

EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS

Monday	12/6	NO MASS		
Tuesday	12/7	5:00 PM	SP	+Joe Scheffler Family
Wednesday	12/8	8:30 AM	SC	+Russ Egan
		6:30 PM	SP	For Our Parishioners & Guests
Thursday	12/9	8:30 AM	SC	+Richard, Sophie & Steven Greger
Friday	12/10	NO MASS		
Saturday	12/11	5:00 PM	SP	+Erin Kreuser
Sunday	12/12	8:30 AM	SC	+Betty Zannmiller
		10:30 AM	SP	For Our Parishioners & Guests

LITURGICAL MINISTERS— December 7, 8, 11 and 12, 2021

St. Patrick

Extraordinary Ministers	12/7	Dan Cervenka
	12/8	Gloria Jacques
	12/11	Ron & Rosie Ryan
	12/12	Ron & Kathy McBroom
Lector	12/7	Shelley Shepherd
	12/8	Religious Education Students
	12/11	Shelley Shepherd
	12/12	Chad Sandey
Altar Servers	12/7	Volunteer
	12/8	Religious Education Students
	12/11	Volunteer
	12/12	Sara Bjerke, Alycia Klegstad
Ushers	12/7	Volunteer
	12/8	Religious Education Students
	12/11	Mark Rezac
	12/12	Norm Sticha

St. Catherine

Extraordinary Ministers	12/12	Rosie Nelson
Lector	12/8	Pat Schroeder
	12/12	Deanna Vochoska
Altar Servers	12/12	Volunteer
Ushers	12/12	Dave Nelson, Dave Koller
Greeters	12/12	Frank and Cathy Simons

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?

Dec. 5: Fr. Benjamin Wittnebel, Dec. 6: Fr. James Wolnik, Dec. 7: Fr. Timothy Wozniak, Dec. 8: Fr. Tim Wratkowski, Dec. 9: Fr. Timothy Yanta, Dec. 10: Fr. Joseph Zabinski, Dec. 11: Fr. Dennis Zehren.

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

Shine Brightly in the Darkness



As we move into the darkest time of the year light becomes more noticeable because of its absence. This happens not only in the physical realm but also in the intellectual, emotional, spiritual, and cultural realms as well. As the darkness increases the light becomes more desirable and needed. The greatest darkness right now is our culture and it is caused by the intellectual and spiritual darkness which envelopes so many people. Our technology is an instrumental cause of this because anyone can say anything they want regardless of the correlation to reality of their opinion. And the subjects that are in the spotlight are whatever the majority of the media decide to focus upon. Even when events determine the frontpage news a particular interpretation quickly emerges and the mob of the media demand conformity. I regularly see people in the media who have no ability to analyze events and ideas accurately. They do not belong in that line of work! Thankfully, our technology also gives us access to many bright and intelligent people who can thoughtfully and correctly shed light on events and ideas. The key is to find them. First, we must recognize that there is a great difference between someone who is smart and someone who is wise. There are many highly intelligent people who come to the wrong conclusions particularly when it comes to the spiritual realm. A genius who is an atheist is missing the fundamental cause of all existence. A wise person, however, does not have to be a genius, he or she acknowledges reality as it is; and reality includes, and is caused by God.

These are the people we should seek out and from whom we should learn: "Whoever is wise, stay close to him. Be eager to hear every godly discourse; let no wise saying escape you. If you see a man of prudence, seek him out; let your feet wear away his doorstep!" (Sirach 6:34-36). These are not only people in the present, but also those from the past. Two big influences in my life have been Benedict XVI and Archbishop Fulton Sheen as well as the great teachers that I had in philosophy and history at the College of St. Thomas from 1989-1992. There are excellent periodicals, websites, and publishers that give us access to many of these bright people. I am tempted to give more examples but there are so many that we really have reason to hope.

We must also recognize that bright people are not limited to the intellectual realm. There are also those who excel in holiness, especially the saints. We often can learn more from them by their lives than by their writings, and sometimes by both. These are people who lived their faith in the time that they lived. And this is what we are called to do: live the faith in our time. Challenge the darkness with

the light of faith. Pray. Learn. Use the Sacraments: the permanent ones that we have received – Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, Matrimony, and the ones that we can receive multiple times – Confession, Anointing, and especially the Most Holy Eucharist. God gave us everything we need to attain eternal life. “He is the maker of heaven and earth, God from God, Light from Light” (Credo). His “words will not pass away” (Mk. 13-31). The less that His words are not a part of people’s lives, the more that darkness will envelope the world and our culture. Still, we can always have hope because, “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it” (Jn 1:5). That light is Christ who is, “The light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life” (Jn 8:12). Because of this each of us has the potential and the hope to shine brightly in the darkness.

~Fr. Michael J. Miller

ST. PATRICK

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

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.

ELECTRONIC GIVING: Contributions can be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our electronic giving program offers convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our congregation. Authorization forms are available in the back of church. Authorization is also accessible through our website, www.stpandc.mn.org

MASS HELPERS NEEDED: We are looking for more Mass helpers. If interested, please contact Shelley Shepherd @ selesep@gmail.com.

THANK YOU: A thank you to FCSLA Life who donated \$600 to the Steak/Chicken Cook-out in October. We just received the check this past week.

Stewardship of Treasure

“Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts”

Weekly Budget Requirement:	\$ 2,400.00
11/21/21 Collection:	\$ 2,479.50
11/21/21 Parking Lot Donation:	\$ 100.00
11/28/21 Collection:	\$ 2,674.06



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.



WELCOME: We want to welcome Tim & Connie Sadusky and family to St. Catherine’s Parish.

Stewardship of Treasure

“Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts”

Weekly Budget Requirement:	\$ 1,160.00
11/21/21 Collection:	\$ 1,828.00
11/28/21 Collection:	\$ 754.00



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.



2022 ENVELOPES: Your offering envelopes are now available in the back of church to be picked up.

2022 MASS INTENTION CALENDAR: The 2022 Mass Intention Calendar is now open. Call or email the parish office to set them up.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses: Tuesday, December 7: 5:00pm at St. Patrick and Wednesday, December 8: 8:30am at St. Catherine and 6:30pm at St. Patrick.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Wednesday	12/8/2021	Mass at 6:30 PM
Sunday	12/12/2021	CGS Class 9:15-10:15 AM

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.