

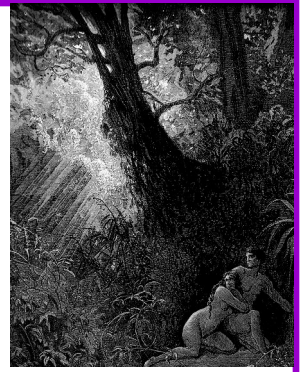
*1st Sunday of Advent
December 1, 2024*



TO BEGIN AGAIN

From the Gusset

“God, it is Your fault that I sin!”



St. Thomas Aquinas offers us the **encouragement**: ‘no matter how much one is **afflicted by sin** – one ought always **to hope** that God will give him assistance – that **the sinner** can **trust** in God to save him.’ Remember, when God asked **Adam**, why he took the fruit that he was forbidden to eat – God asks **Adam**, **why did you sin**? Originally, there is **silence**. God calls to **the man** and **the woman** in **the garden** and they did not answer God; rather, they hid themselves from God. **Fr. Randy** still does not know what to say to God, when I **sin**. The **Prophet Isaiah** gives me a new way of speaking to God, especially when I realize how much I have **sinned**. **Isaiah** says, “**You, O God, have hidden Your face from us, and have delivered us up to our own sins.**” (Isaiah 64:6) We almost **accuse** God of allowing us to **sin** against Him! “You, Lord, are our **Redeemer**. You are our **Father**. Why have You **allowed** us to wander so far from You?! God, it is Your **fault** that we have **sinned!**” Wow! You see, this is just one of a thousand reasons that **the Catholic Church** gives us to attend **Mass** EVERY SUNDAY! If we don’t bring ourselves into God’s presence than we will wander further and further and further from God, we will **sin** more and more. This whole **Season of Advent** is one of **new beginnings** – of bringing us closer to God. We know that God is coming (He will be here in **the flesh** on **Christmas**), and so we beg God **to call** to us – we ask for **the grace** that God would call us to **repentance** – that God would halt our **wandering away** from

Him and that we would respond to God by turning around and coming back **home**, why? Because, Jesus calls us to come back to **the Father's house** at **Christmas**. We can **blame** God for letting us wander from Him (we can **blame** God for allowing us to **sin**), and we ask for **the grace** that God would **call** us back. Yet, we must then respond to God’s **call** to come **home** – we must agree to try, with God’s help, **to begin again** to live the life of **holiness** that God calls us to! Dare **to begin again** with **Fr. Randy** this **Advent**. We will **blame** God for allowing us to **sin** so much, and we will **beg** God **to call** us to **repentance**. We will **confess** our sins at **the Communal Penance Service** in **Sublette** on **December 12th**; we will allow God **to save** us from ourselves, and invite us back to His Father and our **Father’s house** at **Christmas!**

Yours on the Path
Fr. Randy





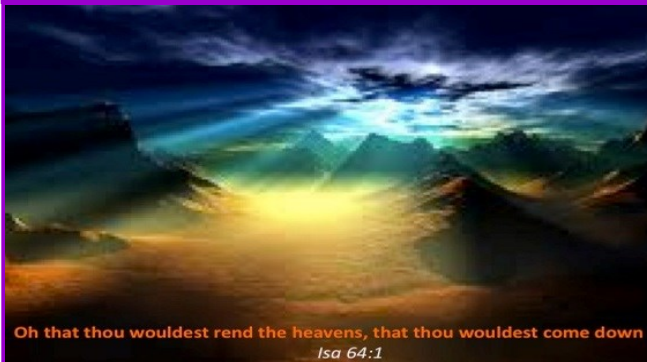
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Holy Day of Obligation

To celebrate the Patroness of our Country and our Diocese we will pray the Holy Mass at each of our Parishes on Monday, December 9th.

