

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2025



Jubilee Year 2025
December 24, 2025—January 6, 2026
We are Pilgrims of Hope

From the Gusset

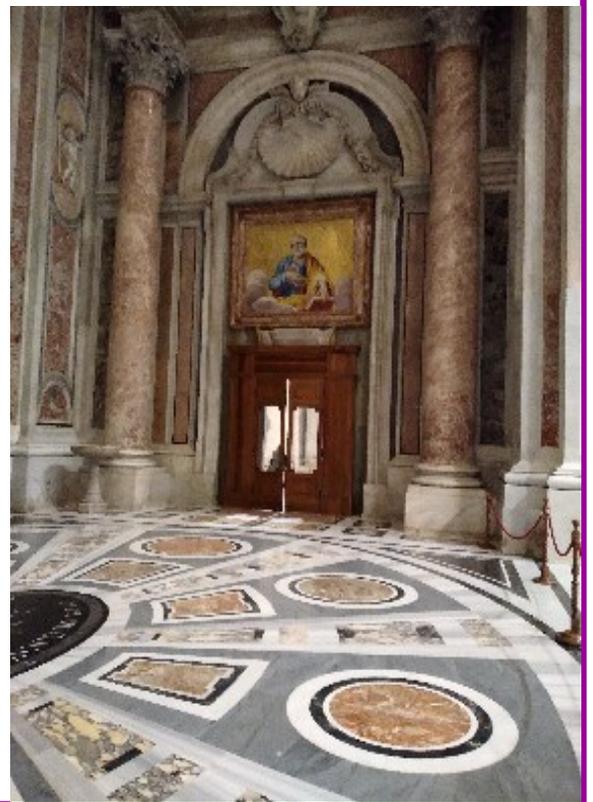


I am so grateful that **the Catholic Church** has **empowered** me with the ability to make **Plenary Indulgences** during this **Jubilee Year**. Because I am so hampered by my own **sins**, because I am **ignorant** of how **powerful** even a mustard seed's worth of **Faith** is capable of doing, and because I am so **self-centered** – I did not believe that I had **the power** to work a **Plenary Indulgence** and help the poor souls in **Purgatory** from my **own family** and my **Parish family** to enter into **the glory of Heaven**. **Holy Mother Church**

has placed so much **confidence** in Her son, **the Catholic priest** of **Sublette, West Brooklyn, and Maytown** – She insisted (just as **Mary** insisted that the servers at **the Wedding Feast** at Cana cooperate with her Son, Jesus) that I use **the graces** of **the Eucharist** that our Lord **pours** into my **heart**, when I receive **the Blessed Sacrament** – **the Catholic Church** insisted that I cooperate with our Lord, **celebrate the Mass**, and receive **the Eucharist** for a specific soul trying to remit **the temporal damage** of their **sins** in **Purgatory**. **Pope Francis**, in an unprecedented move, encouraged me to work a **second Plenary Indulgence** in a single day, if I celebrated **two Masses** and I worked, as the fifth work of the **Indulgence**, a **Corporal Work of Mercy**. **Bishop Malloy** encouraged me to work **Indulgences** by littering the **Diocese of Rockford** with **Jubilee Churches** in each of our **Deaneries**. My **brother priests** of **Rockford** showed me the unwearied **love** of God by absolving me of my **sins** every time I went to **the Sacrament of Reconciliation**. I am so grateful that **the Catholic Church** has **empowered** me with the ability to make **Plenary Indulgences** during this year in which we **celebrate** the two thousand and twenty-fifth **Anniversary** of the Second Person of the Trinity taking on our **human flesh**; whether it was: **the Pope**, our **Bishop**, or **the priests** of **the Rockford Diocese**, I am filled with **joy** that not only have I been honored to help **'a small boat load of souls'** to enter into **glory** by working **Plenary Indulgences**, but how could I ever thank **Holy Mother Church** enough – for helping **my own soul** to grow in **holiness** by the working of these **Jubilee Year Plenary Indulgences**? We have until **January 6, 2026 (little Christmas)** of this **Jubilee Year** to work **Plenary Indulgences**. I encourage all **Catholics** reading this article to put **'the pedal to the metal'** and work as many **Indulgences** as they are able – that we all might be grateful that **the Catholic Church** has **empowered** us to both increase **the Church Triumphant** and help Jesus

Christ make ourselves more **holy!**

**Yours on
the Path
Fr. Randy**



Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 8th

Masses for our Lady's **Holy Day of Obligation** are at our *two Churches* named after her:

St. Mary of the Assumption 5:00pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help 7:00pm

Notre Dame, our Mother, Tender, strong and true,
Proudly in the heavens, Gleams thy gold and blue.
Glory's mantle cloaks thee, Golden is thy fame. And
our hearts forever, Praise thee, Notre Dame. And
our hearts forever, Love thee, Notre Dame.



