

12.09.2018

# WELCOME!

Our parish community welcomes you! We are blessed by your active participation in our worship together. Thank you for helping us grow!

"Be faithful in little things."  
-Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, C.Ss.R

## MASS AND CONFESSION SCHEDULE

### MASS

Sundays at 8:00 am and 10:30 am

### CONFESSION

Sundays in the meeting room

behind the kitchen

7:20 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.

10:00 a.m. to 10:20 a.m.

By appointment: call Fr. Jim

### DAILY MASS

Thursdays at 8:30 am at

Women's Health Center

Also, sign up to host a daily Mass online or at the entrance table.

## PARISH STEWARDSHIP

### LAST WEEK'S OFFERING

Tithe Collection: \$2,494.50 || Building Fund: \$421.00

Seelos Ornaments : \$350.00

## UPCOMING SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

12/9: Retirement Fund for Religious

Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Your gift to this week's second collection helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious.

12/16: Building Fund

## ADVENT CANDLE PROCESSION

Families are encouraged to bring forth the Advent candle at the beginning of each Mass. Please go to SignUp Genius under the email of Theresabertagnolliwest@yahoo.com, to sign your family to participate in an Advent Mass.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

"Don't hide your light under a bushel basket."

There's a volunteer list always at the front desk. We especially need ushers for the 10:30 mass, help with coffee socials, and set-up/take down before & after Masses, plus whatever gift you'd like to share!

## SEELOS ORNAMENTS

**Quantities are limited!** We are having our first fund raiser for the parish building fund—our very own Christmas Ornament commemorating Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos and our Parish. The cost is \$25.00. Please stop by the entrance desk to obtain your keepsake ornament .

## PRODISEE GIFT CARDS AVAILABLE

Prodissee Pantry gift cards can still be purchased for \$10. Each card helps the Pantry cover the cost of providing a Holiday meal at Christmas for families in our area.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### ADVENT CONFESSIONS

DEC 9 @ 9:00 AM

Fr. Cink and a visiting priest will be available to hear confessions at Prodissee Pantry from 9-10:15 am.

### FAMILY MATTERS

DEC 9 @ 9:15 AM

All adults are invited! Topic: "Conversations Amidst A Noisy World."

### FAMILY MATTERS

DEC 16 @ 9:15 AM

The final Family Matters meeting of the year. Topic: "Talking to Your Children about God."

### PRODISEE SERVICE

DEC 19 @ 6:00 PM

### ADVENT CONFESSIONS

DEC 23 @ 9:00 AM

Fr. Cink and a visiting priest will be available to hear confessions at Prodissee Pantry from 9-10:15 am.

### CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

DEC 24 @ 4:30 & 6:30 PM

### CHRISTMAS DAY MASS

DEC 25 @ 9:00 PM

### NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS

JAN 1 @ 9:00 PM

## HOLIDAY LITURGY SIGN-UP

If you would like to altar serve, sing, lector, usher, or be an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist at our Christmas Eve and Day Masses, please sign up at the entrance tables.

## FIRST RECONCILIATION

If you are 2nd grade Sunday School Parents who missed the First Reconciliation Meeting, please contact Theresa West at 228-209-4935 or email at Theresabertagnolliwest@yahoo.com. Your participation and a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate is necessary for your child to receive this Sacrament.

## BEST ADVENT EVER

"Best Advent Ever" is a free email program by Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what matters most during this busy season. You'll experience Advent in a whole new way—leading to the best Christmas of your life! Sign up online, then starting December 2, you'll receive inspirational videos from Allen Hunt and Matthew Kelly. Videos include practical tips for everyday life and real-life stories to encourage you in your preparation for Christmas. Sign up at www.BestAdventEver.com, or visit the entrance table for more information.

## 2019 ENVELOPES AND CALENDARS

Calendars and parish giving envelopes for 2019 are available starting today. Please pick up yours at the tables in the back. Please note that giving envelopes for 2019 will only be available for those who express interest and provide contact information.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

Christmas flower offering envelopes are now available at the entrance tables. These defer the cost of flowers for Christmas and honor loved ones.

