

COMING EVENTS

Novena December 17th thru 25th.

Pilgrimage Sunday, December 22nd.

Mass at 11:00 AM

Rosary and Novena Prayers before Mass

Mass Times at St. Wenceslaus Home of the
National Shrine of the Infant Jesus

Saturday Night Vigil 5:00 PM

Sunday 11 :00 AM

Tuesday through Friday at 9:00 AM

Holy Hour 9:30 to 10:30 AM

First Friday and First Saturday Mass 9:00 AM

Holy Hour 9:30 to 10:30 AM

Gift Shop hours are Tues-Fri 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Sunday Shrine open till 2:00 PM

This newsletter is published monthly to promote
the devotion to the Infant Jesus of Prague at the
National Shrine in Oklahoma, USA.

www.shrineofinfantjesus.com

www.facebook.com/iopshrine

THE NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE INFANT JESUS OF PRAGUE

December 2024

THE MORE YOU HONOR ME
THE MORE I WILL BLESS YOU



Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

A Jubilee Year is traditionally proclaimed by the Universal Church every 25 years. It is a particular year set aside to encourage the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent of their sins and forgive the sins of others, and to renew a focus on the spiritual life. In the Hebrew tradition, as recorded in Leviticus, a Jubilee was celebrated every 50 years with the freeing of slaves and the forgiveness of debts. In 1300, Pope Boniface VIII instituted the first Christian Jubilee, and since then the Church has designated each new Jubilee as a special year of grace and forgiveness, offering the faithful an opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence.

Pope Francis will inaugurate the Ordinary Jubilee by opening the Holy Door of the Basilica of St. Peter in the Vatican on December 24, 2024. Then, on the feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph that following Sunday, December 29, diocesan bishops of all the various Churches are to celebrate Holy Mass for the solemn opening of the Jubilee Year in every cathedral and co-cathedral. On this day, Pope Francis will likewise celebrate the inauguration of the Jubilee in St. John Lateran, his own cathedral.

In our Archdiocese, the opening of the Jubilee Year will take place at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. A procession from the Connor Center will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, December 29, 2024, followed by a solemn Mass in the Cathedral, commenced at 10 a.m.

Throughout the Jubilee Year, Our Lady's Cathedral will serve as a Jubilee site. Additionally, the following churches within the archdiocese are to be designated as Jubilee pilgrimage sites: Blessed Stanley Rother Shrine (Oklahoma City), St. Gregory's Abbey (Shawnee), Holy Trinity (Okarche), the Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima (Bison), and the National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague (Prague).

To receive the plenary indulgence during the Holy Year, the faithful must comply with the usual conditions: confession, communion and prayer for the Pope's intentions. Pilgrimages through the Holy Door at St. Peter's and other shrines are also an important part of receiving the indulgence. Among them is our own National Shrine of the Infant Jesus of Prague. Our National Shrine is blessed to be chosen as one of the Holy Doors for the Jubilee Year 2025. We hope to welcome many more pilgrims during the Jubilee Year 2025.

The Jubilee Year 2025 is not only an important religious event but also an opportunity for everyone to come together to strive for good values, to build a community of solidarity, love and reconciliation. This is also a time for us to reflect on the meaning of forgiveness, tolerance and kindness in our daily lives.

The Jubilee Year 2025, with the theme "Pilgrims of Hope", is an opportunity for us to turn to God together, praying for peace and hope. It is also a time for us to make spiritual journeys together, discovering the true values of faith and life.

Advent has arrived. Advent is the first liturgical season of the new liturgical year. Advent reminds us of a long history spanning many generations. It is a history of the expectation of the Messiah promised by God long ago. The expectation of the Messiah has nourished the faith of the Jewish people in all the ups and downs of history, especially in the tragic years of history, such as the exile. Advent also reminds us of God's miraculous intervention: the event of the Word becoming human and dwelling among us. God is with us. He is no longer just the One who sits in the clouds above. He no longer speaks to us through intermediaries as in the Old Testament. God has spoken to us directly through His Son. Jesus is the Word of God. He came to earth to be with us, to share the joys and sorrows of each person wandering in this world. God is with us. He is no longer just the One who sits in the clouds above. He no longer speaks to us through intermediaries as in the Old Testament. God has spoken to us directly through His Son. Jesus is the Word of God. He came to earth to be with us, to share the joys and sorrows of each person wandering in this world.

