



# ST. PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

~ *St. Charles Borromeo, Haiti, Sister Parish* ~

THE LOVE OF CHRIST IMPELS US TO BE  
A UNITED PEOPLE TO SERVE OUR GOD

December 19, 2021

## WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday at St. Paul Gym  
4:00 pm

Sunday at KC HALL  
7:00 am, 8:30 am & 10:00 am

DAILY MASSES  
Please see page 10

CONFESSIONS  
at Parish Life Center  
Saturday: 3:00-until all are heard  
OR Anytime by appointment

## Our Mission

Embrace the God who loves you;  
Engage in our community that  
journeys with you;  
Serve the world that needs you.  
This is the heart and soul of what  
we are about as faithful followers of  
Jesus Christ at St. Paul Parish in  
Highland, Illinois.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 8:00 am—4:30 pm  
Friday: 8:00 am—3:00 pm

## CONNECT

Phone: 618-654-2339  
Fax: 618-654-9980  
Website: [www.stpaulhighland.org](http://www.stpaulhighland.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/  
StPaulCatholicChurchHighland](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulCatholicChurchHighland)  
Address: 1412 9th Street,  
Highland, IL 62249

# Fourth Sunday of Advent

## A reading from the Book of Micah

*Mi 5:1-4a*

Thus says the LORD: 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; whose origin is from of old, from ancient times. Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time when she who is to give birth has borne, and the rest of his kindred shall return to the children of Israel. He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the LORD, in the majestic name of the LORD, his God and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

**The Word of the Lord R: Thanks Be to God**

### Responsorial Psalm:

***Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.***

## A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews

*Heb 10: 5-10*

Brothers and sisters: When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight. Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll, behold, I come to do your will, O God.'" First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings, holocausts and sin offerings, you neither desired nor delighted in." These are offered according to the law. Then he says, "Behold, I come to do your will." He takes away the first to establish the second. By this "will," we have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

**The Word of the Lord R: Thanks Be to God**

## A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

**R: Glory to You, O Lord** *Lk 1:39-45*

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 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. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

## The Gospel of the Lord

**R: Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ**

## Advent Gathering Song

Come, come Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel.

1. For the Lord of creation will come.
2. Oh the son of Mary will come.
3. See God's marvelous deeds come.
4. For God chose us, and so we will come.
5. For the angel proclaims he will come.
6. As the servants of God we come.

Lord, have mercy upon us and come.  
Christ, have mercy up on us and come.  
Lord, have mercy upon us and come.

## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel, That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel, Shall come to you, O Israel.

2. O come, O Wisdom from on high, Who order all things mightily; To us the path of knowledge show, And teach us in her ways to go.
3. O come, O come, great Lord of might, Who to your tribes on Sinai's height. In ancient times once gave the Law. In cloud and majesty and awe.
4. O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem, From ev'ry foe deliver them. That trust your mighty power to save, And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
5. O come, O Key of David, come, And open wide our heav'nly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And close the path to misery.

## Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of death. Amen.

Refrain

Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star, so strong and bright, gentle Mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom; teach us love.

1. You were chosen by the Father; you were chosen for the Son. You were chosen from all women and for woman, shining one.
2. Blessed are you among women, blest in turn all women, too. Blessed they with peaceful spirits. Blessed they with gentle hearts.

## **People, Look East**

1. People, look east. The time is near Of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, Trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, One more seed is planted there: Give up your strength the seed to nourish, That in course the flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the nest that must be filled. Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen. People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way.
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim One more light the bowl shall brim, Shining beyond the frosty weather, Bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.
5. Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth. Set every peak and valley humming With the word, the Lord is coming. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

## **O Come, Divine Messiah**

1. O come, Divine Messiah, The world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph, And sadness flee away.

Dear Savior, haste! Come, come to earth. Dispel the night and show your face, And bid us hail the dawn of grace. O come, Divine Messiah, The world in silence waits the day When hope shall sing its triumph, And sadness flee away.

2. O come Desired of nations, Whom priest and prophet long foretold, Will break the captive fetters, Redeem the long-lost fold.

