

SAINT ANDREW CATHOLIC CHURCH

We Are a Stewardship Parish
*Gratefully Giving Our Time, Talent, and Treasure
in Service to God and One Another*



December 17, 2023
Third Sunday of Advent



Carols and Cocoa

THIS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 • 3:00–4:00 PM • SAINT ANDREW CHAPEL

There just never seem to be enough opportunities to sing the Christmas carols that we all love so much. Everyone is invited to an old-fashioned carol sing-along in the chapel TODAY (Sunday). After the singing, enjoy a warm cup of hot chocolate before heading home to put the final touches on your holiday celebrations.

Schedule for the Christmas Holiday

School and Holiday Break

No Sunday 5:15 PM Evening Mass on December 17–31, resumes January 7

Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Chapel

Wednesday, December 20, at 6:00–7:00 PM (not December 27 or January 3)

Thursday, December 22, at Noon–1:00 PM (no other Thursdays)

(No Saturday Reconciliation on December 23 and 30)

Last Weekend of Advent, December 23/24

Saturday, December 23 – 5:15 PM Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent – also livestreamed –

Sunday, December 24 – 8:30 AM ONLY Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent

(NO 11:00 AM Mass) We begin Christmas in the afternoon

Christmas Celebrations, December 24/25

Sunday, December 24 – 3:00 PM Children's Pageant

Sunday, December 24 – 3:30 PM, 6:00 PM, 9:00 PM Christmas Masses

– 9:00 PM Christmas Mass also livestreamed –

Monday, December 25 – 10:00 AM Christmas Mass

Christmas Week, December 26–29

Tuesday, December 26 – No Mass

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday – 5:15 PM Daily Mass

Friday, December 29 – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

New Year's Weekend, December 30–January 1

Saturday, December 30 – 5:15 PM Mass

Sunday, December 31 – 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM Masses (NO 5:15 PM Evening Mass)

– 11:00 AM SUNDAY MASS ALSO LIVESTREAMED –

Monday, January 1 – No Mass

(The feast of Mary, Mother of God, is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

Festival of Lessons and Carols in the Church

January 7, at 2:00 PM

SAINT ANDREW
CATHOLIC CHURCH
209 Sloan Street • Clemson
864-654-1757

Mailing Address

PO Box 112
Clemson, SC 29633

Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:15 PM

Sunday 8:30 AM, 11:00 AM, 5:15 PM

(5:15 PM Mass will resume January 7)

Weekdays 5:15 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

Fridays 9:00 AM–5:00 PM in the Church

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Chapel – Wednesdays 6:00–7:00 PM

Chapel – Saturdays 10:00–11:00 AM

(Or by appointment)

Religious Education

Sundays 9:45–10:45 AM

Day Hall and Newman Hall

Youth Ministry Encounter

Sundays 6:30–8:00 PM

Parish Hall

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 10:00 AM–5:00 PM

After Hours Pastoral Emergencies

Call 919-699-6323

www.saclemson.org
[@saintandrewclemson](https://www.facebook.com/saclemson)

To sign up for weekly parish-wide emails, go to
www.flocknote.com/saclemson

Parish Staff

Fr. Dan McLellan, OFM, Pastor, Campus Minister

Rich Campana, Deacon

John Leininger, Deacon

Gordon Snyder, Deacon

Tony Wagner, Deacon

Jamie Dean, Director of Music

Andréa Ferraco, Bookkeeper

Christopher Kerfoot, Youth Minister

Nancy Leininger, Parish Secretary

Stephanie Manasa, Associate Campus Minister

Lynn Sexton, Spiritual Director

Laura Witt, Coordinator of Faith Formation

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Livestream

The Sunday Mass at 11:00 AM is livestreamed on the parish Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/saclemson/>

The same Facebook link can be used to view the video later at your convenience.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 16

5:15 PM † Thomas Stanley

Sunday, December 17

8:30 AM † Jan Schueren

† Lazar Macuk

† James L. Woods, Jr.

