

### **Pope's Prayer Intentions**

Many people conclude the Rosary, the Divine Mercy Chaplet and other prayers and devotions by “praying for the intentions of the Holy Father.” The *Ordo* lists the papal prayer intentions each month. Parishes are encouraged to publish the papal prayer intentions in their Sunday bulletins.

#### **January**

*Promotion of World Peace.* We pray that Christians, followers of other religions, and all people of goodwill may promote peace and justice in the world.

#### **February**

*Listen to the Migrants' Cries.* We pray that the cries of our migrant brothers and sisters, victims of criminal trafficking, may be heard and considered.

#### **March**

*Catholics in China.* We pray that the Church in China may persevere in its faithfulness to the Gospel and grow in unity.

### **Advent Day of Prayer – Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center**

**December 11, 2019**

**Presenter: Fr. Omar Huesca (Archdiocese of Miami)**

### **Year A – Cycle II**

**With the onset of Advent, the Church Year 2020 begins.**

**Lectionary Cycle A (Sunday Masses)**

**Lectionary Cycle II (Weekday cycle in Ordinary Time)**

### Advent Guidelines

Advent begins with Evening Prayer I on Saturday evening, November 30<sup>th</sup> and ends with Mid-afternoon Prayer on Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> (*Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year*, 40)

Prior to December 17<sup>th</sup>, Advent Preface I is used. On memorials of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the saints, however, the corresponding Preface may be used in place of the weekday or seasonal Preface.

The use of the organ and other musical instruments and the decorating of the Sanctuary with flowers should be done in a moderate manner without anticipating the full joy of Christmas. This principal should be observed even with the Sacrament of Matrimony during the Advent season (*GIRM*, 305, 313).

The official color of the Advent is violet. Blue vestments are not authorized for use in the United States (*GIRM*, 346e, *Ordo*, 1).

From December 17<sup>th</sup> thru 24<sup>th</sup>, the "O" Antiphons used during Vespers may be sung as the verse for the Gospel Acclamation.

The weekdays of Advent from December 17<sup>th</sup> thru December 24<sup>th</sup> have Propers that are to be used.

### Advent Customs for the Family

**The empty manger:** Each child may have his own individual manger, or there may be one manger for the whole family. The idea is that when acts of service, sacrifice, or kindness are done in honor of Baby Jesus as a birthday present, the child receives a piece of straw to put into the manger. Then, on Christmas morning, “Baby Jesus” is placed in the manger. Encourage your children to make Jesus’ bed as “comfortable” as possible through their good deeds. In the process, explain Christ’s incomparable self-gift at Christmas and Easter that enables us to be part of God’s family.

**The Jesse tree:** The Jesse tree tells about Christ’s ancestry through symbols and relates Scripture to salvation history, progressing from creation to the birth of Christ. The tree can be made on a poster board with the symbols glued on, or on an actual tree. For further information read, *Advent and Christmas in a Catholic Home*.

**St. Nicholas Day:** The feast of St. Nicholas is on Dec. 6th. It is a highlight of the Advent season. Each child puts out a shoe the night before St. Nicholas Day in the hope that the kind bishop — with his miter, staff, and bag of gifts — will pay a visit. The current “Santa Claus” is modeled after St. Nicholas, but commercialism has tarnished the true story. Many families give gifts on both Dec. 6 and Christmas. Read about St. Nicholas in your favorite saints’ book.

**The Christ candle:** Any large white candle can be used for the Christ candle. The idea is to decorate it with symbols for Christ. Use old Christmas cards, sequins, holly, etc. The candle can be lit on Christmas Eve to show that the Light of the World has arrived. Then continue to light the Christ candle throughout the year at Sunday dinner to remind your family of our waiting for Christ, as well as celebrating His birth and Resurrection.

**The Mary candle:** Some families have the custom of decorating the Christ candle with a blue veil on December 8th, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On this great feast, others place a candle with a blue ribbon before a statue or picture of the Blessed Virgin, whose “yes” to God enabled our Lord’s coming at Christmas. The candle is lit during meal times to serve as a delightful reminder of Mary’s eager expectation of the “Light of the World.” It can also serve as a reminder to each family member to keep their own light of grace burning as a preparation for Christ’s coming.

