

December 19, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FROM OUR PASTOR

Time flies when you are having fun, is the old phrase. Advent seems to have flown by so there must be a lot of fun going on. We are entering the fourth Sunday of Advent. The time we need to prepare for the birth of Christ is short. We should maintain and build on that gift of Joy that we recalled last Sunday. All the worries and details of the season can be overwhelming for some.

For others the idea of Christmas without their loved ones is a heavy burden to their heart. On the level of faith it is also a time to prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ. Not in a manger, not only in our hearts, but for Jesus to return in glory. Since it has been 2,021 years since His coming in the flesh that idea can seem like a pious thought but not a reality. Yet each day that God gives is a blessing and opportunity to welcome Jesus in glory.

So perhaps we have put up Christmas decorations and found that station that is playing Christmas music 24/7. Yet on the inside, what have we done?

Two saints in December give us great examples of getting ready on the inside. On December 14th was the feast of St. John of the Cross. He is a doctor of the Church. He brought about a great reform of the Carmelite order. From his mystical writings he has brought about reform of many souls. His use of poetry to look more deeply into the faith and the effect of Jesus entering deeply a soul on fire with love for God, has touched the hearts of many over the centuries.

St. John of Kanty is also a great example. He was a teacher of scripture at the university level. But he is remembered for his humility, service and generosity. Three great things we all need to work on. In our social media world, humility is far from the minds of many as they present themselves as the center of everything. So many are too busy to be of service, especially to those that can not pay us back or do not seem worthy of our time. With inflation and costs going up, being generous seems harder to do. Yet in all three of these actions they prepare the heart to truly welcome Jesus.

As we come ever closer to Christmas perhaps we can look to the saints and see ways that we can emulate them. In this way we are truly preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ. Take the time in the remaining days of Advent to truly prepare. Time is such a great gift that God gives us. It moves so fast but how do we return that gift to God? How much time do we give Him? Each day? Each week?

Please look ahead to see what time you will be able to make the Christmas Masses. Then note on Sunday, the feast of the Holy Family, time for Sunday Mass that you will be able to attend giving God your valuable gift of time back to Him. The "Holidays" come and go pretty quickly. Please allow the time necessary to enter the feasts and season of Christmas with prepared hearts and minds so we can declare with the angels, "Glory to God in the Highest", for the gift of baby Jesus.

Father John

PASTORAL STAFF & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

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WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays ~ 5 PM Sundays ~ 8 AM &10 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

Thursdays at 2:00 PM

CONFESSIONS

Saturdays ~ 4 PM—4:45 PM & Following 1st Saturday 8 AM Mass

EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION

First Fridays following 8 AM Mass Benediction at 4:00 PM All other Fridays beginning at 3:00 PM Benediction at 4:00 PM

Mass Intentions for the week of December 19, 2021

Sat.	Dec. 18	5:00 PM	For the repose of the soul of <i>Maurice Murray</i>
Sun.	Dec. 19	8:00 AM	For the repose of the soul of Don Strack
		10:00 AM	For our Parishioners
Tue.	Dec. 21	5:30 PM	For the repose of the soul of Baby Elledge
Wed.	Dec. 22	8:00 AM	For the repose of the souls of John, Joyce & Sarah Loutsch
Thu.	Dec. 23	8:00 AM	For the repose of the soul of Apoleyo Asombrado
Fri.	Dec. 24	4:00 PM	For the repose of the soul of <i>Francis Morrissey</i>
		11:00 PM	For our Parishioners
Sat.	Dec. 25	10:00 AM	For the repose of the soul of Jon Wafle
Sun.	Dec. 26	8:00 AM	For the repose of the souls of Rose & Laverne Schaller
		10:00 AM	For our Parishioners

Pray for the health of Max Teumer, Ben Reynebeau, Julie (Watry) Stoner, Rosemary Lehnen, Vivian G., Russell Fairchild, Deb Beyer, Diana Hunt, Jessie Norton, Tricia Demmin, Bill Chase, Kiley Hackel, Shari Randall, Helen Eucolono, Ethel Passer, Sid Mead, Marie Hersil, Becky Fredrickson, Mary W., Bob W., Therese, Mary Sauer, Pete Ruland, Audrey Gillen, Rita Kueppers, Cindy Mueller, George Gabay, Jim Smith, Sadie Ravenscroft, Anne Nancolas, Rosemary Wier, RM, Payton, Veronica, Kathryn Doughty, Patricia, the Moore Family, JM, Carl Wier, Carole Hayes, Tillie Schumacher, Ralph Hamm, Millie Hovde, Bill Eisch, Marie Boehm, Marsha Hamil, MMB, AAB, EMM, Brenna, Barb Gardner, Patrick Moore, Karen Patton, Marty, Therese Severson, Fran Skalak, Tina Moore, Eric, Tony Berns, Jeanne Allen, Randy Czaplewski, Emma Boehm and Liz A.

