



SAINT POLYCARP CATHOLIC CHURCH

8100 Chapman Avenue, Stanton CA 90680 | (714) 893-2766 | www.stpolycarp.org

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a faith-based Catholic community whose members are enriched by the celebration of the Sacraments and opportunities to deepen our prayer lives. Guided by the Word of God and family values, we strive always to be a beacon of light for the lost, the lonely, the marginalized, and all those seeking the truth as we walk in the footsteps of those first disciples of Jesus and our patron St. Polycarp.

CLERGY

PASTOR

Rev. Viet Peter Ho

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Nicolaus Duy Thai

Rev. Luis Segura

DEACONS

Dcn. Ramiro Lopez

Dcn. Larry Leone

Dcn. Davis Tri Do

Dcn. Juan Ochoa

SUPPORT STAFF

BUSINESS MANAGER

Tom H. Ma

FAITH FORMATION (ENGLISH/SPANISH)

Sister Jessica Corral

FAITH FORMATION (VIETNAMESE)

Sister Mary Anne

Thiên Hương Nguyễn

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Sister Anna Anh Trâm Trần

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Kara Ford

YOUTH COORDINATOR

Joseph Do

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday

5:00 PM English

7:00 PM Vietnamese

Sunday

7:30 AM English

9:00 AM Spanish

11:00 AM English

1:00 PM Spanish

4:00 PM Vietnamese

6:00 PM Spanish

WEEKDAY MASSES

6:30 AM English (Mon-Fri)

8:30 AM English (Mon-Sat)

6:30 PM Spanish (Mon)

6:30 PM Vietnamese (Fri)

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

9:00 AM - 10 AM (Fri)

3:30 PM - 4:30 PM (Sat)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

7:15 PM (Monday)

9:00 AM (Friday)

3:30 PM (Saturday)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday

9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

1:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Sunday

8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

1:30 PM - 3:30 PM

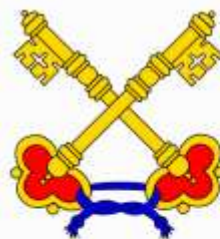
info@stpolycarp.org

BULLETIN: editor@stpolycarp.org



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake." - Mt 24:43



Pope's Intention - November

For the prevention of suicide

Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.

NOVEMBER 30, 2025

XIN Ý LỄ CẦU NGUYÊN

5:00 PM Andres† & Macaria†; Teresa†
7:00 PM Buoi Nguyen† & Men Dao†;
Jeronimo Nguyen & Teresa Dao

7:30 AM	Quang Hien Nguyen† & All Ancestors†
9:00 AM	Loenor Tovar Rodriguez† & Ana Maria Castillo Tovar
11:00 AM	Jose Aguilar†; Anthony Pisano
1:00 PM	Luis Escobar†; Altagracia Campos†; Maria Ugenia Portillo†
4:00 PM	Nicolaus Nguyen family
6:00 PM	Isaias†, Jovita Patino† & Celina Orozco†

6:30 AM	Luis Gabriel Armenta (birthday); All Souls in Purgatory†
8:30 AM	Corazon Manansala (birthday)
6:30 PM	Benigno† & Manuela†; Hermilo Osorio Rivera† & Rufino Pelaez†

6:30 AM Soledad Guillen†; Rogelio Manansala†
8:30 AM Bonifacio Ramos, Sr.†; Alexander Braga†

6:30 AM Joseph Dren Nguyen† & Teresa Them Truong†;
Lovers of the Holy Cross Los Angeles†

8:30 AM Joseph Hong Nguyen† & Paul Tuan Nguyen†;
Armando Marmolejo & Berenice Chino (health)

6:30 AM	Julio Barboza†, Lourdes Carrera† & Emilia†
8:30 AM	Bustos Family; Lourdes V. De La Cruz†

6:00 AM	Myla Sobrepena (birthday) & Thanksgiving; Vo Van Xet✝
8:30 AM	Anna Maria Tu Nguyen✝, Anthony Thu Nguyen✝, Nam Thi Le✝ & All Souls; Maria Beo Pham✝ & Thomas Thuyet Pham
5:00 PM	Joseph✝
6:30 PM	Living and Deceased Members of the VN Sacred Heart Choir

