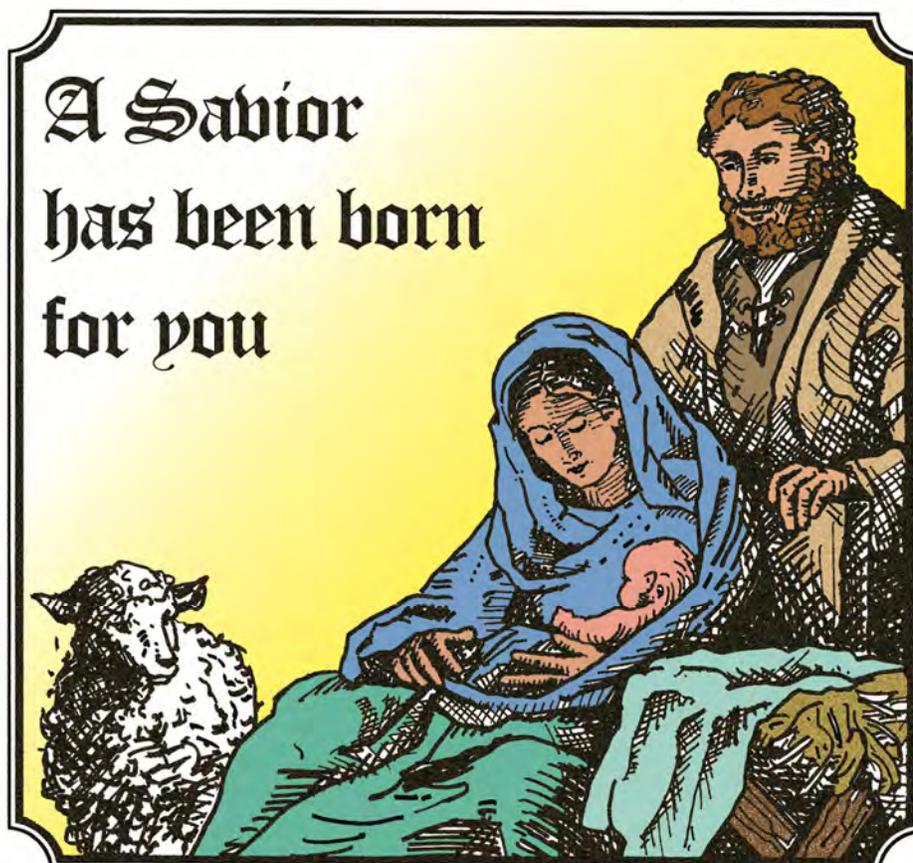


*Welcome to Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Catholic Church
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 20, 2020
The Holy Family
December 27, 2020*

- Our Mission Statement -

We, the Roman Catholic Parish of Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, joyfully worship together to give praise, honor and glory to Almighty God. We are called by the Holy Spirit to proclaim and to live the gospel message through the sacraments and to spread the message of Jesus Christ by living out the example of God's power in our lives.



**A Savior
has been born
for you**

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WE ARE GOD'S HOLY FAMILY

The scriptures of Israel are filled with many stories of barren couples who were miraculously granted the gift of children by God. Surely the best known among these is the first reading from today, from which Luke took inspiration when he recounted the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah and Elizabeth, and the more miraculous birth of Jesus to Mary and Joseph. In each instance, we are given examples or role models of those who trusted in God. More than examples of those who trust, they are models of self-surrender. They abandoned their own pre-suppositions and prejudices about the workings of the world and turned their lives over to belief in a God who can make life grow where none ought to; a God who can turn death around into a new and unimagined life; a God who can, today, take a tiny child of humble parents in an insignificant town and make him into a light for all the world. This is what we, as God's holy family, are called to do each day: to trust not in ourselves and the way we think things should be, but to open ourselves and surrender ourselves in faith to a God of endless promise.

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There will be **no adoration on Friday, January 1.**

Due to Confirmation on Saturday, January 23, there will be **no 8am Mass.** Thank you for your understanding.

