

December Faith Formation

December Action Plan

This month we will...

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Find a quiet moment to pray this **prayer to the Holy Spirit** slowly and intentionally.

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

After praying, sit in silence for about 5 minutes and notice any thoughts, inspirations, or feelings the Holy Spirit may bring to your heart. Then, share with someone what you experienced or what the Holy Spirit seemed to speak to you.



Check out
**December Kitchen
Table Faith!**

Immaculate Conception

Attend Mass on Dec 8th, a Holy Day of Obligation, to celebrate the **Feast of the Immaculate Conception**. Reflect on how Mary was preserved from sin and how her "yes" can inspire your own life of faith.

Advent Penance

Prepare your heart to receive the Child Jesus by going to confession this Advent. Attend our Parish Advent Penance Service on Thursday, December 18 at 7 PM in the church. Let God free you from sin and fill you with His grace.

Living Like Joseph

Like St. Joseph, quietly **serve God at home**. Pick a small task to fix, build, or help with, offering your work to God like Joseph offered his carpentry skills.

Lectio Divina

Find a quiet place and read the **Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)** slowly. Notice any word or moment that stands out. Read it again and listen for why God may be drawing your attention to it. Read it a third time and ask what God may be inviting you to do. Then read it once more, letting His message rest in your heart.



Listen to **"Do Something" by Matthew West**. It reminds us that God calls us to make a difference, even in small ways. Listen and think of one way you could "do something" for someone this week.

Advent is a time to slow down and grow closer to God. Watch the first episode of **How to Advent** to learn simple ways to live this season intentionally.



Giving Extra Time in Advent

Choose one way to spend **extra time with God this Advent**:

- Adoration/Rosary: Mon 7 PM; Tues 6 AM; Wed-Fri 6 AM & 8 AM
- Family Rosary Night: Mon, Dec 15 – dinner 6 PM, Rosary 7 PM
- Daily Mass: Tues 5:30 PM; Wed-Fri 9:00 AM

Cut at the dotted lines and then rip off the papers as you complete the tasks this month.

Complete your Family
Action Plan.

Read the Parable of the
Talents with Lectio Divina.

Attend Mass on Dec. 8
for the Feast of the
Immaculate Conception.

Listen to the song
Do Something.

Pray the Prayer of the
Holy Spirit and listen.

Watch the first episode of
"How to Advent" on Formed.

Spend extra time with God
at Mass or Adoration.

Follow St. Joseph's
example and fix, build, or
help around the house.

Visit our December
Kitchen Table Faith website.

Attend our Parish Advent
Penance Service.

Mark your calendar!

- ◆ **Rosary & Adoration**, Mondays, 7 pm.
- ◆ **Holy Hour** Tuesday, 6 am; Wednesday-Friday, 6 am and 8 am.
- ◆ **First Friday Adoration, December 5**, 6 am-12 pm. Come to the day chapel anytime between 6 am-12 pm.
- ◆ **First Saturday Mass, December 6**, 9 am, day chapel
- ◆ **First Reconciliation parent/child retreat/Reconciliation celebration, December 6**, 9 am, Founders Hall/church
- ◆ **St Nicholas Visits, December 6-7**, in the gathering space after Masses
- ◆ **Presence Under the Tree**, return your gifts the weekend of December 6/7.
- ◆ **Immaculate Conception, December 8**, Masses at 12 noon & 6 pm. Parish office closed for the holy day.
- ◆ **Kids Choir practice, December 14 & December 21**, 5:15 pm and **December 24**, at 4:30 pm in the church
- ◆ **Tweens & JP Kidz, December 10**, 6-7:30 pm in Founders Hall.
- ◆ **Teen Group & JYM, December 10**, 7 pm in the FDC. Come early, at 6:30 pm for food and conversation!
- ◆ **Surviving the Holidays, December 14**, 12-2 pm, Founders Hall, offered by Stephen Ministry. Preregister online at ssjohnpaul.org/griefshare-surviving-the-holidays
- ◆ **Dinner & Rosary, December 15**, 6 pm sandwiches, 7 pm parish gift for Fr Mark of praying the Rosary
- ◆ **Rosary Meditation Group, December 17**, 5:30-6:30 pm, teen room. All adults are invited to pray the rosary, reflect and share in conversation using the Daily Rosary Meditations podcast. Led by Shelley Leiser.
- ◆ **Training & Planning for Catechists, December 17**, 6:30 pm, St. Francis Hall.
- ◆ **Teen Group & JYM, December 17**, 7 pm in the FDC. Come early, at 6:30 pm for food and conversation!
- ◆ **Advent Penance Service, December 18, 7 pm**. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available on Saturdays from 8-9 am and 4-4:30 pm. Check the website for penance services at other area parishes.
- ◆ **Jubilee of Hope Pilgrimage to St. Ambrose, December 20**, 2:30pm, meet at church 1:45pm to carpool.
- ◆ **Knights of Columbus Breakfast, December 21**, 8:30 am-12 pm, St. Francis Hall. Special menu item this month: made-to-order omelets! Free will donations support parishioners and community members in need throughout the winter.
- ◆ **Parish offices close for Christmas** at noon on December 24, and all day on December 25 and 26.
- ◆ **Christmas Eve Masses, Wednesday, December 24** at 5 pm and 9 pm
- ◆ **Christmas Day Mass, Thursday, December 25** at 8:30 am
- ◆ **Parish offices close for Feast of Mary, Mother of God** at noon, December 31 and all day on January 1.
- ◆ **Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**, Masses Thursday, January 1 at 9 am and 12 noon.
- ◆ **First Friday Adoration, January 2**, 6 am-12 pm.
- ◆ **First Saturday Mass, January 3**, 9 am, day chapel
- ◆ **Parish Intergenerational Faith Formation LIVE, January 7 & 11**, *Learning with the Parables: Mustard Seed*

Find additional faith formation ideas and resources by going to the parish website, www.ssjohnpaul.org, and clicking on the **Kitchen Table Faith** button in the middle of the home page, right above the calendar, or go directly to ssjohnpaulfaithformation.org.