



# December 1, 2019

## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### FROM OUR PASTOR

Happy Advent!! We begin a New Year with this new season. We start again and we start with hope. Jesus is our source of hope. Since we do this each year and the beginning of anything is a good time to reflect on what we are hoping for, Reshma Thomas offers us a short essay from Shalom Tidings to consider what we are doing in this Advent season.

It is titled 'How warm is your heart?' "On that luminous night in Bethlehem, when the world had fallen asleep, a mother wrapped her first-born son in swaddling clothes and laid Him in the manger. But the bitter cold pierced His tender body like a thousand knives and poor baby Jesus lay tremulous. His dear mother latched Him close to her bosom to give a little warmth, not knowing the cold He would experience all through His life.

Many scurried to Him for signs, miracles and even food, but they never knew Him or loved Him. In the garden of Gethsemane He wept tears of blood and was deeply grieved to the point of death when He realized His sacrifice was for an ungrateful generation. On the cross at Calvary He was rejected and betrayed by those He loved, insulted and mocked by those around. The bitter cold pierced His very bones as He looked up to heaven and said, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

Today He waits for us in the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, truly present in body and blood in the form of bread and wine. Still He feels the bitter cold. Jesus thirsts for our love and what do we give Him? There are those who still insult, mock and do terrible things to Him. Others are called His followers, but they deny Him by saying 'not practicing.' Those who know Him receive Him into their hearts but look for gifts, miracles and healings and fail to love Him alone. How much more will He suffer the cold in our hearts?

This Advent let us make our hearts warm for baby Jesus to take abode. Only the love of God that reaches as far as the cross can open a breach in our hardened, cold hearts. In every act of love and kindness let us pray unceasingly, 'Sweet kisses to baby Jesus, quivering in the bitter cold.'

Reshma offers us a touching image of baby Jesus and a challenge to build the fire of our love for God this Advent season. Our hope is in Jesus, His coming again. Are we ready for that? Four weeks of Advent give us time to warm our hearts for Him and to serve our neighbors in need. Sometimes it is the coldness of our hearts more than the weather that can make the winter seem so long. We often look to Spring to bring new life. Yet with this New Year before us, let us fill it with hope that is rooted in Jesus who loves us through the Incarnation; going from the wood of the manger to the wood of the cross for each one of us. May the passionate fire of God's love for you, melt your hearts even if the snow flies!

*Father John*

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### **ST. PATRICK GRADE SCHOOL**

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### **WEEKEND MASSES**

Saturday 5:00 PM  
Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:00 AM

### **WEEKDAY MASSES**

Tuesday 5:30 PM  
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:00 AM  
First Saturdays 8:00 AM

### **DAILY ROSARY**

Before 8 AM Mass at 7:25 AM

### **CONFESSIONS**

Saturdays at 4:00 PM

### **EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION**

First Fridays beginning at 9:00 AM  
All other Fridays beginning at 3:00 PM  
Benediction at 4:00 PM

**Mass Intentions for the week of December 1, 2019**

- Sat. Nov. 30 5:00 PM For the repose of the soul of  
*Christopher Vinopal*
- Sun. Dec. 1 8:00 AM For the repose of the soul of  
*Blanche Janecek*
- 10:00 AM For our Parishioners
- Tue. Dec. 3 5:30 PM For *Heath Thayer*
- Wed. Dec. 4 8:00 AM For the *Living & Deceased*  
*Members of the Feldbruegge & Quinn Families*
- 2:00 PM FAIRVIEW NURSING HOME  
For the repose of the soul of  
*Pat Garrigan*
- 6:00 PM For the repose of the soul of  
*Gerrie Carney*
- Thu. Dec. 5 8:00 AM For the repose of the soul of  
*Joe Buttner Sr.*
- Fri. Dec. 6 8:00 AM For the *Living & Deceased*  
*Members of the Infant Jesus of Prague Circle*
- Sat. Dec. 7 8:00 AM For the repose of the soul of  
*Bob Eband*
- 5:00 PM For the *Deceased*  
*Members of the Bonner & Steiner Families*
- Sun. Dec. 8 8:00 AM For the *Family and Friends of*  
*Ruby Steiner*
- 10:00 AM For our Parishioners

