



St. Leonhard's

St. Mary's

Holy Cross

DECEMBER 2025



HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER

For Christians in areas of conflict

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict,
especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace,
reconciliation, and hope.

DECEMBER 2025

Tuesday, 2.12.	18.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass (<i>Fr. Anthony</i>)
Saturday, 6.12.	17.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass (<i>Fr. Anthony</i>)
Sunday, 7.12.	09.30	Holy Cross	Mass - Filipino Feast (<i>Fr. Christian + Fr. Francis</i>)
	17.00	St. Mary's	Mass (<i>Fr. Anthony</i>)
Tuesday, 9.12.	18.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass
Saturday, 13.12.	17.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass
Sunday, 14.12.	09.30	Holy Cross	Mass + Labyrinth + Children's Liturgy of the Word
	17.00	St. Mary's	Mass
Tuesday, 16.12.	18.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass (<i>Fr. Anthony</i>)
Saturday, 20.12.	15:30	St. Leonhard's	Advent Confession
	17.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass (<i>Fr. Christian + Fr. Anthony</i>)
Sunday, 21.12.	09.30	Holy Cross	Mass (<i>Fr. Christian + Fr. Anthony</i>) after Mass Advent Confession
	16:00	St. Mary's	Advent Reconciliation
	17.00	St. Mary's	Mass (<i>Fr. Christian + Fr. Anthony</i>)
Tuesday, 23.12.	18.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass
Wednesday, 24.12.	15.00	Holy Cross	Christmas Eve Mass
	20.30	St. Mary's	Christmas Eve Mass
Thursday, 25.12.	10.30	Holy Cross	Christmas Day Mass
Saturday, 27.12.	17.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass
Sunday, 28.12.	09.30	Holy Cross	Mass (<i>Fr. Anthony</i>)
	17.00	St. Mary's	NO MASS
Tuesday, 30.12.	18.00	St. Leonhard's	NO MASS
Wednesday, 31.12.	17.00	St. Leonhard's	Mass (End of Year Mass)
Thursday, 1.1.	17.00	Holy Cross	Mass (Solemnity of Mary)

*** All Masses celebrated by Father Christian Enke, unless otherwise specified ***

Parish Collection Sums for October 2025 = 2273 €

We thank you for your continued generosity!



We are very pleased to announce that we have a new member in our pastoral team! Beginning December 1st 2025 **Father Anthony Nneji** will join the International English-Speaking Parish with a 25% position. He will help with celebrating Mass and other pastoral projects. Below is a short biography of Father Anthony and his contact details are in the back of the bulletin. We warmly welcome Fr. Anthony to our team and to our Parish!

Father Christian Enke + Lori Bemb

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Rev. Fr. Nneji Anthony is a priest of the Catholic Diocese of Enugu, Nigeria. He was born on 12 July 1992 and lives at Offenbacher Landstraße 224, 60599 Frankfurt am Main, Germany. He is a graduate of Philosophy and Theology and is currently undertaking his Licentiate in Theology at the Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule Sankt Georgen, Frankfurt.



His ministry has unfolded across several parishes and ecclesiastical institutions, including the Bishop's House, Enugu; St. Mulumba Chaplaincy, UNEC; and St. Mary's Parish, Enugu, Nigeria.

He was ordained to the Catholic priesthood on 12 June 2025. His vocational motto is taken from John 21:15: "Do you love me more than these? ... Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."

His hobbies include table tennis, lawn tennis, and reading—especially theological literature, Church history, and spiritual classics.

CONFIRMATION COURSE - We are now accepting registrations for our Confirmation preparation classes. Anyone who will be **16 years of age or older in May 2026** may register for the course (the age for Confirmation in the Diocese of Limburg is 16 years) Classes are set to begin in January 2026 and will be held at St. Mary's. If you would like to sign up, please send an email to the Parish Office (international@parish-frankfurt.de)



ADVENT CONFESSION WEEKEND: December 20 / 21

Prepare your heart for Christmas! On the weekend of the 4th Sunday of Advent, parishioners have the opportunity for individual confessions with Fr. Christian or Fr. Anthony at each of our 3 churches. Embrace a moment of reflection, reconciliation, and spiritual renewal as we celebrate the joy of Christ's coming.

Saturday, Dec. 20	St. Leonhard's	15:30-16:30
Sunday, Dec. 21	Holy Cross	10:30-11.30
Sunday, Dec. 21	St. Mary's	16.00-16:45



Special Music in Advent

ADVENT CONCERT SERIES AT ST. LEONHARD'S - During the season of Advent, we will hold short **Advent concerts each Saturday** immediately following the evening Mass at St. Leonhard's. Please take a few moments after Mass to enjoy beautiful seasonal music and enter more deeply into the spirit of this holy season.

