romans 15:4-9  
Matthew 3:1-12

### Focus Questions

- 1: What in your life needs to be improved for Christ's coming?
  - 2: What part of John the Baptist's message can you identify with?
  - 3: Describe a time when you witnessed justice prevailing.
- Families: Imagine receiving a Christmas card from John the Baptist. What would it say?

### Gospel of Matthew (3:1-12)

John the Baptist appeared, preaching in the desert of Judea and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said: A voice of one crying out in the desert, Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey. At that time Jerusalem, all Judea, and the whole region around the Jordan were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

When he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce good fruit as evidence of your repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fan is in his hand. He will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

our  
*daily bread*

Mon-Fri  
9am

Sat  
5pm

Sun  
8am  
9:30am  
11:30am



# From the Pastor

Did you hear about the **man who read that smoking was bad for your health?** He immediately gave up reading. The choice is ultimately ours. Freedom of choice is so strong that it can either ignore the good and embrace the bad, or it can work to change even the worst into the best.

The readings of the **First Sunday of Advent invite us to stay awake** to our powerful choice of seeing and living the good in us and around us. The first reading depicts the picture of God filling us with the power of promoting life and peace. As God's people we are empowered to beat the swords into plowshares, spears into pruning hooks. God instructed His people in the past to choose the good and the life, "See, I have today set before you life and good, death and evil...I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live, by loving the Lord, your God, obeying his voice, and holding fast to him. For that will mean life for you, a long life for you to live on the land..." (Deuteronomy 30:15, 19-20)

In the second reading, it is up to us to **recognize the time of light and come out of the sleep**, or continue to sleep and not be willing to enjoy life in bright light. The time of Advent is the time of preparing to welcome the light of the world, Jesus Christ. It is the hour now for us to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now; less than month till Christmas, the birth of our Lord among us. The time of night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us say goodbye to the darkness. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live the life that properly belongs to the day, not that of night, "not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and lust, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the desires of the flesh." It is ultimately our choice to wake up from sleep, to throw off the works of darkness and to put on the armor of light.

Likewise, **today's Gospel invites us to be like Noah, to stay awake and listen to God's call.** No use of just speaking about fear, corruption, division and dangers. Let us be today's Noah to build the Ark and invite people to see how to save and liberate themselves from the corruption and division. May our lives be that of inviting and including all to choose and savor life instead of criticizing and condemning them. Let us be Noah to build the Ark promising to save and promote lives. Let us stay awake to choose and promise life and that which promotes life.

This weekend is the first week of Advent which means **Christmas arrives in less than a month.** It is an hectic season of shopping, wrapping gifts, putting out decorations, and sending greetings. It can be pretty stressful, draining our energy, time and wallets. How do we keep calm? Let us treat ourselves at least 10 quality minutes every morning, to pray and think about why we do what we do. These 10 minutes of silent prayer will empower us to change the day's hectic activities into moments of sharing love and joy. Jesus, the meaning of this season, will fill us with joy and believe me, our joy will become infectious.

With love and prayers,  
Father Antony



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## Our Staff

### Rectory

Theresa Recce (sacraments)  
theresa@stmli.org

Dottie Castaldo (finance)  
finance@stmli.org

Alex White (operations)  
rectory@stmli.org

### Clergy

Father Antony Asir, Pastor  
pastor@stmli.org

Matthew T.J. Surico, Deacon  
deacon.matt@stmli.org

Edward Vigneaux, Deacon (Ret)  
Robert D. Weisz, Deacon (Ret)

### Religious Ed

Mary Ellen Carrol, DRE  
maryellen@stmli.org

Linda Ronning  
reled@stmli.org

Barbara Pein

### Youth Ministry

Noelle White  
youthgroup@stmli.org

### Music Ministry

Emilia Savarese, Director  
(631) 724-8820

# Prayers & Petitions

## Pray for the Deceased

Carmela Molinaro

Al Weidig

Alphonse Cruz Manickam

Frank Latorre

Antoinette Pepe

We continuously pray for our deceased loved ones and all souls in purgatory.

St Gertrude, pray for us.

