

Some Catholic writers tell us that each of the four candles of the Advent wreath has a specific meaning. The first candle (violet) represents hope and is sometimes referred to as the “Prophecy Candle.” This calls to mind Isaias’ prophecy of the birth of Christ and all of God’s promises in the Old Testament that would be fulfilled by the birth of Christ. The second candle (violet) symbolizes charity and is known as the “Bethlehem Candle.”



*In early November, we hosted retreats over two weekends for nearly 90 men from our chapels across the country.*

It is meant to remind us of the journey of Our Lady and St. Joseph to Bethlehem and of God’s love for us in sending His only-begotten Son to be born in a stable and laid in a manger. The third candle (rose) stands for joy. It is sometimes referred to as the “Shepherds’ Candle” because it is meant to remind us of the shepherds’ joy at the birth of the Messiah. The last candle on the Advent wreath (violet) represents peace. It is also known as the “Angels’ Candle” because it calls to mind the message of peace proclaimed by the heavenly host on the first Christmas night: “Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good will” (Lk. 2:14).

As we prepare our homes to celebrate Christmas, let us not forget to prepare our hearts for Christ. The Advent wreath is a wonderful reminder of this preparation and one that will help keep us recollected throughout the upcoming weeks.

Thank you for your prayers, sacrifices, and support. God will never be outdone in generosity, and we pray that He will reward you abundantly for your kindness to us. May you have a blessed Advent!

In the Sacred Heart,

*+James Carroll, C.S.P.V*

The Most Reverend James Carroll, C.S.P.V



*Instructing the Altar Boys at St. Pius V School*



*A Game of Broomball After the Altar Boy Meeting*