

**December 16 & 17,
2023**
Sunday Mass is livestreamed

Office Hours:
Mon - Thu 9 am - 2 pm

**Third Sunday of
Advent**



Sacred Heart Catholic Church
PO Box 1310, 507 Harrison St. Princeton, WV 24740
304-425-3664
Confessions: Saturday 3:00 - 3:30 pm and by
appointment
Saturday 3:00 - 3:30 pm

[@shprinceton](https://www.facebook.com/sacredheartprincetonSacred) • Instagram photos and videos

The "O Antiphons" of Advent

Why they are called the "O Antiphons"?

Each night for the octave (8 days) before Christmas, we ask Christ to come, and call him by a different name. Each of these names starts with "O", such as "O Come O Come Emmanuel". An antiphon is a liturgical composition, and they are traditionally sung. Therefore, they are called the O Antiphons.

When do the O Antiphons start?

The O Antiphons start on Dec 17 and run through Dec 24. This time is known as the "second part of Advent" or "The Golden Nights." The O Antiphons are taken from the Liturgy of the Hours (specifically, evening prayers, or "vespers"). So because they are traditionally said in the evening, there is not one for Dec 24 because the evening on Christmas Eve is already the vigil of Christmas, so we are no longer waiting.

What do the O Antiphons mean?

The O Antiphons get across 2 messages: each one highlights a different title for the Messiah (listed below), and each one refers to the prophecy of the Messiah from Isaiah. (cont. pg 5)

Staff

Pastor: Fr. Sebastian Devasya
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Gina Boggess -
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Youth Ministry: Lorin Albin
lorin@sacredheartprinceton.org

Mass Intentions:

Saturday, Dec 16, 4pm -
✠ **Antonio & Fannie Constantino**
by Virginia Manley
Sunday, Dec 17, 11am -
Rick Wyatt (Birthday)
by Wyatt Family
Tuesday, Dec 19, 11am -
Angie Grbac (Birthday)
by Church
Thursday, Dec 21, Noon
✠ **Estrella Ebro Juele**
by Dumapit Family
Saturday, Dec 23, 4pm -
✠ **Willie Constantino**
by Virginia Manley
Sunday, Dec 24, 11am -
✠ **MaryJane Wheby Bowling**
by William Bowling

Upcoming Events:

Sun, Dec 24, 11:00 am Fourth Sunday of
Advent Mass
Sun, Dec 24, 4:00 pm Christmas Eve
Children's Mass
Sun, Dec, 24, 11:30 pm Carols followed by
Midnight Mass
Mon, Dec 25, 11:00 am Christmas Mass
Dec 25 - 29, Office Closed
Fri Jan 5, Noon, First Friday Mass,
Devotion to Sacred Heart
Tue, Jan 9, 6:45 pm Parish Council
Fri, Jan 12, 6:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration.
Tue, Jan 16, 6:30 pm Finance Council
Feb 19-20, Fr. Sebastian at Presbyteral
council

Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Bluefield	Princeton
9 am - 4th Sunday of Advent	11 am - 4th Sunday of Advent
4 pm - Children's Mass	4 pm - Children's Mass
7 pm - Mass	11:30 pm - Carols followed by Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

Bluefield
9 am - Christmas
Princeton
11 am - Christmas



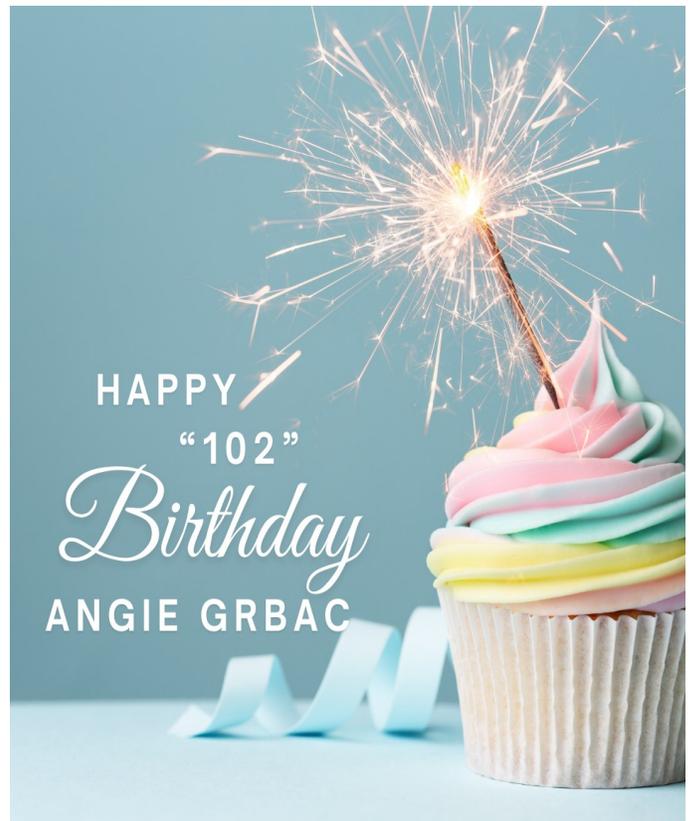
NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

