



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI
 Roman Catholic Church
 18825 Fuller Heights Road
 Triangle, Virginia 22172
 703-221-4044
www.stfrncis.org

Parish Office Hours - Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Fri. 9:00 AM—12:00 PM
Phone 703-221-4044
Fax 703-221-3246
In a Sacramental Emergency—703-468-1180

EUCCHARIST
 Saturday Vigil - 5:30 PM (Live Streamed)
 Saturday Vigil (Spanish) - 7:00 PM (Live Streamed)
 Sunday - 9:00 AM (Must Pre-Register); 11:00 AM (Must Pre-Register);
 5:30 PM (Must Pre-Register)
 1:30 PM - Español (Must Pre-Register)
 Monday - Friday - 8:45 AM

BAPTISM
 Baptismal preparation is required of all parents who have not attended a class within the last three years prior to the celebration of baptism. Please call the parish office.

RECONCILIATION
 Wednesday: 7:00—8:00 PM and by appointment (English)
 Saturday: 7:30—8:30 PM and by appointment (Spanish)

MARRIAGE
 Arrangements are made with the parish office.

VISITS TO AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK
 Inform the office when someone needs a visit from a Communion Minister or one of the Friars.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP
 To register in the parish, please fill out a registration form found in the vestibule, at the parish office, or on the Parish website, and return it to the office.

PARISH COUNCIL
 Terry Danner (Chair) 703-680-0860
 Maggie Eves (Vice Chair) 703-304-8058

PARISH SCHOOL 703-221-3868
 Grades Pre-school—8th FAX 703-221-0700
 Dr. Tricia Barber, Principal
tricia.barber@verizon.net
 Elizabeth Orille, Office Coordinator/Admissions
orillee.sfas@gmail.com

FRANCIS HOUSE: 703-221-6344
 (Emergency Financial Assistance)
 Francia Salguero, Director
francias@stfrncis.org
 2606 Heth Court, Dumfries, VA 22026

FRANCISCAN FRIARS 703-221-4044
 Fr. John O'Connor, O.F.M., Pastor x226
frjoconnor@stfrncis.org
 Fr. James Scullion, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar x227
frjscullion@stfrncis.org
 Fr. George Corrigan, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar x228
frgcorrigan@stfrncis.org
 Fr. Lalo Jara, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar x229
frljara@stfrncis.org

PERMANENT DEACON
 Dcn. Michael Gomes (Leave messages at Parish phone)
dcnmike@stfrncis.org

HISPANIC MINISTRY 703-221-6344
 Fr. Lalo Jara, O.F.M., Parochial Vicar
frljara@stfrncis.org
 Angelica Silva, Pastoral Associate
asalguero@stfrncis.org

PARISH STAFF 703-221-4044
 Marcia Connolly, Receptionist x221
marciac@stfrncis.org
 Chanel Marquis, Compliance Officer x222
cmarquis@stfrncis.org
 Barbara Stouffer, Bookkeeper x232
barbaras@stfrncis.org

FAITH FORMATION MINISTRY 703-221-3127
 Elizabeth Brack, Secretary x234
lizb@stfrncis.org
 Marianne Hayes, DRE x236
recoor@stfrncis.org
 Sheila Noble, Assistant DRE x238
snoble@stfrncis.org

STEPHEN MINISTRY 703-221-4044
 Kathy Walker, Director of Stephen Ministry x233
kwalker@stfrncis.org

MUSIC MINISTRY 703-221-4044 x231
 Nikole Girdaldi, Director
nikoleg@stfrncis.org
 Colleen Wells, Assistant Director
 703-221-4044 x231
cwells@stfrncis.org

CYM 540-273-0777
 Brandon Jubar, Coordinator of Youth Ministry
bjubar@stfrncis.org

“Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ’s return.”

— Pope Francis



Third Sunday
 of ADVENT

Joy

Mass Schedule



Christmas Eve (**NO** 8:45 a.m. Mass)

Please visit www.stfrancis.eventbrite.com to reserve a seat for one of the Masses listed below:

2:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m. Misa en español (Live Streamed)*

10:30 p.m. (Live Streamed)*

(No Mass at Midnight)

Christmas Day

9:00 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

* **Photography and Audio/Video Recording Notice:** By entering and by your presence here at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, you consent on behalf of yourself and/or your child(ren) to be photographed, recorded or live streamed during the liturgy (celebration of the Mass, Baptism, Wedding, etc.), event, or conference taking place.