Dear Savior, haste!...

3. O come in peace and meekness, For lowly will your cradle be: Though clothed in human weakness We shall your Godhead see.

Dear Savior, haste!...

## **Ave Maria**

1. Hail Mary full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among all women, Blest is the fruit of your womb. Jesus, formed in your faith, Ave Maria alleluia. Jesus, born in your love, Ave Maria alleluia.

2. Holy Mary mother of God, the Lord is with you. Pray for us sinners, pray for us sinners, Now and at the hour of our death. Jesus, formed in your faith...

## **Servant Song**

1. What do you want of me, Lord? Where do you want me to serve you? Where can I sing your praises? I am your song. Jesus, Jesus, you are the Lord. Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

2. I hear you call my name, Lord, and I am moved within me. Your Spirit stirs my deepest self. Sing your songs in me. Jesus, Jesus, you are my Lord. Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

3. Above, below and around me, before, behind and all through me, your Spirit burns deep within me. Fire my life with your love. Jesus, Jesus, be the warmth of my heart. Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

4. You are the light in my darkness. You are my strength when I'm weary. You give me sight when I'm blinded. Come, see for me. Jesus, Jesus, you are my Light. Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

5. I am your song and servant, singing your praise like Mary. Surrendered to your Spirit, "Let it be done to me." Jesus, Jesus, "Let it be done to me." Jesus, Jesus, you are the way.

## **Holy is His Name**

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord  
And my spirit exalts in God my Savior  
For He has looked with mercy on my lowliness  
And my name will be forever exalted  
For the mighty God has done great things for me  
And His mercy will reach from age to age  
And holy, holy, holy is His name

He has mercy in every generation  
He has revealed His power and His glory  
He has cast down the mighty in their arrogance  
And has lifted up the meek and the lowly  
He has come to help His servant Israel  
He remembered His promise to our fathers

And holy, holy, holy is His name  
Holy, holy, holy is His name



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## Fr. Pat's Pen

Fr. Pat Jakel, Pastor

*Written in the Love of Christ*



## SEMINARIAN STEFAN CAR FUND

<b>Total Need:</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>
<b>Your Generosity thus far:</b>	<b>\$29,053</b>
<b>Balance hoped for:</b>	<b>\$ 947</b>



We are almost there! If you would like to offer a donation, place in an envelope marked "Stefan's Car." Thanks so much!

**ADORATION, BENEDICTION,  
VESPERS (evening prayer) and  
CONFESSIONS**

**Thurs., Dec. 23; 5:30pm - 7:30pm**  
**St. Paul Church (Yes, the Church)**  
**Led by Fr. Kosk and Fr. Pat**

### PLANNING AHEAD

God-willing, we will be in our newly renovated Church on Christmas Eve!

### POLISH MOTHERS COMING TO AMERICA!

Fr. Kosk & Stefan can't wait until their mothers arrive to celebrate Christmas & New Years with them, and us! Their moms will be staying at the rectory. If you can offer donations for groceries, that would be great, in an envelope marked "Polish Food." Christmas goodies are awesome too! Also, if it is in your means & heart to offer a donation for their \$800/each airline tickets, that would be appreciated, in an envelope marked "Polish Moms." I know we can still show them a great time! Thanks!

### COMING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

#### CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

4:00pm	St. Paul Church (LIVE-STREAMED)
4:15pm	K of C Hall
6:00pm	St. Paul Church
11:00pm	St. Paul Church



#### CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

8:30am	St. Paul Church
10:00am	St. Paul Church

#### WEEKDAY MASS REMAINS AT MERIDITH F.H.

Construction and noise will continue, even after we move back into the church. As a result, weekday Masses will be at the funeral home through January, so the workers can start their day at the usual 6:00 - 7:00am time. However, School and weekend Masses will be held in the church. Wednesday morning Mass will be at the Hosp. Chapel. We thank Meridith's for their generosity and hospitality!

#### CHRISTMAS MASS CARPOOL

Please join with others to ride together to Christmas Masses at St. Paul Church. Parking will definitely be at a premium!