December 17

EUCCHARISTIC REFLECTION: What are appropriate signs of reverence with respect to the Body and Blood of Christ?

The Body and Blood of Christ present under the appearances of bread and wine are treated with the greatest reverence both during and after the celebration of the Eucharist. According to the tradition of the Church, one should genuflect in the presence of the tabernacle or make the sign of the cross and to bow profoundly. These liturgical gestures reflect reverence, respect, and adoration. It is appropriate for the members of the assembly to greet each other in the gathering space of the church (that is, the vestibule or narthex), but it is not appropriate to speak in loud or boisterous tones in the body of the church because of the presence of Christ in the tabernacle. Also, the Church requires everyone to fast before receiving the Body and Blood of Christ as a sign of reverence and recollection.

Sacred Heart Bluefield is selling "Sacred Heart Ornaments" The ornaments will be selling for \$20.00 each. Please contact Ann Robinson at 304-887-2424, Theresa Bales at 304-920-8104, or the parish office at 304-327-5623 if you would like to place your order.



HAPPY
"102"
Birthday
ANGIE GRBAC

Knights of Columbus - The Knights are still accepting donations for "Coats for Kids." If a Knight is not available to give your donation too, then you can leave it at the church office and we will be sure to get it. Thank you for your **Donations.**



Silent Auction - Bids are being accepted on the Handmade Nativity stable and grounds loving carved by Greg Saffell using our old church pew. Minimum bid \$50. All proceeds go to help our youth on their February Pilgrimage to St. Mary's Seminary retreat weekend. Located in the Narthex.



Handicap seating - Just a friendly reminder, the back pews are reserved for families of those who use a wheelchair or a walker, so they can sit comfortably with their loved ones. By showing kindness and consideration, we can create a warm and supportive community. Thank you for being a part of it!



Religious Ed Schedule of Events

- Dec 17 **Faith Formation** K- 5 @ 9:30 am | class rooms
- Dec 17 - **RCIA** @ 9:30 am | Conf. room
- Dec 17 - **Faith Formation** | Christmas party
- Dec 18, 20, 22, 6:00 pm, **Parents Night Out** (Christmas activities for kids)
- Dec 21 - **Women's Prayer group** @ 10:15 am | Conf. room
- Dec 21 - **YM** | Christmas Party
- Dec 24 - **Faith Formation** | 4:00 pm Children's Mass/pageant
- Dec 24, 31 - **Faith Formation** | No Class
- Dec 24, 31 - **OCIA** | No Class
- Jan 4 - **Women's Prayer group** @ 10:15 am | Conf. room
- Jan 6 - **YM** | Epiphany Progressive Dinner
- Jan 7 - **WWP** | 6:00 pm Downstairs classroom
- Jan 14 - **WWP** | 6:00 pm Downstairs classroom

- Youth Ministry** - Contact Lorin Albin
- Faith Formation** - Contact Laura Wyatt
- OCIA** - Contact Laura Wyatt
- Women's Prayer Group** - Contact Susie Pace
- Men's Group** - Contact Jime Cosgrove or Bill Picknally
- Walking with Purpose (WWP)** - Contact Laura Wyatt or KD Coleman
- Adult Education** - Contact Laura Wyatt



Walking with Purpose (WWP) - We will be back from our break and starting our weekly bible study "Opening Your Heart: The Starting Point." We will begin on January 7 at 6 pm. We continue on our exciting journey closer to the heart of God, help you form a personal relationship with Christ, and help you find answers to life's biggest questions through the context of the Catholic faith. If you missed coming at the beginning we welcome all ladies to attend. See you next year.



Religious Education

This Week on Formed

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA)

This weeks lesson is on
December 17: Disciples

Many people struggle with prayer, and few have been taught basic guidelines to help them notice what "movements" are from God and which are not.

