



# Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community

**Our Parish  
COMMUNITY**

December 22, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

Micah 5:1-4a / Hebrews 10:5-10 / Luke 1:39-45



Catholic Church serving in Eastern Kentucky since 1913

**Eucharistic Services:**

- 7:00 pm Wednesday -  
Word & Communion Service
- 5:00 pm Saturday - Holy Cross in Jackson,  
Vigil Mass
- 11:30 am Sunday - Mass

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Sunday after Mass; other times by appointment.

**Office Hours: Wed - Friday 10 am to 5 pm**

**Ministers for next Sunday,**

**Sacramental Minister Rev. Bob Dueweke, OSA**  
**Lector : Molly O'Rourke**

Roman Catholic Diocese of Lexington, KY  
Bishop John Stowe, OFM Conv.

1310 West Main Street  
Lexington, KY 40508-2048  
Phone: (859)253.1993  
[www.cdlex.org](http://www.cdlex.org)



**Ministers at MGC**

Lori Helfrich, Parish Life Director

email: [lhelfrich@cdlex.org](mailto:lhelfrich@cdlex.org)

**Mother of Good Counsel Prayer by B.J. Ewen**

Holy Mary, our heavenly mother,  
keep us in your care.

Give us your good counsel

as we strive to be disciples of your son Jesus  
and help us to grow in faith and in our love for God.  
Bless our parish which is named in your honor.  
Help us in our lives as we humbly pray and help  
us be attentive to the needs of our families and our  
community.

Amen

**Parish Mission Statement**

Inspired and sustained in our Catholic faith through life-giving worship, we Mother of Good Counsel Catholic Community, have as our mission to bring Christ and the teachings of the Catholic faith to one another and the larger community in a ways that draw us together as a supportive family, yet reaches out with a genuine concern for all people, so that we can be authentic witnesses in an area where Catholics are few in number.

329 Poplar Street. Hazard, KY 41701

Phone : (606)436.2533 | 606.233.3012 for emergency or after hours

Fax: (606) 436.0171 | [www.mgccc.org](http://www.mgccc.org)



### Becoming Catholic

The parish will continue our Becoming Catholic classes that will journey with those going through the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA). All people are welcome to come to this faith formation class. Becoming Catholic will be held resume on Tuesday January 14, 2025.

### Fourth Week of Advent - Gaudete! Sunday

Today marks the fourth Sunday of Advent when we remember the love that came into the world and look forward to our celebrations of the Christmas season. Take time each day this week to pause for 5 minutes to remember the joy that comes at Christmas and the saving power of God's love.

### Decorating for Christmas

Following Mass today the parish will be decorating the church for Christmas. If you are able to stay and help that will be greatly appreciated.

### Christmas Mass Schedule

There will be Mass on Christmas Eve Dec 24 at 5:00 pm and Midnight Mass at 12:01 am on December 25.

### Epiphany Party

To celebrate the Christmas season the parish will host an Epiphany party on Sunday Jan 5, 2025. The parish will provide a main dish, please sign up for bringing a dish to share. We will have dinner and games and celebration.

### One in Christ 2024

With your prayers and contribution to the Diocesan Annual Appeal this year, we are able to support your neighbors in need. Lives will be changed and those most in need will know God's grace in a very special way. We are grateful for your faithful stewardship each Fall. The DAA ends on Nov 30th Please be generous Our parish benefits greatly from this appeal. Our goal for 2024 is \$9500 and 58 families. Currently we have raised \$5889, which is 62% of our total goal coming from 33 donors which is 57% of our participation goal. Please consider how you can support these goals, all donations are welcome.

### Pilgrimage to Italy 2025

The Jubilee Pilgrimage to Italy that Mother of Good Counsel is offering in 2025 is open for registration. Follow the QR code for more information. There will be an information session in December.

**Jubilee Year Pilgrimage to Italy**  
with Lori Helfrich  
12 Days  
July 29-August 9, 2025

For More Information Contact:  
Silvius International Tours  
800.840.3340 [info@silvius.com](mailto:info@silvius.com)  
[www.silvius.com](http://www.silvius.com)

### Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers Needed

The parish is looking for more Extraordinary Ministers and Lectors to help at Mass. Please let Lori know if you are willing to read or be a minister of the Eucharist. There will be training provided for any volunteers.

### Silence Before Mass

Parishioners are asked to keep a silent atmosphere in the church before Mass so that people are able to reflect and pray. If you wish to talk, please come out to the gathering space. Thank you for offering this continued space of prayer and reflection.