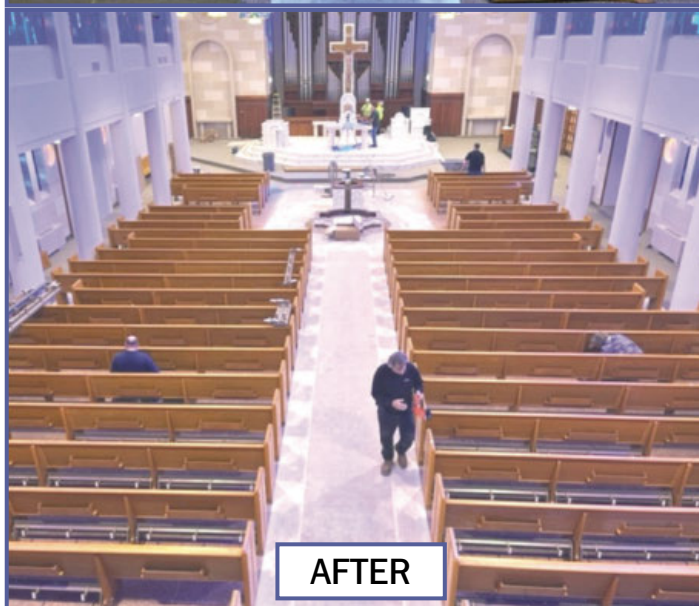


**BRING A GIFT FOR JESUS  
URGENT: KNIGHTS OF  
COLUMBUS & HIGHLAND  
FOOD PANTRY NEED HELP**

All Christmas Mass attendees are asked to bring: paper towels, toilet paper, Kleenex, body wash, deodorant, shampoo and toothpaste to help the KCs help our Highland Food Pantry. The need is great!!! Place these items in the west devotional niche. Thank you for responding to those in need!



BEFORE



AFTER



Parochial Vicar

## Fr. Piotr Kosk

**A**dvent is synonymous with the hope of Christ's return. He constantly comes to us in His Word, in the holy sacraments. However, we also look forward to His final coming at the end of time, when we will finally all know the whole truth about God. Therefore, during Advent, the Word of God sets before the faithful the task of increased spiritual vigilance, of opening our hearts and minds to Christ. We are to be well prepared to meet the Lord, so that this day will not surprise us "like a thief in the night." Advent liturgy invites us to seek and discover closeness to God, to recognize the signs of His presence in the history of the world and humanity. Accepting and meditating on this truth every day, especially in the difficult moments of our everyday life, we need to realize that Christ Himself fills the hearts of believers with hope and joy.

"The Lord is near" (Phil 4:5), this is the truth from which man should draw confidence and comfort. In today's difficult reality, this truth must be rediscovered. The Church, better than any institution, knows the suffering and anxieties of modern man; therefore, she constantly proclaims that only Christ is the true liberator of man, sent by God to free him from the bonds of death and evil.

During Advent we prepare ourselves to relive the mystery of the birth of Christ, in which God's love for man is revealed. In Jesus, God becomes one of us; He shares our joys and sufferings, fears, and hopes. His work will be crowned with the victory of life and love. He is Emmanuel – God with us, such is the joyful conviction of the Church from the very beginning, since "He celebrates

the great mystery of godliness, Christ who is revealed in the flesh. . ." (CCC 463).

In Jesus, God not only reminds us of His covenant, but guides our paths towards holiness, justice, and peace.

The task of the Church is to remember this presence until the end of the world. In Christ, we can find inner harmony, the strength we need to face the challenges of everyday life. The expected Jesus is not a figure from the past, but is a light that constantly enlightens the path of every human being. Jesus is close to every moment of our lives, both in terms of the night in Bethlehem and in view of the final coming at the end of time.

