



DECEMBER 13TH, 2020
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sacred Heart

P A R I S H

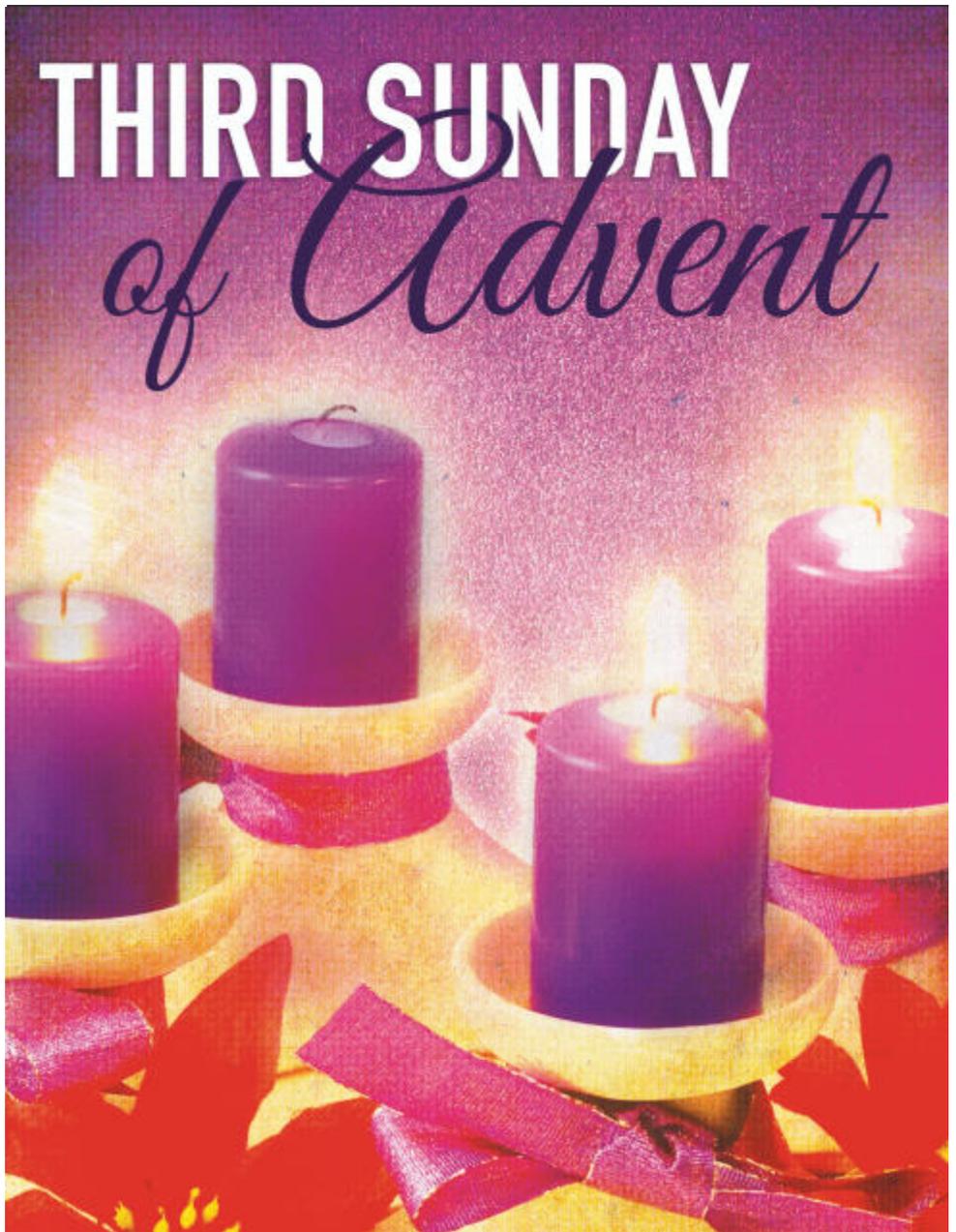
3rd Sunday of Advent

Did you ever stop and realize that there is no earthly gain that can ever really satisfy us? Think of winning the Lotto. On this side of the winning ticket, it's all about the money, the new car, house, vacations, bank accounts, and infinite pleasures. The possibility of acquiring all of these earthly securities brings us back again and again to the purchase of a ticket. Then, one day we win! Our dreams are fulfilled, and happiness is on the horizon. Then one day, we wake up and realize that nothing has really changed, and I am not as satisfied as I thought I was or would be. I find myself living in my incompleteness and with my profound sorrow and grief. I did not find joy.

