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ST. PATRICK CHURCH- SILVERTON

1005 Reese, Silverton, CO. 81433

Fr. Nathanael Foshage

December 14, 2025

3rd Sunday of Advent**Sunday (Dec 14)**

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Friday

Saturday

Sunday (Dec 21)**9:00 am + Gilbert Martinez by Louise Ficco**

Father Nat- Day off

5:00 pm + Traci Imhoff by Rick & Patty Blackford**7:30 am + Fred & Margaret Pearce by Bernie**

Bible Study

5:00 pm +Phil Blackford by Rick & Patty Blackford**7:30 am + Dolores Mundt by Jane Haefner**

Penance Service

9:00 am Confession

9:00 am + Virginia Ast by John Ast**SILVERTON****Saturday (Dec13) 4:00 pm + Rev. John Raab by Larry & Rose Raab****Saturday (Dec 20) 4:00 pm For Parish**Minister Schedule:December 21

Lector: Nancy Nixon

Collection: St. Daniel 12/7/2025 \$ 2050.00

St. Patrick 11/22/2025 \$410.00

There will be a **communal Penance Service** this Friday at 5:00. This is a wonderful opportunity during the Advent Season. All are welcome the come.

Listening Through Advent

One irony of contemporary life is that just as the Advent readings encourage us to still ourselves to better hear God's voice, the "Christmas Industrial Complex" becomes increasingly loud. Even before the bags of Halloween candy disappear from stores, we hear "Silent Night" followed by "Frosty the Snowman" as we shop.

Developing the ability to listen, a key Benedictine value, is difficult at any time, but becomes both more difficult and more important during Advent. I'm grateful for the reminders provided by the Scriptures during this season, exhorting us to tamp down our impatience and be willing to wait, which is an essential part of listening.

Waiting means recognizing that we don't yet have the full story and listening for what God wishes to reveal. Going to church to hear the Word of God spoken, chanted, and sung helps us to still the world's clamor and our own inner cacophony. Listening helps us recognize how tired we are, how much we need God to heal us and our weary world.

No small part of listening is being willing to let go of our tidy schemes and allow God to surprise us. One year I had to go to a mall one week before Christmas. I wasn't heeding the siren call of *just a few shopping days left*, but family members had been slow to tell me what they wanted. For my mother, then in her 80s, it was a new compact, which was easy to find. But a niece told me her youngest daughter wanted something I could find only at the Disney store. That was the last place I wanted to go, but I went, made my way past huge displays of plastic and glitter, and found the desired item.

I was waiting in line to purchase it when suddenly a tall teenager elbowed past me and approached the clerk. She held a stuffed animal and, weeping, told the clerk that it no longer played the song she liked. My annoyance abated when I recognized that this was a person with special needs. I spotted her father standing nearby and told him that my late sister was much like his daughter, and I was glad to see the clerk treating her so kindly. She had immediately taken the broken toy, told the girl not to worry, and handed her a new one. When the girl, now smiling broadly, approached her father and me, she asked if she could hug me. Of course, I said.

An errand I had resented had just become an Advent blessing, reminding me that the divine presence is indeed everywhere – even in a Disney store crowded with Christmas shoppers. God had asked me to pay attention and listen, and in return had given me a blessing I never could have expected or imagined.

—Kathleen Norris

