

# Dear Padre,

A eucharistic minister at a parish we were visiting refused my eight-year-old granddaughter Communion from the cup. Her father asked if this was parish policy, and the minister replied, "No, I refuse!" My grandchild receives both species in our home parish. Can a eucharistic minister refuse the Blood of Christ to anyone?

According to the United States Conference of Catholic bishops, "It is the choice of the communicant, not the minister, to receive from the chalice. Children are encouraged to receive Communion under both kinds, provided they are properly instructed and that they are old enough to receive from the chalice" (*Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds*, 46–47). Children who have reached the age of reason—normally about age seven—are usually advised on this matter of reception by their parents or guardians before they step up to the chalice at Mass. In addition, first-Communion instructions provide adequate preparation on the proper and reverent reception of holy Eucharist.

Essentially, children eligible to receive this sacrament are entitled to participate in the same manner as other members of the ecclesial community. "Sacred ministers cannot deny the sacraments to those who seek them at appropriate times, are properly disposed, and are not prohibited by law from receiving them" (*Code of Canon Law*, 843). While this canon specifically pertains to ordained ministers, it's applicable for all ministers at the service of the faithful who have a right to receive holy Communion by reason of their baptism.



CNS PHOTO/GEORGE A. SHERTZ

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR  
[Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org](mailto:Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org)



## A WORD FROM Pope Francis

*We can ask ourselves: Is this sacrament fulfilled in me? More concretely: Do I just like to be served at the Lord's table or do I get up to serve like the Lord?... And as a Church let us ask ourselves: After receiving Communion many times, have we become people of communion?*

—EUCCHARISTIC CONCELEBRATION, APRIL 20, 2018

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## Calendar

**Monday**  
 DECEMBER 2  
 Advent Weekday  
 Is 4:2–6  
 Mt 8:5–11

**Tuesday**  
 DECEMBER 3  
 St. Francis Xavier,  
 Priest  
 Is 11:1–10  
 Lk 10:21–24

**Wednesday**  
 DECEMBER 4  
 Advent Weekday  
 Is 25:6–10a  
 Mt 15:29–37

**Thursday**  
 DECEMBER 5  
 Advent Weekday  
 Is 26:1–6  
 Mt 7:21, 24–27

**Friday**  
 DECEMBER 6  
 Advent Weekday  
 Is 29:17–24  
 Mt 9:27–31

**Saturday**  
 DECEMBER 7  
 St. Ambrose,  
 Bishop and  
 Doctor of the Church  
 Is 30:19–21, 23–26  
 Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6–8

**Sunday**  
 DECEMBER 8  
 Second Sunday  
 of Advent  
 Is 11:1–10  
 Rom 15:4–9  
 Mt 3:1–12

**Liguori**  
 PUBLICATIONS  
 A Redemptorist Ministry

# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 1, 2019  
 First Sunday of Advent (A)  
 Is 2:1–5  
 Rom 13:11–14  
 Mt 24:37–44

## God Is Near

[Jesus said,]  
 "So too, you also must be prepared,  
 for at an hour you do not expect,  
 the Son of Man will come."  
 MATTHEW 24:44



KIRSTINA FORGMARELLA/SAUTTERSTOCK

Be prepared! But for what? Since we're entering the season of Advent, we might think that we're called to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Advent is certainly the time to prepare for Christmas, but it's much more than that, for God comes into our lives in many different ways, even today. We see evidence of that when, working together, we rebuild not only cities, as Isaiah describes in the first reading, but relationships in families, parishes, and countries.

Remarkable changes take place in our lives when, as Paul bids us, we "throw off the works of darkness," works of rivalry and jealousy (Romans 13:12). God comes to us every day with the power we need to improve ourselves and our world. God often comes quietly in ways so ordinary we might miss them. That is the point of Jesus' insistence to "stay awake" and "be prepared" (Matthew 24:42, 44).

God certainly came long ago as a human being. That was a one-time-only event. We believe that God will come again at the end. That, too, will happen only once. But God comes more often than this. God comes every day to help us be our better selves. This is what the Advent readings tell us.