Joan Woods

† Ralph Schweppe

11:00 AM † Babies lost in miscarriage or stillbirth

5:15 PM (This Mass resumes January 7)

Monday, December 18

5:15 PM Special Intention

Tuesday, December 19

5:15 PM Our Parish Family

Wednesday, December 20

5:15 PM Our Parish Family

Thursday, December 21

5:15 PM † Marlee Hart

Friday, December 22

5:15 PM † Frances Turner

Saturday, December 23

5:15 PM † Theresa Gardzalla

† Andrej Paszkiewicz

† Joe and † Fran Macy

Sunday, December 24

8:30 AM Our Parish Family

3:30 PM † Raymond Bolger

† David Gross

6:00 PM Our Parish Family

9:00 PM † Mary and Ann Neubeck

To schedule a Mass Intention, contact the office.

Gift Cards for Christmas?

Each month members of the parish are invited to purchase gift cards, including grocery cards, with proceeds going to the building fund. Cards are purchased at face value, and while they are used for their full face value, Saint Andrew also receives a percentage – yes, free money! **Especially if you plan to give gift cards as gifts this holiday season – or need them for the giving tree – please consider purchasing through this safe and secure fundraiser.** To learn how you can get involved, contact Sheila at hogan_family@bellsouth.net or Nancy in the parish office. Because of the holidays, final December order deadline will be noon on Monday, December 18.

Lost & Found

For lost items, please check the **LOST & FOUND** box by the food drop-off in the vestibule or contact Nancy in the office. Some items are being held in the office.

Daily Scripture Readings

Daily readings are available online at bible.usccb.org/readings/calendar

A Note From the Pastor

Given the Gospel description of John the Baptists' looks and diet and his straight-from-the-hip preaching, we'd likely give a wide berth to anyone like himself coming among us today.

But his message attracted even Jesus.

Our parish RCIA program – for folks seeking Baptism or full communion with the Church or completion of their Sacraments of Initiation – is booming. Likewise, the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Folks are taken by the call to “repentance.” This is not simply a call to admit one’s particular sins; it’s a call to move beyond a way of life that is absent the vision and values of Jesus and his gospel. A welcome dynamic in our world today.

I’ve made a big deal in recent homilies about us using the new year as an opportunity to get better at offering the world what so many are looking for. It’s a challenge not easily engaged. The people we elect to office, especially on the national level, seem to have rejected “compromise” as an operable strategy for governing. With ominous results. The social, political, and even religious divisiveness of our country and world is rooted in a quest for the kind of security that is based on “me” rather than “us.” This is not a new quest – it has its origins in Genesis.

While our confessions in the Sacrament of Reconciliation are often a listing of specific failures to put others first, the real challenge for most of us is the persistent attitudes of greed, pride, fear, and feeling sorry for ourselves that erupt in specific thoughts, words, and deeds. Sometimes we “confess” as if the fault is a surprise to us.

“I gossiped.” But the real sin is not the trashing of Jack or Jill, but the gnawing sense that I don’t get the attention Jack and Jill get. Or “I missed Mass.” When the real issue is “I have better things to do.” Which boils down to, “My faith is my business and not our business.” It’s wanting the trappings of a way of life (e.g., a Church wedding or funeral) because of the optics. Or custom, but not commitment.

Advent is the immediate prep for Christmas, a season of being honest of what role Jesus and his gospel play in how I calendar my week. (Remember, if we want to know what our morality is, check to see what gets inked-in and what gets jotted down in pencil, easily erasable when something else comes along.)

But last week’s Gospel reminds us that Advent is also – and more so – about the inevitable day when each of us is part of the crowd in Matthew 25: 31-46.

As we work our way toward Christmas, remember what Jesus said: “*You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit ...*”

Fr. Dan



Saint Andrew Giving Trees Become Remembrance Trees

The gifts that all of you, our generous parishioners, have provided for children in need have been delivered. We are so grateful for your generosity!

Now that our Giving Tree Program has wrapped up, the trees in the vestibule have been transitioned into Trees of Remembrance. Parishioners are invited to personalize one of the ornaments in memory of loved ones gone before us and hang it on the tree.

Festival of Lessons and Carols – Save the Date

Our annual service of music to close out the Christmas season will be presented on **Sunday, January 7, at 2:00 PM.** Please mark your calendars so you don’t miss it!



