



ST. JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 19, 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR C

PARISH INFORMATION

Parish Office

Location: 902 St. John Dr,
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 229,
Sherman, IL 62684

Phone: 217-523-3816

Fax: 217-523-3954

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30a-4:00p

Pastor: Fr. Fredrick Chima Mbiere
cmbiere@dio.org
217-220-1837

In Residence:

Fr. Callistus Chukwudi Onumah
conumah@dio.org

Office Manager: Stacy Saladino
ssaladino@sjv.dio.org

Bookkeeper: Lynda Cliburn
lcliburn@sjv.dio.org

Music: Lori Saathoff
lsaathoff@sjv.dio.org

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekend Masses

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am

Weekday Masses

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 8:00am
Wednesday: 6:00pm

Holiday Masses As Announced

Reconciliation

Saturday: 4:00-4:45pm
Wednesday: 5:00-5:30pm
or by appointment

Fourth Sunday of ADVENT



PARISH MINISTRIES CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Pastoral Council Chair:

Molly Kershaw
725-1389

mshershaw@gmail.com

Faith Formation Coordinators:

Stacie Henderson/Jennifer Grebner
psr@sjv.dio.org

Youth Group Coordinator:

Molly Ishmael

mnh82@hotmail.com

Women's Society President:

Barb Doud

bdoudlinn@yahoo.com

Pro-Life Coordinator:

Valerie Henderson

tvh@casscomm.com

Tribunal Advocate:

Rita Friedewald

ritafriedewald@yahoo.com

Bible Study:

Cliff & Carol Shehorn
553-0039

cliffcarol@yahoo.com

Caregivers Ministry:

Cindy Bahner 741-0224 or
cbee355@aol.com

Council 14024 KC Grand Knight:

David Sweeney

dsweeknee@gmail.com

cell 899-0952

Website: sjvkc.org

Prayer Line:

SJV: Terry Willis 725-2005 or
ter2will@aol.com

Please contact the parish office to register as a new parishioner, arrange for a baptism, schedule a wedding (6 months' notice is required) or request the Sacrament of the Sick.

Submission requests for the bulletin are due before Noon on Tuesdays.

Assisted hearing devices available at SJV upon request from ushers

Find us online at
SJV.DIO.ORG



<http://facebook.com/sjvchurchsherman>



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT, YEAR C
December 19, 2021**

(Mic.5:1-4; Heb.10: 5-10; Lk.1:39-45)

The Imminence of the Divine Visit

Beloved brothers and sisters, we celebrate the 4th and the last Sunday of Advent before Christmas. The birth of Jesus is now imminent. In a few days' time we will be celebrating the memory of that great event, the fulfillment of God's promise to us. Throughout Advent, we have heard of God's promise to send a liberator, a savior into the world; today, we catch a glimpse of how that is to be accomplished.

Our 1st reading and Gospel have one thing in common. Micah in his message of hope to the people of God who were under siege, promised that salvation would come, and it would come from a savior whose origin was out of an unimportant little village just seven miles south of Jerusalem named Bethlehem, and his greatness would reach to the ends of the earth. (Mic. 5:2). In fulfillment of this promise, when the Magi came to Jerusalem 700 years later, this was the Scripture passage that guided them to where Jesus was. This promise was indeed elaborate in the Gospel, for the fact that from the lowly clan of Judah; and from Mary the lowly handmaid, God has prepared a body for Christ, the Prince of peace, and according to our 2nd reading from Hebrews, Christ assures his father: "*Here I am! I am coming to do your will.*" (Heb.10:7). Therefore, he comes soon to fill our hearts with his spirit of peace and joy.

The clear expression of this joy is found in the visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth also in today's Gospel. Despite her pregnancy, Mary still found time to visit her older cousin, in order to share her joy. Through this, Mary displayed her hospitality, generosity, humility, and her love. Therefore, she is blessed. It was not only Mary that visited Elizabeth but also, the Divine Child

and Prince of peace did. Hence, this visit was divine. In this visit, Elizabeth received a prophetic gift upon hearing Mary's voice and was filled with the Holy Spirit and knew immediately that she was to be the mother of the long-awaited Messiah. It was joy all over.

