

# Catholic Communities

Rev. William Pifher – Parish Pastor

## Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church

## St. Peter Catholic Church

Sunday  
November 30, 2025  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent



409 E. Main St. / P.O. Box 429  
Fayette, OH 43521  
419-237-2441  
Office Hours – Tues. & Thurs.  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

### MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday 8:30 a.m.  
(Reconciliation 30 minutes  
before Mass or by appointment)  
Thursday 9:00 a.m.

### PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Sherry Renner  
Office Manager/Secretary  
OLOMFayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Tami Baker  
Bookkeeper  
OLOMBookkeeper@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com

Mary Bird  
CRE  
OLOMCre@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com



614 N. Defiance St.  
Archbold, Ohio 43502  
Rectory – 419-446-9288  
Office hours – Tues. & Thurs.  
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.  
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday 9:00 a.m.  
Thursday 9:00 a.m.

### PARISH OFFICE STAFF

Kim Garrow  
419-446-2150  
Office Manager/Secretary  
stpeter@rtecexpress.net

Doug Williams  
Bookkeeper

Deb Herring  
CRE



## PASTORAL COUNCIL

Ron Eisel – President  
Pat Eisel  
Ray Hollstein  
Mike Burkholder  
Traci Maginn  
Barbara Roby

## FINANCE COUNCIL

Terry Kovar  
Barb Bruggeman  
Joanna Marry

Council meetings are generally held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of the month  
5:45 p.m. – Finance  
6:15 p.m. – Pastoral



Clothing items can be donated via our drop off site on the east side of the building. Our store is open on Thursdays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Contact Rhonda Monahan at 517-306-7986 for information

**OUR LADY OF MERCY WEBSITE (bulletin online)**  
Stpeterarchbold.com/  
our-lady-of-mercy

## BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please note that the bulletin deadline is **Tuesday by noon**. Please either call, email or put in the collection basket any announcement for the following weeks bulletin.

## Welcome to Our Lady of Mercy

### Parish Mission Statement

*Our Lady of Mercy Catholic Church is united by our commitment to minister to the physical and spiritual needs of our rural families and steward the resources entrusted to us. We value the diversity within our Catholic community and invite all to walk with us on our journey of faith.*

### New Parishioners

A warm welcome as you enter our Parish Community! You are asked to register at the parish office or see the pastor as soon as possible. If you are moving from the parish, please inform the office so we may remove your name from our parish records.

### Sacrament of Baptism

Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for Baptism. A month's notice would be helpful.

### Sacrament of Marriage

Initial arrangements are to be made *six* months prior of your planned wedding date. The Diocesan policy is to allow sufficient time for the couple to make adequate preparation to receive the sacrament. Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher at 419-446-9288 to make arrangements.

### Anointing of the sick

Please call the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher 419-446-9288 to make arrangements for a visit.

### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults(OCIA)

Having questions about the Catholic faith? Thinking of joining the Catholic Church? You can learn more by contacting the office 419-237-2441 or Father Pifher 419-446-9288 for the process.

### Prayer Chain

Anyone wishing to submit prayer requests can email or call Our Lady of Mercy office.

Email: [olomprayerchain@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:olomprayerchain@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com)

### Privacy issues for Parish Office:

**IMMEDIATE FAMILY** - must contact the Parish Office for all prayer requests to be posted in the parish bulletin. Contact Sherry Renner at the parish office at 419-237-2441, no later than Thursday at noon or email to [olomfayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:olomfayette@olom2441.onmicrosoft.com) with the exact verbiage requested. By law, the parish office does not divulge private information we receive from hospitals

November 30, 2025 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

**ROSARY WILL BE PRAYED SUNDAY'S AT 7:55 A.M.**

**BFF'S**

BIG BFF will after Mass today. Join us in the basement after Mass for Breakfast, friends and fellowship.

If your family would like to provide donuts and/or beverages for Feb. 8, Mar. 8, or May 3 please sign up on the form on the cry room door.

**DECEMBER CALENDAR**

Please pick up Our Lady of Mercy December calendar on the back tables.

**FAITH FORMATION (Religious Education)**

Class December 7, Penance service.

