

# Welcome to Advent!

**Our Parish Prophetic Plan** compels us to...

“Develop opportunities for spiritual growth and prayer...

Strengthen our relationships while reaching out to all...

Create a culture of faith formation...

Live the Gospel message of peace and justice...

Respond to the needs of those within and beyond the parish...

Involve young people to share their gifts and assume leadership...

and nurture individuals of all ages and families of all types as members of our parish family.” *May we journey through this season of joyful preparation for the coming of Christ, rooted in these values, and strengthened by God’s love.*



## Prayer & Reflection

This Advent we join St. John of the Cross Parish in praying with the *Little Blue Book*. Similar to the *Little Black Book* we use during Lent, the *Little Blue Book*

**The Little  
Blue Book  
2017-2018**

contains six minute reflections on the Advent and Christmas seasons, found in Matthew’s Gospel. These contain Scripture passages, reflections, simple prayers, action steps, and a variety of thoughts about Advent/Christmas, feast days, traditions and customs.

## Online Resources:

- <http://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/advent>
- <http://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/>
- <http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent/>

## Daily Mass

Mon-Wed, 7:45 & 9 am;  
Thurs & Sat, 9 am. Fri., 7:45 am.  
(Communion Service:  
Thurs, 7:45 am & Fri., 9 am)

## Advent Wreath

Set up a wreath in your home, and light it for prayer and/or meals.

## Gather In Prayer

If you were in a Lenten Small Faith Group, or CRHP retreat, consider calling people together to discuss Advent and ways to moving through the season prayerfully.

## Reconciliation Service

Come celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation with music, scripture and reflection, Mon, Dec. 11 at 7 pm. Individual reconciliation is available on Saturdays, after the 9 am mass & at 4:15 pm.

## Support the Giving Tree

Quest teens are collecting gifts for inner city families through St. Agatha. Take a tag Dec. 2/3, and return wrapped gift before the noon Mass Dec 10.

## Taizé Prayer

Experience contemplative prayer through simple melodies, scripture, a procession of candles, prayers for peace, and silent reflection.  
Friday, Dec. 8, 7:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church.

## Individual Prayer

The church is open daily for prayer, 7:30 am to 2 pm.

## Feast of St. Francis Xavier

We will celebrate the feast day of our patron saint at all masses the weekend of Dec. 2/3.

## Congregation of St. Joseph Events at the Well:

- Transformational Breath, Dec. 4, 7-9 pm, register in advance
- Jack Shea & Kathy Sherman, CSJ: *Seeing Haloes—Christmas Poems and Music to Open the Heart*, Sat, Dec. 9, 9-noon
- Pat Bergen, CSJ: *The Shock of Advent*, Mon, Dec. 18, 7-8:30 pm; repeated Tues, Dec. 19, 9:30-11 am

**Choose a Ministry & Get Involved!** Visit [sfxlg.org](http://sfxlg.org) for a complete list. *2018 Ministry Resource Guide will be available in January.*

# Advent Events Calendar 2017



## Dec. 1

**Service Day** for  
Day School Students

## Dec. 2/3

**Feast of St. Francis Xavier,**  
Celebrated at all masses this  
weekend.

## Dec. 2/3

Take a tag to  
donate to  
**The Giving  
Tree**



## Dec. 3

Begin daily Advent Prayer with  
*The Little Blue Book*

## Dec. 6

**Senior Women's Group:**  
*Faith & Fitness—Trusting God's  
Plan* presented by Linda Hillsman  
9:30 am Coffee; 10 am Talk

## Dec. 8

**Feast of the Immaculate  
Conception,** Mass at 7:45 am,  
9 am & 7 pm

**Taizé prayer,** 7:30 pm,  
at Grace Lutheran Church

## Dec. 10

Return your wrapped gift for  
**The Giving Tree** before the noon  
Mass today.

Family Outreach Ministry is host-  
ing **Christmas Caroling at Helping  
Hand Center** from 1-3 pm.

Commit to **baking for incarcerated  
men through North Lawndale  
Adult Transition Center.**  
Drop-off is Dec. 15.

## Dec. 11

**Reconciliation Service,** 7 pm;  
Individual Confession held Saturdays  
after 9 am Mass & 4:15 pm

**"End Gun Violence" Prayer Service,**  
7 pm, at The Well Spirituality Center,  
Congregation of St. Joseph Chapel,  
1515 W. Ogden Ave.

## Dec. 12

**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
Mass at 7:45 am & 9 am

## Dec. 14

Day School— 2nd, 4th & 6th Graders  
present **Carol & Light,** 7-8 pm, Church

## Dec. 15

**Drop off day for baked goods** for  
incarcerated men, 9 am—5 pm.  
Details in bulletin.

## Dec. 22

Day School— 7th Graders present  
Advent Prayer Service, 11 am, Gym

## Dec. 24

**Christmas Eve Masses—  
In SFX Church**  
3 pm (w/ ticket) & 5 pm (w/ ticket)  
and 7 pm

**In Congregation of St. Joseph  
Motherhouse Chapel**  
3 pm (w/ ticket) & 5 pm

**Midnight Mass** in Church —  
Caroling begins at 11:30 pm

## Dec. 25

**Christmas Day Masses—  
in SFX Church:**  
9:00 am, 10:30  
am, & Noon

**Jan. 1, 2017  
Solemnity  
of Mary,  
Mass at 10 am**



## Congregation of St. Joseph — Events hosted at the Well Spirituality Center

Dec. 4: **Transformational Breath,** 7-9 pm, Cost: \$25  
Please register in advance, as space is limited

Dec. 9: **Jack Shea & Kathy Sherman, CSJ: Seeing Haloes**  
9 am—Noon. An Advent morning of reflection  
with poetry and music to open our hearts. *Free to parishioners.*

Dec. 18/19: **The Shock of Advent, Pat Bergen, CSJ**  
As we are drawn more deeply in Advent and Christmas,  
something wonderful is beginning to dawn upon us. Light  
changes everything! *Offered twice: Mon, Dec. 18, 7-8:30 pm  
& Tues, Dec. 19, 9:30-11 am. Free to parishioners.*

**The Well Spirituality Center,** Register at: 708-482-5048,  
www.csjthewell.org, 1515 Ogden Ave, La Grange Park