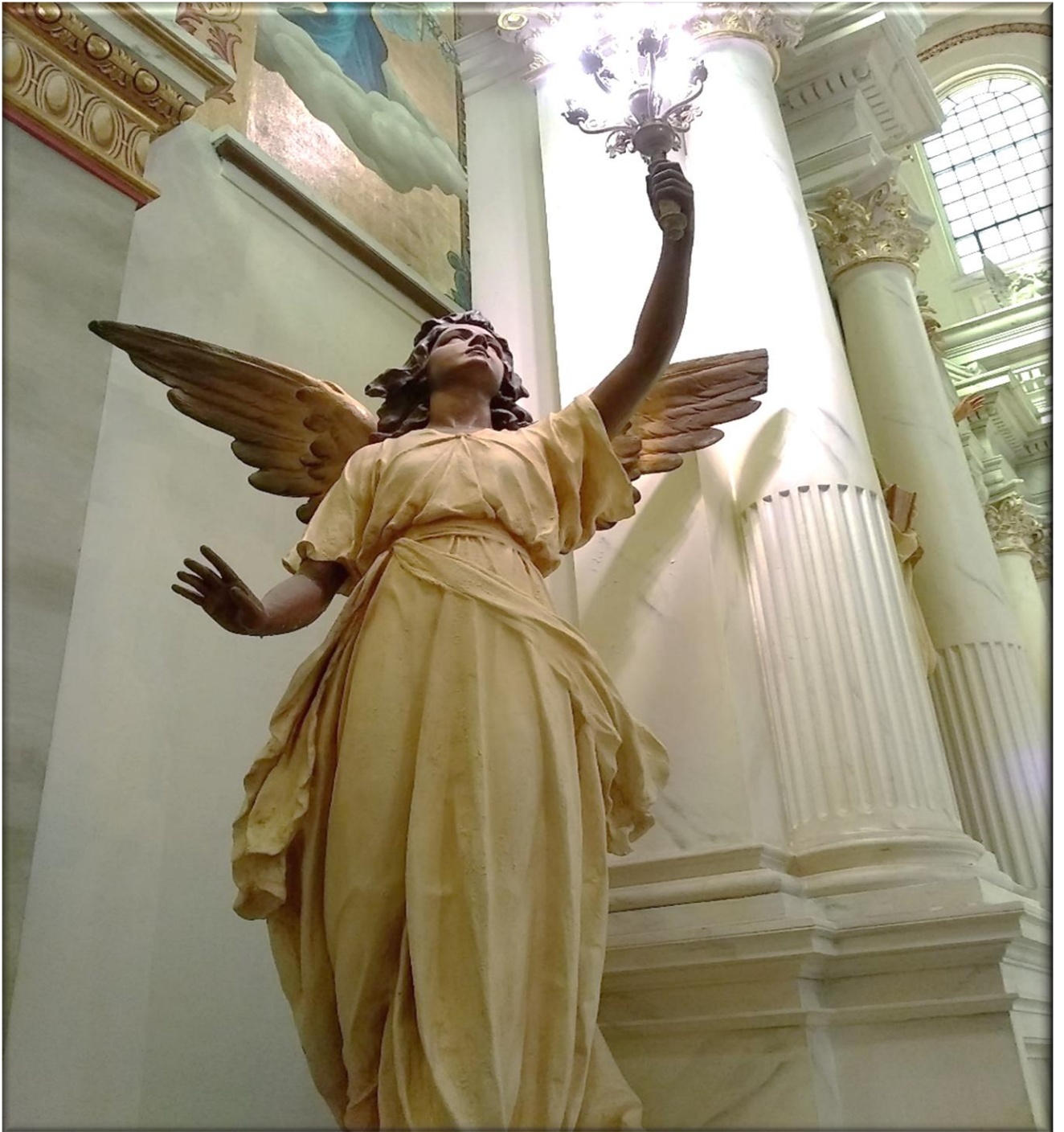

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Church
THE VIGIL

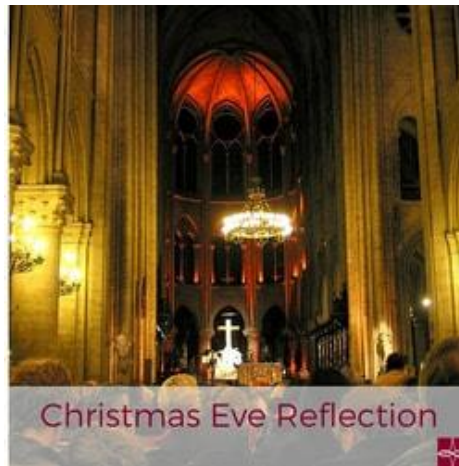
Sunday, December 25, 2025 (Year A)

Christmas Vigil and Christmas Day



Thoughts for Today's Readings "With a Prayer..."

