



Advent 2021

"Live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age, as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ..."

- Titus 2:12b-13

What is your relationship like with your Creator and God? How does this relationship impact your life?

Profound questions, I know, but ones worth asking as we begin a new liturgical year and enter this season of contemplation and waiting called Advent.

Like you, sometimes we can be tempted not to acknowledge God's existence past our immediate need to name our Creator. But our God is so much more than a cosmic architect or some disinterested and disconnected deity. Our Lord designed us out of love while offering us his immediate and unfailing love and healing in all circumstances!

During this season of preparation, let's take advantage of this time to discover the presence of God in our lives with new eyes. And in our struggles, gaze in prayer upon the baby Jesus, knowing He comes to dwell with us. Let us enter in *discernment together*, with this particular question on our hearts:

How is the Lord God offering us healing and calling us to use our gifts in ministry to heal one another and our broken world?

Join me as we ask God, our loving Creator, to heal the areas in our lives where discouragement, disillusionment, disappointment, and disengagement might exist so that we can greet Christmas refreshed in Hope, Faith, Joy, and Love!

In the Lord, *Fr. Mike*

Extended Hours | Sacrament of Reconciliation

This Advent, unburden your heart from sin and be reconciled with God:

Every Wednesday from Dec 1 through Dec 22:

11 am - 12 -noon - Good Shepherd Room

6 - 7 pm - Outside - Back Parking Lot

Every Friday from Dec 3 through Dec 17:

4-6 pm - Church

Additional Monday & Tuesday Opportunities during Advent:

Tuesday, Dec 14: 4 -7 pm - Church

Monday, Dec 20: 4 -7 pm - Church

Tuesday, Dec 21: 4 -7 pm - Church

Daily Mass, Holy Days, & Eucharistic Adoration

Daily Mass: Monday – Saturday 8:15 am (Church & Livestream)

Immaculate Conception Masses –

- Tuesday, Dec 7, 5 pm (outdoors, Harrison Hall Landing)
- Wednesday, Dec 8, 8:15 am & 7 pm

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance (Eucharistic Adoration) -Wednesdays 9 am through Saturdays at 8 am. Private prayer in the Chapel is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Please visit www.olphparish.org/access.

Get Bishop Barron's Advent Gospel Reflection Book



This year's Advent Gospel Reflection books contain reflections from Bishop Barron: the full Gospel reading for each day, questions for reflection, and journal pages.

Copies will be available to grab after Mass the weekend of Nov 20 & 21 in the Narthex. Consider grabbing a copy for a friend or neighbor whom you believe would benefit from growing closer to Jesus this Advent season.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Be a part of lighting the Advent Wreath before Indoor Mass each weekend of Advent! Additionally, we invite you to bring up the gifts in preparation for Communion. **Visit**

www.olphparish.org/advent to choose a Mass time that works for your family.



Advent Offerings & Special Events

www.olphparish.org/advent

Prepare Him Room

Mon. Nov 22 | 9:15 am | 4 Weeks

Make time to prepare your hearts for the Lord this Advent through Lectio Divina prayer. Join us after daily Mass starting Nov. 22 at 9:15 – 9:45 am in the church every Monday for 4 weeks to pray through the Sunday readings for Advent. Everyone is welcome! No sign-up required.

Giving Tree Program

Nov 27/28 | Pick up Tags

Dec 4 & 5/11 & 12 Gift Drop Off

You are invited to purchase Christmas presents as we do our small part to bring joy in the form of a gift to children at St. Wenceslaus in East Baltimore, St. Veronica's in South Baltimore, the Franciscan Center, Sarah's Hope shelter for mothers and children, and Grassroots Shelter here in Howard County.

