

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**December 3, 2023**



**Serving the Missions of:**

Alto del Talco, Buena Vista, Cañoncito, Chacon, Cleveland, El Carmen, Golondrinas, Guadalupita, Holman, La Cueva, Ledoux, Lucero, Monte Aplanado, Ojo Feliz, Rainsville, Turquillo

**St. Gertrude the Great**  
**Catholic Church**

**Pastor: Fr. Dale Craig, S.O.L.T.**  
**Parochial Vicar: Fr. Paul Grala, S.O.L.T.**  
**Deacon Eloy Roybal: Director of Catechism/First Confession/First Holy Communion**  
**Deacon Clarence Montoya: R.C.I.A**  
**Danny Chavez: Director of Catechism/Confirmation**  
**Administrative Assistant: Angelica Lujan**  
**P.O. Box 599, Mora, New Mexico 87732**  
**Phone: 575.387.2336**  
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**10 am — 12 Noon, 1 pm — 3 pm**  
**Website: [www.stgertrudesmora.org](http://www.stgertrudesmora.org)**  
**Email: [stgertrudes.aa@gmail.com](mailto:stgertrudes.aa@gmail.com)**

**Saturday & Sunday Masses**

**Weekday Masses**

- \* Monday—Friday: 7:30AM
- \* Saturday: 8AM

**Saturday Vigil Masses**

- \* St. Gertrude's Missions: 4:00PM

**Sunday Masses**

- \* Spanish Mass: 9:00AM
- \* English Mass: 11:00AM
- \* English Mass: 5:00PM

**Confessions: Saturday: 3:00PM-4:00PM**

**Sunday: 30 minutes before all Masses**



**Celebration of Sacraments**

**Baptism:** Parents may register their child for baptism at the parish office. Please turn in necessary paperwork two (2) weeks prior to class. Baptism Classes will be the 2nd Friday of every month. Baptisms are done on the third Sunday of the Month.

**Marriage:** Contact Parish Priest/Office at least six (6) months before the proposed wedding date.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Contact the Parish Priest /Office when a parishioner is seriously ill and/or is scheduled for major surgery. Emergency phone-505-835-0199.

***Funcion News!***

<b>Raffle Tickets-</b>	<b>\$29,990</b>
<b>Silent Auction-</b>	<b>\$3,209</b>
<b>Games/Cake Walk-</b>	<b>\$252</b>
<b>Bingo-</b>	<b>\$509</b>
<b>Floor Auction-</b>	<b>\$1,865</b>
<b>Cash Donations-</b>	<b>\$1,745</b>
<b>Total Income-</b>	<b>\$37,570</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3585</b>
<b>Total Net Profit</b>	<b>\$33,985</b>

*(as of 11/29)*

**Sunday Collection for**

November 26, 2023 : \$3,770.01

(Envelopes: \$2854.00 Loose: \$ 916.01

# Envelopes used: 102

Thanksgiving: \$747.00

Campaign for Human Development: \$910.60

Building Fund: \$357.00

Charitable Giving: \$25.00

**Thank you for your generosity! God Bless You!**

**Altar Society:**

*December 4, 2023*

*Ruthann Griego/Blanca Cockrell*

**DEADLINE FOR THE BULLETIN IS:  
TUESDAY AT 12 PM IN WRITING, PLEASE!**

**Guadalupita Funcion**

Senora de Guadalupe  
**Saturday, December 9th,**  
*at the Guadalupita Mission at 4 PM*  
**(Confessions @ 3:30)**

**SATURDAY— December 2 Vigil Mass**

**4PM Mass** **Celebrant: Fr. Dale**

- + Ben Bustos (3rd Anniv)
- \* Fr. Jim Mulligan /by Eufrazio & Norma Vigil
- + For the souls of all family members /by Cruz & Melendez family

**SUNDAY—December 3 First Sunday of Advent**

**9AM Mass** **Celebrant: Fr. Dale**

**People of the Parish**

- + Loretta Abeyta & William Abeyta /by Ida Mora
- + Jack & Teresina Roper /by Ramona Maldonado
- + Ralph Montoya /by Deacon Clarence & Yvonne

**11AM Mass** **Celebrant: Fr. Paul**

- + Charlie Garcia, Donna Anaya & Mary Sena /by Albinita Garcia
- \* Eliseo Hernandez & Lupe Estrada
- + Thomas McKean (B-day) /by Michael & Tammy Alexander