In Christ, eternity enters mortality, and mortality enters eternity. The history of man becomes the history of God. In order to explore this line of reasoning, it is necessary to adopt an attitude of deep and trusting faith and prayer. Only in this way we can prepare a

place for Christ in our hearts. "My people will live in the capital of peace, in safe homes. . ." (Is 32:18). During the Advent season, we should ask with confidence and join the saving plan of the Creator. We should be apostles of peace, justice, hope, and love. The Son of God became man, and in Him man becomes truly a child of God. Christ is near, and He comes in the power of the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Good News, to heal and liberate, to proclaim grace and salvation, "so that on the night of Bethlehem to begin the work of redeeming the world, the Lord is near. He comes to save us."

"The Lord is near"  
(Phil 4:5)



## Financial Stewardship December 12, 2021

### PARISH SUPPORT

Church Envelopes	\$13,498
Online Giving	9,023
Children's Offertory	24
Loose Collection	430
Repairs & Maintenance	303
Immaculate Conception	837
Christmas Decorations	559
Christmas Collection	96
Solemnity of Mary	1

**TOTAL PARISH SUPPORT** **\$24,770**

**NEEDED FOR BUDGET WEEKLY** **\$20,192**

**This week's shortage/overage** **\$4,578**

**Year-to-date shortage (since 7-1-21)** **-\$32,997**

### OTHER COLLECTIONS

Sister Parish	\$3,440
St. Paul Outreach	1006
Campaign for Justice and Hope	614
Retirement Fund for Religious	1,250
Catholic Children's Home	166

**TOTAL OTHER COLLECTIONS** **\$6,476**

**Diocesan Tithe this Week** **\$2,477**

**Diocesan Tithe to date (since 7-1-21)** **\$45,173**

## Capital Campaign Update

**TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL** **\$7,500,000**

Pledged (incl. non-pledged contributions) \$7,388,542

Received \$5,883,694

**Still Needed** **\$1,616,306**

Expenditures:

Previous Campus Phases Expense 1,810,848

Phase 3 (New Bldg./Church Renovation) 2,680,322

**Total Expenditures** **\$4,491,170**

Our Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 20th for moving back into the Church. If you need a priest, you can call the parish office at 654-2339 and press 1, if you would like to leave a message for the parish office, please press 0. Thank you for your patience as we transition back into church.

## Business Office



Dineen Czar  
Executive Manager



Laurie Scott  
Accountant

### This Week's Buzz from our Business Office:

For those wishing to make an end-of-the-year monetary donation to St. Paul, please do so on or before 12pm on Thursday, December 30<sup>th</sup>, to ensure that your payment is timely processed and included on your 2021 contribution statement.



Donations may be brought to the Parish Office on or before December 23<sup>rd</sup>, placed in the drop box outside of the Parish Office or in the collection basket, or made online.

Feel free to call if you have any questions regarding your 2021 donations or capital campaign status. Your Parish thanks you for your continued support and wishes you a blessed (and shiny!!) New Year!!

Shine On in 2022!!

### Altar Server Group Christmas Pizza Party and Movie

– All altar servers are invited to a Christmas pizza party and movie on December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5pm in the Parish Life Center. Please RSVP to the Parish Office by December 21<sup>st</sup>. Come join us for an evening of fun and fellowship as we celebrate our new group!

**Next Altar Training Session** - The next training session of Fr. Kosk's altar server group will be held on **Thursday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>, from 10:30am-11:30am, in church.**

New and returning altar servers in Grades 4 through 12 are welcome, even if a student has missed previous sessions. This session will be especially important as we return to celebrate the Mass in our newly renovated worship space. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting!



**The Parish Office will be closed  
from December 24 thru 31.**



# St. Paul Catholic School

Haidee Todora

## VIKING NIGHT DINNER AUCTION

Reservations are being accepted for the 2022 Viking Night Dinner Auction at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Saturday, January 22, 2022. Tickets are \$50 per person or \$400 per table for up to ten people. Use the following link to pay by credit card:

<https://stpaulhighland.weshareonline.org/>

OR

Checks can be mailed to:  
St. Paul Catholic School  
1416 Main Street  
Highland, IL 62249

For more information, call the school office at 654-7525.