[www.catholiceducation.org](http://www.catholiceducation.org)

The Book of Blessings has many adaptations for lay people to ask for God's blessings on Advent Wreaths, Manger scenes and Christmas trees used in the home. Please consider publishing these short blessings in your bulletin for use by the faithful during the Advent and Christmas seasons. It would be a good way for many in the parish to keep the religious theme central during this joyous season. This does not diminish the unique quality of the priestly blessing but invites the laypeople to acknowledge a role given to them as the head of the household.

### Blessing of the Advent Wreath for Personal Use

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord

All: Who made heaven and earth

*(As you light the first candle during the First Week)*

Leader: Lord God, your Church joyfully awaits the coming of its Savior, who enlightens our hearts and dispels the darkness of ignorance and sin. Pour forth your blessings upon us as we light the candles of this wreath; may their light reflect the splendor of Christ, who is Lord, forever and ever.

All: Amen

### Blessing of the Advent Wreath

The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent or on the evening before the First Sunday of Advent. The blessing may be celebrated during Mass, a celebration of the word of God, or Evening Prayer (BB, #1509).

When the Advent Wreath is used in church, on the Second and succeeding Sundays of Advent the candles are lighted either before Mass begins or immediately before the opening prayer; no additional rites or prayers are used (BB, #1513).

Each Sunday the candle(s) of the wreath may be borne in procession, following the cross, or just ahead of the Gospel Book (Ordo, 1).

The ritual for blessing is found in the Book of Blessings (BB) #1509-1540 or the Handbook of Blessing (HB) #73-75

## Diocese of Palm Beach – Liturgical Newsletter Advent/Christmas 2019

### Holy Days of Obligation 2019/2020

Friday, November 1, 2019	All Saints
Sunday, December 8, 2019	Second Sunday of Advent***
Wednesday, December 25, 2019	Christmas
Wednesday, January 1, 2020	Mary, Mother of God
Saturday, August 15, 2020	Assumption (Holy Day obligation is suspended)
Sunday, November 1, 2020	All Saints Day
Tuesday, December 8, 2020	Immaculate Conception
Friday, December 25, 2020	Nativity of our Lord
Friday, January 1, 2021	Mary, Mother of God
Sunday, August 15, 2021	Assumption
Monday, November 1, 2021	All Saints (Holy Day obligation is suspended)
Wednesday, December 8, 2021	Immaculate Conception
Saturday, December 25, 2021	Nativity of our Lord

Please schedule Vigil/Day Masses accordingly

Apart from Christmas and the Immaculate Conception (national patroness), the holy day obligation is suspended in the USA when the solemnity falls on Saturday or Monday.

**In the Province of Miami, (Arch/Dioceses in the State of Florida), the Ascension is celebrated in place of the 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter.**

\*\*\*December 8, 2019 is the Second Sunday of Advent. In 2019 the observance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is transferred to Monday, Dec. 9, 2019 but the Holy Day of Obligation is suspended.

**On obligatory Memorials during Advent, when the prayers of the saint are to be said, the ferial Collect may be used to conclude the general intercessions, thus situating Memorials within their seasonal context.**

Gaudete Sunday – ADVENT III – December 15, 2019

Rose vestments may be worn in place of the standard Violet vestment

### **Bambinelli Sunday**

*(Tradition renewed by Pope Benedict XVI on Dec. 14, 2008)*

**People, usually children, bring figurines of the Christ Child to be placed in the Manger at home or for veneration during the Christmas season. The images may be blessed after the Prayer after Communion or at a separate ceremony (e.g. incorporated into the Angelus) after the Mass.**

God, our Father  
you so loved humankind  
that you sent us your only Son Jesus,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
to save us and lead us back to you.

We pray that with your Blessing  
these images of Jesus,  
who is about to come among us,  
may be a sign of your presence and  
love in our homes.

Good Father,  
give your Blessing to us too,  
to our parents, to our families and  
to our friends.

