

Mass Intentions for the Week

Sun. December 14

8:00am - Deacon Ronald Walker

9:30am - Dennis Riley

by Margaret and Aaron

Sun. December 21

8:00am - Erik Counts by Mom

9:30am - Sick & Shut-ins of St. Martin de Porres by Phyllis Wiggins

Mass requests for 2026 are now available. Mass is the highest and greatest form of prayer. Contact the office to request a Mass for yourself, a loved one or for an intention. The offering is \$15.

Please check for a specific date.

Special Intentions Prayer for Our Parish

- ◆ Our Deceased Members
- ◆ Our 1st Responders,
- ◆ Health Care Workers
- ◆ Our Military Personnel
- ◆ All those in need of our prayers especially our sick & shut-ins : Jessica Allen, Alice Bragg, Joyce Davis, Robert Gebhard, Sr., Shirley Hargro, Christal John-Millin, Margie Lewis, Karl Magby, Jewel Marshall, Joyce Menifee, Louise Nolley, Josephine Williams & Elise Wilson.



Toy Drive by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Peter Claver will be collecting books and toys for children ages 10 to 14 in collaboration with St. Lawrence Vineyard Ministries. There is a collection bin located in the Gathering Space.

Deadline - December 14th, with distribution of items on Dec. 20th. At Blessed Trinity between 9am-12n

The Women's Guild will be collecting new undergarments for men and women in support of young adults transitioning out of Foster Care. Larger sizes greatly appreciated.

Thank you, Marianne Partee & Laurie Alford

Please remember to put your Christmas Day envelopes in the Christmas Eve Mass collection, as there will not be a Mass at St. Martin de Porres on Dec. 25, 2025

Lessons and Carols - Sat., Dec. 20th at 2:00 p.m. at Blessed Trinity so you can watch the game. Please join us as we tell the story of the birth of our Savior through scripture and song - it's a great way to focus on the true meaning of Christmas before the big rush - plus, there will be cookies! See flyer posted in the Information Corridor.

Subs 'N Suds Lecture Series The Vatican Position on the "Two State Solution" January 12, 2026 Supper 5:30 PM Lecture 6:30 PM at Blessed Trinity Lecture and Discussion Dennis Castillo, PhD Professor of Church History St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore

Christmas Volunteers Needed

Because Christmas is on a Thursday and the Church will close early on Christmas Eve. Flowers are scheduled to be delivered on Monday, Dec. 22nd, volunteers will be needed to decorate on Tuesday, Dec. 23rd @ 9am. If your schedule allows, please volunteer to prepare the Church for Christmas. Please sign up.



House Blessing

Saturday, Jan. 3, 2026 Please sign the sheet in the vestibule, if you live within a 10-mile radius of Church. We will be taking names, addresses and phone# 's until

Sun., December 21st. **3 Kings will visit You!** After the 4pm Mass at Ss. Columba-Brigid we will have a party in the hall, please bring a dish to pass.

Readings for the Week of

December 14, 2025

Sun., Dec. 14 - Is 35:1-6a, 10/Jas 5:7-10 /Mt 11:2-11

Mon., Dec. 15 - Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tues., Dec. 16 - Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

Wed., Dec. 17 - Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Thurs., Dec. 18 - Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Fri., Dec. 19 - Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Sat., Dec. 20 - Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38

Sun., Dec. 21 - Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24

The Church office will closed at 12n on Dec. 24th and will reopen on Tuesday Dec, 30th.

Have a Blessed & Peaceful Christmas

Parish Financial Information
***Weekly Totals Include E-Giving**

December Collections			
	Regular Collection	Martin's Future	Diocese Collection
December 7	\$2864.00	\$1030.00	45.00
December 14			
December 21			
December 28			
Total Income			

Are you unable to get to Mass? Do you know someone who cannot join us on the weekend? Or would like home visits and Holy Communion? Are you aware of someone who would like a visit? Please let the office know or complete the survey form found on the information table at the ramp entrance. Though this is an ongoing effort to identify individuals who would like a visit from someone in the parish family, you are encouraged to let us know as soon as possible so that we can plan. Please place the completed forms in the collection basket.

GOSPEL MEDITATION
 ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

December 14, 2025 - Third Sunday of Advent
Matthew 11:2-11

When I was 11, I was riding my bike on a Friday night in Scottsdale, Arizona. I saw giant spotlights swirling in the sky. Something amazing had to be happening. I pedaled after them with excitement. Sweaty and tired, I arrived, only to find a used car lot. Bright lights, flapping banners, inflatable balloon men swaying wildly in the wind. I stood there, heart sinking. All that spectacle, and all my effort ... for this?

As life proceeds, we learn what it is like to pursue promising but fruitless searches. This week we hear Jesus ask the crowds regarding John the Baptist: **"What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind?" (Matthew 11:7).** He's not just describing the crowd's mis-aimed pursuit. He's naming our tendency to chase after what's flashy but flimsy.

What are our swaying reeds? For me, it is endless video reels on my phone, worldly pleasures, entertainment in sports, and the good opinion of others. Inflated distractions that bend whichever way the wind blows. But they can't satisfy my soul. What are your flimsy reeds?

John the Baptist wasn't a swaying reed. He was rooted, grounded, unafraid to speak the solid truth. The people went to see him because, deep down, they were starving for something real. This Advent, the Church asks us to reassess: What are we really looking for? Are we chasing the dazzling but hollow? Or are we seeking what is solid and lasting — that which points to Christ?

— Father John Muir

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"At A Glance"

Family 21 Events Calendar

Sat., Dec. 20th - "Lessons and Carols"
@ Blessed Trinity at 2pm.

Wed., Dec. 24th - Christmas Eve Mass

- ♦ Ss. Columba-Brigid - 6pm
- ♦ Holy Cross - 7pm
- ♦ St. Martin de Porres - 8pm
- ♦ Blessed Trinity - 10pm

Thurs., Dec. 25th - Christmas Day Mass

- ♦ Ss. Columba-Brigid - 10am
- ♦ Holy Cross - 10am
- ♦ Blessed Trinity - 10am

Wed., Dec. 31st - New Years Eve

Ss. Columba-Brigid - 11pm

Thurs., Jan. 1st - New Years Day

- ♦ Blessed Trinity - 10am
- ♦ Holy Cross - 10am

Sat., Jan. 3rd - House Blessing - 3 Kings will visit you! After the 4pm Mass at Ss. Columba-Brigid we will have a party in the hall, please bring a dish to pass.

Mon., Jan. 12th - "Subs 'N Suds" Lecture Series- "The Vatican Position on the "Two State Solution" - Blessed Trinity @6:30pm. (see flyer posted)

Sun., Jan. 18th - Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. Mass at St. Martin de Porres at 9:30am. There will not be an 8am Mass on this day.

VIRTUS Online Training

December 7, 2025

"The Real Danger of Children Being Exposed to Pornography"

Available now.

Please keep up to date.



Holiday Poinsettia's
The Poinsettia's are available today.

See Helen Smith-Porter