



ADVENT

2022



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
CATHOLIC CHURCH





Contents

3 Advent at St. Francis

5 The Symbolism of Advent

7 The Sacrament of Reconciliation

8 Examination of Conscience

10 Christmas Mass Times



Advent at St. Francis

Check stfoafrisco.org for more information!

**SATURDAYS, NOVEMBER 26, DECEMBER 3,
DECEMBER 17**

Prepare our Hearts

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | Courtyard

During Saturdays in Advent, join us as we gather in the Courtyard following the Vigil Mass for a fireside Advent reflection, music, food, and fellowship.

DECEMBER 3-DECEMBER 11

Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena

Join us as we pray and celebrate our Lady of Guadalupe!
Full schedule at stfoafrisco.org

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

The Knights of Columbus 19th Annual

Breakfast with St. Nick

8:30 am - 11:30 am | Courtyard

The Knights of Columbus would like to invite you and your family to have your picture taken with St. Nick on December 4th. St. Nick will be visiting after the 7:30 am Mass and will be departing at 11:30 am. You will find him in front of the Parish Center. Join us for food, fun, and fellowship!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Parish Office & Center Closed

Mass Times | 6:30 am, 8:30 am, 12:15 pm, 5:30 pm, and 7:00 pm (Spanish).



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Winter Wonderland

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Courtyard

Join us for a night of Wintery fun! We'll have fire pits, hot chocolate, s'mores, and SNOW! Invite your friends, neighbors and coworkers to an evening of fellowship in a Winter Wonderland. All are welcome!

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Posada

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Courtyard

A posada is a Mexican tradition and is a reenactment of Mary and Joseph's search for lodging in Bethlehem. Join in on this beautiful tradition! Fellowship and food will follow.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration

More information at stfoafrisco.org

Wednesday, December 14

Advent Reconciliation Night

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Church

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

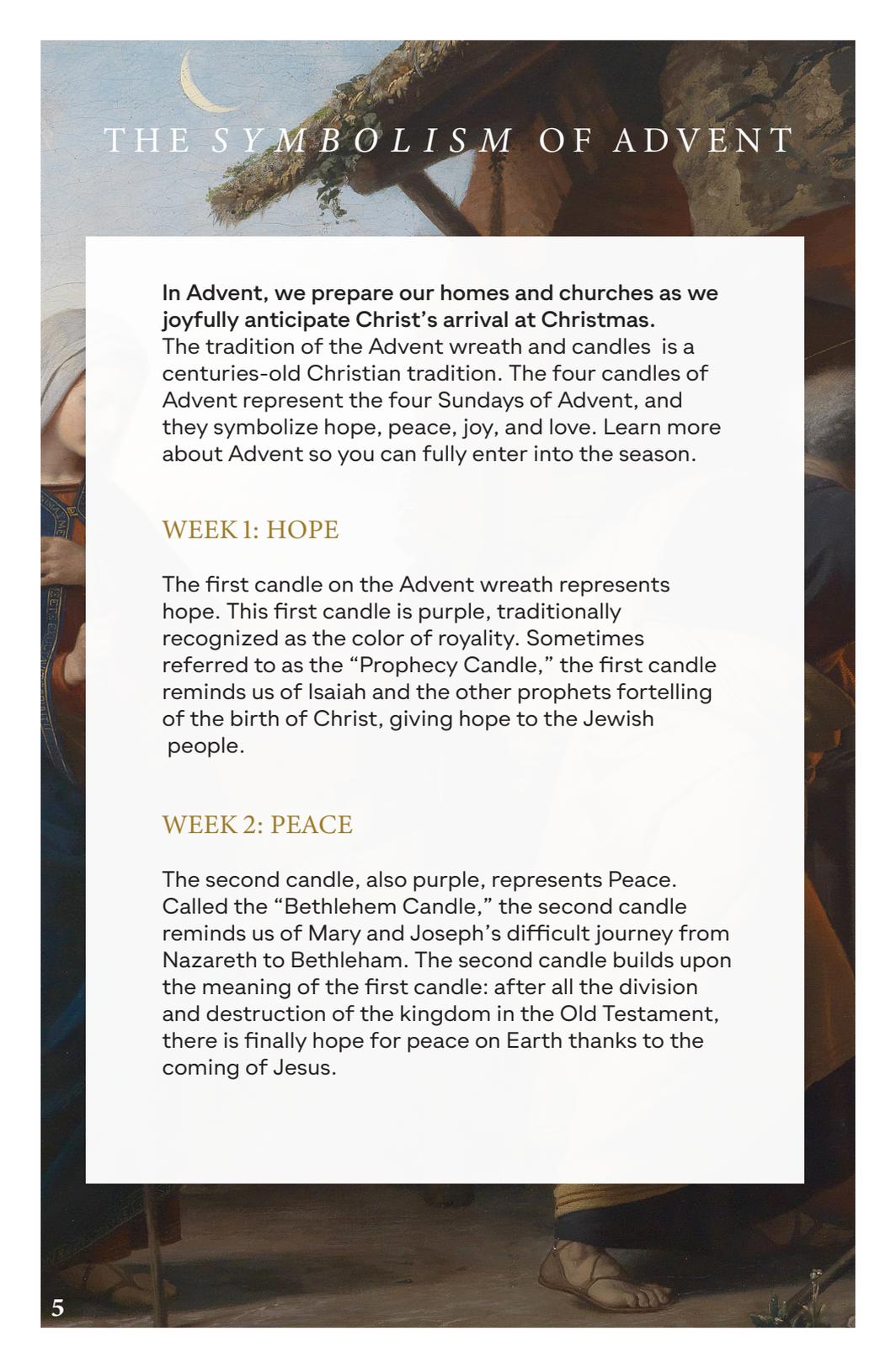
Christmas Concert

7:30 pm | Church

Come join us for a very enjoyable evening of Christmas Carols sung by the combined choirs from the 5 pm, 8, 9:30 & 11 am Choirs!

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23-TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

Parish Office & Center Closed



THE SYMBOLISM OF ADVENT

In Advent, we prepare our homes and churches as we joyfully anticipate Christ's arrival at Christmas.

The tradition of the Advent wreath and candles is a centuries-old Christian tradition. The four candles of Advent represent the four Sundays of Advent, and they symbolize hope, peace, joy, and love. Learn more about Advent so you can fully enter into the season.

WEEK 1: HOPE

The first candle on the Advent wreath represents hope. This first candle is purple, traditionally recognized as the color of royalty. Sometimes referred to as the "Prophecy Candle," the first candle reminds us of Isaiah and the other prophets foretelling of the birth of Christ, giving hope to the Jewish people.

WEEK 2: PEACE

The second candle, also purple, represents Peace. Called the "Bethlehem Candle," the second candle reminds us of Mary and Joseph's difficult journey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. The second candle builds upon the meaning of the first candle: after all the division and destruction of the kingdom in the Old Testament, there is finally hope for peace on Earth thanks to the coming of Jesus.

Once in our world, a stable had something in it that was bigger than our whole world.

C . S . L E W I S

WEEK 3: JOY

The third candle of Advent represents Joy. It is lit on the Third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete translates to *rejoice*. Our joy continues to grow as we approach Christmas. The third candle, called the “Shepherd’s Candle,” reminds of the joy and anticipation of the shepherds as they traveled to see Jesus in Bethlehem. The third candle is pink which is the liturgical color for joy.

WEEK 4: LOVE

The fourth candle of Advent represents Love. It helps us to fully realize Christmas as an ultimate act of Love: God sent His only Son to redeem us. This candle helps us reflect on the incredible love our Lord has for us. Known as the “Angel’s Candle,” the fourth candle is purple.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Reconciliation (or penance, confession) is the sacrament in which sins committed after baptism are confessed after an examination of conscience and forgiven by a priest in the name of Christ.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. It is important to cleanse our souls in preparation for receiving our Lord at Christmas.

Weekly Reconciliation Schedule

Wednesday

11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Thursday

5:00 pm - 6:15 pm

Friday

9:00 am - 10:00 am

Saturday

9:15 am - 10:45 am

Additional Advent Confessions

Saturday, December 10

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Wednesday, December 14

*Night of Adoration &
Confession*

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

ACT OF CONTRITION

O my God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. (Rite of Penance, no. 45)

Examination of Conscience

A Brief Examination of Conscience Based on the Ten Commandments

I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.

Have I treated people, events, or things as more important than God?

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

Have my words, actively or passively, put down God, the Church, or people?

Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.

Do I go to Mass every Sunday (or Saturday Vigil) and on Holy Days of Obligation (Jan. 1; the Ascension; Aug. 15; Nov. 1; Dec. 8; Dec. 25)? Do I avoid, when possible, work that impedes worship to God, joy for the Lord's Day, and proper relaxation of mind and body? Do I look for ways to spend time with family or in service on Sunday?

Honor your father and your mother.

Do I show my parents due respect? Do I seek to maintain good communication with my parents where possible? Do I criticize them for lacking skills I think they should have.

You shall not kill.

Have I harmed another through physical, verbal, or emotional means, including gossip or manipulation of any kind?

You shall not commit adultery.

Have I respected the physical and sexual dignity of others and of myself?

You shall not steal.

Have I taken or wasted time or resources that belonged to another?