**YOUR SUPPORT MAKES IT POSSIBLE!**

**ONE IN CHRIST**  
2024 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL  
Catholic Diocese of Lexington

*"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."*  
- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

IRA CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS/ STOCK: Call (859) 253-1993 for more information  
ONLINE: Give online at [collex.org](http://collex.org)  
MAIL: 1310 West Main St, Lexington, KY 40508

**A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS**

*Do I move forward with hope...? We can also ask for...the grace of a healthy sense of humor: it does so much good.... The first act of charity we can do for our neighbors is to offer them a serene and smiling face. It is bringing the joy of Jesus to them, as Mary did with Elizabeth.*

ANGELUS, ROME, DECEMBER 19, 2021



# Feeling Our Way

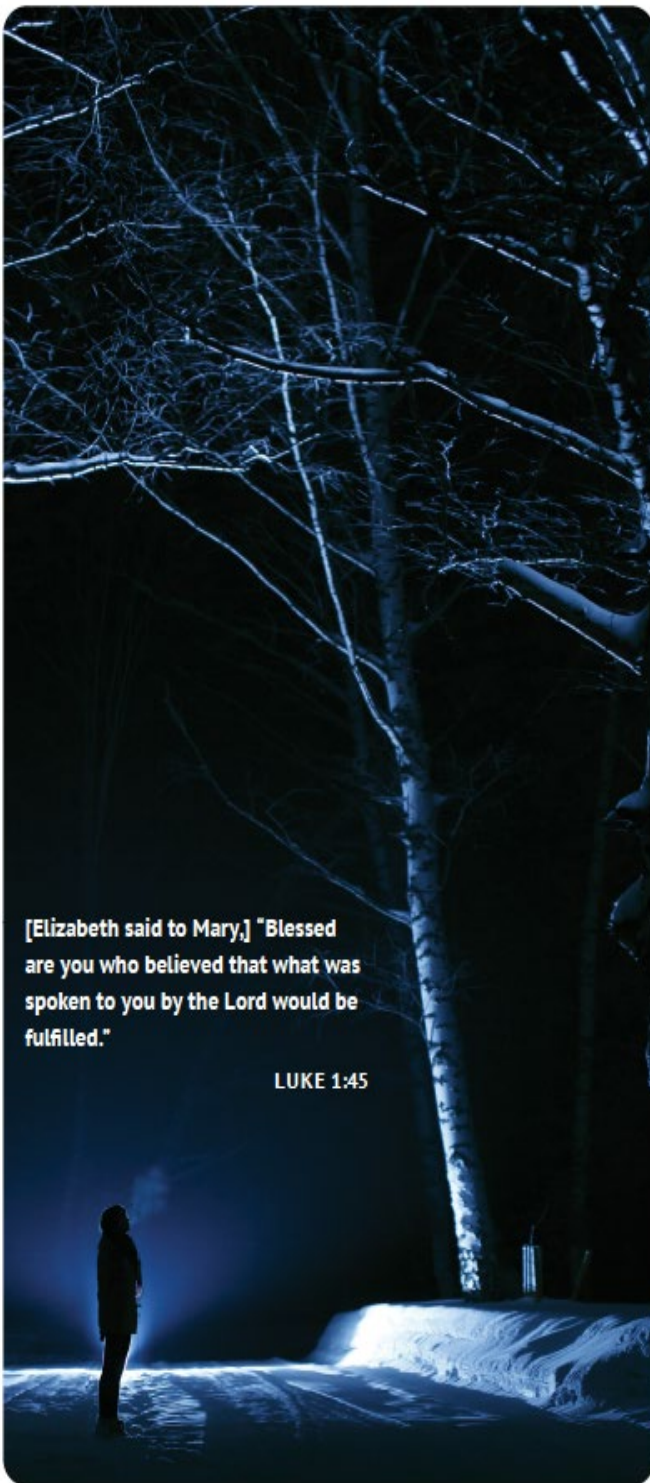
FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

**M**ost of the time we find ourselves backing our way into the will of God, or maybe even feeling our way into it. There are times when the will of God is quite clear: Should I lie or tell the truth? Should I steal or not? Most often, however, the will of God is not so clear. Too often it becomes a question of how to negotiate an aspect of life that's been handed to us, often a reality we cannot escape. It may be an unwanted divorce, or a son or daughter in a questionable relationship, or an illness that dismantles one's life plans. On the one hand, it is not as if God hands out scripts that we are expected to live by. On the other hand, God is part of all that unfolds. Somewhere in the midst of that is the will of God, which is another way of saying somehow you and I need to negotiate what we never chose, but is now served up by life. Or is it served up by God? Or by our own doing? Or all of that? That's what I mean when I say we feel our way into the will of God.

