

## EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	Dec. 03		NO MASS
Tuesday	Dec. 04		NO MASS
Wednesday	Dec. 05	6:00 PM (SP)	Corrine Bahn
Thursday	Dec. 06	8:30 AM (SC)	+Carolyn Rausch
Friday	Dec. 07	8:30 AM (SP)	Thoele Family
Saturday	Dec. 08	5:00 PM (SP)	+Erin Kreuser
Sunday	Dec. 09	8:30 AM (SC) 10:30 AM (SP)	+Art Schumann For Our People

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 8 & 9, 2018

### St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	12/08	Barbara Lewis, Dave Roach, Bill Weiers
	12/09	Leo & Gloria Jacques, Rob Puncochar
Lector	12/08	Lynne Hoffman
	12/09	Chad Sandey
Altar Servers	12/08	Bryce & Mason Deutsch, Joe Weiers
	12/09	Karlie & Sara Bjerke, Alycia Klegstad
Ushers	12/08	Mark Rezac, Matt Sirek
	12/09	Pat Puncochar, Norm Sticha

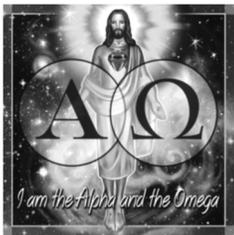
### St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	12/09	Joel & Deanna Vochoska, Joan Bruzek, Bill Dillingham
Lector	12/09	Laura Saarela
Altar Servers	12/09	Addey Vochoska
Ushers	12/09	Shawn O'Hern, Tim Saarela
Greeters	12/09	Kevin & Mary Kay Mahowald

*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! 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?

Dec. 3: Fr. William Martin, Dec. 4: Fr. Andrew McAlpinop, Dec. 5: Fr. Thomas McCabe, Dec. 6: Fr. James McClellan, Dec. 7: James McConville, Dec. 8: Fr. Patrick McCorkell, Dec. 9: Fr. Kevin McDonough.



**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 V XI, 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 THE MONTH OF

**DECEMBER:** \*Chad & Emily Sandey, Cody & Molly Schaefer, John & Patricia Scheffler, Phillip & Leanne Scheiber, Scott & Karla Schmidt, Paul & Diana Schoenbauer, San & Kerri Schoenbauer, Terrie Schoenbauer, Michael & Kristi Schulte, Chris & Shelley Shepherd. Altar Linens: Gail Cassidy.

**ST. PATRICK ADVENT BAKE SALE:** Saturday & Sunday, December 8 & 9. Proceeds will benefit New Prague Peace Center, New Prague Hope House, Scott County CAP Agency. Parishioners please donate your favorite homemade holiday goodies. Drop off baked items at Church (wrapped in plastic) Saturday 9:00 AM--noon or before either Mass.

**ST. PATRICK C.C.W.:** The next meeting is Monday, December 10th at 7pm in the Social Hall.

## APPALACHIA CHRISTMAS AND SHOE BOX MISSIONS

**THANK YOU:** The ACCW Appalachia Christmas and Shoe Box Mission Semi was a great success again this year. We had the semi here from Saturday, October 27 through Thursday, November 8th. We had it packed so good this year by the time it was at 49 feet we had more in than we sent last year and we still had our last day to go. My heartfelt thanks and prayers from the families and workers in Appalachia. They are so in need of our gifts and feel so blessed with the Minnesota generosity. Fr. Hoppenjans of Paintsville where our new delivery site is said the semi was there last Sunday and the football team from Paintsville unloaded on Monday. God Bless all of you and this Christmas know that you helped service God's poorest of the poor in our country. May the blessings of our Christ Child be and abide with you always. God Bless - Olive Hupf.

**PARISH LED LIGHTING PROJECT:** Have you noticed? The interior lighting in the church was converted over to new LED lamps in July prior to the festival. The new LED package was installed to provide uniformity of light in both color (Kalvin) and brightness (Lumens). LED lighting is not only very efficient, but it also has very long burn times and will save on long term maintenance costs. The total cost of the interior Lighting conversion was \$2700. We received a lighting rebate from MVEC in the amount of \$740.

