



November 17, 2020

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you for your kind welcome over these past weeks. I especially appreciate your understanding as we get to know one another. Change is never easy, but thankfully, through the grace of our loving God, we can continue to grow together.

Enclosed with this letter, you will find a schedule for the Season of Advent and Christmas. Please keep it handy. It is important that we celebrate the birth of Our Lord throughout the Christmas season, not just on Christmas Day.

This past year has definitely been interesting. I cannot recall a seminary class that could have prepared me for the challenges the Coronavirus and physical distancing brought to my 'normal life'. So, if you are feeling overwhelmed, afraid, angry, or in shock...I get it. So much feels and is different.

And yet some things remain: the abiding love of God, the connections of friendship and prayer within our Parish, and our commitment to reach out in service to our neighbors. We continue to be "open" for liturgies – Masses, weddings, baptisms, and funerals. I understand the hesitation about returning to public gatherings.

Some in our community face personal economic challenges because of this pandemic. Please reach out to me if you need support.

I want to thank you for your financial commitment to Saint Mark the Evangelist Parish. For those who have given in the past year, your gifts have helped sustain the faithful mission and ministry of our Parish. Your support is critical to our sustainability.

I hope your circumstances will enable you to continue to give to the Parish. If they have changed, please know I understand. Conversely, if you find you are able to make an additional gift beyond your normal amount, that would be wonderful! Please know that your donation, no matter its size, is deeply appreciated and empowers us to carry out our Parish's ability to make a difference in people's lives.

Together, we can support each other through this difficult time. Together, we can answer God's call to mission and ministry. Together, we can be spiritually united even when physically apart.

May the Lord bless us all in the upcoming year.

In Christ's love,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Sullivan", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Reverend Robert J. Sullivan

Pastor

2020

# Advent and Christmas Schedule



## Advent Reconciliation

Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:00 PM  
Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 2:00 PM and 5:30 – 7:00 PM  
Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 – 7:00 PM

## Advent Tuesday Masses

12:00 Noon Mass on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup>

## Exposition

Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM – 12 Noon

## Women of Saint Mark Advent Reflection

Tuesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> from 8:45 – 11:30 AM in the Parish Hall  
Theme: The Crooked Made Straight  
Register by emailing [rae.ellyn@gmail.com](mailto:rae.ellyn@gmail.com)

## The Immaculate Conception

Mass on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 AM, 12:00 PM and 6:00 PM

## Christmas Masses: Nativity of the Lord Jesus Christ

### Thursday, December 24<sup>th</sup>

4:00 PM Mass in the Church with overflow in the Parish Hall  
4:00 PM Mass in the Youth Center  
8:00 PM Mass in the Church

### Friday December 25<sup>th</sup>

9:00 AM Mass in the Church

## New Year Masses

Thursday, December 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 PM  
Friday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021 at 9:00 AM – No Exposition or Adoration following this Mass