

December 7, 2025 Second Sunday of Advent

PREPARE THE WAY

Saint John the Baptist appears on the scene today as



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Advent enters its second week. The mysterious consumer of locusts and wild honey, John echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah as he calls for repentance in the face of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. The rhythms of the Christian life are often confounding. Each year we meet the Baptist and hear his calls for repentance.

Each year we see him pointing to the one who is coming after him, the Lord Jesus. Yet each year the words and actions of John the Baptist echo anew in our hearts, because we have fallen into old sinful traps again and again. Advent gives us the opportunity once again to turn away from our sinful ways and embrace the gospel way of life. John the Baptist invites us to prepare the way for the Lord, in whom we place our hope. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

REFLECTION

The unity of opposites given in Isaiah seems more or less impossible. The lion and the ox; the wolf and the lamb; the child and the adder. These images are piled up with great exuberance. The author is eager to help us understand the wonders of God's salvation. The paradoxical images help disclose the great reality that with God the impossible is possible, that what we could never have hoped for has already happened. We know they are not to be taken literally, but the images invite us to reconsider what we once thought impossible. We can add a few of our own. The Berlin Wall will never fall; the Republic of South Africa will never be led by a native son or daughter; this or that fractured nation will never unite. This or that heart will never change. God will never visit the earth, not this earth, not now.

God's answer to all this nay-saying is a person. God's answer is Jesus Christ. Our hopes and fears are met in him. Copyright © 2004, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rev 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps Judith 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

FEAST DAY -“Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary” on Monday, December 8th, is a Holy day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 9:00am at Holy Family & at 7:00pm @Immaculate Heart. The Parish Office will be closed.

REFLECTION - Saying “Yes”

If we recognize no other endearing traits in Mary, we must recognize her willingness to say, “Yes.” Scripture does not point out any difficulty Mary had in saying “yes,” but in our human understanding, we may try to put ourselves in her position. At least for us, some of her “yesses” must have been pretty tough.

Start with saying “yes” to Gabriel. Mary knew the laws of her time and no matter how good a man Joseph himself was, she surely knew the situation had potential for difficulty.

And what about traveling on the back of a donkey all the way from Nazareth to Bethlehem? Add to that hardship the realization that there was no place to bear her child except a stable. Still she did not complain. If Mary wanted to go home, she never said a word about it when she learned they were going to Egypt instead. Eventually she said the ultimate “yes.” Mary was asked to watch her son die painfully and shamefully on a cross. She didn't say anything, but she listened. She heard Jesus say that she was the mother of all disciples. Mary is our mother, our model, our inspiration.

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JUBILEE OF PRISONERS - The Catholic Church celebrates the Jubilee of Prisoners on the weekend of Dec. 13-14, 2025. In the Diocese of San Angelo, all are invited to the diocesan Jubilee of Prisoners Mass, which will be celebrated by Bishop Michael J. Sis at 5:30 pm on Saturday, Dec. 13, 2025, at Holy Angels Parish in San Angelo.

For information about how to get involved in prison ministry in the Diocese of San Angelo, please contact Deacon Dan Shannahan, Director of Criminal Justice Ministry, at dshannahan@sanangelodiocese.org or at 325-212-7607. There will be an information table available after the Mass at Holy Angels on Dec. 13.

To learn more about the apostolate of prison ministry by Catholics in the United States, please visit the Catholic Prison Ministries Coalition (CPMC) website at www.catholicprisonministries.org.

CPMC provides formation, training, resources, advocacy, and community for the many Catholics engaged in ministry with incarcerated persons and their families, as well as those discerning a call to the ministry.



Saturday, December 6th -
5:00PM-IHM- +Guadalupe living and deceased; +Alma & Frances Solano; +Jovita, Benjie, Daniel & Amanda Olguin, Jennifer y Roger Gomez

7:00PM – Roscoe - Por la Gente de Nolan County

Sunday, December 7th -
“Second Sunday of Advent”

8:00AM – +Cirilo, Victoria y Lucia Chavira; en acción de gracias por el cumpleaños de Oliver Galvan; por nuestro seminarista Humberto Diaz

11:00AM – In thanksgiving for the birthdays of Emmanuel Falana, Alyssa and Tony Heredia; +Alex Morales, Melinda & Lydia Torres

Monday, December 8th -
“Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary”

9:00AM-HF- For the People of Nolan County
7:00PM-IHM- +Quintin Alvarez, Rita Romero, Beatriz Aguilera, Maria Aguilera Marquez

