

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 16, 2007

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Dec. 17	8:30 AM (SP)	+Angela Brandel
Tuesday	Dec. 18	8:30 AM (SP)	Priest's Personal Intention
Wednesday	Dec. 19	8:30 AM (SP)	Deceased members of Puncuchar Family
Thursday	Dec. 20	8:30 AM (SC)	+Richard & Sophie Greger +Jorge Tatel NO MASS
Friday	Dec. 21		NO MASS
Saturday	Dec. 22	5:00 PM (SP)	+Madelon Siskoff
Sunday	Dec. 23	8:30 AM (SC) 10:30 AM (SP)	Parishioners, Guests, Visitors +Allan Schroeder

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Dec. 19	6:45 PM	Religious Education, grades 1-10. Christmas Program & Social.
Wed. Dec. 26		NO Religious Education.
Wed. Jan. 2		NO Religious Education.
Wed. Jan. 2	6:00 PM	VIRTUS Training Session.
Wed. Jan. 9	6:45 PM	Religious Education, grades 1-10.

VIRTUS: On Jan. 2 from 6:00-9:00 PM in the St. Patrick Social Hall, a VIRTUS Training Session will be facilitated by Deb Norman. This training focuses on the protection of you youth and children, and is a requirement for all parish and volunteer staff who have contact with our children. The information presented is valuable for all, whether or not you are a current or future staff member. All who attend must pre-register on line at www.VIRTUS.org. Establish a screen name and password, and follow the instructions for registration. Any questions may be directed to Deb Norman @ 952-652-2252.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 22 & 23

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	12/22	Evelyn Scheffler, Bill Belkengren, Rita Ryan
	12/23	Dan Cervenka, Barb Lewis, Leo & Gloria Jacques
Lectors	12/22	Kelsey Killeen
	12/23	Mike Sticha Jr.
Acolytes	12/22	Adam, Joshua, & Jacob Jeurissen
	12/23	Mitch Sandey, Amanda Stebbins, Allie Kubes
Ushers	12/22	Leonard Sticha, Roman Stepka
	12/23	Gerald Sandey, Norm Sticha
Greeters	12/23	Ted & Mary Jirik

St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	12/23	Gordy & Julie Giles, Ken & Kathy Ceola
Lector	12/23	Pat Schroeder
Acolytes	12/23	Matt Novak
Cross Bearer	12/23	Matt Novak
Ushers	12/23	Steve Boeser, Dave Buresh
Greeters	12/23	Steve & Jude Boeser

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 ladies time: write your name & 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!

**READINGS FOR DECEMBER 23, 2007
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



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

ST. PATRICK

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

DECEMBER: *Mark & Connie Kreuser, Guy & Andrea Kelnhofer, Steve & Lin Kreuser, Michael & Deborah Kubes, Jim & Jodie Lambrecht, Rick & Vickie Lawrence, Gary & Barbara Lewis, Ron & Kathy McBroom.
 Altar Linens: Evelyn Scheffler.

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.

FOOD SHELF DRIVE: We will be collecting food for the Peace Center Food Shelf in New Prague. We will be collecting non-perishable good such as: Cans: fruits, vegetables, tuna, soups, stews, etc. Boxes: jello, potatoes, pancake mix, crackers, meal in a box, cookies. Soaps: hand, dish, laundry, toilet tissue, Kleenex, etc. Items may be put in the box in back of church. Monetary donations can be put in an envelope marked Food Shelf and put in the collection basket.

ST. PATRICK MEN'S CLUB CHRISTMAS MEETING/PARTY: Thursday, December 20 at 6:30 PM in the social hall. Food and refreshments will be provided. Questions, call Mike Sticha @ 758-2022.

ST. PATRICK PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING: Monday, Dec. 17th at 7:00 PM in the social hall.

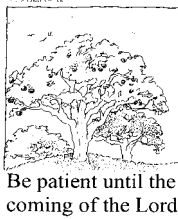
ST. PATRICK FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: There will be NO meeting in December.

ST. PATRICK CHOIR PRACTICE FOR CHIRSTMAS MASSES: Monday, Dec. 17 and Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 7:00 PM at St. Patrick Church. Everyone interested in helping the choir lead music is welcome, including instrumentalists!

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection December 9, 2007

Received this week.....\$ 1,608.89
 Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,598.00
 Christmas Flower Collection.....\$ 336.00
 Immaculate Conception.....\$ 250.00



of cherished loved ones who have died and those whose lives have not yet begun. Memorials may be purchased for \$5.00 each to be attached to Memory Angels.

LENTEN SCRIPTURE STUDY: The **Book of Revelation** featuring **Jeff Cavin** on video. **Dates:** Thursdays Jan. 10 through Mar. 13, 2008. **Time:** 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. **Place:** St. Patrick's Social Hall. **Cost:** \$25.00 per person or couple sharing materials. (Anyone that wants to attend from St. Patrick, the church will pay the fee.) **Registration slips in church foyers.** **Registration deadline: Sunday, Dec. 23, 2007.** Questions? Call Rosemary Hatcher @ 952-440-4524.

