***St. Richard Catholic Church***

*Schedule of Masses and Services*

*Advent and Christmas Seasons 2024-25*

**December 1 First Sunday of Advent**

Blessing of Advent Wreath at the end of the Prayers of the Faithful

**December 8 Second Sunday of Advent**

**December 9 Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**

*(transferred to Dec. 9, Monday)*

**(***holy day of obligation****,*** *Mass at 5:30PM)*

**December 11 Parish Advent Reconciliation Service (***Wednesday)*

*Service at 7PM at St. Peter the Apostle, Lake Gaston*

**December 12 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** *(Thursday)*

*Mass at 7PM*

**December 15 Third Sunday of Advent**

Bambinelli Blessing, Please bring Baby Jesus from Nativity scene*(After Post-Communion Prayer)*

**December 20 Simbang Gabi** *(Friday)*

*(A Filipino Tradition)*

*Mass at 6PM*

**December 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Dec. 23-Jan. 3**Office is closed

*Office reopens on January 6, 2025*

**December 24 Christmas Vigil Mass** *(Tuesday)*

*Mass at 4:00PM*

**December 25 NO Christmas Day Mass**

**January 1, 2025 Solemnity of Mary, the holy Mother of God**

*(holy day of obligation, Mass at 5:30PM)*

N.B.

Bambinelli Blessing

* We introduced in the parish the Vatican tradition of blessing Nativity scene figures of the Baby Jesus (Bambinelli in Italian). The tradition was started by Pope Paul VI in 1969 and ever since, the Bambinelli blessing has been given by the Pope during Third Sunday of Advent. We ask every household in our parish to bring the Baby Jesus from their Nativity scene to the church to be blessed on Saturday, December 14th at 5:30pm Mass and Sunday, December 15th at 8:00 am Mass.
* Announce that the 8th of December is a Sunday, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The celebration, however, is transferred to Monday, 9th of December. **It is a holy day of obligation**. The Mass is at 5:30PM.
* Based on the attendance in the past years, we had the following numbers:

2019 Christmas Day Mass -

2020 Christmas Day Mass - 18

2021 Christmas Day Mass - 54

2022 Christmas Day Mass - 65

2023 Christmas **Eve** Mass - 95

* Announce that the 1st of January is the Solemnity of Mary, the holy Mother of God. **It is a holy day of obligation**. The Mass is at 5:30PM.