Faith Formation

FAITH FORMATION: There are NO Faith Formation classes December 17–31. Have a blessed and merry Christmas. Enjoy a few pictures (above) from the recent Jesse Tree presentation. **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT:** Please join us as the Faith Formation students present *The Story of the Nativity of Jesus Christ*, Sunday, December 24, at 3:00 PM. The pageant is followed by the Family Christmas Mass at 3:30 PM.

Laura Witt • laura@saclemson.org



“O” Antiphons

Jamie Dean · Jamie@saclemson.org



Many thanks to the Schola at 5:15 Mass who offered up extra time to rehearse the “O Antiphons” program, which explored aspects of the verses of *Veni Emmanuel* through a collage of Latin and Anglican chant, folk song, hymnody, carols, and poetry.

The Roman Church has been singing the “O” Antiphons since at least the eighth century. Each antiphon is a name of Christ, one of his attributes mentioned in Scripture; they accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They present a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative “Veni” – “Come!” embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

Virginia Lander designed and drew the richly symbolic cover to the program (shown above), representing the seven antiphons: O Come... O Wisdom, Path of Knowledge... O Lord, Giver of the Law to Moses... O Root of Jesse's Stem... O Key of David... O Dayspring, Radiant Dawn... O King of All Nations... O Emmanuel, With Us is God.

Our Weekly Parish Tithe

Kristen Lawson · kristen.n.lawson@gmail.com

The week's tithe goes to **The Annunciation House** founded in 1976 in El Paso, Texas, as a way to offer hospitality to migrants, immigrants, and refugees. The all-volunteer, unpaid providers at Annunciation House follow Catholic social teaching to provide the basic services otherwise not available to undocumented people. These volunteers live in communion with the people they serve and strive to provide basic services that social agencies cannot provide. Their goal is to alleviate the negative effects of poverty, injustice, and oppression experienced in their residents' daily lives.

Please see <https://annunciationhouse.org> for more information.

Keep on loving one another as brothers and sisters. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers for by doing that some have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it.

– Hebrews 13:1-2

Welcome Newcomers

NEW PARISHIONER: John and Kathryn Sax

If you attend Saint Andrew and have not yet registered, please contact the office or speak with Father after Mass.

New Life in Christ Throughout Our Journey in Faith

NEWLY BAPTIZED: Emiliana Reyes, December 10, 2023

Daughter of Alberto and Yalit Reyes

NEWLY MARRIED: Stephen Shaughness and Kristen Bolchoz, December 9, 2023

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION: Crystal Chemel, December 12, 2023

Healing Prayer Ministry

HEALING PRAYER IS OFFERED IN THE CHAPEL AFTER SUNDAY MORNING MASSES

Master of both the light and the darkness, send Your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas. We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day. We who are anxious over many things look forward to Your coming among us. We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of Your kingdom. We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence. We are Your People, walking in darkness yet seeking the light. To You we say: Come Lord Jesus! Amen (Hallow)

Tuesday Night Dinners for Our College Students

We are asking Saint Andrew parishioners to once again volunteer to prepare food for our student dinners this upcoming spring semester. Dinners will be on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 PM in the newly named Saint Andrew parish hall – Martin Hall. If you or your ministry group are able to provide a meal for about 100 students, please choose a date and sign up in the vestibule, or contact Stephanie Manasa (stephanie@saclemson.org) for more information. Thank you!

Baptism Preparation

Contact Deacon John Leininger,
864-903-0050 or john@saclemson.org

Marriage Preparation

Contact Fr. Dan McLellan, OFM, no fewer than six months prior to the desired wedding date, 864-643-2011 or mclellan@saclemson.org.

Anointing of the Sick

Call the office at 864-654-1757 to arrange a time with a priest or, in an emergency, call the after hours number 919-699-6323.

Parish Prayer List

To have your prayer requests added to the parish prayer list, please contact Sandra Harbin at sandra_terry.harbin@yahoo.com or 864-885-9527 and leave a detailed message. If you would like to be part of the group offering prayer support, let Sandra know.