8:30 AM Peter Trap Mai† & All Ancestors†;
All Ancestors†



Sunday:	Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/ Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44
Monday:	Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/ Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/ Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/ Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/ Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/ Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday:	Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/ Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12



SCAN QR CODE TO DONATE



Nov 22/23 Masses	\$ 21,630.50
Nov 22/23 Online Giving	\$ 3,009.20
Total collection:	\$ 24,639.70

*Thank you for your support! ¡Gracias por su apoyo!
Cảm ơn tấm lòng quảng đại của mọi người.*

English/Spanish Religious Education

(714) 892-3158

Monday/Thursday	2 PM—6 PM
Saturday	9 AM—1 PM

Confirmation Programs

(714) 890-5200

Tuesday/Wednesday	1 PM—5:30 PM
Friday	1 PM—5 PM
Sunday	8 AM—3 PM

Vietnamese Religious Education

(714) 620-7895

Monday/Wednesday/Friday	2 PM—5:30 PM
Saturday	10 AM—1 PM

Dear Parishioners of Saint Polycarp,

We just celebrated Thanksgiving, and I hope you had a wonderful and grace-filled celebration with your family. For me, I am grateful for God who gives me life and love, and who brings me to you and knits me into this family of Saint Polycarp. For this wonderful gift of ministry, I am grateful for your love and support.

This Sunday marks the last day of November, and it is the First Sunday of Advent, which is the beginning of the Church's liturgical year. Just as we begin the first day of a new year during the season of winter to prepare us for the season of spring—a season of new growth, the Church begins Her liturgical year at the tail end of autumn, a time when darkness begins to lengthen, to prepare us to receive the Star of Bethlehem—the Savior Jesus, who is the Light of the world.

On this First Sunday of Advent, the scriptural Readings call us to prepare to act by climbing the mountains of the Lord (Is 2: 1-5), to awake from our sleep (Rm 13: 11-14), and to vigilant for the coming of the Son of Man (Mt 24: 37-44).

According to the Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, "Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, by remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. For these two reasons, Advent is a period of devout and expectant delight" (nos. 17: 39-42).

At Saint Polycarp, the four weeks of Advent are filled with many spiritual activities. There are Advent reflections in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese; the Posadas hosted by the Hispanic community; other Advent events prepared by the Faith Formation Programs and Youth Ministry; and opportunities for confessions or reconciliation—that is, besides the weekly confession, there is the Advent penance service, which takes place on the Tenth of December.

I invite you to pay close attention to these spiritual activities that will be posted either in the bulletin or parish website, and announced during the days ahead, so that all of us, together as priests and lay people, can truly prepare well for the Nativity of the Lord during the Jubilee Year. Talking about the Jubilee Year, our parish will have a Mass to conclude the Jubilee Year; and this Mass will take place at Christ Cathedral on December 22.

Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your contribution to the 2025 PSA to support the diocesan ministries and, at the same time, to support our parish's projects.

Together with my brother priests, I invoke the blessing of Our Mighty God, and the intercessions of Our Blessed Mother, Saint Joseph, and the Patron Saint Polycarp upon you and your family.

Fr. Viet Peter Ho
Pastor

Las lecturas de la semana del 30 de noviembre de 2025

Domingo: Is 2, 1-5/Sal 121, 1-2. 3-4. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9/
Rom 13, 11-14/Mt 24, 37-44

Lunes: Is 4, 2-6/Sal 121, 1-2. 3-4. 4-5. 6-7. 8-9/Mt 8, 5-11

Martes: Is 11, 1-10/Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17/Lc 10, 21-24

Miércoles: Is 25, 6-10/Sal 22, 1-3. 3-4. 5. 6/Mt 15, 29-37

Jueves: Is 26, 1-6/Sal 117, 1 y 8-9. 19-21. 25-27/
Mt 7, 21. 24-27

Viernes: Is 29, 17-24/Sal 26, 1. 4. 13-14/Mt 9, 27-31

Sábado: Is 30, 19-21. 23-26/Sal 146, 1-2. 3-4. 5-6/
Mt 9, 35—10, 1. 6-8

Domingo: Is 11, 1-10/Sal 71, 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17 (ver 7)/
Rom 15, 4-9/Mt 3, 1-12

