

ADVENT WREATH BLESSING

First Sunday of Advent

- Priest:** On that day beholding from afar I shall see the Power of God coming and covering the whole earth like a cloud. Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.
- People:** On that day beholding from afar I shall see the Power of God coming and covering the whole earth like a cloud. Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.
- Priest:** And, all ye dwellers upon earth, sons of men, rich and poor.
- People:** Go ye out to meet Him and say unto Him: Tell us if Thou art He Who is to reign over the people of Israel.
- Priest:** Hear, O Thou Shepherd of Israel: Thou Who leadest Joseph like a sheep.
- People:** Behold the Lord shall come and all His saints with Him: and there shall be a great light on that day.
- Priest:** All ye who thirst come to the waters: seek ye the Lord while He may be found.
- People:** The mountains and the hills shall sing praise before God, and all the trees of the forest shall clap their hands, because the Lord, the Ruler, will come into His eternal kingdom.
- Priest:** The Lord will come and will not delay, and He will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will manifest Himself to all nations.
- People:** Let us live justly and godly, looking for the blessed hope and coming of the Lord.
- Priest:** Sound the trumpet in Sion, for the day of the Lord is near. Behold, He will come to save us. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- People:** The Lord will come, go forth to meet Him, and say: Great is His dominion, and His kingdom shall have no end. He is God, the Mighty, the Ruler, the Prince of Peace. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- Priest:** The people shall fear Thy Name, O Lord.
- People:** And all the kings of the earth Thy glory.
- Priest:** LET US PRAY: As we Thy servants, O Lord, ask Thee for Thy blessing to descend upon this symbol of our hope and expectation, put forth Thy power, we beseech Thee, and come, that with Thee as our protector we may be rescued from the impending danger of our sins: and with Thee as our deliverer, may we obtain our salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord.
- People:** Amen. *(Priest lights first candle - sprinkles wreath and people with holy water)*

1. There will be Catechism class after the 10:00 AM Mass this morning.
2. Tomorrow, Monday, November 29, 2004, we begin the Novena to the Immaculate Conception.
3. Tuesday, November 30, 2004, is the Feast of the Apostle Saint Andrew.
4. Thursday, December 2, 2004, is the first Thursday of December, with the usual Holy Hours and Benediction in the Abbey Church from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM and from 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM.
5. Friday, December 3, 2004, is the First Friday of December, with Masses in the Abbey Church at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM, and all day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM.
6. Saturday, December 4, 2004, is the First Saturday of December, with Masses in the Abbey Church at 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM.
7. Next Sunday, December 5, 2004, is the first Sunday of December. *Therefore there will be NO Mass at St. Pius V Chapel in Birmingham next Sunday.* Also there will be NO Catechism class next Sunday.
8. **Early Notice:** Wednesday, December 8, 2004, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and is a Holyday of Obligation. **Masses in the Abbey Church on December 8 will be at 6:00 AM, 8:00 AM, and 7:00 PM.**
9. The 2005 Calendars are available at the usual price of \$6.00 each. Please see Mrs. Pam Olson in Montgomery; Mrs. Laurie Niebuhr in Birmingham; Fr. Abbot or Fr. Francis in Cullman.
10. **Remember:** 1) Prepare the Advent Wreath; 2) Do not forget the Blessed Wheat; 3) Do not forget the Advent Readings which should be done reverently by the Head of the Family before the main meal of the day.
11. Please pray for all the Sick and Shut-ins of our Chapels. Let us pray also for every member of the Human Race. While Our Blessed Lord was hanging on the Cross He did not pick and choose who He was dying for. He did not exclude a single member of the Human Race from the Love that came forth from Him during those momentous moments.
12. **MASSSES FOR THE WEEK:** (Father Abbot Leonard's schedule only)

SUNDAY:	For the People of our Chapels	THURSDAY:	Deceased Salvatore Riccardi
MONDAY:	For the Poor Souls in Purgatory	FRIDAY:	Special intention Micheline Barrere
TUESDAY:	Special intention Mary Casey	SATURDAY:	Special intention Paul Roy Family
WEDNESDAY:	Deceased Father Paul Wickens		

If the customary tone in the life of the family is that of holiness; if the customary tone in the life of the family is obedience and respect for authority; if the correctness of true Catholic observance habitually prevails in the household; then conformity to the penitential limitations of Advent should not preclude the usual cheerful feelings of excitement in preparing for the Christmas Festival. In a good Catholic home it is understood that the central Figure of Christmas is Christ. Therefore the Christmas decorating of the house before the Festival day can be done without fear of violating good Catholic taste. Let us not take away from our little children the normal and innocent fantasies of the Christmas Season. If and when we remove that which is innocent fantasy, we make room for the jaw-toothed monsters that lie in wait to enter their young minds. If we are completely penetrated with true devotion to the Baby Jesus, the fervor of a well-kept Advent observance will not be harmed by the usual Christmas fantasy and preparation.