It is what Jesus sorted out in the desert when he was tempted, "I come to do your will, O God." It is Elizabeth's story of an unexpected pregnancy in her old age. It is Mary saying "Yes" to an uncharted path. Living God's will seems mostly to be a sorting process. ●

## Reflect

*Have you responded with a whole-hearted "Yes" to God's will for you?*



[Elizabeth said to Mary,] "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

LUKE 1:45

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**Monday**  
December 23  
*Advent Weekday*  
Mal 3:1-4,  
23-24  
Lk 1:57-66

**Tuesday**  
December 24  
*Advent Weekday*  
2 Sm 7:1-5,  
8b-12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67-79

**Wednesday**  
December 25  
*Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*  
Is 52:7-10  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18 or  
1:1-5, 9-14

**Thursday**  
December 26  
*St. Stephen, First Martyr*  
Acts 6:8-10;  
7:54-59  
Mt 10:17-22

**Friday**  
December 27  
*St. John, Apostle and Evangelist*  
1 Jn 1:1-4  
Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**Saturday**  
December 28  
*Holy Innocents, Martyrs*  
1 Jn 1:5-2:2  
Mt 2:13-18

**Sunday**  
December 29  
*Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph*  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14  
or 1 Sm 1:20-22,  
24-28  
Col 3:12-21 or  
3:12-17 or  
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24

**Do you have a question for the Padre?**



# Dear Padre,

## Where does the Hail Mary prayer come from?

The Hail Mary owes its origin to the rosary. The traditional story of the rosary was that Mary herself appeared to St. Dominic in the twelfth century and gave him the rosary with the promise that if he spread devotion to the rosary, his religious order would flourish. In the twelfth century, religious orders recited together the 150 psalms as a way to mark the hours of the day and the days of the week. In order to pray the psalms, though, people had to know how to read. People who didn't know how to read wanted to share in the practice, so the rosary, or praying on beads, began as a parallel prayer practice. It was a way that illiterate people could remember the Lord and his Mother throughout the day.

The first rosaries consisted of a string of 150 beads, and, much as we do now, a person would pass over each bead after saying a prayer, usually the Our Father. Later, people added the Archangel Gabriel's greeting—"Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee"—and later still, Elizabeth's prayer we hear in today's Gospel—"Blessed art thou among women." Finally this prayer was added in the sixteenth century: "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death." ●



The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

### Our Weekly Offering

12/15/2024

Loose: \$75

Envelopes : \$1630

Monthly: \$65

Retired Religious : \$ 80

Christmas Flowers \$35

Immaculate Conception: \$60

Online : \$290

Total Weekly Offering: \$2235

### Birthdays

12/25 : Stephen Davidson

12/27 : Alex Martinez

### Pope Francis Prayer Intention

December .For pilgrims of hope

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognize the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

### Upcoming Events

12/24 : Christmas Eve Mass 5 pm

12/25 : Midnight Mass



### Prayer List

Joey Napier, John Meehan, Roy Varghese, Brian Campbell, Matt Tuttle, Willie Gomez, Joe Fehribach, Charles McDaniel, Jon Latunik, Deb Night, Harvey Richardson, Delois McIntosh, Karen Davis, Zachary Hollan, Deedee Wells, Sherrian & Amose Noble, Stephanie Welch, David Napier, Martha Huggins, Roger Noyes, Willow Brockman, Tina Dawhare Fields, Mark Fields, Valarie Maggard Dye, Marleen Combs, Robert Caldwell, Don Davis, The Rice Family, Neal Boggs, Jackson Varela, Julie and Jonah Spencer, Jace Combs, Mandi Dishner, Brandon Robinson, Michael Whitaker, Thomas Stidham, Roy Pulliam, Quentin Davis, Nancy Kelly, Bobby Muncy, Grayson & Kaitlin Baker, Chuck Brunty, Al Pratt, Joe Vogel Sr., Margie Fields, Cordis Bishop, Randy Damron, Myla Atienza, Maria Brama, Ronnie Hurt, Sandy & Phillip Craft, Jaranda Brunty, Kazmir Sparkman, and Abby Turk.

If you know of someone who needs a pastoral visit or is in the hospital and would appreciate a visit contact the parish and let Lori know about the request.

Stay Connected to MGC on Social Media



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## Prayer Family

The Davidson Family