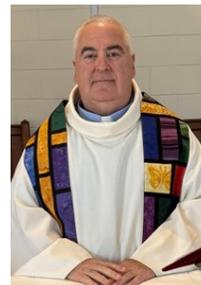




Rev. Fr. Mark J. Niznik - Pastor
Masses: Sunday 9:00am & 11:00am
5245 SE 112th Street
Bellevue, FL 34420
(352) 245-2061
Email: fathermark1@gmail.com
Website: stpaulfl.com



Parish News

Advent marks the start of the Christmas season and the new year in the Church. It begins on the Sunday nearest November 30th, the feast day of St. Andrew the Apostle, and lasts four Sundays. The date it begins changes from year to year. As a result, so does the length of each Advent season. This year the first Sunday in Advent is November 30, 2025.

The word *advent*, from Latin, means “the coming.” It is a time of spiritual reflection. We look to experience penitential as well as cheerful anticipation.

An Advent wreath is made from green to symbolize continuous life and contains four candles -- three purple and one rose. Often a fifth candle (white) is added to the center of the wreath for lighting on Christmas Eve, in celebration of the birth of Jesus.

The progressive weekly lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord’s first coming in to the world and the anticipation of His second coming to judge the living and the dead.

First Sunday of Advent: Hope

One purple candle is lit to symbolize Hope.

Second Sunday: Peace

Two purple candles are lit - Hope & Peace

Third Sunday (Gaudete Sunday): Joy

Two purple candles (Hope & Peace) and one rose is lit to symbolize Joy.

Fourth Sunday: Love

All four candles are lit - Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

Christmas Eve:

We light all four candles and add the fifth white candle which represents the light of Christ.





Dine in or Take out from 4 - 7pm each Friday for an amazing New England seafood style meal! Order either the Haddock or Shrimp or Chicken, that comes with sides of coleslaw, potato waves and the veggie of the day! There's also complimentary tea, lemonade and coffee! The donation is \$20 per meal. If you'd like to plate share, there is a \$10 add on. Try one of our amazing, great portioned, homemade desserts from our Adoration Society for just \$3. Word is getting out about how terrific our Fish Frys are, so please keep supporting keep supporting the efforts of our Christ-centered volunteers! If you'd like to join in the fun, any amount of time you can give is greatly appreciated! Even just one Friday every other month would be great! Please contact our volunteer coordinator, Bob Canfield for details (352) 454-8677

The Young Men's Society of Resurrection (YMS of R)



The YMS of R now meets twice monthly at 5:00pm.

The 2nd Tuesday a get together.

The 4th Tuesday a get together and monthly meeting.

The YMS of R will be having their annual dinner at 5:00pm on Tuesday, December 23rd at Pasta Faire.

The YMS of R group is open to all the men of the parish.

For any questions, please see or contact Mark Gilbert at:

(410) 419-0321

Ladies Adoration Society



Ribbons bought, trays arrived, wrapping paper ready. We now need as many bakers as we can get to bake cookies, lots of them to help us fill these beautiful trays. Baked cookies can be dropped off in the Social Hall on Saturday, December 13th between 9:00am and 10:00am, also Friday night (December 12th) at the Fish Fry.

Cookie Tray Raffle Tickets are now on sale. The drawing will be December 13th. Father Mark will draw the winning tickets. The proceeds are used for the upkeep of our church Altar and Father Mark's vestments. Tickets will be sold in the Social Hall after Sunday Mass and at the Friday night Fish Fry. Tickets are 1 for \$2.00, 3 for \$5.00 and **15 for \$10.00. (That's how you win!).**

On behalf of our Adoration Society, we thank you for your never-ending support and wish you Christ's choicest blessings and a joyful and Happy Christmas Season.

In His service,

Dori Canfield, President

The Adoration Society



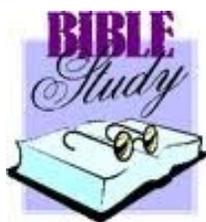
Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

Wednesday, Dec. 24th
Mass will be at 7:00pm.

Christmas Day

Thursday, Dec. 25th
Mass will be at 10:00am



Father Mark's bible study class meets every Thursday morning at 11:00am here at St. Paul's social hall. This ongoing class is for everyone interested in finding out more about their faith. Father Mark brings us many pearls of Scripture each week and whether you are a first time bible reader or an astute learned scriptural connoisseur, there's something special in the Word of God for everyone. You are encouraged to bring a friend.



Clean Kids Back Pack Program

Our mainstay charitable program provides local homeless school children with personal care/hygiene items all year round. Please drop off items anytime on the rectory porch or at church on Sundays in the bins at the front of the church.



Birthdays

- 1st Terry DeVries
Anne O'Neill
- 2nd Gerry Seader
- 7th John Brian Clark
- 8th Deb Williams
- 10th Louise Waszczak
- 13th Harry Moebs
Debbie Niznik
- 16th Robert Smith
- 25th David Bailey
- 30th Doug Wilk



Anniversaries

- 4th Gary & Tracy Demack
- 30th Louis & Irene Torresin

* Members: if your birthday or anniversary is not listed, please inform Debbie Niznik.



For December, there is an envelope entitled: *Christmas Decorations*. This is used for the poinsettias and other decorations for the Christmas Season.

The month of December is designated for the *Seminary Fund*. Parish members can donate to this fund by using their Seminary Fund envelope. Also, if you are not a member and would like to donate to this fund, please use a Love Offering envelope found in the church pews and mark it "*Seminary Fund*". This fund is used to help promote vocations and assist seminarians in their formation to the diaconate and priesthood. Thank you for your considerations.

2026 Offering Envelopes



The 2026 Offering Envelopes will be available around the middle of December.

New Mass Time in 2026

Starting Sunday, January 4, 2026 Mass will now be held at 10:00am and then every Sunday afterwards.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6 NIV)



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CLEAN KIDS BACKPACK
PROGRAM

DONATIONS

TOP NEEDED ITEMS



No Rinse Shampoo



Deodorant



Dental Care Supplies

Other important needed items:

- backpacks
- family size tents
- sleeping bags
- sleeping mats
- socks & underwear
- feminine hygiene products
- baby wipes
- diapers (assorted sizes)
- shaving supplies

Please make sure that donations are **new and in original packaging.**

Thank you!