

## EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Nov. 28		NO MASS
Tuesday	Nov. 29	8:30 AM (SP)	Merlow Dunham Moulton
Wednesday	Nov. 30	6:30 PM (SP)	St. Patrick CCW
Thursday	Dec. 1	8:30 AM (SC)	John & Sherry Murray
Friday	Dec. 2	8:30 AM (SP)	+Harold Sicheneder
Saturday	Dec. 3	5:00 PM (SP)	+Roseann & Randy Sticha
Sunday	Dec. 4	8:30 AM (SC) 10:30 AM (SP)	+Les Maciej For Our People

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2016

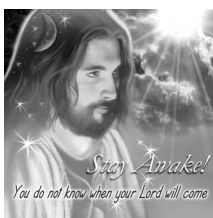
### St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	12/3	Barb Lewis Kelley & Jim DeGross
	12/4	Kathy McBroom, Dan Cervenka, Heidi Michaelson, Tim Sonnek
Lectors	12/3	Brianne Jirek
	12/4	Greg Michaelson
Acolytes	12/3	Hayden DeGross, Sam Lambrecht, Dan DeGross
	12/4	Karlie & Sara Bjerke, Bryce Deutsch
Ushers	12/3	Dave Roach, Melvin Gregory
	12/4	Gerald Sandey, Don Pesta

### St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	12/4	Frank Simons, Bonnie Theis, Paul & Linda Torgesen
Lector	12/4	Tom Fredrickson
Acolytes	12/4	Abbie Kavouras, Jenna Kavouras Tom Fredrickson (CB)
Ushers	11/27	Bruce Brumm, Ken Ceola
Greeters	11/27	Gary & Ann Korbel

**Bulletin Deadline:** Tuesday at noon. (notices can be mailed, faxed to 952-492-6290, or put in the black box on the side of the rectory) Save the counting people time: write your name and amount of donation on your Sunday envelope. Thank you! Going out of town? Won't be at mass next weekend? Call the parish office in advance and ask for a parish bulletin to be mailed to you. Keep up on parish events!



### WILL YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

Nov. 28: Fr. Raymond Choong-Yeon Won,  
Nov. 29: Fr. Tim Wozniak, Nov. 30:  
Archbishop Bernard Hebda, Dec. 1: Pope Francis,  
Dec. 2: Fr. Michael Miller, Dec. 3:  
Fr. Tim Yanta, Dec. 4: Fr. Dennis Zehren

**Lord Jesus Christ, You ordained the apostles priests at the Last Supper to continue the mission of mercy to the end time. We know how much You expect of Your priests, and we also know how weak and human they are. Inspire us, dear Jesus, to pray and sacrifice for Your priests, that by their faithfulness to You in this life they may bring countless souls to You in the life to come. Amen**

## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

### **Awakened by the Light**

*During this time of the year when natural light shines less each day, and nature slips into the rest of winter, the Church begins a new year with the Season of Advent and its imperative call to stay awake. The supernatural light of faith must guide us through the various kinds of darkness that we face in this*



*world. Our Lord warns us: "Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come." (Matt. 24:42). This is the kind of darkness that focuses our attention on the present world so exclusively that we lose sight of spiritual realities. The last things (death, judgment, heaven and hell) may merit a passing thought, but their impact on daily life may be very slight because they seem so far away. But Jesus reminds us that they are not as distant as we may think: "You must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come" (Matt. 24:44). This is the theme that always marks the beginning of Advent. The Church reminds us that Jesus "will come again to judge the living and the dead." We do not know the day or the hour, so we must be awakened by this truth, and live in a state of readiness.*

*If we do not heed this call, another darkness, caused by the desires of the flesh, can envelop us quite easily. St. Paul saw this and said, "It is the hour now for you to wake from sleep" (Romans 13:11). He is not speaking about physical sleep, just the opposite. It is about what people are doing while they are awake that is the problem. "Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and lust, not in rivalry and jealousy (Romans 13:12-13). This is the kind of activity that the world would classify as "a good time," but is really a state of spiritual slumber.*

*Advent calls us to be awakened by the light of Christ and to live in this light. "For Paul, nocturnal reveling and all that goes with it stands for the dark side of human nature, man's being 'asleep'. For him it becomes a symbol of the pagan world as such, submerged in material things, held fast in the darkness that prevails where there is no truth and which, despite all its decibels and hectic activity, is asleep, because it lives unaware of genuine reality, of the real human vocation. For us, 'rising from sleep' means arising from conformity with the world and with the times and having the courage to believe and to shake off the dream that causes us to bypass our true vocation and our best possibilities. There are greater promises than those of money, power and pleasure. Being awake for God and for other people – that is the kind of 'waking' that Advent has in mind, the wakefulness which discovers the light and brightens the world" (Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger, Seek that which is Above, pp. 18-19).*

*While there are many good things about the way we celebrate Christmas in our country, the level of activity fueled*

by its commercialization can actually lull us to sleep in these ways. Christmas then becomes less about Christ and more about the artificial lights and mythologies that we create. As Advent becomes increasingly overshadowed by the way we celebrate Christmas, we become more urgently in need of its call to be awakened by the Light.