**5PM Mass** **Celebrant: Fr. Paul**

- + Repose of the soul of Bengie Cruz /by family
- + Martha Velasquez & deceased Velasquez & Medina family members /by Flor-entino Velasquez
- + In Honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus for the Holy Souls /by David & Barbara Kuehl

**Is 63:16b-17,19b; 64:2-7 Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 1 Cor 1:3-9 Mk 13:33-37**

**MONDAY— December 4 St. John Damascene, Priest, Dr of the Church**

**7:30AM Mass**

- + Charlie Trujillo/by Deacon Clarence & Yvonne
- + Estevan Archuleta, Aurora Netzloff & Guillermo Martinez /by Ann Martinez
- + Repose of the soul of Bengie Cruz /by family

**Is 2:1-5 Ps 122:1-9 Mt 8:5-11**

**TUESDAY— December 5**

**7:30AM Mass**

- + Rose Regensberg/by Deacon Clarence & Yvonne
- + Repose of the soul of Bengie Cruz /by family
- + In memory of Bengie Cruz, Charlie Trujillo Jr & Damian Trujillo /by Jimmy & Lucille

**Is 11:1-10 Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Lk 10:21-24**

**WEDNESDAY— December 6 St. Nicholas, Bishop**

**7:30AM Mass**

- \* Health of Joaquin G. Maes, Intentions for Florida Grp Home/by Floyd & Maxine
- + Repose of the soul of Bengie Cruz /by family
- + Sophie Maestas-Lidy (B-day)/by Gloria Maestas

**Is 25:6-10a Ps 23:1-6 Mt 15:29-37**

**THURSDAY — December 7 Saint Ambrose, Bishop, Dr of the Church**

**7:30AM Mass**

- + Repose of the soul of Bengie Cruz /by family
- + Lupita Montoya/by Deacon Clarence & Yvonne
- + Andres Martinez & Stella Archuleta & \*Health of Steve Jr./by family

**Is 26:1-6 Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Mt 7:21, 24-27**

**FRIDAY— December 8 Immaculate Conception of the BVM**

**7:30AM Mass**

- + Repose of the soul of Bengie Cruz /by family
- \* Mateo Maes (B-day) Kristin Vogt & Paul Maes/by Floyd & Maxine

**6:00PM Mass**

**Gn 3:9-15, 20 Ps 98:1-4 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38**

**SATURDAY— December 9 St. Juan Diego Cuanhtlatotzin**

**8AM Mass**

- + Repose of the soul of Bengie Cruz /by family

**Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Ps 147:1-6 Mt 9:35—110:1, 5a, 6-8**

**SATURDAY— December 9 Guadalupe Funcion**

**4PM Mass** **Celebrant: Fr. Dale**

- \* Fr. Jim Mulligan /by Eufrazio & Norma Vigil
- \* For Our Lady of Guadalupe for health of Terri Romero /by Edmund & Margie

**SUNDAY—December 10 Second Sunday of Advent**

**9AM Mass** **Celebrant: Fr. Paul**

**People of the Parish**

- + Deacon Ray Cordova, Antonio Urioste & Steven Cordova
- + Charlie Garcia, Adolfo Gonzales & Juanita Gonzales/by Albinita Garcia
- + Lupita Montoya /by Deacon Clarence & Yvonne

**11AM Mass** **Celebrant: Fr. Dale**

- + Clarence Garcia/by Dino & Mary Francis Herrera
- + Teresina & Jack Roper Sr /by Dolores & Leonard
- + Rita & Alfredo Jr. Romero by Leonard & Dolores

**5PM Mass** **Celebrant: Fr. Paul**

- + Repose of the soul of Bengie Cruz /by family
- + For the souls of all family members by Cruz & Melendez family

**Is 40:1-5, 9-11 Ps 85:9-14 2Pt3:8-14 Mk 1:18**



**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Holy Day of Obligation**

**Friday, Dec 8th**

**Mass Times:**

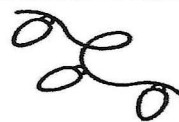
**7:30 AM**

**6:00 PM**

**Join us for a Rosary Rally to Keep Christ in Christmas**

**Saturday, December 16th @ Noon at the Parish Hall**

**Refreshments Provided**



**Decorating for Christmas Outside with lights will be on Saturday, December 16th @ 10 AM—Volunteers Needed**

**Christmas Trees**

**We are needing a total of 10 real Christmas trees for the church. If anyone can donate trees, please call the office and let us know. Thank you!**



**Adoration Chapel:** The Chapel is now open. It will be open 24 hours. Anyone who wants to devote an hour of adoration please contact Deacon Eloy at 505-948-6887.

