

## Advent Wreath Symbolism

This weekend our Church begins Advent. At Mass, we will light the first candle of the Advent wreath. Why do we have the Advent wreath in our Catholic culture?

-The wreath has a circular shape, which has no beginning or end, perfectly symbolizing the eternity of God and His love, and the everlasting life that Christ wants to give all of us.

-The different types of branches traditionally used in Advent wreaths are all from evergreen trees, trees that remain green even during the coldest, darkest days of winter. They remind us that Christ's love remains fresh and strong even in life's most difficult moments—He never abandons us.

-Traditional wreaths include laurel and holly branches. The laurel branch was an ancient symbol of victory; it reminds us that on the first Christmas Christ came to bring victory over sin and Satan. The holly branches are bordered with small, prickly edges, reminding us of Christ's crown of thorns, of the suffering by which He won victory over sin and evil.

-The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. Some traditions also say that they represent four thousand years—a period of time that Christians used to believe passed between the Fall of Adam and Eve and the Birth of Jesus. The light of the candles represents Christ himself, who is the light of the world: His Word shows us how we should live, and His love, expressed especially in the Eucharist, fills our hearts with comfort, like the warmth of a supernatural fire. We light the candles gradually throughout Advent, because we know that the joy of salvation doesn't come fully into our lives all at once. Rather, life as a Christian is a journey, a relationship with Jesus that has to be constantly renewed, just as a new candle is lit each week. If we are faithful to this friendship and don't abandon our journey, the fullness of joy will eventually be ours.

**Thanksgiving: Squanto Was A Roman Catholic; See:**  
[http://www.catholicworldreport.com/Item/4394/The\\_Catholic\\_Origins\\_of\\_Thanksgiving.aspx](http://www.catholicworldreport.com/Item/4394/The_Catholic_Origins_of_Thanksgiving.aspx)

## Please Do NOT Spoil Your Priests

Fr. Joseph and Fr. Michael do not want any gifts or food in the Holy Day season. Keep us thin; pray for us instead. For those who like to send Christmas cards, feel free to pray for us instead. We pray for you every day.

## St. Anne Renovation Payoff Countdown: \$0

Great news! Praise God!!! An anonymous donor paid off the rest of the debt!

## St. Peter Renovation Collection: \$39,880

## Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

### Holy Day of Obligation

#### **Tuesday, December 8**

- St. Bernard, 8:30 a.m.
- St. Anne, 5 p.m.
- Our Lady of the Snow, 6:45 p.m.
- St. Ignatius, 4:30 p.m.
- St. Peter, 7:30 p.m.

## Christmas (Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord)

### **Thursday, December 24** (Christmas Eve)

- Winter Park Ski Lodge (West Portal), 6 p.m.
- St. Ignatius, 4 p.m.
- St. Anne, 7:30 p.m.

### **Friday, December 25**

- St. Bernard, 7 a.m.
- Our Lady of the Snow, 9:30 a.m.
- St. Peter, 10 a.m.

## First Tuesday (December 1) Confessions, StB, 7 p.m.

## Catholic Women Today, Tuesday, Dec 1, OLS, Noon

## Friday (December 4) Movie Night at St. Peter

Mass at 5:15 p.m.; potluck at 6 p.m.; then movie

## Calendar of Events

**-Dec 12 (Sat).** Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass in Spanish at Our Lady of the Snow at 10 a.m.

**-Dec 13 (Sun).** Spanish Mass at Our Lady at 1 p.m.

### Mass Collections, November 21 – 22

St. Anne	\$ 1160
St. Bernard	1701
Our Lady of the Snow	1851
St. Peter	740
St. Ignatius	<u>250</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5702</b>

### Vocations Prayer Calendar; November/December

*Please pray for our seminarians every day.*

**Sat**--Francesco Basso & Guillermo Bustillos

**Sun**--Joe Grady & Deacon James Claver

**Mon**--Deacon Mason Fraley & Deacon Matt Magee

**Tue**--Deacon Salvador Sanchez

**Wed**--Connor Lyle

**Thu**--Nicholas Larkin & Peter Wojda

**Fri**--Men and women applying for formation

### Mass Intentions and Schedule for StA, StB, and OLS

**KEY:** StA = St. Anne; StB = St. Bernard;

OLS = Our Lady of the Snow

- Sat, Nov 28, StA, 5 p.m., Repose of Holy Souls
- Sat, Nov 28, StB, 7:30 p.m., Parishioners and visitors
- Sun, Nov 29, StB, 7 a.m., Ted and Lynda Parker
- Sun, Nov 29, OLS, 9:30 a.m., Jennifer Armstrong

Weekday Masses (see extra Masses listed in bold)

- Mon, Nov 30, StA, 8:30 a.m., Repose of Holy Souls
- Tue, Dec 1, OLS, 7:30 a.m., +Patrick Sedlar
- Wed, Dec 2, StB, 8:30 a.m., Jordan and Victoria Goray
- Thu, Dec 3, OLS, 11:15 a.m.**, God's Little Instruments
- Fri, Dec 4, OLS, 8:30 a.m., John and Carolyn Murphy

### Mass Intentions and Schedule for StI and StP

**KEY:** StI = St. Ignatius (Walden); StP = St. Peter

- Sat, Nov 28, StI, 4 p.m., Parishioners and visitors
- Sun, Nov 29, StP, 10 a.m., Larry and Jane Janssen
- Fri, Dec 4, StP, 5:15 p.m.**, Ted and Lynda Parker