

# ST. ANN CATHOLIC CHURCH



16550 290TH STREET  
LONG GROVE, IOWA 52756

Phone: 563-285-4596

Website: [www.stannslonggrove.org](http://www.stannslonggrove.org)

E-mail:

[secretary@stannslonggrove.org](mailto:secretary@stannslonggrove.org)

Office Hours:

Mon. – Thurs: 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Fri. – 8:00 a.m. - Noon

Masses:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

## DECEMBER 25, 2021 THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



### THE NATIVITY *of the Lord*

"For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you  
who is Christ and Lord." - Lk 2:11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

### **MASSES THIS WEEK:**

**There will be NO  
8:30 a.m. Mass  
December 28-31.**

**NO 4:00 p.m. MASS ON  
NEW YEARS EVE, or ON  
NEW YEARS DAY MORNING.**

**JANUARY 1—Saturday Mass  
at 4:00 p.m.**

**JANUARY 2  
—Sunday Masses  
at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.**

### **Year End Donations For 2021 Due By December 31:**

**As we prepare for the  
year end, please be  
mindful that donations  
must be received, or  
**postmarked, if mailed**, by  
December 31, in order to  
be deductible in 2021. If  
postmarked and received  
after 12/31/21, regardless  
of when the check is  
dated, the donation will be  
deductible in 2022.**

**The office will be  
closed from  
December 27 - 31.**

# THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THIS WEEK:

12/25 Sat **NO 4:00 p.m. MASS**  
12/26 Sun Eldon Arensdorff 8:00 a.m.  
12/26 Sun People of the Parish 10:30a.m.  
12/28 Tue **NO 8:30 a.m. MASS**  
12/29 Wed **NO 8:30 a.m. MASS**  
12/30 Thur **NO 8:30 a.m. MASS**  
12/31 Fri **NO 8:30 a.m. MASS**  
1/1 Sat People of the Parish 4:00 p.m.  
1/2 Sun Jerry Vollbeer 8:00 a.m.  
1/2 Sun Frances & Elma 10:30 a.m.  
Costello

Please contact the office if you are interested in requesting a Mass be said for a friend or loved one. Mass offering is \$5.00.

## WEEKLY OFFERINGS:

Fiscal year is

**July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022**

### ENVELOPES/AUTOMATED GIVING:

December 18-19 Not available

### As of December 12:

YTD collection: \$ 203,280.00  
Goal for YTD: \$ 232,680.00  
Goal for fiscal year \$ 504,122.00  
**UNDER Goal: \$ -29,401.00**

For July 1, 2021 –June 30, 2022 Fiscal Year

### DEBT RETIREMENT:

As of December 1, 2021

Total for November \$ 15,747.00  
Monthly payments YTD: \$ 68,750.00  
Collected YTD: \$ 60,752.00  
**UNDER Goal: \$ -7,998.00**

### ROOF REPLACEMENT:

As of December 1, 2021: \$79,949.00  
On-line giving is available as are stock donations. Contact the office for more information.

## ST. ANN BULLETIN DEADLINES:

**ALL INFORMATION DUE BY  
9:00 a.m. on the date listed!**

January 9 bulletin- due December 29  
January 16 bulletin—due January 6

Please send all bulletin information to  
[secretary@stannslonggrove.org](mailto:secretary@stannslonggrove.org)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
COOPERATION!**

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF:

**December 24—Christmas Eve—The Nativity of the Lord**  
Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalm 96:1-3, 11-13; Titus 2:10-11;  
Luke 2:1-14

**December 25— Christmas Day— The Nativity of the Lord**  
Isaiah 62:11-12; Psalm 97:1, 6, 11-12; Titus 3:4-7;  
Luke 2:15-20

**December 26 -The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**  
1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28; Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10;  
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

Monday: 1 John 1:1-4; Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; John 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 John 1:5-2:2; Psalm 124:2-5, 7c-8; Matthew 2:13-18

Wednesday: 1 John 2:3-11; Psalm 96:1-3, 5b-6; Luke 2:22-35

Thursday: 1 John 2:12-17; Psalm 96:7-10; Luke 2:36-40

Friday: 1 John 2:18-21; Psalm 96:1-2, 11-13; John 1:1-18

Next week: January 1-2 — The Epiphany of the Lord  
Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13;  
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12