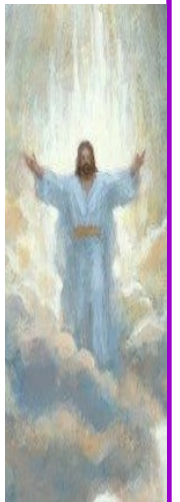


St. Mary of the Assumption 7:30 am
Our Lady of Perpetual Help 9:00 am
St. Patrick's Church 6:00 pm



To Begin Again
Advent Penance Service
December 12th 6:30pm

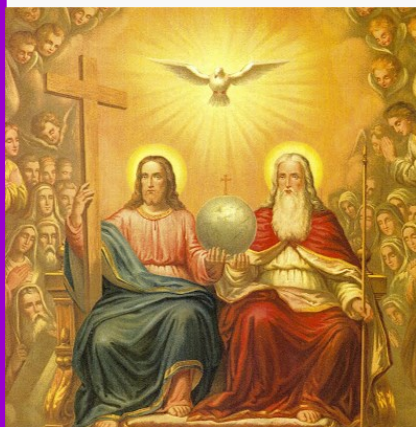
This whole season of **Advent** is about the God, *who comes down to us*—that we might, **one day, be lifted up to Him!** That is what **the Prophet Isaiah** is talking about in chapter 64: *Lord, come down from Heaven to save us.* God came down first to speak to **Moses** and then God came down to speak to **the prophets**, and finally God comes down from **Heaven** and becomes **flesh**—that He might talk directly to us! We might look at it this way: **humanities' prayer** was finally answered by God—that for so long we **prayed**: “O God, if only **You would break open the heavens and come down.**” Well, at **Christmas**, God finally does that—He comes down to **earth**. The Lord came, only because we **finally realized**; if Jesus does not come, we will be lost in our own **sins**. God comes at **Christmas to save** us from **ourselves**. What a wonderful time to **begin again—to start again!** On the night of **December 12th**, we will have multiple priests available to hear our **confession**, absolve us of our **sins**, and give us **a penance to pray**—that we might show God our **joy** that He has come **to save** us from **ourselves**, from our **sins**.





THE MASS AND THE SAINTS

There may not be anything more **Catholic** than **the Creed** that we profess every Sunday! This is why the working of a **Plenary Indulgence** has, as one of **the 5 actions** on the part of the pious soul seeking to obtain **the Indulgence**, him recite **the Creed**. Remember, our Lord addressed the soldier, who struck Him, “if I say the Truth to you, why do you not believe Me?” **St. Thomas Aquinas** says, “since we believe in Christ – that He is the Divine Truth – that after **the Gospel** is read (as far as the parts of **the Mass** go), **the Creed** is sung. By this we show that we give our assent, by **Faith**, to Christ’s doctrine.” It is definitely more pronounced in **Rome** (especially when I was attending a **Mass** in **St. Peter’s square** at which the late **Pope St. John Paul the Great** was presiding) when **the Mass** is prayed in multiple languages – perhaps the first reading was in Spanish, the Psalm sung in Latin, the second reading in French, and finally **the Gospel** in Italian – the homilist had finished and there was a great silence that fell over the crowd of 4,000 plus **zealous-Catholics**, and finally one could hear the solitary voice of **the Holy Father** say, “*Credo in unum Deum.*” As **St. Albert the Great** taught, “**the Creed** is begun by the giver of **sanctity** – the Bishop or priest.” Not the people, or the choir (because it is sung), but the priest in tones **the Creed** on Sunday, because the good things of God **flow** in an orderly way though the various ranks of **the Church** to the people! Remember, how good **Moses** said it was, that when he anointed **Aaron** with **the oil** that it flowed from his head, to his beard, and on to the collars of his robes! This was a foreshadowing of how good things **flow** from the priest onto his people – Ie. the priest receives **Holy Communion** and then he distributes **the Sacrament** to his people. The rule of thumb (in the old days) for reciting **the Creed** at **Mass** was: always on Sunday (which commemorates **the Resurrection**), but also on **the Nativity**, **the Ascension**, and **Pentecost** – because **these Mysteries** are spoken of in **the Creed**. The rule then applies to Feasts of our **Lady** (because she is mentioned in **the Creed**), and the Feasts of **the Apostles**. Here it is interesting to note that **the Creed** was said in certain parts of the world on the Feast day of **St. Mary Magdalen**! She being **the apostle to the Apostles** with her message of being sent by the Lord to **the eleven** on that first **Easter Sunday**. The Nicene Creed is sung; whereas, the **Apostles’ Creed** is only recited; this is because, the Nicene Creed was composed while **the Church** was at **peace** in the world; whereas, the **Apostles’ Creed** was



