

# Second Sunday of Advent

December 5, 2021

## The Catholic Parishes of Saint Francis Xavier & Saint Wendel

Saint Francis Xavier Church  
10 N. St. Francis Avenue PO Box 100  
Poseyville, Indiana 47633

Holy Angels Campus  
805 Main Street  
New Harmony, Indiana 47631

Saint Wendel Church  
10542 W. Boonville New Harmony Road  
Evansville, Indiana 47720

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Parish Office 812-874-2220

Saint Wendel Campus  
Parish Office 812-963-3733  
Parish & School Fax 812-963-3061  
School Office 812-963-3958  
Pastor's Cell/Home 812-499-9700

Parish Office Hours - Saint Wendel Campus  
Monday thru Friday - 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

 Online Giving - Set up automatic contributions online. A simple, secure way to give.  
Saint Wendel: [www.osvonlinegiving.com/1778](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/1778)  
Saint Francis Xavier: [www.osvonlinegiving.com/4565](http://www.osvonlinegiving.com/4565)

 School Website - [www.saintwendelschool.org](http://www.saintwendelschool.org)  
Parish Website - [www.saintwendelparish.org](http://www.saintwendelparish.org)

"Saints Wendel and Francis For Youth (SWAFFY)"  
"Saint Wendel Catholic School"  
"Saint Wendel Catholic Church"

### Reconciliation

See the bulletin for scheduled individual opportunities or schedule an appointment by phoning Father Ed.

### Baptism

Celebrated during weekend Masses. Parents should contact the Parish Office for information.

### Marriage

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to the wedding for information.

### Bulletin Deadline

Items are due in the Parish Office by 9:00 am on Monday for the following weekend. Phone or email items to: [rfehrenbacher@evdio.org](mailto:rfehrenbacher@evdio.org).

# The Catholic Parishes of Saint Francis Xavier and Saint Wendel

## Liturgy Schedule

**Monday, December 6**

**Tuesday, December 7 - Vigil Mass**

7:00 pm - Mass - at Saint Francis Xavier Church  
†Rita Allen

**Wednesday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception**

7:30 am - Mass - at Saint Wendel Church  
†Rosie Adler †Elvia Herr  
†Gilbert & Josephine Adler

9:00 am - Mass - at Saint Wendel Church  
†Jerry Reidford

**Thursday, December 9**

No Mass - at Saint Wendel Church

**Friday, December 10**

**Saturday, December 11**

4:30 pm - Mass - at Saint Wendel Church  
†Tony Kiesel †Jim Straub  
†Jerome & Marcella Muensterman

**Sunday, December 12**

8:30 am - Mass - at Saint Wendel Church  
†Connie Husle †Clarence & Dorothy Seib  
†Rosie Adler †Timothy Luigs †Patrick J. Schmitt  
10:00 am - Mass - at Saint Francis Xavier Church  
†Brenda Brenner †Bernard "Bud" Fehribach, Jr.  
†Robert Elpers †Ray & Martha Seibert

### Thoughts on Stewardship

*"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." (Philippians 1:9-10)*

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

 **Mass Live-streamed** - The Saturday evening 4:30 pm Mass will continue to be live-streamed on Facebook each week from Saint Wendel Church. You may watch it live at that time on the Saint Wendel Catholic Church Facebook page or view it later on the Saint Wendel Facebook page when it is posted.

**Note** - the modified schedule for the weekday Masses for this week.



**Immaculate Conception** - on Wednesday, December 8, we celebrate the holyday of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We believe that Mary was full of grace and free from sin from the first moment of her existence. Vigil Mass for the Immaculate Conception is Tuesday, December 7, at 7:00 pm at Saint Francis Xavier Church. Masses for the Immaculate Conception are Wednesday, December 8, at 7:30 am and 9:00 am at Saint Wendel Church.



**Rest In Peace** - We extend our sympathy to Jerry Arnold of Saint Wendel Parish upon the death of his mother Dorothy "Gerry" Blackburn who died on November 20, 2021.

We extend our sympathy to Mary Kay Elpers of Saint Wendel Parish upon the death of her father Robert J. Kissel who died on November 23, 2021.

