



VISION is to offer every person a life changing encounter with Jesus, grow disciples and send them on mission.

# ADVENT 2023 *Preparing with expectant hearts*

## Advent RECONCILIATION TIMES

MONDAY DEC 18th through FRIDAY DEC 23rd  
7pm - 8:30pm

TUESDAYS DEC 5th, 12th, 19th  
7pm - 8pm

WEDNESDAYS DEC 6th, 13th, 20th  
12:30pm - 1:30pm

SATURDAYS DEC 9th, 16th, 23rd  
9am - 10am  
1:30pm - 2:30pm

PREPARE YOUR HEART TO RECEIVE *Jesus*

Stir up our hearts, Lord, to make ready the paths of Your only begotten Son.

**ADVENT** WITH C.S. LEWIS

**Hallow**  
"The Advent season continues to prepare and delight in the joy and peace of Jesus. Thank you, Hallow!"

**OVERVIEW**  
Surrender at all times. Advent seasons and prepare your heart for Jesus the savior before with readings from the works of C.S. Lewis, joined by award-winning poets and the voice of Adam in the Sonnet series. Liam Neeson, Jonathan Roumie and an incredible religious sister, will guide us through prayer and reflection on these powerful writings to prepare our hearts for his presence and rediscover the wonder of Christ's coming into this world and into our hearts.

**IN THIS ADVENT JOURNEY, WE WILL...**  
Reflect on excerpts from the works of C.S. Lewis, including *The Four Loves*, *Mere Christianity*, *The Great Divorce*, and more.  
Meditate on the three evenings of Christ - personally into each of our hearts, His Second Coming at the end of time, and as an infant in Bethlehem.  
Listen, pray, and sing along with traditional Christmas hymns from Ben Neeson, the Boxell Family, and Matt Maher; Hallow Original Advent Lo-Fi, Christmas chant, and more Advent and Christmas music.  
Pray with the whole family as the Mary on the Mount Kids Prayer Challenge.  
Dive deeper into the Gospel each Sunday with special reflections.  
Grow in humility to prepare your heart for Jesus and welcome Him into your heart.

**WEEKLY THEMES**

WEEK	Theme	Event
WEEK 1	Wonder	Christ's Coming at Christmas
WEEK 2	Repentance	Christ's Second Coming
WEEK 3	Openness	Christ Coming Into Our Hearts
WEEK 4	Christmas	Celebrate the Incarnation

**MON** C.S. Lewis Reflection with Liam Neeson & Jonathan Roumie  
**TUES** C.S. Lewis Reflection with Liam Neeson & Jonathan Roumie  
**WED** Imaginative Prayer  
**THUR** C.S. Lewis Reflection with Liam Neeson & Jonathan Roumie  
**FRI** Thematic Challenge with Jonathan Roumie  
**SAT** Music Meditation  
**SUN** Gospel Reflection

Visit [hallow.com/pray25](http://hallow.com/pray25) to learn more.

**Angel Giving Program**

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

ASSIST FAMILIES IN NEED

THANK YOU FOR ASSISTING FAMILIES IN NEED OVER THE HOLIDAYS

THIS YEAR'S PROGRAM BENEFITS THOSE INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED BY SVOP, HESED HOUSE, & WATERLEAF WOMEN'S CENTER

MONETARY DONATIONS CAN BE MADE UNDER THE ANGEL GIVING FUND VIA OUR ONLINE GIVING PORTAL OR VIA CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO OUR LADY OF MERCY WITH "ANGEL GIVING" IN THE MEMO FOR TAX PURPOSES. ACCEPTED THRU 12/31.

For Questions, Connect With [lydias@olmercy.com](mailto:lydias@olmercy.com)

*Christmas*  
FLOWER MEMORIALS

Memorialize a poinsettia around the altar

THIS CHRISTMAS WE WILL DECORATE THE CHURCH WITH POINSETTIAS AROUND THE ALTAR. FLOWERS CAN ALSO BE MEMORIALIZED BY USING ONE OF THE FLOWER ENVELOPES FOUND IN THE NARTHEX. THE RECOMMENDED DONATION IS \$20.

**SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

HOLY MASS ON

THURSDAY DECEMBER 7  
7PM *Vigil Mass*

FRIDAY DECEMBER 8  
8AM  
7PM

*Blessed Virgin Mary*

SUNDAY 10 DEC, 2023

JUSTICE & PEACE MINISTRY'S

**Fair Trade Sale**

IN THE PARISH CENTER AFTER MASSES

THIS IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT ARTISANS AND FARMERS THROUGH FAIR TRADE PURCHASES

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

ten thousand villages

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

**Retirement Fund for Religious**

THE SECOND COLLECTION DURING THE MASSES ON DEC 9 & 10

*Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe*  
IN THE CHURCH

**MASS** Thurs 12/12 @ 6:30pm  
English Mass with Spanish Music  
Roses for the image will be available in the narthex  
Reception to Follow in PLC

**Posadas & Pastorela**

**POSADAS** Fri 12/15 @ 7pm  
Sun 12/17 @ 7pm **IN THE CHURCH**  
Mon 12/18 @ 7pm  
Rosary, Songs, Prayer

**PASTORELA** Tues 12/19 @ 7pm **IN THE PLC**  
Christmas Play & Potluck Dinner

The Tiama of Juan Diego

WWW.OLMERCY.COM/PRAAYERFORME/ HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU TODAY?