As Elizabeth encountered the divine visit by Mary's visit, this season, God has planned to honor each of us personally with a divine visit. He knows the way to where we live. He knows the number of our house, and He knows exactly our room. He comes quickly to visit us personally to bring transformation and make our life better. We shall soon hear the voice of Mary, the new ark of the covenant with the divine child. They are close to us. So, we must be ready to receive them, so that our joy may be complete this season. May others through our encounter with the Child Jesus, experience the great joy of Christmas! Amen!

Farewell to our retiring Office Manager: We want to thank immensely Stacy Saladino who has served our SJV Parish as the Office Manager for these past four years and has just retired on December 17, 2021. We appreciate her amazing job for the parish and wish her well and God's blessings in her years of retirement. Everyone is welcome to the Activity Center immediately after 8am Mass this Sunday for a donut party.

Wishing you and yours the abundance of God's blessings in the new week, and a Merry Christmas, in advance!

FR. FREDDIE MBIERE



Coffee & Donuts Farewell

Join us for Coffee & Donuts after Mass on Sunday, December 19, 2021 as we say Farewell and Good Wishes to our Office Manager, Stacy, upon her retirement from St. John Vianney Parish.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Baby Jesus' Wish List

Odds are you've got a Christmas list going by now — gift ideas for everyone from your nephew to your goddaughter to your mailman. But what about the birthday boy? What's the gift Jesus gets from you this Christmas?

If you've ever read the Book of Leviticus, you know all about the sacrifices God asks of the Israelites, referred to in the reading from Hebrews today. Leviticus can be a chore to read — a little repetitive, a little intimidating. There's a lot of very specific actions that God asks His Chosen People to complete to make up for whatever they have done wrong. In essence, it's a bit of a wish list for gifts.

But it's a wish list that can really confuse you. What's God going to do with a cereal offering? The kidneys of an animal? If you look closely, what God is doing here is beautiful. He's customized his wish list to only those things He knows the Israelites can give. It's God saying, in what amounts to theological baby-talk for folks who barely know of Him and His ways, exactly how they could be stewards. "Do this, but don't do that. If you do that, do this and you will find My mercy."

Our guide to stewardship — the Gospels of Christ — is less precise because by the time of Christ, God's people have grown in understanding of love and mercy and relationship with the divine. Through Christ, we find out that God's real wish list didn't really consist of cereal offerings and the kidneys of various animals. It's far simpler, but luckily, it's something we still have on-hand. All He wants is our whole heart.

~Tracy Earl Welliver

©LPi

ST. JOHN VIANNEY

Bible Study

Meetings will resume on January 5th.

SUNDAY'S READINGS EXCERPTS

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)

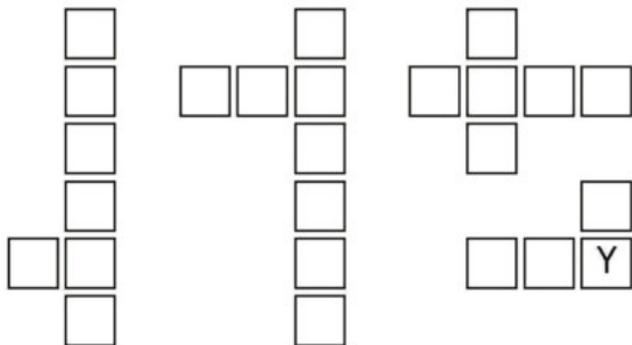
©LPi

GOSPEL Mary couldn't wait to visit her much older cousin, Elizabeth, up in the hills of Judea. Both of them were expecting babies. Each of them knew that the birth of her child was a special event that could only happen because they trusted God. Your own mother trusted that God would give you life in this world. Both Mary and Elizabeth watched their children grow up to do good things. You can grow up to do good things too, if you trust in God.

PUZZLE

Fit the following words from today's Gospel into the empty squares below.

The infant in my womb leaped for joy.



Q & A CORNER

QUESTION: Can I take Holy Water home for personal use?

ANSWER: The Church considers holy water to be a sacramental, a sacred sign that bears a resemblance to the sacraments. It is closely connected to baptism, among other sacraments, and is symbolic of Christ, who called himself "living water" and who is the font of eternal life. It reminds us, too, of Christ, the saving victim from whose side blood and water flowed, an allusion to the Church and the sacraments.

