

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Dec. 13	4:00 PM (SP)	+Tom Franek
Tuesday	Dec. 14	9:00 AM (SP)	+Edward Deutsch
Wednesday	Dec. 15		NO MASS
Thursday	Dec. 16	4:00 PM (SC)	+Lawrence Stepka
Friday	Dec. 17	9:00 AM (SP)	+Magdalena Schulte & Family
Saturday	Dec. 18	5:00 PM (SP)	The Thoele Family
Sunday	Dec. 19	8:30 AM (SC)	+Lawrence & Kathleen Stepka
		10:30 AM (SP)	For Our People

St. Patrick

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DEC. 18 & 19

Extraordinary Ministers	12/18	Kelley DeGross, Jan St. Aubin
	12/19	Ron & Kathy McBroom, Lisa Sticha
Lectors	12/18	Lynne Hoffman
	12/19	Tim Sonnek
Acolytes	12/18	Dan Hoffman, William Hoffman, Jed Kreuser
	12/19	Ellen Puncochar, Patrick Puncochar
Ushers	12/18	Leonard Sticha, Steve Kreuser
	12/19	Dean Bisek, Gerry Sandey
Greeters	12/9	Don & Elaine Pesta

St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	12/19	Dan & Deb Norman, Pat Schroeder, Margaret Sharkey
Lector	12/19	Rosetta Shea
Acolytes	12/19	Phoebe Muraski, Kristine Busse, Helen Korbel
Ushers	12/19	Jeff Schroeder, Francis Seurer
Greeters	12/19	Dave & Bonnie Buresh

**READINGS FOR DECEMBER 19, 2004
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14
 Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7
 Gospel Reading: Matthew 1:18-24

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Dec. 15	6:45-8:00 PM	Religious Education, grades 1-10. Reconciliation, grades 4, 7, 9, 10. Christmas Program Practice.
Sat. Dec. 18	9:30 AM	Christmas Program Rehearsal @ S.P.
Sun. Dec. 19	10:30 AM	Sunday School Program.
Wed. Dec. 22	6:45 PM	C.C.D. Christmas Program. Party follows in the social hall
*Parents please bring one dozen cookies/bars to the Christmas Program.		
Sun. Dec. 26		NO Sunday School Program.
Wed. Dec. 29		NO Religious Education.

ST. PATRICK

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

DECEMBER: *Chad & Emily Sandey, Mike & Rita Ryan, Philip Ryan, Ronald & Rose Ryan, Gerry Sandey, John & Patty Scheffler, Daniel & Kyra Schmidt, Dianne Thoele. Altar Linens: Evelyn Scheffler.

ST. PATRICK C.C.W. CRAFT & BAKE SALE is this weekend after the Saturday and Sunday masses at the back of church. Stop by and pick up some holiday goodies or do some Christmas gift shopping! Thanks to all who have contributed holiday treats and crafts to this event!

DISHTOWEL FINISHING: We need help hemming and decorating dishtowels to be sold at next summer's church festival. It's never too early to get started. The big box containing unfinished towels is located at the back of church. Sign out as many as you like to embroider, appliqué, or decorate creatively and hem! Just return the finished towels to the same box when complete. Thanks!

ST. PATRICK CHOIR PRACTICE: Thursday, December 16 and Tuesday, December 21 at 7:00 PM at St. Patrick Church. We will practice music for Christmas at these two sessions. Everyone interested in helping the choir lead music is welcome!

DECORATING CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS: Tuesday, December 21 at 6:00 PM at St. Patrick Church. Anyone is welcome to help us decorate for Christmas!

ST. PATRICK C.C.W. CHRISTMAS PARTY: Monday, December 13 at 7:00 PM at the social hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend. We'll have a short meeting followed by food and fun! Please bring a dish to share. If you'd like to participate in the gift exchange, bring a wrapped \$5.00 gift. We will also be accepting donations for the Peace Center in New Prague that evening (boxed and canned non-perishable food items, laundry soap, hygiene items, toilet tissue). Hope to see you all there!

GROUP I FISH FRY: Group I is seeking co-chairs for the Fish Fry on Friday, February 4, 2005. Contact Mike & Jan Sticha @ 952-758-2022.

THANK YOU: Ladies of St. Patrick C.C.W. we want to thank each and everyone for the food brought and the workers who helped—especially the people who chaired it. We had quite a few comments on the tasty lunch. *The Gergen Family*

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection December 5, 2004

Received this week.....	\$ 1,660.00
Weekly budget requirement.....	\$ 1,680.00
Retirement for Religious Collection.....	\$ 305.13
Capital Campaign.....	\$ 150,500.00 goal
Capital Campaign.....	\$ 70,811.00 pledged
Capital Campaign.....	\$ 33,823.00 collected to date



ST. CATHERINE

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

DECEMBER: *Margaret Sharkey, George & Cheyann Doheny, Michael & Renee Orton, Eugene Zephirin, Bonnie Theis.