Christmas Food for Your Soul



"On this holy night, while we contemplate the Infant Jesus just born and placed in the manger, we are invited to reflect. How do we welcome the tenderness of God? Do I allow myself to be taken up by God, to be embraced by him, or do I prevent him from drawing close?" - Pope Francis (Christmas Homily, 2014)

The past year has seen many moments that called out for the "tenderness of God." Challenging moments of war, suffering, natural disaster, and human-caused neglect - seemingly harsh, rather than tender. Some might use the harshness of the world as an excuse to move away from God or render God irrelevant. Yet, there is still a seeking in the human heart given by God who desires to embrace us and draw us close. When we look at the scene of the Nativity, do we see the tenderness of God in the midst of the harsh reality that Mary and Joseph were not shown tenderness in their need, but instead were rejected? The Son of God came into the world in poverty. At the end of his earthly life, he was rejected once again. The Father, though, continued to show mercy, love, and tenderness by raising him up, opening the way to salvation, and leaving us a share in Christ's mission of love and mercy until he comes again.

During this **Jubilee of Mercy** and beyond, may we go about doing Christ's mission well through living tenderness, reviving faith, rekindling charity - living the **corporal** and **spiritual** works of mercy. These works of mercy are practical ways for us to welcome and share the "tenderness of God."

On behalf of the board, staff, collaborators, and advisors of the Catholic Apostolate Center, may you have a Blessed Christmas and a good New Year! You will be remembered by me at Masses during the Christmas season!

May the charity of Christ urge us on!

Fr. Frank Donio, S.A.C.

Sunday Community Dinners... As one of our most important ministries to our members and neighbors, we have been blessed. We are in need of more. If you and your group would like to sponsor a meal, please contact Georgia Kingsley via the rectory. **Sunday, December 28, 2025: NO MEAL (Holiday); January 4, 2026: SPONSOR NEEDED; January 11, 2026: Angie Kadowaki & Family; January 18, 2026: Parish Council; January 25, 2026: St. Bonaventure Secular Franciscans; February 15, 2025: Kim & Steve Llorens**

Nativity Pantry News: We are so grateful for your continued support of the pantry. **The pantry will reopen on January 8th. The one thing we are totally out of is Family Size Peanut Butter**, which will be needed when we reopen on January 8th. Again, we thank you for all you do to help us.



Loving God, Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake.

Amen.

**PRAY FOR THE
HEALING PRESENCE**

Jean-Marie Allion
Anderson and Miller Family
Paul Andreacovich
Kathy Ayoub
Mary Canaday
Jane Colombo
Kyle Duker
Jim Dutkiewicz
Doris Franklin
Anna Grabowski
Nancy Hayes
Jim Howard
Evelyn Hughes
Bertha Jackson-Hyde
Michelle Koss
Steve Lamendola
Michael Martin
Jacqueline Morant
Gloria Parham
Ronald Parham
Vertis Park, Sr.
Earlene Park-Williams
Orlando Richardson
Aaron Scott
Cherise Sweeney
Jonathan Taylor
Tommy Traylor
Anna Tyler
Guillerma Villanueva
Eldora White

Please call the rectory at 313-331-0253 to let us know when a name should be added to or removed from the list. Names will stay on the list for 3 months, but can be continued if we are notified of the wishes to do so.

MASS INTENTIONS

December 28, 2025
Steven & Catherine Bogotaitis
Kevin Scully
Madalere Mannino

January 4, 2026
Dr. Robert Preuss

January 11, 2026
Patricia Sweeting
Carolyn Loring
James Callahan

January 18, 2026
Michael Ayoub
Renee Valenti

January 25, 2026
Fr. Dan Trapp
Joyce Carson
Carolyn Carson

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 9:1-6
(The Messiah's Kingdom)

Psalm 96
(Bless the Lord)

Timothy 2:11-14
(Salvation for All)

Luke 2:10-11
(Great Joy)

Luke 2:1-14
(Birth of Christ)

**The Holy Father's Intentions
for the Month of
December 2025**

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Thurs., Dec. 25: Isaiah 52: 7-10; Psalm 98: 1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Hebrews 1: 1-6; John 1: 1-18