You and your child(ren) are also consenting to the Parish and Diocese of Arlington using any photography, recording or live streaming content from this event for its own purposes.

All photography, recording or live streaming will be done in reliance on this consent given by you on behalf of yourself and/or child(ren) entering this area. If you do not agree to the foregoing, please do not enter this area.



Many thanks to all who are wearing masks in public. Wearing a mask can save a life. One of the best ways to show that you are pro-life is to wear a mask.

Bless A Child This Christmas

UN-TRIM-A-TREE



St. Francis of Assisi parish has supported the **Un-Trim-A-Tree Program** for more than 17 years, providing assistance for families in need in Dumfries, Triangle, and Quantico. This year St. Francis of Assisi will also be providing monetary donations to the following agencies: Birthright, Project Rachel and Gabriel, and Migration and Refugee of Catholic Charities. To assist you in the process we have some answers to your frequently asked questions (FAQ'S) below:

What do I do with the tag? Take it home, shop for the gift and return the tag taped to the present by the requested date. **Do Not Wrap the present**

What is the tag for? **The tag is very important** as it indicates the individual's information, what the individual wants and also the way the gifts are sorted and distributed. **When you pull a tag from one of the trees, copy the information down or take a picture of the tag** to ensure that if you lose the tag you will still have the pertinent information like: name, sex, age, code, and wish.

Where do I drop the Present? Gifts may be placed under the tree. They are removed daily.

Presents must be returned by Monday, December 14th.
(NO Exceptions)

Can I give additional items than those requests on the tag? Yes, we always welcome and make good use of additional presents.

Do you have questions about the Un-trim-A-Tree Program? Please contact **Angelica Silva** at **703-221-6344** or **571-409-8193** or asalguero@stfrancis.org. Thank you very much for your continuing support of this program.

NEW CHANGES TO THE MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 14, 2020

The Mass Intention book for 2021 Opens

NEW INFORMATION

Mass intention times are **Saturday 5:30pm; Sunday at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.** The **Spanish Mass is at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday.** The intentions for these Masses will be announced. We will be scheduling intentions for these Masses from **January 1st through May 30th only.**

Our weekday Masses will stay the same time at 8:45 a.m., (Monday-Friday). The intentions for these Masses will be taken for the entire year.

To schedule a Mass you may come in or call the Parish Office. We also have envelopes located on the tables in the vestibule of the church. Just drop the envelope in the catch-all slot. **We will be taking 3 intentions per Mass.**

St. Francis House Corner



St. Francis House an Outreach Program
from St. Francis of Assisi Parish
2606 Heth Court, Dumfries, VA 22026
703-221-6344
Francia Salguero and Angelica Silva

Meals for the Shelter

If you would like to provide support for the homeless shelter, please visit the following **Sign-Up Genius** link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904094EA5A622A3FD0-shelter>

or

Sign-Up Genius forms can be found on the parish website: www.stfrncis.org under Meals for the Shelter

For more information or to support our meal program for the shelters in Prince William County, contact the **Director of St. Francis House and Meals Coordinator, Francia Salguero** at francias@stfrncis.org or 703-221-6344.



The St. Francis of Assisi Respect Life Ministry would like you to know there is a Holy Hour available to participate live or by live streaming on December 15th for family healing. Please see information below:

Tuesday, December 15th-Holy Hour: Please participate live or by live streaming the Monthly Hour for Healing in Families. Details can be found at: <https://www.arlingtondiocese.org/family-life/praise-and-worship-holy-hour-december/>

NCBC President talks about COVID vaccines: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEx1SSV5IW8&list=PL9CQIldupc59F7ZFZYqjf_SMFj-rfd-O&index=3



There is a book located in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel next to the Tabernacle for you to write your own prayers of petition. During the *Prayer of the Faithful* during weekend liturgies, an intercession will call to mind those prayers in a general way. In this manner,

the public prayer of the church is bound to the many prayers of the faithful who live in the body of Christ!