**FAITH FORMATION CHRISTMAS**

The Faith Formation classes will be saving their coins in baby bottles for the Community Pregnancy Center, November 23<sup>rd</sup> thru January 11, 2026. They would like to invite Our Lady of Mercy parishioners to join them. Please pick up a baby bottle on the back tables.

**OFFICE HOURS**

The office will be open this week on Tuesday, December 2 & Wednesday, December 3 , 9 a.m -3 p.m.

**AREA PENANCE SERVICES**

St. Caspar – Wauseon, Dec. 3, 2025 6 p.m.

Holy Trinity – Assumption, Dec. 17 6:30 p.m.

**SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING**

If you are interested in ringing the Salvation Army bell for the holidays, please contact Fayette Methodist Church (Dec. 5 or Dec. 6). Dec. 12 & 13 and Dec. 19 and 20 please contact the Van Zile's.

**ST. PETER NEWS**

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

Every Tuesday starting at 8 a.m. ending with Mass at 7 p.m.

**DECEMBER 6, 2025**

1<sup>st</sup> Saturday

Rosary 8:30 a.m.

Mass 9:00 a.m.

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE**

A dinner will be served on December 13, 2025 in celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe after 4:30 p.m. Mass.

*Did you know that Deacon Larry Zachrich is also available for Baptisms and Weddings? Contact Larry at 419-966-7091.*

**FAYETTE/SURROUNDING  
AREA COMMUNITY EVENTS**

---Dec. 7 – Fayette Opera House – A Clark Family Christmas – 2:00 p.m.

---Dec, 13 – Fayette Winter Market  
4 p.m. – 7 p.m. downtown Fayette

## *THIS WEEK'S MASS SCHEDULE*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Intention</i>
Sun., Nov. 30	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	For the People Al Holland Betty Zimmerman
Mon., Dec. 1	NO MASS		
Tues., Dec. 2	6:30 p.m.	SP	For the People
Wed., Dec. 3	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Thurs., Dec. 4	9:00 a.m.	OLOM	Giovanni Stella
Fri., Dec. 5	9:00 a.m.	SP	For the People
Sat., Dec. 6 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	SP SP SP	Rosary For the People John Grieser Lenny, Andy, Cari Breidenbach
Sun., Dec. 7	8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	OLOM SP	Eddie Tidwell Rosemary Pontious Frank Grime Cathy Warner

### PRAYERS FOR / FROM PARISHIONERS

Please keep the following person(s) / intention(s) in your prayers this week.

Shirley Taylor  
Denise Miller

Welcoming Jesus into our hearts this Advent

If you have someone or an intention you would like the Parish to pray for, please contact the office at 419-237-2441 or email [olomprayer@olom2441.onmicorsoft.com](mailto:olomprayer@olom2441.onmicorsoft.com) before noon on Tuesday.

## NEXT WEEK'S MINISTERS – DECEMBER 7, 2025

Greeters / Gifts	Ron & Pat Eisel
Proclaimer	Pat Eisel
Servers	Kennedy Kunkle
Ushers	Ron & Pat Eisel
Money Counters	Phil Baker/Joanna Marry/Michelle Miron

### SACRIFICIAL OFFERING REPORT

Reported for November 23, 2025

Sunday Offertory (11 envelopes)	\$ 525.00
Loose Offerings	\$ 345.85
<b>BUDGET</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,747.00</u></b>
Over / (Under)	(\$ 876.15)

### OTHER COLLECTIONS

CPC Jar & Votives	<u>\$ 20.00</u>
<b>TOTAL COLLECTIONS</b>	<b>\$ 890.85</b>
(Sunday Offertory & Other)	

## SAINTS OF THE DAY ([www.morningoffering.com](http://www.morningoffering.com))

Week of November 30 – December 6

**St. Andrew** (1st c.) was the first of the twelve Apostles to follow Jesus, after being a disciple of St. John the Baptist, the Precursor of Christ. St. Andrew was a fisherman by trade and the younger brother of St. Peter. Andrew recognized Jesus as the prophesied Messiah and left his fishing trade behind to follow Jesus, convincing his brother Simon Peter to do the same. After Jesus' ascension into heaven, Andrew preached the Gospel throughout the world as commanded by Christ. He ministered and preached in Asia Minor before finally being martyred by crucifixion in the city of Patras in Achaea, Greece. He was tied to an X-shaped cross by request, not deeming himself worthy to die on the same kind of cross as his Savior. Andrew suffered for two days before dying, while continuing to preach Christ from his cross. St. Andrew's feast day is November 30th.