**Many Thanks** - to those families and individuals who gave of their time to participate in ringing the bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign at Rural King on November 27. Ring a bell.....help change a life!



**Catholic Parishes Campaign Update** -

The goal for the Saint Francis Xavier 2021-22 CPC is \$67,803. At this time gifts and pledges are at \$52,118 or 76% of the goal. The goal for the Saint Wendel 2021-22 CPC is \$139,642. At this time gifts and pledges are at \$88,105 or 63% of the goal. If you have not yet returned your commitment card with your contribution or pledge, your support will be greatly appreciated. Don't delay! Return your commitment card this week! If you have misplaced your CPC Commitment Card, contact the parish office. Many thanks to all who have already returned your CPC Commitment Cards!

**Advent Reconciliation** - There is an opportunity for individual confessions on these Tuesdays during Advent: Tuesday, December 7, 5:30 to 6:30 pm at Saint Francis Xavier Church; Tuesday, December 14, and Tuesday, December 21, from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at Saint Wendel Church. To schedule another time that is convenient for you, phone Father Ed at 812-499-9700.



**Angel Tree Gifts** - The wrapped gifts must be returned to the table across from the girls' restroom in Saint Francis Xavier School today Sunday, December 5. The gifts must have the ornament with its specific number attached to it. If you have questions, please contact Margaret Shaffer or Jane Koch.



**Donut Sales** - SWAFFY will be selling bags of half dozen glazed donuts following the Sunday morning Masses at Saint Wendel and Saint Francis Xavier this Sunday, December 5. All purchases will go toward raising funds for the youth attending World Youth Day in Portugal in 2023. Thank you for your support!

**Adoration** - before the Blessed Sacrament is being made available for you this Tuesday, December 7, at Saint Wendel Church anytime throughout the day from 8:00 am - 10:00 pm. Are you ready for some peaceful quiet time in this holy season of Advent? Here is that perfect opportunity given to us to just come, be still and focus on the reason for this season! 'O Come O Come Emmanuel'. You are welcome!



**On the Cover** - A great group of volunteers at the Saint Vincent de Paul Food Pantry unloaded the canned food donated by the students of Saint Wendel Catholic School.

## Second Sunday of Advent - December 5, 2021

**Christmas Caroling** - Come join us for Christmas Caroling around Saint Wendel on Friday, December 17. We will meet in the SWS Cafetorium at 5:45 pm and leave at 6:00 pm. Afterwards, join us for some snacks and socializing. Please bring a snack and drink to share. Hope to see you there! Don't forget to bring a flashlight and jingle bells. Questions, call Pam Muensterman at 812-228-7503.



**Live Nativity** - Saint Wendel will be hosting a live Nativity on Tuesday, December 28. There will be two showings, one at 6 pm and the second at 6:30 pm with live animals followed by fellowship and refreshments (cookies, hot beverages) in the SWS Cafetorium. Volunteers (4th through 8th grade) are needed to portray the Nativity characters. Please call or text Caron Stofleth at 812-270-2185 to volunteer by Wednesday, December 8, as a character or to donate cookies by Wednesday, December 22. Please call or text John Scheller 812-459-7258 to volunteer with setup the day of December 28. Come enjoy the wonderful story of Jesus's birth with your friends and family!



**Join Us For Our Next Ladies Bible Study!** - Do you desire to grow in your Catholic faith? Do you seek connection with other women in our parish community? We invite you to consider joining Walking with Purpose this winter at Saint Wendel Church. Weekly group sessions are starting the week of January 10. We invite you to join the Tuesday night or Thursday morning study groups as we explore how to create lasting and abiding friendships and move beyond past hurts in Reclaiming Friendship: God's Plan for Deep Connection. Or join the Sunday night group as we dive into the brief, but powerful 6-week study Living in the Father's Love, discovering just how much God loves us, baggage and all. For more details about these studies and to register, go to <https://faithformation-sfx-sw.weebly.com/ladies-study-group.html> or contact Sherie Cooley at 765-427-8199 or [scooley@evdio.org](mailto:scooley@evdio.org).



