

Religious Education

CCD Family Newsletter November 20 - November 27, 2024



Upcoming CCD Calendar

Monday, November 25th

Our First "Flex Day"!*

Program Suggestion - Lesson 22: Advent

Tuesday, November 26th

NO CCD

Enjoy Prepping for Thanksgiving

[CCD Calendar](#)

*As a reminder, "Flex Days" are not optional in terms of attendance. They are simply days where catechists have a choice about the material to be covered in class. While the calendar suggests a deeper dive into the season of Advent (Lesson 22), catechists can also take the time to do things like review a previous topic, work on an extensive craft project or conduct a service project.



Homeschooling Connection

Week of November 24th

Lesson 22: Advent

Advent starts on December 1st. Help your child prepare for this beautiful liturgical season by working with them on Lesson 22: Advent.

As a reminder, Advent is a penitential season. Please make your child's celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation a priority. They can attend confession any Saturday afternoon from 12:45 - 2:00 in the church or attend Reconciliation with their in-person CCD peers on the afternoons of December 9th or 10th anytime between 4:00 and 5:00 pm.



Gospel Reflection Stickers for the Week

Yes, you heard the story correctly. Mrs. Noll's 18.5-year-old pet frog named "Bob the Frog" came to CCD this week to help make a pretty serious Gospel about the end of days a little more kid-friendly. We spoke about how Mrs. Noll had no idea when she signed a permission slip for her seven-year-old daughter to bring a tadpole home back in 2006, that the frog that tadpole developed into would still be alive in 2024. Someday though, there will be signs that Bob the Frog isn't as healthy as he once was and that the end of his days is near. Before that time, whenever it may be, Mrs. Noll needs to continue to do all of the good things necessary to show Bob love and care.

Similarly, one day there will be signs that this world will pass away. Until then, we still need to continue to make good choices to love God, ourselves and others. While change is a constant in this world, one of the things we can always count on is God's unfailing love for each and every one of us.



Friendly Reminder!

Sacrament of Reconciliation This Saturday, November 23rd

10:00 am

Students in our Sacramental Preparation Program will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Saturday morning. We'll begin the morning with a short penance service and then Mrs. Noll will conduct a group examination of conscience.

Please encourage your children to spend some time prior to Saturday thinking about their choices. Role playing confession with your children will also help alleviate any anxiety they might have about the sacrament. Remind them that they are really having a conversation with Jesus through the priest. And, after the Sign of the Cross, that conversation begins with the words, "Bless me Father for I have sinned. This is my first confession." Just 12 simple words to memorize!



Spice Drive Thank You

The OLS Food Pantry would like to thank all of you who participated in our first ever spice drive for Thanksgiving. In total we collected 157 containers of spices which will certainly be welcome additions to many holiday recipes.

Every year around the holidays, more and more people tend to reach out to the food pantry, so your continued support of their vital mission is appreciated by not only pantry volunteers, but also the patrons it serves.

Our Next Service Project: Christmas Goodie Bags

Each Advent the CCD Program collects items for inclusion in Christmas "Goodie Bags" which are then delivered to homebound members of the parish the week before Christmas. **Please help us with our annual tradition by sending your child into CCD with the item(s) listed next to your child's grade.** While these gifts aren't viewed as super exciting to most of our students, they are nonetheless looked forward to by our homebound parishioners who tend to be older. Thanks in advance for your help!

When selecting your items, please avoid large containers or boxes as many of our homebound seniors can't lift large items.



CHRISTMAS GOODIE BAG COLLETION

TO BENEFIT OLS' HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

Please donate the item(s) listed next to your child's grade. Items will be collected at CCD until December 10th.

