

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATIONS**

Monday	Dec. 7	6:00 PM (SC)	Aubre Barnd
Tuesday	Dec. 8	7:00 PM (SP)	+Erin Kreuser
Wednesday	Dec. 9	6:00 PM (SP)	+Fr. John F. Riley
Thursday	Dec. 10		NO MASS
Friday	Dec. 11		NO MASS
Saturday	Dec. 12	5:00 PM (SP)	+Erin Kreuser
Sunday	Dec. 13	8:30 AM (SC)	For our parishioners, guests, & visitors
		10:30 AM (SP)	+Harold & Della Schmitt

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 12 & 13, 2015**

**St. Patrick**

Extraordinary Ministers	12/12	Jim & Kelley DeGross, Tony Jirik
	12/13	Ron & Kathy McBroom, Everett & Joan Nelson
Lectors	12/12	Brianne Jirik
	12/13	Julie Volk
Acolytes	12/12	Hayden & Mason DeGross, Dan DeGross
	12/13	Alyssa Volk, Hannah Langeberg, Juliana Michels
Ushers	12/12	Roman Stepka, Matt Sirek
	12/13	Darryl Volk, Norm Sticha
Greeters	12/13	Dan & Deb Cervenka

**St. Catherine**

Extraordinary Ministers	12/13	Ken & Kathy Ceola, Bill Dillingham, Barbara Lerschen
Lector	12/13	Rachel Friske
Acolytes	12/13	Bryce Horejsi, Jonathan McCoy, Karen McCoy,
Ushers	12/13	Greg Horejsi, Steve Boeser
Greeters	12/13	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! 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 13, 2015  
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-18a  
Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7  
Gospel Reading: Luke 3:10-18

**ST. PATRICK DECEMBER 6, 2015**

**CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF**

**DECEMBER:** \*Chris & Lynn Meyer, Gary & Barbara Lewis, Dave & Tracy Luchsinger, Sparky & Susie Mahowald, Gregory & Heidi Michaelson, Tony & Kathee Michels, James & Amy Milinkovich, Jody & Roseann Morrell.  
Altar Linens: Gail Cassady.

**WILL YOU PRAY FOR A PRIEST EACH DAY?** Dec. 7: Fr. James Deegan, Dec. 8: Fr. Donald DeGroot, Dec. 9: Fr. Dennis Dempsey, Dec. 10: Fr. Ronald DesRosiers, Dec. 11: Fr. James Devorak, Dec. 12: Fr. William Deziel, Dec. 13: Fr. Peter Dinh. *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.*

**CHRISTMAS MUSIC REHEARSAL:** Anyone interested in joining the choir lead the music at the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses, please plan to attend the following rehearsals: Thursday, Dec. 17, 7:00 PM and Tuesday, Dec. 22, 7:00 PM at St. Patrick's Church. Singers and instrumentalists are welcome!

**PIANIST NEEDED!** The St. Patrick's Choir is looking for someone to accompany the choir on the keyboard for the Christmas morning Mass at 10:30 AM on Dec. 25th. Contact LuVerne at 612-619-1891, if you're willing to share your gift!

**DECORATE THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS:** Sunday, December 20, after the 10:30 AM Mass. All are welcome! Confirmation students are welcome to help for service hours.

**ST. PATRICK PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**& FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:** There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be Monday, January 18th at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall.

**Stewardship of Treasure**

*"Let us give back to God with Grateful Hearts"*  
Sunday Collection November 29, 2015

Received this week.....\$ 1,637.26  
Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,867.00  
Sunday Collection November 22.....\$ 2,742.00



**ST. CATHERINE**

**CHURCH CLEANING FOR THE MONTH OF**

**DECEMBER:** Steve & Jude Boeser, Ken & Kathy Ceola, Steve & Theresa Kavouras.

**ST. CATHERINE PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

**MEETING:** There will be no meeting in December. The next meeting will be Monday, January 25th at 7:00 PM.

**BAT EVICTION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:** Recently it was discovered that a large colony of bats have been living in the attic of St Catherine's Church. Bats are known to carry and transmit disease (such as rabies and histoplasmosis) so eviction is imperative. The eviction, abatement of all guano and insulation, sanitizing/deodorizing, and re-insulating will cost a total of \$13,645.80. A capital campaign has been initiated to cover these costs. If you wish to donate, please place your contribution in

the collection basket over the next couple of weeks and mark your envelope accordingly (your name and labeled "Bat Removal"). We will publish in the bulletin a running total of contributions weekly until we meet our goal. If you have further questions, contact Joe Williamson, Gary Korbel, or Tim Saarela.

**PRAY THE ROSARY:** The Blessed Mother, along with many contemporary saints, have stated the rosary is the most powerful weapon we have against evil. Please join us every Sunday after the 8:30 AM Mass to pray the rosary.

