




Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish

Our Mission:

We honor the traditions of our parish and welcome all to unite in prayer and the Sacraments. Loved by God and guided by the Holy Spirit, we share the good news of Jesus Christ through joyful worship, faithful formation and dedicated service.



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist appeared...saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" - Mt 3:1a, 2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

December 7, 2025



PARISH STAFF

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Noreen Russo, Youth Ministry Coordinator (ACTION)

nrucco@ssjfx.org

Saints JFX Mass Schedule

Daily Mass

6:30 am (SFX) Monday through Friday

8:30 am (St. Joseph) Monday through Saturday

Saturday Vigil Mass

5:00 pm

(SFX, May through October; SJ, November through April)

Sunday Mass

8:00 am (St. Joseph)

9:30 am (SFX)

10:30 am (St. Joseph)

11:30 am (SFX)

4:45 pm (St. Joseph)

7:30 pm (SFX) Teen ACTION Mass (school year)

Confession is offered from 9:00 - 10:00 am on Saturday at St. Joseph Church.

Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier Parish Office

St. Joseph Campus

1747 Lake Avenue

(847) 251-0771

cadaniel@ssjfx.org

Hours: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday

St. Francis Xavier Campus

524 Ninth Street

(847) 256-4250

officessjfx@ssjfx.org

Hours: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday - Thursday

For emergencies outside of office hours,
please call 708-237-6665

For additional parish information, please visit www.ssjfx.org

For school information, please visit www.saintsjfx.org

Follow us on social media!

Instagram ([saintsjfx_wilmette](https://www.instagram.com/saintsjfx_wilmette)) and

Facebook ([Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier](https://www.facebook.com/SaintsJosephandFrancisXavier))



Discover the Saints JFX App

Scan the QR code and install the app. Once installed, log in using the person icon in the upper right hand corner. Follow the instructions to register.

Are you interested in becoming more active at Saints JFX? We need you! Scan the QR code and select any ministries that interest you. The ministry leader will be in contact with details.



Dear Friends,

The darkness of December and the cold winds that now blow invite the words of Sacred Scripture to find a home in our hearts. John the Baptist's reminder to all who will listen that the "Kingdom of Heaven is at hand" decries urgency. All that has happened this fall echoes that urgency. Where the darkness of violence, harsh words and hate has prevailed, we must, now more than ever, be instruments of justice, peace, welcome, light and love.

During this holy season of Advent, as the days get shorter and the nights get longer, the Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier community will prepare in many ways for the coming of the Lord. We will make straight his paths. I expect that this season is one that sometimes gets lost on us. Amidst the social and commercial busyness, we are called to be still and to wait. It's difficult to do this when the retailers are beckoning us to be the first in line to take advantage of their great holiday sales. It's challenging to do this when our calendars get filled with social engagements and other expectations. It's difficult to do this because the lists are long and the days are few.

With the shortest days of the year, Advent has us longing for the light. In these days of political unrest in our city, nation and world, in these challenging economic times, the warmth and light of the coming of the Christ Child give me hope. We have all heard the saying, "It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness." Last week, in the second reading, Saint Paul encouraged his readers to cast off the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Today we light the second candle of our Advent wreath. Doing so reminds us that the light is indeed coming into our darkness. Maybe we need to ask ourselves what our darkness is, or where we see darkness in our world. Once arriving at our respective answers to those questions, we should ask, "How can Christ's light shine in us or through us in order to dispel the darkness?" The light does shine in the darkness, right here in our little corner of the world!

Our readings today offer great hope. As we enter the final month of the jubilee year of hope, declared by Pope Francis months before he died, and opened on the 1st Sunday of Advent last year, I invite you to allow our readings to encourage hope in you and to instill a desire to produce great fruit. The Prophet Isaiah describes a time of unthinkable peace. He speaks of the spirit that will rest upon the one who is to come to be Prince of Peace. He foretells that the Spirit of the Lord will give the Prince of Peace a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and of strength, a spirit of knowledge and of fear of the Lord. In Saint Luke's gospel, Jesus recalls this passage from Isaiah, and says to the people, "Today this scripture passage is

fulfilled in your hearing." Jesus came to bring unthinkable peace to a troubled world. He can still do so today if we let him.