## Pray for the Sick

Andrew M Valentine

Carol Ann Raucci

Christopher Conley

Christy Torkelsen

Dolores Rudden

Ellen Murphy

Baby Emerson Brae Mark

Helen Kovarik

Jim Moran

Jimmy Cannon

Joseph Tuffarelli

Larry Wilson

Lou Savarese

Louise Soldo

Marge McGowan

Maria U Aldaba

Maria Pipia

Michael Minutillo

Nina Busse

Noah Simonetti

Nunzio Puleo

Patricia Stronczer

Richard Landi

\*This listing will reset on March 31<sup>st</sup> 2026

To add a name to the sick list, please fill out a card from the literature rack place it in the collection basket, or contact the Rectory by phone or email.

## Altar Bread & Wine Memorial

December 1<sup>st</sup> - December 7<sup>th</sup>



Contact the Rectory to arrange a memorial for the Altar Bread & Wine. Requested donation for the week is \$50

## Pray for our Clergy

Father Antony Asir

Deacon Robert Weisz

Deacon Edward Vigneaux

Deacon Matthew Surico

The Capuchin Friars

Bishop John Barres

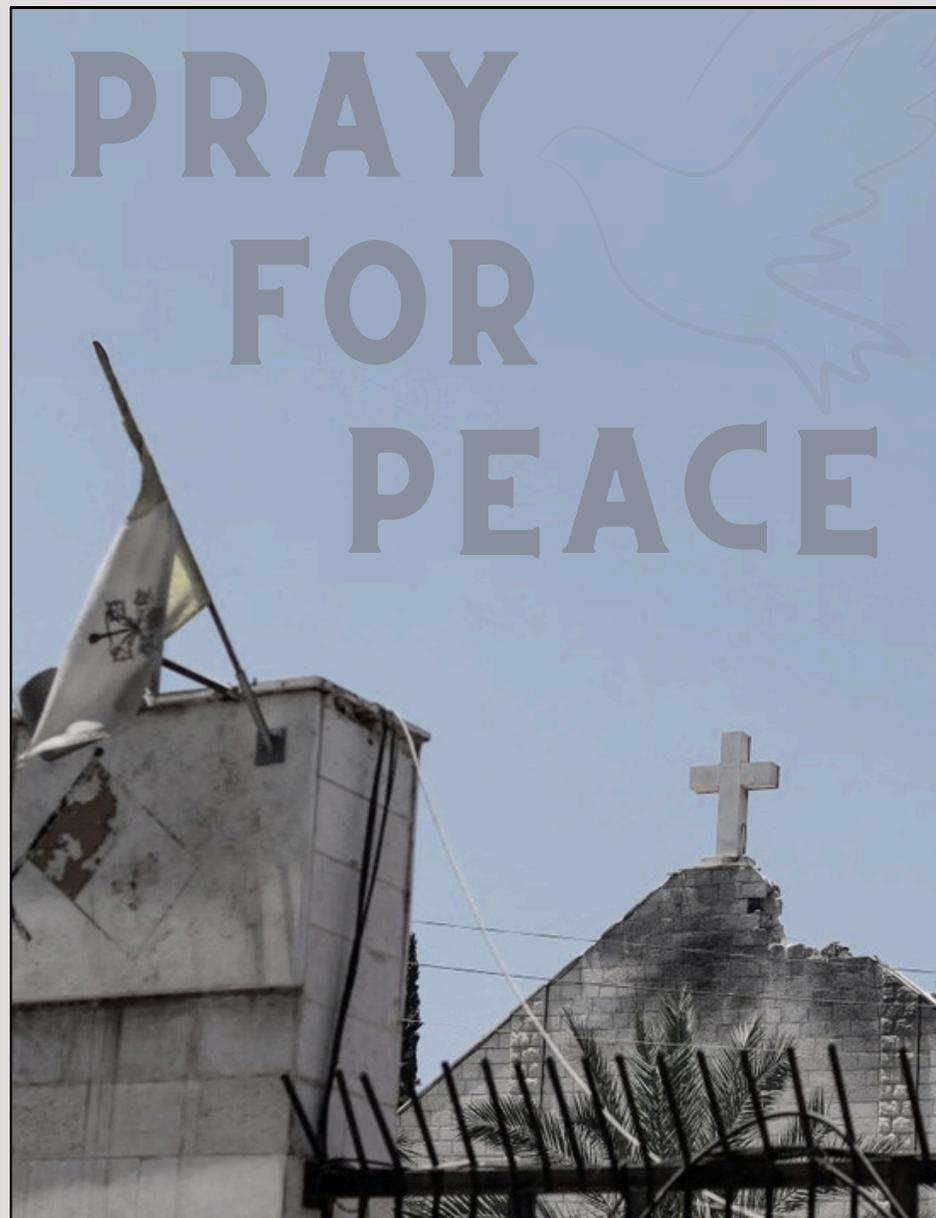
Pope Leo XIV

## Pray for our Military

Please continue to pray for the brave members of our Parish Family who serve our country:

|                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Troy A Maida       | Joseph Kirsch         |
| Connor Hendrickson | Allen Kirsch          |
| Evan Hendrickson   | Nicholas Gajda        |
| Ryan Smith         | Alexandria Feys Gajda |
| Will Maley         | Andrew Lynch          |
| Chris Capasso      |                       |

We also pray for our deceased service members, and for our veterans, in gratitude for their service, and in hope that they will find the support they need here at home.



# Support our Parish

## Financial Support

Collection from:  
November 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

# \$6914

Please consider supporting St. Thomas More. We encourage all parishioners to try electronic giving through Faith Direct. It is both convenient and secure. For more information on Faith Direct, check the literature rack in the Narthex, or visit us online at [stmli.org](http://stmli.org)

## Physical Support

There are many different ways to support the St. Thomas More Parish Community! Whether you are 4 or 40, 8 or 80, there are ways for everyone to be involved.

### Eucharistic Ministers

Patty Citro  
[pcitro78@yahoo.com](mailto:pcitro78@yahoo.com)

### Parish Outreach

Marti White  
[outreach@stmli.org](mailto:outreach@stmli.org)

### Pastoral Council

Joe Fratamico  
[bjfrat1@gmail.com](mailto:bjfrat1@gmail.com)

### Altar Servers

Deacon Matt  
[altarservers@stmli.org](mailto:altarservers@stmli.org)

### Lector Ministry

Mike Petagna  
[mpetagna22@gmail.com](mailto:mpetagna22@gmail.com)

### Hospitality Ministry

Ellie Stout  
[gram11@optonline.net](mailto:gram11@optonline.net)

### Consolation Ministry

Eileen Weidig  
631-724-2462

### OCIA

Ann Russo  
[redaa@aol.com](mailto:redaa@aol.com)

### Young at Heart

Anna Beltrani  
631-234-0714

Whether giving money, time, or labor, all your support is appreciated. St. Thomas More would not exist as it does without the generosity of our Parish Family.

### A Gentle Reminder:

Please do not place clothing or household items in the food bins or leave them at Outreach. We do not have a lot of extra storage space. Please call the Outreach office and one of our volunteers can determine if we have a family that could use your donation, or direct you to another place where you can donate.

## Parish Social Ministry

"It's not about how much you do but about how much love you put into what you do that counts."

SAINT MOTHER TERESA

### Contact Parish Outreach

631-234-3149

[outreach@stmli.org](mailto:outreach@stmli.org)

Mon-Thur 10AM to 2PM

Please reach out to Parish Outreach if you are, or know of someone, in need of support. Keep our elderly neighbors in mind and let us know if there is anyone you would like us to reach out to.

On behalf of all the volunteers at Parish Outreach and all the families in our community you helped feed this Thanksgiving, we would like to extend our gratitude to everyone who donated food and gift cards!

We would especially like to recognize and thank the following groups and individuals who sponsored food drives for Outreach...

East/West Industries, Inc. --- UNICO Islip/Smithtown Chapter

Jack & Matthew Kugler --- Joseph Innace

In addition, thank you to Margaret Gill's religious education classes for their generous donation of gift cards, the Knights of Columbus for their donation of the tips collected at the spaghetti dinner, and the Lake Grove-Centereach Homemakers for their generous donation.



### WE APPRECIATE ALL OF YOUR DONATIONS!

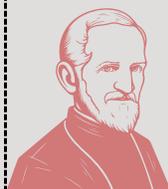
Please remember that it is difficult for us to use large cans, bottles, bags of rice, etc. as many of our neighbors do not have the ability to store extra food. Packages for 2-4 people are ideal.



## Society of St. Vincent de Paul

There is an Advent spirit in the heart of every human person. It is one of longing, of yearning for a fulfillment that somehow lies beyond ourselves; for we long for the coming of the Lord.

