

THE ORATORY OF SAINTS
GREGORY & AUGUSTINE



TRADITIO

|

REVERENTIA

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COMMUNITAS

Welcome to the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine

The Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine is pleased to welcome you. We are an apostolate of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis faithful to the teachings of the Church and striving to grow as a family of faith through the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass and other Sacraments.

In the First Book of *The Confessions*, the other great St. Augustine (of Hippo) wrote the following: "Thou hast made us for Thyself and our hearts are restless until they find rest in Thee." Whether you are curious about the traditional Latin Mass and interested in exploring its beauty, searching for a parish community where you and your family will feel at home, or seeking rest for your heart, we hope that the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine can provide that respite for you.

Our bulletin serves to provide information about the weekly activities occurring here at the Oratory. Along with our website (www.stlouislatinmass.com), the bulletin is your point of contact with the ever-increasing activities at the Oratory. I hope this will give you some sense of the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and work of the Holy Spirit in our midst. I am delighted that God has brought you here! *Oremus pro invicem!* ~ The Very Reverend Monsignor C. Eugene Morris, Rector

MASS AND SACRAMENTS

Sunday Masses

- 6:30 am (Low Mass)
- 8:00 am (Low Mass)
- 10:00 am (High Mass)

Weekday Masses

- Monday thru Friday: 6:30 am & 12:15 pm
- First Friday: 6:30 pm
- Saturday: 8:15 am

Confession

- Sunday: 7:30 am – 10:30 am
- Monday thru Friday: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Wednesday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- First Friday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Saturday: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

Adoration

- Wednesday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

Divine Office

- Sunday: Prime @ 7:20 am; Terce @ 9:40 am; Vespers @ 2:30 pm
- Monday: Vespers @ 6 pm; Compline @ 6:30 pm
- Tuesday & Thursday: Compline @ 6:30 pm
- Wednesday: Vespers @ 6 pm; Compline @ 6:30 pm

Infant Baptism – Baptisms are normally scheduled on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Saturdays of the month beginning at 10:00 am. Families expecting newborns and anticipating that they will be baptized here at the Oratory should schedule their baptism at the earliest convenience by contacting the Oratory office.

Adult Baptism – If you are interested in becoming Catholic or if you are an adult Catholic not yet confirmed, please contact the Oratory office for more information about adult catechesis.

Matrimony – Please contact the Oratory office at least six months prior to the desired date for the rite of marriage. The date is reserved after consultation and confirmation from the Rector of the Oratory.

Extreme Unction/Visitation of the Sick – Contact the Oratory to arrange the sacrament either at home or in the hospital.

STAFF/ORGANIZATIONS

- **Rector:** Msgr. C. Eugene Morris
rector@oratorysga.org
- **Vice-Rector:** Fr. Michael Rennie
vicerector@oratorysga.org
- **Deacon:** Deacon Steve Pieper, MD
deacon@oratorysga.org
- **Administrative Assistant:** Donna Mueller
office@oratorysga.org
- **Facilities Manager:** Ben Schubert
facilities@oratorysga.org
- **Auxiliary:** Anna Kalinowski
auxiliary@oratorysga.org
- **Almonry of Ss. Gregory & Augustine:**
almonry@oratorysga.org
- **Altar and Rosary Society:**
altarandrosary@oratorysga.org
- **Altar Servers:**
servers@oratorysga.org
- **Choir:**
choir@oratorysga.org
- **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD):**
ccd@oratorysga.org
- **Co-Op:**
co-op@oratorysga.org
- **Events:**
events@oratorysga.org
- **Knights of Columbus:**
kofc17355@oratorysga.org
- **Schola:**
schola@oratorysga.org
- **Troops of Saint George:**
tsg@oratorysga.org
- **Ushers:**
ostarii@oratorysga.org
- **Young Adults:**
youngadults@oratorysga.org
- **Online Giving:**
<https://www.osvhub.com/st-louis-latin-mass>

