Basilica of Our Lady Immaculate

Advent and Christmas 2026



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:
We invite you to take part in some of the events happening in our parish this Advent season. We will honour the Lord's coming with Scripture, Prayer, and music. Please take advantage of the extra time for confession, as the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a wonderful way to prepare for Christmas.

May God Bless You and Your Families
During The Advent and Christmas Seasons,

Bishop Ustrzycki, Father Jan, Father Bill, Father Jonathan,
Deacon Quinto, and all the Parish Team

Parish Office Closures During the Christmas Holidays
The Parish Office will close at 4:30pm on Wednesday, December 23, and open again at 9:00am on Monday, December 28. It will also close at 12:00pm on Thursday, December 31, and open at 9:00am on Monday, January 2, 2027.

Advent 2026

An Advent Scripture Challenge
This Advent, you are invited to join fellow parishioners once again in reading the Gospel According to St. Luke. St. Luke presents us with an intimate portrait of Jesus as the healer, and the friend of the poor and the sinner. Consider reading it as a family during Advent, and then read the account of the Nativity from St. Luke's Gospel on Christmas Eve.

Continue your Scripture Journey
On the following days of the Christmas Season, sit before your Christmas Tree, or your Nativity scene, and take a few minutes alone, or as a family, to reflect upon the following passages of Scripture:

Christmas Eve	St. Luke 2:1-20
Christmas Day	St. John 1:1-14
Epiphany (*Sunday, January 3*)	St. Matthew 2:1-12

Advent Service of Lessons and Carols - Sunday, November 29 at 4:00pm
Plan to attend our annual ***Advent Service of Lessons and Carols***, as a way to begin this season in prayer and recollection. This year's service will be an ecumenical endeavour with St. George's Anglican Church. The Service will be held at 4:00 pm on Sunday, November 29th at the Basilica. Please join us and welcome our friends from St. George's Church.

Holy Hour and Mass on Saturday Mornings
On Saturday, December 12 and Saturday, December 19, Mass will be celebrated at 9:00am. These Masses will be preceded by a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 8:00am, with Confessions from 8:00-8:45, and the Office of Lauds *(Morning Prayer)* at 8:30am.

Novena of Masses for The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Once again, this year we will celebrate a Novena *(nine days)* of Masses leading to the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, our Parish's Patronal Feast Day. Novena Masses will be held at 7:30 each morning from November 29 to December 7, with reflections and the Novena Prayers each day. *Please Note – On the weekdays of the Novena, 7:30am Mass Only.*

The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Tuesday, December 8
The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception is our parish's Patronal Feast Day. This year, it will also mark the beginning of the celebrations for our Parish's 200th Anniversary.

Our Parish Feast Day will be celebrated as follows:

8:30am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Morning Prayer and Rosary Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all Day
6:15pm	Vespers *(Evening Prayer)*
6:30pm	Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm	Solemn Mass for the Immaculate Conception. 200th Anniversary Reception in the Parish Hall after Mass

Bambinelli Sunday Sunday, December 13
On the Third Sunday of Advent, also called Gaudete Sunday, you are invited to take part in one of the newer traditions in our Catholic life. Please bring the Baby Jesus statues from your home nativity set(s). The images will be blessed at all of the Masses on ***"Bambinelli Sunday"*** before you place them in your home's Nativity.

Advent Evening of Reflection Wednesday, December 16 6:30 pm
On Wednesday, December 16, you are all welcome to an Advent Evening of Reflection. We will begin with a brief Penitential Service at 6:30pm, followed by Confessions until 8:30pm. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place during the confession time, with Benediction at 8:30.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation During Advent

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be celebrated:

Saturday, December 5	4:00pm – 5:00pm
Saturday, December 12 and 19	8:00am – 8:45am 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Wednesday, December 16	6:30pm – 8:30pm
Tuesday, December 22	4:30pm – 6:30pm

Christmas 2026 Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve — **Thursday, December, 24**

The Basilica will open at 4:00pm

Vigil Masses of Christmas — 5:00pm and 7:00pm

Solemn Mass of Christmas

The Basilica will open at 11:00pm — *Carols begin at 11:30pm*

Solemn Midnight Mass — 12:00 Midnight

Christmas Day — **Friday, December 25**

The Basilica will open at 8:00am

Masses of Christmas Day — 9:00am and 11:00am

Feast of St. Stephen — *Saturday. Dec. 26* — *9:00am*

The Feast of the Holy Family — **Sunday, December 27**

Saturday, December 26 — No Confessions or 5:15pm Mass

Sunday, December 27 — Masses at 9:00am and 11:00am

Feast of the Holiday Innocents	*Mon. Dec. 28*	*9:00am*
Feast of St. Thomas Becket	*Tues. Dec. 29*	*9:00am*
6th Day in the Octave of Christmas	*Wed. Dec. 30*	*9:00am*
Feast of St. Sylvester	*Thurs. Dec. 31*	*9:00am*

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God — **Dec. 31/Jan. 1**

Thursday, December 31	Vigil Mass	5:15pm
Friday, January 1	One Mass Only	10:00am

Please Note that January 1 is a Holy Day of Obligation