Last week the Holy Father was in the Middle East. As often as he got a chance, he encouraged unity. As one we are called to live peacefully and promote peace. In Lebanon, the Pope reminded the people that, "*The Kingdom that Jesus comes to inaugurate is a shoot, a small branch sprouting from a trunk that promises rebirth when everything else seems to be dying. The coming of the Messiah was announced in the smallness of a shoot because he can only be recognized by the little ones by those who humbly know how to recognize the hidden details and traces of God in the seemingly lost story.*"

When in Turkey, the Pope said, "*At this time of blood-stained conflict and violence, we are called to be peace-makers. This means taking action, making choices, and adopting gestures that build Peace, while also acknowledging that peace is not merely the fruit of human effort, but is a gift from God.*"

As we prepare for the coming of the Prince of Peace this year, let us strive to be instruments of God's peace, living the words of the prayer attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi. Where there is hatred, let us show love. When we are injured, let us pardon. Where there is doubt, let us share our faith. Where we see people despairing let us offer them hope. Let us bring light to the darkness in our world, and most importantly, let us bring joy to those who encounter sadness in their lives. Let's act, make good choices, and adopt gestures that build peace. And let us turn to God who will make it all happen.

Peace,



Rev. Wayne T. Wain



Weekly Mass Schedule

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<p><u>Monday, December 8</u> <i>Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception</i></p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Hao Dang +Andy Keefe +Andrew Raucchi +Olivia Sergot (L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>7:30 pm SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p><u>Tuesday, December 9</u></p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Maria Friedrich +Hon Thomas M. Tucker (L)Aldrich Family (L)Fr. Ed Harnett (L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>9:00 am–10:00 am SJ <i>Eucharistic Adoration</i></p> <p>+ Deceased / (L) Living SFX - St. Francis Xavier SJ -St. Joseph</p>	<p><u>Wednesday, December 10</u></p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Christopher Patrick Alonzi +Trudy & Frank Fernholz +Deceased members of the Quirini & Bremner Families (L)Dima Kos (L)Chris Lee & Family (L)Rehbock Family</p> <p><u>Thursday, December 11</u></p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Thomas & Ann Higgins (L)Fr. Ed Harnett (L)Cyrus Major Herbert (L)Ai Lockard (L)Rehbock Family</p> <p>Masses are livestreamed on our YouTube channel.</p> <p>Search <i>Saints JFX</i> on www.youtube.com</p>	<p><u>Friday, December 12</u></p> <p>6:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Thomas Caestecker, Jr. +Joseph Ngoc Dang +George Suci (L)Rehbock Family</p> <p><u>Saturday, December 13</u></p> <p>8:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Maggie DiClementi</p> <p>9:00-10:00 am SJ Confession</p> <p>5:00 pm SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Ostdiek, SJ</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Donald Butzen, Jr. +Bob Clark +Maggie DiClementi +Irv Meyer +Nicole Nunn +Claire Pleiss +Clark Pleiss +Mollie Pleiss</p>	<p><u>Sunday, December 14</u></p> <p>8:00 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Liliana Suci +Molly Harris</p> <p>9:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Waithaka</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Michael Haremza +Irv Meyer +Terry Nuccio +Rose Cerone Rago +Liliana Suci (L)Don & Annie Maag</p> <p>10:30 am SJ <i>Presider: Fr. Watts</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Donald Butzen, Jr. +Elizabeth Cox +Maria DiDomizio +Sr. Therese Fields +Michael Haremza (L)Laine Hartemayer (L)Msgr Dan Mayall</p> <p>11:30 am SFX <i>Presider: Fr. Sheridan</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Dorothy & Herb Kurt +Pauline Zorza</p> <p>4:45 pm SJ <i>Presider: Msgr. Mayall</i></p> <p>Intentions: +Olivia Sergot</p>
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Please pray for the sick and those in need:

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Carmen Albino | Peter DiClementi, Jr. | Susan Hayden | Marlene Miller |
| Laura B. | Sally Griffin | Tiffany McGivern | Pam O'Reilly |
| Margie Bennett | Sheila Groark | John McGuiness | Christopher Patino |
| Lorraine Bixler | Rick Hawkinson | James Mendis | Carla Zaramella |
| Jim Bohlman | Catherine Horan | Oliver Mendis | |
| Paul "PJ" DiClementi | Marian Harmon | Eden McKenna | |

Please email officessjfx@ssjfx.org to add or remove a name.