CONTACT US

314-644-2144 / stlouislatinmass.com
7230 Dale Avenue, Richmond Heights, MO 63117

Feast of the Holy Family

11 January 2026

FROM THE RECTOR

The celebration of the Feast of the Holy Family reinforces our faith in the Incarnation and further expands on the implications of God becoming man. The Lord's presence in the flesh serves not only to reconcile us to the Father but also to restore mankind's dignity. As a consequence, every aspect of human life presents an opportunity to make manifest the glory of God. The human condition and all its aspects no longer need be drudgery and toil. Family life, when it is modeled after that of the Holy Family, opens up opportunities for growth in holiness and virtue. Our Collect and Lessons today remind us that through the virtues of charity, obedience, mutual help and solicitude aided the Holy Family in making family life holy. As always, we are presented the chance to practice these same virtues in our own families. There are multiple forces arrayed against the success of the family, all of them originating from the designs of Satan to destroy family life. Successful counter attacks and resistance to temptation come from diligently living virtuous lives. By these lives of virtue, let us find joy and peace in our own families and in the family of Holy Mother the Church. Let us pray through the intercession of Jesus, Mary and Joseph to work courageously to safeguard family life from the pernicious lies of society and culture.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 11 January:

- Prime @ 7:20 am
- Confessions @ 7:30 am
- Terce @ 9:40 am
- Coffee Hour @ 11:30 am
- Vespers @ 2:30 pm

Monday, 12 January:

- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Tuesday, 13 January:

- Compline @ 6:30 pm
- Choir practice @ 7:00 pm

Wednesday, 14 January:

- Adoration/Confessions @ 5:00 pm
- Adult Catechesis @ 5:45 pm
- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Thursday, 15 January 2026:

- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Friday, 16 January:

- Herrmann/Rombach Rehearsal @ 5:00 pm

Saturday, 17 January:

- Maret Baptism @ 10:00 am
- Hartmann Baptism @ 11:00 am
- Herrmann/Rombach Wedding @ 2:00 pm

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PILGRIM VIRGIN MARY STATUE 2026

12/28-01/04 Kenney	01/04-01/11 Raymond
01/11-01/18 Hayes	01/18-01/25 Schuette
01/25-02/01 Filla	02/01-02/08 Petrick
02/08-02/15 D'Cunha	02/15-02/22 Alexander
02/22-03/01 Stolarski	03/01-03/08 Henry
03/08-03/15 Santschi	03/15-03/22 Kiser
03/22-03/29 Agnew	03/29-04/05 Buyle
04/05-04/12 Leljedal	04/12-04/19 Grizzle
04/19-04/26 Turntine	04/26-05/03 Haulard

05/03-05/10 Kelly	05/10-05/17 Jones
05/17-05/24 Holman	05/24-05/31 Carapella
05/31-06/07 Cook	06/07-06/14 Hayward
06/14-06/21 Joseph	06/21-06/28 Blum
06/28-07/05 Wisniewski	07/05-07/12 Catalano
07/12-07/19 Kenney	07/19-07/26 Raymond
07/26-08/02 Hayes	08/02-08/09 Schuette
08/09-08/16 Filla	08/16-08/23 Petrick

Drop off and pick up the statue in the vestibule (back of church). Place the statue bag on the floor to left of the Oratory table. To join or to quit the schedule contact Sharon Alexander saalexa@sbcglobal.net

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MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, 12 January – *In the Octave Day of Epiphany*

6:30 am: Sophia Mueller
12:15 pm: James Malloy (d)

Tuesday, 13 January – *Octave Day of Epiphany*

6:30 am: Kristin Kalinowski
12:15 pm: Mark & Manuela Dittmar

Wednesday, 14 January – *St. Hilary*

6:30 am: John Mendel (d)
12:15 pm: Cullen Dittmar

Thursday, 15 January – *St. Paul, the Hermit*

6:30 am: Br. Macarius of Jesus Christ Crucified
12:15 pm: Ann Louise Morris-Kenney

Friday, 16 January – *St. Marcellus*

6:30 am: Br. Joseph of Jesus and Mary
12:15 pm: Rev. Steven Kalinowski, FSSP

Saturday, 17 January – *St. Anthony, Abbot*

8:15 am: Gregg Pickert (d)