- K & GRADE 1:** 2 BOXES OF SHORTBREAD OR HOLIDAY COOKIES
- GRADE 2:** 1 BOX OF TISSUES **AND** 1 CAN OF COFFEE
- GRADE 3:** 1 SMALL JAR OF PEANUT BUTTER **AND** 1 SMALL JAR OF JELLY
- GRADE 4:** 2 SMALL BOXES OF TEA BAGS
- GRADE 5:** 1 BAG OF HOLIDAY CHOCOLATES **AND** 1 PACKAGE OF SNACK-SIZED FRUIT CUPS OR APPLESAUCE
- GRADE 6:** 1 LIP BALM **AND** 1 BOX OF HOT CHOCOLATE
- GRADE 7:** 2 SMALL TUBES OF HAND CREAM
- GRADE 8:** 2 SMALL BOTTLES OF SOAP

**NO BULK-SIZED ITEMS PLEASE!
ANY EXCESS ITEMS WILL BE DONATED TO THE
OLS FOOD PANTRY.**

Our Annual Christmas Pageant is Only 2.5 Weeks Away!

Unbelievably, Advent starts on Sunday, December 1st and our annual Christmas pageant is the following Sunday! So, check your calendars and **be sure to sign your child up** to help bring the story of Jesus' incarnation to the parish. It's always a fun day, the commitment is minimal, and the photos are priceless. Plus, we just ordered some new shepherd's crooks and a new star to make us look a little more professional;) Even if your child can't participate, I hope you'll join us as an audience member.

Help Bring Christmas Joy to our Parish at our Annual Christmas Pageant Sunday, December 8, 2024



This Advent, the children of Our Lady of Sorrows can help prepare the hearts of everyone in the parish for the coming of Jesus Christ in a very special way: by participating in the OLS Christmas pageant. The birth of our Savior is VERY BIG news worth sharing with everyone! Please help us deliver this exciting message by having your child participate in our upcoming pageant. It's a fun way for kids to learn about their faith and a great opportunity for them to share their many talents - acting, singing and storytelling - with others. The commitment is minimal, costumes are provided and the photos are always PRICELESS!

Please email Colleen McDonald at sorrowschurch@gmail.com if your child in grades K-8 would like to participate. Or sign up electronically via the SignUpGenius!

Pageant Roles

K and Grade 1:
Lambs

Grade 2:
Angels

Grade 3
Shepherds

Grades 4 and Up:
Central Figures

* Costumes Provided for
All Cast Members



Pageant Schedule

Practice

Friday, December 6th

4:30 - 7:00 pm (Grades 4-8)

6:00 - 7:00 pm (Grades K-3)
upper church

Pageant Day

Sunday, December 8th

Central figures

arrive 3:00 pm, upper church

Sheep, Angels and Shepherds
arrive 4:00 pm, St. Joseph's Hall

Pageant Showtime 4:30 - 5:00 pm

Join us for our Christmas Pageant Pizza Social immediately following the show in St. Joseph's Hall
\$25 per family

[Sign Up to Participate in the Pageant Here](#)

Mark Your Calendars Now!

Our parish has something for everyone this Advent. Take a look at all our offerings and then plan on signing up for all those of interest! We hope to see you at an event or two!



PREPARE FOR THE COMING OF THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD!

ADVENT AT OLS

+ our Christmas Mass Schedule

CHECK OUR BULLETIN AND WEBSITE FOR MORE DETAILS

<p>Sunday December 1st</p> <p>Advent Wreath Blessing and Decorating</p> <p>11am-12:30pm (after 10am Mass)</p> <p>Have your wreath blessed and decorated at this favorite family-friendly event.</p> <p>RSVP: Teresa G. at teresa.gcis@gmail.com</p>	<p>Monday December 2nd</p> <p>Parish Penance Service</p> <p>7:00pm-8:00pm</p> <p>Come receive the Sacrament of Confession and have your sins forgiven!</p>	<p>Wednesday December 4th</p> <p>Women's Advent by Candlelight</p> <p>7:00pm-9:00pm</p> <p>A night of prayer and fellowship for women to focus on the Reason for the Season.</p> <p>RSVP: Colette P. at cpierre6860@gmail.com</p>	<p>Saturday December 7th</p> <p>Waiting with Mary: A Morning of Reflection</p> <p>8:30am-12:30pm</p> <p>Includes breakfast, a talk by guest speaker Fr. Doug Milewski, adoration, Mass & confessions. <i>Babysitting available!</i></p> <p>RSVP: John R. at maryleads2@aol.com</p>
<p>Sunday December 8th</p> <p>Children's Christmas Pageant</p> <p>4:30pm-5:00pm</p> <p>Join us as our parish children re-enact the Nativity story. Family Pizza Social immediately following!</p> <p>Contact Jen N. at jennollols@gmail.com</p>	<p>Monday December 9th</p> <p>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (Holy Day of Obligation)</p> <p>Mass Times: 7:00 am 9:30am (School Mass), 12:00 noon and 7:00pm.</p>	<p>Sunday December 15th</p> <p>Carol Sing with Live Nativity</p> <p>4:00pm-5:30pm</p> <p>Join our parish choirs and the Gramercy Brass in our annual Carol Sing. Followed by a live nativity on the plaza. All are welcome - no RSVP needed.</p>	<p>+ CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE +</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Tuesday, December 24th (Christmas Eve): 4pm, 7pm, 10pm ("Midnight Mass")</p> <p>Wednesday, December 25th (Christmas Day): 8am, 10am, 11:30am</p>

