



**St. John Baptiste de LaSalle Catholic Church**

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(336)838-5562  
Email: [Info@StJohnNC.org](mailto:Info@StJohnNC.org)  
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**St. Stephen Catholic Church**

101 Hawthorne Road  
Elkin NC 28521-3016  
(336) 835-3007  
Email: [Connect@StStephenNC.org](mailto:Connect@StStephenNC.org)  
Website: [www.StStephenNC.org](http://www.StStephenNC.org)

**Fr. John D. Hanic, V.F.** (704) 763-2475

**Rev. Mr. Harold Markle** (336) 466-4173

**S. Janis McQuade, S.S.J.** (336) 835-4542

**Fr. Jose Rebaque** (203) 954-7134

**Mr. Cuauhdemoc (Temoc) Herrejon** (828) 773-2353

**St. John**

**Temoc Herrejon** Faith Formation  
**Ann Stone** RCIA  
**Joel Everett** Music

**St. Stephen**

**S. Janis McQuade, S.S.J.** Faith Formation  
**Phillip Parrish** RCIA  
**Theresa Martin** Music

**Mass Schedule**

**St. John**

**Saturday** 4:00p  
**Sunday** 11:15a English  
1:00p en español  
**Wednesday** 11:00a

**St. Stephen**

**Sunday** 9:00a  
**Communion Service**  
Tuesday, 12:15p  
**Holy Days** 7:00p

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Saturday** 3:00 - 3:45p *By appointment*

**Welcome, New Parishioners:** We are a Stewardship Community, sharing our time, talent, and treasure in life-giving ways.

**To register and get more information:** go to our website: [www.StStephenNC.org](http://www.StStephenNC.org)

**Sacrament Preparation** (Baptism, 1<sup>st</sup> Communion, Reconciliation (Penance), or Matrimony)  
Call S. Janis (336) 835-4542

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**

Offered for adults who desire to explore the Catholic Faith, spirituality, rites, and practices.

**Sacrament of Anointing and Pastoral Care**

*If you or someone you know is desirous of God's healing and would like to receive the sacred anointing, contact S. Janis.*

**First Sunday of Advent**

**December 1, 2024**



Maggie Orta & Ethan VanHorn

***Blessings and Congratulations,  
Ethan VanHorn!***

**Ethan completed his U.S. Coast Guard  
basic training in Cape May, NJ.**

**Ethan, thank you  
for your willingness to serve!**



Donate securely online:

[www.ccdoc.org/helenerelief](http://www.ccdoc.org/helenerelief)

**Mail option:**

Catholic Charities  
Attn: Central Processing  
1233 S. Church Street  
Charlotte NC 282034003  
MEMO: Helene Relief Effort

**ONE  
NATION**

***Prayer After an Election***

God of all nations,  
Father of the human family,  
we give you thanks  
for the freedom we exercise  
and the many blessings  
of democracy we enjoy  
in these United States of America.

We ask for your protection  
and guidance for all  
who devote themselves  
to the common good,  
working for justice and peace  
at home and around the world.

We lift up all our duly elected  
leaders and public servants,  
those who will serve us as  
president, legislators and judges,  
those in the military  
and law enforcement.

Heal us from our differences  
and unite us, O Lord,  
with a common purpose,  
dedication, and commitment  
to achieve liberty and justice  
in the years ahead for all people,  
and especially those  
who are most vulnerable  
in our midst.

U.S. Catholic Conference  
of Bishops' Conference

**UNDER  
GOD**

**RECYCLE  
USED INK CARTRIDGES  
at CHURCH!!  
RECYCLE CONTAINER  
IN THE LOBBY.  
Thank you!**

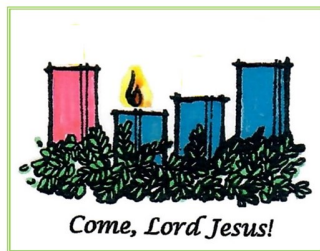


**Tri-C Christian Crisis Ministries**

**DEC**

**Dry beans**

***Heal us from our differences  
and unite us, O Lord,  
with a common purpose,  
dedication, and commitment  
to achieve liberty and justice...***



¡Buenos días, Iglesia!

Adviento, la primera temporada de nuestro Año Eclesiástico de “rehacer y comenzar de nuevo”. ¿Este Año Nuevo de Gracia 2025 sigue el mismo ciclo que el último Adviento? Repetidamente rogamos que venga tu reino a la tierra como en el cielo. ¿Es el reino de Dios más visible en nuestras vidas o en el mundo desde el último Adviento? ¿Este Nuevo Año de Gracia 2025 realmente tiene algún impacto en nuestra vida de oración, energía para el servicio, limosna, ayuno o perdón a nosotros mismos y a los demás?

