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Dear friends of Saint Joseph,
How many of us have had the experience of meeting a friend on the street and asking them, “How are things?” only to get the response, “Busy.” We are so busy! Medical appointments, errands, kid’s sports and clubs, even putting out the occasional fires ... you name it! We have spent years inventing labor-saving devices only to be busier than ever. This is why Advent is so important.

Here’s where God steps in and calls us to wait for a bit. The season of Advent is an opportunity to slow things down, to take some time for recollection and to focus on matters of the heart. Advent takes seriously the coming of the Lord, not only the baby in the manger, but also the Christ of all ages. The God who wishes to be close to us, quietly and gently approaches. Let’s not miss this opportunity for a special encounter because of our busyness.

Our preparation should be a mix of contemplation and action, by strengthening our prayer life, by acts of charity and generosity, and by seeking reconciliation with God and with our brothers and sisters. Then we will be able to celebrate the true meaning of Christmas: that God chose to become human - Emmanuel, “God is with us.”

Fr. Ed

P.S. See other side for Advent / Christmas schedule

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Christmas Schedule 2025

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thursday, December 11 <i>(Day of Mercy)</i>	2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Special Pre-Christmas Confessions Stop in anytime during these hours.
Saturday, December 20	9:00 a.m.	Weekday Mass
	5:30 - 6:30 pm	Regular Confessions
	7:00 pm	Sunday Mass – Fourth Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 21	9:00 11:00 am	Sunday Mass – Fourth Sunday of Advent
Wednesday, December 24 <i>(Christmas Eve)</i>	4:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Vigil Masses
	6:30 p.m.	
	9:00 p.m.	
	12:00 Midnight	
Thursday, December 25	10:00 a.m.	Christmas Day Mass
Friday - Saturday, December 26 - 27	9:00 a.m.	Weekday Mass
Saturday, December 27	5:30 -6:30 pm	Regular Confessions
	7:00 p.m.	Sunday Mass – Feast of the Holy Family
Sunday, December 28	9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Sunday Mass – Feast of the Holy Family
Monday & Tuesday December 29 & 30	9:00 am	Weekday Mass
Wednesday, December 31	7:00 pm	Vigil Mass – Mary, Mother of God
Thursday, January 1	10:00 a.m.	Mass: Mary, Mother of God
Friday, January 2	7:00 pm	Weekday Mass followed by Adoration

The regular weekday Mass schedule will resume on Saturday, January 3, 2026.

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