Boletín Semanal

Despensa de Comida de La Casa de San Francisco
Casa St. Francisco Un Programa de Ayuda Social de la
Parroquia de St. Francisco de Asís
2606 Heth Court, Dumfries, VA 22026
703-221-6344
!Francia Salguero y Angelica Silva!

Readings for the Week of December 13, 2020

Monday	Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a; Matthew 21:23-27
Tuesday	Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13; Matthew 21:28-32
Wednesday	Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Luke 7:18b-23
Thursday	Genesis 49:2, 8-10; Matthew 1:1-17
Friday	Jeremiah 23:5-8; Matthew 1:18-25
Saturday	Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25
Sunday	2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Romans 16:25-27; Luke 1:26-38

Please Pray For

All those who are sick:

Stephanie; Bruce Schechter; Kathleen Schechter; Joseph and Mary O'Connor; Emily Clemente; Paul Colangelo; LeAnne Floom; Charles Dennison; Bob Ashburn; Sue Long; Charles Brown; Alda Kelly; Betsy Dennison; Fran Laskofski; Imelda Pine; David Back; Laurie Colligan; Aaron Childs; Denise Liss; Dale Hudson; Gary Ward; and Richard McClevey.

And for those recently deceased: Kathleen Schindler; John T. McCann (husband of Carmela McCann).

Please pray for the following who are serving abroad in harm's way: Leo N. Company; and S. Defibaugh.

The **Lion's Club** has **2 donation drop boxes located on the window sill in the vestibule.** Please consider donating your used eyeglasses to the Lion's Club. Your unwanted glasses will help someone see better. Thank you for always being so generous.



If you are moving/changing your address, please notify the Parish Office so that we may be able to keep our records up-to-date. **Change forms are also available on the tables in the vestibule,** from the Parish Office, or from the parish website www.stfrncis.org. If you are changing your phone number because you are using a cellular phone and/or forgoing your land phone, the Parish Office would also like that information. **Please call us at 703-221-4044, ext. 222. Thank you.**

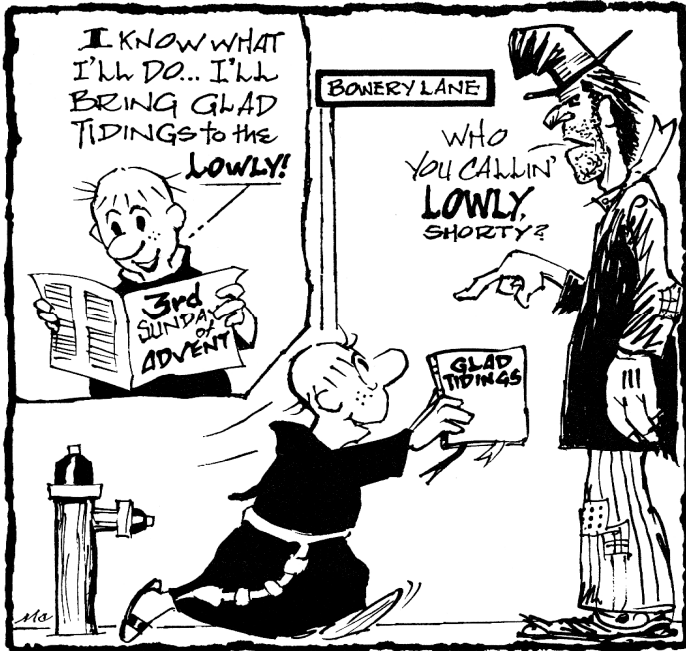
SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Summit Roofing** for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Faith Formation Office

Phone: 703-221-3127 Fax: 703-221-3246
Office Hours: Monday—Thursday: 8:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.
Friday: **Closed**

BROTHER JUNIPER



St. Francis High School Youth Ministry is called **REAL!** **REAL** stands for Respect, Engage, Accept, Live! **REAL** is open to all High School teens. It is a place to connect your life and your faith, and to share, support and have fun with other teens who are trying to live out God's call in their everyday lives. Please join us to see what **REAL** is all about!



REAL Youth Ministry is happening ONLINE!

REAL Time Online (Youth Group)

Wednesday, December 16th—8:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
All Teens Grades 9-12

NO REAL ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, December 23rd
CHRISTMAS WEEK

NO REAL ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, December 30th
NEW YEAR'S WEEK

Text @sfacym to 81010 to sign-up for Remind and get texts with meeting information.