### **Steeple Lighting (Phase II)**

We will also be replacing the interior light inside of the steeple and wiring the fixture with separate permanent switching. We will also be installing LED lighting to accent the exterior of the steeple and light the Cross. We anticipate a very nice lighted presence on top of the hill for St. Patrick's Church. The budget for the Phase II Steeple work is \$4500.

### **Parking Lot / Campus Lighting (Phase III)**

With the expansion of the handicapped and senior parking area, we recognize the need for better lighting at the lot to the North of the church. Simultaneously, night lighting on the Parish Office building and the Social Hall will be upgraded to LED lamps and fixtures as needed. This may include the addition of parking lot poles and LED fixtures. Budget range \$3500 - \$8500.

We have received some generous donations toward the LED project. If you would like to donate towards the LED project, please place donations in the collection basket and note LED Project on the envelope or check. You can also contact the

parish office to arrange payment. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

### **Stewardship of Treasure**

*"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"*

**Sunday Collection November 18, 2018**

Received this week.....\$ 1,869.00  
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 2,006.00  
LED Lighting Project collected.....\$ 5,500.00  
LED Lighting Project goal.....\$ 15,700.00



# ST. CATHERINE

## CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF

**DECEMBER:** Ken & Kathy Ceola, Greg & Deb Horejsi, Albert & Kristi Schneider.

**ST. CATHERINE C.C.W. CHRISTMAS PARTY:** Tuesday, December 4th at 6:30 PM at Margaret Sharkey's home. Bring an appetizer and a new gift for a senior (Gifts for Senior). All St. Catherine's women are invited. Disbursement of year end funds and election of out going officers (President & Vice President) will take place. Come and enjoy friends in a relaxing setting (no work). Rides can be provided if needed. Car pooling at church driveway.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to Kayden Nelson on his Baptism & Drake Nelson on his 1st Communion on Nov. 18th. God Bless!

### **Stewardship of Treasure**

*"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"*  
**Sunday Collection November 18, 2018**

Received this week.....\$ 980.50  
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 944.00



## PARISHIONERS CORNER

### PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR

**PARISHES:** Diane Sirek, Anne Weber (granddaughter of Sue Zender), Diane Curfman (Ev Nelson's sister) Denise Despenas (sister of Bonnie Theis) JoAnn Kenne, Virginia Beuch, Karen Zwebber, Richard Arens, Andrew Buckman, Fred Winker, Marsha Simon, Mary Lee Androli, Michael Zender, Daryl Sternitzke, Gerry Sandey, Amanda (Polson) Tinebra, Margo Mauser (sister of Kathy Prochaska) Annie Kelnhofer, Albert Braith, Douglas Van Moorlehem (brother of Jan St. Aubin), Carol Prochaska, Sharon Mastain (Carol Timmon's sister) Ann Pint, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, Alex Schlink, Cynthia Troendle, Pat Scharf, Gerry Jensen (Jan St. Aubin's cousin), Anikah Schmidt (great granddaughter of Bonnie Theis), Grace Bittner, Laura Stepka, Joe & Evelyn Scheffler, Jennifer Lonergan, John Thomas Byer.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wed. Dec. 5	5:30 PM	Sloppy Joe Dinner.
Wed. Dec. 5	6:45-8:00 PM	Class for grades 1-9.
Wed. Dec. 12	6:45-8:00 PM	Class for grades 1-9.
Sun. Dec. 15		Confirmation Retreat
Wed. Dec. 19	6:45-8:00 PM	Christmas Program

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

Tue. Dec. 4	S.C.	C.C.W. Christmas Party at Margaret Sharkey's home
Dec. 8 & 9	S.P.	C.C.W. Advent Bake Sale
Fri. Mar. 1	S.P.	Group I Fish Fry
Fri. Apr. 5	S.P.	Group II Fish Fry
Sun. July 21	S.P.	Parish Festival