Guest Speaker & Festival of Praise

Fri. Dec 3 | 7 pm

Come join us for the Festival of Praise on December 3rd at 7 pm in the Church or by livestream. We'll be joined by Catholic author and speaker, Meg Hunter-Kilmer, who will be sharing her love of the Eucharist and the saints with us. Meg calls herself "speaker, blogger, and hobo for Christ" and travels all over the country sharing her love of Jesus with young people and their families. Fellowship to follow.

Book Reading & Signing

Sat. Dec 4 | 10 am

Join us in the Good Shepherd room for a Book Reading Party and book signing with Meg Hunter-Kilmer, author of *Saints Around the World*. Fellowship and refreshments afterward.
RSVP at www.OLPHparish.org.

Boxes 4 Baltimore

Dec 11/12 | Drop off Boxes

Help us bring JOY to those experiencing homelessness in Baltimore City by participating in OLPH's SALT Ministry's Boxes for Baltimore program. Assemble a box by using the shopping list available at www.olphparish.org/boxes. Deliver the assembled and wrapped boxes to the OLPH Parish Center (Upper Level) during the weekend Masses of Dec 11/12.

Family Holy Hour

Fri. Dec 10 | 6 pm

Families join us in the church, from 6-7 pm for kid-friendly family reflection time, with music, and the opportunity to enjoy the true presence of Jesus in their midst.

Celtic Christmas Concert

Sat. Dec 11 | 7 pm

Get into the Christmas spirit and gather a group and join us at OLPH Church in Ellicott City for the festivities as Ben-David Warner, singer, songwriter, and OLPH Music Director along with his friends perform a blend of Celtic, Classical, and Christmas Carol music. Visit www.olphparish.org/advent for tickets.

Cocoa & Cookies with Santa

Sun. Dec 12 | 1-4 pm

Photos with Santa from 2- 4pm

Join us outdoors as the OLPH parking lot is transformed into a Winter Wonderland setting. Children, young & old, enjoy photos with Santa, cookies, cocoa, crafts, raffle baskets, games, and a Christmas Store with a Secret Shop!

Visit www.olphschool.org/santa to learn more.

Healing Mass with Fr. Ambrose

Fri. Dec 17 | 7 pm

Imagine entering into Christmas without any grudges!

Choosing forgiveness releases us from the burden of holding a grudge and frees us to become closer to God and one another. As you prepare your heart for Christmas, choose to open the door to physical and spiritual healing offered to us through the Lord. Join this special evening in the Church with Fr. Ambrose as we pray for and receive God's healing. This is an event you will not want to miss!

Blessing of Bambinelli

Dec 18/19 | At All Weekend Masses

Bring the baby Jesus from your Nativity to be blessed at all the 4th Sunday of Advent Masses on Dec. 18/19 as we continue this beautiful Church tradition that began with the Popes in Rome.

Blue Christmas Prayer Service

Mon. Dec 20 | 7 pm

Christmas is supposed to be a joyful season, but perhaps this past year has brought the loss of a loved one, a marriage, or a job. Join us for a service of prayer in the Church or by livestream at 7 pm where we will acknowledge that God's presence is in the midst of our pain. A time of light refreshments and fellowship will follow.

Christmas & New Years

OLPH Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve | Friday, Dec 24

2:30 pm - Outdoor Mass

4 pm - Gym & Church (livestream)

6 pm - Gym & Church

8 pm - Church

Midnight - Church (livestream)

Please note: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will **NOT** be offered on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Day | Saturday, Dec 25

9 am - Church (livestream)

There will be **NO 4:30 pm Mass** on Dec. 25

Please note: Sunday Masses for Dec 26, Holy Family Sunday, will be celebrated at 7:30am, 9 am indoor (livestream), 11 am indoor & outdoor, 5 pm.

New Year's, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year's Eve - Friday, December 31, 2021

7:00 pm, Church (livestream) – Vigil Mass for the Solemnity

8:00 pm to Midnight – Eucharistic Adoration

12:00 am – Candlelit Midnight Mass

New Year's Day - Saturday, January 1, 2022

9:00 am – Mass for the Solemnity