In prayer and loving memory of:

Theresa Paul Paulin



PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY, PRAY FOR PEACE

US Air Force

Ssgt John Wesley Hobbs
2nd Lt Luke Stenberg

US Army

Rev Chaplain Maj John Barkemeyer
Cpt Christopher Cannon
Cpt Ryan Cannon
PFC Richard Carlson
Sgt Harrison Daniels
Maj Jason Harlan
Pvt Ryan Higgins
Erik Larson (Army Reserve)
Sgt Brenda Lore Mayo
Sgt David Lore Mayo
SGT Seth Miller
Col Kelly Quinn
Lt Ryan Slattery
Lt Col Shawn Swarz
PFC Asher Walsh
Lt John Williams

US Marine Corps

Pvt Stuart Corboy III
Sgt Joseph Devroy
Cpt Peter Dulaney
Sgt Brandon Galgay
Sgt Aidan Gobeyn
Cpt Brad Gustafson
Ssgt Walter Ramirez
Maj William Smith
Cpl Trevor J. Talbot
Pvt 1st Class Stevie Williams

US Navy

Cmdr Kevin Carlson
Lt Matthew Mah
PO2 Kevin Morrison
Cornelius Robert Murphy
LTJG Hugh Rider
Cmdr Tom Smith
John David Tobin
Shane Zeman

US National Guard

Liam Gobeyn
Sgt Steven Tetzlaff
Sgt Jackson Knott
Lt Col Grant Swinger

*If you would like to add or remove a name,
please contact us at officessjfx@ssjfx.org.*

Readings for the week of December 7, 2025

Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/
Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

Monday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:
3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/
Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 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 Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/
Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16,
18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday: Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is
35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11



Monday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and a Holy Day of Obligation.

In addition to our regularly scheduled morning Masses, we will offer Mass at 7:30 pm at St. Joseph Church. Please join us.

Congratulations to those recently baptized at Saints JFX

Emmett Julian Belton

John Patrick Dolan

Louis Gregory George

Jack Finan McIntyre



Saints JFX Ministry of Care



Experienced Ministers of Care are available to bring communion to our parish sick and homebound, those in senior facilities, and Evanston Hospital.

If you or a family member would like to schedule a visit, please contact the MOC Care line at (847) 256-2273 (CARE) or email mbirmingham@ssjfx.org

IF YOU OR A LOVED ONE ARE IN EVANSTON HOSPITAL

Please call our Care Line at 847-256-2273 if you would like a visit from a Minister of Care. The hospital no longer provides a list of Catholics to visit. Our ministers go on Sundays and MWF to visit, pray with, and bring Holy Communion to all who request it.

Please leave the patient's name and hospital room number on the Care Line voicemail, along with your name, relationship, and phone number; or email this information to MaryClare Birmingham at mbirmingham@ssjfx.org. We will call or email you to confirm the request.

Sacraments at Saints JFX

Sacrament of Baptism

Request form can be found on our parish website: ssjfx.org/baptism.html

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 9:00 am-10:00 am at St. Joseph Church or by appointment. Please call 847/256-4250

Sacrament of Marriage

Request form can be found on our parish website: ssjfx.org/weddings.html

Parish registration forms can be found on ssjfx.org/join-our-parish.html

Pray the Rosary

Please join us to pray the Rosary at 7:30 am daily

To join online:

<https://www.microsoft.com/microsoft-teams/join-a-meeting>

Meeting ID: 217 167 320 893

Passcode: PgfzMi

If you prefer to call in:

872-215-5920

Phone conference ID: 706 348 841#

The Rosary is also prayed at 8:00 am, Monday through Saturday at St. Joseph Church, followed by 8:30 am Mass. All are welcome.

All are invited to join the **First Saturday Devotions** group after the 8:30 am Mass at St. Joseph on the first Saturday of each month. The group will meet next on December 6, 2025.



We pray the rosary along with devotions in reparation to the Immaculate Heart of Mary; prayer guides will be available at the church.

Companions in Grief

We meet the Third Thursday of each month at 10 AM
In the Community Room at St. Joseph

All Are Welcome



Upcoming meeting dates:
December 18

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is dedicated to helping the poor and those who have fallen upon difficult times. If you or someone you know is in need of help, please call the parish office at (847) 256-4250 and ask for the SVDP line.

If you are calling outside of business hours, please press 7 to leave a message and we will return your call.

All inquiries are held in the strictest of confidence.



Thank You from St. Vincent de Paul



Thank you, Saints JFX parishioners. This Thanksgiving and holiday season, we give thanks for you – our generous supporters who make it possible for us to continue to bring hope and help from our Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Saints Joseph and Francis Xavier Conference. Your contributions enable us to provide a lifeline to families and individuals and mean so much to us and the people we serve.

If you have not yet had a chance to contribute, you can support our work needed more than ever by contributing via the QR code. We are preparing for a huge need for food assistance in response to reductions and denials of SNAP benefits (the nation's largest nutrition assistance program).



Father Wayne graciously designated this year's parish Thanksgiving collection for the benefit of St. Vincent de Paul. Your donation will help fill the gap created by government funding cuts – ensuring that no one in need of help is turned away.