Las conmemoraciones de la semana del 30 de noviembre de 2025

Domingo: 1^{er} Domingo de Adviento

Miércoles: San Francisco Javier, sacerdote

Jueves: San Juan Damasceno, sacerdote y doctor de la Iglesia

Sábado: San Nicolás, obispo

Domingo: 2^o Domingo de Adviento

(PRACTICANDO) CATÓLICA: RECONOCE A DIOS EN TUS MOMENTOS ORDINARIOS

Por Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Mini Reflexión: Por supuesto que el mundo se está acabando. Ha estado terminando desde siempre. Y el Hijo del Hombre viene, pero no olviden que él ya estuvo aquí también. Y Su Espíritu, incluso ahora, está renovando la faz de la tierra. "Pero ¿cómo?", preguntamos. —¿Y cuándo? ¿Y dónde?

Momentos Decisivos

En toda vida hay momentos decisivos.

Pienso en nuestro tiempo en esta tierra como semejante, en el principio, a una fina y firme lámina de metal, suspendida con perfecto equilibrio en el tiempo y el espacio. Si una gota de agua cae sobre la lámina, permanece precisamente donde cae.

Pero la vida sigue. Vemos cosas, sentimos cosas, y en el ver y sentir, la lámina de metal plana y lisa se huella. Los impactos creados por esas experiencias son como perdigones de bala acribillando la armadura; En poco tiempo, la superficie queda marcada. Una gota de agua que cae drenará o se acumulará de una forma u otra, su acción estará determinada por la hendidura más cercana.

Se ha creado una cuenca hidrográfica, una cumbre o valle que interrumpe la suave planicie de la vida. En el Evangelio de

hoy, Jesús habla del fin del mundo. No soy un erudito bíblico, pero sospecho que el tema en cuestión es el Apocalipsis (con A mayúscula). El grande. La explosión que vuelca la propia lámina y hace que cada gota de agua se desplome. Pero creo que, en un tono más pequeño, también se trata de todas las hendiduras en la planicie: esos pequeños apocalipsis (con a minúscula), las cosas que se sentían como el fin del mundo (o el comienzo de uno nuevo).

La pérdida de un empleo. La ruptura de una relación. El sufrimiento de un ser querido.

Por supuesto que el mundo se está acabando. Ha estado terminando desde siempre. Y el Hijo del Hombre viene, pero no olviden que él ya estuvo aquí también. Y su Espíritu, incluso ahora, está renovando la faz de la tierra.

"Pero ¿cómo?", preguntamos. —¿Y cuándo? ¿Y dónde?

Sin las grietas en la armadura, sin los momentos decisivos, hay una lisura tremenda, sin duda. Pero tampoco hay movimiento.

Así que fíjate en los momentos decisivos, en estos pequeños (y grandes) apocalipsis. En estos momentos que nos cambian, para bien o para mal, Dios está ahí, trabajando, esperando.

MEDITACIÓN DEL EVANGELIO – ALENTAR UN ENTENDIMIENTO MÁS PROFUNDO DE LA ESCRITURA

El Adviento es un tiempo litúrgico de mucha esperanza. Hoy damos comienzo al ciclo A, y será el Evangelio de Mateo el que nos ayude a caminar durante este tiempo de gracia. Mateo, llamado también Leví, fue uno de los que Jesús quiso tener entre sus doce apóstoles. Él nos ayudará a ver que la esperanza está más cerca que nunca; que el anuncio de paz consiste en: Estén alerta, no se duerman, vigilen hasta entrada la noche. *"Por eso estén despiertos, porque no saben en qué día vendrá el Señor"* (Mateo 24:42). Un año más ha llegado, y se nos invita no a tener miedo, sino más bien a tener la intención de despertar, prestar atención y velar, para descubrir y seguir cómo será el paso de Dios en mi vida en este Adviento.

