

The Rumble Strips of Advent

Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy! The sleepy apostles couldn't keep awake with Jesus and drifted off when he most needed them.

I have only fallen asleep at the wheel once. During college, I worked the morning shift starting at 6 AM. After a late night with little sleep, I sluggishly got into my car. Comfortably driving down the highway at about 5:15 AM, I dozed for a few seconds before awakening to the noise of my tires vibrating on the warning tracks—just in time to straighten the wheel and avoid the cement divider.

Advent is like those rumble strips. You don't always need them, they are annoying when you accidentally run over them, but they are very important!

We can get tired, trying to keep our hearts awake and attuned to Jesus. The rhythm of life, the background music of the world, the distractions that fly by us—they all contribute to the danger of a passive heart. Running across Advent is like a wake-up call: "Stay awake! He is almost here."

As in driving, there are many distractions vying for your attention, but you learn to focus on what's important. You survey your surroundings, looking for hazards while keeping your eyes on the road. There are many signs to read, but only certain ones point you where you want to go.

Piece: *Christ Awakening the Apostles on the Mount of Olives*, 1641-42

Artist: Rembrandt van Rijn

Location: Collection of E.W.K., Bern, Switzerland



Jesus says to be attentive to the signs; learn to interpret their meaning. Understand them, without being distracted by them. Be vigilant, pray for strength, and stay awake and alert. Thanks be to God for those rumble strips!

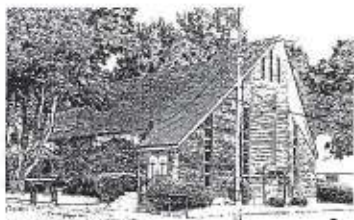
—Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

For Reflection

Do I believe there is a limited time to my life on earth? Since I do not know when Jesus will arrive, isn't peaceful awareness of his eventual return the smartest attitude?

[Jesus said,] "May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping."

(Mark 13:36)



Holy Trinity - Cherry

St. Patrick - Arlington

St. Thomas More - Dalzell

3 Church Website www.bureaucatholic.org

The Main Office Of Holy Trinity &
St. Patrick Catholic Church Is Located At:

212 S. Main St., PO Box 159

Cherry, IL 61317-0159

Holy Trinity Parish Church & Rectory

Office Phone: (815) 894-2006

Office Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com

Medical Emergency Phone: (815) 664-8241 **New

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

9:00AM to Noon

Closed Holidays & Holy Days of Obligation

Website www.cherryholyltrinity.org

Administration

Pastor: Fr. Patrick Fixsen

Email: frpat.fixsen@gmail.com

Assistant: Julie Hollinger

Email: JulieHTC@outlook.com

St. Thomas More Church Office

302 Chestnut St.

Dalzell, IL 61320

Office Phone: (815) 663-6201

Open Wednesdays - 9AM - Noon

Email: thomasmore32@gmail.com

Mass & Confession Schedule

Holy Trinity Catholic Parish

Weekend Masses

Sunday Vigil (Saturday) -

4:00 PM

Sunday Mass -

8:30 AM

Daily Mass (Weekdays) & Holy Days

Tuesday & Thursday - 12:15 PM

Confessions

Saturday - 3:15 - 3:45PM or By Appointment

Mass Schedule

St. Patrick Catholic Parish

106 Church St.

Arlington, IL

Sunday Mass -

10:30 AM

Holy Days of Obligation

Refer To Schedule

Mass Schedule

St. Thomas More Church - Dalzell, IL

Vigil Mass (Saturday) 5:30 PM

Weekday Mass (Wednesday & Friday) 8:30 AM (Summer)

Sunday Last Chance Mass 5:30 PM

Confessions Every 2nd & 4th Sunday - 4:45-5:15pm

Holy Day of Obligation *Refer To Schedule*

Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel - Open 8am - 8pm (M-Sat)

Sunday - Open 8am until conclusion 5:30pm Mass

**Divine Mercy Chaplet - Every Friday at 3 PM

Daily Mass Intentions for

Masses the Week of December 4, 2017

****No Mass Monday****

Offered For

Tuesday

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 12:15pm

† Mina DeAngelo

Wednesday

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 8:00am

† Leo Gillan

Thursday

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 12:15pm

† Stephen Puhr

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 5:45pm

For The Parishioners

Friday

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 12:15am

† Madeline & Art Hahn

St. Patrick, Arlington - 6:00pm

† Barb Oleson

** Divine Mercy Chaplet - Fridays at 3PM

Next Weekend's Mass Intentions

Weekend of December 9-10, 2017

Saturday Vigil:

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 4:00 PM

† For The Parishioners

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30 PM

† Julie Taliani

Sunday:

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 8:30 AM

† Ron Floroplus

St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM

† Christopher & Rosaria Taylor

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30 PM

† The Picatto Family

Ministry Schedule
For Next Weekend

Holy Trinity

LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - Carol Lauer

Sunday - 8:30AM - Jeff Pinter

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday - 4:00PM - Bill Lauer

Sunday - 8:30AM - Mary Jo Brust

SERVERS

Saturday - 4:00PM -

RJ Talbot

Sunday - 8:30AM -

?

St. Patrick

LECTOR

Sunday - 10:30AM - Bernice Keutzer

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Sunday - 10:30AM - Joanne Oberheide

SERVERS

Sunday - 10:30AM -

Carter & Casen Cherry

St. Thomas More

ROSARY

Sat 5:30PM - Joelle Crockett

LECTOR

Sat 5:30PM - Joelle Crockett

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Sat 5:30PM - Cheryl Stowe

SERVERS

Sat 5:30PM - ?