Sunday, 18 January – *2nd Sunday after Epiphany*

6:30 am: Pro populo
8:00 am: Mary Knollmeyer (d)
10:00 am: Matthew Keys (d)

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Feast of the Holy Family

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: CLARIFICATION AND APOLOGY

It has long been a desire of mine as rector to have more Eucharistic Adoration at the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine. For a brief time, several years ago, we did have extended periods of adoration on Wednesdays and Fridays; unfortunately, the community was unable to sustain that with consistent adorers. Sadly, there were times when Our Lord was left alone in Church which of course should not and cannot ever happen. I had hoped that the community could begin adoration again with the First Friday of each month for 2026. It was anticipated that we would start on Friday, 2 January 2026. Again, we were unable to find a sufficient number of the faithful to be present at Adoration and to fill all of the hours. I made the decision to cancel adoration. This decision, however, was not communicated to all those who had signed up and who came to Church on 2 January expecting Eucharistic Adoration. I am truly sorry for any inconvenience this confusion caused and I am hopeful that those who did commit would be willing to do so again going forward. To that end, I am hopeful that we can find a sufficient number of the faithful to spend time with our Lord on Friday, 6 February 2026 from 1:00 pm until 6:00 pm. Hopefully, Adoration will take place every First Friday afternoon going forward to honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus. As a reminder: faithful are needed to adopt an hour of adoration to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is never left alone. To sign up for an hour, please email Anthony Jones at events@oratorysga.org

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IN GRATITUDE

As we continue to rejoice in the mystery of the Incarnation and thank God for His mercy, I want to express my gratitude to all the faithful of the Oratory for your on-going monetary support for the work of the Oratory. I am particularly grateful for your generosity not only to the weekly commitments needed to sustain the Oratory, but also to the success of Giving Tuesday in early December and your generosity to the Advent fundraiser for the Men's Schola. In a short period of time, there were many financial expectations set before you and the community has responded generously to these various requests. Please know of my daily prayers for our whole community and my personal gratitude in being able to serve a community so generous and faithful.

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CANTORES SANCTI LUDOVICI ADVENT FUNDRAISER UPDATE

A great thank you to all who participated in the *Cantores Sancti Ludovici* Advent Fundraiser. Through your immense generosity, we were able to raise over \$7,500 for the support of the Solemn Liturgical life at Ss. Gregory and Augustine made possible by the *Cantores'* assistance.

Thank you also to all who continue to be monthly supporters of our mission. If you would like to begin a monthly sponsorship of the *Cantores*, please email schola@oratorysga.org. God reward your generosity!

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EPIPHANY WATER, SALT, AND CHALK 2026

Epiphany water, salt, and chalk have been blessed and are available to the faithful for as long as it remains. Please only

take two of the water bottles so that everyone has an opportunity to have Epiphany Water. Also, you are free to use your own containers for Epiphany water. All of the blessed water will be available until we run out.

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2026 CALENDARS

The calendars for 2026 for the Oratory Community are still in transit. As soon as the calendars arrive we will put them in the main vestibule and by the side doors. This year's calendar comes from the Transalpine Redemptorists, a community of traditional monks rooted in the Redemptorists charism who practice both the contemplative and active life. Their motherhouse is in Scotland and they have recently founded a house in Montana.

You are kindly asked to initially take one calendar per household. Once everyone has had a chance to pick up a calendar, there should be more available in late January for those who need another one. Thank you!

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COAT DRIVE

The Knights of Columbus will be collecting donations of coats for local kids from the month of December through 1 February 2026. Please deposit coats in the large box in the vestibule and contact Jack Ryan with any questions: jmryan2023@gmail.com or 314-677-7754

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TRIVIA KNIGHT FUNDRAISER: 7 FEBRUARY 2026

Saturday, 7 February 2026, a Trivia Knight fundraiser hosted by OSGA and Cathedral KofC will be held at Boland Hall. Our annual event is back and bigger than ever! Trivia, Raffles, 50/50 drawing, prizes, and more! Round sponsorships are available. Please Contact Sam Ashlock for more information at: kofc17355@oratorysga.org. A flyer with more information is coming soon.