El evangelio señala señales en el cielo arriba y tensiones abajo entre naciones que causan luchas, ansiedad o incluso sufrimiento, tomándonos “por sorpresa como una trampa”. Créalo: estas pruebas no terminarán pronto y pueden intensificarse. Considere la experiencia de los traumas familiares y los sentimientos de malestar que enfrenta, la reducción de los niveles de energía, las cosas metastásicas, la pérdida de seres queridos, el olvido más que el recuerdo, las dificultades financieras, el dolor crónico y la visión desde el fondo. ¿Cómo podemos responder y superar la rabia y el rugido de estas dificultades?

Comience con la fe que nos enseña que estos momentos reveladores y apocalípticos ofrecen una gracia aún por conocer. Aprendemos por nuestra resistencia y santa perseverancia, que cuando nuestro pozo espiritual está completamente seco, este es el momento santo y preciso para mantenernos erguidos, levantar la cabeza y experimentar el Advenimiento Siempre presente. Este es un nuevo momento de redención. Este es el momento exacto en que Emmanuel adviene en nosotros y nos salva.

¡Manténgase alerta! El Adviento es cada momento de cada día y se expande más allá de un tiempo litúrgico. Jesús siempre viene a nosotros, está con nosotros. El Adviento nos desafía a permanecer despiertos y aceptar la grata invitación de Jesús todos los días en cada Año de Gracia a ser su presencia en los momentos apocalípticos de los demás.

El Adviento proclama que Cristo nos ha redimido y liberado. Su resurrección es nuestra santa esperanza y la promesa de que la fidelidad y el amor son la medida de la vida, no la duración de los días.

El Adviento nos desafía a rehacernos y comprometernos nuevamente a servir a Cristo  
en nuestro Querido Prójimo sin distinción.

Nuestra oración de Adviento, “Ven, Señor Jesús”, no es un eslogan pegado en un parachoques.  
Es una oración desgarradora y de corazón por la renovación del Adviento.  
Con confianza, unámonos, levantemos la cabeza y oremos,

Ven, Señor Jesús.

En comunidad,

*Janis*

 *Reflexionando sobre la Palabra*

¿Cuál es la renovación del Adviento por la que estás orando?

¿Cuál es la renovación del Adviento por la que estás orando para el mundo de Dios?



*Morning, Church!*

Advent is the do-over, begin-again, first season of our Church Year. Is this New Year of Grace 2025 still running on the same loop as last Advent? Repeatedly, we pray *your kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven*. Is God's kingdom more visible in our lives or in the world since last Advent? Does this New Year of Grace 2025 really have any impact on our prayer life, energy to service, almsgiving, fasting, or forgiving ourselves and others?

The gospel points to signs in the sky above and tensions below among nations that may cause us to struggle, to feel anxious, or even to suffer, catching us "by surprise like a trap". Believe it: these trials are not ending any time soon and may soon intensify. Consider the experience of family traumas and feelings of *dis-ease* you feel, downsizing of energy levels, metastatic things, financial worries, chronic pain, losing loved ones, and the view from rock bottom. How can we respond and overcome the rage and roar of these hardships?

Start with faith which teaches us that these revealing, apocalyptic moments are a yet-to-be-known grace. Faith teaches us that, when our spiritual well is bone-dry, this is the precise, holy time to stand up, raise our heads and experience the Ever-Presence as an Advent. This is a moment of redemption. This is the *exact* moment Emmanuel advents in us and saves us.

Stay vigilant! Remember: Advent is *every* moment of *every* day, expanding beyond a liturgical season. Jesus is always coming to us, being with us. Advent dares us to stay awake and accept Jesus' graced presence every day in every Year of Grace. In turn, he invites us to be his presence during others' apocalyptic moments.

Advent proclaims Christ has redeemed and liberated us.

His resurrection is our holy hope and he promised  
that faithfulness and love are the measure of one's life, not length of days.

Advent dares us to take a do-over and recommit ourselves to serving Christ  
in our Dear Neighbor without distinction.

Our Advent prayer, *Come, Lord Jesus* is no bumper sticker slogan.  
It's a gut wrenching, heart prayer for the Advent do-over we truly desire.  
With confidence, let's stand together, raise our heads, and pray,  
*Come, Lord Jesus.*