## UP-COMING EVENTS, MEETINGS:

**The St. Ann office will be closed  
December 24-31.**

No 8:30 a.m. Mass 12/28-12/31

## Lector & Eucharistic Minister Schedule

### Christmas Eve – December 24

**4:00 p.m.:** Betty Zimmer, Jane Bergendahl,  
Jennifer Rochholz, Brian Murphy, Lois Nagle,  
Nancy Shannon

**7:00 p.m.:** Pat Limberg, Chris Hoeger, ????,  
Jayne Dierickx, ????, Mike Limberg

### Christmas Day – December 25

**9:00 a.m.:** Pat Dierickx, Kelly Cole, Cindy Grems,  
Karen Wyatt, Thade Gottschalk, Kelly Cole

**Saturday, December 25—NO 4:00p.m. MASS**

### December 26

**8:00 a.m.:** Darla Zrostlik, Betty Zimmer, Sue & Dan Ferry,  
Chris Hoeger, Chris Green

**10:30 a.m.:** Jenna Cole, Brenda Kroeger, Thade Gottschalk,  
Cindy Wolf, Jeff Liske, Kelly Cole

### January 1

**4:00 p.m.:** Kelly Greenleaf, Mary Gross, Lora & Pat Dierickx,  
Karen Wyatt, Inez Tobin

### January 2

**8:00 a.m.:** Jayne Dierickx, Marc Carlson, Kathy Clasen,  
Joe Loussaert, Rita Pacha, Dan Ferry

**10:30 a.m.:** Maddie & Meara Gottschalk, Abby Costello,  
Kyrnan Liske-Rochholz, Thade Gottschalk,  
Karen VanDeCastele

## PARISH HAPPENINGS

**4th GRADE NATIVITY SETS:** Adelyn DeLoe, Lauren Westhoff, Samantha Mussack, and Paige McMann show off their graham cracker and gum drop Nativity building project. Members of the 4th Grade class made Nativity sets out of gum drops, graham crackers, frosting and mini marshmallows.



### FAITH FORMATION NEWS:

Faith Formation would like to wish you and your family a very *Happy and Blessed New Year!*

We will resume classes on **Sunday, January 9, 2022.** Third Graders will lead Mass on January 23.

### EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP: STEWARDSHIP TIES:

There is a lot of imagery around Christmas that has to do with adoption — or, more specifically, with a child being loved by another as if they belonged to that person and loved in such a profound way that in time, they do come to belong to that person.

We see this with Joseph and the infant Jesus. Joseph is not Jesus' biological father. But through a series of actions, and through his faithfulness in small, everyday matters, Joseph becomes the foster father of Jesus.

Perhaps we are parents who have adopted children, or we ourselves were adopted. We have also seen how, through a series of actions of love and sacrifice, someone can become the parent of a person who is not their "blood." A lot of times these families celebrate the day of the adoption. I've heard it called a "gotcha day," and it's marked joyously, like a birthday. Most of us are not descended from the Israelites, God's Chosen People. But through a series of extraordinary actions of love and sacrifice, God has made Himself our parent, too. And through our own actions, and through faithfulness in small and everyday matters, we are His children.

But in this family, instead of blood ties, we have stewardship ties. It's not about who we look like, it's about how we treat one another. How we take care of one another. So this Christmas, let's think about how we will celebrate our adoption. As much as it is Jesus' birthday, it's also our "gotcha day" — the day we received the gift of eternal family.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



Members of St. Ann Guild enjoyed a holiday luncheon at the Blackhawk Bistro on December 8. A good meal and good fellowship was enjoyed by all.