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CATECHESIS ON CONFESSION

The beginning of the new calendar is an opportune time to offer a few words on the nature of our confessions. Particularly that when we present ourselves for confession, it is after a complete examination of conscience striving for a full and integral confession aware of our sins and based not on emotion only. So too, those who make frequent confession (which is encouraged) should examine their consciences for the sin of presumption.

The Catechism of the Council of Trent provides a thorough and complete explication of the Sacrament of Penance. I want to draw particular attention to the exhortation that confession should be complete and entire. The Church teaches us that we are responsible for confessing all of our mortal sins in both number (how often) and kind (nature of the sin itself). As such when we come for confession, we should not only present those sins that are on our hearts or that have easily come to mind but also confess all sins we can recall after a thorough examination of conscience.

I encourage everyone to access a thorough and complete guide for examining your conscience. This will assist you in recalling your serious sins as well as venial sins which also work against growing in holiness. A good examination of

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conscience will also provide the requisite detachment from the emotions that are often associated with the sins for which we are guilty. There are situations where we might feel bad about a particular interaction, situation, but no sin was involved and then there are times when we have grown so accustomed to our sins that we no longer feel guilt about them and fail to confess them. Prepare well for the sacrament so that you can also use well the graces received.

THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to our OSGA families of the homeschool co-op, our OSGA young adult group, Vita Communis, and our parish family for all of the responses for our advent blessing bags for Birthright in Hillsboro.

We were able to provide over 30 bags for moms including a small gift and some chocolates; 35 baby gifts including an outfit and a gift; 28 "baby showers in a basket"; and 10 boxes and packages of diapers and wipes. Our children had a gathering event in which they were able to assemble these bags, perform some beautiful advent music to each other, and have some fun family time. A huge gratitude of thanks to our young adult group, Vita Communis for adding to these gifts and transporting them to Birthright for us.

DRINK BREVIARY COFFEE & SUPPORT THE ORATORY

Breviary Coffee is for sale at all coffee hours. Our coffee is locally roasted specifically for us in small batches from a single-origin, fair trade source and makes for a great gift for family and friends. 100% of the profits go to support the Oratory and fund our coffee hours. If you would like to purchase a 1-lb bag, the cost is \$16 and our coffee hour volunteers will be happy to assist you with the purchase. We can sell both ground and whole-bean. The roast is a medium-light roast and the cup of coffee that results is well-balanced and easy to drink, with notes of citrus but still sweet with a clean taste.

ANNUAL GIVING STATEMENTS

Annual Giving statements will be available (to those individuals/families who donated \$500 or more in 2025) beginning Sunday, 18 January 2026. If you donated less than \$500 and would like to receive a statement, please email the office. Statements will be available in the boxes on the back table in the Church vestibule. Please notify the office (via email please) immediately if any changes to your contact information need to be made regarding your name or address. This is also an opportunity to notify the office with any changes to phone number, cell number or email address. Again, please make every effort to notify the office of these changes through email. Our email address is office@oratorysga.org. In advance thank you for your generosity and attentiveness to these details.

BLESSED ITEMS

If you wish to have items blessed, please drop them off at the rectory (Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm) and include your name and telephone number. Please make sure all items are clearly marked. Once Msgr. Morris or Fr. Rennier have blessed the items Donna Mueller, Administrative Assistant to the Rector, will call you to let you know the items are ready for

pick up (from the rectory office, Mon-Fri, 9am-2pm). **Please drop off/pick up items at the front door on Dale Avenue, across from the field parking lot.**

CRITICAL/EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The recent violence against Christians, and particularly the Catholic Church, is a serious cause for concern. While being vigilant and aware of the various situations in which we might find ourselves, we must guard ourselves against living fearfully in the world. Assisting in finding this proper balance, the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine has plans in place in the event of a critical or emergency incident. In consultation with the Rector of the Oratory, the Ushers of the Oratory will be the men in charge of responding to any emergency situation. All the faithful of the Oratory are asked to follow their directives in the case of any critical incident or emergency situation. A proper chain of command, led by those with the necessary training, will assist the whole community if a critical and/or life-threatening situation should present itself. I am grateful to Dr. Robert Morgan and Tim Turtine for their leadership and expertise along with other members of the community and all of the ushers for undertaking this necessary and serious responsibility. If anyone is interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Dr. Morgan at ostiarri@oratorysga.org to become an usher which will facilitate your participation. Finally, if any member of our community has concerns, please communicate those directly to Rector.