Esperanza y vigilia es lo que la Iglesia nos propone en este jubileo, y el Adviento es el momento de estar despiertos, como los pastores que supieron escuchar la noticia de que, en la ciudad de David, había nacido un Salvador. ¿De qué formas estaré despierto o despierta en este Adviento? Puede ser que reciba a Cristo de una forma diferente a otros años, con un espíritu de vigilancia y compromiso hacia mi familia y mi comunidad. Jesús, ayúdame a girar mi corazón hacia ti, para que al hacerlo pueda ver con una mirada nueva la búsqueda de la verdad y la justicia que tanto necesitamos en la familia y en la sociedad. ¡Ven, Señor! ©LPi

NOVENARIO DE GUADALUPE

Miércoles, Dic. 3

**Rosario y Misa: 6:30pm en el Templo*

Jueves, Dic. 4

**Rosario: 6:30pm en el Templo.*

**Hora Santa Mariana: 7:00pm en el Templo*

Viernes, Dic. 5

**Fiesta Guadalupana en la Catedral de Cristo de 4:00pm a 9:30pm. Nos reuniremos en el estacionamiento de la Iglesia a las 3:00pm para salir en procesión a las 3:30pm en punto*

Sábado, Dic. 6

**Rosario y Misa: 9:30am en el Templo*

Domingo, Dic. 7

**Rosario y Misa: 5:30pm en la Iglesia*

Lunes, Dic. 8

Inmaculada Concepción. Día de obligación.

**Rosario: 6:00pm en el jardín de la escuela.*

**Misa Español: 8:00pm en el Templo*

**No habrá confesiones este día.*

Martes, Dic. 9

**Rosario: 6:30pm en el Templo*

**Reflexión de Adviento: 7:00pm en el Templo
Expositor: P. Gastón Mendiola*

Miércoles, Dic. 10

**Rosario: 6:30pm en el jardín de la escuela*

**Servicio Penitencial en el Templo
de 7:00pm a 9:00pm*

Jueves, Dic. 11

**Rosario y Misa: 6:30pm en el Templo*

Viernes, Diciembre 12

Solemnidad de Ntra. Sra. de Guadalupe.

**Mañanitas: 5:00am en el Templo*

**Misa de aurora: 6:00am en el Templo*

**Danza Matachines: 7:00am en el Templo*

**Misa en Inglés: 8:30am en el Templo*

**Danza Matachines: 7:30pm en el Templo*

**Misa: 8:00pm en el Templo*

NOVENA TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Wednesday, Dec. 3

**Rosary and Mass: 6:30 pm in the Church*

Thursday, Dec. 4

**Rosary: 6:30 pm in the Church*

**Marian Holy Hour: 7:00 pm in the Church*

Friday, Dec. 5

**Guadalupe Feast at Christ Cathedral from 4:00 pm to 9:30 pm. We will meet in the church parking lot at 3:00 pm to begin the procession at 3:30 pm sharp.*

Saturday, Dec. 6

**Rosary and Mass: 9:30 am in the Church*

Sunday, Dec. 7

**Rosary and Mass: 5:30 pm at the Church*

Monday, Dec. 8

Immaculate Conception. Day of Obligation.

**Rosary: 6:00 pm in the school garden.*

**Mass (Spanish): 8:00 pm in the Church*

**There will be no confessions this day.*

Tuesday, Dec. 9

**Rosary: 6:30 pm in the Church*

**Advent Reflection: 7:00 pm in the Church
Speaker: Fr. Gastón Mendiola*

Wednesday, Dec. 10

**Rosary: 6:30 pm in the school garden*

**Penitential Service in the Church from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm*

Thursday, Dec. 11

**Rosary and Mass: 6:30 pm in the Church*

Friday, Dec. 12

Solemnity of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

**Morning Prayer: 5:00 am in the Church.*

**Mass in Spanish: 6:00 am in the Church.*

**Matachines Dance: 7:00 am in the Church.*

**Mass in English: 8:30 am in the Church.*

**Matachines Dance: 7:30 pm in the Church*

**Mass in Spanish: 8:00 pm in the Church*

Các Sinh Hoạt Của Cộng Đoàn TRONG Tháng 12

MỪNG LỄ ĐỨC MẸ VÔ NHIỄM NGUYÊN TỘI

Thứ Hai ngày 8/12/2025

Có 2 Thánh Lễ tiếng Việt **4:00 pm** và **6:00 pm**
Đây là ngày lễ trọng và buộc xin mọi người sắp xếp tham dự Thánh lễ để cùng tôn vinh Mẹ Maria và cầu nguyện cho gia đình, giáo xứ.