Questions? Please contact Brandon Jubar at bjubar@stfrncis.org.

Wondering how you can still support the Parish during the COVID-19 situation? Please consider using some of our fast and easy options:



- You can use our Electronic Giving Form (located online and in the vestibule of the Church). Please simply complete the form and drop it off or mail it in to the Parish.
- You can set up Electronic Giving through your own financial institution.
- You can give electronically through the Donate Online (PayPal) section of the Parish website (<http://www.stfrncis.org/donations/#Donations>).

If you have any questions regarding electronic giving, please contact **Barbara Stouffer**, at the Parish Office at 703-221-4044, ext. 232 or e-mail barbaras@stfrncis.org.



Votive Candles

Envelopes are provided for candle money. **Please place them in the boxes located on the wall (next to the candles) in the church.**

A fresh perspective on the Sunday Readings

HIS WORD TODAY

By Rev. William J. Reilly



"Rejoice always, never cease praying, render constant thanks: such is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not stifle the spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test everything, retain what is good. Avoid any semblance of evil. May the God of peace make you perfect in holiness. He who calls you is trustworthy, therefore he will do it."

Midway through this holy season, we are provided great encouragement. Find the joy which comes from the presence of the Lord. Use these days as days of prayer. Paul tells his readers that this is God's will.

How often do we reflect on the words we pray, 'Thy will be done.' We are called to conform our will to His. What is His will for me, now, at this moment? The prophets have spoken, the church supports and encourages us. Paul told his followers that the will of God is that all be saved and come to knowledge of the truth.

During the past year we have heard and learned much about testing. People were tested to see if they were infected, had antibodies. People waited in lines to be tested and anxiously awaited results. We are told today to test everything and retain what is good. There are but two short weeks for us to take and pass the test. 'Come, Lord Jesus.'



Dear Parishioners, I have recently been asked by parishioners if it is ok to receive the COVID Vaccine? The issue is that over the years a number of the common vaccines that have been in use to prevent certain diseases have, as one of their components, tissue from aborted fetuses. I am enclosing an article describing the current positions of the USCCB (US Conference of Catholic Bishops).

Sincerely,
Fr. John O'Connor, O.F.M.

U.S. bishops' internal memo: Catholics can take Covid-19 vaccines

Michael J. O'Loughlin, November 23, 2020; Kevin Robles contributed to this report.

Days after some Catholic bishops shared misinformation on social media about Covid-19 vaccines that may soon hit the market, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops distributed a memo to all U.S. bishops stating that at least two of the vaccines are considered ethically sound. The memo also reminded bishops that church teaching allows for even the widespread use of vaccines whose origins are considered ethically unsound when other treatments are unavailable.

The Catholic Church teaches that it is unethical to use stem cells derived from aborted fetuses in medical research. Earlier this month, two bishops called into question the moral permissibility of using two vaccines created in the United States by Pfizer and Moderna, both of which appear headed toward regulatory approval. But the memo rejects those claims.

"Neither the Pfizer nor the Moderna vaccine involved the use of cell lines that originated in fetal tissue taken from the body of an aborted baby at any level of design, development, or production," reads the Nov. 23 memo, signed by Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades, who chairs the bishops' committee on doctrine, and Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann, the head of the committee on pro-life activities.

*The internal memo obtained by **America** corrects "some confusion in the media regarding the moral permissibility of using the vaccines." But that confusion is not limited to unspecified media reports. At least two bishops have cast doubt on the moral permissibility of the vaccines.*

Bishop Joseph Strickland, the head of the Diocese of Tyler, Tex., tweeted on Nov. 16: "Moderna vaccine is not morally produced. Unborn children died in abortions and then their bodies were used as 'laboratory specimens'. I urge all who believe in the sanctity of life to reject a vaccine which has been produced immorally." Bishop Strickland is also listed as a speaker at an online anti-vaccination conference this fall, giving a talk entitled "Rejecting the Culture of Death to Embrace the Sanctity of Life."

On the same day as Bishop Strickland's tweet, Bishop Joseph Brennan, head of the Diocese of Fresno, said in a video, "I won't be able to take a vaccine, brothers and sisters, and I encourage you not to, if it was developed with material from stem cells that were derived from a baby that was aborted, or material that was cast off from artificial insemination of a human embryo."

