



S H P

Sacred Heart CATHOLIC CHURCH

323 North Taylor • Marengo, IL 60152 • 815-568-7878 • www.sacredheartmarengo.org

Reverend Matthew DeBlock Deacon Robert Anchor

Mass Times

Weekday

Monday - Friday 8:00 AM

Weekend

Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM,
1:30 PM (Spanish)

Holy Days: Mass schedule varies.
Please check bulletin, website or
call the Parish Office

Adoration

Wednesday 5:00-7:00 PM

First Friday 8:30 AM -12:00 PM

Confessions

Monday & Friday 7:30-7:50 AM

Wednesday 5:00-6:00 PM

Saturday 4:00-4:30 PM

Baptisms, Funerals, Holy Communion to the Homebound, Parish Registration, and Weddings

Please call the Parish Office for arrangements.

Bulletin Announcements

Bulletin Articles must be submitted in writing by 3:00 PM on Wednesdays or in email by 11:00 AM on Mondays. Pulpit Announcements must be submitted by 3:00 PM on Tuesdays. Our email address is sacredheart7929@sbcglobal.net.

St Vincent DePaul - 779-548-5057,
shdispatch@svdp-marengoil.org



4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

- Lk 1:41-42

DECEMBER 19, 2021

WORSHIP & MEDITATION

FIRST READING

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah
too small to be among the
clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel.
(Mi 5:1)

PSALM

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.
(Ps 80)

SECOND READING

"Then I said, 'As is written of me
in the scroll,
behold, I come to do your will,
O God.'" (Heb 10:7)

GOSPEL

"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of
your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should
come to me?" (Lk 1:42-43)

*Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001,
1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm
Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981,
1997, International Commission on English in the
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WE ARE GOD'S
INSTRUMENTS

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

St. Augustine tells us that a "Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps." As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life's necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world's ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn't God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world's ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God's vessel so that God's greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God's fix for the world's difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God's instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.



WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021

- Sunday:** Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
- Monday:** Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38
- Tuesday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
- Wednesday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56
- Thursday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
- Friday:** *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
- Saturday:** *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
- Next Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

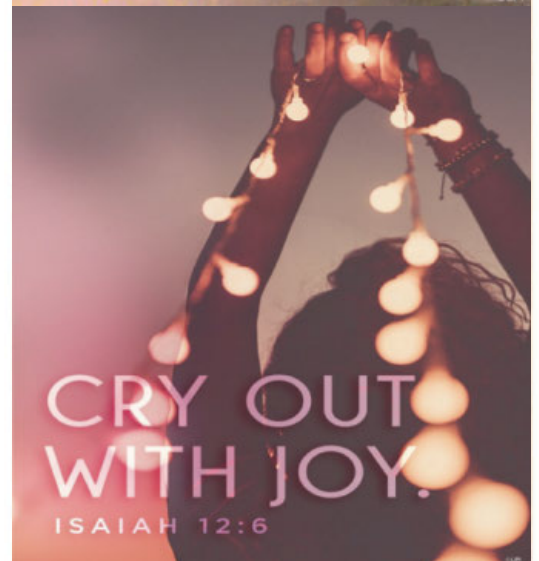
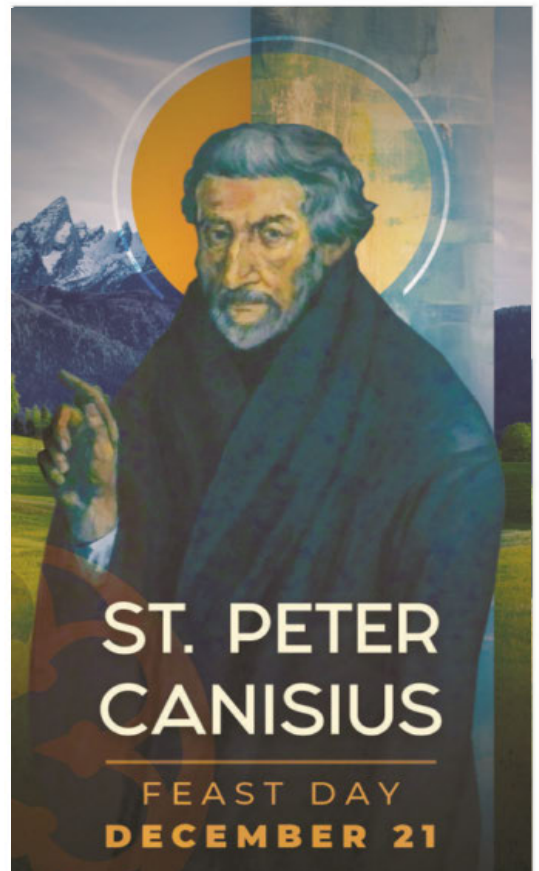
OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 19, 2021

