

## EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	11/29	NO MASS		
Tuesday	11/30	8:30 AM	SP	+Julie Berg
Wednesday	12/1	6:00 PM	SP	+Leonard Sticha
Thursday	12/2	8:30 AM	SC	+Richard, Sophie & Steven Greger
Friday	12/3	8:30 AM	SP	+Pat Williams
Saturday	12/4	5:00 PM	SP	+ Leonard, Rose Ann & Randy Sticha
Sunday	12/5	8:30 AM	SC	For our Parishioners & Guests
		10:30 AM	SP	+Braden Flicek

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS— DECEMBER 4 & 5

#### St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	12/4	Rita Ryan
	12/5	Kristi Schulte
Lector	12/4	Rob Puncoschar
	12/5	John Cassady
Altar Servers	12/4	Weston Feist
	12/5	Annie & Norah Blaschko
Ushers	12/4	Mark Simek
	12/5	Pat Puncoschar

#### St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	12/5	Kevin Mahowald
Lector	12/5	Petro Tsarehradsky
Altar Servers	12/5	Volunteer
Ushers	12/5	Shawn O'Hern & Dennis Maciej
Greeters	12/5	Margaret Sharkey & Bonnie Theis

Bulletin Deadline Tuesday at noon. (notices can be mailed, emailed or put in the black box on the side of the rectory). Save the money counters time: write your name & amount of donation on your Sunday envelope. Thank you!

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

Nov. 28: Fr. Joseph Williams, Nov. 29: Fr. Peter Williams, Nov 30: ABP Benard Hebda, Dec. 1: Pope Francis, Dec. 2: Fr. Michael Miller, Dec. 3 Fr. Thomas Wilson, Dec. 4: Fr. Seraphim Wirth.

**Eternal Father, we lift up to You these and all the priests of the world. Sanctify them. Heal and guide them. Mold them into the likeness and holiness of Your Son, Jesus, the Eternal High Priest. May their lives be pleasing to You. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.**



## FROM THE PASTOR

### 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” (Benedict VXI, 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

## ST. PATRICK

**CHURCH CLEANING FOR DECEMBER:** \*Jayne Cram, Pam Caselius, John & Gail Cassady, Jim & Mora Cervenka, Dan & Deb Cervenka, Jennifer Witt, Terry Connelly, Dan & Vickie Cross, Benjamin & Lori Davis, Jim & Kelley DeGross  
Altar Linens: Gail Cassady

**PRAY THE ROSARY:** The Blessed Mother has stated the Rosary is the most powerful weapon we have against evil. Please join us every Sunday at 7:55 AM before Mass to pray the Rosary together.

**MASS HELPERS NEEDED:** We are looking for more Mass helpers. If interested, please contact Shelley Shepherd @ [selesep@gmail.com](mailto:selesep@gmail.com).

**FOOD DRIVE:** There will be a food drive for the New Prague Peace Center during the month of November. Please drop off your non-perishable food items in the box in the back of church.

### Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Weekly Budget Requirement:	\$ 2,400.00
11/21/21 Collection:	N/A



## ST. CATHERINE

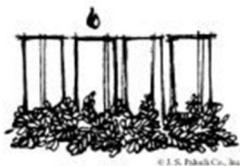
**CHURCH CLEANING FOR DECEMBER:** Ken & Kathy Ceola, Peter & Jeanne Theberath

**PRAY THE ROSARY:** The Blessed Mother has stated the Rosary is the most powerful weapon we have against evil. Please join us every Sunday at 7:55 AM before Mass to pray the Rosary together.

### Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Weekly Budget Requirement:	\$ 1,160.00
11/21/21 Collection:	N/A



## PARISHIONERS CORNER

**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISHES:** Shelby Perry, Janice Lane, Tom O'Callaghan, James Hesse, Baby Isabel Guidarelli, Sparky Mahowald, Laura Lano, Martha Carr, Brooklyn Prochaska, Bonnie Theis, Maxley Ferguson, Diane Sirek, JoAnn Kenne, Karen Zweber, Andrew Buckman, Daryl Sternitzke, Margo Mauser (sister of Kathy Prochaska),

Carol Prochaska, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, Alex Schlink, Pat Scharf, Gerry Jensen (Jan St. Aubin's cousin), Anikah Schmidt (great granddaughter of Bonnie Theis), Laura Stepka, Evelyn Scheffler, Jennifer Lonergan, John Thomas Byer, Shelby Perry.

**HOLIDAY GIVING TREE 2021:** We are now collecting NEW warm winter wear for the New Prague Peace Center. They are in need of adult coats, hats, gloves, scarves, boots and snow pants. Please drop all items in the boxes in the back of both churches throughout the month of December.



THANK YOU!

### PRAYER PARTNERS NEEDED FOR CONFIRMATION

**CLASS:** The Confirmation program requests parishioners of the parishes of St. Patrick and St. Catherine to consider being a prayer partner for one or more of our 2022 Confirmation Candidates. To be a prayer partner is very easy. Simply take a name slip below the picture of a Confirmandi and pray that the Holy Spirit guide the Confirmandi as they further study their Catholic Faith and develop a relationship with Jesus. You can find these hanging in the back of church. Your commitment is requested until April 21, 2022 which is their Confirmation Day.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

**2021 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM:** The Religious Education students in grades 1-8 will be hosting a "Christmas Celebration" in St. Patrick Church on Wednesday, December 15th at 6:45 PM. Everyone is welcome to join us as the students recreate the Christmas story through scripture and song! Cookies and refreshments to be served in the Social Hall following the program. If interested in donating cookies/treats or your time setting up, serving or cleaning up afterwards, please contact Kerri Sticha.

Wednesday	12/1/2021	Grades 1-8 class 6:30-7:30PM Confirmation class 6:30-7:45PM
Sunday	12/5/2021	CGS Class 9:15-10:15 AM

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**CHRISTMAS BASKETS FOR THOSE IN NEED:** The Jordan area Lions Club and the Jordan Fire Department help those less fortunate in our community by organizing their annual Christmas Basket for the Needy program. Fundraising has become difficult during COVID and they could use your help to continue this program. If your family can give a donation to benefit the program, it would be greatly appreciated. Simply place an envelope or check in the collection basket and label "Christmas Basket" or call Tony Oldenburg at (952) 492-6050. Thank you for your support. If you or someone you know would like a basket, please contact the Parish office by 12/9/21. Thank you.

**DAD'S BELGIAN WAFFLE BREAKFAST:** Sunday December 12th, 8:30AM to noon at St. Anne's School in LeSueur. All you can eat waffles, sausage, toppings and beverage. Tickets sold at the door- \$10, 5 and under- Free.