

The Church of Saint Justin Martyr
"How Well Do You Know The Saints?"

For years, our weekly bulletin articles have been on the *Saints*; we are blessed with many *'Patron Saints'* to whom we can entrust our needs and concerns. Last year's *Advent Calendar* 'tested' your knowledge of Christmas carols, this year's *Calendar* will test your knowledge of our *Patron Saints*. The answers will be found in the *Epiphany* bulletin and on our website after January 5, 2020. For as sacred Scripture says:

"Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us."

[Hebrews 12:1]

By relying on our *Patron Saints'* intercession and by making a good *Confession*, may we reflect *Christ's light* into our world! *Happy Advent!*

Rev. Mark A. Kreder, Pastor

Blessing & Lighting of an Advent Wreath

The leader leads all in the Sign of the Cross:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Blessed be God, who enlightens every heart.
Blessed be God for ever.

My brothers and sisters, in this holy time of Advent, we open our hearts to God's love as we prepare to welcome Christ into our lives and homes. The candles of this wreath remind us that Jesus Christ came to conquer the darkness of sin and to lead us into the light of His glorious kingdom. Let us listen to God's Word.

(Another person proclaims the Scripture reading.)

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John
[1 John 1:5-7]

Now this is the message
that we have heard from him
and proclaim to you: God is light,
and in him there is no darkness at all.

If we say, "We have fellowship with him,"
while we continue to walk in darkness,
we lie and do not act in truth.

But if we walk in the light as he is in the light,
then we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of his Son Jesus
cleanses us from all sin.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Universal Prayer

Others offer the intentions after the leader begins:

Christ came to bring us salvation and has promised to come again. Let us pray that we may be ready to welcome Him. Our response is, *"Come, Lord Jesus."*

- * That the keeping of Advent may open our hearts to God's love; we pray:
- * That the light of Christ may penetrate the darkness of sin; we pray:
- * That this wreath may constantly remind us to prepare for Christ's coming; we pray:
- * That the Christmas season may fill us with joy and peace as we strive to follow the example of Jesus; we pray:

Other intentions may be added; then the leader says:

With longing for the coming of God's Kingdom, let us pray as Jesus taught us: *Our Father ...*

Then the leader continues:

Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of sin and ignorance. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candle[s] of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, for ever and ever. *Amen. (Light the first candle; each week an additional candle is lighted.)*

All make the Sign of the Cross as the leader prays:

May the light of Christ lead us to the joy of his kingdom, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Advent Prayers Before Meals

Let us pray. Bless us, O Lord, and these your gifts, which we are about to receive, from your goodness. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen. - or -*

God, the Father of mercies, you willed your Son to take flesh, in order to give life back to us. Bless these, your gifts, with which we are about to nourish our bodies, so that, receiving new strength, we may wait in watchfulness for the glorious coming of Christ. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Advent Prayers After Meals

Let us pray. We give you thanks for all your benefits, O Almighty God, who lives and reigns for ever; and may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. *Amen. - or -*

- V.* Let us live soberly, justly, and devoutly in this world.
- R.* *As we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.*

Let us pray. We thank you, all-powerful God, for your kindness in refreshing our bodies by these gifts from your providence. Strengthen us, we pray, not only in body, but also in spirit. Through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*



**The Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed Virgin Mary
National Patronal Feast Day**

Wear something **BLUE** as
we honor Mary under her title
The Immaculate Conception
Patroness of the USA

This year, this Solemnity is
transferred to Monday,
December 9;
The **ONLY 2 Masses** are
8:30 AM - 7:00 PM

CHRISTMAS MASSES

**Christmas Eve
December 24**

**4:00 pm
6:00 pm**



Solemn Christmas Mass: 10:00 pm

*The 10:00 pm Solemn Mass begins
with Carols at 9:30 pm.*

Christmas Day: December 25

SPECIAL Mass Schedule:

8:00 am -10:00 am & 12 noon

*Note: **NO 8:30 am Mass on December 24 & 26.**
Mass on December 26th at 5:00 pm.*

Daily Eucharist

Receive daily Eucharist to spiritually enter Advent.

Sunday Obligation Masses:

Saturday evening: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 7:30 - 9:00 - 10:30 am - 12:00 noon

Weekday Mass:

Monday – Friday: 8:30 am Saturday: 9:30 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation [Confession]

All should celebrate the Sacrament of Penance or
Reconciliation [also called Confession] to remove
whatever hinders Christ's Light from shining
through them! Confessions are heard:

**Saturdays at 3:30 pm on
11/30 - 12/07 - 12/14 - 12/21**

All MUST arrive before 3:30 pm!

*[Note: due to the 5:00 pm Mass, Confessions
MUST END by 4:30 pm, so arrive early!]*

Advent Penance Service:

Friday - December 20 - 7:00 pm

Several Priests will be available for individual
confession after a communal examination of
conscience; this is NOT General Absolution.

Christmas Decorating

Sunday, December 22 - after 12:00 noon Mass

Many hands and strong backs are needed to
decorate our worship space and property; leave
your name and phone number with the office
732-270-3980 so we can give you a job to do!

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Sunday, December 29, 2019
Regular Weekend Mass Schedule
Come to church to pray as a family today.

**Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God -
New Year's Day 2020**
SPECIAL Mass schedule:
Tuesday, December 31, 2019 - 5:00 pm
Wednesday, January 1, 2020
10:00 am - 12:00 noon only

The Epiphany of the Lord
January 5, 2020
REGULAR weekend Mass schedule

Epiphany Pageant: Saturday, January 11
after the 5 pm Mass; details in the bulletin.

The Baptism of the Lord
January 12: last day of Christmastime
Regular Weekend Mass schedule.
Church un-decorating and clean up
right after the 12:00 noon Mass.
Lots of hands and strong backs are needed!

Ash Wednesday: February 26, 2020
Ashes distributed at 7:00 am - 8:30 am
12:00 noon -4:30 pm - 7:00 pm
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