

Welcome!



SACRED HEART
Catholic Parish & School

Advent



Second Sunday of Advent - December 7, 2025

Fr. Michal Rosa, Pastor

405 South Henrietta Street
Effingham, IL 62401

Phone: 217-347-7177

Email church: shchurch@sheff.org

Email school: shschool@sheff.org

During a life emergency,
while offices are closed, please contact
217-703-1042 to reach a priest.

www.sheff.org



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YouTube

@Sacred Heart Effingham

Masses are live streamed on YouTube

Mass Schedule:

Monday-Thursday 8:30am

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4:00pm

Sunday Masses: 8:30 & 10:30am,

La Misa en Español 5:00pm el domingo

Reconciliation:

30 minutes before weekday Masses

Saturday: 3:00pm-3:45pm

Liturgy of the Hours:

7:45am Sunday-Friday

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

3:15pm Monday-Friday

3:00pm Saturday

Pray the Rosary:

Healing: Mondays at 9:00am

Flame of Love: Wednesdays at 3:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration:

Monthly on First Monday

9:00am-8:00pm

Reconciliation 7:00-8:00pm



Monday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and, therefore, it has a different schedule than the other Mondays in Advent. This is the Holy Day of Obligation celebrating that the Virgin Mary was free of Original Sin from the moment of her conception. Masses will be held on Monday, December 8 at 8:30am, 12:10pm, and 6:30pm. Please join us!

**The 8:30am Mass will be incense-free.*

Our K-8 students will be attending Mass on Monday, December 8, at 8:30am for this Solemnity (school dress code reminder: no jeans on Monday!).



The 8:30am Mass on Tuesday, December 9 has been rescheduled. Instead, we will have a 6:30am Rorate (candlelight) Mass that day. Moving the Mass time earlier will enable Fr. Michal to travel to Quincy with other area priests for Fr. Daren Zehnle's funeral.

We invite you to join us as we prepare for Jesus' birth! Advent and Christmas information can be found on page 4 of this weekend's bulletin.

The Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women (CCW) met on Tuesday, December 2, for their annual Christmas party and meeting. 51 ladies and Father Michal were in attendance. A silent auction with many donated items was held and the generous proceeds will be going to a church family. The 50/50 was won by Joyce Stock, the special door prize was won by Pat Bristow, and poinsettia prizes were awarded to 14 lucky attendees. A delicious meal was catered and fancy desserts were served. Thank you to our December committee (Penny Wiedman, Judy Luchtefeld, Jane Herman, Betty Wise, and Marilyn Purcell) for arranging the very enjoyable Christmas party. Reminder that our CCW ladies host the third Knights of Columbus Bingo of each month. Everyone is invited to come for a night of fun! There is no CCW meeting in January. The next CCW meeting will be in the parish center on February 3, at 6:00pm and it will include a soup supper. All women of the parish are welcome!

Prayer List: Nicole Bishop, Bill Weis, Maria Dolores Kingery, Tom Palmer, Brenda Harris, Trevor Roy, Cis Ozenkoski, Mary Jane Behrman, Jackson Gaitros, Fr. Zach Patibandla, Keith Willenborg, Robert Overbeck, Jim Hakman, Lori Portz, Madalynn Bond, Anthony Wirth

Names will be kept on our prayer list for 1 month and then removed. If you or your loved one would like to remain on the list for another month, simply call the parish office at 217-347-7177 and we will be happy to renew your name. ♥



Our E.T.C. (Effingham Teen Catholics) group is taking a break for the rest of December. Starting in January,

their day/time will change to Sundays at 4:00pm. All area teens are invited. Stay tuned for more details!

SACRED HEART CHURCH & SCHOOL CALENDAR

✝ Parish Event ☺ School Event

December 8-11

☺ Seventh-Grade Boys' BB NTC Tournament

Monday, December 8

- ✝ Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception Masses at 8:30am, 12:10pm, and 6:30pm
- ✝ Pray the Healing Rosary in church 9:00am
- ☺ SHS Adoration in church 1:30pm
- ✝ Cemetery Board Meeting 6:30pm

Tuesday, December 9

- ✝ Rorate (Candlelight) Mass 6:30am (no 8:30am Mass)
- ✝ Study Group in Narthex 9:15am
- ☺ Meyer Twins Art 3:00-5:00pm

Wednesday, December 10

- ✝ Pray the Flame of Love Rosary in church 3:30pm
- ✝ PSR Classes at Sacred Heart School 6:30pm