Christ Renews His Parish Men's and Women's Weekends

NO OVERNIGHT STAY

MEN: FEBRUARY 10-11 • WOMEN: MARCH 2-3

Ask the Lord if this year is the time for you to set aside a Saturday/Sunday with the men and women of the parish to further enhance your relationship with Christ. Is Jesus calling you?

Relax and Renew... For more information or to register, contact the parish office or go to www.saclemson.org/christ-renews-his-parish.



Dealing with loss of a family member or close friend can be especially difficult alone. If you feel you would benefit from meeting with others who have experienced a similar loss, a bereavement support group meets monthly from **12:30-1:30 PM the third Sunday of each month**. The next group meeting is **this Sunday, December 17, in Newman Hall**. (136 Wigington)

Parish Giving

Thank you to all for your continued support of our parish. If you have not yet returned to in-person Masses and would like to send your weekly offertory envelopes directly to the office, please send to: **Saint Andrew Catholic Church
PO Box 112, Clemson, SC 29633**

To transition to our online giving option, go to www.saclemson.org and click **GIVE** in the navigation bar. Whether attending in person or not, by making your offering online, you continue to support our good works even if you are away. Any questions, please feel free to contact Nancy at nancy@saclemson.org or call 864-654-1757.



Saint Gerard Majella Council 6884

*Wishes you and your family a
Blessed and Holy Christmas!*



December 17, 2023

Grand Knight's Corner: May the Joy of Christmas overcome all other concerns for you and your family! Council 6884 has enjoyed a very productive year and I extend my thanks to everyone who contributed to our success. Shown below is a recap of some of the things that Council 6884 accomplished during this calendar year. We cannot list all the good works and volunteer time by Knights or the personal and spiritual growth that they experienced, but I think you can tell what our council is all about from this list. If you are a Catholic man of good character... we need you ... (and you need us)! Please think about becoming a Knight and promoting our mission. Vivat Jesus! Tom Zavertnik, Grand Knight <tgzavert@bellsouth.net >

Accomplishments in 2023

- *Columbus HOPE Campaign donated over \$22,000 to special needs classrooms in 22 local schools and two private organizations that help people with mental and physical challenges;
- *Knights' Special Olympics Golf Tournament raised and donated \$30,000 to Area 13 Special Olympics;
- *We served free hotdogs and soft drinks to participants at the Area 13 Special Olympics Spring Games;
- *Donated 144 new "Coats for Kids" to needy local youth; *Provided a "Keep Christ in Christmas" float for Seneca parade;
- *Supported the Clemson Catholic Student Association with dinners and a grant; *Visited the sick and infirmed;
- *Spearheaded campaigns to donate two ultrasound machines to local women's care centers;
- *Supported local women's care centers with monetary donations and prayer volunteers;
- *Made donations to support the ASAP (aid and support after pregnancy) program; *Supported the Life Prayer Chain;
- *Completed highway cleanup on a quarterly basis; *Sponsored a Memorial Mass for Knights that have gone to eternal rest;
- *Supported parish seminars; *Supported parish youth programs; *Supported several seminarians with monetary grants;
- *Supported the prison ministry with grants; *Provided grants to support deaconate programs;
- *Provided cooking crews for Our Daily Rest; *Provided our famous grilled sausages at several celebrations and events;
- *Hosted Friday Fish Frys during Lent at the Council Hall for our parishes and the local community;
- *Helped with parish events such as "Trunk or Treat" and "Breakfast with Santa;"
- *Hosted a community musical performance at the Walhalla Performing Arts Center;
- *Supported the following local charities with donations: Our Daily Bread, Baby Read, Our Daily Rest, Golden Corner Food Pantry, Collins Home Family Ministry, Clemson Community Clinic, Clemson Free Clinic, and Oconee Addiction Recovery and Solutions.

Become A Knight: We are always looking for Catholic men to join our ranks, where you will enjoy fraternal activities, opportunities to serve your parish and community, as well as, ways to strengthen your faith, patriotism and friendships. Need more information... please contact Tom Zavertnik <tgzavert@bellsouth.net >

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