**St. Edmund Campion** (1540–1581) was born in London, England, the son of a bookseller. He was a promising student and went on to become an esteemed and celebrated Oxford scholar, winning the high regard of Queen Elizabeth who admired his wit and pleasant disposition. Although raised Catholic, he was ordained an Anglican deacon. Unsettled by his move away from the Church, he repented and returned to the Catholic faith. While in disguise to protect his safety following his reversion, he witnessed the martyrdom of a fellow scholar and recognized his vocation. He went to Rome and became a Jesuit priest, and while assigned to minister in Moravia he received a vision of the Blessed Virgin Mary who foretold his martyrdom. He later returned to England as an undercover priest during the severe persecution of Catholics upon the Pope's excommunication of Queen Elizabeth. His mission was to strengthen Catholics wavering under government pressure and win converts among the Protestants. St. Edmund was eventually hunted down, imprisoned in the Tower of London, and tortured. After being found guilty of treason, he said, "In condemning us, you condemn all your own ancestors, all our ancient bishops and kings, all that was once the glory of England — the island of saints, and the most devoted child of the See of Peter." After spending his last days in prayer, he was dragged with two fellow priests to be hanged, drawn, and quartered on December 1st, 1581 at 41 years of age. His feast day is December 1st.

**St. Bibiana**, also known as Vibiana or Viviana (d. 361), was born in Rome, the daughter of Christian parents who were martyred in the persecutions of Roman Emperor Julian the Apostate. Her father was severely beaten and sent to live in exile as a slave, but died from his wounds. Her mother was beheaded shortly after. St. Bibiana and her sister, Demetria, were stripped of their possessions and imprisoned in their family home in utter poverty and hunger. They were offered reward if only they would renounce Jesus, but the sisters, strong in faith and prayer, said they would rather die. Finding that they did not die from lack of food, the Roman governor summoned them. Demetria, after professing the faith, died at his feet. St. Bibiana was given to the guardianship of a pagan woman who tried to force her into prostitution. St. Bibiana refused and resolutely maintained her faith in Christ. For this she was beaten, tied to a pillar, and cruelly scourged. She eventually died from her tortures, and her body was discarded to be eaten by wild dogs. The animals, however, would not touch her. Her body was recovered by a priest and buried, with a chapel built over the tomb for her veneration. St. Bibiana's feast day is December 2nd.

**St. Francis Xavier** (1506–1552) was born in his family castle in Navarre in what is today Spain. While studying in Paris he met St. Ignatius of Loyola and joined him in the foundation of the Society of Jesus. Instead of devoting himself to academic pursuits as he had planned, and in which he enjoyed great success, he became the first Jesuit missionary priest. His missionary activity began in Goa, India and extended across the Orient. St. Francis Xavier was known throughout the Far East for his humility, care of the poor, and miracles including healings, speaking in tongues, and prophetic powers. His passion for Christ and zeal for souls won him many converts to the faith. It is said that during his missionary journeys he baptized over 40,000 people. He is considered by many to be one of the Church's greatest missionaries since St. Paul the Apostle. In his travels he left behind flourishing churches that were the foundations of the Catholic Church in Asia. He is the patron saint of navigators, missionaries, African missions, India, Japan, China, and New Zealand. St. Francis Xavier's feast day is December 3rd.

**St. Barbara** (3rd c.) was born in Nicomedia in modern day Turkey. According to tradition, after the death of her mother she was raised by her rich and tyrannical pagan father who, because of her beauty and intelligence, guarded her closely, keeping her locked away in a tower to protect her from the outside world. She was educated by tutors and came to reject the false gods she was taught to worship in favor of the true God for whom she yearned and wished to discover, dedicating her life and virginity to this purpose. She developed a prayer life and resisted her father's attempts to have her marry. Believing Barbara to be negatively affected by the seclusion, her father allowed her more freedom to associate with the world. She soon discovered Christians, and, recognizing the Creator she sought, and was baptized in secret. After informing her father that she was a Christian, he denounced her to the authorities under the persecution of Roman Emperor Maximian. She was imprisoned and cruelly tortured, but remained steadfast in her faith. During the night she would pray fervently, and her wounds would miraculously heal. This only subjected her to greater torments, followed by more miraculous interventions. She was finally beheaded by her own father, and afterward he was struck and killed by lightning as punishment. St. Barbara is the patron saint of firemen, armorers, artillerymen, military engineers, miners, and others who work with explosives. She is also the patron against storms, lightning, and fire, to name a few. St. Barbara's feast day is December 4th.