GIẢI TỘI MÙA VỌNG 2025

Thứ Tư ngày 10/12/2025

Để chuẩn bị tâm hồn đón Chúa Giáng Sinh, Giáo Xứ sẽ có giờ giải tội cho 3 sắc dân, bắt đầu lúc **7:00pm**. Kính mời mọi người tham dự.

DỰNG HANG ĐÁ GIÁNG SINH

Thứ Bảy ngày 13/12/2025 bắt đầu **8:00 am**

Đây là cơ hội để mọi người chung tay chuẩn bị cho Mùa Giáng Sinh, vừa làm việc vừa tạo bầu khí vui tươi, gắn kết trong Giáo Xứ.

HÀNH HƯƠNG KẾT THÚC NĂM THÁNH

Hành Hương Kết Thúc Năm Thánh 2025

Thứ Hai 22/12/2025 tại Nhà thờ Chánh Tòa.

6:00pm : Lăn hạt Mân Côi tại Linh Đài Mẹ La Vang.

7:00pm : Bắt đầu Thánh Lễ trong nhà thờ.

MỪNG LỄ GIÁNG SINH 2025

Thứ Tư ngày 24/12/2025

5:30pm : Hoạt cảnh Giáng Sinh do các em TNTT trình diễn.

6:00pm : Thánh Lễ Vọng Giáng Sinh.

Thứ Năm ngày 25/12/2025

4:00pm : Thánh Lễ Giáng Sinh.

Tĩnh Tâm Mùa Vọng 2025

Để chuẩn bị tâm hồn đón mừng
Chúa Giáng Sinh, kính mời quý cộng đoàn
dành thời gian tham dự chương trình
Tĩnh Tâm Mùa Vọng do Linh mục
Micae Phạm Quang Hồng giảng thuyết.



Thứ Năm

18 & 19

6:00pm - Thánh Lễ

Thứ Sáu

Tháng 12

6:45pm - Giải lao/Có ăn nhẹ

7:00pm - Tĩnh Tâm



THÁNH LỄ AN TÁNG

Cộng Đoàn được tin **Cụ Ông Phêrô Võ Văn Bi**

Là phu quân của Bà Maryann Đặng

Được Chúa gọi về ngày 20/11/2025

tại Bakersfield - California

Hưởng Thọ 91 tuổi

Thi hài của Cụ được quản tại

Thánh Đường Giáo xứ Thánh Polycarp.

CHƯƠNG TRÌNH TANG LỄ

Thứ Tư - ngày 03 tháng 12 năm 2025

9:30 am : Nghi thức Phát tang và Làm Phép xác

10:00 am : Thăm Viếng và Cầu nguyện

11:00 am : Cử hành Thánh Lễ An Táng

Sau đó Linh cữu của Cụ được an táng tại

Nghĩa trang Westminster Memorial Park.

Xin Cộng Đoàn Dân Chúa bớt chút thời gian cùng đến
hiệp dâng Thánh Lễ và hiệp thông cầu nguyện để
tiễn đưa **Cụ Ông Phêrô** đến nơi an nghỉ cuối cùng.