## UPCOMING DATES



December 22—1:35 Early Dismissal  
(No PM Bus and No PM VKC)

December 23—January 3—Christmas Vacation

January 22—Viking Night Dinner Auction

March 27—Annual 6th Grade Spaghetti Dinner



### Christmas Cards for Sale!

Help families in need this Christmas season by purchasing a box of Christmas cards designed by our very own St. Paul School students! A box of 10 professionally printed cards with envelopes are available in the school and parish offices for \$20 each.

Thank you!



Fourth grade students eager to learn about their faith in Mr. Hopfinger's Religion Class.



Are you wrapping presents and can't find the right size box?

**We can help.**

The School Office has 39 gallon red holiday bags (32" x 45") available for \$1 ea.



The Annual St. Paul School Dinner Auction is fast approaching. We are seeking unique donations for the silent and live auctions to make the event fun and entertaining. All monetary donations and donated items are tax-deductible. Donations may be brought to the school or parish offices by January 1 in order to prepare for the January 22 event.

Thank you in advance for your continued generosity in making this Dinner Auction a great success and for supporting St. Paul Catholic School.

For more information, please call the school office at 654-7525 or email: [rmitchell@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:rmitchell@stpaulhighland.org).



Pastoral Associate for Pastoral Care and Spirituality  
**Lorraine Senci**

**CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS** – We want to ensure that any adult – **high-school age and older** – who is not yet Confirmed has the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Some adults “missed” this Sacrament if their family moved or changed schools at a time when formation was offered.



**On Sunday, January 9, from 11a.m.-12:30p.m.** we will offer a preparation session at St. Paul for those adults who wish to be **Confirmed on Saturday, Feb. 5, 10 a.m. at the Cathedral of Immaculate Conception in Springfield.**

In the Sacrament of Confirmation, “the baptized person is ‘sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit’ and is strengthened for service to the Body of Christ” (*United States Catholic Catechism for Adults, page 203*). This Sacrament strongly helps us as individuals and as a community as we live out Baptismal promises.

Please e-mail Molly Korte at [mkorte@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:mkorte@stpaulhighland.org) or Lorraine Senci at [lsenci@stpaulhighland.org](mailto:lsenci@stpaulhighland.org) or call the Parish Office, 654-2339, if you would like to register for the Confirmation for Adults session that will be **Sunday, January 9, from 11a.m.-12:30p.m.**



**Diocesan Gospel Reflection**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent – December 19**

**Leaping for Joy.** Let us take our cue from the six-month gestating baby in the womb of Elizabeth leaping for joy on encountering the Lord and the one who brings him. Let us sing again and again all week the antiphon of the psalm: “Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.”

- ◆ How can I keep looking for the face of Christ in those around me?
- ◆ Whom will I visit, even virtually if needed, to help in some way?
- ◆ How can I get to Christmas Day in peace?



**ADVENT**




HOPE. LOVE. JOY. PEACE.

**Help needed with Holyday**

Dec. 31-Jan. 1	Friday, 4:00 PM	Saturday, 8:30 AM
Server	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED
Lector	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED
EMHC	Derek Kloss NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED
Hospitality Leader	NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED
Hospitality Minister	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED

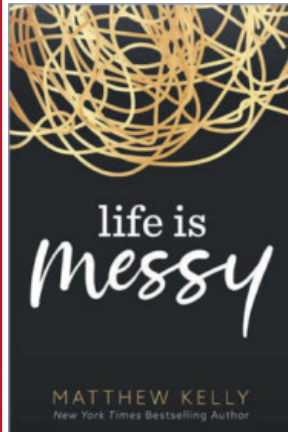
**Help needed with Christmas Masses**

Dec. 24-25	Friday, 4:00 PM Christmas Eve	Friday, 4:15pm KC Hall	Friday, 6:00 PM Christmas Eve	Friday, 11:00pm Christmas Eve	Saturday, 8:30am Christmas Day	Saturday, 10am Christmas Day
	Samuel Kukowski NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED	Jude Hemann James Hemann Andrew Sinnock NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Clayton Hopfinger NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED
Thurifer				Gregory Venarsky		
Lector	Tom Hill Mary Thole	Jay Czar KC	Ken Krausz NOT FILLED	Laurie Frank Jerry Morence	Tom Gutzler Brooke Quade	Carol Henrichs NOT FILLED
EMHC	Michael Haufler Derek Kloss Judy Shannon	KC KC KC	Kim Clasquin NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Frank Lipski Jennifer Miller NOT FILLED	Michael Haufler Jennifer Miller NOT FILLED	Laura Hollenkamp NOT FILLED NOT FILLED
Hospitality Leader	NOT FILLED	KC	NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED
Hospitality Minister	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Steve Waller KC KC	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED





Pastoral Associate for  
Faith Formation  
Deanna Harlan



### Christmas Gift

Thanks to the generosity and stewardship of a faithful parishioner, Matthew Kelly's book, "Life is Messy" has been provided as a Christmas gift for parishioners.

**Everyone has a Mess!** And "Life is Messy" is for anyone with a mess. Born from the three most devastating years of Matthew Kelly's life, it has the power to walk and talk with people in their messes and remind them of their deep spiritual needs.

The books are available at all Mass entrances. Our heartfelt gratitude to our anonymous donor!

*Merry Christmas  
From St. Paul Parish!*



### Seminarian Tree

Much like an Angel Tree, we have created Seminarian Trees. Our parish is participating in a new diocesan initiative to encourage support of our diocesan seminarians throughout the year.

There are trees located as you enter for Mass at either the gym or KC Hall.

Each tree holds cards for each seminarian in our diocese. Parishioners are asked to pull off a card and commit to praying for that seminarian all year. Additionally, if you wish, you could choose to send them a Christmas card or birthday card. Their birthdates and mailing addresses are included with the card.

### GET YOURS TODAY!

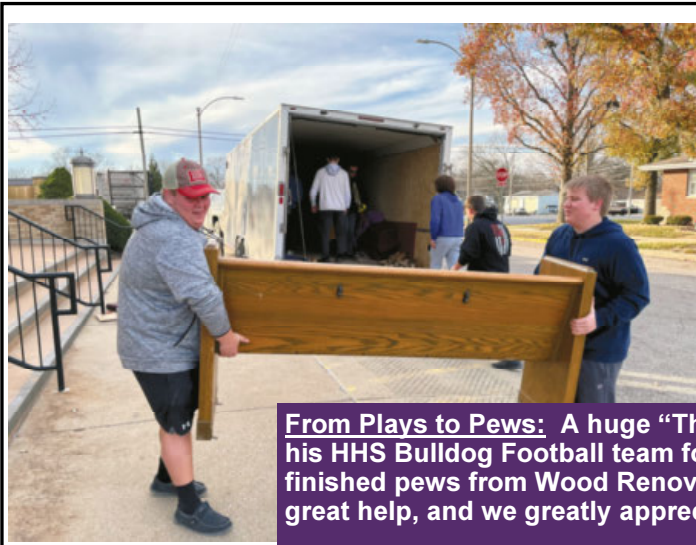
Our parish has always been so supportive of and generous with our seminarians. We are counting on your usual generous spirit, showering of love and positive affirmation of the sacrifices these young men are making to serve the Lord in His Church.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR  
DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD SEMINARIANS!**

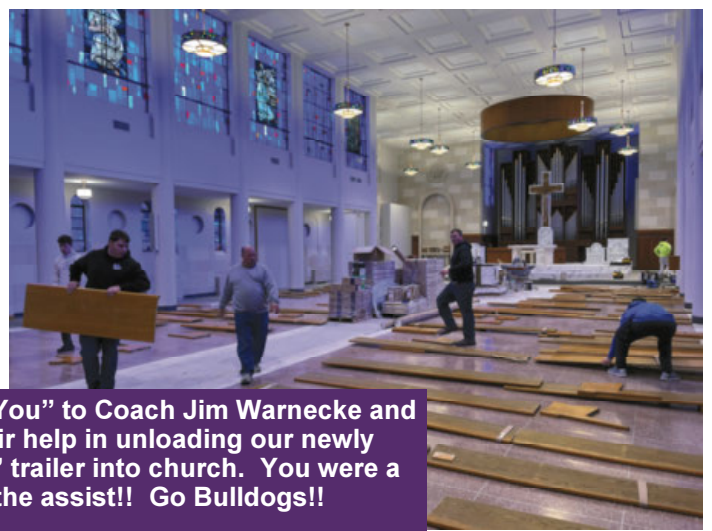
### Pre Jordan (Baptism class)