Fri., Dec. 26: Acts 6: 8-10; 7: 54-59; Psalm 31: 3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17; Psalm 118: 26a, 27a; Matthew 10: 17-22

Sat., Dec. 27: First John 1: 1-4; Psalm 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12; John 20: 1a and 2-8

Sun., Dec. 28: Sirach 3: 2-6, 12-14; Psalm 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5; Colossians 3: 12-21; Colossians 3: 15a, 16a; Matthew 2: 13-15, 19-23

STEWARDSHIP MINUTE

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." Matthew 1:24

Joseph is the ultimate example of complete trust in God. It is hard to imagine what he must have been thinking when he learned that Mary was expecting a child and then when an angel appeared to him told him to take Mary into his home. It was undoubtedly confusing and frightening. But he recognized that it was God's plan for him – despite his many questions and fears. What can you learn from Joseph about hearing and heeding God's call for you?.

**COLLECTION INFO
12-21-2025**

Collection \$ 9,228.58
Online \$ 1,617.00

TOTAL \$10,845.58

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION NEWS

We guide children in their faith journey through engaging lessons, Sacrament preparation, Scripture stories, prayer, and meaningful activities rooted in Catholic life.

Advent

Advent is a sacred time of expectation and hope, when we prepare our homes and our hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas Day. Each candle we light reminds us that God is drawing near, bringing light into the world through His Son. During this final week of Advent, we rejoice in the endless love that God has for us, which is made apparent in the birth of his Son. This is the last week to prepare our hearts for the joy of Christmas.

Key Dates:

- **Sunday, Dec. 21, 2025:**
 - practice right after Mass for Christmas Play
 - Giving Tree gifts are due Sunday
- **Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2025**
8pm Christmas Eve Mass
- **Sunday, Dec. 28, 2025**
10:45am before Mass, Family Formation Meeting with Parents & children

Contact Info

- Interested in Registering?
- If you would like to sign up for Religious Education classes, please contact:
Barbara Taylor

Parish Nurse News and Notes December

December Health Focus: Preventing Impaired Driving

December is a season of celebration, gatherings, and gratitude—but it is also one of the most dangerous months for impaired driving. Alcohol, drugs (including some prescription medications), fatigue, and distractions can all impair judgment and reaction time, putting drivers, passengers, and pedestrians at risk.

Impaired driving is preventable. Planning ahead is one of the most effective ways to stay safe. If you plan to drink or take medications that cause drowsiness, arrange a designated driver, use public transportation, or call a ride service. Hosts can help by offering non-alcoholic beverages and encouraging guests to stay overnight or get a safe ride home.

Medication safety is especially important during the winter months. Some cold, flu, pain, and anxiety medications can impair driving ability. Read labels carefully, avoid mixing medications with alcohol, and ask a healthcare provider or pharmacist if it is safe to drive.

As parish nurses, we encourage our faith communities to look out for one another. A simple conversation, a caring reminder, or offering a ride can save a life. This December, let us commit to protecting ourselves and our neighbors by choosing safe, sober, and alert driving—an act of love and stewardship for the lives God has entrusted to us.