**St. Sabas** (439-532 A.D.) was born near Caesarea in Cappadocia to an illustrious family. His father was an army officer who, being stationed in Alexandria, left Sabas (along with his estate) in the care of his wife's sister. Sabas was severely mistreated by his aunt, and he fled from her to live with his father's brother instead. This move led to a family feud over the management of his father's estate, and Sabas, a meek child disgusted with their worldliness, sought refuge in a monastery. He was well-treated there, and although only a child, excelled in the monastic life. When he reached the age of eighteen, after living in the monastery for ten years, Sabas traveled to Jerusalem to visit the holy places and to become a desert hermit. He lived in a Jerusalem monastery for a time before dwelling alone in a desert cave near Jericho, spending his days in prayer and penance. Because of his renowned virtue and holiness many men desired to follow his example. He was ordained a priest so that he could better direct the 150 monks in his care. Sabas became an important leader in the early Church by founding monasteries, fighting heresy, and serving in delegations to the Roman Emperor. He is one of the most highly-regarded patriarchs of Palestine, and is considered one of the Fathers of Eastern monasticism. His most important monastery, the Great Laura, is one of the oldest monasteries in the world and is still inhabited by Eastern Orthodox monks. St. Sabas' feast day is December 5th.

**St. Nicholas of Myra** (270 – 343 A.D.) was the only child of a wealthy Greek Christian couple living in what is today the country of Turkey. He was a pious child, and upon the death of his parents Nicholas was raised by an uncle who was a bishop. St. Nicholas grew in holiness, was ordained to the priesthood, and eventually consecrated a bishop. He was famous for generosity to the poor, protection of the wronged, zeal against heresy, and performance of miracles. Many famous legends are told of him. When a poverty-stricken man was to be forced to sell his daughters into slavery, St. Nicholas secretly tossed bags of coins into their home to serve as the girls' dowry, thus enabling them to marry and be provided for. The money was said to have landed in their stockings drying by the fireplace, which is the origin of gifts in children's stockings and shoes at Christmastime. At the Council of Nicea, Nicholas prevailed against the heretic bishop Arius; he was also instrumental in defending the doctrine of Jesus' divinity and formulating the Nicene Creed. His relics are still preserved in the Basilica of St. Nicholas in Italy. On his feast day they emit a miraculous myrrh, which is distributed around the world. Many countries have the custom of portraying him as the secret giver of gifts to children on his feast day and/or on Christmas Eve. St. Nicholas of Myra is the patron saint of many causes, professions, cities, and countries; but he is most notably the patron of children, sailors, prisoners, and maidens seeking to marry. His feast day is December 6th.

**ASK HER – SIMPLE WORDS TO JUMPSTART  
YOUR CONVERSATION WITH MARY**

*By Jane Tufant Harvey*

“Ask Her... to guide you to pray with your heart, so that your prayers become an effortless and beautiful exchange between you and God.”

**DIARY OF SAINT MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA**

Notebook 4

1264 (22) Act of total abandonment to the will of God, which is for me, love and mercy itself.

**MESSAGES OF MEDJUGORJE**

*Up-to-date messages may be obtained at <http://www.medjugorje.org>  
On the 25<sup>th</sup> of day of each month the Queen of Peace gives a message to the visionary, Marija Pavlovic, for the whole world.*

August 2, 1984 – “Dear children! Today I am joyful and I thank you for your prayers. Pray still more these days for the conversion of sinners. Thank you for having responded to my call.”

August 9, 1984 – No message was given by Our Lady.