**Pray for the health of** Max Teumer, Ben Reynebeau, Julie (Watry) Stoner, Rosemary Lehnen, Patrick Lewis, Vivian G., Russell Fairchild, William Roberts, Deb Beyer, Diana Hunt, Jessie Norton, Tricia Demmin, Bernard Resch, Laverne, Karen Caple, Lis, Joe Dolphin, Mary Ann Witcraft, Bill Chase, Kathy, Kiley Hackel, Shari Randall, Helen Eucolono, Ethel Passer, Sid Mead, Steve, Art Randall, Marie Hersil, Becky Fredrickson, Mary W., Sally Haas, Bob W., Therese, Mary Sauer, Pete Ruland, Margaret Gabay, Audrey Gillen, Rita Kueppers, Cindy Mueller, Lucille Ryczek, George Gabay, Jim Smith, Sadie Ravenscroft, Anne Nancolas, Rosemary Wier, Jim Czajka, RM, Floyd Babcock, Payton, Veronica, Kathryn Doughty, Patricia, John Sustar, Eric Erskine, the Moore Family, JM, Carl Wier, Carole Hayes, Tillie Schumacher, Bill Loescher, Fran Watry, Harold Smith, Caroline Christopher, the Johnston Family, Freddie Dziewior, Ralph Hamm, Millie Hovde, Bill Eisch, Mary Lechleiter, Bernadine Seitz and Dave Lewis.

**Pray for those in the military serving our country:** Jason Witkowiak, John Miller, Tera Walsh, Casey Chamberlain, Chris Dvorak, Paul Knudtson, Jon Taylor, Jessica Burch, Mandy Gardner, Aaron Hoogland, Janie Asberry, Jessica Tremain, Andrei Klika-Sampe, Zachary Bader and Will Post.

**This Friday is First Friday.** Please sign up in the Gathering Area for a time of Eucharistic adoration.

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception: December 9 ~** Since December 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is transferred to Monday, December 9. Mass will be celebrated here at St. Patrick's at 7 PM on Monday, December 9.

**Stewardship Corner ~ November 23rd & 24th, 2019  
(535 Registered Families)**

	WKLY BUDGETED	ACTUAL
Adult Envelopes	\$10,776.27	\$ 5,193.00
On-Line Giving		1,074.00
Children's Envelopes	19.23	9.00
Loose Offering	596.15	625.64
Total Weekly Offering:	\$11,391.65	\$ 6,901.64
Budget Contingency Fund		\$ 62.00
Year-to-date* budget requirement		\$ 250,616.30
Year-to-date amount contributed		\$ 205,092.30

\*Fiscal Year July 1, 2019 to current date

We ask you to join us in praying sincerely for guidance and success in helping to meet the temporal needs of our Church so that we can carry on our spiritual mission.

**Weekly Calendar**

Wednesday Dec. 4	6:30 PM	Rel. Ed Classes	Choir Rehearsal
Thursday Dec. 5	5:15 PM	Catholic Ed. Comm.	
Friday Dec. 6	8:45 AM	Friday Folders	

**We welcome Andrew Michael Sparby**, son of Nathaniel and Jasmine (Olson) Sparby, who is being baptized this weekend.

**The Canadian Pacific Holiday Train** will be in downtown Mauston on Wednesday afternoon, December 4 at 4:00 pm. What a wonderful way to begin the Christmas Season!

**Our PCCW Christmas Cookie Sale** will be December 7th and 8th after the Weekend Masses! Please consider making a couple dozen cookies for the annual PCCW Christmas Cookie Sale! Please make sure that they are brought to the Church basement on December 6th or by 9am on December 7th. Thanks for your support!

**On Sunday, December 8th**, Santa will be stopping by to have donuts and visit with the children after the 10am Mass in Reardon Hall (Church Basement). Don't miss out on this opportunity to take a picture with Santa, and visit with one another!

**ST. PATRICK SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

**"The Loaned Manger,"** a country - western style Christmas musical will be presented by our students on Sunday, December 8th at 2:00 p.m. in the school gym. Please join us as we celebrate Christmas—country-western style!

**Christmas Breakfast ~** All Women of St. Patricks Parish are invited for breakfast at the Mauston Park Oasis on Thursday, Dec.12th at 9:00 am. Come join us to celebrate Christmas and each other! We will order off the menu.

**Bishop's Annual Appeal**

**"Working Together, Sharing Joy, Standing Firm in the Faith"**

Our 2019—2020 target is \$37,940.00.

**69 families have pledged \$20,280 to date. Thank you!**

Pledge forms are available in the gathering area and at the rectory office.

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE—Weekend of Nov. 30 & Dec. 1****Saturday, 5:00 PM**

Lectors: Jerilynn Kolba  
 Extraordinary Minister: Rita Hamm  
 Servers: Owen and Aedyn Lubinski, Braden Heath  
 Greeters: Monica Niles, Donna Bollig, Claire Fischbach  
 Musicians: Bill Ryan  
 Gift Bearers: Don and Ann Marie Vinopal  
 Scrip Seller: Donna Miller  
 Ushers: Bernie Lubinski, Bill Powers, Gerald Gardner,  
 Fran Lunenschloss

