



The night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness [and] put on the armor of light.

ROMANS 13:12



## The Waiting Game

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**I**f Advent is a time of waiting, then our entire lives must be an Advent, for we spend so much of our lives waiting—at one point for Santa to come with his sack of surprises, at other times for the dizzying lure of summertime. Later we eagerly wait to get our driver's license and then to move out on our own for our first real job and then the independence it promises. We wait for love to find us and, for some, for love to return. Some wait for children, others for the empty nest, and others for retirement.

Our mothers told us not to wish our lives away, and yet we did, and still we do, waiting for life to be more than what it seems to be. Then one day we look

back and wish we could have again all that once was. So maybe Advent is not about waiting for God to make a splash in our lives. Maybe Advent is about God waiting for us to come around and recognize God is with us here and now.

The question for each of us, then, is what are we waiting for at this point in our lives? There is no right answer, only the one each of us has for ourselves.

### Reflect

**Has there ever been  
a time when you  
didn't recognize that  
God was with you?**

Whatever it is, there is no doubt that there is love or joy or peace or meaning at the heart of it, all camouflaged by whatever we say we are waiting for. Beneath it all is the hunger for God-with-us. ●



**Fr. Joseph Juknialis**, a retired priest of the Milwaukee Archdiocese, is the new author of reflections for Liguori Publications' *Our Parish Community* bulletins. Fr. Joe has served in ministry as a parish priest and a teacher of homiletics at St. Francis de Sales Seminary in Milwaukee. Retirement has given him time for hiking, canoeing, writing, poetry, gin rummy, the Green Bay Packers, and pursuing his appreciation of nature. In noting the most amazing aspect of his life, Fr. Joe says, "God has always brought me to the place I should be."



**Holy Trinity**



**St. Thomas More**



**St. Patrick**

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Cherry, IL 61317-0159  
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Tuesday - Friday 9 am - 1 pm

St Thomas More Catholic Church  
302 Chestnut St.  
Dalzell, IL 61320  
Phone 815-663-6201  
Email  
thomasmore32@gmail.com

**Adoration Room at STM**  
Open Monday - Sunday  
Regular Hours  
9 am - 6 pm

**Events at St Thomas More**  
Rav Group taking orders now.  
Call 815-252-2215 to place an order

St. Patrick Catholic Church  
106 Church St.  
Arlington, IL 61312  
Phone 815-894-2006  
Mail: PO Box 159 Cherry IL 61317

**Website for the Three Churches**  
www.bureaucatholic.org  
and on Facebook at  
"Bureau Catholic Churches"

**Facebook for the Three Churches**  
Use Link on Home Page  
www.bureaucatholic.org

**Emergency Number for all 3 Churches 779-248-2164**



9:30 am - 10:30 am at Cherry Church Hall  
Sunday, November 27th - Happy Thanksgiving - No Class  
Sunday, December 4th - K thru 4th grades / Card & Craft Day following class

**Daily Mass Intentions for the Week of November 28, 2022**

Monday	11/28			† No Mass
Tuesday	11/29	8:00 am	STM	† In Thanksgiving
Wednesday	11/30	5:30 pm	HT (Rosary before mass)	† Special Intentions
Thursday	12/1	9:00 am	HT	† Irene Koster Larsen
Friday	12/2	8:00 am	STM	† Janice Rynkewicz

**Mass Intentions for the weekend of December 3-4, 2022**

Saturday	12/3	4:00 pm	St. Thomas More	† Mindy Taber
Sunday	12/4	8:30 am	Holy Trinity	† Ron Floroplus
		10:30 am	St. Patrick	† Laurence Fonderoli
		5:00 pm	St. Thomas More	† For the Parishioners



## ***The Meaning of the Advent Season***

The word Advent originates from the Latin word "Adventus", which means "arrival" or "coming". Therefore, the Advent Season is focused on preparing for the coming of Jesus Christ in all ways, from His birth in the past to His Second Coming in the future as the Messiah.

For members of our church, Advent is a meaningful season that reminds us of the reality of Jesus Christ that He has come, and that He is present in our lives and our world. As we prepare for the celebration of Christmas, we are reminded of His human side, and is therefore an example of how we should live our own lives as His followers here on earth.



**Church Christmas  
decorating may begin at all  
three parishes on  
Sunday, December 11th.**

### **2022-2023 ADA UPDATE**

To date, the initial results of our three churches  
ADA Campaign are as follows:

HT Church \$3,700 pledged (goal: \$13,696)

SP Church \$2,510 pledged (goal: \$9,229)

STM Church \$1,505 pledged (goal: \$8,062)

A BIG HAND to members who have  
already made their pledges.

As you can see, we still have a long way to go.

### **Christmas Flowers**

We will start taking  
Christmas flower  
donations.



This year donations may be  
made in memory of a deceased family  
member and names will be put in the bulletin.

Also feel free to have the names of family  
members attached to the poinsettia's.

### **LATEST OFFERING'S**

WEEKEND NOV 20TH

HT – \$872.00

SP – \$567.00

STM – \$828.00



### **CONFESSIONS**

THE NEXT CONFESSIONS  
WILL BE SAT. DEC 3RD  
10:30 – 11:15 AM AT  
ST THOMAS MORE  
IN THE HALL

# Dear Padre,

## *Should adopted children know who their biological parents are?*

Arguments can be made in favor of and against adopted children knowing their biological origins. It appears more and more that adoption agencies encourage knowledge of biological parents over closed adoptions, where this information is not known by the child or the adopting parents. There are many issues here that are packed emotionally, such as why a person was placed for adoption, fear by adopting parents that this new information could compromise their relationship with their child, perhaps fear on the part of biological parents that they will be asked to be involved in a relationship against their wishes.

An argument to be made in favor of disclosure about one's biological parents has to do with one's health. Today we realize that challenges to our health come not just from bacteria and viruses that invade our system from outside ourselves, but also from within, that is, from genetic predispositions to heart disease, diabetes, and other disorders that could compromise our well-being. This information becomes more critical when persons are of an age to marry and to bear their own children. They might want to know as much information as possible to act responsibly in bearing and raising children. ●



From *Life, Death, and Catholic Medical Choices: 50 Questions from the Pews*, © 2011 Liguori Publications

### **Do you have a question for the Padre?**

Go to [DearPadre.org](http://DearPadre.org) to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
November 28	November 29	November 30	December 1	December 2	December 3	December 4
<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>St. Andrew, Apostle</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>Advent Weekday</i>	<i>St. Francis Xavier, Priest</i>	<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i>
Is 4:2-6	Is 11:1-10	Rom 10:9-18	Is 26:1-6	Is 29:17-24	Is 30:19-21, 23-26	Is 11:1-10
Mt 8:5-11	Lk 10:21-24	Mt 4:18-22	Mt 7:21, 24-27	Mt 9:27-31	Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	Rom 15:4-9
						Mt 3:1-12



### **A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

***Today it is our task to keep watch: to overcome the temptation of thinking that life means accumulating....It is up to us to unmask the deception that we are happy when we have many things...and to believe that prayer and charity...are the greatest of treasures.***

**HOMILY, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT,  
DECEMBER 1, 2019**