

# The Seasons of Advent and Christmas

(November/2026)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ Child, we invite you to embrace this Advent season as a time of prayer, spiritual growth, and service to others. We are pleased to offer several special events at St. Paul and Church of the Resurrection and hope you will join us as in faith, fellowship, and joyful anticipation of our Lord's birth. Enclosed with this mailing is an envelope for our Christmas Flowers Donation. Your generous contributions will help us decorate our churches and create a beautiful environment where all can gather to celebrate the wonder of the Incarnation.

Please keep praying, and let's try to find ways to help those in need and to share the love of Christ with others this season. We hope you know of our prayers and of God's great love for you. -- Fr. Andy, Fr. Paul, Fr. Connor, Dcn. Skip, Dcn. George, Dcn. Allen, Dcn. Frank, Dcn. Chris and all the staff.

## Special Events During Advent

**Advent Evening of Prayer with Ms. Kristin Fisher with Enkindle Catholic Ministries**

- Begin your Advent season with inspiration and prayer, November 29th at the 4:30pm Mass at Church of the Resurrection. 5:45pm – Pizza in the Hall (RSVP needed), 6:30pm – Inspiring Advent Talk, 7:15pm – Eucharistic Adoration with music and quiet reflection, ending at 8PM. FREE and open to everyone.

**Christmas Caroling in Downtown Ellicott City**

- Friday December 4th at 5:45pm. Join parishioners for Christmas caroling in downtown Ellicott City! We will gather at the intersection of Main Street and Maryland Avenue. After caroling, we will attend the Christmas Tree Lighting at 6pm.

**St. Paul Annual Breakfast with Santa**

- Saturday December 5th at 2021 Frederick Road. Bring the family for a delicious breakfast, and a special visit with Santa. Two seatings at 8am and 9:45am. Sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0548A9A82DA3F85-67299756-breakfast#/

**Talk On the Gospel of Mark, with Fr. Jude Winkler, OFM Conv**

- Fr. Jude, from the St. Anthony Shrine, will offer a thirty-minute talk on the Gospel of Mark at St. Paul on Wednesday, December 9 from 6:30-7pm in the church. Following Fr. Jude's talk will be Adoration and confessions in the church from 7-8:30pm.

**Champions for the Challenged**

- The Knights of Columbus invite you to attend the annual Christmas Celebration for young people with intellectual disabilities. Saturday, December 12 from 10am-2pm in the hall at Church of the Resurrection. Music, art contest, story telling, Santa, lunch, and more.

**Annual Christmas Concert & Sing-along**

- Come Friday December 18th at 7pm to Church of the Resurrection for their Annual Christmas Concert & Sing-along. An evening of beautiful music featuring *Magnificat* by Taylor Scott Davis with choir, solo, and chamber orchestra, the Ellicott City Trombone Choir, Contemporary Ensemble, with a cookie reception afterwards. Free-will offerings accepted.

**Brother Andre Novena**

- December 29th at 7pm at St. Paul Church, join us for a special nine-day novena honoring St. Brother André. The novena begins at St. Paul and then parishioners pray the novena from home the

subsequent days, with our parish community coming together for the closing celebration on Wednesday, January 6th, with a 6:15pm Mass, also at St. Paul**.** Adoration and the opportunity for confession will follow from 7 to 8:30pm. The novena prayers will be shared electronically and posted on our parish Facebook page. Printed copies available by emailing Fr. Andy at aaaron@archbalt.org.

**"Why Believe? Why Be Christian? Why Be a Catholic?"**

- January 9th at 9am. This presentation will offer an opportunity to deepen your understanding of the Catholic faith, reflect on why we believe, and explore questions about our faith in an open and welcoming setting. A question-and-answer session with Fr. Andy will follow.

**Young Adult Ministry (ages 21-35) St. Paul and Church of the Resurrection**

- Includes a faith-discussion group meeting at St. Paul, Saturdays at 9am. It's good not to walk alone in our faith and there will be other regular gatherings. More info in the "Small Groups" page on both parish websites. Sign up here: https://web.groupme.com/join_group/115437594/j79p8vhw

**Helping Others/Social Justice**

- Upcoming seasonal efforts at Church of the Resurrection are the Advent Winter Collection of items for Our Daily Bread, Franciscan Center and the Adopt-A-Family Program for Christmas.
- St. Paul Annual Giving Tree will be in place November 14th through December 7th with gift tags for local organizations such as Grassroots, Pregnancy Center, families and children in need.
- Also, please remember our St. Vincent de Paul Society by donations of groceries or financial gifts during this Christmas Season, as well as all other special collections for the needy.

## Special Masses, Prayer, and Reconciliation

**Thanksgiving Day, Thursday November 26th**

- 9am Mass at both St. Paul and Church of the Resurrection

**Immaculate Conception, Tuesday December 8th**

- St. Paul, Tuesday December 8th at 8am and 7pm
- Resurrection, Monday (Vigil Mass) at 5pm, Tuesday at 9am and 7:30pm

**Christmas Eve, Thursday December 24th**

- St. Paul, at 4pm (church), 4pm (hall), 6pm/8pm/10pm (church)
- Resurrection, at 4pm (church), 4pm (hall), 6pm/8pm/10pm (church)

**Christmas Day, Friday Dec 25th**

- St. Paul, at 9am
- Resurrection, at 9:30am and 11:30am

**Mary, Mother of God (New Years Eve/Day), Thursday December 31st and Friday January 1st**

- St. Paul, December 31st at 5pm, Friday January 1st at 9am
- Resurrection, December 31st at 5pm, Friday January 1st at 10am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

- Every Saturday at St Paul: 3:30-5pm/Every Saturday at Resurrection: 3:30-5pm.
- Every Wednesday at Resurrection chapel: 4:30-5:30pm.
- Every first Wednesday of the month at St Paul: 7-8:30pm

**Special Times for the Sacrament of Reconciliation During Advent**

- Tuesday December 22nd at 7pm in the Church at Resurrection: 7 priests
- Wednesday December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd: In the Pastoral Center at Resurrection from 3:30-5:30pm
- Wednesday December 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd: In the church at St. Paul – 7-8:30pm

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

- In the chapel at Resurrection we have 117 hours a week for Adoration. Sign up at www.resurrectionmd.org. On Mondays we have Rosary and Benediction at 6:30pm.
- At St. Paul there is an Adoration Chapel in the parish office building which can be accessed 9am – 2:15pm. We also have Adoration in the church Wednesdays from 8:30– 9:30am and 7-8:30pm.