

Sacred Heart, Salem, Christ the King, Bunker, St. Jude.

Parish Office: 602 West Butler Street, Salem, MO 65560

573-729-4291 Email: sacredheartsalem@gmail.com

website: www.sacredheartsalem.com

Parish Bulletin: **Fourth Sunday of Advent Year A Dec 21, 2025**

Office Hours: Mondays & Thursdays 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Pastor: Fr. Jose Antoney CMI. 573-729-4291 (Residence)

Office Managers: Melanie Ziske (SH) 573-247-5644

Jodi Stacy (CK) 573-453-8326

Bulletin submissions must be received by 1:00 p.m. on Mondays. Call or email your request to Melanie Ziske at 573-247-5644, or

email: ziskemelanie@gmail.com.

Reconciliation Schedule

Wednesday: 4:45 p.m. - 5:10 p.m. (SH)

Thursday: 4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. (CK)

Saturday: 4:45 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. (SH)

Sunday: 8:20 a.m. - 8:50 a.m., or by appointment (SH)

Faith Formation

Thursdays: 6:00 p.m. Bible Study at SH (Dent Addition)

OUR MISSION

Located in Salem, Missouri Sacred Heart Parish is a Roman Catholic community growing together spiritually with Jesus Christ, sharing the Gospel, studying and teaching the word of God, and caring for people who are in need, to bring forth the Kingdom of God.

Anointing of the sick, homebound visit, hospital visit & house blessing; Contact the pastor at 573-729-4291

Sacrament of Baptism:

Contact the Pastor.

Sacrament of Matrimony;

Pastor should be contacted at least six months prior to the proposed date of the couple's wedding.

Our Gift to God

STEWARDSHIP REPORT: Sacred Heart Church:

<u>Annual Budget</u>	<u>2025-2026</u>	<u>Collected</u>	Amount Needed to Meet the Budget; July 1, 2025-June 30, 2026
Budget Total	\$148,200.00	up to this year	
Weekly Goal	\$2,850.00	\$59,374.01	\$88,825.99
Dec. 14	\$2,522.00		

Holy Mass Schedule for December 22 to December 28

Mon. 22: 8:45 a.m. Lauds, 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass

Wed. 24: 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Holy Mass (SH)

Thur. 25: 9:00 a.m. Christmas Day Holy Mass (SH) Nativity of our Lord

Thur. 25: 12:15 p.m. Christmas Day Holy Mass (CK) Nativity of our Lord

Fri. 26: 8:45 a.m. Lauds, 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass +Peter Dep Nguyen

Sat. 27: 5:30 p.m. Holy Mass +Teresa Nguyen

Sun. 28: 8:30 a.m. Rosary, 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass (Feast of the Holy Family)

Sun. 28: 12:15 p.m. Holy Mass (CK)

Lectors: Sat. 27: 5:30 p.m. Thom Haines

Sun. 28: 9:00 a.m. Cassi Mosher

Altar Servers: Sat. 27: Minh & Kien Nguyen

Sun. 28: Lucas Harris & Volunteer

Money Counters: Sun. 28: Brenda Rocoerto & Traci Wulff

Ushers/Greeters: Sat. 27: Mike Wulff

Sun. 28: Henry & Rose Dahms

Prayer List: Barb Wickam, Pat Happel, Danny Burch, Anna Stump, Bernie Loyd, and Joanne Nothaus

Upcoming events:

Birthday's this week: December 27 Wyatt Campbell; 28 Andrew Harris.
May God continue to bless you and keep you in good health.

Anniversary this week: December 23 Dom & Sue Biunno. May God continue to bless you as you grow in God's love. Congratulations!

CHRISTMAS DECORATING – TODAY, (Dec. 21) We will be decorating the church after the 9:00 a.m. Holy Mass. Your help would be appreciated.

CHRISTMAS SPECIAL COLLECTION December 24 and 25 - Support the past and future of the Church in the annual Christmas Collection. Few things are more important for the future of the Church than supporting the young men who respond to the call of Christ to become priests and for us to attend the needs of our elderly priests. Please be generous in your support to the 2025 Christmas Collection.

GIVE THANKS THROUGH YEAR-END STEWARDSHIP - As we approach the end of the year 2025, we pause to give thanks to God for the many blessings we have received as a parish community. This season invites us to reflect with gratitude and to consider how we can continue supporting the life and mission of our parish.

As your pastor, I warmly invite you to prayerfully remember our parish in your year-end charitable giving. Your generosity allows us to continue serving the spiritual, sacramental, and charitable needs of our community.

Ways to Make a Year-End Gift:

- Contributions may be made at the parish office, or through the Sunday offertory collection.
- Please ensure that all checks are dated and postmarked by December 31 in order to receive tax-year credit.

Every gift—no matter the size—makes a meaningful difference.

Thank you for your continued generosity and for your faithful commitment to our parish. Be assured of my prayers for you at Holy Mass. As we celebrate Christmas, may we continue to live each day in the spirit of Emmanuel, treasuring the gift of God-with-us.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Is 7:10-14 | Rom 1:1-7 | Mt 1:18-24

LET US GROW AS A DISCIPLE: Throughout my life, I have had a litany of requests for God. I have asked for mundane and ultimately inconsequential favors and also for guidance in much more important matters. But I have often hesitated to ask for the deepest desires of my heart. Those requests feel too big, too impossible, and possibly too selfish – as though asking these things would take away from God’s ability to provide for others. But in thinking this way, I am putting limits on a limitless God. In today’s first reading, the Lord speaks to Ahaz and tells him to ask for a sign – “let it be deep as the netherworld, or high as the sky!” When Ahaz refuses, God speaks through the prophet Isaiah to deliver the most impossible promise – that “the virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.” God wants to give us everything we need to be close to him, so much so that he sent his Son to open the pathway to eternal life with him. God wants us to ask for him to do the impossible because he longs to give generously to us.

LET US GO EVANGELIZE: God brings about his plan of salvation in an extraordinary way: The virgin Mary conceives Jesus in her womb through the power of the Holy Spirit. Although God does all the spiritual heavy lifting here, notice that our Gospel tells us that he also desired and asked for Joseph’s cooperation. “Do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home,” the angel tells Joseph. The Gospel tells us that Joseph “did as the angel of the Lord commanded him.” In our work of evangelization, God does the heavy lifting: it’s God who moves the hearts of others to seek him. But the amazing thing is that God still wants us to be part of the way his plan unfolds. We, too, cooperate with God’s work of sharing the faith and bringing salvation to others by our actions and obedience.

LET US REFLECT: As we begin this final week of Advent, the Church continues to pray with the O Antiphons, which we hear in the hymn, “O Come, O Come Emmanuel.” Listen to the refrain, which speaks of Israel’s immense longing to be set free and for her savior to appear. As you reflect on the first reading and upon this hymn, bring your own deepest desires to the Lord. Spend some time in prayer asking for what you need to draw closer to God.