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Advent
- Tuesday:** St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
- Thursday:** St. John of Kanty, Priest
- Friday:** Christmas Eve
- Saturday:** The Nativity of the Lord
- Next Sunday:** The Holy Family

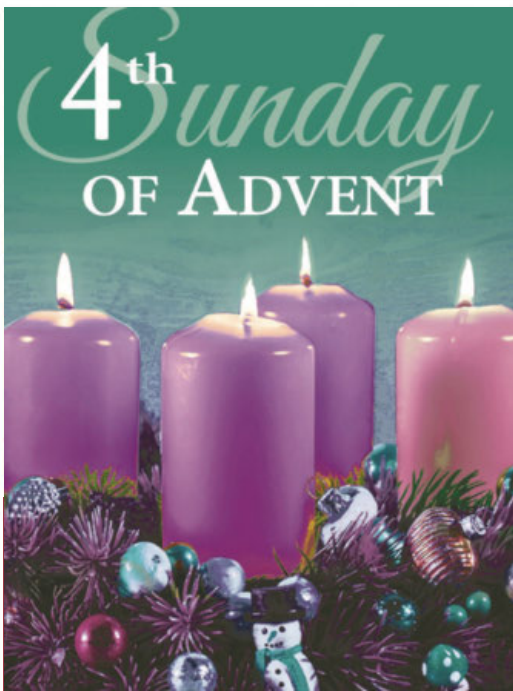
LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Did you ever find yourself wishing that God would just step in and fix all that is wrong with the world? After all, how much longer can all of this go on? There is so much inequity in life. Our world's political, economic, and environmental systems do not always serve the best interests of people. We read stories about injustice, disregard for human life, greed, heartache, and people being hurt and deprived every day. People are still starving and there is often little regard for human life. This is not the way God intended it to be. Realizing that we have caused most of these problems ourselves, we look to God for an answer and a way out of the difficulties we have created. Taking responsibility for our actions is not something that comes easily. What we fail to see is that God has already sent the answer in the person of Jesus Christ. God did fix our problem! Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of Justice to come into the world. We need to do the same. It is only by believing in, listening to, and acting upon what God has spoken that true peace will ever come to be, and God's fix be made known.



LITURGICAL LIFE



4th Sunday OF ADVENT

RESPECT LIFE

Respect Life and St. Vincent DePaul groups will be hosting an Outdoor Plant Sale this Spring!!! This is an event for the whole parish and community. Here is how it works: As you and your neighbors are cleaning up your yard this Fall, think about flower beds that you would like to share perennials from. Save containers such as Ice cream buckets, cottage cheese containers, milk jugs, used pots, etc. to plant your plants in to bring to the sale. The container is not as important as the plant. If you enjoy growing seedlings inside during the winter perhaps you could plant some extra to share at the sale. At a similar sale, people brought in tomato plants, zinnias, etc. in cups that they had started from seeds. The sale will be May 14 & 15. More information will be available as the event gets closer. If you have questions, please call Barb Weidner at 815-568-7217.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

"Believe the incredible and you can do the impossible." Fulton Sheen

No R.E. classes on Wednesday, December 22, Wednesday, December 29 and Sunday, December 26 for Christmas Break.