FOLLOW US ON  @OURLADYINAURORA

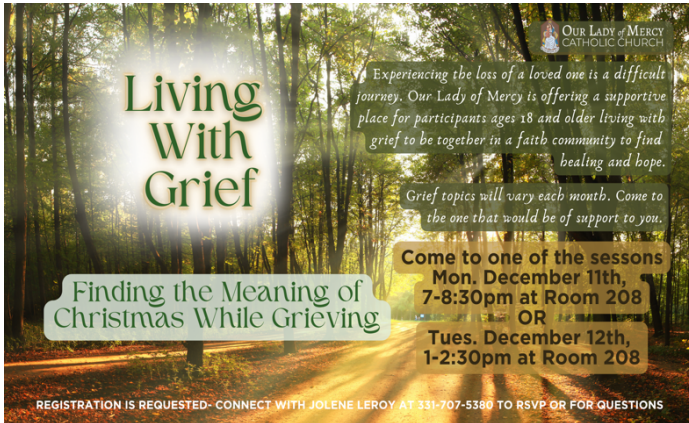
COMZOO

stay informed

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE OUR EMAILS



<https://ourladyofmercyaurora.flocknote.com/everyone>



**Living With Grief**

Experiencing the loss of a loved one is a difficult journey. Our Lady of Mercy is offering a supportive place for participants ages 18 and older living with grief to be together in a faith community to find healing and hope.

Grief topics will vary each month. Come to the one that would be of support to you.

**Come to one of the sessions**  
**Mon. December 11th, 7-8:30pm at Room 208**  
**OR**  
**Tues. December 12th, 1-2:30pm at Room 208**

**Finding the Meaning of Christmas While Grieving**

REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED- CONNECT WITH JOLENE LEROY AT 331-707-5380 TO RSVP OR FOR QUESTIONS



**Simbang Gabi**  
*Misa de Gallo or Mass at Dawn*  
**Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023 @ 6pm**

Mass starts promptly at 6:00pm and will be followed immediately by a ticketed reception in the PLC

 **OUR LADY of MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Please visit and like us on **facebook.com/ssgsaolm** to get up to date information regarding:



\* Registration \* Tickets \* Fundraising \* Volunteer Opportunities

Contact Us  
 Email: [sgcommittees@gmail.com](mailto:sgcommittees@gmail.com)  
 Text: (331)588-5556

VISIT [CATHOLICCHARITIESJOLIET.ORG](http://CATHOLICCHARITIESJOLIET.ORG) FOR MORE INFO  
 No identification or information will be required or collected.  
 This is open to anyone in-need of food!

Meat, produce, nonperishable items will be given out  
 Please clear space in your trunk or backseat  
 Drive thru distribution of food



**MOBILE FOOD PANTRY**  
 **catholic charities** **4:30pm to 6pm Wednesday 12/20**  
 Diocese of Joliet

**BLESSING OF BABY JESUS**

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 23RD 12:30PM IN THE CHURCH**



**BRING BABY JESUS FROM YOUR FAMILY CRÈCHE TO THE CHURCH FOR A BLESSING**

This year marks the 800th Anniversary of when St. Francis created the First Nativity Crèche in the year 1223!

the Blessing of the Baby Jesus was first instituted by St. John Paul II. On the Third Sunday of Advent, the children of Rome are encouraged to bring the baby Jesus from each of their Nativity sets to St. Peter's Square. Following the Sunday Angelus address, the Pope blesses the figurines.

 **OUR LADY of MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*Christmas Concert*  
 CHAMBER ENSEMBLE | OLM CHOIR | STRING QUARTET | TRUMPET

**THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS** **DEC 24 11:15PM**  
 BEFORE THE MIDNIGHT MASS

 **OUR LADY of MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH**

[OLMERCY.COM/CHRISTMAS2023](http://OLMERCY.COM/CHRISTMAS2023)

 **OUR LADY of MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 701 SOUTH COLA ROAD, AURORA  
IN BETWEEN COLA UNIVERSITY DRIVE & WILSON DRIVE

[OLMERCY.COM/CHRISTMAS2023](http://OLMERCY.COM/CHRISTMAS2023)

**SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING MASSES**

<b>Christmas Eve</b> <b>3PM CHURCH &amp; PLC</b>	<b>Feast of the Holy Family</b>
<b>SUNDAY DEC 24 5PM</b>	<b>SATURDAY DEC 30 4PM</b>
<b>7PM</b>	<b>SUNDAY DEC 31 8AM</b>
<b>12AM MIDNIGHT MASS</b>	<b>10AM</b>
<small>PRECEDED BY CHRISTMAS CONCERT @ 11:15PM</small>	<b>12PM</b>
<b>Christmas Day</b> <b>8AM</b>	<b>Solemnity of Mary Mother of God</b>
<b>MONDAY DEC 25 10AM</b>	<b>MONDAY JAN 1 @ 9AM &amp; 7PM</b>
<b>12PM</b>	

*Octave of Christmas*

**SCHEDULE**

**DEC 26 - 29**  
 REGULAR DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

**DEC 30-31**  
 REGULAR WEEKENED MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**JAN 1 - MARY, MOTHER OF GOD**  
 9AM & 7PM MASS

*The Parish Office will be closed Friday 12/22 and will reopen on Tuesday 1/2*

WWW.OLMERCY.COM/PRA YERFORME / HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU TODAY?

**details & registration**  
**WWW.OLMERCY.COM/CONSUMINGFIRE**

**TUESDAYS @ 7PM IN-PERSON**  
 with a twice a month social gathering



**Consuming Fire**  
**YOUNG ADULT GROW GROUP**

connect with us at [cfyagg@gmail.com](mailto:cfyagg@gmail.com) for any questions