

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

## December 7, 2025

### THE *Faith* CANDLE

Also known as the Bethlehem Candle, this second candle of Advent signifies the journey of Joseph and Mary to the City of David.

But you, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, too small to be among the clans of Judah, From you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel.

—Micah 5:2

*Saint Stanislaus & Our Mother of Sorrows Catholic Churches*

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Fr. Jason A. Glover, S.T.L., Pastor

Fr. Jerry Priscaro, Resident Priest (St. Ann's)

Mrs. Helen Gangemi, Secretary

Kay Villa, Secretary

#### OFFICE HOURS

Sunday & Monday: Closed

Tuesday - Saturday: By Appointment

#### TRADITIONAL LATIN MASS APOSTOLATE AT ST. HEDWIG'S

LATIN MASS: Sunday at 9:30AM

Tuesday at 5:30PM

#### MASS TIMES

Saturday 4:00PM: St. Stanislaus

Sunday 9:00AM: St. Stanislaus

Sunday 11:00AM: St. Casimir

Monday-Friday 12:05PM: St. Ann's

First Saturday 9:00AM: St. Ann's

Weekday at St. Stanislaus: Call Parish Office

### **MASSES FOR THE WEEK (Our Mother of Sorrows)**

#### **Sunday, December 7th: Second Sunday of Advent**

Private: Special Intentions of Sister M. Pia by Lucia Lee  
11:00am (SC) Bernie Zilonka by Gloria Palmer and Family

#### **Monday, December 8th: The Immaculate Conception of Mary** [A Holy Day of Obligation]

12:05pm (SA) James Berdis, Anniversary by Barbara Berdis and Family

#### **Tuesday, December 9th: Advent Weekday**

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of sister Iaria by Lucia Lee

#### **Wednesday, December 10th: Our Lady of Loreto**

12:05pm (SA) Frances Foster by Beverly Vento

#### **Thursday, December 11th: Saint Damasus I**

12:05pm (SA) Special Intentions of Sister Irene by Lucia Lee

#### **Friday, December 12th: Our Lady of Guadalupe**

12:05pm (SA) Deceased members of the Koshinskies, Serafin, Ciaravella, and Lipuma Families by Bob and Stephanie Koshinski

#### **Saturday, December 13th: Saint Lucy**

Private: Special Intentions of Stephen Waterford

#### **Sunday, December 14th: Third Sunday of Advent**

Private: Special Intentions of Lucia Lee  
11:00am (SC) Theresa Juchno by Christine Prez Farnum

**CONFESSIONS: Monday-Friday, 11:30-11:55AM (St. Ann's)**

### **MASS INTENTIONS (Saint Stanislaus)**

Mon., Dec. 8th, 9:00AM - For our Nation on our Patronal Feast Day  
Tues., Dec. 9th - Chris Pedersen (Family)  
Wed., Dec. 10th - Al Szkoda (Family)  
Thur., Dec. 11th - Josephine McMullen (Shirley Widomski)  
Fri., Dec. 12th - Charlte Cleaver (Family & Friends)  
Sat., Dec. 13th, 4:00PM - Stephanie Bundy-Konopka (Family)  
Sun., Dec. 14th, 9:00AM - For the People of Saint Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)

### **Readings for the week of December 7, 2025**

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12  
Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38  
Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-3, 10-13/Mt 18:12-14  
Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30  
Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1, 9-13/Mt 11:11-15  
Friday: Zec 2:14-17/Jdt 13:18-19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47  
Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9-13  
Next Sunday: Is 35:1-6, 10/Ps 146:6-10/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

### **SANCTUARY CANDLES**

**SAINT STANISLAUS:** In Honor of the Blessed Mother (Helen Zimmerman)

**HOLY FAMILY:** 1) Galla & Walach Families by Paul & Lisa Galla; 2) Habas, Kulig, & Laszewski Families by Kulig Estate

**OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS:** Robert Merski, Sr. and Mildred Merski by The Merski Family

**ST. ANN'S:** 1) All Living & Deceased Parishioners 2) Special Intention of Dr. Hal Angeloff by a Friend

**ST. CASIMIR'S:** 1) Bernie Zilonka by Gloria Palmer & Family; 2) More vocations to the religious life

**Dec. 7, 2025**

### **Second Sunday of Advent**

This week we hear that John the Baptist is out in the wilderness eating "locusts and wild honey" (Mark 1:6). It's not just a strange historical detail. It's a symbolic expression of a healthy spiritual diet. The path to Christ includes both the hard and the beautiful, the gritty and the sweet. We have to learn to gulp the locusts and savor the honey.

I remember working with a young couple preparing for marriage. They were sincere, but raw - barely beginning to discover faith. Part of me wanted to rush them ahead, to bombard them with scripture and church documents. I swallowed that instinct. It was like eating locusts.

But I also recall them light up as they spoke about each other. They wanted to be close to God. That was the honey. I knew God was asking me to savor it.