In CommUNITY,

*spanis*

♥ *Reflecting on the Word*

*What's the Advent do-over you're praying for yourself?*

*What's the Advent do-over you're praying for God's world?*



NOVEMBER	
01	<b>1st Sun Advent</b> Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC Community Chorus First Baptist Ch., 1:00 & 7:00p
03	The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p; RCIA I, 6:30p
04	RCIA II, 6:30p; Choir, 7p
08	<b>2nd Sun Advent</b> Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC
09	<i>Feast: Immaculate Conception</i> <i>Masses @ ST. JOHN - 11a &amp; 6p</i> RCIA II, 6:30p
10	The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p; RCIA I, 6:30p
11	RCIA II, 6:30p; Choir, 7p
12	<i>All Are Welcome!</i> <i>Prayer Service</i> <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i> <i>&amp; Fiesta Dinner, 6:00p</i>
15	<b>3rd Sun Advent</b> Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC
16	Ladies Guild Christmas Gathering, 12N Give Blood Elkin Rescue Center, 1:00-6:30p RCIA II, 6:30p
17	The Chosen, 10a Communion Service, 12:15p; RCIA I, 6:30p
19	Wise Ones TBA
21	Men's Breakfast, Cracker Barrel, 8:30a
22	<b>4th Sun Advent</b> Faith Formation ~ Parents & Youth, After Mass, FLC <i>All Are Welcome!</i> <i>Las Posadas "The Inns" Prayer Service, Rosary</i> <i>&amp; Fiesta Dinner, 6p</i>
24	<i>Christmas Eve Mass, 4p</i>
25	<i>Christmas Day Mass, 4p</i>
26	<i>Feast: St. Stephen</i>
29	<i>Feast: Holy Family</i>



**S. Marie Patricia Cella, SSJ**

July 11, 1936 ~ November 27, 2024  
70th Year as Sister of St. Joseph

NOV – DEC MASS INTENTIONS	
24	+ "Coach" John L. Jennings
01	Peace in Ukraine & Gaza; Refugees & Immigrants

### Birthdays & Anniversary

- |                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 01 Jason LaCashio         | 16 Jesus Nava                  |
| 02 Brylee Ange            | 17 Juan Rodriguez              |
| Jason McClamrock          | 18 Gracie Spicer               |
| 03 Doris Watson           | 20 Tom Cirone                  |
| 04 Jocelyn Espino         | 21 Sixto DeJesus               |
| John Orta                 | Hanh Nguyen                    |
| 06 Holly Stringer         | Andy Trinidad                  |
| 07 Gabriel Cancel         | 26 Judy Simon                  |
| Ngoe Vo                   | 27 Alejandro Carmona           |
| 09 Eli Davis              | Gabriel Loyola                 |
| 12 Rebekah Treannie       | Diana Rodriguez                |
| 14 Jacque Darcey          | 28 Bod DeJohn                  |
| 15 Gabriel Hernandez      | 29 Lukas McClamrock            |
| Melia Orta                |                                |
| 05 Eligia & Fredy Carmona | 18 Jackie & Bryan Wagoner      |
| 07 Yeny & Leonardo Marino | 22 Hilda & Joel Lopez          |
| 14 Arelis & Lee Hadfield  | 23 Elia & Luis Martinez        |
|                           | 31 Crystal & Francisco Fuentes |



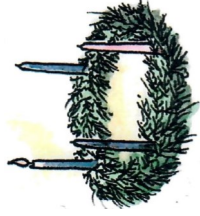
Fondo para la Jubilación  
de Religiosos  
Retirement Fund  
for Religious

Please give to those  
who have given a lifetime.

*Next Sunday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup>*

# A D V E N T

Today is the first Sunday of Advent.  
It is the first day of our Church Year, 2025.



The word *Advent* is from a Latin word meaning, "coming". Jesus is with us every day and comes to us every day. He invite us to grow in faith and love. During Advent we stay extra alert to all the ways Jesus speaks to us and invites us to be loving, forgiving, and kind.

On Christmas we celebrate the first time Jesus came to Earth. He will come again and invite all who have been loving, forgiving, and kind to be with him forever.

During these holy Advent days pray to Jesus. Ask him to ready your heart to see and welcome him during the day.