Open your heart at Christmas and not for just one day. Open your heart at Christmas, let this beautiful feeling stay. For caring, generosity and love, we treasure through the year. Don't wait until Christmas to share it with those you hold dear.

For unto us a Savior is born. Merry Christmas from all of us in the Religious Education office.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:30-7:50 AM Confessions

8:00 AM Mass

6:00 PM Posada Novena

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00 AM Mass

9:00 AM Adult Faith Formation

6:00 PM Posada Novena

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00 AM Mass

No RE Classes

6:00 PM Posada Novena

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:00 AM Communion Service

6:00 PM Posada

6:30 PM SVdP

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE

Parish Office Closed

4:00 PM Mass

12:00 AM Mass

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY

8:00 AM Mass

10:00 AM Mass

1:30 PM Spanish Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

THE HOLY FAMILY

7:30 AM Rosary

8:00 AM Mass

10:00 AM Mass

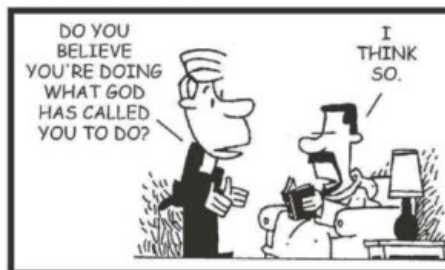
No RCIA Class

1:30 PM Spanish Mass

No Confirmation Classes

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE START A NEW MINISTRY CALLED THE SEVEN SISTERS OF THE APOSTOLATE

A Powerful New Ministry is starting at Sacred Heart Parish! This ministry is called The Seven Sisters Apostolate and its unique mission is a call to strengthen our pastor, Fr. Matthew DeBlock, by ensuring that one Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for his sole intentions. Ideally, Holy Hour is prayed before Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration. It may be prayed anywhere you can, ie home, car, church etc. The Holy Hour of prayer implores the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary for Father's needs. In strengthening our priest, we will strengthen the whole church, as he continually sacrifices his life to serve us in all our needs. Why pray for Father DeBlock? Because through prayer we will gain graces for him which otherwise he would not obtain. So if you feel called to pray one holy hour one day of the week for Father DeBlock as one the Seven Sisters that will form this Apostolate, please call 815-568-6230.



LITURGICAL LIFE



MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00 AM Edward Koteski (Family)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:00 AM Jim Schmid (Family)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

8:00 AM Barb Bigalke (Mike Bigalke)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

8:00 AM Communion Service

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM Jim Schmid (Family)

12:00 AM Living & Deceased Mothers of Sacred Heart Parishioners

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:00 AM Frances & Edward Sr. Fitzgerald (Ed Fitzgerald)

10:00 AM Marion Fruin (Friends & Family)

1:30 PM Sacred Heart Parishioners

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:00 AM Maria Gorecki (Betsy Sheehan & Family)

10:00 AM Karen Hartman (Alex & Deb Humeniak)

1:30 PM Sacred Heart Parishioners



HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

SUNDAY GIVINGS

Total number of registered families: 805

Needed to meet weekly budget: \$6,300.00

Given for December 11 & 12: **not available at time of print**

PRAYER CORNER

Please keep these and those previously listed people in your prayers.

Those who are ill: Rita Ahler, Art & Judy Anderson, Brenda Barr, Abby Burns, Karen Bruno, Terry Bychowski, Susan Criscione, Lucille Diedrick, Sylvia Drake, David Fitzgerald, Ed Fitzgerald, Ray Kasper, Barbara O'Neill, Judy Rochlitz, Jackie Shanks, Betty Jean Smith, Oscar Trevino, Shirley Waldoch.

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