Pre Jordan classes are typically held on the first Thursday of every other month, at 6:30 pm in the second floor All Saints room in the Parish Center. The next class will be: **January 6th**. Pre Jordan class is required for each child you want to have baptized. You must call Deanna Harlan to register for the class: 654-2339 x217.



**From Plays to Pews:** A huge "Thank You" to Coach Jim Warnecke and his HHS Bulldog Football team for their help in unloading our newly finished pews from Wood Renovators' trailer into church. You were a great help, and we greatly appreciate the assist!! Go Bulldogs!!





December 2021

Dear Friends in Christ,

Since 1879, the Catholic Children's Home has served as a 'beacon of hope' for thousands of children in need of a safe harbor and a place to call home. Through the Spanish Flu pandemic in 1918 to the Coronavirus in 2020, the Catholic Children's Home has been there to give the love and compassion these children desperately need.

Today, the Catholic Children's Home continues this mission by meeting the emotional, social, academic and basic needs of all the children sent for residential care or special education services, including an innovative program designed to serve the needs of children faced with the tremendous challenges of Autism.

The children served by the Catholic Children's Home have been chronically abused, designated "unmanageable" by their schools, or simply have had no place to call home. They are some of the most vulnerable in our society. The holidays are a particularly difficult time of year for these youth.

In the spirit of Christ's special affection for all children, I ask that you continue to support the work of the Catholic Children's Home and generously contribute to the special collection held at Christmas.

May God touch your hearts with his grace and mercy during these Advent and Christmas days.

Psalms 127:3 "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him."

With every best wish and gratitude, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

## Mass Intentions †

### Monday, December 20

7:00 am Mass @ **Meridith Funeral Home** — † Hank Shannon, Jr.

### Tuesday, December 21

7:00 am Mass @ **Meridith Funeral Home** — † John & Florence Duncan

### Wednesday, December 22

7:00 am Mass @ **(St. Joseph Hospital)** — † Sr. Julia Marie Isert

8:20 am All School Mass **(Church)** — † Sheila Weber & † Barbara Pearman

### Thursday, December 23

7:00 am Mass @ **Meridith Funeral Home** — † Ray Firkus & † Suzanne Bishop

### Friday, December 24

4:00 pm Mass @ **(Church)** — † David Kohlbrecher & † Jack & Shirley Cygan

4:15 pm Mass @ **(KC HALL)** — Living & Deceased family members Jay & Dineen Czar

6:00 pm Mass @ **(Church)** — † Edward Moran

11:00 pm Midnight Mass @ **(Church)** — † The Parishioners of St. Paul Parish

### Saturday, December 25

8:30 am Mass at **(Church)** — Healing Mass for Kathy Gallichio

10:00 am Mass at **(Church)** — † Wilbert Rozum

### Sunday, December 26 **(Church)**

Mass — 7:00 am † Pamela Zika &

8:30 am Living & Deceased members of the Gaerlan—Wascher family

Living & Deceased members of the Marion & Laverne Bohnak family

10:00 am † Imy Luber & † Dave Vosholler

# Contact Us

618-654-2339

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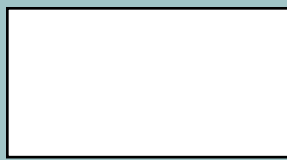
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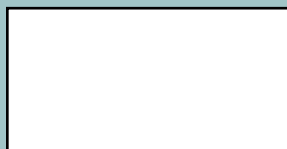
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