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## Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2025

They shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

-- Matthew 1:23



### Week of December 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>

Monday: 8:00 Michael & Mary Ann McBride+  
Tuesday: 8:00 Jack Robert Nelson+  
Wednesday: **No Daily Mass**  
Thursday: **Christmas!**  
Friday: 8:00 Michael J. McBride+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Judy Hilgert, Linda Peng, Georgia Pontoniere, Maria Corrales, Dan McDonald, Lorraine Heinemann, Lisa Wemple, Sarah Wren, Marian Flandick, James Breen, Janet Laurent, Anil Siu, Peggy Delson-Rini, Frank Rini and Cecilia Uyeda.

### Weekly Collections

December 14, 2025	\$10,893.00
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#### Please Note:

Remember to make **all checks** payable to Corpus Christi Church. And, indicate in the Memo line what the check is for. Thank you for your cooperation!

### Christmas Services 2025!

Christmas Eve – Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 p.m. – Family Mass  
9:00 p.m. – Christmas Carols  
9:30 p.m. – Mass

Christmas Day – Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Mass

New Year's Day – Thursday, January 1, 2026  
9:00 a.m. – Mass

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

  
The birth of the Messiah is the fulfillment of the promise that God made to us through the prophets when he said, "I will be your God and you will be my people." The Incarnation gives flesh to God's promise of old. But like some of the Chosen People before us, we find it hard to appreciate the full implications of these words. At Christmas, we celebrate what we don't fully understand.

The word became flesh and dwelt among us, how can that be? Think about it. God loves us so much that he sent his son to become one with us so that we could become one with him. This is incomprehensible for us because we can't fully comprehend the depth of God's love.

Yet in the depths of our hearts, we feel this to be true. This is why Christmas is such a special time because it is a season that encourages us to be our best. Christmas at its best gives us a glimpse of the joy, peace and love that we will experience in heaven.

My Christmas prayer for you is that during this wonderful season you will feel the depth of God's love for you and in turn share that love with family, friends and strangers.

#### **Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!**

Fr. Leo, Fr. Basil, Fr. Paul, Fr. Kwame,  
Joe, Claire, Mele, Adrian,  
Rebeccah, Anne, Ankie,  
Gail, Judy & Karyn

### Parish Office Holiday Hours!



In celebration of Christmas, the Parish Office will be closed on Christmas, Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. We will be back on Monday, December 29<sup>th</sup>. Happy Holidays to everyone!



The Parish Family of Corpus Christi has been increased and enriched through the recent baptism of:

**Toireann River May Cregg Reed**, daughter of Perri Reed and Jordan Cregg.

Congratulations to the proud parents from all of us!

### The Twelve Days of Christmas!

When Christmas tide  
comes in like a bride  
with holly and ivy clad,  
Twelve Days in the year  
much mirth and good cheer  
in every household is had.

**C**hristmas is not a day but a season! It lasts from Christmas Day until the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. In the year 567, the Church Council of Tours called the 13 days between December 25<sup>th</sup> and January 6<sup>th</sup> a festival season. Up until that time, the only other joyful Church season was the 50 days between Easter Sunday and Pentecost.

**A**lmost everyone knows the carol, "The Twelve Days of Christmas." In England, they begin counting the twelve days on December 26<sup>th</sup>, making January 6<sup>th</sup> the 12<sup>th</sup> day. The stroke of midnight on New Year's Eve is the center point. In most of Europe, they begin counting the twelve days on December 25<sup>th</sup>. That makes January 6<sup>th</sup> the 13<sup>th</sup> day. Either way, we have a "baker's dozen" of days for announcing the good news of the birth of Christ.

**C**hristmastime is meant for hospitality, gift-giving, caroling and storytelling. We set this time aside to relax and be merry after weeks of preparation. We do only the work that is absolutely needed so that we can enjoy these festive days with our families and friends, and so that we can make sure that everyone is able to take part. Some families make it their custom during this time to cluster around the Christmas crib for prayers each evening. The Christmas tree is lighted each night while folks pray and sing carols. On Christmas day, the figures of the Magi are placed far away from the crib and then moved a little closer each day until Epiphany when they arrive in Bethlehem. Then, the Christmas story can be told and retold.

### Trust in God!

On this final Sunday of Advent, our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son of God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel. Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Davidic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to "tempt the Lord" in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord's enduring protection of God's chosen lineage on the throne of David. The child will be called Emmanuel.

Matthew's reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ.



### Readings For The Week

December 22<sup>nd</sup> -- 27<sup>th</sup>

Monday: First Reading 1 Samuel 1:24-28;  
Responsorial Psalm 1 Samuel 2:1, 4-5, 6-7;  
Gospel Luke 1:46-56

Tuesday: First Reading Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24;  
Psalm 25;  
Gospel Luke 1:57-66

Wednesday: First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8 –12, 14a;  
Psalm 89;  
Gospel Luke 1:67-79

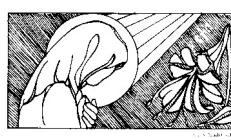
Thursday: First Reading Isaiah 9:1-6;  
Psalm 96;  
Second Reading Titus 2:11-14;  
Gospel Luke 2:1-14

Friday: First Reading Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59;  
Psalm 31;  
Gospel Matthew 10:17-22

Saturday: First Reading 1 John 1:1-4;  
Psalm 97;  
Gospel John 20:1a, 2-8

### 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Crab Feed & Auction!

Mark your calendars today for Corpus Christi's 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Crab Feed and Auction on Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>! The event brings the School and Parish together for food, friends and fundraising, including a seated, all you can eat crab dinner, plus a live and silent auction, drinks and dancing. Funds raised will support Corpus Christi School and our Parish. Get ready to "Paint the Town Red" at the red-themed event! Purchase your early bird tickets for \$100.00 per person at: [www.ccfeed.org](http://www.ccfeed.org). This ticket price will only last through Monday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, so purchase yours today!



### Today's Readings

**First Reading** -- You will be given this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel (Isaiah 7:10-14).

**Psalm** -- Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory (Psalm 24).

**Second Reading** -- God has called us to belong to Jesus Christ (Romans 1:1-7).

**Gospel** -- The son born of Mary shall be called Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins. He shall be Emmanuel, "God is with us" (Matthew 1:18-24).