Next weeks lesson
December 23: No Class

Mary of Nazareth - What would it have been like to have known the Mother of God? Watch this beautiful film portraying the life of Mary in order to contemplate Mary's profound faith and the mysteries of her life.



Holy Night, The King is Born: What Christmas Is About | Brother Francis Celebrate the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation of the birth of God's Son! Witness the moving submission of Mary, Joseph, and others as they make way for our Savior.



Faith Formation

We're looking for a **Prayer Sponsor** for our kids who are preparing for their First Communion. You can demonstrate your support by sending cards, messages, or prayers. If you're interested in sponsoring a child, you can select their card from the Narthex and indicate your name on the clipboard to let us know which child you'll be supporting. Remember to share your prayers, messages, and other forms of support with them.

Youth Ministry

Our Youth Ministry Christmas party will be on Dec 21, more details to follow.

YM Fundraiser

Please support our teens heading to Mount 2000. Grab a tag from the Christmas tree and support one youth or the entire group on their pilgrimage.

The Woman's Prayer Group

The Woman's Prayer Group continues its Advent journey with week 3: The Way of the Saints from *Prepare Your Heart: A Guided Advent Journal for Prayer and Meditation* by Fr. Agustino Torres, OFM.

"St. Joseph, you protected and provided for Jesus the Son of God and for Mary his mother. Protect and provide for me, too, that I can prepare a place within myself for the Holy Family to dwell. Amen."

Dear Sacred Heart family,

As we approach the third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath, symbolizing the joy that comes from the nearness of our Lord. It is a time for us to prepare our hearts for our Lord's coming, reflect on his love and mercy, and renew our commitment to follow him.

In the first reading from the Book of Isaiah speaks of the anointing of the prophet to bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives, and announce a year of favor from the Lord. This reading reminds us that the coming of Christ brings liberation and joy to those who are oppressed.

The second reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians encourages us to rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances. This reading reminds us that joy comes from living a life of constant prayer and thanksgiving, even in difficult times.

The Gospel reading from the Gospel of John speaks of John the Baptist, who came to prepare the way for the Lord. John the Baptist was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This reading reminds us that our joy comes from bearing witness to Christ and preparing the way for his coming.

During this Advent season, let us slow down and reflect on what is truly important in our lives. This could be spending more time with family, helping a neighbor in need, or taking a moment each day to express gratitude for our blessings. Let us focus on the blessings we have been given and the opportunities we must share those blessings with others.

As a parish community, we have much to be thankful for. We have a vibrant community of faith, dedicated volunteers who give their time and talents to serve others, and a strong commitment to social justice and outreach. Let us continue to build on these strengths and work together to create a more just and compassionate world. This could be through volunteering at a local charity, advocating for social justice issues, or simply showing kindness and understanding to those around us.

As we continue our Advent journey, let us keep in mind the words of John the Baptist: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." May we be ready to receive our Lord with open hearts and minds and continue to grow in faith and love.

Yours in Christ,
Father Sebastian

The "O Antiphons" of Advent (cont.)

- Dec 17: O Sapientia (Wisdom)
- Dec 18: O Adonai (Lord and Ruler)
- Dec 19: O Radix Jesse (Root of Jesse)
- Dec 20: O Clavis David (Key of David)
- Dec 21: O Oriens (Dawn of the East)

What's with the "ERO CRAS"?

If you take the first letter of each name and write them backwards, you get "ERO CRAS." This means "Tomorrow, I will Come" in Latin. So that's why you see that written in a lot of places with the O Antiphons.

Are the O Antiphons the same as a Jesse Tree?

The O Antiphons can line up with the last seven Jesse Tree ornaments, although they don't in all versions. It might be a good idea too seek out an actually Catholic version of these if you want them to line up. Check my [O Antiphon resource page](#) for Catholic versions of these.

Ref: <https://www.catholicicing.com/what-are-the-o-antiphons-learning-about-a-catholic-advent-tradition/>