This Advent, maybe we're each being invited to accept both locusts and honey. Maybe it's time to stop avoiding the difficult parts of faith - prayer that feels dry, the call to repentance, the patience with the troublesome. It's time to eat some locusts.

But we also need to notice the small gifts God gives us: a peaceful moment, a good conversation, good intentions of our friends. That's the honey. Savor it!

John didn't avoid either. He took it all in. And so can we. What are your locusts? Your honey? If we let God feed us with both, we'll be ready for the coming of Christ.

— Father John Muir

**St. Stanislaus**

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### HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE

#### **December 8th: Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)**

9:00AM - St. Stanislaus

12:05PM - St. Ann's

#### **December 24th: Christmas Eve**

3:30PM - Kolendy (St. Stanislaus)

4:00PM - Christmas Eve Mass (St. Stanislaus)

4:00PM - Christmas Eve Mass (St. Ann's)

#### **December 25th: Christmas Day**

9:00AM - Christmas Day Mass (St. Stanislaus)

11:00AM - Christmas Day Mass (St. Ann's)

#### **December 31st: Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day)**

5:15PM - St. Ann's

#### **January 1st: Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day)**

9:00AM - St. Stanislaus

### FROZEN PIEROGI

St. Stanislaus has homemade frozen pierogi available for purchase. The cost is \$25 per dozen. If interested, call the Parish Office, or talk to John Villa or Fr. Jason.

### CHRISTMAS OPLATEK

Christmas Oplatek (wafers) will be available at St. Stanislaus during the Advent and Christmas seasons. A monetary donation to offset their cost would be appreciated. You can pick up your Oplatek in the vestibule of the church, or by contacting the Parish Office.

### JANUARY LOTTERY RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE

The St. Stanislaus Holy Name Society has lottery raffle tickets available. Only five dollars gives you 31 chances to win throughout the month of January, 2026. You win if your ticket number matches the PA Daily Lottery Drawing. Tickets will be available in the vestibule of the church, from any member of the Holy Name Society, Fr. Jason, or by calling the parish office. Tickets make great stocking stuffers!

### SPECIAL THANKS

Many thanks to two anonymous donors who contributed money to two projects for which we are currently raising funds. A \$300 gift was received to begin a fund to replace the kitchen floor at St. Ann's. Another \$100 gift was received to help make St. Ann's handicap accessible. We thank these donors for their generosity. If you would like to contribute to either of these projects, please see Fr. Jerry or Fr. Jason.

### ST. STAN'S WOMEN'S SOCIETY

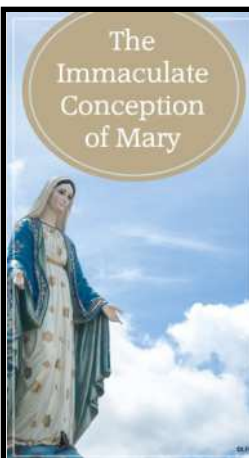
The St. Stan's Women's Society will meet Sunday, December 14th, at 1:00PM in the Parish Hall. All are invited to attend.

### 'TIS THE SEASON

St. Stanislaus intends to begin decorating our church for the Christmas season following the 9:00AM Mass on December 21st. Anyone interested in helping are warmly invited to join us.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St. Stanislaus will host the next Eucharistic Adoration on Sunday, December 21st, following the 9:00AM Mass until 11:00AM.



**Question:** I've heard people call Jesus' conception by the Holy Spirit being "immaculately conceived." Is that what the Immaculate Conception is?

**Answer:**

While these two events are often confused, they are not the same thing. We celebrated the conception of Jesus on March 25<sup>th</sup>, the feast of the Annunciation. While that was surely miraculous, it isn't what we refer to as the "immaculate

conception." The Immaculate Conception is *Mary's* conception, and we typically celebrate it on December 8th. If the 8<sup>th</sup> happens to be a Sunday, the Church moves the feast to December 9<sup>th</sup>. It is a holy day of obligation. Why does the Church consider it so important to celebrate?

Mary's conception is immaculate because she was conceived without original sin. The angel Gabriel acknowledges this when he hails Mary as "full of grace" (Luke 1:28). Scripture scholars identify several theological ideas that confirm this. In the Old Testament, the sacred, pristine Ark of the Covenant held the presence of God. The presence of God is now held within a new "arc" — the womb of Mary. Genesis 3 also prophesies of a woman who would oppose the devil and whose child would crush the devil's head. Christ is the "New Adam." This passage sets up Mary, then, as the "New Eve." Jesus and Mary are the beginnings of a new creation, one we all can participate in through the grace of our baptism. After all, God's love is more "original" than our sin!



### ST. STAN'S FAITH FORMATION

St. Stan's will resume our viewing of the fourth season of *The Chosen*. Our viewing dates will be on the following Wednesdays: December 10, December 17th [if needed].

The evening will begin at 5:30PM with a "pot luck" supper at the Parish Hall and a viewing of an episode of *The Chosen*. Our intention is to conclude by 7:00PM. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to attend and to casually enjoy this edifying and inspiring series.



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