Parish News & Events

Bill Aloisio	Ernie Jaeger	Judy Runge
Martin Brosas	Jacqueline Lehy	Sharon Schalz
Don Brummel	Arlene Likovich	Rudolph Schlecht
Richard Cibulskis	Carrie Mitchell	Ron Smart
Mary Aloisio Cummings	Kelly Olson	Geri Smith
Mary Beth Erickson	Joe Pascolini	Joann Tull
Evelyn Essling	Mark Phillips	Jack Watson
Bartholomew Hansen	Ken Podsiadlik	Wayne Weiler
Jeanette Hovorka	Kathy Rapp	Linda White
Mark Huettner	Janice Rippinger	
Susie Hughes	Norb Rozanski	

Please note:

Due to the government legislation regarding patient privacy, names of people to be prayed for at Mass or in the Bulletin can be listed only if that person, or, in the case of their incapacitation, the **person delegated to their medical care**, calls the parish office to give permission.

Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary will continue to pray for all the sick and suffering, even if unable to list by name.

Let us pray for those members of our parish who are sick and suffering.

If you would like a visit from Fr. Patrick, please call the parish office at 630-851-1436 to schedule a visit.

Our parish has joined a Catholic website called **FORMED**. This website is loaded with articles, videos, eBooks, and much more—all of which are thoroughly Catholic. You simply go to this website: <https://formed.org> (This is a secure site, which is why there is an "s" in the address). Once there, there will be a spot to enter our parish access code, which is 6MMWKC. We have unlimited access to everything on the site. I hope that you take advantage of this site, and pray that it will be beneficial to you.

Fr. Patrick

CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you so much for supporting your parish.

Sunday, December 6—\$6,002.60



Father Patrick
Deacon Mike
Deacon Ken
Deacon Dom
Mary Glosson
Mark Fletcher
Jessica Zinken
Lee Cheung
Melissa Francisco
Jane Cebulski
Manny Juarez



facebook.com/annunciationbvmchurch



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are now midway through Advent. It is hard to believe how quickly time has gone by, and continues to move along at a rapid pace. Yet, here we are.

We will soon celebrate the miraculous event of the Word's becoming one of us—the Word who leapt down from his throne in Heaven—so that he could walk among us, and show us the way to Heaven.

Some of you have celebrated many Christmases; this is my 51st Christmas. I don't remember all of them, but it's hard to tell if this will be the most different, perhaps unusual, Christmas experienced, considering what a strange and difficult year this has been; Christmas will certainly be odd, especially for those who won't be able to participate in the liturgies.

Nevertheless, no matter how different this Christmas might seem, no matter how odd it might seem, always remember that the celebration of it will never be different or odd, so long as we hold it, at least, within our hearts. Enjoy your time with your family and friends, and thank God for the gift of his beloved Son. No matter what happens, we still have our Lord Jesus Christ, our faith in him, and we will also have our family and friends; all of that, my brothers and sisters, will always be with us.

As our Blessed Mother welcomed the Word in her heart and womb, with great joy, some two thousand years ago, I pray that you are equally blessed and joyous as you welcome that same Word this Christmas.

*It has been a very trying year for all of us, and I am hoping and praying that the new year will be better, healthier, full of great opportunities, and **mask-free!***

God bless all of you, and have a blessed and joyous Christmas!

Fr. Patrick

*Please consult the bulletin for deadlines, if you would like something in the bulletin. The usual deadline for things in the bulletin is **MONDAY, BY NOON**, unless otherwise stated. Please send the item/article that you would like to see in the bulletin to Mary at annunciationbvm-aurora@rockforddiocese.org or mglosson@rockforddiocese.org. If it is a document, please make sure that it is created in Word. If it is a picture, please make sure that it is in black and white. Also, if you would like something announced at any or all of the weekend Masses, please email Mary at annunciationbvm-aurora@rockforddiocese.org, or mglosson@rockforddiocese.org, no later than **WEDNESDAY EVENING, BY 4:00PM**. If you would like both an announcement and a bulletin item/article, please send two separate emails, one for the announcement, one for the bulletin item/article. Finally, if anyone needs to use the church, or the parish patio or basement, please call Mary for the availability of these areas.*

Rediscovering Your Catholic Faith

From the Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

PART ONE: THE PROFESSION OF FAITH

Section Two: The Profession of Faith

CHAPTER TWO: I Believe In Jesus Christ the Only Son of God

“Jesus Christ Was Conceived By The Power of the Holy Spirit, and Was Born of the Virgin Mary”

99. In what sense is Mary “ever Virgin”?

Mary is ever virgin in the sense that she “remained a virgin in conceiving her Son, a virgin in giving birth, a virgin in carrying him, a virgin in nursing him at her breast, always a virgin” (Saint Augustine). Therefore, when the Gospels speak of the “brothers and sisters of Jesus,” they are talking about the close relations of Jesus, according to the way of speaking used in Sacred Scripture.

