

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	12/14	NO MASS		
Tuesday	12/15	8:30AM	SP	+ Joe Scheffler
Wednesday	12/16	5-6 PM 6:00 PM	SP	Reconciliation +Joe, John & Adeline Horejsi
Thursday	12/17	8:30 AM 9-10 AM	SC	+Ken Maciej Reconciliation
Friday	12/18	NO MASS		
Saturday	12/19	3:30-4:45PM 5:00 PM	SP	Reconciliation +Walter, LaVerne, Richard & Don Beuch
Sunday	12/20	8:30 AM	SC	For Our People
		10:30 AM	SP	Puncochar Family

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR December 19 & 20, 2020

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	12/19	None-COVID restrictions
	12/20	Kathy McBroom (choir)
Lector	12/19	Jim DeGross
	12/20	Tim Sonnek
Altar Servers	12/19	None
	12/20	None
Ushers	12/19	Volunteer
	12/20	Volunteer

St. Catherine

Extraordinary	12/20	Pat Schroeder, Volunteer
Lector	12/20	Linda Torgesen
Altar Servers	12/20	Monica Muelken
Ushers	12/20	Shawn O'Hern, George Doheny
Greeters	12/20	Tim & Laura Saarela

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 & amount of donation on your Sunday envelope. Thank you!

WILL YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?

Dec. 13: Fr. Gordon Doffing, Dec. 14: Fr. John Donahue, Dec. 15: Fr. John Drees, Dec. 16: Fr. Thomas Dufner, Dec. 17: Fr. Gerald Dvorak, Dec. 18: Fr. Douglas Ebert, Dec. 19: Fr. John Echert.



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

Our Joyful Mother



When we think of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the image of the sorrowful mother may readily come to mind. After all, whose heart could be so cold as not to have sympathy for Mary as she stood beneath the cross, or who cannot imagine her sorrow as she held her dead son when He was removed from it. The Church even honors her with a memorial on September 15 entitled Our Lady of Sorrows. Yet I do not think that sorrow characterized her life. I think what most characterized her life was joy. She expressed this joy when she visited Elizabeth: “My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my savior” (Luke 1:46-47). “Exultation is the keynote of the encounter with Elizabeth, where the sound of Mary’s voice and the presence of Christ in her womb cause John to ‘leap for joy’ (Lk 1:44). Gladness also fills the scene in Bethlehem, when the birth of the divine Child, the Savior of the world, is announced by the song of the angels and proclaimed to the shepherds as ‘news of great joy’” (Lk 2:10; John Paul II, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, 20).

It is especially appropriate to meditate on this aspect of her life on this Third Sunday of Advent, which is traditionally called Gaudete, which means rejoice. Joy is an effect of our faith, a fruit of the Holy Spirit; it comes from being near Christ, and from being holy. The disciples on the way to Emmaus experienced this joy when they spoke to the Risen Jesus: “Were not our hearts burning within us while He spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?” (Lk 24:32). Mary was joyful because she “kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart” (Lk 2:19). She reflected on the events of His birth, His life, His words; she knew that God had fulfilled all of His promises in her Son. He is the source of joy “because He will save His people from their sins” (Matt. 1:21).

Because Mary was so close to Christ she must have radiated the joy that comes from being in His presence. Being joyful does not mean being silly or giddy. It is much deeper and permanent. It endures even in the midst of suffering. “Joy is in the soul itself and literally implies a leap or a spring. The soul has such springs of life awakened within it that it exults from joy from within. In the ultimate analysis, only saints are joyful” (Fulton J. Sheen, *Guide to Contentment*, p.179). As Mary is the greatest saint, she must have been the most deeply joyful person as well. And since we are all called to be saints, we must be joyful too. But it does not come from glib imperatives. When the Church says, “Rejoice!” it is saying, “Be a saint, then you can not help but to rejoice.” Realize the gift that God has given to us in

His Son; live the life He has called you to live and you will be joyful. "To meditate upon the 'joyful' mysteries, then, is to enter into the ultimate causes and the deepest meaning of Christian joy. It is to focus on the realism of the mystery of the Incarnation and on the obscure foreshadowing of the mystery of the saving Passion. Mary leads us to the secret of Christian joy, reminding us that Christianity is, first and foremost 'good news', which has as its heart and its whole content the person of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, the one Savior of the world" (Rosarium, 20).