ST. CATHERINE

CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

DECEMBER: Ken & Kathy Ceola, Steve & Jude Boeser, Rick & Linda Sirek.

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE: Join us in a wonderful expression of love and caring—the CHRISTmas in Christmas. The St. Catherine's C.C.W. will be again preparing and serving dinner for the children and parents/families of Ronald McDonald House, located across from the U. of M. hospital on December 28th at 5:30 PM. We will meet at 4:00 PM at the St. Catherine's parking lot to pool driving. Meal preparation will begin at 10:00 AM in the church basement. Call Margaret Sharkey @ 461-2214 or Sue Kempf for details. Ronald McDonald assists in housing/meals for children being treated for cancer, transplants, and other illnesses from across the world.

NEW MARKET FOOD SHELF NEEDS OUR HELP: The Church of St. Nicholas has started a food shelf for the people in this area. Parishioners realized that many of their neighbors are going through hard times and need just a little help to make it through these times. C.C.W. has set a box in the back of church to collect non-perishable foods and personal and baby care items. A suggested list of items is posted by the box.

Stewardship of Treasure

"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"
Sunday Collection December 9, 2007

Received this week.....\$ 717.28
 Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,070.00
 Christmas Flower Collection.....\$ 166.46
 Immaculate Conception.....\$ 110.00



HYMNUS CHOIR of New Prague will be singing "Lessons and Carols" at St. John the Baptist Church in Jordan on Sunday, Dec. 16 at 3:30 PM. This program of scripture and Christmas hymns will be sure to put you in the Christmas spirit!

A DAY OF REMEMBERING

Before decreeing that something be done, the (third) commandment urges that something be remembered. It is a call to awaken remembrance of the grand and fundamental work of God which is creation, a remembrance which must inspire the entire religious life of (men and women) and then fill the day on which (they are) called to rest.

WORDS TO LIVE BY

"Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy," the text of Exodus tells us in chapter 20, verse 8. This is the wording of the third commandment; we have learned it by the shorter version, "keep holy the Sabbath day."

There is a strong connection between resting on Sunday and remembering something. What is it that we're supposed to remember? Nothing less than the very work of God! We remember that we, through our ancestors, were once slaves in Egypt, that we were set free. We aren't just avoiding work on Sunday, but also bringing back to mind the wonders of God.

When we remember and relive God's saving work in our lives, we also renew our trust in God. We bring God to mind constantly, whispering our thanks and being aware that God is still speaking and acting in our lives today.

FOR REFLECTION

What are some ways that you have seen God's mighty and wonderful work in your own life? How have you heard the voice of God?

YOUR COMMITMENT

Think back over the past week, right now as you sit reading. Think of the times when you may have felt God's hand or heard God's voice. Become aware of this and give thanks, especially on Sunday.

PARISHIONERS CORNER

PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

PARISHES: Tom Shea (son of Rosetta Shea), Peter Nytes, Benoit Stepka, Fr. Leo Huber, Debbie Pfannes (daughter of Joe & Nellie Carson), Dick Chodek, Sister Zaccheus Ryan, Joe Scheffler, Jim Lerschen, Lynn Lombardi, Fred Cross (father of Dan Cross), Darlene Delaney (aunt of Dan Cross), Lisa Baker (cousin of Dan Cross), Robert Lonergan (father of Vickie Cross), Tom Hatcher, Gloria Wagner, Joe Carson, Jerry & Audrey Dickie, David St. Aubin (brother of Doug St. Aubin), Stanley Moravec, Joseph Pesta (brother of Don Pesta).

HOLY FAMILY MINISTRY STATUE: A display of this statue can be seen in the back of church, the cost is \$35.00 each. Please sign the sheet if you would like to order one.

FUND FOR THE NEEDY: This weekend, December 15 & 16, we will have a second collection for the Fund for the Needy.

MEMORY ANGELS: During the Advent season *A Community Caring for Life* will be selling Memory Angels to affirm the lives

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2007

Confessions:		
Thur. Dec. 20	10:30-11:30 AM	St. Patrick
	6:30-7:30 PM	St. Catherine
Fri. Dec. 21	10:30-11:30 AM	St. Catherine
	6:30-7:30 PM	St. Patrick
Sat. Dec. 22	4:00-4:45 PM	St. Patrick
Masses: *Caroling one-half hour before masses on Christmas Eve.		
Mon. Dec. 24	5:00 PM	St. Catherine
	7:00 PM	St. Patrick
Tue. Dec. 25	8:30 AM	St. Catherine
	10:30 AM	St. Patrick
Mon. Dec. 31	5:00 PM	St. Patrick
Tue. Jan. 1	8:30 AM	St. Catherine
	10:30 AM	St. Patrick