We enter the season of Advent, also known as the Ad season. Advent, originally from Latin, is Adventus, (meaning coming). During the time of Pope Gregory I, the four-week period of preparation for the coming of the Lord before Christmas was called Advent.

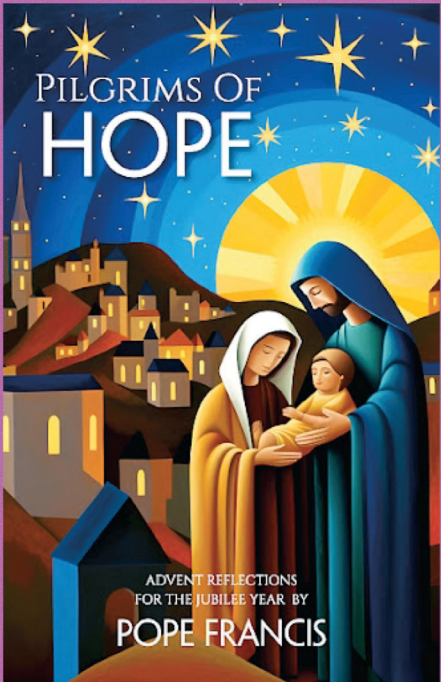
According to Christian belief, the “Lord” (referring to Jesus Christ) has already come once, when he was born and lived on Earth, died on the cross, and was resurrected; therefore, the statement “The Lord has come” signifies that we are not waiting for his initial arrival, but rather his future return, also known as the Second Coming, which is still anticipated by Christians.

The Advent season that the Church is living with two dimensions: one is to commemorate the Incarnation of Jesus, the Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary; the other is to wait for the Lord to return in glory to “Judge the Living and the Dead” as we read in the Creed. That is why the word “waiting” is often mentioned during Advent. The liturgical ceremonies during Advent, from the colors, the readings, the hymns all express hope with the fervent request: “Maranatha – come, O Lord,” and more than that, the Jews begged: “Please tear the heavens and come down” (Isaiah 64:1) Because we live in both dimensions, Christians must wear the sentiments of the Old Testament people and themselves today.

In the Catholic liturgical calendar, Advent lasts four weeks and each week has its own traditional name, consisting of the first words of the opening hymn:

- First Sunday of Advent: Ad Te levavi...(To you, O LORD, I lift | up my soul.)
- Second Sunday of Advent: Populus Sion... (People of Sion...)
- Third Sunday of Advent: Gaudet... (Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near...)
- Fourth Sunday of Advent: Rorate... (Drop down, ye heavens, from above, and let the skies pour down righteousness...)

Sincerely in Christ,
Very Reverend Christopher Hai Tran, Rector



*National Shrine of the Infant
Jesus of Prague, Oklahoma*



Our National Shrine is
blessed to be chosen as one
of the Holy Doors for the
Jubilee Year 2025. We hope
to welcome many pilgrims
during the Jubilee Year
“Pilgrims of Hope “

Father Christopher Hai Tran, Rector

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

SHRINE _____

PROMOTION _____

FLOWERS _____

TREES _____

Pavers _____

ALTAR CANDLES _____

SANCTUARY LAMP _____

6-DAY VIGIL @ \$5.00 _____

MASS STIPEND @ \$10 _____

MASS INTENTION FOR _____

____LIVING ____DECEASED

PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE MASS TO:

PLEASE CALL FOR A PAVER FORM AND WE
WILL MAIL YOU ONE. THANK YOU

If you have questions or comments about
this publication, please address them to:
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