Kick Off Advent with Your Parish Family

Advent is nearly here. If you'd like to attend our upcoming Advent Wreath Decorating and Prayer Service, please be sure to RSVP to CCD parent Teresa Geis by November 26th.

Advent Wreath Decorating & Prayer Service for Parish Families



*Celebrate the beginning of this Holy time as a family.
Bring your own wreath to be blessed and decorated
after Mass, or purchase one from us that day!*

Sunday, December 1st
Following 10am Mass, Parish Hall

Cost per family: Includes donuts, bagels & coffee, and a family Advent prayer book:

- \$20 with own wreath & candles
- \$25 if only candles needed (own wreath)
- \$30 if both wreath & candles needed

Cash/check payment at the door

RSVP by
November 26th

To Reserve a Spot, email Teresa
at teresa.geis@gmail.com



SAINT / FEAST OF THE WEEK

St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr

November 22nd

Patron Saint of: Musicians

Saint Cecilia probably lived in the second or third century, and tradition says she died about 177 AD. Although details of her life may be unknown to us, Saint Cecilia was one of the most revered early virgin martyrs of Rome, as evidenced by her name appearing in the Roman Canon of the Mass (Eucharistic Prayer 1). She is one of the seven women commemorated by name in the Roman Canon. There is evidence of a church named in her honor dating to the late fourth century. A feast day in honor of Saint Cecilia was celebrated as early as 545.

Cecilia was born in a wealthy Roman family and was a Christian by birth. Her family gave her in marriage to Valerius, a pagan nobleman. Cecilia promised to remain a virgin, and she was successful in persuading Valerius to respect her virginity on their wedding night. Later, Valerius was converted to Catholicism along with his brother, Tiburtius.

These two brothers dedicated themselves to burying the Christian martyrs, which was illegal. They were arrested and sentenced to death for refusing to renounce their religion.

Cecilia continued the work of converting people to the Christian faith and of burying the Christian dead, even though it was against the law. Hundreds were baptized through her witness and strength of faith. She planned to have her home preserved as a church after her death. Her refusal to worship false gods and her burying of the dead led to her arrest.

Saint Cecilia was brought to trial and sentenced to death. It took several days for her to die, and it is said that she converted many people who came to care for her as she was dying. Saint Cecilia died lying on her right side with her hands crossed in prayer. The position of her fingers—three extended on her right hand, and one on the left—were her final silent profession of faith in the Holy Trinity, Three Persons in one God. Saint Cecilia was buried in the Catacomb of Saint Callistus.

In the Middle Ages, Saint Cecilia became a very popular saint. She is remembered today as the patron of musicians, composers, instrument makers, and poets. There is a story that Saint Cecilia was said to have heard heavenly music inside her heart when she was forced to marry the pagan Valerian. During her wedding, Cecilia sat and sang to God in her heart. Thus, she was declared to be the patron of musicians. Musical compositions, poems, art, and festivals have grown out of this story.



Delicious Reminder of St. Cecilia

St. Cecilia is the patron saint of musicians. Tell your kids about St. Cecilia's story while they munch on this tasty snack idea using vanilla wafers and KitKats to create a piano keyboard. Yum!



In the Liturgy of the Word, the Church feeds the people of God from the table of his Word. Previewing the readings before Mass then is a bit like looking over the menu before you get to a restaurant: you have a better idea of what you can expect so that you can enter into the experience more fully prepared. And like a good discussion during a meal, discussing the readings and how they can be applied to your family's daily life helps your family to truly go out and proclaim the gospel after leaving the church.