UPCOMING
CHURCH EVENTS

December 6 - Rosary Against Evil - St. Patrick's Church - 5:30pm

Immaculate Conception (Holy Day Masses)

Dec. 7 (Vigil) - Holy Trinity - 5:45pm

Dec. 8 - St. Thomas More - 12:15pm

St. Patrick - 6:00pm

December 9 - St. Thomas More Bake Sale - 10AM - Noon (St. Thomas More Hall)

December 10 - Church Christmas Decorating - After Last Masses

Last Sunday's Offering

Holy Trinity - \$1027.00

Needed Weekly - \$1700

St. Patrick - \$563.00

Needed Weekly - \$700

St. Thomas More - \$2377.00

Needed Weekly - \$700

St. Patrick's Sausage Making
Thank You

A Very Special Thank You to Everyone who helped make the delicious sausage! And Thank You to All who bought some to support our church in Arlington! Enjoy eating the sausage during the next few months. More will be available around March.

St. Thomas More

Bake Sale

Everybody loves the Christmas goodies! Right! If you come to the St. Thomas More Hall on December 9th between 10:00AM and Noon, you can buy some Italian Specialties and other Christmas items. So please stop by!

Holy Trinity Christmas

Cookie Sale

The Holy Trinity Altar & Rosary Society is once again selling Christmas cookies which can be picked up on on the Saturday's, December 16th and 23rd. Forms are in the bulletin and the cookies are \$8 a dozen.

Pads Christmas

Food Collection

We are collecting food items that would be individually wrapped, or even monetary donations, to help the people in need at Pads. The collection is being gathered in the front vestibule of St. Thomas More Church. If you can help them we would like to have it in the vestibule by next weekend. Thank you for any help!

The Rosary Against Evil

The rosary we continue to pray on Wednesday nights at 5:30PM will be prayed at Holy Trinity Church during the month of November in Cherry. It is our time to show God, Jesus, Mary how much we need them to fight the evil around us. As we pray through Our Lady of Fatima, the rosary is and always has been our greatest weapon against evil! So please come and join us, it will be the most important time you spend. With the evil in the world the church should be full, so where is everybody!

For The Week

As we begin this new liturgical year, and this season of Advent, we prepare ourselves for Christ's coming into the world. Not only with Christmas coming but signs exist that lead many to believe Christ's actual second coming may not be far off. So we need to remove any sins from our lives, not only for Christmas, but to be prepared if He comes so we will be ready to go home.

Father will be adding some extra confession times in the week before Christmas. In the second week of Advent, confessions will be heard at St. Pats 45 minutes before rosary on Wednesday night. The third week of Advent confessions will be in next weekends bulletin. May God always be with us and bless us with His Presence!

ADA Goals 2017-18

Holy Trinity - \$16,569.00

Pledges To Date \$5,920.00 (36%)

St. Patrick - \$10,065.00

Pledges To Date \$4,815.00 (48%)

St. Thomas More - \$9,493.00

Pledges To Date \$5,100.00 (54%)

Sacramental Preparation

Baptisms: Preparation is required for the first child in the family. Baptisms are scheduled on Sundays at noon or by special arrangement. Please contact Father to setup an appointment.

Marriages: Preparations need to be started one year before the Wedding date. Please contact Father for more information.

Rite of Christian Initiation: Per Canon Law of the Catholic Church, anyone over the age of seven years old is to observe the requirements of the RCIA, unless there is a danger of death. If anyone has not received all of the sacraments; baptism, First Communion or Confirmation, please talk to Father.

Calendar

Monday

December 4
Advent Weekday
Is 2:1-5
Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday

December 5
Advent Weekday
Is 11:1-10
Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday

December 6
Advent Weekday
Is 25:6-10a
Mt 15:29-37

Thursday

December 7
St. Ambrose, Bishop and
Doctor of the Church
Is 26:1-6
Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday

December 8
Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9-15, 20
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
Lk 1:26-38

Saturday

December 9
Advent Weekday
Is 30:19-21, 23-26
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday

December 10
Second Sunday
of Advent
Is 40:1-5, 9-11
2 Pt 3:8-14
Mk 1:1-8

Dear Padre,

Why do we have Advent?

Advent as we know it today developed many centuries after Jesus' life on earth. Because of the number of persons being baptized in the early Church, a practice developed of having another time for baptism in addition to the Easter Vigil. Christmas was chosen as another baptismal season. Since Lent served as a time of preparation for the baptisms at the Easter Vigil, the weeks leading up to Christmas became a time of penance and preparation.

Combined with this penitential practice, of course, was the preparation for Christmas. The Sunday and weekday Scriptures during Advent recall the centuries of longing for the coming of the Messiah, the conception of John the Baptist, and the family history of Mary and Joseph. Today



the writings of the prophet Isaiah are featured during Advent because they so eloquently speak of Israel's longing for salvation.

Among the special signs and symbols that the Church uses to recall and enter into these central parts of our Christian heritage are the Advent wreath, vespers, reconciliation services, the O Antiphons, Scripture readings, the Jesse tree, the giving tree, the Christmas tree, the crèche, gift-giving, and of course, Midnight Mass. Hopefully, these symbols of the season will remind you of your own birth in baptism and your own commitment to living a life filled with peace and love.

Fr. Thomas Santa, CSSR,
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A Word From Pope Francis

The Lord comes...into our life as a liberator; he comes to free us from all forms of interior and exterior slavery. It is he who shows us the path of faithfulness, of patience and of perseverance because, upon his return, our joy will be overflowing. Christmas is near,...[and] outward signs invite us to welcome the Lord who always comes and knocks at our door, knocks at our heart, in order to draw near to us.

—Angelus, December 11, 2016