100. In what way is the spiritual motherhood of Mary universal?

Mary had only one Son, Jesus, but in him her spiritual motherhood extends to all whom he came to save. Obediently standing at the side of new Adam, Jesus Christ, the Virgin is the *new Eve*, the true mother of all the living, who with a mother’s love cooperates in their birth and their formation in the order of grace. Virgin and Mother, Mary is the figure of the Church, its most perfect realization.

101. In what sense is the life of Christ a Mystery?

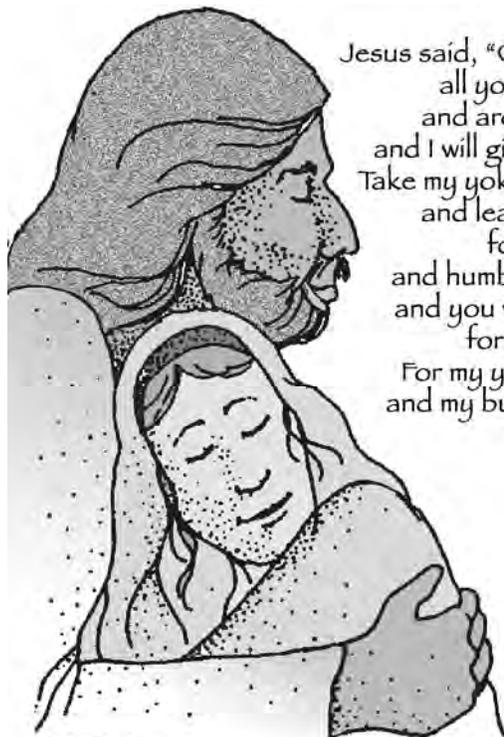
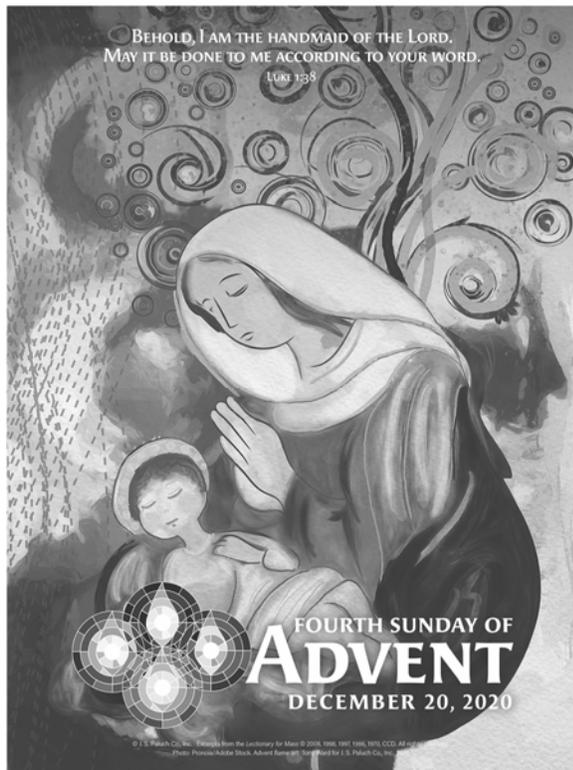
The entire life of Christ is a revelation. What was visible in the earthly life of Jesus leads us to the *invisible mystery of his divine sonship*: “whoever has seen me has seen the Father” (John 14:9). Furthermore, even though salvation come completely from the cross and the resurrection, the entire life of Christ is a *mystery of redemption* because everything that Jesus did, said, and suffered had for its aim the salvation of fallen human beings and the restoration of the vocation as children of God.

102. How did God prepare the world for the mystery of Christ?

God prepared for the coming of his Son over the centuries. He awakened in the hearts of the pagans a dim expectation of this coming and he prepared for it specifically through the Old Testament, culminating with *John the Baptist* who was the last and greatest of the prophets. We relive this long period of expectancy in the annual liturgical celebration of the season of Advent.

103. What does the Gospel teach about the mysteries of the birth and infancy of Jesus?

At *Christmas* the glory of heaven is shown forth in the weakness of a baby; the *circumcision* of Jesus is a sign of his belonging to the Hebrew people and is a prefiguration of our Baptism; the *Epiphany* is the manifestation of the Messiah King of Israel to all the nations: at the *presentation in the temple*, Simeon and Anna symbolize all the anticipation of Israel awaiting its encounter with its Savior; the *flight into Egypt* and the massacre of the innocents proclaim that the entire life of Christ will be under the sign of persecution; the *departure from Egypt* recalls the exodus and presents Jesus as the new Moses and the true and definitive liberator.