Here are a few resources to help your family delve deeper into the Liturgy of the Word:

[Readings for Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe](#)

[Loyola Press: Sunday Connection](#)

[Sadlier: This Week's Liturgy](#)

KIDSCALENDAR

NOVEMBER 2024



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>Word of the month: SAINT A person who lived like Jesus and is now in Heaven.</p>						
<p>THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p>Q What did the scribe ask Jesus? (SEE NOVEMBER 8)</p> <p>Mark 12:28b-34</p> <p>3</p>	<p>SAINT CHARLES BORROMEI, BISHOP</p> <p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>ALL SAINTS</p> <p>A Which is the first commandment?</p> <p>8</p>	<p>THE COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED (ALL SOULS' DAY)</p> <p>2</p>
<p>THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p>Q Who did Jesus say put in more? (SEE NOVEMBER 14)</p> <p>Mark 12:38-44</p> <p>10</p>	<p>SAINT MARTIN OF TOURS, BISHOP</p> <p>11</p>	<p>SAINT JOSAPHAT, BISHOP AND MARTYR</p> <p>12</p>	<p>SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER CABRINI, VIRGIN</p> <p>13</p>	<p>A The poor widow.</p> <p>14</p>	<p>SAINT ALBERT THE GREAT, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH</p> <p>15</p>	<p>SAINT MARGARET OF SCOTLAND SAINT GERTRUDE, VIRGIN</p> <p>16</p>
<p>THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</p> <p>Q What can we learn a lesson from? (SEE NOVEMBER 19)</p> <p>Mark 13:24-32</p> <p>17</p>	<p>THE DEDICATION OF THE BASILICAS OF SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES SAINT ROSE PHILIPPINE DUCHESE, VIRGIN</p> <p>18</p>	<p>A The fig tree.</p> <p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>THE PRESENTATION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</p> <p>21</p>	<p>SAINT CECILIA, VIRGIN AND MARTYR</p> <p>22</p>	<p>SAINT CLEMENT I, POPE AND MARTYR; SAINT COLUMBAN, ABBOT BLESSED MIGUEL AGUSTIN PRO, PRIEST AND MARTYR</p> <p>23</p>
<p>OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE</p> <p>Q Where is Jesus' kingdom? (SEE NOVEMBER 28)</p> <p>John 18: 33b-37</p> <p>24</p>	<p>SAINT CATHERINE OF ALEXANDRIA, VIRGIN AND MARTYR</p> <p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>THANKSGIVING DAY</p> <p>28</p>	<p>A not here.</p> <p>29</p>	<p>SAINT ANDREW, APOSTLE</p> <p>30</p>

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[Download the November Catechist Magazine Calendar HERE](#)

Catholic Trivia

Question: OLS' choir for students in grades 3-8 is named after the patron saint of musicians: St. Cecilia. When do the St. Cecilia Singers rehearse?

- A) Monday evenings right after the conclusion of CCD at 5:15
- B) Tuesday evenings right after the conclusion of CCD at 5:15
- C) Wednesday afternoons from 3:45 - 4:30
- D) Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 7:30



ST. CECILIA SINGERS

GRADES 3-8
Rehearsals are Wednesday afternoons from 3:45pm-4:30pm
The choir will sing twice per month at our 10am Family Mass

For more information and to sign up, please contact Preston Dibble, Director of Music at olsmusician@gmail.com

Answer: C. The St. Cecilia Singers rehearse on Wednesday afternoon from 3:45 - 4:30 under the direction of OLS' music director Preston Dibble. Be sure to mark your calendars to hear the kids sing at the annual Christmas Carol Sing on Sunday, December 15th at 4:00. You can also catch them singing some Sunday mornings during the 10:00 am Family Mass. They do make quite a cute group!

For more information about how your child can join the St. Cecilia Singers, contact Preston Dibble at olsmusician@gmail.com.

Joke of the Week

Question: *What instrument does a turkey play?*

Answer: The drumstick.

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[Our Lady of Sorrows Website](#)