Assisting individuals and families in financial or personal crisis is St. Vincent de Paul's number one mission. Our goal is to assist clients so that they may get "back on their own feet". For example, we might pay a month's rent or past due utility bills, or provide pre-loaded grocery store, Target, or gas cards. We have provided Christmas presents for children whose parents are financially unable to do so. In recent years we have also given significant assistance to refugee families living in the St. Thomas of Canterbury parish.

On behalf of our parish's St. Vincent de Paul Society Conference, I thank you for your generosity.

Wishing you a blessed holiday season,
 Jack O'Malley
 President

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

OF THE *Blessed Virgin Mary* ©LPI

Stewardship Report

If you are able, please consider contributing via PushPay (www.pushpay.com)

November 30, 2025	
Collected at Church:	
Envelopes:	\$ 2,660.00
Loose Cash:	\$ 1,116.00
Electronic Contributions:	\$21,880.00
Total:	\$25,656.00

Sunday Collection

Haiti Sharing Parish

St. Thomas of Canterbury School



Thank you for your generosity.

Join Us in Waiting For and Celebrating the Coming of the Lord

December 24

Christmas Eve

3:00 pm St. Joseph
 3:00 pm St. Francis Xavier
 3:15 pm St. Francis Xavier (gym)
 5:00 pm St. Francis Xavier
 5:30 pm St. Joseph
 10:00 pm Christmas Concert,
 St. Joseph and St. Francis Xavier
 10:30 pm St. Joseph
 10:30 pm St. Francis Xavier

December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

8:00 am St. Joseph
 9:30 am St. Francis Xavier
 10:30 am St. Joseph
 11:30 am St. Francis Xavier



December 31

Solemnity of Mary,
 Mother of God (Vigil)

5:00 pm St. Joseph

January 1

Solemnity of Mary,
 Mother of God

9:30 am St. Francis Xavier

10:30 am St. Joseph

Please contact Diane Clark at thehunty@yahoo.com to RSVP

SAINTS JFX WOMEN'S CLUB
 INVITES ALL MEMBERS TO OUR ANNUAL

CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY

WEDNESDAY | **10** | DECEMBER
 6:30-9:00 PM | 2025

VENUE: ST. JOSEPH CHURCH COMMUNITY ROOM
 COST: \$50 (DINNER, DESSERT, WINE, BEER, SODAS)



CLICK ON THE RSVP LINK OR
 MAIL \$50 CHECK (PAYABLE TO SSJFX WOMEN'S
 CLUB) TO: DIANE CLARKE, 302 LAUREL,
 WILMETTE, IL 60091

QUESTIONS? CONTACT DIANE CLARKE AT
THEHUNTY@YAHOO.COM OR (847) 256-5711

RSVP DEADLINE IS SUNDAY DEC 7TH, 2025

Thanks to all who have purchased and donated gifts to the annual Toy Drive for the benefit of Catholic Charities.

Please note: The toy drive ends this weekend. Please bring your gift to either church through Sunday December 7.



The Women's Club Bake Sale is being held this weekend! Baked goods will be available after all Masses at both churches.



Thank you to all of our bakers and volunteers!



Saints JFX School

You're Invited!

SAINTS JFX HOLIDAY SIP & SHOP 2025

**SFX GYM | 808 LINDEN AVENUE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th 11 AM- 2 PM
TICKETS \$10 IN ADVANCE, \$15 AT THE DOOR
ADVANCE TICKETS RECEIVE 1 FREE RAFFLE TICKET
RAFFLE TICKETS 1 FOR \$5 / 5 FOR \$20**

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Saints JFX School

Saints JFX 2025 Sip & Shop Vendor List

ARCH Ana Kane Bestowed Housewares Birdie Designs Betsy Jane Blankets by Beth Country Classics Designs by Charlotte Flat Road Farm French Papers Gigi's Closette Green Compass Griffin's Cocktails Hooked by Beth Permanent Jewelry Lizzie's Too Good Toffee Lucky Lane Gifts Maddie's Glam for Good	Ouilmette Spice Company Pointer's Pet Treats Puka Llama Saint Francis Spirit Wear Shine Design Sommie Sorella Sol Sweet Peachtree Sylvester Consulting Tali Espi Designs Teidi Home THE BAR ABOVE The Silver Service Children's Foundation Yaya's Waxing the City Windy Stitchers
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All Are Welcome

Advent Coffee & Donuts



Sunday, December 14th
After 10:30 am Mass
St. Joseph Church

After the Nativity Blessing we will gather in the Community Room for coffee, treats, and an Advent craft!