Pray for those in the military serving our country: Jason Witkowiak, 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, Will Post, Adam Field, Bailey Granger, Alex Ericson and Ethan Jasinski.

Religious give thanks. "Thank you' hardly seems adequate to convey what it means to us," says a Catholic sister regarding the financial assistance her community received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Prayer-filled thanks for your donation to last week's second collection!

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 20th in time for the names to be published at Christmas.

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God January 1 (Saturday) ~ Mass will be celebrated at 10 AM. This is NOT a Holy Day of Obligation in 2022.

In this final week of Advent, we want to prepare our hearts before the annual celebrations of Jesus's birth on Christmas. How will you go about "getting ready" to receive Christ anew this Christmas?

<u>Stewardship Corner ~ December 11th & 12th 2021</u> (524 Registered Families)

**WKL	Y BUDGETED GIVING	i /	ACTUAL		
Adult Envelopes	\$8,384.62	\$ 4,994.00			
On-Line Giving		1	,800 .00		
Children's Envelopes	9.61	16.00			
Loose Offering	385.00		403.00		
Total Weekly Offering:	\$ 8,779.23	7	7,213.00		
Budget Contingency F	\$	35.00			
Year-to-date* budget re	\$210	,701.52			
Year-to-date amount c	\$200,349.47				
*Fiscal Year July 1, 2021 to current date					

** Budgeted Weekly Giving Amount based on pledges made. We anticipate a total budgeted income deficit of \$ 145,603 for this fiscal year.

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							
Tuesday	Dec. 21	3:00 PM	Hour of Mercy in Church				
-		7:00 PM	Knights of Columbus				
Wednesday	Dec. 22	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal				
		8:00 PM	Time of Prayer in Church				
Thursday	Dec. 23	12:00 PM	Rosary Makers—RH				
-		2:00 PM	Rosary in Church				

Knights of Columbus Meeting—Tuesday, December 21st at 7 PM in Reardon Hall. All men are invited to be a part of the Knights of Columbus.

Bishop's Annual Appeal ~ Thank you to all who have returned their pledge cards so far. Our goal for this year is \$41,140. <u>We currently have 64 families who have</u> <u>pledged \$26,186.</u> If you did not receive a pledge card, please give the rectory office a call and we will be happy to send one to you.

Come Celebrate Christmas With Us! Christmas Eve—Vigil Masses on Friday, December 24 — 4 PM and 11 PM Christmas Day—Mass on Saturday, December 25—10 AM <u>NO</u> Saturday, December 25—5 PM Mass Feast of the Holy Family—Masses on Sunday, December 26—8 AM and 10 AM Solemnity of Mary—Mass on Saturday, January 1—10 AM Epiphany of the Lord—Masses on Saturday, January 1—5 PM and Sunday, January 2—8 AM & 10 AM

MINISTRY SCHEDULE—Weekend of December 18th & 19th Saturday, 5:00 PM Lector: Steve Hesprich Eucharistic Minister: Rita Hamm Servers: Owen & Aedyn Lubinski Musicians: Peg Schmitz, Sharon Kelly Greeters: Ushers: Bernie Lubinski, Fran Lunenschloss, Tom Schoettler Sunday, 8:00 AM Lector: Gail Boehm Eucharistic Minister: Servers: Cody & Blake Komiskey Musicians: Ann Benz, Cristina Becker Greeters: Larry & Tina Moore Ushers: Dave Bosgraaf, George Treml, Jim Bires, Dave Netzer Sunday, 10:00 AM Lector: Sue Hollenbeck Eucharistic Minister: Gina Boppart Servers: Avery Thayer, Caroline Marien, & Johann Wolf Musicians: Peg Schmitz, Choir Greeters: Ushers: Jon Field, Clinton Pouillie, Eli & Johannes Boppart MINISTRY SCHEDULE—Weekend of December 24th—26th Friday, 4:00 PM—Christmas Vigil Lector: Cody Komiskey, Cooper Thayer Eucharistic Minister: Joelle Curran Servers: Aedyn and Owen Lubinski, Jack Vinopal Musicians: Children's Choir Greeters: Michalee Koca, Ariana Pokorney, Caroline Marien,