Please place the name/names of your loved ones to be remembered on the outside of the envelope.

**Names of loved ones will be placed on the altar for all December Masses and published in the 12/23 bulletin.**



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: FAMILY CONNECTION

John's preaching of the coming of the Lord is a key theme of the Advent season. As John's message prepared the way for Jesus, we too are called to prepare ourselves for Jesus' coming. We respond to John's message by repentance and reform of our lives. We are also called to be prophets of Christ, who announce by our lives the coming of the Lord, as John did.

During the season of Advent, we choose to add many activities to our family's schedule to prepare for our celebration of Christmas. John the Baptist reminds us that our repentance is another way in which we can prepare for the Lord's coming and our celebration of Christmas. Parish communities often offer a communal celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the Advent season. Your family might choose to participate in the communal celebration of the sacrament, or you might seek out this sacrament on an individual basis.

Read together today's Gospel, Luke 3:1-6. Talk about how John the Baptist called upon the people to prepare the way of the Lord through repentance. Together as a family, prepare a simple reconciliation service in preparation for Christmas. Gather in a prayerful space, perhaps around the family Advent wreath. Read again from today's Gospel, Luke 3:1-6. Invite each family member to pray silently, asking God to forgive his or her sins. Pray together the Act of Contrition. Then celebrate God's forgiveness by sharing the sign of peace with one another.

Read more at [www.loyolapress.org](http://www.loyolapress.org).



### ADVENT PRAYER

*Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to prepare the ways of Your only begotten Son, that we may attain to serve You with purified minds, through His advent. Who with You lives and reigns in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, world without end. Amen.*

### DAILY READINGS | DEC 10 – DEC 15

December 10: Monday of the Second Week of Advent  
IS 35:1-10 / PS 85:9AB AND 10, 11-12, 13-14 / LK 5:17-26

December 11: Tuesday of the Second Week of Advent  
IS 40:1-11 / PS 96:1-2, 3 AND 10AC, 11-12, 13 / MT 18:12-14

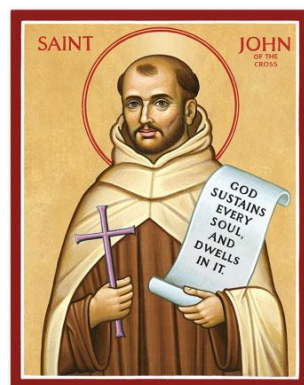
December 12: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe  
ZEC 2:14-17 or RV 11:19A; 12:1-6A, 10AB / JUDITH 13:18BCDE, 19 / LK 1:26-38 or LK 1:39-47

December 13: Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr  
IS 41:13-20 / PS 145:1 AND 9, 10-11, 12-13AB / MT 11:11-15

December 14: Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church  
IS 48:17-19 / PS 1:1-2, 3, 4 AND 6 / MT 11:16-19

December 15: Saturday of the Second Week of Advent  
SIR 48:1-4, 9-11 / PS 80:2AC AND 3B, 15-16, 18-19 / MT 17:9A, 10-13

December 16: Third Sunday of Advent  
ZEP 3:14-18A / IS 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 / PHIL 4:4-7 / LK 3:10-18



**St. John of the Cross**  
*Spanish Carmelite who was the spiritual director of St. Theresa of Avila; helped reform Carmelite order; translated Song of Songs into Spanish; drew "Christ From Above" and wrote "Dark Night of the Soul;" patron of contemplatives, mystics, and Spanish Poets*

December 9, 2018 | Second Sunday of Advent

# PEACE

*"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God."*  
-Luke 3:4,6

### BL. FRANCIS XAVIER SEELOS CATHOLIC PARISH



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Worship with us weekly at Prodissee Pantry on US Hwy 31 | 9315 Spanish Fort Boulevard | Spanish Fort, AL 36527