CỘNG ĐOÀN ĐỨC MARIA MẸ THIÊN CHÚA GIÁO XỨ THÁNH POLYCARP

GIỚI THIỆU NHÓM LÒNG CHÚA THƯƠNG XÓT

Nhóm Lòng Chúa Thương Xót được thành lập theo sự mặc khải của Chúa Giêsu: **“Các con hãy cố động mọi người đọc chuỗi Kinh Lòng Chúa Thương Xót Cha đã dạy, Cha vui lòng ban mọi điều họ nài xin, bằng việc lần chuỗi kinh ấy”**. Mỗi ngày vào lúc 3 giờ chiều, giờ Chúa Giêsu chịu khổ nạn các thành viên tụ họp tại Thánh Đường Saint Polycarp, cùng nhau lần chuỗi và chìm mình vào cuộc khổ nạn của Chúa.

Lòng Chúa Thương Xót là nguồn suối ân sủng tuôn trào từ Trái Tim Chúa Giêsu, như lời Ngài mặc khải cho Thánh Faustina:

“Hãy làm bất cứ việc gì trong khả năng để phổ biến việc sùng kính Lòng Thương Xót của Ta.” (NK 1074)

Việc đọc kinh Lòng Chúa Thương Xót không chỉ giúp ta kết hiệp sâu xa với cuộc khổ nạn của Chúa, mà còn mang lại nhiều ơn ích thiêng liêng:

- Ôn hoán cải
- Ôn chữa lành
- Ôn bình an trong tâm hồn
- Ôn tha thứ cho các linh hồn khi cầu nguyện với lòng tin tưởng

Nhóm kính mời quý anh chị em yêu mến Lòng Thương Xót Chúa hãy đến và cùng tham gia, để mỗi ngày là một cơ hội sống trong tình yêu và lòng thương xót của Thiên Chúa.

Địa điểm cầu nguyện: Nhà thờ St. Polycarp

Thời gian: Mỗi ngày lúc 3:00 chiều

Liên lạc: Nhóm Trưởng Ông Mai Thiên Kim (657) 377-6934





Advent Reflection

 with Very Reverend Angelos Sebastian

 November 29, 2025 | After the 8:30 AM Mass

 "A Gift Received and Shared"

Refreshments to be served prior to the start of the reflection. Reflection starting at 9:30 AM.





The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

is a Holy Day of Obligation

Monday, Dec 8, 2025

 English Mass

 6:30 AM, 8:30 AM, & 5:30 PM*

 *5:30 PM in Parish Hall

 Vietnamese Mass

 4 PM & 6 PM

 Spanish Mass

 8:00 PM



LOOKING FOR CHILDREN TO SING!

 IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR CHILD TO SING AT THE CHRISTMAS EVE CHILDREN'S MASS AT 4PM, REHEARSALS WILL BE ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 8 AND MONDAY, DECEMBER 15 FROM 6-7PM IN THE ST LAWRENCE ROOM BY THE HALL. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE EMAIL KARAFORD@STPOLYCARP.ORG.



12/13-12/14/2025

THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS 2ND COLLECTION

 Thousands of elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests spent years working in ministries— such as Catholic schools, parishes, and hospitals—often for little or no pay. Today, many religious communities do not have enough savings to meet retirement needs. Your donation helps provide medications, nursing care, and more. Please give generously.

Your generous financial support is appreciated.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

 Wednesday, 12/10 @ 7PM

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended YOU and I detest all my sins because of YOUR just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love.

I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin.

Amen.



 9520 Cleveland Avenue • Dallas, TX 75248 • (214) 862-6762 • www.stpolycarp.org

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the LORD! (Isa 2:5)

Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

Second Reading:

You know the time;
it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.
For our salvation is nearer now than when
we first believed. (Rom 13:11)

Gospel:

"So too, you also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come." (Mt 24:44)