God bless

Merry Christmas

Mary Catherine Wright RN, Parish Nurse

Detroit Eastside Family Parish Information and Mass Times

St Charles Borromeo Detroit

1491 Baldwin

Detroit, MI 48214

313-331-0253

www.stcharlesborromeodetroit.org

stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Sunday: 11:30am

Friday: 11am in rectory

Live Stream & YouTube

Nativity of Our Lord

5900 McClellan

Detroit, MI 48213

313-922-0033

www.nativitydetroit.org

nativityol@sbcglobal.net

Sunday 9:30am

Thursday: Holy Hour 8am; Mass 9am

Live Stream and YouTube

St Augustine & St Monica

4151 Seminole

Detroit, MI 48214

313-921-4107

www.saintamparish.org

office@saintamparish.org

Sunday: 10am

Wednesday: 9am

St. Jude

15889 Seven Mile E ·

Detroit, MI 48205

313-527-0380

stjudedetroit.org

Sunday: 10:30am

Saturday: 4pm

Sacred Heart

1000 Eliot St.

Detroit, MI 48207

313-831-1356

www.sacredheartdetroit.com

info@sacredheart.com

Sunday: 8am and 10am

Tuesday: 5pm

Saturday: 5pm

St. Elizabeth

3138 E. Canfield St.

Detroit, MI 48207

313-921-9225

www.stelizabethdetroit.org

saintelizabethchurchofdetroit@gmail.com

Sunday: 12:00pm

St. Raymond – Our Lady of Good Council

20103 Joann

Detroit, MI 48205

313-527-0525

www.straymondolg.org

Sunday: 10:30am

Tuesday: 8:30am

Thursday: 8:30am

Our Lady Queen of Heaven/Good Shepherd

8200 Rolyat St.

Detroit, MI 48234

313-891-4553

ourladyofgoodshepherd.org

Sunday: 9am

Tuesday: 10:30am

Thursday: 10:30am

Friday: 10:30am

Saturday: 4pm

Immaculate Conception Masses

St. Raymond—8:30am
 St. Charles—11am
 Sacred Heart—5pm
 Nativity—6pm

St. Charles Borromeo

December 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 PGC – In-person at ST. Augustine/St. Monica – Detroit 6pm Blvd. Home Visits 10:30am	3 Bible Study In Rectory 6pm – 7pm**	4 Bible Study In Rectory 6pm – 7pm** Faith & Fellowship 4:30-7pm PGC On- Line Session 6pm	5	6 Birthday Party in Social Hall 5pm—9pm
7 2nd Sunday of Advent <u>11:30am Mass</u> Community Meal Diabetes Class	8 Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation ***Mass Schedule at top of this calendar***	9	10 Bible Study In Rectory 6pm – 7pm	11 Faith & Fellowship 4:30-7pm	12 Christmas Concert at Old St. Mary's 7pm	13
14 3rd Sunday of Advent <u>11:30am Mass</u> Community Meal Blood Pressure Screening Diabetes Class	15 PGC On- Line Session 6pm	16	17 No Bible Study tonight	18 Blvd. Ministry Christmas Party 12:30pm Faith & Fellowship 4:30-7pm	19	20
21 4th Sunday of Advent <u>11:30am Mass</u> Community Meal Church Decorating after Mass Diabetes Class	22	23	24 Christmas Eve No Bible Study tonight See Family Mass Schedule in Vigil or on Face-Book	25 Christmas Day See Family Mass Schedule in Vigil or on FaceBook	26 Kwanzaa Begins	27
28 Holy Family Mass at 11:30am <u>NO</u> Community Meal—Holiday Diabetes Class	29	30	31 No Bible Study tonight New Year's Eve Mass—11pm, Party 12 Midnight			

St Charles Borromeo

1491 Baldwin St., Detroit, MI 48214
(313) 331-0253 (Fax 313-331-4834)

St. Charles Office Hours:

Monday, 10am to 3pm
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 9am to 4pm
Friday, 9am to 3pm

Pastoral Team

Fr. Francis Asomkase, SSJ, Priest in Solidum and Moderator
Fr. Richard Baumann, Priest in Solidum
Reverend Charles Nwamadi, SSJ, Priest in Solidum
Fr. David Preuss, OFM, CAP, Priest in Solidum
Deacon Joseph Jones
Edward Cotton – Mission Support Director
Rhonda Gilbert – Pastoral Associate
Joan Jacobs & Angie Kadowaki – Boulevard Ministry Ministers
Mary Catherine Wright – Parish Nurse

Council Members: Naim Edwards (Chairperson), Angela Kadawaki, Dennis Ballard (Vice-Chairperson), Patricia Ballard, Alex Grabowski, Marian Harvey (Secretary), Freddie Henry, Mary Ellen Howard, Bruce McDonald, Mikhail Perkins, Richard Preuss, Linda Simpkins

**AOD Restructuring
St. Charles Parish
Leaders**

Doris Allen
Alex Grabowski
Joan Jacobs
Bruce McDonald
Richard Preuss

**Parish Point Person of
Contact**

Rhonda Gilbert

St. Charles Mission Statement

St. Charles Borromeo, a diverse urban parish of Detroit, is rooted in Christ's Gospel and Catholic tradition. We strive to build a community of faith through education, worship, and evangelization. We are called to carry on Christ's ministry to our brothers and sisters, especially the sick and their families, the elderly, youth, and the disabled. With Mary as our example of unconditional love, we strive to welcome everyone to share joyfully in the peace, love and salvation of Jesus Christ. We acknowledge that it is the Holy Spirit who calls and empowers us, who strengthens and renews us, and who gives us the will to continue our mission, until Jesus comes.

St Charles Website: www.stcharlesdetroit.org
Email: stcharlesborromeodetroit@yahoo.com

Facebook: St. Charles Borromeo Parish - Detroit MI
YouTube: www.youtube.com/@st.charlesborromeodetroit



Online Giving

Go to the giving site at:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stcharlesdetroit>