Sena Vinopal Ushers: Connor Laridaen Friday, 11:00 PM—Christmas Mass at Night Lector: Lisa Pouillie Eucharistic Minister: Rita Hamm Servers: Nolan Powers, Brayden, Warrick, and Kellen Housworth & John Hersil Musicians: Peg Schmitz, Choir Greeters: Ushers: Bill Powers Saturday, 10:00 AM—Christmas Morning Mass Lector: Bill Curran Eucharistic Minister: Gina Boppart Servers: Musicians: Greeters: Ushers: Sunday, 8:00 AM Lector: Paul Schaller Eucharistic Minister: Gina Boppart Servers: Seth Schwedrsky, Carson Demaske Musicians: Cristina Becker Greeters: Ron & Marge Bailey Ushers: Dave Bosgraaf, George Treml, Jim Bires, Dave Netzer Sunday, 10:00 AM Lector:

Eucharistic Minister: Servers: Beau Barreau, Jonathan and Eddy Riley Musicians: Peg Schmitz, Sharon Kelly Greeters: Kris Mazur Ushers: Jon Field, Clinton Pouillie



2022 Gala—Save the Date! Our 2022 Gala will be held on Saturday, February 19th at The Lodge of Mauston. Social hour begins at 6 pm with dinner at 7 pm. Tickets will be available at the rectory office beginning in January.

This Sunday (December 19th) is our December Pancake Breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus. Breakfast will be served from 9 to noon in Reardon Hall. Students and parents of St. Patrick's 7th grade class are assisting the Knights for this event. A suggested \$5 per person or \$10 per family free will offering will be collected with all proceeds over costs going to the St. Pat's 7th grade class needs. Join us for breakfast after Mass and share fellowship with parishioners.

FORMED

The Search ~ Episode 1 ~ What Do You Seek?

In Episode 1, we open hearts with a look at the question *"what do you seek?"* What is that deep longing in our hearts all about? We're all living for something, and we all strive for that something out there that is ultimately going to make us happy. But what is it? For some, this question is on their minds every day. For others, life goes by in a flash without even asking the question.

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Join the diocese Pilgrimage for Life to Washington, D.C., -- With two Special Guests! There has never been a more important time to join the March for Life in our nation's capitol, with the Dobbs case being heard by the Supreme Court and the possibility of Roe v. Wade being overturned. Plus, our pilgrims will be addressed by two amazing speakers, before and after the March: Terry Beatley, Founder of Hosea Iniative, and Valentyna Pavsyukova, Founder of Chalice of Mercy. For the registration letter, tentative schedule, and details, visit <u>diolc.org/M4L</u>.

Help those Devastated by the Recent Tornadoes in Several States ~ Assist families and communities affected by the recent devastating tornadoes in Kentucky and at least 5 other states. Visit Catholic Charities' website – <u>CCLSE.org</u> – click on "*Donate Today*," and enter "tornado relief" and your gift amount in the "general donations" box.

**You are invited!** -- Jan. 8: Chalice of Mercy Ukrainian Christmas Dinner ~ Each year, Valentyna Pavsyukova, founder of Chalice of Mercy, a pro-life mission to Ukraine, hosts a Ukrainian Christmas Dinner at the Lillydale Event Center in Chippewa Falls. All proceeds from this delicious, multicourse meal served by young people in full Ukrainian garb, go to benefit the work of the mission. To learn more, visit <u>diolc.org/chalice-of-mercy</u>.

#### Prayer Opportunities

*Hour of Mercy:* Tuesdays at 3 PM—time of prayer, litany and chaplet on behalf of our Church and the world. For more information, contact Deacon Juan or Jan Mullenberg.

*Wednesday Evening Prayer Time:* The church will be open on Wednesday evenings at 8 PM for a time of prayer. Please feel free to join as / when you are able.

**Praying the Rosary:** Join us on Thursdays at 2 PM in church to pray the rosary. The intention for each week is posted on our parish Facebook page.

**Holy Hour:** Each Friday we have Holy Hour from 3 PM to 4 PM. On First Fridays, we have Exposition and Adoration following morning Mass until benediction at 4 PM.