**Cemetery Plots:** All plots need to be prearranged by Mission Mayordomos or the Church Office. Also please clean & maintain your family member's plot.

**Charitable Giving:** Charitable Giving is on Monday's from 10-12 & 1-3pm.

**Commodities:** The Commodities will be distributed on Tuesday, December 12th.

**Legion of Mary:** Each of you are invited to grow in your faith. Join the Legion of Mary every Tuesday at 8:50am at the Pastoral Center.

**Men's Group:** Men's group meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7pm in the Chapel. *The men's group will meet December 6th!*

**The Sacred Heart of Jesus Society** will be praying the rosary at 8:30 on the first Sunday of every month.

**WINGS:** Women in Need of God meets every Friday at 10am in the Pastoral Center.

**Second Collection.** There will be a second collection for the Annual Appeal for Retired Religious on December 10, 2023.

## Religious Education

**First Confession/First Communion:** There will be Class on Tuesday, December 5th.

The First Confession and First Communion students had a First Confession Retreat yesterday, December 2nd. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers.

We are still looking for catechists & assistant catechists for the Religious Ed program.

**Confirmation I and II:** Next class will be on December 10th.

**R.C.I.A.** Next class will be on December 5th.

## Ministry Schedule

**December 8th @ 7:30 am**

**Lector:** Sr. Mary Teresa

**Choir:**

**Server:**

**EU Minister:** Deacon Montoya

**Mayordomos:**

**December 8th @ 6:00 pm**

**Lector:** Ellen Hagaman

**Choir:** MC Sandoval

**Server:**

**EU Minister:** Deacon Roybal

**Mayordomos:**

**December 9th 4pm**

**Guadalupita Funcion**

**December 10th 9am**

**Lector:** Sr. Esperanza

**Choir:** Leroy Blea/Alex Montoya

**Server:** Adult Servers

**EU Minister:** Evelyn Cordova

**Mayordomos:** Lujan

**December 10th 11am**

**Lector:** Lorinda Manuel

**Choir:** San Manuel

**Server:** Gabriel, Paul & Cory & Adam

**EU Minister:** David Rael

**Mayordomos:** Alexander

**December 10th 5pm**


**Lector:** Ted Sandoval

**Choir:** Nazario Montoya

**Server:** Marcus, Brayden & Evan

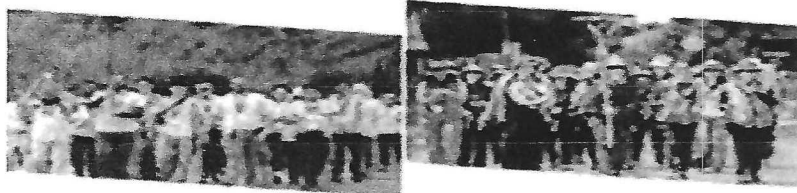
**EU Minister:** Deacon Montoya

**Mayordomos:** DeHerrera

**The Archdiocese of Santa Fe**  
**PILGRIMAGES**  
for **VOCATIONS**  
to **CHIMAYÓ**

**REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN**

**FOR OUR MAY 5 11**  
&  
**100-MILE JUNE PILGRIMAGES 6 2-8**



**asfp4v.org**

**BY DEC 12<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**THE 50+ YEAR TRADITION CONTINUES**



We would like to welcome our newest members of our Parish:

**Rhett Martinez**  
& **Ryker Martinez**  
Congratulations to Parents,  
God-parents & Family



Poinsettia's In Remembrance of Our Beloved Deceased Family Members!

There is an insert in the Bulletin. Please turn in your intention forms and/or donations into the office.





**Thank You!! Thank You!! Thank You!!**

We are most grateful for the generosity and kindness of our wonderful benefactors. We ask blessings upon each of you. Taking to heart the words of Jesus, “That when you give alms, do not let your left arm know what your right arm is doing” *Matthew 6:3.*

Therefore, rather than thanking all the wonderful people by name we offer our deepest gratitude to each of you and ask our Lord who rewards in secret, to abundantly anoint you all and all your loved ones.

# Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

December 2023

St. Gertrude the Great Catholic Church  
Father Dale Craig, S.O.L.T., Pastor

## One Minute Meditations

### St. Edmund Campion

Born to a Catholic family in 16th century England, St. Edmund left a brilliant academic career at Oxford to become a Jesuit missionary – a death sentence, since Catholics were being heavily persecuted under Queen Elizabeth I. He traveled around, secretly ministering the Sacraments to English Catholics, until he was betrayed by an informer and arrested. Despite efforts to persuade or threaten him, St. Edmund remained true to his faith. He was martyred with two companions at Tyburn.