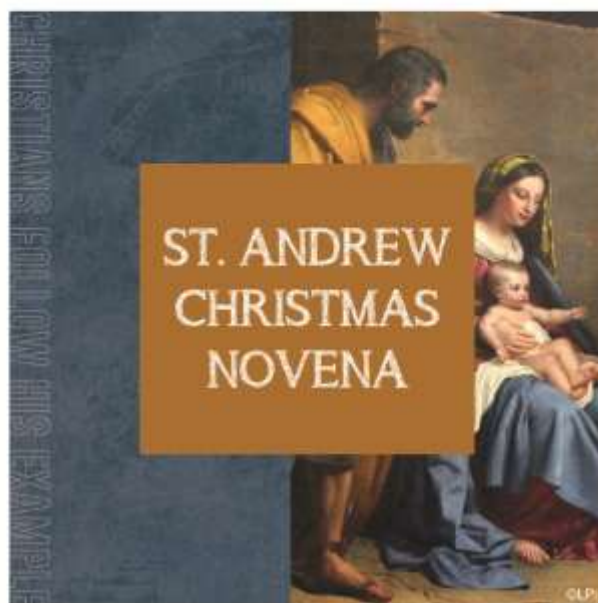
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"You do not know on which day your Lord will come," Jesus says. He is reminding us that we do not know the mind of God. But we do know the heart of God, and we know that it is filled with mercy for those who heed the warning: Stay awake!

Observances for the week of November 30, 2025

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent; Respect Life Sunday
Wednesday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Thursday: St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Saturday: St. Nicholas, Bishop
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Advent



Devotions, *Explained!*

The St. Andrew Christmas novena is a prayer said from Nov. 30 through Christmas Eve. St. Andrew was the first disciple of Christ, and in saying this prayer Christians follow his example of prescient faithfulness throughout the days of Advent.

Prayer for Advent - Arise

Bless God's Holy Name!
Prepare our hearts for Your coming, Lord.
Awaken them from any places that have become sleepy or despondent.
Inspire us with new visions.
Be with us as we climb closer to You.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: Of course the world is ending. It has been ending forever. And the Son of Man is coming — but don't forget, he was already here, too. And His Spirit, even now, is renewing the face of the earth. "But how?" we ask. "And when? And where?"

Watershed Moments

In every life there are watershed moments.

I think of our time on this earth as resembling, in the beginning, a fine, firm sheet of metal, suspended with perfect balance in time and space. If a drop of water falls upon the sheet, it remains precisely where it lands.

But life goes on. We see things, we feel things, and in the seeing and the feeling, the flat, smooth metal sheet is nicked. The impacts created by those experiences are like BB pellets riddling armor; before long, the surface is pockmarked. A falling drop of water will drain or pool either in one way or the other, its action determined by the closest indentation.

A watershed has been created, a summit or valley that disrupts the smooth flatness of life. In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about the end of the world. I'm no Biblical scholar, but I suspect the topic at hand is the Apocalypse (capital A). The big one. The explosion that upends the sheet itself and sends every drop of water crashing down. But I think, in a smaller way, it's also about all the indentations on the plane: those little apocalypses (lowercase a), the things that felt like the end of the world (or the beginning of a new one).

The loss of a job. The breakup of a relationship. The suffering of a loved one.

Of course the world is ending. It has been ending forever. And the Son of Man is coming — but don't forget, he was already here, too. And his Spirit, even now, is renewing the face of the earth.

"But how?" we ask. "And when? And where?"

Without the chinks in the armor — without the watershed moments — there is tremendous smoothness, certainly. But there is also no movement.

So look to the watershed moments, these little (and big) apocalypses. In these moments that change us, for better or worse, God is there, working, waiting.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

When we say the Penitential Act at Mass, why do we strike our chest three times?

Answer:

Our rituals and liturgical celebrations are filled with a variety of symbols, some of which also relate to our gestures and physical postures (e.g. kneeling, sitting, processing, making the Sign of the Cross). The custom of striking our breast three times during the "I Confess" of the Penitential Act of the Mass is one of those gestures that is loaded with symbolism.

The tradition of Christian's striking the breast (above the heart) is rooted in the image of Sacred Scripture, especially texts like Psalm 51 which speak of a "humbled contrite heart" or how God heals broken hearts, binding up our wounds (see Psalm 147:3). Early Christian writers like Saint Augustine of Hippo and Saint Jerome also refer to this custom in their writings.

Ultimately, this practice is an expression of our sorrow for those times when we have been guilty of faults and a sign that we are willing to take responsibility for our sins and failings. That we all perform this gesture together is also an act of solidarity, recognizing that none of us, regardless of where we are on our journey of faith, is without fault and the need for grace and forgiveness.



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