December Ministry Schedule

DATE	Lector	Extraordinary Minister	Greeter	Video	Altar Server	Counter
16 4pm	J. Gaspersich	<u>V. Manley</u> K. Bailey C. Pace	M. Gaspersich	n/a	L. Kessinger	Choate
17 11 am 3 rd Sun Adv	A. Dumapit	<u>A. Heltzel</u> <u>W. Picknally</u> R. Modena	J. Hickman	K. Hickman	Jos Flanigan Jac Flanigan	
23 4 pm	M. Bacho	<u>T. Byron</u> V. Manley K. Bailey	F. Bacho	n/a	C. Pace	Settle
24 11 am 4 th Sunday Ad	K. Roberts	<u>M. Flanigan</u> K. Hickman J. Cosgrove	TBA	W. Picknally	TBA	
24 4 pm Christmas Eve	B. Fanning Jos. Flanigan	<u>Z. Romano</u> C. Pace M. Albin	J. Gaspersich L. Wyatt	K. Carter	E. Coleman A. Coleman A. Albin	Pace
24 11:30 pm	G. Boggess	<u>R. Modena</u> G. Richardson TBA	Blankenship	TBA	T. Byron D. Richardson	
25 11 am Christmas Day	M Flanigan	<u>B Barrett</u> M Marx T Marx	B. Fanning	W. Picknally	M. Shay	
30 4 pm	M. Tinio	<u>C. Pace</u> T. Settle TBA	<u>C. Prox</u>	n/a	T. Byron	
31 11 am	C. Cofer	<u>H. Cofer</u> G. Cosgrove TBA	TBA	W. Picknally	TBA	

In case of an emergency and a priest is needed, please call:

- **The Parish Office**
(304) 425-3664
- **Bluefield Parish Office**
(304) 327-5623
- **Kim Hickman**
(304) 920-2440

In case of illness: Please call the parish office to let us know if you, a family member, or a parishioner is sick. We can place your name on the prayer list. If requested, Fr. Sebastian will arrange for distributing Holy Communion in the home.

Nursing homes, rehabilitation centers and anyone who is hospitalized are not permitted to contact the church. If someone you know is in the hospital, please call the church office.

In case of serious or life threatening sickness or the actively dying: The church should be contacted as soon as possible.

People deserve the opportunity to confess their sins, profess their faith, be anointed, and receive Holy Communion – the foretaste and pledge of eternal life. PLEASE don't wait until after the person is unconscious or so sedated that he or she cannot communicate. It is imperative with current situations, that there be enough time for Fr. to go through the appropriate protocol to visit the actively dying.

Please include the following in your Daily Prayers

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Catherine Belcher | B.J. Asbury |
| Ruth Boyd | Linda Berghof |
| Deloris Caccamo | Lou Berentes |
| Ron Ciccolini | John Bowers |
| Romulo DelaRosa | John Caccamo |
| Dr. David Garcia | Rita Calhoun |
| Dale & Mary Lu Geiger | Christopher Castle |
| Angie Grbac | Regina Church |
| Cynthia & Gordon Harmon | Judy Clayton |
| Cyndi Jones | Linda Cunningham |
| Nancy Larkin | Nancy Dickerson |
| Valarie Laxton | Russell Edmunds |
| Christina Laxton | Kimiko Fettro |
| Robert Laxton | Kyle Geiger |
| Kaitlyn Laxton | Mike Goff |
| Keith Laxton | Patricia Gupton |
| Jim Lintz | Myles Harris |
| Jim & Diane Luciano | Velma Hartwell |
| Tanya Marx | Wylie Rae Henson |
| Jaelynn Mendoza | Brenda Ivelise |
| Annette Morgan | Ruby Jones |
| Dr. Jun Neri | Langan Family |
| Patricia Nester | Lucas Llado |
| Alan Rieger | Richard Lockhart |
| Vivian Romano | Sandy Morefield |
| Deborah Saffell | Tina Mullins |
| John Shay | Wayne Mullins |
| Gareth Settle | Carolyn Munther |
| Felomina Yongque | Susan Nelson |
| Carrie Yurkovich | Rex Neely |
| | Agnes Sedi |
| | Sherry Sisk |
| | Bryan Staten |
| | Agnes Tokarski |
| | Jamie Willoughby |
| | Richard Wentz |
| | Brent Younts ianna |

Collections

	weekend Dec 9-10	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Envelopes	4,814.00	161,938.64	162,000.00
Loose Offertory	283.00	10,708.55	4,750.00
Christmas Memorial Flowers	350.00	2,181.00	2,500.00
Holy days	447.00	6,180.00	3,000.00
Total Contributions	\$ 5,894.00	\$181,008.19	\$172,250.00
Abel crisis center	150.00	820.00	500.00
Tender Mercies	85.00	2,500.00	3,000.00
Dioc: Catholic Charities WV	100.00	110.00	2,000.00
Dioc: Religious Retirement	1,120.00	1,270.00	1,000.00
Attendance:	4pm: 54	11am: 145	



Thank You for Your Donations

Raised \$42,535
41 Gifts
218 % of Goal