Jesus said, "Come to me,
all you who labor
and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you
and learn from me,
for I am meek
and humble of heart;
and you will find rest
for yourselves.
For my yoke is easy,
and my burden light."
Matthew 11:28-30

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Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970, CCD.

TODAY'S READINGS—December 27

First Reading — Those who honor their parents will be greatly blessed and will atone for sins (Sirach 3:2-6,12-14) or *Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3*.

Psalm — Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways (Psalm 128) or *Psalm 105*.

Second Reading — Be thankful; do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus (Colossians 3:12-21 [12-17]) or *Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19*.

Gospel — The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom (Luke 2:22-40 [22, 39-40]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

EAST OF FAITH

Processions

Why does the liturgy begin with a procession? It is not just a practical matter of getting the ministers of the liturgy from the sacristy to the sanctuary. The procession is a powerful sign of who we are as Christian people. We are not static, staying in one place. We are going somewhere. Our procession leads us to the altar, sign of Christ's presence in our midst. We move, we process, because we recognize our need for what Christ is preparing for us at that table. We go forward eagerly, because we are hungry for that heavenly food.

This procession is an orderly one: servers, deacon, priest presider. Each is set apart by distinctive vesture: albs for the altar servers, dalmatic for the deacon, chasuble for the priest. The procession is an image of the hierarchical structure of the Church. On a deeper level it is an image of unity in diversity. We are all on a journey to the heavenly city, but each of us is clothed with different gifts. We all receive the call to service, but not in the same way. Only by coming together in all our wonderful variety can we achieve the work of the kingdom.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

CHILDREN OF ETERNITY

You are children of eternity. Your immortal crown awaits you, to reward your duty and love. You may indeed sow here in tears, but you may be sure there to reap in joy.

—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

TIME

Do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of.

—Benjamin Franklin

Weekend Masses

- Saturday: 4:00pm and 6:00pm
- Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm
- Church doors will open **30 minutes** before Mass, and will be **locked 5 minutes before** the start of Mass.
- Sign up online (AnnunciationChurchBVM.org) or by calling the parish office (630-851-1436)

Daily Mass

- Monday - Saturday: **8:00am**
- Church doors will **open at 7:30**, and will be **locked at 7:55** for Mass.
- You do not need to sign up.
- We will ask for your name and phone number when you arrive.
- You will need to wear a mask and sit socially distanced.

Confessions

- Saturdays: 2:00pm - 2:45pm
- Confessions are temporarily being heard in the sacristy.

Personal Prayer

- **NEW** Monday and Friday: 8:30am - 4:00pm
- **NEW** Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 9:45am - 4:00pm
- Saturdays: 8:30am - 2:45pm
- Sundays: 1:15pm - 6:30pm
- **Vespers** (the evening prayer of the church) Sundays: 6:30pm.

Note: Confessions and Personal Prayer times may be adjusted to accommodate weddings, baptisms, funerals, etc.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 21

8:00am †Elaine Heintz by Friends of the Family

Tuesday, December 22

8:00am †John & Diane Modaff by Don Modaff

Wednesday, December 23

8:00am †Tim Theis by Dave & Donna Medernach

Thursday, December 24-Christmas Eve

4:00pm †Neal Fichtel by Frank & Shelley Saltijeral

†Ivan Seppell by His Family

6:00pm †Phil & Shirley Parr by Al & Marilee Bacchi

Friday, December 25-Christmas Day

Midnight Our Parish Family

8:00am Special Intention

10:00am †Carol Glorioso by Family

Noon The Living & Deceased Members of the Robert and Angela Carey Family

Saturday, December 26

8:00am †Shirley Parr by A Friend

4:00pm †William & Barbara Griffin by Cherrie & Christopher Griffin

6:00pm Living & Deceased Members of the Robert and Angela Carey Family

Sunday, December 27

8:00am †Richard Bonifas by Family & Friends

10:00am Our Parish Family

12:00pm †Dick Bonifas by Wife, Arlene

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 28

8:00am †Anna Wolgast (Ann.) by Deb Denney

Tuesday, December 29

8:00am †Jane Taylor by Jim & Carol Hirner

Wednesday, December 30

8:00am †Elaine Heintz by Tom & Gladys Hefferman

Thursday, December 31

4:00pm †Shirley Parr by M/M Michael Mutersbaugh

Friday, January 1

8:00am †Eugen Calpin by Pete & Esther DeKing

10:00am Our Parish Family

Saturday, January 2

8:00am †Betty Ericksen by A Friend

4:00pm Our Parish Family

6:00pm Our Parish Family

Sunday, January 3

8:00am †Shirley Parr by Donald G. Brummel, Sr.

