

December 19, 2021

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Collection December 12, 2021

Collection	\$ 940.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 70.00
Christmas	\$ 25.00
Attendance	41

December 24, 2021

Lector: Rebecca Harriman
 Commentator: Guenter Schlottmann
 Usher: Stanley/Hathaway

December 26, 2021

Lector: Donna Hathaway
 Commentator: Caleb Harriman
 Usher: Klima/Stanley

Please be respectful and quiet for those praying before Mass as you enter the sanctuary.

Readings for December 24, 2021

Reading 1: Isaiah 62:1-5
 Reading 2: Acts 13:16-17, 22-25
 Gospel: Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

December 26, 2021

Reading 1: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
 Reading 2: 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
 Gospel: Luke 2:42-52

Information about St. Edward- Daily readings, the bulletin, homilies, and other information can be found on our webpage at: <https://stedwardpulaski.org>

Donations- please mail your regular donations to St. Edward's Catholic Church, PO Box 1670, Pulaski, VA 24301, if you are not attending Mass.

Prayer List - Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Joan Jennings, Jody Riffey, Stephen Petrowski, Christine Scarpinato, Michael Linkous, Megan Talbert, Bob Huttick, Rosanna Vallo, Mikey Malloy, Jerry Dalton, Gary Gibson, Charlie Hobbs, and Father Bernie.

(Please contact Stan Stanley if you have additions or deletions)

Preparing for Advent- Did you know there are two parts of Advent. Check out the "Praying Advent" site, offered by Creighton University's Online Ministries. It promises to help us have the best Advent experience ever. Just go to the site: onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent or use the QR code.



The **Fourth Sunday of Advent** begins the last week of Advent, which takes us to Christmas on Saturday. The reading from Micah reminds us that of the seemingly unimportant town of Bethlehem, "from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel." Luke's gospel offers again the story of Mary's going to visit her cousin. Elizabeth understands immediately Mary's situation and praises God saying, "How does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy."

Christmas Eve Mass- Plan to come early at 6:30 pm to hear and join in on Christmas caroling with the choir. All are welcome. Mass will start at 7:00pm.

December Birthdays

Mary Klima	Dec. 4
Walter Harriman	Dec. 8
Wayne Trail	Dec. 9
John Balconi	Dec. 10
Cheri Strenz	Dec. 10
Joan Jennings	Dec. 18
Dan Grubb	Dec. 21
Mary Beth McNair	Dec. 31

December Anniversaries

"Taken from the Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer of Creighton University's Online Ministries web site: www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html. Used with Permission."

Daily Prayer This Week

This may be one of the most difficult weeks to be reflective throughout each day. This weekend may be quite full for many of us. Others of us may be alone, apart from the faith community we will join on Sunday and Friday, perhaps daily this week. While some of us have had guests staying with us and a house to clean, others of us will be reviewing memories and struggling, even a little, with being alone.

Whether this week is full or slow, it is a treasure-filled opportunity for reflection. Using the same means we've been using, we can let the richness of this week's readings and feasts fill the background of each day. Even on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day we can wake up, surrendering anxiety by letting the anxiety of these days take us to the scene of our Lord's birth. We can imagine the anxiety that filled the experience of Mary and Joseph. We can keep in our consciousness their trust in God. The Christmas music on the radio or at our church services and liturgies can bring the faith of these hymns and songs into our hearts. And, once it is there, these songs of faith will remain in the background all day long. When we are tempted to worry or complain, to be hurt or angry, to be frustrated or exhausted, the hymns will draw our hearts to rejoicing and gratitude.

This week can guide our hearts to reflect on the meaning of Christmas - the gift of self-giving love. We can ask ourselves, what generosity can come from the gratitude I have in my heart after celebrating the gift of redemption? Who in my world needs more love? What happens in me when I think about the people in the world who need my support?

All of us can imagine Jesus, Mary and Joseph going home. We can imagine their daily lives. We can ask for the grace to live in God's presence, just as they must have done, and for the grace to be sensitive to each other and care for each other as they must have. We can ask that we might imitate their busy lives, trusting and dependent on God. Looking on their hidden life together, we can grow in a desire to be more humble, in a peace with greater simplicity, in a courage to let God take care of us. Whether we experience the poverty of that holy stable or the ordinary simplicity of daily routine, we can enjoy this week as a special opportunity to be drawn to a greater closeness with Jesus.

ST. EDWARD'S ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

December 24	Caroling	6:30 – 7:00 pm
	Christmas Eve Mass	7:00 pm
December 25	No Mass at St. Edward's	-----
December 26	Holy Family	11:00 am
January 1	No Mass at St. Edward's	-----
January 2	Epiphany of the Lord	11:00 am

Getting vaccinated is an "act of love"- Pope Francis