Thursday, December 11

- ✝ Men's Prayer Group in narthex 7:00pm

Friday, December 12

- ☺ No School—School Improvement Day

December 12-18

- ☺ Eighth-Grade Boys' BB NTC Tournament

Saturday, December 13

- ✝ St. Hildegard Von Bingen Schola Christmas Concert in church 3:00-5:00pm

----- **SAVE THE DATE** -----

February 7 & 8, 2026: Book & Bake Sale

March 14, 2026: St. Pat's Bash

June 27 & 28, 2026: Sacred Heart Picnic

We will celebrate our monthly 'Family Mass' at 10:30am on Sunday, December 21. However, in light of the busy Advent and upcoming Christmas season, we will not have a potluck this month. Our January Family Mass and Potluck will be Sunday, January 18.

..... Rest in Peace

Our sympathy to the families and friends of two priests in our diocese who passed away recently:

✝ **Fr. Daren Zehnle**

✝ **Fr. Joe Ring**

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let your perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithfully departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Our Spanish community will be celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Sunday, December 14. Mass will be at 5:00pm, followed by a celebration and dinner in the parish center. All are welcome!



Nuestra comunidad hispana celebrará la fiesta de Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe el domingo 14 de diciembre. La misa será a las 5:00 p. m., seguida de una celebración y cena en el centro parroquial. ¡Todos son bienvenidos!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 8-Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30am: ✝ Patricia Fuesting, ✝ James Bowlin, ✝ Kathy Fehrenbacher

12:10pm: ✝ Joseph Wirth

6:30pm: For Our Parishioners

Tuesday, December 9—Rorate Mass

6:30am: ✝ Kenneth Kreke

Wednesday, December 10

8:30am: Living & Deceased Members of the Catholic Daughters of America

Thursday, December 11

8:30am: ✝ Frances Hoene

Saturday, December 13

4:00pm: ✝ Brenda Coe

Sunday, December 14—Third Sunday of Advent

8:30am: For Our Parishioners

10:30am: ✝ Anthony Sicoli

5:00pm: La Misa en Español



Our SHS eighth-grade cheerleaders and boys' basketball players celebrated their Eighth-Grade Night on November 18 with a nail-biting win against Mattoon St. John Lutheran. Cheerleaders are Kate C., Ava D., Ava H., and Zoey L. Boys' basketball players are: Owen B., Hayden B., Bryce H., Reuben J., Gabe T., Logan S., Lucas M., Chris K., and Jackson L.



SACRED HEART
Catholic School



Congratulations to our First Quarter Accelerated Reading and Literature Leaders!

- ♣ **Gr. 2:** Annaliese H.,
Finley B., Josie R.
- ♣ **Gr. 3:** Devan K.,
Kate H., Alaina J.
- ♣ **Gr. 4:** Ava R.
- ♣ **Gr. 5:** Annabelle S.,
Jordan P., Avery M.
- ♣ **Gr. 6:** Ellie D.
- ♣ **Gr. 7:** Haylie R.
- ♣ **Gr. 8:** Zoey L.



We would like to extend a warm welcome to Anna Grimes, our new girls' volleyball coach!

Hi there! My name is Anna Grimes, and I'm so excited to be joining the Sacred Heart family as the volleyball coach! I live in Effingham with my wonderful family—Aaron, our daughter, Audrey, our dog, Penny, and a handful of barn cats. Volleyball has always been a big part of my life; I played at Teutopolis High School and with the Top Spin volleyball club. Now, I enjoy playing recreationally at the rec center. I work as a project manager for an environmental consulting firm and also help out with Aaron's construction business. As a family, we love traveling. We have a big goal to visit all 50 states and watch the St. Louis Cardinals play at every MLB ballpark in the country. So far, we've checked 6 out of 30 ballparks off our list. I'm looking forward to a fun and successful season with the team and can't wait to get started!

SCRIP Card Christmas Sale

SCRIP Purchase Example

Chili's	\$25
Kohl's	\$100
Save-A-Lot	\$100
Effingham Massage	\$50
Gabby Goat	\$20
Joe's Pizza & Pasta	\$20
Nuxoll Food Center	\$50
Niemerg's Steakhouse	\$25
Southtown Car Wash	\$25
Walmart	\$50
Walgreens	\$50
TOTAL Money Spent	\$515

Based on approx
% payback from
each retailer,
that is...