*The Hidden Phase – June 30, 1981 – December 31, 1981  
During this period, Our Lady appeared to the visionaries in hidden places, away from the police patrols that were trying to track them down.*

July 21, 1981 – (Vicka’s diary – 27<sup>th</sup> apparition, 6:30 pm) Just like every day, we spoke with Gospa. She arrived at 6:30pm and greeted us” “Praise be Jesus!” Then we asked her if she would give us a sign. She said yes. Then we asked her how much longer she would still continue to visit us. The Blessed Virgin responded “My sweet angels, even if I were to leave the sign, many people will not believe. Many people will only come here and bow down. But people must be converted and do penance.” Then we questioned her on the subject of the sick. For some, Gospa said that they would be cured only if their faith was strong, and for others, no. Then she prepared to depart. Upon leaving, she said to us: “Go in the peace of God.”

**UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

---Faith Formation after Mass  
Dec. 7 (Penance Svc), Dec. 14  
& Dec. 28

---Nov. 30 – BFF after Mass  
“BIG” breakfast

---December 17 – 25 Our Lady  
of Mercy Christmas Novena

---December 24 – Christmas  
Eve Mass 7:00 p.m.

---December 25 – Christmas  
Day Mass 9:00 a.m.

**Word(s) of the week (from the  
America College Dictionary)**

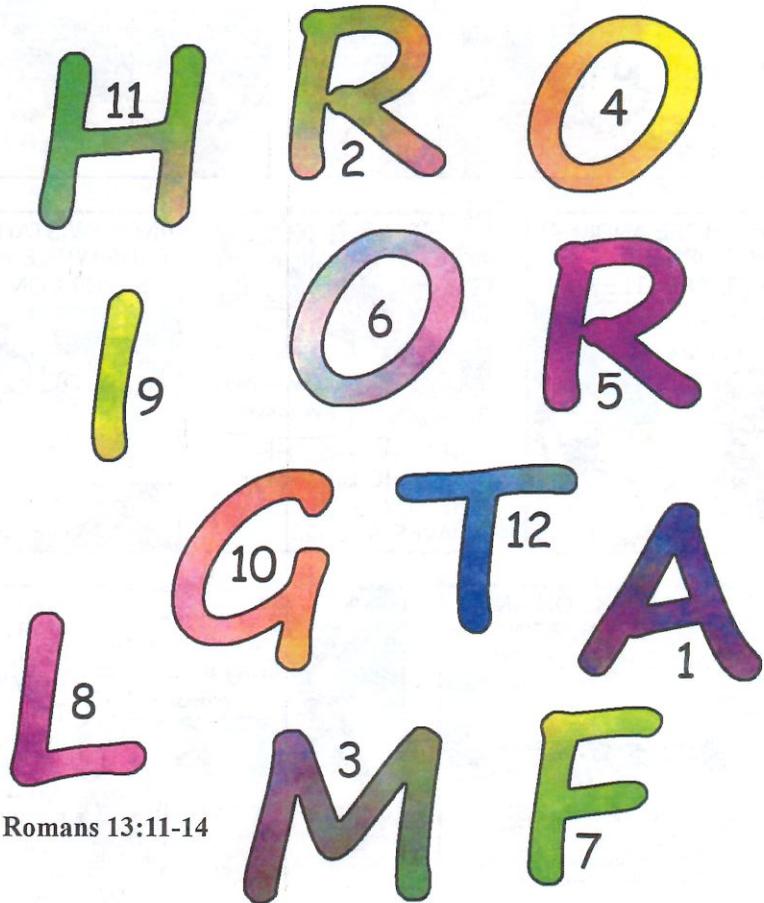
**GRACE** – the free, unmerited favor  
and love of God