**50th Anniversary** - Father Bill Dietsch, senior priest of the Diocese of Evansville, will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his priestly ordination on Saturday, December 18. You are cordially invited to the 7:00 am Mass on Sunday, December 19, at Saint John Daylight where Father Bill will be concelebrating the Mass. Well wishes can be mailed to: Father Bill Dietsch, 2562 E. 850 S., Fort Branch, IN 47648.



**Surprise 90th Birthday Card Shower** - for Eleanor (Ellie) Collins. Ellie will be turning 90 years old on Friday, December 31! Please mail birthday wishes to Mrs. Eleanor Collins #501, West River Health Campus, 714 S. Eickhoff Rd, Evansville, IN 47712. Mail your card by Wednesday, December 15, to be sure that it is received by her big day! Be sure to share any special memories of Ellie in your card.



**Saint Wendel School Scrip Cards** - are available for purchase in the Parish Office during office hours Monday - Friday from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm.



**A Great Christmas Gift** - Looking for a special gift for a special someone? Give the gift of a 2022 Tradition Lottery Ticket. 2022 Tradition Lottery Tickets are now on sale at the Saint Wendel Parish Office! Tickets are \$100 each with 48 chances to win in 2022. Four prizes each month: \$10,000; \$1,500; \$1,000; and \$500. After each drawing the winning number is immediately placed back in the bin for the next drawing. 48 chances to win in 2022! Stop by the Saint Wendel Parish Office to get your ticket or phone the parish office at 812-963-3733 for your ticket. Or call Father Ed directly at 812-499-9700. Cash, check, MasterCard, and Visa accepted. The Tradition Lottery benefits Mater Dei and Memorial Catholic High Schools.

**In Loving Memory** - There is a section on the back of the bulletin available to list a deceased loved one's name. The cost is \$60.00 per name (spouses considered one name) and their name will remain on the back of the bulletin for a year. This will help defray the cost of printing the parish bulletin for the entire year. If interested, please clip and fill out the slip below and put it in the collection basket or mail to Saint Wendel Church, 10542 W. Boonville New Harmony Rd, Evansville, IN 47720. Diocesan Publication will then bill you. Question please contact Rhonda Fehrenbacher at 812-963-3733.



Loved One's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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(or enclose check payable to Diocesan Publications)

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_



**Jesse Manibusan** - is coming to Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish in Mt. Carmel, Illinois. Jesse Manibusan is a singer, songwriter, catechist, storyteller, humorist and evangelizer. Well recognized throughout the country as a dynamic speaker and musician, Jesse shares from his heart the love of Christ and the call to live out our baptism in every aspect of life. On Friday, December 10, 6:00 to 8:30 pm a general session for everyone. On Saturday, December 11, 9:00 to 11:30 am a special session for cantors, choir members, and musicians. On Sunday, December 12, 6:00 to 8:30 pm is a special youth night for high school students. All are welcome! Contact the parish office at 618-262-5337 for more information.

**Project Rachel** - is a healing ministry of the Catholic Church that helps women and men whose lives have been touched by abortion. This pain can often increase during the holidays but you do not have to carry this alone. It is time to heal. Calls are confidential (812-483-7812).





**Handy Helpers Home Repair** - Are your Christmas lights still hanging - inside your garage? Is that pesky running toilet keeping you up at night? Fall cleanup still on the ground? Do you not have the time, tools, or know-how to complete those minor repairs and maintenance chores around the house? Catholic Charities, in its efforts to help clients create lives that work has opened Handy Helpers Home Repair - and we are working for you! Handy Helpers Home Repair is a light maintenance and repair service that can work in your home or small business. Our trained technicians supervised by Gary Kieffer, a contractor with over twenty years of service to clients in Evansville, are now available at reasonable rates. Call 812-913-9800 for a free estimate.

**For Your Marriage** - As married persons, we are called to serve in a special way through our marriages. This is a noble endeavor and yet is not without its own unique set of challenges. For helpful resources, go to [www.foryourmarriage.org](http://www.foryourmarriage.org) or contact Eric Girten, Coordinator of Family & Life Programs, at [egirten@evdio.org](mailto:egirten@evdio.org) for additional resources or information.



