

## ST. ELIZABETH CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Mass intentions  
for Dec. 19, 2021  
4th Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday, 5 p.m. —**

† Ann & Jack Messina  
By: *Gurdak family*

**Sunday, 9 a.m. —**

† deceased of Bartus family  
By: *George & Thea Bratton*

**Wednesday, noon —**

*Vigil for Nativity of the Lord*

**Friday —**

**4 p.m.**

† Barbara Luoma  
By: *Catherine Hiles*

**10:30 p.m.** (music begins at 10)

† Trent Policky  
By: *Leroy & Agnes Policky*

*Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)*

**Saturday, 10:30 a.m. —**

† W.J. Carr  
By: *Mary Carr*



*No Sunday vigil Mass on Christmas day.*

**Thanks  
for your support and generosity**

In-person Offertory  
Dec. 12, 2021

Regular, \$1,973.55 Catholic Schools, \$300  
Needy, \$100 Retired Religious, \$447  
Development, \$102 Catholic Charities, \$45  
Backpack Buddies, \$50

Online Offertory  
October, \$3,570  
November, \$3,780



Dec. 19, 2021

**4th Sunday of Advent**

Micah 5:1-4a  
Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45



**BETHLEHEM-  
EPHRATHAH**

Two Bethlehems are in the Holy Land — one in the north in the territory assigned to the tribe of Zebulun. To distinguish it from the other, more famous town, it was called “Bethlehem-Zebulun.” It is mentioned only once — in the Book of Judges. The other town is called “Bethlehem-Judah.” It is about 75 miles south of Zebulun and 6 miles south of Jerusalem. The name Bethlehem means “house of bread” in Hebrew. It was a fertile area known for its wheat fields. Both King David and Jesus were born in Bethlehem-Ephrathah.

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**Weekly readings**

**Monday**

Isaiah 7:10-14  
Luke 1:26-38

**Tuesday**

Song of Songs  
2:8-14  
Luke 1:39-45

**Wednesday**

1 Samuel 1:24-28  
Luke 1:46-56

**Thursday**

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24  
Luke 1:57-66

**Friday**

2 Samuel 7:1-5,  
8b-12, 14a, 16  
Luke 1:67-79



*Nativity of the Lord*

**Saturday**

Isaiah 9:1-6  
Psalm 96:1-3, 11-13  
Titus 2:11-14  
Luke 2:1-14

*Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary &  
Joseph*

**Sunday**

1 Samuel 1:20-22,  
24-28  
Psalm 84:2-3,  
5-6, 9-10  
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24  
Luke 2:41-52

## Fourth Week of Advent

Light three purple candles and the pink candle:

•Candle of hope or “Prophecy Candle” (purple) reminds us that the prophets, especially Isaiah, foretold the birth of Christ.

•Candle of love or “Bethlehem Candle” (purple) represents the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus.

•Candle of joy or “Shepherd’s Candle” (pink) reminds us that the world experienced great joy at the birth of Jesus.

•Candle of peace or “Angel’s Candle” (purple) represents the message of the angels — “peace on earth, good will toward men.”

### Advent wreath prayer

Blessed are you, Lord God, ruler of the universe and giver of true peace! We remember your deep love for us as we prepare for your Son, Emmanuel. Take away our fear; help us to be obedient to your will and trust you as Joseph and Mary did. Let our responsible action result in peace in our home and in our world. Light up our lives. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.



### Meal prayer

Blessed are you, O Father, source of all promise for our lives. We long to remember again your Son of promise. Help us to listen like Joseph and see our daily lives through faith. Your Son is the sign of your faithful love; he makes a difference in our lives. Send your spirit upon us to give us the courage to love and to serve. Amen.

### Thoughts for Advent

Keep Christ in Christmas. It’s easy to be distracted by last-minute details. Try to remember that if Christ came in glory today, would you be ready?

### Saintly Wisdom

“I believe though I do not comprehend, and hold by faith what I cannot grasp with the mind.”  
— *St. Bernard* —

### Parish Life

**Christmas Mass Schedule** — St. Elizabeth’s Christmas Masses will be at these times:

- 4 p.m. Friday, Dec. 24 (children’s Mass)
- 10:30 p.m. Dec. 24 (music starts at 10 p.m.)
- 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 25

The Sunday vigil Mass will be canceled on Saturday, Dec. 25, because it is Christmas day.

**Christmas Eve Children’s Mass Practice** —

Children who plan to be in the play at the Christmas Eve children’s Mass are to meet after Mass this Sunday for a short practice.

**PSR Classes Canceled** — Classes for the Parish School of Religion will not meet Dec. 26 and Jan. 2. Classes resume Sunday, Jan. 9.

**Advent Food Drive** — The Knights of Columbus’ annual Advent Food Drive continues through Christmas.

**Lectors** — Anyone who would like to read at one of the weekend Masses may contact Coleen Schneider at [coleenschneider@gmail.com](mailto:coleenschneider@gmail.com) or 423-202-6387.

**Calendars** — Remember to pick up a 2022 calendar in the vestibule — one per family please.

### Synod Survey

Pope Francis wants your input on the topic of “For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission.” Please complete the Diocese of Knoxville synod survey found at:

<https://synodsurvey.org>

All, including non-Catholics, are encouraged to complete the anonymous survey. (Be sure to hit the “submit” button when finished.)