At St. John Vianney Parish, the large silver Holy Water Font is located near the very back pews of the church. This water has already been blessed and the faithful are welcome to fill a small bottle or another receptacle to take the water home. The water can be placed in a font within the home, often hung on the wall near a doorway, or it may remain in the bottle. Holy water can be used for blessing oneself or for parents to bless their children. It serves as a tangible sign of Christ and a reminder of the rites of the Church that use water, including baptism and Eucharist.

Whenever we dip our hand in holy water, we participate in a powerful and ancient sacramental. As in the past, the faithful are encouraged to take water home as a means of blessing and a reminder for one's home and family life to image Christ.

got a ? Do you have a QUESTION? You can send your questions to the parish office by email at parish@sjv.dio.org, by calling 217-523-3816, by postal mail, or by dropping a note in the collection basket in a sealed envelope marked "Parish Office". We look forward to hearing from you!

MASS INTENTIONS

(† indicates deceased)

Monday, December 20

Advent Weekday

8:00am— Tim Sullivan †

Tuesday, December 21

Advent Weekday

8:00am— Merle Davis †

Wednesday, December 22

Advent Weekday

6:00pm— Deceased Members of SJV Women's Society †

Thursday, December 23

Advent Weekday

8:00am— Anna Eleyidath †

Friday, December 24

Vigil—The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Eve

5:00pm— For the People (Pro Populo)

Saturday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord

Midnight Mass

12:00am— Merle Davis Family †

The Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Day

8:00am— Nancy Saathoff †

Sunday, December 26

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph

8:00am— For the People (Pro Populo)

5:00pm— All Souls

WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Friday, December 24 — 5:00pm (St. John Vianney)

Lector: Michaela Campbell

Eucharistic Minister: Gail Hahn

Server: Avery Glasgow

Saturday, December 25 — 12:00am (St. John Vianney)

Lector: Carol Shehorn

Eucharistic Minister: Barbara Doud

Sunday, December 25 — 8:00am (St. John Vianney)

Lector: Bev Hoffman

Eucharistic Minister: SUB NEEDED

Server: SUB NEEDED

Sunday, December 26 — 8:00am (St. John Vianney)

Lector: Andy Krug

Eucharistic Minister: Barbara Doud

Server: Madison Kloba

Sunday, December 26 — 5:00pm (St. John Vianney)

Lector: Carol Shehorn

Eucharistic Minister: Cliff Shehorn

Server: Avery Glasgow



Wed, Dec 22: 7:00am - 6:00pm Adoration
5:30pm Rosary

Thursday, December 23rd—Monday, December 27th:
Parish Office is Closed

HOLIDAY MASS SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve Mass:

Friday, December 24, at 5:00pm
with Christmas Carols starting at 4:00pm

Christmas Midnight Mass:

Saturday, December 25, at 12:00am

Christmas Day Mass:

December 25, at 8:00am

No Saturday evening Mass on December 25

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph:

Sunday, December 26:

2 Masses will be offered - 8:00am and 5:00pm

This fulfills your normal Sunday Mass obligation.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:

New Year Day

January 1, 2022: Mass at 8am

Since this falls on a Saturday, the obligation to attend Mass is abrogated. However, it remains a Solemnity.

Epiphany of the Lord:

Saturday, January 1, at 5pm as usual

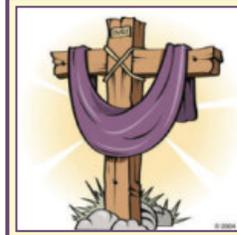
Sunday, January 2, at 8am as usual

St. John Vianney WEEKLY PARISH OFFERING December 11 & 12, 2021

Sunday Envelopes	\$3,635.00
WeShare	\$1,235.00
Loose Collections	<u>\$3,966.00</u>
Total	\$8,836.00
Weekly Budget	\$4,788.46
Weekly Surplus / Shortfall	\$4,047.54
Capital Improvements	\$310.00
Building & Maintenance	\$130.00
Retirement Fund for Religious	\$823.00
Justice & Hope	\$30.00
Immaculate Conception	\$30.00
Catholic Children's Home	145.00
Christmas Offering	\$255.00
Christmas Flowers	\$80.00



Our Christmas Day special collection supports the Catholic Children's Home and their mission of meeting the emotional, social, academic and basic needs of all the children sent for residential care or special education services, including their newest program designed to serve the needs of children faced with the tremendous challenges of Autism. *Psalm 127:3 "Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him."*



SAVE THE DATE
St. John Vianney Parish
14th Koinonia Retreat
July 29-31, 2022



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

Reflect on Scripture



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?