composed during the time of **persecution** – and so whispered in silence. **The Creed**, sung or recited, is a defense against **the darkness** of past and future errors. We believe **the Creed** to be the Truth spoken by the Bridegroom, Jesus Christ, to His **bride, the Catholic Church.**





Website: www.olphmarystpatrick.com

Secretary: Nancy Neal

Finance Officer: Donna Stephenitch

Gmail: olph.mary@gmail.com

Saturday, November 30th Feast of St. Andrew

Roger and Kimberly and Rick Fronek/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Richard & (+) Stacey Wertz/ Shawn Leffelman &
(+) Larry Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Wilson

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) Francis & (+) Kathleen Schmidt/ Mr. & Mrs. John Schmidt

Sunday, December 1st First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

10:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Melvin & (+) Lucille Becker/ John Gorman

Monday, December 2nd

(+) Mary Zapf/ Alice Lauer

Tuesday, December 3rd Feast of St. Francis Xavier

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Rita Haefner/ Darlene, Ann, Tim, & Bill Gehant

Wednesday, December 4th

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Larry Truckenbrod/ Mr. & Mrs. Louie Vaessen

Thursday, December 5th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Sister Benedict/ DDL

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Delbert Bonnell/ Mr. & Mrs. Floyd Wilson

Friday, December 6th Feast of St. Nicholas

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Lennard & (+) Marie Miles/ Mr. & Mrs. Ed Klein

Saturday, December 7th

(+) Steve & (+) Josephine Dvorsky, (+) Thomas Dvorsky, (+) Eleanor Dvorsky/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Thomas Fassler/ Sue Fassler &

(+) Raymond & Jean Ritola/ Mary Lynn Valentin

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) Robert Bresson/ Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Bresson

Sunday, December 8th Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Thomas Sharkey/ Mr. & Mrs. Marty Bickett

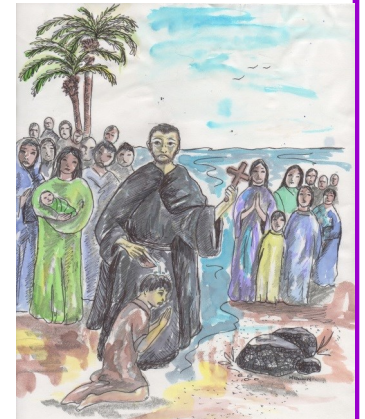
10:30 am, **OLPH** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Living Mass Intentions:

**OLPH: William & Margaret Berger, John & Camille Baumgartner, Nathan Goebel,
Brie O'Sadnick**

SMA: Jacob Bresson, Dennis & Diane Henkel, Aaron Schmidt

St. Patrick: Bailey Bickett, Andrew Wright



Make a dedication of a Christmas Flower in Memory of a Loved One

We will soon be **decorating** our **Churches** for the ever so brief **Christmas** Season. Why not remember all the **Christmas Masses** you **prayed** with your now **dearly departed**. **The Church** tells us they still **celebrate the Mass** with us—just from the other side of **the altar**! A **future bulletin** will **acknowledge** who it is, who has made our **altars** so **beautiful**.