STREET PARKING

As our community continues to grow, parking on Sundays is at a premium, especially at the 10:00 am Holy Mass. If you are parking on the street, please do not block any driveways. It was recently communicated that a driveway was blocked and the person living there was unable to get out. Fortunately, this neighbor was willing to wait until the conclusion of Holy Mass. Sadly, not all of our neighbors are happy about our presence or our growth and it is important that we work with them even if they do not want to work with us. Let's not provide any opportunity to cause or create a problem. Please be conscious of working to be good neighbors and do not block drives or park in places that are not available to us.

ADULTS SEEKING THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

We welcome those interested in becoming Catholic. To get started in that process within the OSGA community, please email one of our priests for an introductory meeting. Their contacts are available in the bulletin. After this, candidates for Initiation at the Oratory will be directed to complete a registration form with our Administrator.

Catechism classes are held in the St Joseph Room (rectory basement) generally on a bi-monthly basis on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 5:45-6:45 pm.

The content surrounds a set of topics central to Catholic teaching, as set forth by Msgr. Morris. Deacon Pieper moderates most meetings through a question and answer format and hopes to promote sincere dialogue with the candidates regarding those topics and/or related

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questions. The intent is to communicate Christ and His Church. Sacraments are offered on an individual basis, on a rolling schedule throughout the year, after mutual discernment by the candidate, our deacon and priests.

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NEW PRO-LIFE COORDINATOR

The whole community would like to thank Rory (Aurora) Miller for serving as the coordinator of Pro-Life activities for the Oratory for the past several years. Rory has done a great job leading the Oratory's involvement in fostering the culture of life. She has elected to step down from this position and we are in need of a new volunteer coordinator.

The duties of the position in its current configuration include:

- Attends diocesan pro-life meetings at Rigali Center.
- Coordinates 40 Days for Life twice each year.
- Goes to monthly meetings at the pro-life Advocacy group.
- Gathers information about upcoming Pro-Life events and submits this for posting and publication at the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine.

The new coordinator is encouraged to explore other avenues for the Oratory community to remain involved in and part of the Pro-Life efforts of the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

If you are interested, please contact the rector, Msgr. Morris (rector@oratorysga.org). In advance, thank you for your consideration and generosity.

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RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

For those in our community who are new to the Traditional Latin Mass, when you approach the altar rail for holy communion it is the custom to begin filling in the altar rail at the far right near St. Joseph's altar and fill in the rail until its end at the Marian altar. This practice is not impacted by which side of the Church you are seated. You are allowed, and encouraged, to switch sides in order to keep the communion line moving. This is particularly important when there are two sacred ministers distributing Holy Communion. So too, do not overly delay approaching the rail waiting for others to return to their pews. If everyone moves with attention to what is happening, there should be a flow of movement between those departing the altar rail and those approaching the altar rail. Also, for daily Holy Mass: please kneel at the rail only where the houseling cloth has been prepared for communion. Please keep in mind that we should not keep the Lord waiting but moving with grace and deliberation to the altar rail to receive our Eucharistic Lord.

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BAPTISMS (October - December 2025)

(In alphabetical order)

Louis Anthony Ashlock (Sam & Sara)
Virginia Marie Evangeline Buyle (Kenneth & Julia)
Magdalena Luisa Chacon (Sergio & Jayne)
Henry David Consolino (Vince & Kelly)
Giuseppe Todd Gassiraro (Joseph & Bernadette)
Charles Ferdinand Kenney (Michael & Isabella)
Leah Midori Santschi (Logan & Brittany)

Clement Daniel Silver (Joseph & Audra)
Henry Alexander Louis Thompson (Wyatt & Shelby)
Zelie Marie Wohlstadter (Joe & Leah)

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WEDDING BANNES

There is a promise of marriage between:

III ~ Ryan Rombach & Sarah Herrmann

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NEW FAMILIES for DECEMBER (alphabetical order)

A warm welcome to our new parishioners!