Advent Communal Penance Service

December 11th

6:30pm at Our Lady of Perpetual
Help Church

We will have the opportunity to work many **Plenary Indulgences** as we come down the **home stretch** of **the Jubilee Year** by our going to **Confession** and **humbling** ourselves for the sake of our **loved ones** in **Purgatory**. Make a good **Confession** at our **Penance Service** and payoff **the temporal debt of a loved one's sins** at the same time!

Our December

Jubilee Pilgrimage

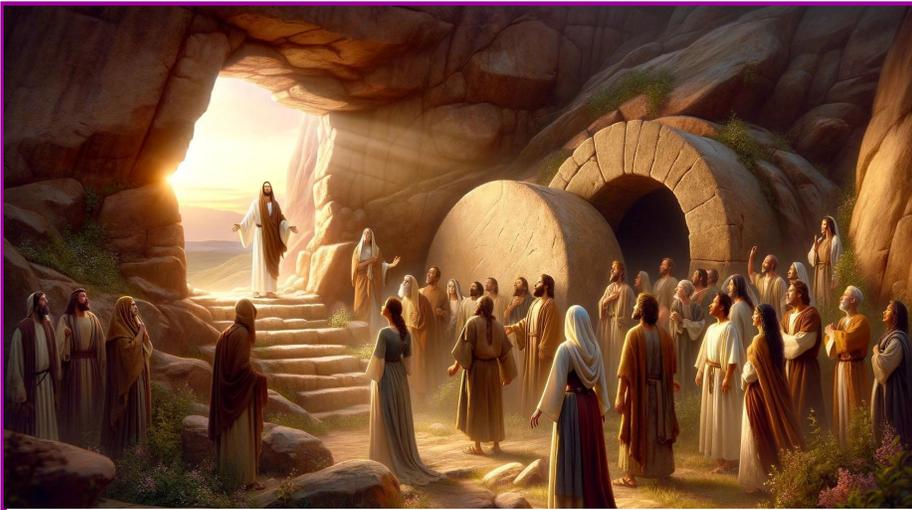
Church will be

St. Thomas Aquinas

in Freeport

Saturday, December 13th (**the Feast of St. Lucy**) will be our great opportunity to work a **Plenary Indulgence** while celebrating **Mass** at 11:00am at **the Freeport Deanery's Jubilee Church**. Address: **1400 Kiwanis Dr. Freeport, Ill. 61032**





The Mass and the Saints

The **Penitential rite** for the **Advent Season** is a bit different from the **Penitential rite** of any of the other **Liturgical Seasons**. **Advent** has only a brief **Penitential rite**, but then what makes the examination of our **conscience** seem so abrupt is that we do not pray **the Gloria**;

rather, we go straight to **the Collect** (the **Opening Prayer**). **St. Thomas Aquinas** talks about how our preparation to celebrate **the Eucharist** must have us recall, how **wretched** is our present state of **life**. **Wretched** is an extremely **powerful** word and a **derogatory** way to describe my **life** right now; yet, it is the most apt description of me. When we pray **the Kyrie Eleison, Christe Eleison, Kyrie Eleison...** we call out to God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit telling God how we are aware of **the three elements** that make up our **wretchedness**! We are **sinful**. We are **ignorant**. We are **selfish**. When we **sin**, we become poor. We deprive ourselves of 'the good' God wishes to give us – His **grace** – when we **sin**. Picture **Kramer** (from **Seinfeld**) walking down the street, his pant pockets filled to overflowing with **pennies**; yet, his pockets have holes in them and so **the pennies** are pouring out onto the sidewalk. **Sin** is what makes us poor. God filled our **soul** with all His **love**, all His **grace**, when we received **the Eucharist** last Sunday, but our **mortal sins** rip a hole in our **soul**, so that we lose all the **grace** God just **poured** into them. We are **sinful** – we are poor. We are **ignorant**. We have forgotten how much God **loves** us. We stopped thinking (even for just one second) that God the Father sent His Son to **die** and **rise** from **the dead** for us; and when we stop thinking of how much God **loves** us – we become **wretched**. Finally, we are **selfish**. Remember how **Adam** threw his wife, **Eve**, under the bus—the one whom he at first thought was **the most beautiful** of all the creatures God created for him in **Paradise**. When God comes into **the Garden**, **Adam** blames **Eve** for his **sin** against God (he ate **the fruit** his wife gave him). Trying to save his own **hide** – **Adam** has become **selfish** – not seeking to **cultivate** and care for **the Garden** – not seeking to make his wife more **holy** – **more beautiful** – to God – **Adam** is thinking only of himself. He has become **selfish**! We need, **St. Thomas Aquinas** says, to acknowledge our **wretchedness** at the start of **the Mass**. Before we can gather around the banquet table, we need to tell God how **wretched** we are and how we will only become more **ugly** (more **wretched**), if God doesn't send His Son to save us by **feeding** us His own **Flesh** and **Blood** in **the Eucharist**!



Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 6th Feast of St. Nicholas

(+) Beatrice Janus/ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mixa

11:00 am, **OLPH Blue Christmas Mass**

4:00 pm, **OLPH Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy**

5:30 pm, **SMA (+) Rita Haefner/ Holly Full**

Sunday, December 7th 2nd Sunday of Advent

8:00 am, **St. Patrick (+) Richard Cardot/ Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Klein & (+) Mary Ann Cardot/ Nathan Malach**

10:30 am, **OLPH (+) Patricia Painter/ Mary Bradley Norvel**

Monday, December 8th Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Sister Lois Ann Cline/ Sister Laticia Lapid

5:00 pm, **SMA (+) Celia Haub/ Mr. & Mrs. Mike Schultz**

7:00 pm, **OLPH (+) Larry Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Doug Klein**

Tuesday, December 9th Feast of St. Juan Diego

7:30 am, **SMA (+) Marilyn Henkel/ Fr. Randy**

Wednesday, December 10th

8:00 am, **OLPH (+) Floyd Wilson & (+) Dennis McCoy/ Mr. & Mrs. Michael Vaessen**

Thursday, December 11th

7:30 am, **SMA (+) Quin & (+) Josephine Torri/ Charlie Torri**

8:30 am, **OLPH Special Intention of Work Family/ Mary K. Schreiner**

Friday, December 12th Our Lady of Guadalupe

8:00 am, **St. Patrick (+) Thomas Sharkey/ Lynee Swanson**

10:45 am, **Stonecroft (+) Patricia Painter & (+) Elaine Henkel/ Fr. Randy**

Saturday, December 13th Feast of St. Lucy

(+) James & Geraldine Fronck/ Mr. & Mrs. Robert Mixa

11:00 am, **St. Thomas Aquinas, Freeport Jubilee Pilgrimage Mass**

4:00 pm, **OLPH (+) Jean Ritola/ Family**

5:30 pm, **SMA Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy**

Sunday, December 14th 3rd Sunday of Advent

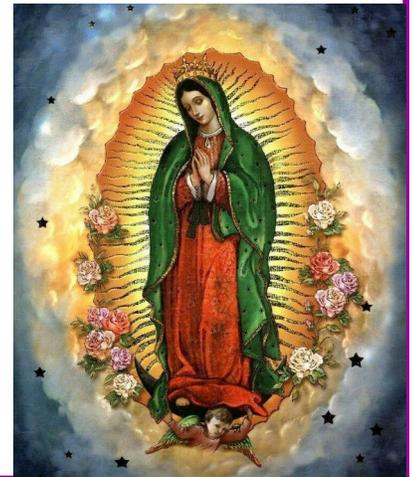
8:00 am, **St. Patrick (+) Jack Weeks/ Marilyn Weeks & (+) LeRoy Klein/ Fr. Randy**

10:30 am, **OLPH (+) Cletus & (+) Betty Henkel/ Joan Henkel**

OLPH: Louie & Carol Vaessen, Judy Henkel, Joleyn Pantoja

SMA: Paul Hanson, Terry McGinn, Fr. Richard Kramer

St. Patrick: Sister Lois Ann Cline, Eileen Leffelman



As we **prayed** at our **Blue Christmas Mass** for all those who have **recently died**—if they cannot **celebrate this Christmas** with us on earth, we **pray** they would **celebrate this Christmas in Heaven!** Why not decorate our Altar by **purchasing a poinsettia flower** and **dedicating it to your loved one!?!**