What can we do? How are we to prepare for God's coming? Today's readings tell us. We must work for the peace that Isaiah describes; we must throw off the works of darkness, as Paul instructs; and we must do as Jesus tells us: stay awake and be prepared.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

## FOR Reflection

- \* Where do you see people's goodness that tells us God is near?
- \* What can you do to make that goodness present to others?



Editor's note: Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA, is pleased to join you at Mass over the next three liturgical years, beginning with today's reflection. A sister of St. Agnes, Sr. Dianne earned a master's degree and a doctorate from Saint Louis University, and honorary degrees and accolades from many organizations. She is professor of biblical studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.



t. Anthony's Church 600 Soderberg Street, Box 98  
Lakin, KS 67860 -- Office # 620-355-6405-  
SUNDAY, December 1, 2019

<u>Monday, December 2, 8:00 a.m.</u>	+Valentine Perez
<u>Tuesday, December 3, 9:30 a.m.</u>	Thomas & Julia McCornack (R. Home)
<u>Thursday, December 5, 8:00 a.m.</u>	Ross & Kelly Geubelle Annv.
<u>Friday, December 6, 8:00 a.m.</u>	Special Intention
<u>Saturday, December 7, 4:00 p.m.</u>	For the People
<u>Sunday, December 8, 9:00 a.m.</u>	Fred & Mary Jones

Confessions will be heard on Saturday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. and again  
Sunday mornings at 8:00 or by appointment.

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Syracuse, Wednesday, December 4, 8:00 a.m. MT

Sunday, December 8, 10:30 a.m. MT

Saturday, Deerfield, December 7, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 7, 4:00 P.M.

Servers: Leo and Ben Sheldon  
Reader: Tom Bachman  
Music: Carolyn Robertson  
E.O. Ministers: Tom and Rosemary Bachman

Sunday, December 8, 9:00 a.m.

Servers: John, Jack and Joe Achen  
Readers: Cindy Achen and Theresa Beltran  
Music: Tim & Delores Edwards & Allison and Alli  
E. Minister: Cindy Achen, Rosa Cardenas and Robert Longoria  
E.O. Minister for the Sick: Fred & Suzie Jones

Collection for November 24, 2019: Envelopes, \$930.00 Loose offering \$285.50; Total \$1,215.50 : Average Weekly Expense \$1,989.55; Income over/under (-744.05),

ST. ANTHONY'S FOOD SALE: is next Saturday, December 7, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on Main Street in front of Pat & Sonny's & Budget Shop. Food can be brought to the Parish hall on Friday, Dec. 6, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. or before 9:00 on Saturday to the Food Sale.

CCD Wednesday, December 4, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

BIEROCKS FOR SALE: K of C Members will be making their mouth watering Bierocks again next weekend, they will be ready for pickup on Sunday, December 8, at the Middle School Commons Area. Price is \$25.00 a dozen. If interested you may call any K of C Member or sign a list in the back of Church.

CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD: December 11, 6:30 p.m. this is for everyone.

NOTICE: Within the last five months there has been 3 incidents happened in our parish church where our sound systems were damaged and stolen, Altar wine was stolen...With prayers and considerations; and after few joint meeting among Pastoral, Finance and Maintenance Councils with the consultation of our Parish Priest we decided that our church would be locked when no church service/function is held. Our sacred Parish Church belongs to each of us and we all should have access to come to worship the Lord. Locking the church doors when no service is held will cause some inconvenience to some of you, but for the safety and keeping the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist safe and sound, we will have to take that tough action. We are truly sorry for causing any inconvenience to you. However when you do need to come to the church to pray, please call our parish office or if you would like to have the access to the key Fobs please contact us at 620-355-6405.

LOOKING AHEAD: Confessions for everyone will be December 11, 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Parish Dinner, December 18, 6:30 p.m. Potluck

Christmas Eve Mass, December 24, 5:30 p.m. in Lakin and 7:30 p.m. MT in Syracuse.

Christmas Day Mass, December 25, 9:00 a.m. Deerfield

New Year's Eve Mass, December 31, 6:00 in Lakin - No Mass New Year's Day