Fr. Michael J. Miller

ST. PATRICK

CHURCH CLEANING FOR DECEMBER: *Leo & Gloria Jacques, Mike & Lynne Hoffman, Tod and Lisa Hutchinson, Mike & Melissa Janovsky, Jeff & Toni Jeurissen, Tony & Brianne Jirik, Steven & Susan Johnson, Rick & Jodi Jones, Guy Kelnhofer, Doug & Eugenia Klegstad
Altar Linens: Gail Cassady.

CHURCH DECORATING: We will be decorating for Christmas next Sunday, 12/20 after the 10:30 Mass. All are welcome to help. Confirmation Students can use towards your service hours. (please bring service hour sheet to be signed.)

MESSAGE FROM BARB LEWIS: To my friends and St. Patrick's church family: I have moved away from the Twin Cities area and just wanted to say Thank You for the many years spent with you as a truly wonderful and blessed Parish. I felt very welcomed from the beginning. Many new friends and great memories were made. Will miss you all. Many blessings and a Merry Christmas to all. -Barb Lewis

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.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection November 29, 2020

Received this week.....\$ 2,018.13
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 2,338.00



ST. CATHERINE

CHURCH CLEANING FOR DECEMBER: Ken & Cathy Ceola, Greg & Deb Horejsi, Albert & Kristi Schneider

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 8:00 AM before Mass to pray the Rosary together.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"

Sunday Collection November 29, 2020

Received this week.....\$ 811.68
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,040.00



PARISHIONERS CORNER

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

PARISHES: James Hesse, Cindi Ubelhor and unborn baby, Baby Isabel Guidarelli, Sparky Mahowald, Laura Lano, Martha Carr, Jane Lorsche, Ryan Maciej, Brooklyn Prochaska, Brandon Witt (brother of Jenny Clancy), John Mullenmeister, Shelby Perry, Bonnie Theis, Maxley Ferguson, Diane Sirek, Anne Weber (granddaughter of Sue Zender), JoAnn Kenne, Virginia Beuch, Karen Zweber, Richard Arens, Andrew Buckman, Michael Zender, Daryl Sternitzke, Gerry Sandey, Margo Mauser (sister of Kathy Prochaska), Douglas Van Moorlehem (brother of Jan St. Aubin), 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.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS:

Father was ordained 25 years ago as a Deacon on Dec 2, 1995, at the St. Paul Seminary Chapel. Being a Deacon is required at least 6 months prior to ordination to the priesthood.
Congratulations Father!



PRAYER LINE:

If you have someone to add to the prayer line or want to help by praying on the prayer line, please call Heidi Michaelson at 952-233-8772.

SAVE YOUR USED POSTAGE STAMPS:

The C.C.W. is collecting used postage stamps. Proceeds will help to broadcast the word of God in South America. Stamps need to be trimmed leaving a 1/4 inch border of the envelope or they will not be able to peel them off properly. A box marked "Used Postage Stamps" will be left in the back of church or you may drop them off at the parish office during regular office hours.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

RECONCILIATION:

Wednesday, Dec. 16	5:00-6:00 PM	St. Patrick
Thursday, Dec. 17	9:00-10:00 AM	St. Catherine
Saturday, Dec. 19	3:30-4:45 PM	St. Patrick

MASSSES:

Thursday, Dec. 24	4:30 PM	St. Catherine—carols
	5:00 PM	St. Catherine
	6:30 PM	St. Patrick—carols
	7:00 PM	St. Patrick
Friday, Dec. 25	8:30 AM	St. Catherine
	10:30 AM	St. Patrick
Thursday, Dec. 31	5:00 PM	St. Patrick
Friday, Jan. 1, 2021	9:00 AM	St. Catherine
Friday, Jan. 1, 2021	11:00 AM	St. Patrick

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Dec. 16	6:30-7:45 PM	Classes 1-9 (DL)
Sun. Dec. 20	9:15-10:15	CGS ages 3-5 (DL)
Wed. Dec. 23	6:30-7:45 PM	Classes 1-9 (DL)

*DL=Distance Learning