

Pastor's Letter

December 21, 2025—4th Sunday of Advent

Dear Church Family,

Today we celebrate the last Sunday in Advent and we hear the angel Gabriel tell Joseph not to be afraid to take Mary, his betrothed into his house. We are reminded of how Gabriel said the same thing to Mary, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son." It seems that angels always have to reassure us when they come with a message from God.

I get it. When God comes into our lives, he usually shakes things up. God comes to us, loves us and accepts us as we are, but he never let's us stay as we are. God is always calling us to be better, be more than we are, to grow in faith, hope, and love. And he also comes with an invitation to participate in his plan for renewing the world.

Just as Mary and Joseph had a part to play in God's plan by bringing his Son into the world and protecting and caring for him as he grew, so each of us is invited to play a part in spreading the good news that Christ has come and he is coming again, and through him the whole world is being reconciled to the Father. It takes courage to take up this calling from God. Not everyone is ready to hear this message. It is not welcome news to the spiritual and worldly powers that be.

But the world is full of people looking for truth, beauty, and goodness, who know that the world is not what it should be and are ready to welcome a new way of being in the world. Are we ready to help them find what they are looking for? Are we ready to say yes to God, as Mary and Joseph did, so that others can have the chance to receive that healing that comes through faith in Jesus? Don't be afraid to let him come into your heart more deeply this Christmas.

Blessings,

Fr. Scott



Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

4:30 pm - St. Edward
4:30 pm - St. Joseph
7 pm - St. Brigid
10 pm - St. Edward

Christmas Day

8 am - St. Brigid
8 am - St. Joseph

Holiday Office Hours

Christmas Eve 24 : 8 a.m.—Noon @ St. Brigid
Christmas Day 25 & 26: Closed
New Year's Eve—8 a.m.—Noon @ St. Brigid
New Year's Day—Closed

End of Year Donations

We remind you that the end of the year contributions to the parish, in order to be recorded for the 2025 calendar year for tax purposes, must be received no later than December 31. If you need a statement of contributions please call the office or email to church@stsbej.org. We are most grateful for your continuing and regular donations to the parish. May the Lord bless you for your generosity and support.



Don't Forget to Turn in Your Commitment Card, last day is December 31.

No Adoration at St. Edward on January 2, 2026