~\$36 SCRIP Credit
(~ \$36 for SHS)

***** *SCRIP Cards will be sold in the narthex after Masses every weekend until Christmas* *****

SCRIP Cards can be ...

- >> used to purchase gifts for those on your shopping list,
- >> used to purchase groceries for your holiday parties,
- >> OR, purchased to be given as gifts!

Purchase SCRIP Cards:

- >> in the church narthex after Masses
- >> in the church office on Tuesdays & Fridays
- >> online at www.raiseright.com/shop



*"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem.
May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man."
-Pope Francis*

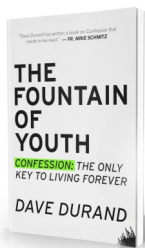
Join us on Mondays during Advent!

On December 15 and 22, we will be hosting the following in church:

- ⇒ Rorate (candlelight) Mass at 6:30am
(no 8:30am Mass these days)
- ⇒ Pray the Healing Rosary in church at 7:00am
- ⇒ Eucharistic Adoration from 7:00am - 8:00pm
- ⇒ Confession from 7:00pm - 8:00pm
(December 22 will be a special Night of Confession with 4 priests available.)

Please note: Any time you pray at Eucharistic Adoration, you can receive a partial indulgence. A plenary indulgence is granted when you visit the most Blessed Sacrament during Adoration for at least 30 minutes. (All other qualifications for plenary indulgence still apply: go to Confession, receive Communion the same day, say prayers, and be free of venial sin. If you are interested in more information, please talk to Fr. Michal or contact the parish office.)

Due to it being the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, Masses will be held on Monday, December 8 at 8:30am, 12:10pm, and 6:30pm. Please join us! **The 8:30am Mass will be incense-free.*



A Gift for You—When you come for Mass, make sure to grab a copy of *The Fountain of Youth* in the narthex. This book offers a refreshing perspective on the sacrament that is most often overlooked (and even avoided): Confession. Author Dave Durand will help you break through what's holding

you back and lead you to the freedom that Christ came to win for us. **With clean souls, we will be able to receive Jesus in the Holy Eucharist with a joyful heart and share in His victory over sin and death.**



Our 2026 parish calendars, courtesy of Roy Schmidt Honda and Jansen's Heating & Air, are available in the church narthex. Each family is invited to take one.

Christmas



*For a child is born to us, a son is given to us;
upon his shoulder dominion rests. They name him
Wonder-Counselor, God-Hero, Father-Forever, Prince of Peace.
- Isaiah 9:5*

Sacred Heart School invites you to "Christmas in Bethlehem Gulch," our K-8 Christmas Program and Band Concert! Saddle up for a country Christmas in Bethlehem Gulch starring our very own eight-grade students on Wednesday, December 17, starting at 6:15pm in the school gym. It is sure to be a darn tootin' good time! Dress rehearsal is Tuesday, December 16, at 1:00pm. Parents, grandparents, and friends are welcome at both performances!

The Sacred Heart School 4-year-old Preschool Christmas Program will be held on Friday, December 19, at 10:30am in the school gym. Parents and grandparents are welcome!

Sacred Heart junior high students will be Christmas caroling on Wednesday, December 17, to some of our parishioners in local nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and homebound. This is always a special tradition and fun way to spread Christmas cheer.

Volunteers Needed—Men, Women, & Teens!

We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Tuesday, December 23, starting right after 8:30am Mass. We need a lot of volunteers! The biggest area of need is carrying decorations up from the basement. Please come to help decorate and/or carry things, even if you can only stay for a little while.

Envelopes for Christmas flowers & decorations are in the December packets. Please note on the back of the envelope if the donation is made in memory or in honor of a loved one. A special memorial page will be included in the bulletin. Please return envelopes by Friday, December 12.

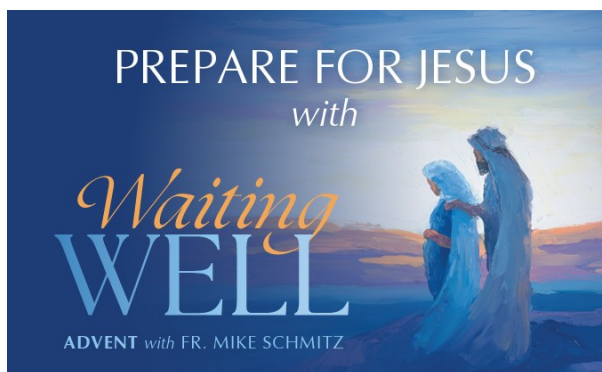
Christmas and New Year Mass Times:

Christmas:

- * Wednesday, December 24: 4:00pm & 9:30pm
**The 9:30pm Mass will be incense-free.
- * Thursday, December 25: 12:00am & 9:30am

New Year, Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:

- * Thursday, January 1: 8:30am, 12:10pm, & 6:30pm
**The 12:10pm Mass will be incense-free.