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of  
the Lord!  
Isaiah 2:5

# The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent  
November 30th, 2025

*Sort the letters to fill in the blanks at the bottom*



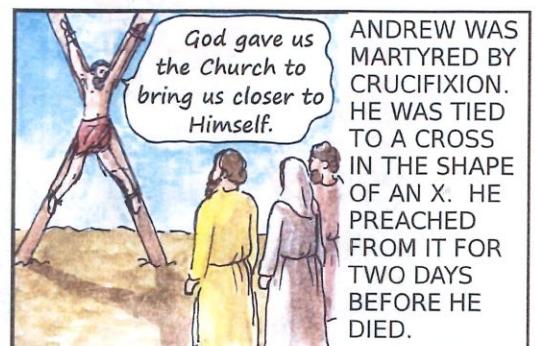
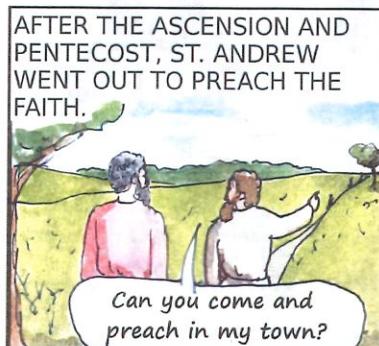
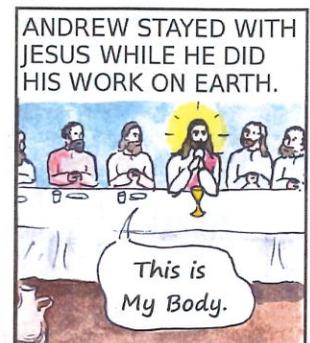
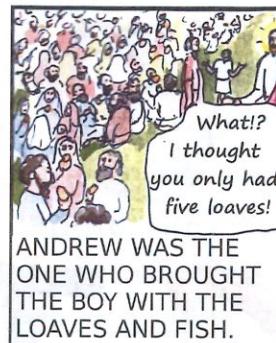
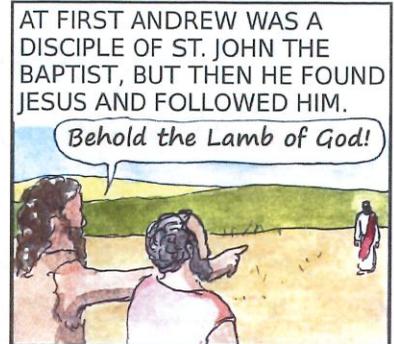
Romans 13:11-14

*In today's second reading  
Saint Paul tells the Romans to throw off the  
works of darkness and put on the*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

# SAINT ANDREW

## NOVEMBER 30



WE DON'T KNOW VERY MUCH ABOUT THE LIFE OF ST. ANDREW EXCEPT THAT HE WAS A FAITHFUL APOSTLE OF JESUS AND ONE OF THE FIRST MISSIONARIES OF THE CHURCH. HE BEGAN AS A POOR FISHERMAN. WE CAN LEARN FROM HIS STORY THAT JESUS CALLS US ALL TO BE SAINTS, NO MATTER WHERE WE'RE FROM.

# Fill in the Blanks: The Lord is Coming!



*Use the words in the list at the bottom to fill in the blanks in today's Gospel reading. Use the letters in the boxes to fill in the blanks at the end.*

Matthew 24:37-44 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

In those days  \_\_\_\_\_ the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah

\_\_\_\_\_ the ark.

They did not know until the flood came and \_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ them all away.

So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man.

Two  \_\_\_\_\_ will be out in the field; one will be  \_\_\_\_\_, and one will be left.

Two women will be

\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_ at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left.

Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_  awake!

For you do not know on which day your Lord will come.

\_\_\_\_\_ !

STAY ENTERED MEN BEFORE  
GRINDING TAKEN CARRIED



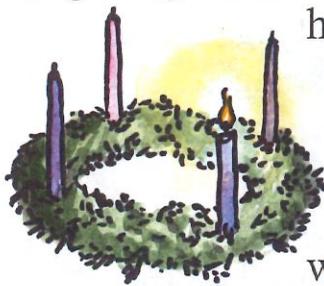
# *It's Time to get Ready for Christmas!*

Advent is here! In a few weeks it will be Christmas, so it's time to start getting ready!



During Advent we remember Jesus' first coming, and get ourselves and our homes ready to celebrate His birthday.

Lighting the candles on an Advent wreath



helps us to remember that Jesus, the light of the world, is coming. We start with one candle, and every week light one more, so that the closer we get to Jesus' coming the

brighter it gets.

In Advent we also think about Jesus' second coming. In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the people to be prepared for that time. We must never let ourselves forget that this world and this life are only temporary and that we have something much greater to look forward to: Jesus and Heaven!



Answer to puzzle on front page: armor of light  
Answer to Fill in the Blanks: Be ready!