**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE COOKS FOR KIDS**

**EVENT:** The St. Catherine C.C.W. will be preparing and serving a meal on Friday, December 11 at the Ronald McDonald House in Minneapolis for families of children who are going through cancer treatments and transplants at the U of M Hospital. This is a fun and rewarding event, sharing time with families who are dealing with the tremendous stress of seeing their children suffer and fight for life each day. Pop can tabs are recycled by the House, so please save and leave in the back of church. Prep will begin at church at 1:30, with the meal being served at Ronald McDonald at 5:30. If you would like to be involved, there is a sign-up sheet in the back of church. Thank you for your help! Please direct your questions to Laura Saarela @ 952-440-3662.

**Stewardship of Treasure**

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

**Sunday Collection November 29, 2015**

Received this week.....\$ 720.87  
 Weekly budget requirement.....\$ 1,101.00  
 Sunday Collection November 22.....\$ 1,677.00

Immaculate Conception



**PARISHIONERS CORNER**

**PRAY FOR THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR**

**PARISHES:** Sharon Mastain (sister of Carol Timmons) Rosie Pexa, Ann Pint, Laura Ryan, Nicole Wood, Celeste Wilson, Dave Hover, Diane Hentges (Cathy Theis' sister), Jerry Cavanaugh (Jodie Puncochar & Jim Cavanaugh's dad), Alex Schlink, Ev Nelson, Mary Jane Keep, Paul Lambrecht, Braden Flicek, Cynthia Troendle, Pat Scharf, Beatrice Mushitz, Mike Zender, Jack & Jane Eiseman (parents of Jacque Bittner), Shannon Quinn, Rosetta Shea, Gerry Jensen (cousin of Jan St. Aubin), Therese Ryan, Florian Bauman (Bryan Bittner's uncle), Anikah Schmidt (great granddaughter of Bonnie Theis), Grace Bittner, Laura Stepka, Joe & Evelyn Scheffler, Benoit Stepka, Jennifer Lonergan, John Thomas Byer.

**SECOND COLLECTIONS:** This weekend, December 5 & 6, we will have a second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Next weekend, December 12 & 13, we will have a second collection for Christmas Flowers. Please use the envelope in your box for this collection. Thank you.

**INCLEMENT WEATHER:** If it is snowing, daily Mass will be cancelled (if there is no school, there will be no Mass). Father will say the Mass Intention at home. Notice: this is only for the weekday Masses.

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

Friday, February 5 S.P. Group I Fish Fry  
 Friday, March 11 S.P. Group II Fish Fry

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

Wed. Dec. 9	6:45-8:00 PM	Religious Education Class, Grades 1-9.
Sun. Dec. 13	10:30 AM	Christmas Program Practice. Sunday School.
Wed. Dec. 16	6:45-8:00 PM	Religious Education Class. Grades 1-9.
Wed. Dec. 16	7:00 PM	Christmas Program.
Sun. Dec. 20	10:30 AM	Sunday School.
Wed. Dec. 23	6:45-8:00 PM	NO Religious Education.
Sun. Dec. 27	10:30 AM	NO Sunday School.

**FROM THE PASTOR**

***Prepare the way of the Lord!***

*In the Gospel of the second Sunday of Advent we encounter the great and compelling figure of John the Baptist. He fulfills the prophecy of Isaiah as the voice crying out in the desert, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths." His unswerving dedication to the truth eventually caused his voice to be silenced by one who hated the truth he spoke. But Herodias, prevailing over Herod's weakness, and attaining her gruesome goal of having John's head on a platter, could only stop the physical sound of his voice. She could not stop the truth he spoke. "Prepare the way of the Lord!" It is an essential and enduring call of the season of Advent. Each one of us must prepare the way of the Lord in our hearts and lives.*

*We are all very used to the concept of preparation. We spend an enormous amount of time preparing for things: projects at work, papers and tests in school, weddings, dinners, entertaining, birthdays, Christmas, etc... If we know someone is coming over for dinner, even when they are familiar, we spend time in preparation. When the guest is special, we prepare even more carefully. Everything must be just right. Everything clean and in its place, and more than enough food and drink on hand. We would not say, "Come on in. Don't mind the mess. I'm sure we can find something in freezer to eat. Help yourself to whatever you find."*

*Yet that is exactly what we do to Christ, the greatest guest we will ever have, when we do not prepare for His coming. If we do not recognize and confess our sins, with the firm resolve to sin no more, we are saying to Him, "Come in, don't mind the mess." If we give Him a distracted minute or two of our day in prayer, or a begrudged hour of our week for Sunday Mass, are we not simply saying to Him, "You can have whatever part of my life that you can find, or, you can tag along, but don't get in my way"?*

*Advent challenges us to remember that we are always to live in the presence of God. Jesus once came into this world. He will come again. He desires to dwell in our hearts now. Sin, laziness, indifference, ignorance, hardness of heart, a harried life so filled with activities and entertainment that there is no room for Christ in our lives -- these are all obstacles that we must work to remove, so that when Christ comes, now and in the future, He will find us ready and eager to welcome Him. We must hear and heed the voice of John the Baptist, for he is speaking to us, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths."*