- Adam Bishop
- The Greer/Scarfino Family ~ Patrick & Marietta, Desirae, Briella, Salvatore, Remo, and Legacy
- Danny Pham
- The Rolwes Family ~ Adam & Gianna
- The Tsang Family ~ Henry & Mariana

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PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your charity, please pray for the following members of the Oratory who are ill: Mary Jane Bolte; Amanda Camarillo, daughter of Gregory & Nancy Latham; Heath Cheaney, son of Michael & Jaime; Jeanmarie DeCoster; Donna Hagan; Dotty Kuhlmann, mother of Donna Mueller; Mary McMahan; Kim Morgan; Donna Mueller; Michael Norfleet, son of Marsha Norfleet; Elizabeth Ryan; Mary Joseph Schenk, daughter of Nicholas & Elaine; Patrick Schneider; Sylvester Soldinie; Caleb & Sheila Ten Eyck; Lara Trudell, daughter of Sharon and Jim Alexander; Renee Weidner; and Msgr. Witt.

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PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

- Robert Anthony, father of Jeanmarie DeCoster
- Shane Kiser, husband of Maggie Kiser
- Mary Knollmeyer
- Mark Schilling, father of Sheila Ten Eyck

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USHERS' SCHEDULE

Sunday, 11 January

6:30 am Chris Bauman*, Brayden Bauman

8:00 am Kenny Buyle*, Terry Conway, Ken Catalano, Sam Ashlock

10:00 am Gabe Jones*, Robert Morgan, Owen Bruns, Tom Gates

Sunday, 18 January

6:30 am Bill Saccente*, Jim Alexander, Jeff Logullo (t)

8:00 am Terry Conway*, Sam Ashlock, Ken Catalano, Greg Rheinheimer

10:00 am Robert Morgan*, Owen Bruns, Tom Gates, Brandon Roberts

Sunday, 25 January

6:30 am Brayden Bauman*, Chris Bauman

8:00 am Sam Ashlock*, Greg Rheinheimer, Kip Babington, Jeff Martin

10:00 am Owen Bruns*, Tom Gates, Brandon Roberts, Mark Scheer

+ Altar Server Schedule: January 2026 +

Date	Time	MC at High Mass / Acolyte at Low Mass	Thurifer	Acolyte 1	Acolyte 2
11 January 2026	6:30	Ben Schubert			
	8:00	Matthew Rheinheimer			
	10:00	Castor Armesto	Anthony Green	Leo Grizzle	Theodore Grizzle
18 January 2026	6:30	Michael Norfleet			
	8:00	Castor Armesto			
	10:00	Joseph Noble	Levi Garvey	Elijah Garvey	John Paul Sinak
25 January 2026	6:30	Jack Ryan			
	8:00	Michael Blum			
	10:00	John Morgan	Augustine Rennie	Silas Buyle	Dominic Green

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WELLSPRING OF TRADITION: EPIPHANY PROCLAMATION OF MOVEABLE FEASTS

Epiphany is the last principal feast before the beginning of the Easter cycle. The *Pontificale Romanum (Pars III. De Publicatione festorum Mobilium in Epiphania Domini)* provides rubrics, text, and chant for how to announce the date of Easter and of the main movable feasts of the year on this day. This follows a tradition that dates back to the early days of the Church, when calendars were rare. The Patriarch of Alexandria, where the most skilled Christian astronomers lived, had the mission to send the date of the Paschal solemnity to other Eastern Patriarchs and to the Roman Pontif, who then informed the metropolitans of the West.