Advent can often feel like a countdown to Christmas, a time of frantically getting ready for the holidays. In fact, this liturgical season is all about waiting—not for a short-lived celebration, but for a person. Waiting doesn’t need to be passive. It can be active preparation, a beautiful opportunity to open the door of your heart to welcome Jesus into every part of your life.

This Advent, our men’s prayer group is studying the book *Waiting Well* by Fr. Mike Schmitz. Even if you are not part of the men’s group, you can access the resources included with this book study! It includes many online resources that are available to everyone, including daily videos and messages for each week of Advent. Check it out at <https://ascensionpress.com/pages/waiting-well-downloadable-resources>. Learn how to joyfully anticipate Christmas, so that when Christ comes, you’re ready to meet Him in the manger.



Count Down to Christmas

25 DAYS OF PRIZES

Fundraising for the 2026-27 Junior High Retreat has begun!

Our sixth and seventh grade classes are raising money for their junior high retreat to Damascus Catholic Camp in Centerburg, Ohio next school year.

They will be selling Christmas Calendar Raffle tickets and pecans in the narthex after Masses. You can also contact any sixth or seventh grader or the church or school office to purchase a chance to win!



1 Two Tickets to Million Dollar Quartet Christmas at The Little Theatre on the Square	2 \$100 CASH Vahling Property Development	3 Modern Family Dinner \$100 Gift Card	4 Sacred Heart Picnic Pack w/ Food, Drinks & Games	5 Four Tickets to Mike Super 2.0H! at The EPC
6 \$100 CASH Fujiyama	7 Weber's Jewelry Diamond Earrings	8 Nativity Set & 4 Easter Brunches at the Keller Convention Center	9 Southtown Carwash 3-month wash subscription & Dan Hecht \$100 Gift Card	10 Cayla's Birthday Party
11 Fairfield Inn Romance Package & Firefly Grill \$50 Gift Card	12 Dinner Out! \$100 Puerta Vallarta Gift Card & \$50 Homewood Grill Gift Card	13 WHITE ELEPHANT	14 Fujiyama \$100 Gift Card	15 It's My Birthday so you win \$50! - Coach Jennifer Hecht
16 Top Shelf \$50 Gift Card plus Tuscan Hills "Naughty" & "Nice" wines	17 \$100 CASH Effingham Massage Clinic	18 The Beanstalk Boutique \$100 Gift Card	19 Boots & Soles \$100 Gift Card	20 FS Fast Stop \$100 Gift Card
21 Fujiyama \$100 Gift Card	22 \$100 CASH Rock's Advanced Auto Care	23 Boho Chic Clinique Rejuvenation Facial (\$300 Value)	24 \$500 CASH	25 \$500 CASH

DECEMBER 2025

\$25/Raffle Ticket with 25 Chances to Win


A winner will be drawn each morning at Sacred Heart School. Daily winners will be re-entered into the raffle. Purchasers can win up to 25 times with one single ticket.


ALL PROCEEDS WILL SUPPORT SACRED HEART JUNIOR HIGH TRIP.

  Effingham Catholic Young Adults

DEC 9TH @7PM

**HOLY HOUR
HAPPY HOUR**



Confession available



GroupMe

For young adults ages 21-35

HOLY HOUR 7pm @ St. Francis Church
203 E. Main St. Teutopolis

HAPPY HOUR 8pm @ Kenters Tavern
109 E. Main St. Teutopolis





Effingham CYA Group Presents:

Ask a Priest Anything

with special guest:

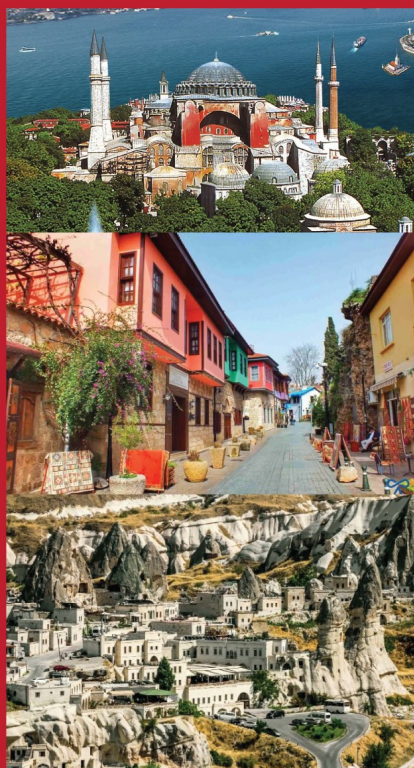
Fr. Ambrose Criste, O.Praem.



For young adults 21+
Monday Dec 22 @7p

Effingham Event Center
Knights Meeting Room

Mary & the Mysteries of Revelation



----- A Catholic Journey through Turkey ----- May 17-30, 2026

Journey with Fr. Michal Rosa through Turkey, visiting ruins from the Seven Churches of Revelation, the traditional house of the Virgin Mary, and many locations of the Apostles and the early church.

This fall, Pope Leo will do his first apostolic journey to Turkey.

Enjoy an unforgettable 14 days traveling
through the historic and spiritual heart of Turkey.

++ Beautiful Scenery

++ Spiritual Enrichment including Daily Mass

\$5,690/person - includes all overnight accommodations, flight tickets, transportation to/from O'Hare Airport & throughout Turkey, daily breakfast/dinner buffets, local tour guides, destination tickets, & more!

Contact the Sacred Heart Parish office in Effingham
for more information! 217-347-7177

The St. Hildegard Von Bingen Schola will present their annual Holiday concert at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, December 14, at 2:30pm. The concert begins with a classical piano prelude performed by Ronan Bailey. The ladies of the Hildegard schola will follow at 3:00pm, performing sacred music of the season. The 2025-26 members of the schola are: Addison Bunton, Norah Frost, Shae Conder, Gianna Frisbie, Evie Sayne, Susy Trupiano, Addie Overbeck, Aliyah Bunton, Lilly Butts, Sophia Ivy, Charlee Jansen, and Emery Jansen. The students are under the direction of Barbara Konrad. The concert is free and open to the public. Come early for a good seat!

Our Stewardship of Treasure

Date	Weekend Collection	Budgeted Amount	Difference
Nov. 9	\$13,270.20	\$12,880.00	+\$390.20
Nov. 16	\$12,416.38	\$12,880.00	(\$463.62)
Nov. 23	\$8,834.00	\$12,880.00	(\$4,046.00)
Nov. 30	\$11,543.00	\$12,880.00	(\$1,337.00)

Thank you for your generosity and support!

“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” (1Peter 4:10)

Ways to continue supporting Sacred Heart Parish:

In Person: Place donation in the offertory basket at Mass or slip it through the parish drop box.
Online: <https://pushpay.com/g/sacredhearteffingham>
Mail: 405 S. Henrietta Street, Effingham, IL 62401

SonRise Men’s Breakfast invites all men for a Hot Breakfast on Friday, December 12. Grow in fellowship and faith 6:15am – 7:30am, Friday, at the St. Anthony Parish Center. That Man is You! this week continues with great hope and wisdom from St. John Paul II. The best days of Christianity and the family are in the future, not in the past! We are all called to be part of this New Springtime! Learn more at thatmanisyou.com, or the St. Anthony Parish office. This is the final session of 2025. The breakfasts will resume after Christmas on Friday, January 9, 2026.

Therefore, devote your hearts and souls to seeking the LORD your God. (1 Chronicles 22:19)

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY
The Roaring Twenties
WED, DEC 31
ST ALOYSIUS HALL

Tickets \$40/Person
 Dinner 7:30pm: Roast Beef & Pork Loin
 Music & Entertainment: Cash Bar
 Activities throughout the night:
 Costume Contest, 50/50, Party Favors, &
 Champagne at midnight.
 For tickets contact Bob or Cindy
 Niemerg 217-663-2382 or 217-821-5897
 NOTE: Must be 21 to join in the fun.

Upcoming Natural Family Planning Classes:

- Sat., January 17, 10:00-11:30am, virtual class
- Sat., March 7, 1:00-2:30pm, St. Anthony Church

To register please contact Kate Pruemmer at kpruemmer@gmail.com or 217-821-1840.

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