March For Life ²⁰²²
 DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS



WHEN:
 January 21, 2022

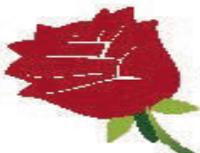
WHO:
 7th - 12th Graders
 College Students
 Adults

WHAT:
 10:00 AM MASS
 11:00 AM MARCH TO THE CAPITOL

WHY: Because together we can create a world where the beauty and dignity of every human life is valued.

REGISTER:
www.dio.org/youthministry/mfl

WHERE:
 Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
 Springfield, IL



Because...Life is Beautiful

NOONAN
True Value

GRAND RENTAL STATION

3031 S Koke Mill
546-RENT

Just Ask RENTAL

801 North Grand Ave. E.
528-1513

And
510 Bruns Lane
787-7225

SONNY adams PEST CONTROL™

217-544-2122

1550 Recreation Dr. Springfield
sonnyadamspest.com

Ron Furman's Commercial Sweeping
PAVING

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

- Driveways • Parking Lots • Asphalt Patching
- Striping • Seal Coating • Crack Filling
- Steam Power Washing • Snow Removal
- Overlays • Free Estimates • Fully Insured

Office 217-528-9407
www.ronfurmanpaving.com
3600 N. DIRKSEN PKWY • SPRINGFIELD, IL

SECURITY SYSTEMS

"We Provide You With Peace-of-Mind"

440 N. First St., Springfield
744-9000

RAMADA LTD. NORTH

(217) 523-4000

3281 Northfield Drive
Springfield, IL 62702

- 10 Minutes from Downtown Springfield & Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum
- Minutes from IL State Fairgrounds
- Complimentary Continental Breakfast

Northfield Inn Suite & Conference Center

(217) 523-7900

3280 Northfield Drive
Springfield, IL 62702

- Banquet & Conference Space Available

FREE AD DESIGN

WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE

CALL 800.950.9952

ADT-Monitored Home Security
Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider | SafeStreets | 1-855-225-4251

WE'RE HIRING
AD SALES EXECUTIVES

BE YOURSELF. BRING YOUR PASSION. WORK WITH PURPOSE.

- Work-Life Balance
- Full-Time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community
- Paid Training
- Some Travel

Contact us at: careers@4lpi.com | www.4lpi.com/careers

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Brandy Stivers** to place an ad today!
bstivers@4LPi.com or (800) 950-9952 x2609

YOU CAN'T TEACH COMPASSION
Our people make the difference

Sharon Reynolds
Administrator The Villas in Sherman
With Maggie™ Our House Support Buddy

(217) 744-2299
villasseniorcare.com

Here with you.

HSHS St. John's Hospital

Learn more at st-johns.org/herewithyou

Butler FUNERAL HOMES
AND CREMATION TRIBUTE CENTER

544-4646
butlerfuneralhomes.

"Helping you say goodbye, with dignity and respect."

CHIROPRACTIC • NUTRITION • BRAIN BALANCING

DR. CHRIS REID
DR. SHAY REID
DR. SHAUGHN REID

Family Wellness

217.698.5800
reidfamilywellness.com

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

We've Missed You!
Welcome Back to Mass

Stay connected to our faith community no matter where you are by signing up to get our bulletin delivered straight to your email!

www.ParishesOnline.com

BETSY ULRICH, D.D.S., M.S.

SUGAR CREEK ORTHODONTICS, P.C.

200 S. Towanda Ave. Normal, IL 61761 (309) 452-7445
400 North Chicago St. Lincoln, IL 62656 (217) 732-1073

www.sugarcreekortho.com

Eliminate the uncertainty and financial burden.

Kari Jones, CPC
Certified Preplanning Consultant
Kari@StaabFamily.com
StaabFuneralHomes.com

Contact Kari for your personal visit to Plan Ahead. 217.528.6461

STAAB
Honoring Life
2626 East Andrew Road Sherman

CURRY CHIROPRACTIC

DR. JOHN CURRY
Petersburg & Springfield
(217) 502-1181
www.currychiro.com

Throop & Son Tree Service

Since 1929

Earl Throop
217-528-8523