BOXES FOR BRIDGING: The St. Catherine's C.C.W. has placed boxes in the back of church to accept donations for Bridging, Inc. This is a local non-profit organization that provides home supplies & furnishings for families in need. The organization needs all kinds of furnishings and household items. At this time, however, there is a particular shortage of the following: pillows, dressers, and new or gently used pots/pans/ cookware. If you have smaller items you'd like to donate, please leave them in our Bridging boxes. If you have a furniture item to donate, or would like to make a cash donation, then please contact Ann Korbel @ 952-447-1454. We will be accepting donations throughout the Advent Season.

When we count our blessings at Christmas time, we include our new parishioners who have joined us this past year:

- D.J. & Shelly Damberger
- Brad Eller
- John Gullickson
- Nathan & Anna Hoy (Eric & William)
- Philip & Kim Moris
- Greg & Jean Reis (Ronald)
- Steve & Maureen Rief

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection December 5, 2004

Received this week.....	\$ 1,138.00
Retirement for Religious Collection.....	\$ 350.00



November 25, 2004 Message from Our Lady of Medjugorje:
 "Dear Children! At this time, I call you all to pray for my intentions. Especially, little children, pray for those who have not yet come to know the love of God and do not seek God the Savior. You, little children, be my extended hands and by your example draw them closer to my Heart and the Heart of my Son. God will reward you with graces and every blessing. Thank you for having responded to my call."

CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION: This weekend, December 11 & 12, we will have a second collection.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SERVICE PROJECT 2004:

We'll be gathering items to supply "Recovery Baskets" that are provided to our recovering wounded soldiers at both Balboa Naval Hospital and Camp Pendleton, California. The following items are needed: Nonperishable snacks / candy, DVD's, Batteries of all sizes, Phone Cards, Game Boy Games, Books / Magazines, Domino's Pizza Gift Certificates (they deliver to the base), Towel / Washcloths, Hygiene Gear (razors / shaving cream), Your Prayers! The deadline for this project is December 19th, when we will Fed Ex the items to Camp Pendleton. Thank you for your support in this project.

PARISH NURSE PROGRAM: We are looking for someone to continue the Parish Nurse Program. Qualifications are:

- *Graduate of an accredited school of nursing.
- *Currently licensed as a professional registered nurse (RN) to practice nursing in the State of Minnesota.
- *At least three years of nursing experience in a clinical setting.
- *Due to the fact that the spiritual dimension is central to parish nursing practice, the completion of an endorsed and/or academic and/or qualified parish nurse preparation program is necessary.
- *Possession of a valid driver's license.

Contact the parish office if you are interested @ 492-6276.

A REFLECTION — God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, O good and gracious God, You are the God of health and wholeness in the plan of your creation, You call us to struggle in our sickness and to cling always to the cross of your Son. O God, we are your servants. Many of us are now suffering with HIV or AIDS. We come before you and ask you, if it is your holy will, to take this suffering away from us, restore us to health and lead us to know you and your powerful healing love of body and spirit. We ask you also, to be with those of us who nurse your sick ones. We are the mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, children, and friends of your suffering people. It is so hard for us to see those whom we love suffer. You know what it is to suffer. Help us to minister in loving care, support, and patience for your people who suffer with HIV and AIDS. Lead us to do whatever it will take to eradicate this illness from the lives of those who are touched by it, both directly and indirectly. Trusting in you and the strength of your Spirit, we pray these things in the name of Jesus. Amen.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve, December 24:	5:00 PM	St. Catherine
Christmas Eve, December 24:	7:00 PM	St. Patrick
Christmas Day, December 25:	8:30 AM	St. Catherine
Christmas Day, December 25:	10:30 AM	St. Patrick

NO Confessions at 4:00 PM or Mass at 5:00 PM on Dec. 25.

PARISHIONERS CORNER

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

PARISHES: Tom Shea (son of Rosetta Shea), George Dalsin, Linn Blocker, Sophie Greger (mother of Diane Williamson), Peter Nytes, Rosie Pexa, Angela Brandel, Jeff Paul, Jim Trantina (father of Theresa Sticha), Lyla Bauer (mother of Cathy Theis), Ron Stepka, Lawrence Simek, Ken Jilk.

MEMORY ANGELS: A Community for Life will be selling Memory Angels to affirm the lives of cherished loved ones who have died, those who are with us still, and those whose lives have not yet begun. The Angels will adorn the Christmas trees in both churches throughout the Advent and Christmas Season. They will be available for \$5.00 each after all the masses on the weekend of December 12. Proceeds from this fund raiser will be used to help women in crisis pregnancies in our Archdiocese.

PARISH NURSE PROGRAM: RELAX YOUR TONGUE:

By relaxing the tongue, we can relax everything along the path of the vagus nerve, which is the longest of all cranial nerves, going from our brain through the neck and ends in our stomach. Practice these steps to relax your tongue frequently in your day. You will feel less tense, more relaxed, and a balance in your mind/body system. Take 2 deep breaths and let go slowly. Consciously relax the tip of your tongue, and let it flow to the middle and then to the back. Continue this for 30-60 seconds and see what happens.