



# November 30, 2025 — First Sunday of Advent

Jesus exaggerates in today's Gospel when He claims not to know the day or the hour when He will come again. Christ occasionally makes such overstatements to drive home a point we might otherwise miss (see Matthew 5:34; 23:9; Luke 14:26).

His point here is that the exact "hour" is not important. What is crucial is that we not postpone our repentance, that we be ready for Him—spiritually and morally—when He come. For He will surely come, He tells us—like a thief in the night, like the flood in the time of Noah.

In today's Epistle, Paul too compares the present age to a time of advancing darkness and night.

Though we sit in the darkness, overshadowed by death, we have seen arise the great light of four Lord who has come into our midst (see Matthew 4:16; John 1:9; 8:12). He is the true light, the life of the world. And His light continues to shine in His Church, the new Jerusalem promised by Isaiah in today's First Reading.

In the Church, all nations stream to the God of Jacob, to worship and seek wisdom in the House of David. From the Church goes forth His word of instruction, the light of the Lord—that all might walk in His paths toward that eternal day when night will be no more (see Revelation 22:5).

By our Baptism we have been made children of the light and day (see Ephesians 5:8; 1 Thessalonians 5:5-7). It is time we start living like it: throwing off the fruitless works of darkness, rejecting the desires of the flesh, and walking by the light of His grace.

The hour is late as we begin a new Advent. Let us begin again in this Eucharist.

As we sing in today's Psalm, "let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord." Let us give thanks to His name, keeping watch for His coming, knowing that our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.

Scott Hahn

## Pope's Prayer Intention for December 2025

### For Christians in areas of conflict.

*Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.*

*Amen.*

## Prayer Before the Blessed Sacrament in Honor of the Holy Family

*Grant us, O Lord Jesus, faithfully to imitate the example of Thy Holy Family, so that in the hour of our death, in the company of Thy glorious Virgin Mother and St. Joseph, we may deserve to be received by Thee into eternal tabernacles.*

*Amen.*

## Act of Spiritual Communion

*My Jesus, I believe that you are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.*

*Amen.*

## Prayer to Saint Michael

*St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, cast into hell satan and all the evil spirits who prowl about the world seeking the ruin of souls.*

*Amen.*

**Hiroko Hamasaka Day**, 93, passes away on November 24, 2025 in Waverly, Tennessee, following complications from a long battle with Parkinson's disease. She was born on August 1, 1932, in Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan. She is survived by her three daughters and four grandchildren. Hiroko also leaves behind cherished friends, including Father Kevin Dowling, whose presence and companionship provided comfort and support throughout her later years.

**Father Sony** would like everyone to know that he will be available to bless your home during the season of Advent.

**Women's Christmas Party**—Mark your calendars! The annual Women's Christmas Party will be held on December 14th @ 1:00pm in the church hall. Please bring an appetizer or finger food and a wrapped, unmarked gift for the White Elephant game. Please limit the gift to \$15—\$20.

**Men's Breakfast**—The men of the Parish meet each Friday at Homestead @ 8:30am. All men are welcome.

**Community Grief Support**—In the wake of the recent tragedy at the Accurate Energetic Systems in Bucksport, Tenn., affecting both Hickman and Humphreys Counties, the *St. Vincent de Paul Conference at St. Patrick Church in McEwen* is creating a safe, faith-informed space for anyone grieving a loved one, friend, or otherwise impacted by the loss. The Community Grief Support Group offers comfort, connection, and hope through shared stories, prayer, and understanding. All are welcome. The support group meets from 6-7:30 p.m. every other Sunday, in the hospitality room upstairs from the parish office. Sessions are scheduled for **Nov. 9, Nov. 23, Dec. 7, and Dec. 21**. Sessions will continue into 2026 based on need.

**Advent Concert**—Matt Maher and Sarah Kroger will kick off their 11-city 2025 Cathedrals Tour this Advent season with a ticketed performance at **7pm on Thursday, Dec 4**, at *Sagrado Corazon de Jesus Church in the Catholic pastoral Center (2800 McGavock Pike, Nashville)*. Tickets are on sale now at <https://www.itickets.com/register/new/484241?referrer=EM484241>

Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Advancement of Catholic Education (ACE) endowment fund, which was established in 1992 to support Catholic education in the Diocese of Nashville.

**Cathedral Choir Christmas Concert**—All are invited to "A Song in the Night: A Cathedral Choir Christmas" at **7pm December 8-9, at the Cathedral of the Incarnation**. The concert is free and open to the public.

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Please contact *Dan Mecklenborg* or *Ingrid Jones* for more information.

**Mass Live Streamed Every Sunday—**

St. Catherine, Columbia at 10:30am. <https://stcatherinecc.org/live-streaming>

St. Philip, Franklin at 8:30am & 11:00am. <https://stphilipfranklin.com/live-stream/>

Cathedral of the Incarnation, Nashville at 8:30am, 11:00am & 5:00pm.

<https://www.cathedralnashville.org/livestream>

**Please stay after Sunday Mass and enjoy a light breakfast and fellowship with your church family.**

If you would like to receive, or stop receiving, the bulletin by email, send your request to [shellcp@pellerin.us](mailto:shellcp@pellerin.us). To add or remove a name from the Prayer List, send your request to [shellcp@pellerin.us](mailto:shellcp@pellerin.us)