December 6 - Ensemble Mainklang

December 13 – International Parish Choir

December 20 - Ensemble Flautando

ADVENT SINGING AT LIEBFRAUEN – Sunday, December 7 at 19:30 (7:30 pm) - The International Parish Choir will present a mix of new and well-known Advent songs in the evening of the 2nd Sunday of Advent as part of the Advent Caroling at Liebfrauen Church. Everyone is cordially invited to join in listening and singing along.



CHRISTMAS COLLECTION –“Adveniat” is a project of the German Bishops' Conference, which focuses on helping those less fortunate in Latin America. Traditionally all money collected during the Christmas Masses on Dec. 24 and 25 (in ALL the Dioceses in Germany) will go towards Adveniat.



PARISH OFFICE - Please note that the Parish Office in Frankfurt will be **CLOSED** on:

Thursday, December 4th - as well as –

from **December 23 –January 2**. We will reopen on Tuesday, January 5, 2026.

St.
Leonhard's

FOOD DONATIONS – Each Saturday at Mass we collect non-perishable, non-refrigerated food for the Mother Teresa Sisters (things like marmalade, fruit teas (rather than black tea), sugar, margarine, dried meats, e.g. salami). Simply place your items in the basket in the back of church.

Holy
Cross

COFFEE SOCIAL AFTER MASS – You are most welcome to join us for some refreshments Sundays after Mass. We ask everyone attending to **please bring your own cup to the coffee social. Cups will not be provided.**

FILIPINO FEAST – Sunday, December 7th



Our Parish's annual Filipino Feast will be celebrated liturgically during the 9:30 Sunday Mass at Holy Cross, followed by delicious treats from the Philippines at the coffee social afterwards. All are welcome!

CHILDRENS LITURGY OF THE WORD - Sunday, December 14th

Children's Liturgy of the Word is an age-appropriate Liturgy of the Word offered for children ages 4 and above, that will be held during the 9:30 Mass. No pre-registration is required.

LABYRINTH – Sunday, December 14th - As many of you recall, the Holy Cross Meditation Center creates a labyrinth of candles on the church floor each year for one week in December. This labyrinth - a wonderful symbol in the Advent season - will also be lit during our 9:30 am Mass on Dec 14th, the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

*** **Parents – PLEASE watch your children!!** ***

FOOD DONATIONS - We collect non-perishable food for the Missionary Sisters of Charity each Sunday. Items such as marmalade, FRUIT teas, sugar, margarine, dried meats, e.g. salami 10-slice packs of individually wrapped yellow cheese and "to-go" coffee cups with lids.

St.
Mary's

FOOD DONATIONS - Reminder: you can bring your food donations for the Hattersheim-Hofheim Tafel each Sunday to Mass. The Tafel is especially in need of items such as sugar, flour, cooking oil, non-refrigerated milk and canned goods.

Sunday, December 28 – NO MASS at St. Mary's



December 6 / 7
2nd Sunday of Advent



FIRST READING – Isaiah 11: 1-10

On that day, a shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

R: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace forever.

SECOND READING – Romans 15: 4-9

Brothers and sisters: Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God

for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”

Gospel Reading: Matthew 3: 1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” ... Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, John said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”



December 13 / 14
3rd Sunday of Advent



FIRST READING – Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you. ”Then the eyes of the blind

shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy and the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

R: Lord, come and save us.

SECOND READING – James 5: 7-10

Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 11: 2-11

When John the Baptist heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples who said to Jesus, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ... Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.” As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ ... Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.



December 20 / 21
4th Sunday of Advent



FIRST READING – Isaiah 7: 10-14

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, “Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary the people, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.”

R: Let the Lord enter, he is the king of glory.

SECOND READING – Romans 1: 1-7

From Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which God promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures: the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord. Through Christ we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ. To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 1: 18-24

The birth of Jesus the Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their

sins.” All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.” When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife.



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Parish Office

Vilbeler Strasse 36 (3rd Floor)
60313 Frankfurt am Main

Office Hours: **Monday + Tuesday**
(for the public) 14.00-16.00
 Thursday
 10.00-12:00

Baptisms arranged with one month notice, weddings with at least six months notice. Confessions available 30 minutes prior to each Mass.



St. Leonhard's

Church location:
Am Leonhardstor 25
60311 Frankfurt am Main

Mass time: Saturdays 5:00 pm
Tuesdays 6:00 pm



Holy Cross

Church location:
Kettelerallee 45
60385 Frankfurt am Main

Mass time: Sundays 9:30 am



St. Mary's

Church location:
Wachenheimer Str. 58
65835 Liederbach am Taunus

Mass time: Sundays 5.00 pm