### Mary's "Yes"

When the angel appeared to Mary and told her what God was asking of her, she didn't have to agree. God gave all of us free will to allow us to make our own choices. Mary said "yes" to God out of love. Her reward (and ours, too) is eternity with her Son.

*"And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him"*  
(Luke 2:40).



## A "Christ-centered" Christmas is a joyful one

For Catholics, the weeks leading up to Christmas are a sacred time to prepare our hearts for Christ's coming. For a joy-filled Christmas, try these ideas:

**Encourage joyful anticipation.** As disciples of Jesus, it is our role to help others to believe and hope in the power of God to change the world as He transforms hearts and minds. *"But as for me, I will look to the Lord, I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me"* (Micah 7:7). Look for opportunities to share your confidence in His love.

**Focus on prayer.** Become an Advent prayer intercessor praying for every

soul to come home to God, especially at this time of peace. Ask that that He gives everyone the grace to live a new life reflecting glory on the Messiah.

**Serve.** Pope Francis said during Advent, "We are so busy with all the preparations, with gifts and things that pass, but let's ask ourselves what we should do for Jesus and for others! What should we do?" The pope said we should continuously ask God what we should do to contribute to the good of the Church and society. We can do "something concrete, even if it is small" to help others. He suggested visiting the lonely, the elderly, the sick or someone in need.



## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics celebrate the "Immaculate Conception?"

In 1854, Pope Pius IX proclaimed that Mary, by a special grace, was preserved from original and personal sin from her own conception in her mother's womb, in view of her role as the

Mother of God. This grace bore immeasurable fruit for all of us in Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross. On December 8 – a Holy Day of Obligation – we ask Mary to pray for us, so we, too, receive Jesus into our hearts with a faithful love like hers.



# Have a peaceful, Merry Christmas!

Do you aim for an idyllic Christmas celebration complete with a warm fire, joyful music, and tinsel-covered tree? For many of us, Christmas comes at the end of weeks spent shopping, wrapping, and spending, and is wrought with family tensions, obligations, and exhaustion. Try these steps to keep your sanity and your Savior in your Christmas celebration:

**Be realistic.** It isn't the goal of the season to make everyone happy. If you don't overspend and over extend before Christmas, you'll be in a better frame of mind when it arrives.



**Soothe the beast.** Beautiful music can set a soothing tone for your celebration. Pick your favorite holy hymns to put yourself in the Christmas frame of mind.

**Reach out.** Want to make your own problems seem small? Take on someone else's. Do at least one good Christmas deed for someone needy.

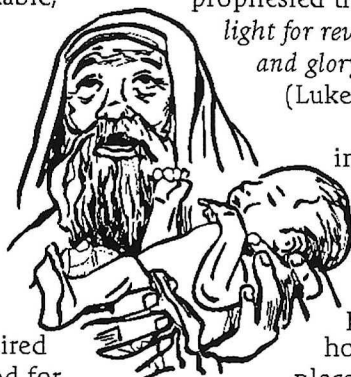
**Seek the eternal.** Jesus gives us peace, purpose, and perspective. Spend time with Jesus each day of Advent and Christmas to remind yourself of what is most important about Christmas.

## from Scripture

### Luke 2:22-40, Encountering God in the ordinary

To the uninformed observer, Jesus' birth was unremarkable, and His family was quite ordinary. In fact, when it was time to present Jesus in the temple, His parents couldn't afford the customary offering of a lamb, and instead made the offering of the poor – two pigeons. As faithful Jews, they did all that was required by their faith to thank God for the gift of their child.

Yet, when Joseph and Mary presented their new baby in the temple, Simeon immediately recognized Him as the Messiah.



Inspired by the Holy Spirit, he prophesied that Jesus would be *"a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel"* (Luke 2:32).

Simeon was not alone in recognizing the Lord in the temple. Anna was also filled with the Holy Spirit. Her faith in God's promises gave her hope. The hope God places in our hearts gives us a desire for the kingdom of Heaven. The Holy Spirit reveals the presence of the Lord to those who want to know Him, receive Him, and to be happy with Him forever.

## Q & A How can I make Christmas joy last?

The Church's real Christmas season starts on Christmas Day and lasts until the Baptism of Our Lord. By celebrating the whole season, you can make your Christmas joy last long after you've taken down the tree. Here are some highlights of the season:



**Feast of the Holy Family, December 31.** Gather for a meal with loved ones, or contact out-of-town friends or family.

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God, January 1.**

Dedicate a Rosary to the Blessed Mother, asking her to help you grow in love and trust.

