

# HOLY SPIRIT CATHOLIC CHURCH

300 West Pine Street  
Palmyra, PA 17078  
Phone: 717-838-3369



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**Fr. Dijo Thomas, Pastor**

## First Sunday of Advent

**December 1, 2024**

### Mass Schedule

(Also live streamed on YouTube at Holy Spirit Palmyra)

**Saturday Vigil: 4:00pm**

**Sunday Mass: 8:30am inside & 11:00am**

#### Daily Mass:

Monday, Thursday: 9:00am

Wednesday: 6:00pm (Rosary 5:30pm)

Friday: 7:00am

**Confessions:** Sat 5—5:30pm; Wed 6:40—7:10pm

#### Adoration Chapel:

Monday: 10am—5pm

Tuesday: 6am—10pm

Wed & Fri: 12noon—5pm

Thursday: 10am—10pm

Saturday: 2am—9am & 7pm—9pm

Sunday: 12 noon—1pm & 6pm—10pm

For more information call 717-838-3369 x 111 or email [adorers@hspalmyra.com](mailto:adorers@hspalmyra.com).

**Baptism:** To schedule a baptism, contact our Parish office at 717-838-3369 or email [church@hspalmyra.com](mailto:church@hspalmyra.com).

**Sponsor Forms:** Certificates to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation can only be given to those who are registered and practicing members of the Parish.

**Bulletin Deadline:** Three weeks prior to publication. Please use the forms on our website for bulletin inserts, blurbs, or facility requests.

**Benevolence:** For financial assistance, please call 717-838-3369, x 112, and leave a message to set up an interview.

### Staff

**Clergy: Father Dijo Thomas, Pastor**

[pastor@hspalmyra.com](mailto:pastor@hspalmyra.com); Ext 107

**Deacon Jorge Reyes**

[deacon@hspalmyra.com](mailto:deacon@hspalmyra.com); Ext 105

**Parish Manager: Janet Parks**

[manager@hspalmyra.com](mailto:manager@hspalmyra.com); Ext 106

**Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor: Becky Messimer**

[church@hspalmyra.com](mailto:church@hspalmyra.com); Ext 109

**Maintenance & Facilities: Joe Cesari**

[facilities@hspalmyra.com](mailto:facilities@hspalmyra.com); Ext 103

**Choir Director/Organist: Richard Druby**

[choir@hspalmyra.com](mailto:choir@hspalmyra.com); Ext 108

**PREP Secretary/Ministry Liaison: Holly Serio**

[outreach@hspalmyra.com](mailto:outreach@hspalmyra.com); Ext 104

#### PREP:

**Catechesis of the Good Shepherd: Brenda Poland,**  
[cgs@hspalmyra.com](mailto:cgs@hspalmyra.com)

**Gr 1-6: Dr. Ann Marie Licata,** [prep@hspalmyra.com](mailto:prep@hspalmyra.com)

**Gr 7-8: Logan Zugay,** [confirmation@hspalmyra.com](mailto:confirmation@hspalmyra.com)

**Parish Council:** [parishcouncil@hspalmyra.com](mailto:parishcouncil@hspalmyra.com)

#### Office Hours:

Monday & Wednesday: 12noon—6pm

Tuesday: remote only for phone calls & emails

Thursday: 8:30am—3:30pm

Friday: closed

## OUR MISSION

*To seek to know the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ; to celebrate together as a Catholic family of faith; and to share our gifts and talents in loving service to others.*

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Advent is a time of preparation and expectation. The Church describes Advent as a season “of devout and expectant delight.” In Universal Norms on the Liturgical Year, the Church says, “Advent has a twofold character, for it is a time of preparation for the Solemnities of Christmas, in which the First Coming of the Son of God to humanity is remembered, and likewise a time when, with remembrance of this, minds and hearts are led to look forward to Christ’s Second Coming at the end of time” (39). In Advent, we look forward not only to the commemoration of Christ’s birth at Christmas, but also to His return. Pope Francis described Advent as the time “we begin again and it returns us to the horizon of hope, a hope that does not disappoint because it is founded on the Word of God. A hope that does not disappoint, simply because the Lord never disappoints! He is faithful.” Prepare for a good confession during Advent season. The Church calls us to repentance during Advent, making it an important time to go to confession. Perhaps getting yourself and your family to confession can be your top priority this Advent. Ask God to help us draw near to Him. The more we yearn for Christ in Advent, the closer we come to a real celebration of Christmas. Deep down inside, we know that we have a chance for transformation during Advent—but we often forget to ask for it in prayer. Let us ask God to help us prepare our hearts for His coming and to aid us in having a good and holy Advent. After all, it is what He longs for us to do.



## FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT HOPE

### TITHING: GOD'S PLAN FOR GIVING

Last week's offerings will be reported in the next week's bulletin due to an early submission deadline to our publisher.



### FOCUSED GIVING ENVELOPE CHANGES

Please note that the Focused Giving Envelope will end December 31 in your packets and online. Thank you to all who have contributed to this fund.

