Parent News December 2024

St. Robert Religious Education Grades PK-6th



Falling in love with Jesus...

- / At Home: Advent!
- Level One (ages 3-6)
- **3** Level Two (grades 1-3)
- Level Three (grades 4-6)
- News & Updates!

Growing at Home

The Advent Season



Happy Season of Advent:

Happy Season of Advent! The word "Advent" means "coming." This is a season of joyful anticipation when we celebrate the coming of baby Jesus in Bethlehem at the first Christmas. It also anticipates His second coming at Parousia (the time when Jesus will come again). And it reminds us that Jesus comes to us now in His Word and in the sacraments. This season can seem busy and chaotic. Take a few moments of quiet time with your family to pray and anticipate the coming of Jesus as Christmas. In the Atrium, we say, "purple is for preparation." This is a great season of preparing our hearts for Jesus and welcoming Him into our family life anew! It makes the Christmas celebration season so much richer when we have prepared well. So Happy Season of Advent! May your preparation bring you great joy and peace!

Advent Scripture Verses for around your prayer table at home:

- "Rejoice, full of grace" (Luke 1:28)
- "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:2)
- "He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace (Is. 9:6
- Psalm 67:1



The Level One Atrium

Ages three years through six years (PK through Kindergarten)

Entering Into Advent

Messianic Prophecies

Long before Jesus was born, God wanted his people to know about the great gift that would be coming! He gave clues to the people through the prophets so that they would recognize Jesus as the great gift that God wanted to give us. We ponder these clues and they enrich our prayer life.

- Prophecy of the Light (Isaiah 9:1)
- Prophecy of Names (Isaiah 9:6)
- Prophecy of the Mother (Is. 7:15)
- Prophecy of the Birthplace (Micah 5:2)

Infancy Narratives

We will hear the **Annunciation** and the **Visitation**. In the **Annunciation**, Mary is told that God is going to become human and that she will be God's mother. In the **Visitation**, we see how even before Jesus was born, those who were waiting (Elizabeth, Mary, Baby John), were filled with great joy by encountering Him! We also are filled with joy waiting for the great gift of Jesus!



Around the prayer table in Level One with the Advent Wreath



Level One child working with the Liturgical
Calendar



Level Two children working with the Pin Maps (for the Land of Israel)

The Level Two Atrium

1st through 3rd Grade

3

The Mystery of the Incarnation...

Since we were three years old, we have spent a long time pondering the Messianic prophecies and the Infancy Narratives. Now that we are older, we will once again look at these Scripture readings but now think about what our role is in the Kingdom of God.

In the **Annunciation**, Mary is invited to become the Mother of God. She says, "Yes, I am the servant of the Lord." We think about her yes and lift her up as a model for us. In what ways are we invited to collaborate with God and build up the Kingdom of God today (on our "blank page").

In the **Visitation**, we will look at Mary's song of praise to God - "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior." Our souls also rejoice in God! We think about if we were to write a song/prayer of praise, what would we thank God for? What good works has He done for you, through you, and around you? And we think about the day when there will be only goodness and joy surrounding all who are united with Him (in Parousia).



The Level Three Atrium

4th through 6th Grade

The Prophets...

As we enter Advent, our studies will be focused on the prophets - their **Call and Vocation and Struggles**. We have learned since Level One that the prophets are those who listen to the Word of God and share His Word to the people. Now that we are older, we look at the lives of the prophets - who were they? How did God call them? What did that call look like as they lived it out?

The prophets had a specific job God called them to and although it might have been difficult, God was faithful in His promise to be with the prophets in their mission and struggles. We can relate our own struggles to those of the prophets and think about where we see God's faithfulness to us in our lives. We think about how being obedient to God's call can bring difficulties, but there is a happiness and peace in faithfulness to following God's will.



News & Updates!

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Solemnity for Mary Mother of God Mass Times:

Holy Day of Obligation

January 1, 2025:

8:30 am 7:00 pm

No RE Classes:

Dec. 18 - Jan. 2
*RE classes resume Jan. 7

Christmas Mass Times:

Holy Day of Obligation

<u>December 24</u> (Vigil Mass): 4pm, 11pm

<u>December 25 (Christmas Day):</u> 9:00am

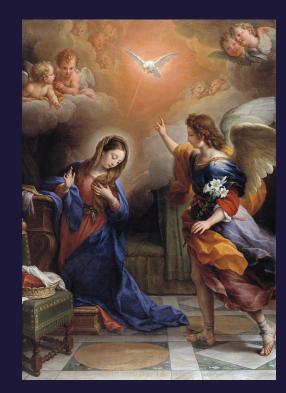
Sacramental Info Sheets

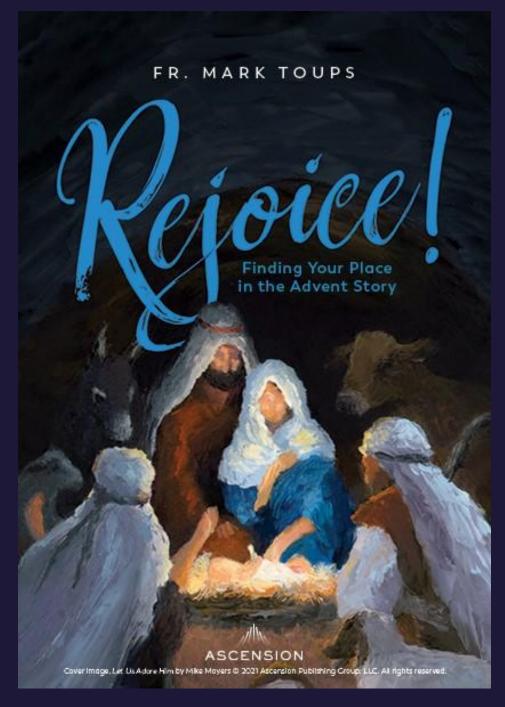
If you have not already turned in your sacramental info sheet for first confession and holy communion, please do so ASAP! Thank you!

Happy Baptism!

Joseph Stapleton (Dec. 6)

Carter Dupuis (Dec. 15)





2024 Advent Parish Mission!

In the school media center from 7:15-8:00 pm on Mondays during Advent:

November 25
December 2
December 9
December 16

Join us for this special meditation series from Ascension press where we explore and discover our place in this story.

Registration here: https://srbcatholic.com/formation/adult/advent/

Participants are encouraged to get the journal for \$15 that will take you through this Lenten journey. You can pay for and pick up your journal in the parish office or at Religious Ed.



Please contact Hannah Marconeri (hmarconeri@strobertschool.com)
or Esther Music (resecretary@srbcatholic.com)
if you have any questions.

Visit our webpage at <u>srbcatholic.com</u> for RE calendars, monthly parent newsletters, and more!