Open our hearts,  
so that we may be able to  
receive Jesus in joy,  
always do what he asks  
and see him in all those  
who are in need of our love.

We ask you this in the name of Jesus,  
your beloved Son  
who comes to give the world peace.  
He lives and reigns forever and ever.  
Amen.

**“Christmas Day” TV Mass with Bishop Barbarito**

**Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> 11am**

**Cathedral of Saint Ignatius Loyola**

All are invited to join Bishop Barbarito for the taping of the “Christmas Day” TV Mass at the Cathedral.

Christmas Season extends from Evening Prayer I of Christmas through the Baptism of the Lord, Sunday, January 12, 2020

**Blessing of the Manger or Nativity Scene**

May take place at the early Vigil Mass

May take place during Lessons and Carols before the Mass at Night.

Book of Blessings 1541-1569

Placing the Christ Child in the Manger – Done at the first Mass celebrated on Christmas Eve but is not repeated at every Mass.

**The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ from the *Roman Martyrology***

*(Appendix 1 – Roman Missal)*

May be chanted or recited before the Mass at Night on December 24<sup>th</sup>. If there is a communal/parish celebration of the Liturgy of the Hours, the Martyrology may be changed/recited at that time.

## Holy Family – December 29, 2019

May incorporate this blessing for families at the end of the General Intercessions or as an additional blessing after the Prayer after Communion.

O God, you have created us in love and saved us in mercy, and through the bond of marriage you have established the family and willed that it should become a sign of Christ's love for his Church.

Show your blessings on these families gathered here in your name. Enable those who are joined by one love to support one another by their fervor of spirit and devotion to prayer. Make them responsive to the needs of others and witnesses to the faith in all they say and do.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



### Epiphany Home Blessing

The Christmas season is a traditional time for homes to be blessed for the New Year. As it is impossible for the priests and deacons of the parish to bless every home in the parish, the following is a blessing that the “head of the household” does with the family gathered.

L: Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace.  
Blessed be God for ever.

P: Blessed be God for ever.

L: Lord God of heaven and earth, you revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them with the light of Christ, that their concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

P: Amen

L: May Christ Jesus dwell with us, keep us from all harm, and make us one in mind and heart, now and forever.

L: Amen

### Epiphany Proclamation

#### The Announcement of Easter and the Moveable Feasts *(Appendix 1)*

Twenty-Fifth day of February	Ash Wednesday
Twelfth Day of April	Easter Day
Twenty-Fourth Day of May	Ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ
Thirty-First Day of May	Feast of Pentecost
Fourteenth Day of June	Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
Twenty-Ninth Day of November	First Sunday of Advent



## CLERGY RETREAT

February 17 - 21, 2020



## FACING THE FUTURE WITH HOPE

Preacher: Rev. Scott Seethaler OFM Cap.

At Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center

To register call us at 561-626-1300 or  
email us at [reservations@cproovfl.org](mailto:reservations@cproovfl.org)



# ANNUAL MEN'S RALLY

## JANUARY 18, 2020

**8:00 Registration, Coffee and Donuts in the Parish Center**

**9:00 The Morning Begins**

**9:30 Chris Stefanick's Talk**

***Throughout the Morning: Reconciliation and Adoration***

**11:00 Small Groups and Q & A with Chris Stefanick**

**11:45 The Rosary**

**12:15 The Mass — Bishop Gerald Barbarito, Homilist**

**1:00 Lunch (included)**

LOCATION:  
CATHEDRAL OF ST. IGNATIUS  
9999 North Military Trail  
PALM BEACH GARDENS



AMERICAN FEDERATION  
PUERI CANTORES

# 2020 South Florida Choral Festival and Mass

*for Mixed Voice and Treble Choirs (grades 4-12)*

**Saturday, February 22, 2020 • 4:30 pm**

**St. Luke Catholic Church**

2892 S. Congress Avenue, Palm Springs, FL 33461

***TBA, Celebrant***

***Dr. Timothy Westerhaus, Conductor***

***8 Professional Development Credits available  
for participating school conductors***