But the memo from the U.S.C.C.B. rejects both those claims, pointing to a report from the pro-life Charlotte Lozier Institute, which called both the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines "ethically uncontroversial."

The bishops' memo states that some of the testing of the vaccines was done with what it called a "tainted cell line" but said the connection between the two vaccines and abortion is "relatively remote."

"Some are asserting that if a vaccine is connected in any way with tainted cell lines then it is immoral to be vaccinated with them. This is an inaccurate portrayal of Catholic moral teaching," the memo states.

The memo explains that Catholic teaching prohibits the use of stem cells derived from aborted fetuses, but it notes that there exist different levels of moral responsibility, ranging from the creator of the vaccine to recipients. Even if a vaccine is tied to controversial stem cells, the memo says, "it is morally permissible to accept vaccination when there are no alternatives and there is a serious risk to health."

Catholics should protest against the use of stem cells derived from aborted fetuses by pharmaceutical companies, the memo states, invoking teaching from The Pontifical Academy for Life. But, the memo states, "public health must not be sacrificed."

The U.S.C.C.B. released a similar memo in 2007 (updated in 2015), which stated that "Catholics may licitly accept vaccination for themselves and their children using a vaccine based on tissue from abortion," citing the case of pregnant women or extreme risk to the public health. Yesterday, the Pontifical Academy for Life tweeted that it found nothing morally objectionable in either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.

Brian Kane, the senior director of ethics for the Catholic Health Association of the United States, said Catholics should be aware of the origins of vaccines but added the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines are not ethically compromised.

"In terms of the moral principles of being concerned about the use of any pharmaceuticals that were developed from aborted fetuses, that is certainly an issue that we all want to be cognizant of and try to avoid their use," he said. "With that in mind, the Pfizer and Moderna Covid vaccines that are coming out are not even tainted with that moral problem."



SATURDAY, 5:30 PM	December 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe †Audrey A. Proscia In Thanksgiving Fiona and Hazel Winston
SUNDAY, 7:30 AM 9:00 AM	December 13—Third Sunday of Advent †Alice Tippit †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik People of the Parish †Joan Bachman
10:45 AM 12:15 PM	†Tyler J. Mangus †Thomas V. Vitale †George Beck
1:30 PM 5:30 PM	Misa en español †Jane Wilson †Rachela Garrott
MONDAY, 8:45 AM	December 14—St. John of the Cross The Traywick Family †Rosario L. Miles †Robert H. Wagner
TUESDAY, 8:45 AM	December 15—Advent Weekday Sarah Ecklund †Paul Hurley †Jean Traywick
WEDNESDAY, 8:45 AM	December 16—Advent Weekday †Dwayne E. Gonsorcik †Kathryn Gonsorcik John Powell, Jr. and Family
THURSDAY, 8:45 AM	December 17—Advent Weekday †Giovanni Santoro †Carter Swenson †Catherine Van Thi Chou
FRIDAY, 8:45 AM	December 18—Advent Weekday †Judy Carter †Rose Marie DonLon †Kevin Ryan Herrmann
SATURDAY, 5:30 PM	December 19—Advent Weekday †Cy Kelly †Alice Tippit †James R. Parks

Mass Intentions on Sunday, December 20, 2020

7:30 AM	
9:00 AM	†Dwayne E. Gonsorcik
10:45 AM	†George Diem X. Bui People of the Parish
12:15 PM	
1:30 PM	Misa en español
5:30 PM	†Jane Wilson

Christmas Novena Mass cards are available in the vestibule of the church. Please return the envelope with those names to be prayed for to the church by **December 17, 2020.**



The Public Mass Schedule for Sunday, December 20th is as follows:

9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.
1:30 p.m. (Spanish)
5:30 p.m.

Please visit www.stfrancis.eventbrite.com to reserve a seat for one of the Masses.

Please visit <http://www.stfrancis.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/How-to-Use-Eventbrite-At-a-Glance.pdf> for Printable Instructions – Includes English and Spanish.

Reserved Seating Video Instructions

Go to <https://youtu.be/9KZ-Q49uG88> to learn how to Select Seats for Mass in Eventbrite.

Go to <https://youtu.be/SKpgg09Nlsqw> to learn how to Select Seats Using the Map in Eventbrite.