**Epiphany, January 7.** The example of the Magi honoring Jesus has become a symbol of sharing Him with the world. This is our chance to think about the way we live so that we can better reveal Christ to our world.

**The Baptism of Our Lord, January 8.** Baptism is our entry into the Kingdom. Take time this day to renew your Baptismal vows and decide what you can change in your life to help you live as Christ did.

## Feasts & Celebrations

**December 3 – First Sunday in Advent.** We anticipate Christ's birth and His coming on the last day. Catholics everywhere light candles in an Advent wreath to signal the coming of the light of Christ.

**December 12 – Our Lady of Guadalupe (1531).** The Blessed Mother appeared as a Native American maiden to St. Juan Diego. She asked St. Juan to carry roses to the bishop as proof. When the roses were emptied from his *tilma*, it retained the image of the Blessed Mother.

**December 15 – St. Maria di Rosa (1855).** Born into a wealthy family in Brescia, Italy, Paula was renowned for holiness, generosity, and concern for the sick. She founded the Handmaids of Charity in 1840. She took the name Sr. Maria Crucifixa di Rosa.

**December 27 – St. John the Beloved (1st Century).** As an apostle and friend of Jesus, St. John was known for his fiery temper. Scholars believe he is the "beloved disciple" who sat by Jesus at the Last Supper in John's Gospel.



### Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.

Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
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<http://www.growinginfaith.com>  
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)

# 2023 Advent Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>3</b> December            Light the first violet candle in your Advent wreath and pray with today's Gospel,  <i>Mark 13:33-37.</i></p>	<p><b>4</b>            Choose a way you can grow closer to Christ in Advent: more mental prayer, penance, almsgiving, Sacraments.</p>	<p><b>5</b>            Display the stable for the Nativity Scene. Add figures gradually throughout Advent.</p>	<p><b>6</b> St. Nicholas of Myra            Perform a simple act of kindness for someone today in honor of this generous saint.</p>	<p><b>7</b>            On the Memorial of Saint Ambrose, bishop and teacher, pray for all clergy in the Church.</p>	<p><b>8</b> The Immaculate Conception of Mary            Celebrate by attending Mass and praying a Rosary for our country.</p>	<p><b>9</b>            Prepare heart and soul to welcome Christ. Make an examination of conscience and attend Confession.</p>
<p><b>10</b>            Light the second violet candle and meditate on  <i>Mark 1:1-8.</i></p>	<p><b>11</b>            Offer a small sacrifice out of love for Jesus, who offered Himself up for love of you.</p>	<p><b>12</b>            Today is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Pray for all pregnant women and thank God for the gift of new life.</p>	<p><b>13</b>            Advent is a busy time for parishes. Call or email your parish office and ask how you can serve.</p>	<p><b>14</b>            In prayer, forgive someone who has hurt you. Ask for the grace to let go and move on.</p>	<p><b>15</b>            Call Catholic Relief Services (877-HELP-CRS or <a href="http://www.catholicrelief.org">www.catholicrelief.org</a>) to see how you can contribute.</p>	<p><b>16</b>            Las Posadas begins today honoring Mary's and Joseph's search for shelter. Gather friends and go caroling.</p>
<p><b>17</b>  <i>Gaudete Sunday</i>            Light two violet candles and the rose one for joy. Pray with <i>John 1:6-9, 19-28.</i></p>	<p><b>18</b>            Put a lamp or candle in a window to welcome the Christ Child. Light it every night until Christmas.</p>	<p><b>19</b>            Feed the hungry. Look for someone who is physically hungry or hungry for human kindness.</p>	<p><b>20</b>            Review your "Advent resolutions" and renew your commitment to them.</p>	<p><b>21</b>            Spend time before the Blessed Sacrament today to ready your heart for the arrival of the King.</p>	<p><b>22</b>            Reflect on how your relationship with Christ grew this Advent. Thank Him for the graces you received.</p>	<p><b>23</b>            Make an effort to see everyone with loving eyes today.</p>
<p><b>24</b>            The fourth week of Advent lasts only one day. Meditate on the great news the angel brought (see <i>Luke 1:26-38</i>).</p>	<p><b>25</b>  <i>Rejoice!</i>            Place the Christ Child in the manger. Go to Mass today and rejoice!</p>	<p><i>"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn"</i>  <i>(Luke 2:1-7).</i></p>				