The Council of Nicaea is said to have formalized the practice, so that everyone everywhere should celebrate it on one and the same day. Although there is no mention of the fixing of the date of Easter in the canons of the Council of Nicaea which have been preserved, we know that the issue was discussed and decided by the council from various documents published afterwards. It soon became a practice for bishops to publish annually, on 6 January, an *Epistola festalis*, a pastoral letter in which were announced the dates of Easter and movable feasts of the current year.

Many Fathers of the early Church speak of the announcement of the date of Easter on the feast of the Epiphany. The Fourth Council of Orleans in 541 and that of Auxerre in 578 are good witnesses of this use in Gaul, and broadly, in the West. In the old Parisian Breviary, at the end of the office of a prime, a canon from decisions of the holy councils used to be read on Sundays & holidays. Here's the one for the Epiphany:

The Council, guided by the inspiration of a God full of goodness for men, ruled that the priests will celebrate at the same time the holy Easter, and that every year on the day of Epiphany the people in the church will be informed of this solemn feast... Let the priests before the Epiphany send deputies to the bishop to be informed by him of the beginning of Lent, and to be able to instruct the faithful upon that on the day of Epiphany.

The Parisian and Ambrosian rites have shorter formulae for this announcement. But the Roman rite has a slightly expanded formula, known from its first word as the *Noveritis*. In addition to the date of Easter are also added those of Septuagesima, Ash Wednesday, Ascension, Pentecost and First Sunday of Advent. The Roman chant uses the same melody as the *Exultet* of the Easter Vigil, which gives a taste of the Easter joy to the publication of the date of Easter. This same idea is developed by Dom Prosper Guéranger in his great commentary, *The Liturgical Year*.

This custom, which dates from the earliest ages of the Church, shows both the mysterious connection which unites the great Solemnities of the year one with another, and the importance the Faithful ought to attach to the celebration of that which is the greatest of all, and the centre of all Religion. After having honoured the King of the universe on the Epiphany, we shall have to celebrate him on the day which is now announced to us, as the conqueror of death.

At the Oratory, we will chant this announcement after the Gospel at Solemn Mass on 6 January, the feast of Epiphany. Here is the text in Latin and English

Noveritis, fratres carissimi, quod annuente Dei misericordia sicut de Nativitate Domini Nostri Jesu Christi gavisus sumus, ita et de Resurrectione ejusdem Salvatoris nostri gaudium vobis annuntiamus. Die prima decima Februarii erit Dominica in Septuagesima. Decima octava Februarii dies Cinerum et initium jejunii sacratissimae Quadragesimae. Quinta Aprilis sanctum Pascha Domini nostri Jesu Christi cum gaudio celebrabimus. Decima quarta Maji erit Ascensio Domini nostri Jesu Christi. Vigesima quarta ejusdem Festum Pentecostes. Die quarta Junii Festum sacratissimi Corporis Christi. Vigesima nona Novembris Dominica prima Adventus Domini nostri Jesu Christi, cui est honor et gloria in saecula saeculorum. Amen.	Know, dearest brethren, by the gift of God's mercy, as we have rejoiced for the birth of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, so also we announce to you joy for the Resurrection of the same Our Savior. On the first day of February will be Septuagesima Sunday. On the eighteenth of February, the day of Ashes, and the beginning of the fast of most holy Lent. On the fifth of April, we will celebrate with joy the holy Easter of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. On the fourteenth of May will be the Ascension of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. On the twenty-fourth of the same month, the feast of Pentecost. On the fourth of June, the feast of the most holy Body of Christ. On the twenty-ninth of November, the first Sunday of the Advent of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, to whom are honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."
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Our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us who have recourse to thee!

Ss. Gregory and Augustine, pray for us!



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

2025



*In your charity, please pray for all those whom
our Christmas flowers honor or commemorate.*

In Memory of:

Mildred Agnew
Josephine Alexander
Joseph Alexander
Leona Auer
Dorothy Bayley
Don Bornhop
Frank Ervin Boultinghouse Jr.
Dr. Ruby & Noel Casino
Mary Cholick
Clement Cholick
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Er. Carm. D.

Br. Joseph
of Jesus and Mary,
Er. Carm. D.

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F.L.M.

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