**Sunday, 8:00 AM**

Lectors: Bridget Gunther, Veronica Sustar  
 Servers: Christopher and Noah Fry  
 Greeters: Ron & Marge Bailey  
 Musicians:  
 Gift Bearers: The Mary Ann Strack Family  
 Scrip Seller: Melissa Fry, Bobbi Eckerman  
 Ushers: Larry Lubinski, Jim Bires, Arris Sullivan

**Sunday, 10:00 AM**

Lectors: Howard Boppart, Sue Hollenbeck  
 Extraordinary Minister: Gina Boppart  
 Servers: Hudson Randall, Makenna and Ellie Pouillie  
 Greeters: Corwin & Marlene Tralmer, Catherine Murray  
 Musicians: Peg Schmitz, Choir  
 Gift Bearers: Dave & Jenny Randall  
 Scrip Seller: Diane Kocyan  
 Ushers: John Walsh Jr., Jeanne Walsh, Mary Ann Allaby,  
 Jim Allaby

**10:00 AM Nursing Home Rosary:**

Marie Leipart

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE—Weekend of December 7 & 8****Saturday, 5:00 PM**

Lectors: David Hoffmann  
 Extraordinary Minister: Rita Hamm  
 Servers: Elliot & Avery Thayer, Nolan Powers  
 Greeters: Ernie & Audrey Schmocker, Dustin Ryberg  
 Musicians: Peg Schmitz, Cassandra Thayer  
 Gift Bearers: Carrol & Corinne Kaiser  
 Scrip Seller: Kerry Randall, Mary Walsh  
 Ushers: Carrol Kaiser, Greg Gruber, Mark Heitman,  
 Dustin Ryberg

**Sunday, 8:00 AM**

Lectors: Paul Schaller, Larry Moore  
 Servers: Emma Eilers, Channing Sonnenberg,  
 Sena Vinopal  
 Greeters: Kathleen Quinn, Carol Gross  
 Musicians: Sadie Eckerman  
 Gift Bearers: Frank & Laura Vinopal  
 Scrip Seller: Laura Vinopal, Bev Vinopal  
 Ushers: Larry Lubinski, Jim Bires, Arris Sullivan

**Sunday, 10:00 AM**

Lectors: Bill Curran, Paul Curran  
 Extraordinary Minister: Joelle Curran  
 Servers: Carter & Nathan Field, Justyna Jakacki  
 Greeters: Kris Mazur, Bill Thill, Devan Minard  
 Musicians: Bill Ryan, Martin Wolf  
 Gift Bearers: Jon & Jodi Field  
 Scrip Seller: Jodi Field, Carrie Kudick  
 Ushers: John Walsh Jr., Jeanne Walsh, Mary Ann Allaby,  
 Jim Allaby

**10:00 AM Nursing Home Rosary:**

Larry & Tina Moore

**Sponsor A Student Fundraiser**

**Thank you to those who have responded to the "Sponsor A Student" fundraiser for our school. We have made tremendous progress this week! We have 110 students sponsored (with only 30 more to go)!**

**RETIREMENT FOR RELIGIOUS ~ Give in thanksgiving.** "The nuns left lasting impressions on me," writes a donor. "I shall always be grateful for my Catholic education." Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. Next week's second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. Please give generously.

**Christmas Flower Memorials in memory of your loved ones** who have passed away can be placed in the collection basket or mailed to the rectory. Please have them in by December 18th in time for the names to be published at Christmas.

**Attention Lectors:** Workbooks for the new liturgical year are available in the sacristy. Please stop and pick one up.

**Prayer is a joyful method of keeping us aware** of the promises of future and realized glory as we make our way through the weeks of Advent. Remember you are in my daily prayers. If you have a particular intention for which you would like me to pray at Christmas Mass, call 608-352-9565, or visit [diolc.org/pray](http://diolc.org/pray). Keep alert, maintain your vision in Christ. Blessed Advent to you all!

~ Bishop Callahan

**Saint Patrick Parish in Sparta seeks to hire a business manager.** We are looking for candidates interested in filling a shared full time position as Business Manager for St. Patrick's and St. John the Baptist-Summit to perform bookkeeping, payroll and administration duties following Diocesan Financial Policies under the direction of the Pastor. Education requirements: 4 year degree in Business Administration, Accounting, or similar area. Experience requirements: three years in office management, human resources or communications fields. Please contact Sue at St. Patrick's, Sparta, 608-269-2655 x3, or email letters of interest to [sbushmaker@stpats.net](mailto:sbushmaker@stpats.net) to receive a full job description and details of how to apply.

**Formed ~ Pick of the Week**

Today marks the first day of the holy Advent season. We invite you to join us on a journey through Advent with Mary. Each week, we will be diving into an episode of *Lectio: Mary* with Dr. Brant Pitre. This week's episode is about the new fulfilling the old. As Jesus is the New Adam, Mary is the New Eve.

**Local Scrip Merchant of the Week:**

**Miller's Store in Lyndon Station:** A friendly grocery store where you can find much more than just groceries, maybe even some tools. Have you checked out the Antler Shed museum in the store basement?