When we help those in need, especially at this time of the year, our hearts discover the true meaning of Christmas. Please consider a gift to our conference of SVdP, so that God's love may come to those in need.



Contact us: call 631-648-2760 or email [svdp.stm@aol.com](mailto:svdp.stm@aol.com)



# BANNS OF *Marriage*

SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT

DIANA FALCONE  
St. Thomas More  
Hauppauge



DENI YANG  
Dix Hills, NY



## New Hymnals

This week starts the new liturgical year (an A-II year), which means new copies of the Breaking Bread Missal/Hymnal.

In order to make sure they last a whole year, we kindly ask you return them to the back of the pews when Mass is finished, and that you put them in the *spine side up*.

We thank you for your consideration, and look forward to another beautiful year of liturgy and music!

## Baptisms in our church

Congratulations! We were excited to welcome the following children into the Catholic Church during their recent baptisms:

Jonah Thomas Duldulao  
child of Nicole & Jeffrey

Declan James Frey  
child of Brianna & Brian

Theodore James Hein  
child of Amanda & James

Landon John Stevens  
child of Paige & John

YOUNG AT HEART



NEXT MEETINGS:

DECEMBER 12TH

DECEMBER 17TH - 12PM  
CHRISTMAS LUNCH @  
VILLA OLIVETTI \$42/PP

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS  
WELCOME!

CALL ANNA  
631-234-0714

"She will give birth to a son,  
and you are to give him  
the name Jesus, because  
he will save his people  
from their sins."

Matthew 1:21, NIV

OUR LADY  
QUEEN OF PEACE

ادعو لنا

молися за нас



# Children's Christmas Choir

Sung to the tune of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"...

God bless you all His children, for Christmas time is near

The little child of Bethlehem will very soon appear.

What can we give him for a gift, this tiny little King?

We can join in the Christmas Choir this year

**Lets give a cheer!**

You can join the Christmas Choir for time is near!

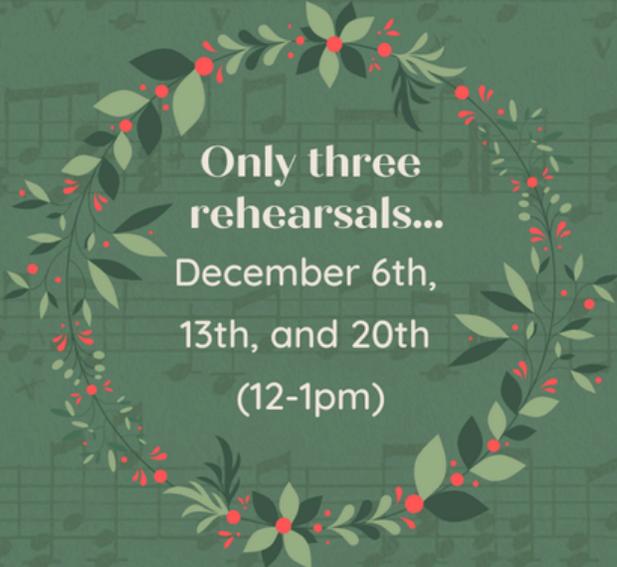


Calling all children to be a part of the celebration of Christmas!

Jesus came as a gift to us. What can we give Him in return? We  
can give Him our love and voices in joyful song!

Kids from 2nd grade through  
High School are welcome  
to share their voices at the  
3:30pm Christmas Eve Mass!

Let's get together and celebrate  
the best "birthday" ever!



**Only three  
rehearsals...**

December 6th,  
13th, and 20th  
(12-1pm)

Please call Emilia at 631-724-8820 or stop by the organ to register!

# Christmas Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 6th

Immediately following the 5pm mass

*Take photos  
with Santa!*

*Hot Cocoa  
& cookies!*



# Would you like to be an Angel or Shepherd?

This is an exciting opportunity for  
your child to become an active  
part of the Nativity story!

## Requirements:

At least 5 years old

Rehearsal at 1:00 on 12/20

Mass at 3:30 on 12/24



Email [theresa@stmli.org](mailto:theresa@stmli.org) by 12/9  
to participate. Please include...

Child's name

Child's age

Guardian's contact info

\*Spots are limited. Names  
will be accepted in the order  
they were received



**ST. THOMAS MORE**

† R.C. CHURCH †

# Calendar Club 2026

## The Every Day Lotto!

Names are drawn every day of the year (except during the Easter Triduum). The lucky winner of each day is awarded \$25 (or \$50 on Sundays and Holy Days!)

