

# **St. Edward's Catholic Church -Pulaski**



**December 1, 2024**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

**Collection November 24, 2024**

Regular Collection	\$1811.00
Flowers	285.00
Attendance	60

**December 8, 2024**

**Ushers:** Schlottmann family  
**Lector:** Rebecca Harriman  
**Commentator:** Dan Grubb  
**Eucharist Ministers:** M. White/M. DuBose

**Readings for December 8, 2024**

- Reading 1 Baruch 5:1-9
- Reading 2 Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
- Gospel Luke 3:1-6

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

**Prayer List** -Tim Kimbleton, Carol Luttrell, John Balconi, Brenda Lessard, Jody Riffey, Rosanna Vallo, Larry Riffey, Megan Talbert, Stephen Petrowski, Jerry Stanley, Elwood Switzer, Raegan Ray, Marianne McGriffin, Georgia Snell English, Margaret McLawhorn, John Millard, Shannon Yates, Lynn Canty, Chuck Yates, Ron Morgan, Tod Young, Shelia Zellars, Adam Conner, Aaron Quain, Jim Hopkins, Bill McGuire, Suzanne Martin, John Willett, Susan Bennett, Jerry Toothman, Barbara Montgomery, Pal Montgomery, Jon Ash, Leigh Thompson, John McNair, Gary Gibson, Father Bernie, and Wesley Young.

**Let the Stanleys know when you have additions or deletions**

**From Kathy Thompson, our Outreach Coordinator:**  
For the month of December, we will be donating to the City of Refuge. They have asked for canned goods and jelly. This collection will be on Dec. 1, 8, & 15. Thanks for your help with taking care of our neighbors.

**Our Capital Campaign for needed maintenance projects-** If you have not returned your capital campaign form, please remember to do so. Also, if writing a check for this, make the check out to "St. Edward's Capital Campaign" and place it in an envelope marked as such. Our parish greatly appreciates your support with this.

**Sam Sunday-** The Grubbs, Coalsons, and the McCains will host our Holiday SAM Sunday on December 8. The church will provide the meats and everyone is asked to bring a side dish and/or a dessert.

**Holy Day of Obligation** – Mass for **The Immaculate Conception** will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Mary's in Wytheville at 6:00pm and at St. Jude's in Radford at 12:00pm & 6:00pm. There will be Mass here at St. Edward's.

**December Birthdays**

Mary Klima	Dec. 4
Walt Harriman	Dec. 8
John Balconi	Dec. 10
Cheri Strenz	Dec. 10
Dan Grubb	Dec. 21
Mary Beth McNair	Dec. 31

**December Anniversaries**

Megan & Ricky Talbert	Dec. 12
-----------------------	---------

## **Daily Prayer This Week**

Despite all of the distractions at this time of year, we really can focus on Advent during these weeks. We seem to get very busy, and at times have to go to a number of social events or wrestle with budgets and shopping, but the heart of this season is all about expectant hope. So, we begin our Advent journey by giving ourselves some time - just a few minutes each day - to reflect on how much God promises us.

Each morning this week, while we are first coming to consciousness, we can name a desire, name an emptiness or feeling of anxiety or worry that we can feel. It is into the raw places in our lives such as these, that our Lord came to be with us. So, this week, we can begin to invite our Lord to be Incarnate in our lives, in the places we need him the most.

Our goal this week is to let ourselves feel like those to whom the promises of our God are made. We want to get in touch with ourselves, especially those parts of ourselves that are in need of a Savior. We do this by keeping our focus on the places that feel like a desert, the places that feel like we've been through a war, the places that feel like a lifeless stump. When we have a hard time seeing, we ask for the grace to be able to believe the promise that we shall see. When we seem deaf, we place our trust in the One who assures us that we will hear. And when we feel beaten down and awfully lowly, we turn to the One who promises that we will "find joy in the Lord." And, who among us doesn't have days on which we are aware of various kinds of wounds? On the day of promise, "the Lord binds up the wounds of his people."

As we let these deep realities of our daily, busy lives come into focus and interact with the readings, something wonderful happens. We become more and more aware of our need for God. Very naturally and quite spontaneously, a prayer comes forth from deep within us, which we can say in the smallest moments of our busiest days. "Come, Lord." "Come and save me." "Come and be with me in all of these messy, empty, dry and disordered places in my life." "Come, Lord. I feel my longing for you grow. I feel my hope grow. And, as I place my hope in your promises, Advent begins to come alive in me."

All of this preparation can happen in the simplest way, before the first Christmas decoration goes up. And, for each moment of each day that we encounter a place that we desire, that we long for our Lord's coming, we can express our thanksgiving. Each night we might pray:

*The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?*

*The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?" (Ps. 27)*

**Advent Retreat-** *St. Jude's in Radford will host an Advent retreat December 9<sup>th</sup> thru 11<sup>th</sup> starting with Mass at 6:00pm followed by the retreat. More information and registration guidelines are posted on the bulletin board in the church hall.*