**DON'T FORGET TO PURCHASE YOUR  
SCRIP TODAY AFTER MASS!**

### December Anniversaries

17 years	December 6	Matt & Soni Salm
20 years	December 4	Mike & Karen Krause
21 years	December 26	Frank & Suzanne Incaprero
24 years	December 23	Wayne & Kathy Butz
24 years	December 31	Greg & Moiya Moore
33 years	December 12	Frank & Cindy Vinopal
35 years	December 29	Fred & Sue Hollenbeck
43 years	December 4	John & Nancy Noga
44 years	December 6	Mike & Anita Lubinski
45 years	December 14	John & Jeanne Walsh
46 years	December 8	Allen & Arris Sullivan
47 years	December 17	Gale & Kathy Bauer
62 years	December 28	Fred & Nancy Schweiger

### December Birthdays

December 1	Robert Gonzagowski
December 4	Walter Lenorud
December 4	Tony Gizewski
December 6	Floyd Babcock
December 15	John Smart
December 18	Bernadine Seitz
December 23	Gerald Boehm
December 26	Fred Finger

**Are you looking for ways to help out** your community and spread Christmas Cheer? Go to this link and sign up to help the Salvation Army ring bells!! Lots of shifts are still available at the Walgreen's and Festival in Mauston. Starts November 15th and goes through December 24th. <https://www.registertoring.com>

**Mauston Food Pantry News:** Any donation to the pantry is most appreciated and needed especially during the holidays. Special items for the month of December are: all types of canned vegetables, 100% juice, all types of soup and any holiday items such as canned cranberries, gravy and veggies. Cash donations are also wonderful. We purchase food from Second Harvest Foodbank for .18 a pound. Your money goes a long, long way.

This December we are again doing the kids break bags, thanks to "Lyle's Lunchbox". This wonderful group, who does this in memory of Lyle Wernimont, gives a special donation to enable us to distribute bags to low income students age 4 thru 18 who attend the Mauston School District. The bag this year will have 7 breakfast and 7 lunch meals to help replace the food that the students would have received through the free and reduced breakfast and lunch program at the school during Christmas break. Parents can pick up these bags at the same time they come for the pantry in December, OR they may come to the pantry on Thursday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM. We will be there for 1 hour just to distribute these bags to qualified students.

Are you mailing us a donation? After our mailbox at the pantry was "taken out" for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time, we decided not to replace it. We are using our PO Box only. Please mail any donations to PO Box 433. As the year swiftly comes to the end, we want to wish you all a special "Thank You" for all the wonderful help you have been this past year.

**ON LINE GIVING**—If you have not tried on-line giving, please check it out! It's safe, secure and simple! You can find the link on our website: [stpatrickismauston.com](http://stpatrickismauston.com)

### **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Sunday, December 15th from 9 AM—12 noon  
in Reardon Hall.

**Save the Date:** The Knights of Columbus will be holding a WILD GAME FEED on Saturday, January 11th from 6—8 PM in Reardon Hall. \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. There will also be a gun raffle. Watch for more details.

**2020 Gala ~ Saturday, February 8th at The Lodge in Mauston!** Mark your calendars! Tickets will be on sale soon. Entertainment provided by "Piano Fondue" Dueling Pianos!

**Baptism:** Baptisms are celebrated during Mass on weekends. Parents may request baptism for their child by calling the rectory to schedule a preparation class for Baptism.

**Marriage:** Couples requesting marriage in the Church should contact the parish at least six months prior to the anticipated date. Weddings are not celebrated during Advent or Lent.

**Pastoral Care of the Sick:** Individuals who are homebound and wish to receive Holy Communion should contact the rectory.

**New Parish Members:** All adult Catholics (who have turned 18) should be registered in a parish community. To register, please contact the rectory for this easy process.

**Christian Initiation of Adults:** We welcome those who are interested in joining the Catholic Church. Please call the rectory for information on our welcoming ministry.

### **DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE GUIDELINES FOR REPORTING INSTANCES OF CHILD ABUSE**

—The Diocese of La Crosse is committed to creating a safe environment within the Church for children and youth. We continue to have a special care for and a commitment to reaching out to the victims of sexual abuse and their families. To report allegations of sexual abuse by a member of the clergy, lay employees or volunteers of the Diocese of La Crosse please fill out the report form found at: [www.dioc.org/safe-environment/reporting](http://www.dioc.org/safe-environment/reporting)

Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Karen Becker, Victim Assistance Ministry, at 608-519-8002. Victims of sexual abuse, in addition to contacting civil authorities, are asked to come forward in order to receive pastoral assistance. Such assistance can be received from: Deacon Tom Skemp, Victim Assistance Coordinator at 608-792-9684.