Tuesday, December 9th 9:00AM - HF
 +Margarito, Socorro, Pedro, Margarito, Jr., Eluterio, Alfredo & Florentino Gutierrez, Joe Angel & Brandon Ceballos

Wednesday, December 10th 9:00AM-HF
 For our seminarians, Humberto Diaz, Martin Luna & Noah Hernandez;
 +Leticia Acopa & +Ebelio Solis

Thursday, December 11th 9:00AM HF
 For our seminarian Martin Luna

Friday, December 12th
“Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe”
7:00AM – IHM - +Martha y Salvador Moncada, Jr.
5:30PM – IHM- Por una intención especial

Saturday, December 13th -
5:00PM-IHM- For our seminarians Francisco Camacho, Cameron Moore & Martin Luna;
 +Belinda Gomez, Tomas y Guadalupe Morales;
 +Manuela Solano

Sunday, December 14th -
“Third Sunday of Advent”
8:00AM – +Por Grupo Misionero y en acción de gracias por los cumpleaños de Miguel Montealvo, Guadalupe Gutierrez y Eustolia Saavedra;
 +Sarah Gomez, Eulalio y Sarita Olvera, Ysidro y Elvira Navarrette
11:00AM – For the People of Nolan County

YOU'RE INVITED - Join us as we recognize Mike Wyse for his 34 years of service to the Diocese of San Angelo at the 5:30pm Mass, Holy Angels, San Angelo, Dec. 13th, 2025. RSVP at pshannah@sanangelodiocese.org no later than noon, Dec. 7, 2025.

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS – to all our December Celebrants

CCD - Sunday Classes resume this Sunday, Dec. 7th.

WEDNESDAY - Reminder - No Wednesday evening Masses during the month of December. All weekday Masses will be at Holy Family @9:00am. **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 6:00-7:00pm at Immaculate Heart.** We'll be back on schedule in January.

2025 POSADA NOVENA FOR CHRISTMAS - Thank you to all our hosts. Complete schedule will be posted in the bulletin next weekend.

WHY AM I CATHOLIC? Deacon Bill's sharing session is every Tuesday at his home, @6pm. All are invited!

ULTREYA in English, meets -- Sunday, December 7th, at IHM Hall. All are welcome! You don't have to be a cursillista to attend. For information on the Cursillo movement, please visit <http://www.sanangelocursillo.com/home.html>

PARISH MOVIE GROUP – will meet this Sunday, December 7th, @4:00pm at Holy Family Hall.

GUADALUPANA SOCIETY – is accepting new members. For more information please call (940) 256-3747, (325) 455-6311 or you may call the office – 235-3318.

Dia de La Virgen de Guadalupe
12 de diciembre



6:00 A.M. – Mañanitas
 7:00 A.M – Mass – followed by *Desayuno sponsored by the Guadalupeños*
 5:00 P.M. – Apareciciones de la Virgen
Procession around the church grounds
 5:30P.M. – Mass – followed by
 Covered Dish Meal in the hall.

*Please bring: casserole, side dish, or dessert

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES - in the surrounding area @ 6:30pm

- December 09 – Holy Family, Abilene
- December 10 – St. Mary, Brownwood
- December 11 – St. Francis, Abilene
- December 16 – Sacred Heart, Abilene
- December 17 – Sacred Heart, Coleman
- December 18 – St. Ann, Colorado City
- December 19 – **Holy Spirit, Sweetwater**

COLLECTION DATA – 11/29-11/30

ENVELOPES/CHECKS.....	\$3398.00
LOOSE PLATE.....	1618.91
CHRISTMAS FLOWERS.....	899.00
TOTAL COLLECTION.....	\$5915.91

OUR LADY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION



Mary our Mother, Knowing that you, our Mother, are totally free from sin is a consolation to us. Inspired by this hope, today we invoke your motherly protection for us, our families, this city and the world.

Pray for us, our Immaculate Mother!

Pope Francis, Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. December 8, 2014

Oh María, Madre nuestra, Saber que Tú, que eres nuestra Madre, estás totalmente libre del pecado nos da gran consuelo. Animados por esta esperanza, hoy invocamos tu maternal protección para nosotros, para nuestras familias, para esta ciudad, para todo el mundo. Oh Madre nuestra Inmaculada, ¡ruega por nosotros!

Papa Francisco, Solemnidad de la Inmaculada Concepción, 8 de diciembre de 2014