## CALENDAR & INTENTIONS

The **Sanctuary Candle** will burn in loving memory of Marlene Leshar (From Glenn & Donna Ward)

The **Altar Flowers** are offered in loving memory of Joe Spear (From Barb & Family)

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 2

Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11

9:00am Mass

† **Brenda Chapman**

6:00pm Ladies Candlelight Service

7:00pm Threads of Hope

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

3:15pm Cenacle

7:00pm Folk Group

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

Is 25:6-10; Mt 15:29-37

9:30am Rejoice Advent Study

4:30pm Legion of Mary

5:30pm Rosary

6:00pm Mass

† **Marie Morton**

6:40pm Confessions

6:45pm Advent Reflection

7:00pm Men's Ministry

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

9:00am Mass

† **Teresa O'Sullivan**

4:00pm Shine Fitness

6:00pm Respect Life

7:00pm Sunday Choir

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

7:00am Mass

† **William Martel**

6:00pm 2nd Quarter Group

7:00pm Hour of Reparation

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5, 6-8

10:00am Shine Fitness Christmas Card Party

4:00pm Mass † **Edward Doherty Anniversary Mass**

5:00pm Confessions

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

8:30am Mass † **Douglas Jackson Anniversary Mass**

9:30am CGS-6th PREP

11:00am Mass

**For the People of the Parish**

12noon Respect Life Rosary

6:00pm 7th & 8th Grade PREP

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NO PREP CLASSES TODAY, DECEMBER 1  
(THANKSGIVING BREAK)**

### Immaculate Conception Dispensation

Bishop Timothy Senior dispenses from the obligation of the Solemnity of Mary for this year 2024. However, this does not diminish the importance of the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception in the life of the Church. Our parishioners are encouraged to celebrate the Solemnity on Monday, December 9, at 9am Mass.

### 2025 Catholic Calendar

The Catholic calendars have arrived and are available in the narthex.

### Weather Policy

Our winter weather policy is located on our parish website. Please make sure to take a look at our procedures for Masses, church events, and ministry events.

### Holy Hour of Reparation

All are invited to our First Friday devotion on December 6 at 7pm in the Main Church. Spend some time with Jesus and offer up your prayers to His Sacred Heart to make reparation for our sins and the sins of the whole world. This year's theme is "Eucharistic Miracles."

### Rosary Recitation

Starting this weekend, we will be reciting the rosary 25 minutes prior to the beginning of all Masses for Advent. Families, individuals, or ministries who would like to lead the rosary recitation are encouraged to sign-up. A sign up sheet will be on the round table in the narthex. Please indicate which Mass you'd prefer, and a schedule will be compiled and distributed. If you choose to be a leader, you will be contacted, via email, once the schedule is completed.

### Oplatki

Oplatki is available at our parish office window. It is a free-will offering; parishioners can drop off their donations in the collection basket or at the office.

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### Local Advent Penance Services

|                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| December 10 at 7pm        | St. Paul, Annville                 |
| December 15 at 7pm        | St. Joan of Arc, Hershey           |
| December 15 at 7pm        | St. Benedict, Lebanon              |
| <b>December 16 at 7pm</b> | <b>Holy Spirit Church, Palmyra</b> |

### Advent Reflections

All adult members of the parish are invited to join the Women at the Well prayer ministry for a time of reflection and prayer during Advent. Meetings will take place on December 4, 11, & 18 in the Multipurpose room after the 6pm evening Mass. We will meditate on the Gospels, share reflections, and spend time in discussion and prayer. You can attend any or all sessions. For more information, contact us at [womenatthewell@hspalmyra.com](mailto:womenatthewell@hspalmyra.com). We hope you'll join us!

### Christmas Flower Memorial Deadline

Please complete the form, attach your payment, and drop it off at the parish office by December 4 at 6pm.

### Disciple Maker Survey

Thank you for sharing your feedback! Thank you to everyone who participated in the Disciple Maker Index Survey for our parish. Your feedback will help our parish continue to discover how we are called for more. Thank you for making this effort a success.

### Retirement Fund for Religious

"Your support acknowledges that we continue the mission of Christ even in our retirement," says Mission Helpers of the Sacred Heart Sister Celeste Brugos, 80. Donations provide for the care, medicine, and daily needs of over 24,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who have dedicated their lives to service. Please give to the Retirement Fund for Religious.

### FROM OUR SECOND SYNODAL SURVEY

Question # 16: Please anonymously share a story about an experience with prayer or with a sacrament that convinces you that prayer or the sacraments have effects.

138 Written Responses

- ✘ "I don't have a good example, per se. However, when I do spend time in prayer early in the day, I feel that my days are better personally or professionally. It just seems that better things happen when I focus on prayer."
- ✘ "My son being baptized in the hospital at 3 weeks old while in the NICU, convinced me that prayers and the sacraments do have effects."

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