

Advent Activities



- **Parish Bale Sale and Chili to go with Chess/Checker Raffle:**
It is scheduled for December 16 & 17. Baking items, bringing them to bake sale and then buying items is the best way to help with the sale. Money donations will be accepted to help pay for chili ingredients. Put money in an envelope and mark chili donation and place it in the collection basket. Buy raffle tickets for chess/checker board raffle.
- **Good Samaritan Fund:** Supports families with children in our parish who do not have enough money to celebrate Christmas. Money left over helps people mostly seniors with heating and electricity cost over the winter months. All money support people who belong to Saint Joseph Parish. Place your money in an envelope and mark Good Samaritan Fund. If you know someone in the parish that you think could use some help please contact Father John, Deacon Bobby or Mary Van Schyndel.
- **Prayer Intention Grab Bag:** There will be a grab bag in the Narthex for everyone in the parish to put prayer intentions in. By the grab bag there will be some blue strips of paper, please write your intention on the strip of paper and then add it to the grab bag. If you want to use paper at home and have it ready when you get to church that is fine, or take a strip home to prepare for the following week. The faith formation classes will take turns adding these intentions into grab bags in their classrooms each week and pray for your intentions.

We could not do all these Advent Projects without help from people like you. And so, in this time of preparation for the transformation that Christ brings, we thank you for your participation. By supporting these projects we will all be working to transform our world for the better. Your support will help families give their children an exciting Christmas, help with food, clothing and other basic needs and our prayer intentions will touch the hearts of many. By participating in the projects it not only help others, it will also touch our hearts and help us prepare for the Christmas Season by bringing hope, reconciliation and love to our world. What a wonderful way to live the Works of Mercy!



Addendum to Advent/Christmas Schedule

Example addendum to the schedule: “This year, the Fourth Sunday of Advent will fall on December 24th, Christmas Eve. While this does not happen often (not since 2006), it reminds us of the need to plan ahead in order to participate in both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas! Our Advent journey has brought us through three weeks of preparation and reflection on Christ’s coming into the world. While this year we only have one day of the 4th Week, the 4th Sunday of Advent will best prepare us to enter fully into the joyful celebration of Christmas. At a time when we often find ourselves busy with preparations for meals, travel, and shopping, keeping our observance of the 4th Sunday of Advent so close to Christmas allows us to take special opportunity to quiet ourselves before the Christmas celebration, to make us aware of Christ’s presence, and recognize the full impact and joy of the arrival of the Christmas Time. Please see the liturgy schedule to select which Masses for both the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas you will be participating in. May we together prepare for the peace of Jesus Christ to enter into our hearts and homes during this very special time of year.”

Mass Schedule for SJ and IC:

December 23 – 4:00 pm Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent @ SJ

December 24 – 8:00 am Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent @ IC

10:00 am Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent @ SJ

4:00 pm Mass Christmas Vigil – Children’s Christmas Mass @ SJ

4:00 pm Mass Christmas Vigil – Children’s Christmas Mass @ IC

December 25 – 8:00 am Christmas Mass @ IC

10:00 am Christmas Mass @ SJ