**Formed.org** - The parishioners of Saint Wendel and Saint Francis Xavier now have access to FORMED. FORMED is an amazing platform much like Netflix! FORMED allows you to stream on your computer, smartphone, and TV over 4,000 titles of award-winning Catholic content including movies, formation and bible studies, kids programming, e-books, audio, and more! Visit [formed.org](http://formed.org) and sign up under Saint Wendel Church. Check it out and start streaming today!

**Have You Downloaded The MyParish App Yet?** - The Saint Wendel and Saint Francis Xavier app is available to download for iPhone and Android smartphones. This free app will allow you to stay connected with our parish with instant notifications and easy-to-access to the weekly bulletin. This app also has a bunch of additional features like prayers, daily readings, helpful reminders to silence your phone before Mass, and much more. Text APP to 88202 to easily download the free myParish app to your smartphone then search Saint Wendel and Saint Francis Xavier! Questions or need assistance contact Rhonda via email to [rfehrenbacher@evdio.org](mailto:rfehrenbacher@evdio.org) or call the parish office at 812-963-3733.



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Weekly Budgeted Amount Needed:	\$4,271.00	\$4,271.00
Haiti Parish-Saint Albert the Great:	\$475.00	\$288.00
Campaign for Human Development Collection:	\$20.00	
<b>SAINT WENDEL CHURCH</b>		
Collection:	\$6,240.00	\$9,351.00
Electronic Giving:	\$4,718.00	
Weekly Budgeted Amount Needed:	\$14,200.00	\$14,200.00
Youth Collection:	\$15.00	\$12.00
Building & Grounds Improvement Fund:	\$240.00	\$40.00
Haiti Parish-Saint Michael the Archangel:	\$97.00	\$40.00
Campaign for Human Development Collection:		\$151.00



**Stewardship through the Saint Vincent de Paul Society**

In today's Gospel John the Baptist urges us to "Prepare the way of the Lord," and this is what Advent is all about. We are called to help prepare the way of the Lord by making the real meaning of Christmas come alive in our own hearts, in our family and to reach out to those in need. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and poor to celebrate Christmas.

**Thank You to Our Sponsor of the Week**  
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**Saint Francis Xavier Christmas Memorials** - As in the past, the Saint Francis Ladies' Club is sponsoring the Poinsettia Memorials at Christmas. To make a donation, simply print the information required below, make your check payable to Saint Francis Xavier and attach. Drop in the collection basket by **Sunday, December 12, 2021**. There is also an envelope in your packet that may be used.

\*\*\*\*\*

Donated by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory / Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Saint Wendel Christmas Memorials** - If you wish to remember or honor loved ones at Christmas, please complete the form below and return it with your donation by **Sunday, December 12, 2021**. There is also an envelope in your packet that may be used.

\*\*\*\*\*

Donated by \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory / Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## A Highway for Our God

Father,  
from the beginning,  
you have revealed yourself.  
You have called us to walk in your ways.  
We wait for you to bring to fulfillment  
the work you are doing

from the creation of the earth  
to today.  
We wait in hope.  
Help us to do our small part  
to make a path for you,  
a highway for our God.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday, December 5, 2021

All Flesh Shall See the Salvation of God



*Today's readings: Baruch 5:1–9; Psalm 126:1–2, 2–3, 4–5, 6; Philemon 1:4–6, 8–11; Luke 3:1–6.* John the Baptist and Mary, the mother of our Lord, are our examples for how to live during Advent. Both waited, watched, and prepared. They did then what we hope to do now.

Today, we hear John proclaim that “all flesh shall see the salvation of God.” As John preaches, teaches, and baptizes in the wilderness, he focuses on what God is doing: God is saving. John performs his task. He makes straight a path. He clears the way.

John is called by God within the prophetic tradition of the people of Israel. We hear it when he quotes Isaiah and in the echo of those words in the prophet Baruch. Rooted in the

people of Israel and in Scripture, John has practice listening to God’s voice. In the wilderness, he hears that God is doing something new. God is bringing all flesh into the plan of salvation, as foretold in the prophets of old.