Go to <https://youtu.be/S7973o14sfA> to learn how to Return/Cancel a Seat Ticket Order.

When attending a public Mass, please be advised of the follow:


- Please arrive at least 20 minutes before the start of Mass
- Each person attending Mass must have a ticket (hard copy or on cell phone)
- **A face mask is required for anyone 2 years of age or older**
- Each person attending Mass will be required to have a temperature check before entering the church
- Sit in assigned seating areas only
- Avoid touching your face
- Stay home if you have any symptoms of a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, or may have been exposed to COVID-19

Please Note: All the faithful of the Diocese of Arlington are **dispensed from the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation until further notice.** We will continue to Live Stream Mass on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m. until further notice.

If you would like to make a donation for **Christmas Memorial Flowers**, envelopes are available on the tables in the vestibule. Anyone who wishes to remember their loved ones can fill out the information on the envelope and drop it in the **catch-all slot on the wall in the vestibule.** Those names will be listed in the bulletin during the Christmas Season.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



KID'S KORNER

Gospel Today
 Third Sunday of Advent | John 1:6-8, 19-28

BE AWARE, PREPARE, REJOICE!
 John the Baptist denies being the Christ. He is sent to testify to the light, the coming of Christ, light of the world.

Year B

THIRD WEEK OF
ADVENT
 ARRIVAL OR COMING OF CHRIST

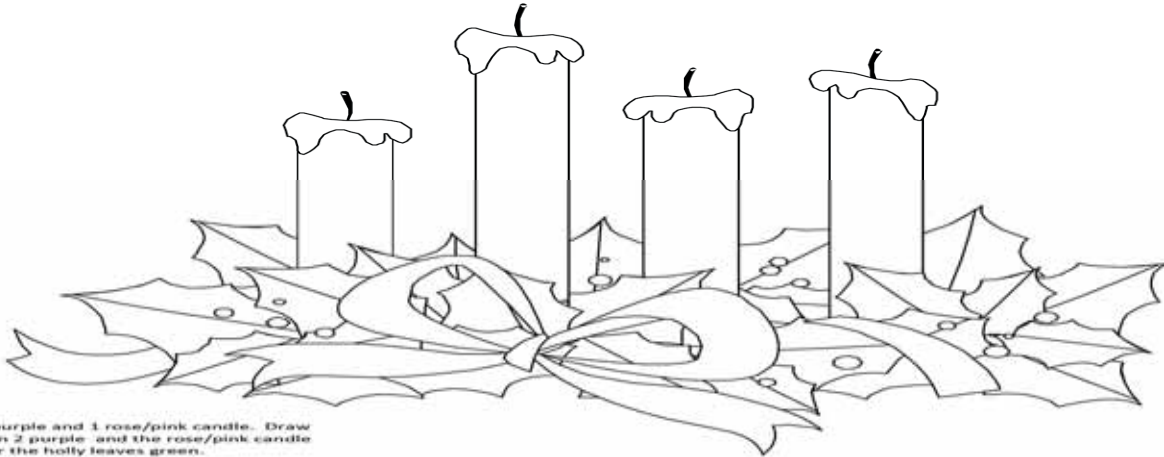
WEEK 3, evening lighting prayer
 Prayer said by Father or head of household

"O Lord, we beg Thee, incline Thy ear to our prayers and enlighten the darkness of our minds by the grace of Thy visitation. Through Christ our Lord, Amen".

Mother lights the first & second purple and the rose/pink candle.

GAUDETE SUNDAY

The Rose Candle
 The rose/pink candle represents hope and joy. Rejoice! We are halfway through Advent and Christmas is near. Christ, light of the world, is coming soon.



Color 3 purple and 1 rose/pink candle. Draw flames on 2 purple and the rose/pink candle and color the holly leaves green.

THANK YOU
 TO ALL ESSENTIAL WORKERS!




GOD
 BLESS
 AMERICA



Remembering
 those who made the
 ultimate sacrifice
 ... for our country. ...



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CHRISTOPHER K. BROWN
 Certified Public Accountant

703-221-2899

Christopher K. Brown, CPA, PLLC
 17739 Main Street, Suite 340
 Dumfries, VA 22026

christopherkbrowncpa@gmail.com



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