Sponsored by
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SAINTS JFX SINGS!

Christmas Caroling

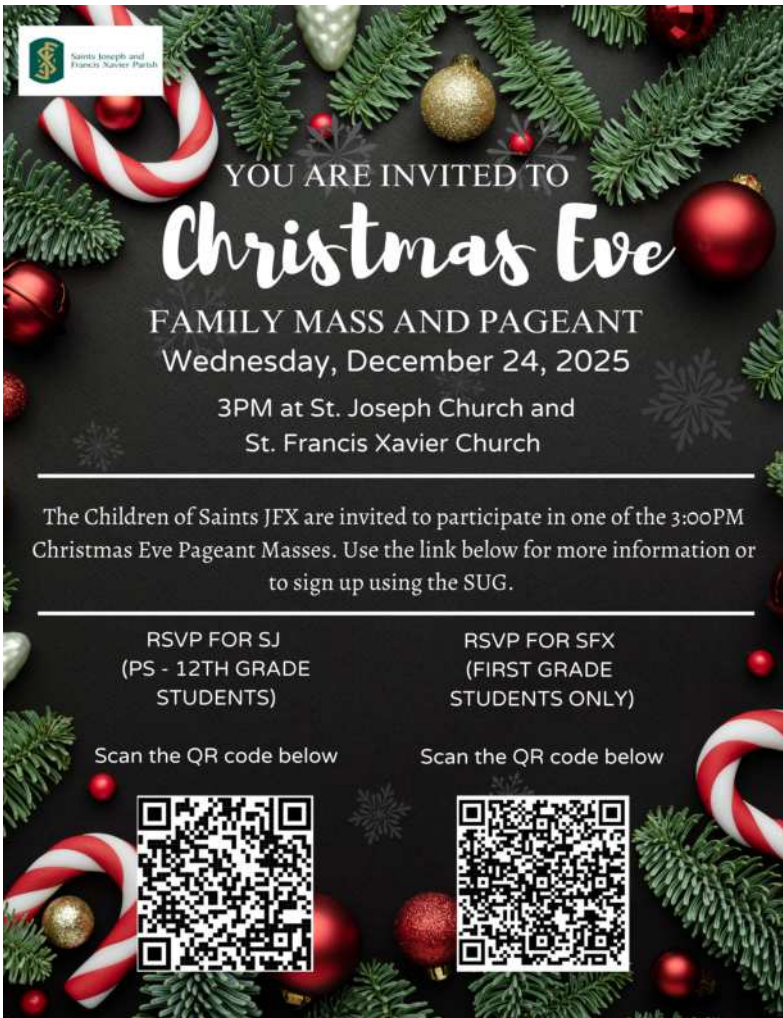
Sunday, December 21st

Join us for 4:45pm Mass with Family Dinner to follow in St. Joseph School Gym
Neighborhood Caroling from 6:15pm - 7:00pm

Register Today 



<https://tinyurl.com/mrxssbr4>




YOU ARE INVITED TO
Christmas Eve
 FAMILY MASS AND PAGEANT
 Wednesday, December 24, 2025
 3PM at St. Joseph Church and
 St. Francis Xavier Church


The Children of Saints JFX are invited to participate in one of the 3:00PM Christmas Eve Pageant Masses. Use the link below for more information or to sign up using the SUG.

RSVP FOR SJ (PS - 12TH GRADE STUDENTS)	RSVP FOR SFX (FIRST GRADE STUDENTS ONLY)
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Scan the QR code below Scan the QR code below



All things are possible with
God



A Musical Celebration of Hope for the Advent/Christmas Season
John Angotti
 with Dion Clay, J.T. Brown, John Paciga & other guests


MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 7PM: CONCERT
St. Norbert & Our Lady of the Brook
 1809 WALTERS AVENUE
 NORTHBROOK, IL 60062

**Milwaukee Retrouvaille
 Helping Couples Connect**



Milwaukee Retrouvaille Community Coordinators will be hosting an upcoming Retrouvaille weekend on January 23-25, 2026.


For confidential information or to register, please call **414-502-7685** or email 2035r@helpourmarriage.org or visit the website at <https://helpourmarriage.org/>



Are you looking for a way to slow down and find spiritual stillness amidst the Christmas rush? Our Advent courses offer a guided path to prepare your heart for the arrival of Christ.

Explore our Advent Highlights for your journey!

Scan the QR code to learn more and sign up. Learn more about our short online courses by visiting our website: courses.usml.edu



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2026 Catholic Calendar

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