## St. Ann Staff 563-285-4596

Fr. Joseph Wolf, Pastor [wolf@diodav.org](mailto:wolf@diodav.org)  
Sally Schulz, [schulz@stannslonggrove.org](mailto:schulz@stannslonggrove.org)  
Director of Music Ministries  
Michele Burkhiser [mburkhiser@stannslonggrove.org](mailto:mburkhiser@stannslonggrove.org)  
Bookkeeper  
Nancy Shannon, Jane Bergendahl – Secretary-Office Manager  
[secretary@stannslonggrove.org](mailto:secretary@stannslonggrove.org)  
Dwight Gittings, Maintenance Manager

### Ministers of Faith Formation

Joyce Kloft, Pre-K/Grades 1-6 [jkloft@stannslonggrove.org](mailto:jkloft@stannslonggrove.org)  
Julia Jones, Grades 7-12 [jjones@stannslonggrove.org](mailto:jjones@stannslonggrove.org)  
Candy Boucher, Adult Faith [cboucher@stannslonggrove.org](mailto:cboucher@stannslonggrove.org)

**Parish Council:** - Jennifer Rochholz, President  
Darla Zrostlik, Vice President  
Cynthia Gremms – Secretary

Dave Boeding – Finance  
Cynthia Gremms – Liturgy  
Eric Hansen- Buildings & Grounds  
Jeff Liske – Buildings and Grounds  
Holly Loussaert – Social Action  
Jennifer Rochholz – Church Life / Family Life  
Ron Sebastian – Knights of Columbus  
Darla Zrostlik – Stewardship

### Student Members of Parish Council:

Hudson Davis Travis Miller

*Lectors/Eucharistic Ministers:* Nancy Shannon 563-340-7350  
*Altar Servers:* Kathy Linderman-Hill 563-940-8058

### Finance Council

Mike Bauer	340-1206	David Boeding	289-3190
Roger Boussetot	847-5887	Mary Ann Curran	285-8739
Mary Beth Madden	285-6468	Julie Newell	285-6498
Joe Ragona	349-9272	Fr. Joseph Wolf	285-4596

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Merry Christmas! There is something sacred about sun when it dances upon a field of newly iced snow. Lights and colors bounce around in myriad ways flashing prisms of beauty as if in tune with the rhythm of a melodic dance. The Word became flesh and now dwells among us. Humanity can now dance. We sparkle with the beauty and radiance of God and can now walk through life with confidence knowing that we have been divinely kissed. It is a sacred moment, a holy marriage between God and His sons and daughters.

All is bright and all is well. Today we celebrate who we are in Christ and rest safely in God's care. God's presence, revealed in the humble birth of His Son, dances in our hearts, calling us to beauty, truth, purpose, and love. Today we know, without doubt, that we are not the product of the rambling offerings of a universe that created itself. We are loved, treasured, and blessed. We have a Savior who can show us the way. Accept him.

## **GOSPEL MEDITATION**

### **The Nativity of the Lord**

**“He so loved us that for our sake He was made man in time, through Whom all times were made; was in the world less in years than His servants, though older than the world itself in His eternity; was made man, Who made man; was created of a mother, whom He created; was carried by hands which He formed; nursed at the breasts which He had filled; cried in the manger in wordless infancy, He the Word without Whom all human eloquence is mute (St. Augustine, Sermon 188).”**

**The miracle of what happens at Christmas is truly an awesome mystery. Revealed in the silent ordinariness of life is God’s intimate love for humanity and all that he made. The Word, existing for all time, comes and dwells among us. God kisses us. We can seek and soar with playful delight as a joy never known before fills our heart.**

**Joy is best expressed through dance. There is just something truly wonderful about the self-abandon a beautiful melodic dance reveals. If we are able to let go and really be free, it celebrates life in a way few other experiences really can. With the birth of Jesus Christ, God takes the Divine Dance to a deeper and more tangible level. We can now not only see what we believe but believe what we see! This most perfect dance is a call to beauty, innocence, truth, purpose, hope, faith, and love. Today we know, beyond doubt, that we are a necessary part of God’s beautifully choreographed masterpiece of life and not just a random happening without real intent or purpose. We are loved, treasured, and blessed.**

**Accepting the truth of God’s birth in time we also accept an invitation to dance with God. We can let go of what tethers us to anxious concerns and superficial securities. Throw caution to the wind and go with God. We have been blessed with talents, gifts, and life eternal. Follow the rhythm of the dance with joy and listen to what the Word who became flesh tells us about what the next steps can be. Today, heaven remains the same, but earth has been profoundly changed.**

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