



**December 3, 2023**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**Collection November 26, 2023**

Regular Collection	\$741.00
Flowers	160.00
Human Development	20.00
Attendance	56

**December 10, 2023**

**Lector:** Donna Hathaway  
**Commentator:** Gaby Stanley  
**Ushers:** Schlottmann family  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Warburton/Williams

**Readings for December 10, 2023**

Reading 1	Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
Reading 2	2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel	Mark 1:1-8

**Prayer List** -Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Brenda Lessard, Jody Riffey, Megan Talbert, Rosanna Vallo, Stephen Petrowski, Joy McComb, Jerry Stanley, Bill Vest, Raegan Ray, Marianne McGriffin, Georgia Snell English, Margaret McLawhorn, Carol Canty, Father Bernie, Shannon Yates, Lynn Canty, Chuck Yates, Ron Morgan, Sue Dasse, Tod Young, Mary Ann Phillips, Shelia Zellars, Charlie Taylor, Donna Gilmore, Adam Conner, Aaron Quain, Jim Hopkins, and Larry Riffey.  
**Let the Stanleys know if you have additions or deletions**

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

**On Saturday, Dec. 16:** St. Jude's in Radford will host a Divine Mercy Mission with The Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy from Washington DC. It begins with mass at 8:30 in the morning and ends with the Hour of Divine Mercy at 3pm. All are welcome. To register go to:  
[tinyurl.com/divinemicymission](http://tinyurl.com/divinemicymission)

**Schedule for December Masses-**  
 Immaculate Conception-Mass on Dec. 7 at 5:00 pm  
 December 24th-NO MASS at our usual 11:00 am  
**Christmas Eve choral program beginning at 5:30 pm**  
**Mass at 6:00 pm**  
**Reception in the Hall following Mass**

**SAM Sunday next Sunday-** Since we all tend to overeat during the Holidays, for SAM Sunday this month we would like for everyone to bring a dish that is healthy, low calorie, and/or low carb. This would include salads, meats, fish, fruits, etc. Let's get ahead on our new year resolutions and eat something healthy. Hope to see you next Sunday.

**December Birthdays**

<b>Mary Klima</b>	<b>Dec. 4</b>
<b>Walt Harriman</b>	<b>Dec. 8</b>
John Balconi	Dec. 10
Cheri Strenz	Dec. 10
Dan Grubb	Dec. 21
MaryBeth McNair	Dec.31

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY***

**December Anniversaries**

Rick & Jackie Yost	Dec. 11
Megan & Ricky Talbert	Dec.12

***HAPPY ANNIVERSARY***

*University's Online Ministries website: [www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html](http://www.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html). Used with Permission."*

## **Daily Prayer This Week**

The old and the new come together this week as we bring this liturgical year to a close and look ahead to Advent, which begins Sunday. We reflect that Jesus is our Savior and King. This means we are called to help build up the kingdom by loving Jesus in our poorest brothers and sisters. We will encounter readings about the generosity of a poor widow and the warning of the approaching end of time. This is meant to help us begin our preparations for Advent. The actual end of the world may not be at hand, but the Kingdom of God is always at hand for us. It takes focus and paying attention to notice the signs, the ways the Lord makes himself available to us in the midst of our busy days.

We prepare for Advent this week when we can begin a small, but honest prayer, "Come, Lord, Jesus. Come into this place and into the conflict in my life. Let me be attentive and open to see the places where I am restless, distracted and too busy. Come into my real situation - not the way I present myself to others. Come to me - the real me that needs you." We need this kind of preparation. These are challenging times. Holidays stretch us and test us. Sometimes, under the stress of it all, we regress into behaviors that are bad and destructive, because they are familiar and what so many others are doing. Relationships get strained. Alcohol rarely brings cheer without at times risking bad patterns. So, praying these days - while very busy - praying out of our needs and even our pain - roots us in relationship with the One who always comes to save us.

For those of us in the U.S., we shouldn't miss reflecting on the meaning of Thanksgiving Day. It is an important time to be grateful for what we have received and to accept our responsibility for being good stewards of what we have, sharing God's gifts to us in loving service to others.

For all of us, this is a week to be grateful and to experience the beginning of Advent on Sunday. We can prepare to walk into Church more alert, more ready to explore our longing. We can take advantage of the many resources offered on the ["Praying Advent"](#) pages.

As we grow in our practice of connecting with our Lord and friend in brief moments throughout each day, we can develop the habit of giving thanks each night for what we have received.