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

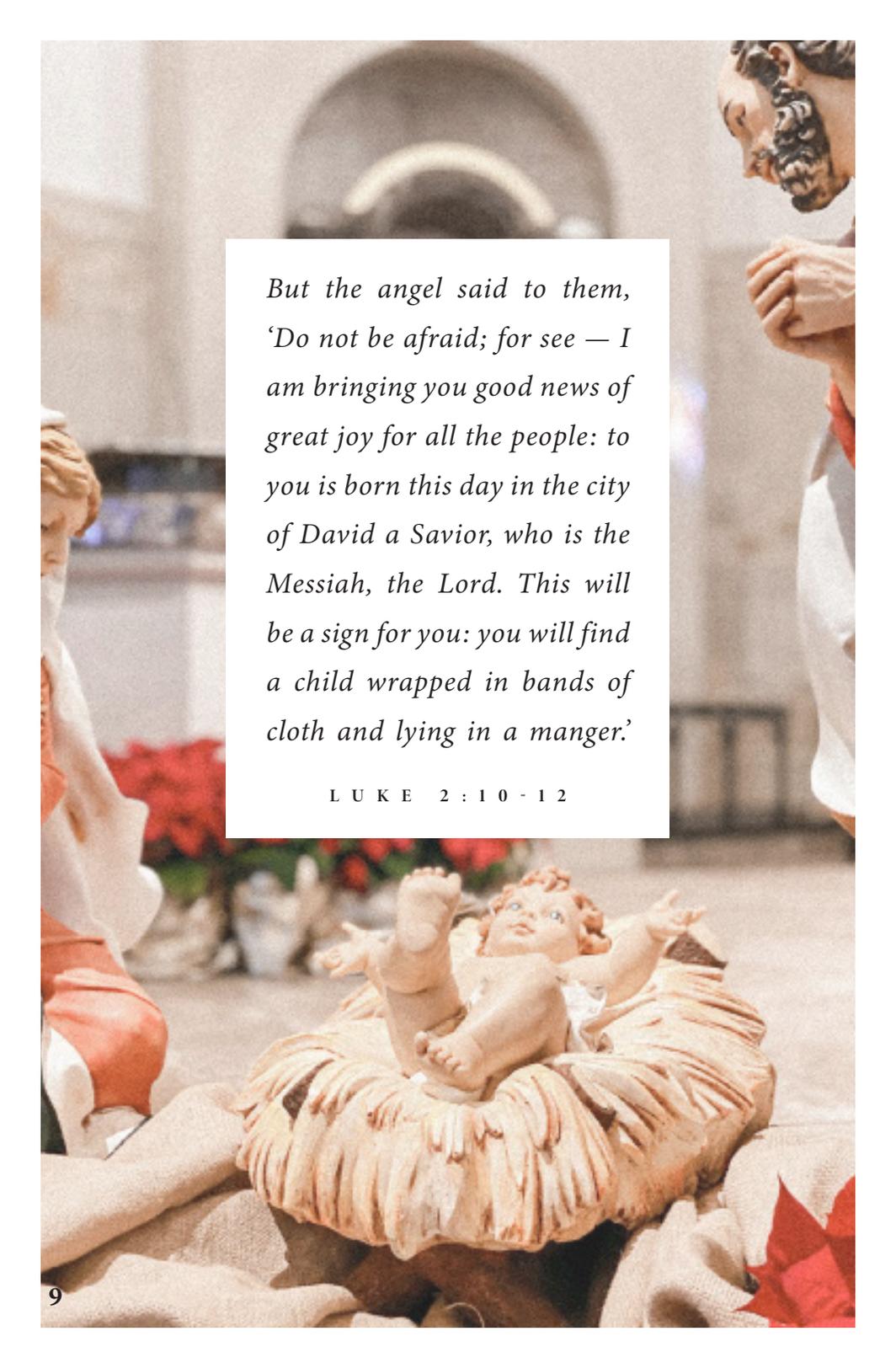
Have I gossiped, told lies, or embellished stories at the expense of another?

You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse.

Have I honored my spouse with my full affection and exclusive love?

You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

Am I content with my own means and needs, or do I compare myself to others unnecessarily?



*But the angel said to them,
'Do not be afraid; for see — I
am bringing you good news of
great joy for all the people: to
you is born this day in the city
of David a Savior, who is the
Messiah, the Lord. This will
be a sign for you: you will find
a child wrapped in bands of
cloth and lying in a manger.'*

L U K E 2 : 1 0 - 1 2

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve

Saturday, December 24

3:00 pm English | Church

3:00 pm English | Great Hall

5:00 pm English | Church

5:00 pm English | Great Hall

7:00 pm English | Church

9:00 pm Spanish | Church

11:00 pm Christmas Carols | Church

Midnight Mass (12:00 am) English | Church

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25

9:30 am English | Church

11:00 am English | Church

12:30 pm Spanish | Church



Art:
Am Abend vor Christi Geburt, Michael Riser (Cover, Page 5)
Adoration of the Shepherds(1622) by Gerard van Honthorst (Page 6)