10:00am †Patricia Frank by Family

12:00pm Our Parish Family

Parish Office
1820 Church Road, Aurora, IL 60505
Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:30am-12:00 and 1:00-4:00pm;
Friday: 8:30-12:00
Phone: 630-851-1436
Fax: 630-851-2435
RE Fax: 630-851-3294
Cemetery Fax: 630-851-3066
Email: annunciationbvm-aurora@rockforddiocese.org
Website: annunciationchurchbvm.org
Facebook: facebook.com/annunciationbvmchurch

Parish Staff
Pastor.....Rev. Patrick Gillmeyer, OSB
Deacons...Rev. Mr. Mike Giblin, Rev. Mr. Domenic Petitti,
Rev. Mr. Kenneth Gay
Business Manager.....Mary Glosson
Parish/RE Secretary.....Melissa Francisco
Cemetery Secretary.....Jane Cebulski
Religious Ed. Director.....Mark Fletcher
Director of Music.....Dick Gardner
Head Organist.....Bob Kresz
Facilities Manager.....Manny Juarez
Email: mjuarez@rockforddiocese.org Cell: 630.538.2368

Annunciation BVM School
1840 Church Road, Aurora, IL 60505
Phone: 630-851-4300
Website: annunciationbvm.org
Principal.....Mary Elliott
Administrative Assistant.....Patti Brouch

We Welcome You!

We welcome you to our parish and our community. If you would like to become a member of Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church, please contact the parish office 630-851-1436 to register. Adult children of current members are also encouraged to register.

Baptism:

Please contact the parish office to schedule. Normally baptisms take place on Sunday afternoons, after the last Mass.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday.....4:00-4:45pm, or you may call the parish office for an appointment.

Marriage:

The bride, groom, or either of their parents must be registered, contributing members of the parish. Weddings must be scheduled no less than six months out in order to fulfill the diocesan marriage preparation requirements. If there were any previous marriages that were not annulled by the Church, then it must be pointed out that the annulment process could take up to two years.

Anointing of the Sick:

Whenever someone is seriously ill, hospitalized, or is dying, please contact the parish office immediately.

Communion for the Sick: Please call the parish office.

Adoration: Is normally celebrated on the first Friday of the month, after the 8:00 Mass, with Liturgy of the Word and Benediction at 4pm.

Bulletin Deadline:

If you would like something placed in the bulletin, please email the parish office by noon Monday at annunciationbvm-aurora@rockforddiocese.org.

Catholic Men In The World Today:

Meets every Saturday morning at 6:30am in the Parish Patio. For information on who we are and what we do, please email us at annmensgroup@aol.com.

The Knights of Columbus Council 736: meets on the second Monday of the month at 8:00. For contact information and calendar of events, go to the council website at: knightsofcolumbusil.org/council736.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults:

If you are an adult who would like to be baptized; or was baptized in the Catholic Church as an infant, but did not receive the Sacraments of Holy Communion or Confirmation; or are interested in becoming Catholic; we would like you to consider our RCIA program. For more information, please contact Mary at 630-851-1436.

Mass Schedule (Unless Otherwise Announced or Stated Elsewhere):

Weekend:

Saturday: 5:15pm
Sunday: 7:30am, 8:45am, 10:00am, 11:30am

Weekdays (School in session):

M. T. Th. F.: 6:30am, 8:00am
Wed.: 8:45am
Sat.: 8:00am

Weekdays (School not in session):

M.—F.: 6:30am, 8:00am
Sat.: 8:00am

Holy Days of Obligation (School in session):

6:30am, 8:00am, 11:00am, and 7:00pm,
only on the Holy Day itself (Unless otherwise
announced or stated).

Holy Days of Obligation (School not in session):

6:30am, 8:00am, and 7:00pm,
only on the Holy Day itself (Unless otherwise
announced or stated).