Fr. Michael J. Miller

## PARISHIONERS CORNER

### PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

**PARISHES:** Albert Braith, Dale Nesbitt, Patty Whalen, Sandi Suilmann, Mary Munson (Sue Zender's daughter), Douglas Van Moorlehem (Jan St. Aubin's brother), Carol Prochaska, Sharon Mastain (Carol Timmons' sister) Rosie Pexa, Ann Pint, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, Dave Hover, Diane Hentges (Cathy Theis' sister), Alex Schlink, Ev Nelson, Mary Jane Keep, Paul Lambrecht, Cynthia Troendle, Pat Scharf, Jack & Jane Eiseman (parents of Jacque Bittner), Gerry Jensen (Jan St. Aubin's cousin), Therese Ryan, Florian Bauman (Bryan Bittner's uncle), Anikah Schmidt (great granddaughter of Bonnie Theis), Grace Bittner, Laura Stepka, Joe & Evelyn Scheffler, Jennifer Lonergan, John Thomas Byer

## ST. PATRICK

### CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

**DECEMBER:** \*Jim & Mora Cavanaugh, Dan & Debra Cervenka, Dan & Vickie Cross, Benjamin & Lori Davis, Jim & Kelley DeGross, Kevin & Lisa DeGross, Maureen DeGross, Ralph & Brenda DeGross, Jonathan & Angela Deutsch, Dean & Kari Dolezal Altar Linens: Rosie Ryan

**ST. PATRICK C.C.W. ADVENT BAKE SALE:** Get your aprons on and start planning your baking for the CCW Advent Bake Sale on December 10 & 11 after each Mass.

**PRAY THE ROSARY:** Join us to pray the Rosary every Saturday evening at 4:40 PM before the 5:00 PM Mass or Sunday morning at 10:10 AM before the 10:30 AM Mass.

**POP CAN TABS:** All three New Prague Elementary Schools are collecting pop can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Please collect your tabs and bring them to St. Patrick Church. Lisa Luskey will get them to the schools. Thank you.

### Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection November 13, 2016

Received this week.....\$ 2,009.00  
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,925.00



Steeple Repair Project budget....\$38,000.00  
Steeple Repair amt. remaining...\$11,712.00



## ST. CATHERINE

### CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

**DECEMBER:** Ken & Kathy Ceola, Steve & Theresa Kavouras

**WARRIOR MOM'S BABY BAGS:** A big thank you to everyone who generously donated to fill the basket for the Warrior Moms! It will be a great help to Women's Veterans Program—Maternity Services at the Minneapolis V.A.

**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE:** Come join St. Catherine's C.C.W. for our annual Cooks for Kids Event at Ronald McDonald House on Saturday, December 3 from 4:00—8:00 PM. We will prepare and serve a meal to families who have children undergoing cancer treatments and transplants at the U. of M. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church. A group of 12 is recommended to serve a meal. We look forward to this memorable event each year. Questions can be forwarded to Laura Saarela at 952-412-5207.

### Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection November 13, 2016

Received this week.....\$ 1,052.00  
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,001.00



## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Nov. 30	6:45-8:00 PM	Classes, grades 1-9
Sun. Dec. 4	10:30 AM	Sunday School
Wed. Dec. 7	7:00 PM	Mass—Immaculate Concept.
Sun. Dec. 11	10:30 AM	Sunday School
Wed. Dec. 14	6:45-8:00 PM	Classes, grades 1-9 (Practice in church)
	7:30 PM	(2nd Grade Parent Meeting)

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR ST. PATRICK & ST. CATHERINE

Sat. Dec. 3	S.C.	C.C.W. Dinner—Ronald McDonald
Tue. Dec. 6	S.C.	C.C.W. Christmas Party - Williamson's
Fri. Feb. 24	S.P.	Group I Fish Fry
Fri. Mar. 31	S.P.	Group II Fish Fry

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**WINE: Women In the New Evangelization** – Ladies, join *WINE: Women In the New Evangelization* for a "Women, WINE & Wisdom" evening as we welcome a woman who truly knows how to get a "kick" out of life — one of only two women in the country who coach college football, Sr. Lisa Maurer! Sr. Lisa will present "Ever Feel Like You Want to Punt? Tackling Life with JOY!" Thursday, December 1, from 7p.m.—10 p.m. Cost: \$30. Register at CatholicVinyard.com

**Church of St Henry Music Workshop, Story and Song Concert – Saturday, December 10, 2016**—Sarah Hart, Steve Angrisano & Jesse Manibusan present a morning musician retreat/workshop. Retreat 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Concert 7:00 p.m. Church of St Henry, 1001 E 7<sup>th</sup> St. Monticello, MN. All are invited.

**World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekends** *Looking for the perfect gift for your spouse this year? How about a weekend away together?* A Marriage Encounter Weekend is a private weekend away from life's distractions that allows a husband and wife to focus on each other. The next **Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends** are Feb 10-12, 2017 in Buffalo, MN and May 5-7, 2017 in Buffalo, MN. Early registration is highly recommended. For more information visit our website at: [twincitieswwme.org](http://twincitieswwme.org) or contact Brent & Tracy at [applications@twincitieswwme.org](mailto:applications@twincitieswwme.org) or 612-756-8720.