One entry for \$25, or 5 entries for \$100.

Buy as many entries as you want, and win as many times as your luck allows! You can even purchase numbers as gifts for family and friends.

The Calendar Club is a great way to support our parish, and a very important annual fundraiser for us! Please fill out the form below and return it to the rectory, or put it in the basket during Sunday collection.

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ONE for \$25     TWO for \$50     THREE for \$75     FIVE for \$100

**\*Early Bird Special: Deadline Sun Dec 14th\***

Buy FIVE entries and get a SIXTH on us!

Note: You must return your form and payment by Sunday  
December 14th.

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Please place in envelope labeled Calendar Club 2026 and return to the rectory or the Sunday collection basket. Thank you!

# *Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception*

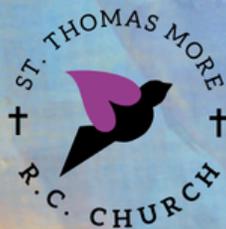
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Let us come together and celebrate this Solemnity, honoring the conception of our Blessed Mother Mary, free from original sin. Please join us for Mass, and consider praying this prayer below by St. Maximilian Kolbe.

*Immaculata, Queen and Mother of the Church, I renew my consecration to you for this day and for always, so that you might use me for the coming of the Kingdom of Jesus in the whole world. To this end I offer you all my prayers, actions and sacrifices of this day.*

**MON DEC 8TH @ 9:00AM**

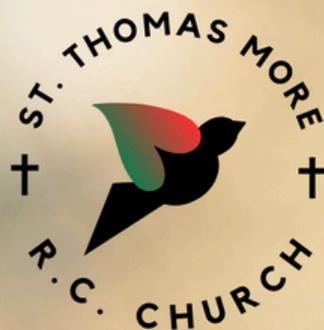
**MON DEC 8TH @ 7:00PM**



# Holy Hour

*National Night of  
Prayer for Life*

Contemporary  
music by Alex  
and Noelle!



Adoration and  
Benediction led  
by Deacon Matt!

**Tuesday, December 2nd at 7pm**

*We will be united in prayer with churches across the country  
and the world to pray for the sanctity of all human life.*

**"Let us then approach God's throne of grace  
with confidence, so that we may receive mercy  
and find grace to help us in our time of need."**

Hebrews 4:16

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

T W T F S S M T W T F S S M T W T

28 29 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 1

# Calendar Club 2025

## Congratulations to our November winners!

Future winners will be posted monthly in the bulletin!

|             |             |      |                             |
|-------------|-------------|------|-----------------------------|
| November 1  | \$25        | 503  | Phyllis Ann Ehrhardt        |
| November 2  | <b>\$50</b> | 1682 | Nancy Macaluso              |
| November 3  | \$25        | 311  | Dennis West                 |
| November 4  | \$25        | 988  | Jacqueline Garziano         |
| November 5  | \$25        | 896  | Michael & Kathleen O'Brien  |
| November 6  | \$25        | 812  | Joseph & Barbara Fratamico  |
| November 7  | \$25        | 1377 | Mike & Andraia Miller       |
| November 8  | \$25        | 1607 | Ann Russell                 |
| November 9  | <b>\$50</b> | 1748 | Virginia Chambart           |
| November 10 | \$25        | 135  | Ed & Arleen Rogan           |
| November 11 | \$25        | 1630 | James Cussen                |
| November 12 | \$25        | 528  | Fintan & Margaret Stapleton |
| November 13 | \$25        | 488  | Annette & Vincent Bitet     |
| November 14 | \$25        | 412  | Rosemarie Nick              |
| November 15 | \$25        | 1438 | Daniel & Nori Umali         |
| November 16 | <b>\$50</b> | 307  | Denise Murphy               |
| November 17 | \$25        | 42   | Patricia Ann Sullivan       |
| November 18 | \$25        | 1269 | Kevin Pearsall              |
| November 19 | \$25        | 225  | Lorraine Toomey             |
| November 20 | \$25        | 1357 | Rita S Malavet              |
| November 21 | \$25        | 1631 | Elena & Ernie LaFontaine    |
| November 22 | \$25        | 1760 | Jo Ann Eyring               |
| November 23 | <b>\$50</b> | 1693 | Pamela & CK Collins         |
| November 24 | \$25        | 1664 | Dave Holdorf                |
| November 25 | \$25        | 1020 | Tom & Clara Datre           |
| November 26 | \$25        | 481  | Janet & Mike Daly           |
| November 27 | <b>\$50</b> | 557  | Joan Murphy                 |
| November 28 | \$25        | 730  | Frances Dia & Arlene Block  |
| November 29 | \$25        | 753  | Michael Welch               |
| November 30 | <b>\$50</b> | 845  | Colleen & Gary Connors      |

OCTOBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

MARCH

APRIL

JUNE

28 29 30 31 1 30 1 2 3 4 5 6 28 29 30 31 1  
4 5 6 7 8 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 4 5 6 7 8



# ADVENT

PRAY25

PSALM 46:10

**“BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD.”**

*“Mary was not asked to do anything herself, but to let something be done to her. She was not asked to renounce anything, but to receive an incredible gift.”*

– Caryll Houselander, *The Reed of God*

**OVERVIEW**

This Advent, discover a deeper stillness—one that holds steady even when life does not. Join us on a 25-day journey with Jonathan Roumie, Sr. Miriam James Heidland, Chris Pratt, Gwen Stefani, Fr. John Burns, Fr. Pierre-Touissant, and Mother Natalia. Together, we'll draw on the Gospel infancy narratives, *The Reed of God* by Caryll Houselander, and *The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry* by John Mark Comer to root ourselves in Christ's peace amid the worldly chaos that so often overwhelms this holy season.

As you rediscover the beauty of the Sabbath, draw near to Mary, and surrender what holds you back from Him, let this Advent be different—not because life is easier, but because you are still. Just like us, Mary and Joseph faced many obstacles and had much to prepare before the birth of Jesus. Yet through it all, they clung to the Lord and trusted in Him completely. Be still and fear not, for the King of the Universe is coming.

**DAY BY DAY SCHEDULE**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| MON-<br>WED | Meditations on The Reed of God & Infancy Narratives with Jonathan Roumie and Sr. Miriam |
| THUR        | Reflection and prayer with Fr. John Burns   |
| FRI         | Reflections on <i>The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry</i> with Chris Pratt                |
| SAT         | Reflections on the Saints with Gwen Stefani and Mother Natalia                          |
| SUN         | Homily from Fr. Pierre-Touissant, CFR   |

**WEEK-BY-WEEK THEMES**

WEEK 1 Receive

WEEK 2 Trust

WEEK 3 Surrender

WEEK 4 Fiat

Dedicate time to be still and silent this Advent season to experience God's everlasting peace

Grow in understanding of how Christ continually invites us to draw near to Him

Walk with Mary as she surrenders and radically trusts in God from the Annunciation to the Nativity

Rediscover the beauty of the Sabbath and rest with the Lord as you await the birth of His Son

Meditate on the words of St. Faustina, Mother Teresa, and St. Teresa of Ávila to grow in fortitude

Pray with the whole family this Advent in the Finding Fiat challenge for kids featuring faith-filled stories, the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Family Mass Prep with Katie McGrady, and more

Inspire wonder with music from Matt Maher, Sarah Kroger, Michael Iskander, and more

# Outreach Advent Calendar

Each day, add an item to a box. After Christmas, donate the box to the STM Outreach Pantry!

- 
- Day 1 Pancake Mix
  - Day 2 Spaghetti Sauce
  - Day 3 Coffee or Tea
  - Day 4 Syrup
  - Day 5 Canned Tuna
  - Day 6 Package of Spaghetti
  - Day 7 Canned Yams/Sweet Potatoes
  - Day 8 Oatmeal
  - Day 9 Jelly
  - Day 10 Peanut Butter
  - Day 11 Chef Boyardee Meal
  - Day 12 Rice
  - Day 13 Canned Soup
  - Day 14 Applesauce
  - Day 15 Rice
  - Day 16 Canned Beans
  - Day 17 Juice/Drink Mix
  - Day 18 Boxed Milk
  - Day 19 Box of Cereal
  - Day 20 Instant Potatoes
  - Day 21 Macaroni & Cheese
  - Day 22 Box of Crackers
  - Day 23 Canned Fruit
  - Day 24 Cookies