God was inaugurating the promised kingdom of justice and peace, creating a new heaven and a new earth. John called the people to turn away from the ways that had fallen short of God’s vision for them, and people flocked to him because they saw the world’s brokenness and knew that God had promised something different. Something new.

We wait in hope for the fullness of this same kingdom. Like John, we are called to prepare its way. How has God invited you to make straight his paths?



## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, December 6

#### St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas was a bishop in the fourth century who was known for his generosity, one sign of which was leaving coins in the shoes of people who left them out for him. He is also said to have secretly given money to a family to provide funds so the daughters could marry. Nicholas suffered under persecution and defended the Church teaching about the Trinity at a time when it was disputed. St. Nicholas is the patron saint of children. To honor him today, you might choose to do an act of kindness secretly, just as he did. *Today's readings: Isaiah 35:1–10; Psalm 85:9ab, 10, 11–12, 13–14; Luke 5:17–26.*

### Tuesday, December 7

#### St. Ambrose

St. Ambrose was the bishop of Milan in the fourth century and a doctor of the Church. He wrote music that is used in the Liturgy of the Hours during Advent even today. Regarding care for the poor, St. Ambrose said it was not charity but a debt to those who were in need. Celebrate St. Ambrose's feast day by contributing to an agency that serves the poor in your community. *Today's readings: Isaiah 40:1–11; Psalm 96:1–2, 3, 10ac, 11–12, 13; Matthew 18:12–14.*

### Wednesday, December 8

#### Immaculate Conception

God prepared Mary for her unique role in salvation history from the moment she was conceived. The special grace she received even before she was born helped give her the courage to say, "May it be done to me according to your word." Mary's *yes* changed the world. Each one of us has the opportunity to participate in what God is doing in the world every single day. How can you respond with the same whole-hearted *yes* as the Mother of God? *Today's readings: Genesis 3:9–15, 20; Psalm 98:1, 2–3ab, 3cd–4; Ephesians 1:3–6, 11–12; Luke 1:26–38.*

### Thursday, December 9

#### St. Juan Diego

Today the Church celebrates St. Juan Diego, the patron saint of indigenous peoples. The Virgin Mary appeared to Juan Diego near Mexico City in the sixteenth century, a time when people of his culture were treated as less than those who had come from Europe. Mary's apparition and its miraculous image on Juan Diego's tilma embodied many elements of indigenous culture. This event was the beginning of something new for the peoples of the Americas. God is imaged in all people and all cultures. By listening to the stories of people who are different from us, we can participate in what God is doing in the world. *Today's readings: Isaiah 41:13–20; Psalm 145:1, 9, 10–11, 12–13ab; Matthew 11:11–15.*

### Friday, December 10

#### Peace

In Isaiah we hear about the possibility of peace flowing like a river. Life is full of conflict and misunderstanding. Relationships that seemed unbreakable can be torn apart by simple difficulties. When we consider the kingdom of God, of participating in God's peace forever, it fills us with hope. While at Mass, focus on what it must mean for Christ's peace to be with you. *Today's readings: Isaiah 48:17–19; Psalm 1:1–2, 3, 4, 6; Matthew 11:16–19.*

### Saturday, December 11

#### Our Only Hope

In today's Gospel passage, Jesus predicts his passion. It is an interesting thing to consider the cross during the season of Advent, when we await the Lord's coming. Yet the shadow of the cross is always present in the life of Jesus. In this season of hope, we look at the cross, our only hope, and see in it the resurrection and the possibility it contains: God filling the earth as water covers the sea. *Today's readings: Sirach 48:1–4, 9–11; Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15–16, 18–19; Matthew 17:9a, 10–13.*



## Church Bulletin Advertising

Brian Marsh, representing our Bulletin Publisher, Diocesan, is currently seeking new advertisements. Support our parish while you promote your business in print and digitally through social media. If interested, please contact Brian directly or call the parish office. Only a third down payment is required to reserve an ad.

### Contact

**Brian Marsh**

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