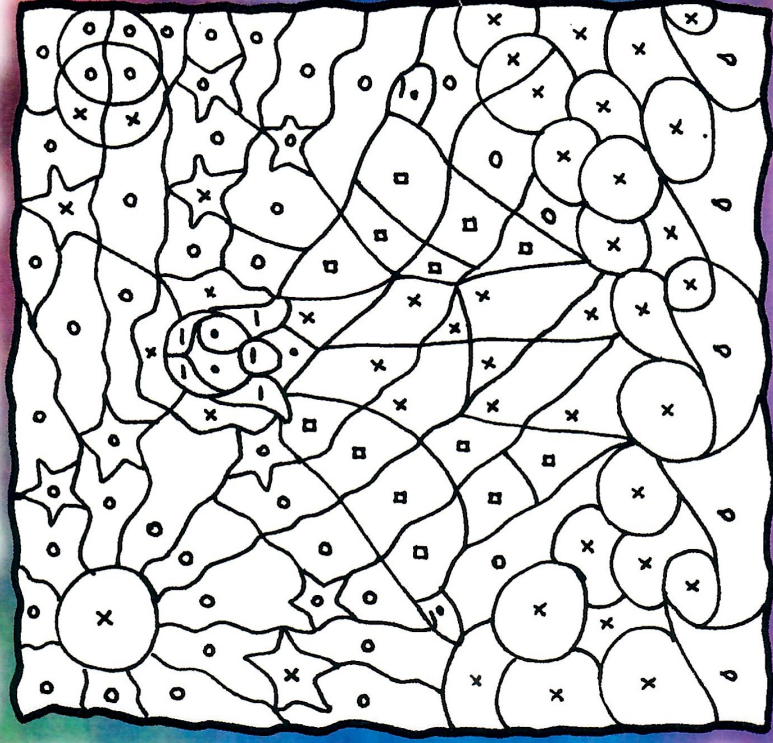


Stay awake! Be ready!  
During Advent, Jesus will ask you to help others.

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

# The Kids' Bulletin

First Sunday of Advent  
December 1st, 2024



Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

In today's Gospel reading Jesus talks about what is going to happen when He comes back at the end of the world.

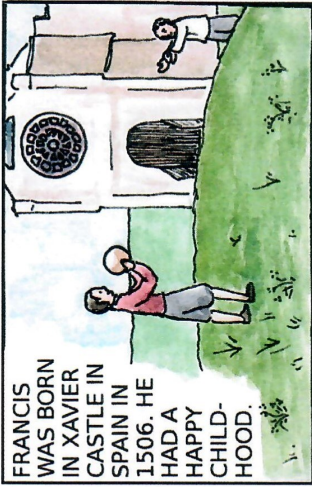
Use the code to colour in the picture!

- x white
- o blue
- skin colour
- o black
- red
- dark brown



# Saint Francis Xavier

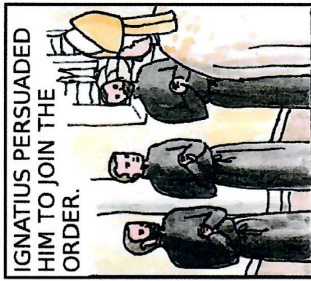
December 3



FRANCIS WAS BORN IN XAVIER CASTLE IN SPAIN IN 1506. HE HAD A HAPPY CHILDHOOD.



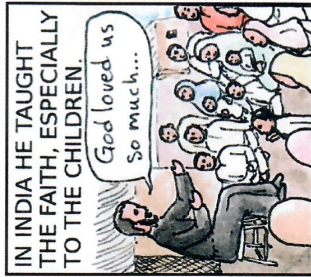
AT AGE 18 FRANCIS WENT TO UNIVERSITY IN PARIS. THERE HE MET ST. IGNATIUS, WHO WAS STARTING THE JESUIT ORDER.



IGNATIUS PERSUADED HIM TO JOIN THE ORDER.



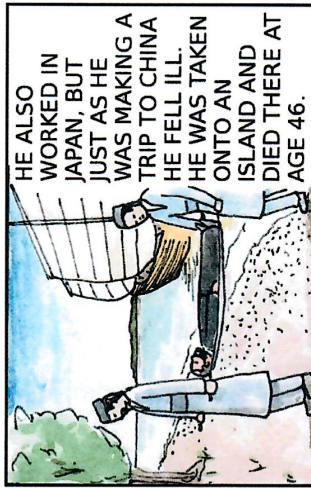
AFTER WORKING IN THE HOSPITALS, FRANCIS WAS SENT TO THE FAR EAST.



IN INDIA HE TAUGHT THE FAITH, ESPECIALLY TO THE CHILDREN.



ST. FRANCIS WOULD BAPTIZE PEOPLE UNTIL HE WAS EXHAUSTED AND COULDN'T EVEN HOLD UP HIS ARM!



HE ALSO WORKED IN JAPAN, BUT JUST AS HE WAS MAKING A TRIP TO CHINA HE FELL ILL. HE WAS TAKEN ONTO AN ISLAND AND DIED THERE AT AGE 46.

SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER ONLY WORKED AS A MISSIONARY FOR TEN YEARS, BUT HE BROUGHT THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE TO THE FAITH! HE IS THE PATRON SAINT OF MISSIONARIES. YOU CAN PRAY TO SAINT FRANCIS THAT GOD WILL HELP BRING MANY PEOPLE TO THE CHURCH WITH YOUR HELP TOO!

# The Second Coming Word Puzzle

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Fill in the missing letters from today's first reading and copy them to finish the last line.

The days are coming (5), says he (14) Lord, (10) when I will fill (9) the promise (6) I made to the house (2) of Israel and Judah. In those (13) days, in that time (3) I will raise up for you a just shoot; he shall do (8) what is right and just (1) in the land. (4) In those days Judah (11) shall be safe and Jerusalem (12) shall dwell (17) secure; then (15) is what they shall call (16) her:

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

11 12 13 14 15 16 17