Glimpses of joy are possible but not by material means. They are brought to us through incredible experiences of connection that bring us face to face with real and authentic faith, hope, and love. And, they are glimpses and do not last. The moment we find ourselves looking back at them, they are gone, and we find ourselves remembering the moment in memory. To carry joy within us is to realize that it is not something I create, manufacture or even acquire. It is not able to be purchased. It is a gift. My need for joy mirrors my need for eternity, for a Creator who has a claim on the very essence of who I am and desires a home within me. As C. S. Lewis discovered, joy is a surprise that speaks to my very soul and is given as gift by the God who loves me.

The beauty of Advent is found in discovering the beauty of the gift of joy. God has visited his people for no other reason than to show them where and how to find joy! All of our human and earthly joy experiences are always only glimpses. They never satisfy us, sustain us or fulfill us. It is only God who is the joy of my soul. Real, Divine experiences of joy catch us off guard, make us stop and become aware, bring a feeling of awe and rightness and have an eternal Otherness about them. Nothing created by humans can ever come close to this. We probably will not fully realize the truth of all of this until we actually meet God face to face in heaven one day. Then, in that sacred moment when our hearts leap for joy we will understand what we have been tirelessly searching for all along. Intense gratitude will most surely follow.

555 BAILEY ROAD • CRYSTAL CITY, MO 63019



MISSION STATEMENT

We the parish family of Sacred Heart, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit seek to bring all to a fuller understanding of God's love by teaching, praying, witnessing for Christ and service to one another. Through the sharing of our time, talents, and treasures, we shall build up the body of Christ in our local parish, deanery, archdiocese and the world.

2 Staff & Parish Info

Pastoral Staff

Pastor, Rev. Mathew Cheruparambil

E-Mail.....frmathew@archstl.org

Deacon, Jerry Stoverink Deacon

E-Mail.....jstoverink@sbcglobal.net

Director of Rel. Ed...... Karen Weber

Phone.....636-937-5298.....E-Mail...

.....kwebersacredheartdre@gmail.com

Finance Council Chair, Steve Bacon

E-Mail.....sjbacon@bcd-llc.com

Parish Council Chair, Jim Sparling

E-Mail.....jimsparring@sbcglobal.net

Parish Offices

Rectory(636) 937-4662

Toll free St. Louis/fax(636) 931-5507

E-mailsh324cc@sbcglobal.net

Adoration Chapel.....(636) 933-0454

Parish Website: sacredheartcrystalcity-festus.weconnect.com

Parish Secretary

Office hours..... M-F 8:30 am-4:30 pm

Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net

Eucharistic Celebrations

Weekend: Saturday 5:00 pm; Sunday 7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 am

Weekday: Monday-Thursday 8:00 am; (Friday 8:00 am-Communion Service)

Holy Day: Day 8:00 am, 12:00 noon & 7:00 pm

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00 pm or by appointment.

Baptism

Held on 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month following the 11:00 am Mass.

Baptism is an introduction to the Catholic way of life, attendance at Sunday Mass is an obligation which is not taken lightly. Baptism preparation will be held on the 1st Monday of each month. Call to register for Baptism preparation and Baptisms (636-937-4662).

Marriage

Preparation class must begin at least six months in advance of date of marriage. Make an appointment with the priest .

Communion Calls

If you are unable to come to Mass for several weeks due to illness, contact the Parish Office for a visit.

Perpetual Adoration Chapel

Open twenty four hours a day in the Convent Chapel. If interested contact the Parish Office (636) 937-4662.

PSR Classes

Held at school every Wednesday evening during school year from 6:40-8:00 pm.

Bulletin Deadline

Announcements must be turned in to Parish Office by Sunday evening. Email.....shccsecretary@sbcglobal.net



Greetings from the Pastor

Season of preparation continues. The third Sunday of the advent is traditionally called the Gaudete Sunday, which anticipates the joy of Christmas. We travelled already half the distance to Bethlehem. Beyond the usual peripherals of the season in which we lose, sometimes, the message and the treasure, let us make the remaining leg of the trip joyous to the manger to see the Holy Child who came to recreate the world! How far away are we from the manger and how long are we to travel to find the treasure in it? Depends on the traveler! If you are willing to dive deep into the ocean of Christian life to gather the pearls of Catholic life, the manger will be just a breath away! For others, may be, miles away. All depends on the traveler!

The manger is a reminder. If only every family and every heart became a manger! The Holy Child of Bethlehem is still roaming around in this winter, looking for a place to stay. More doors seem to be shut to his face today than open to him. He is an immigrant; he is hungry and homeless; he is persecuted, beheaded, crucified, burnt alive, shot, trafficked... When he has no place among his own, what does it mean to celebrate his birthday?

The poor Martin the cobbler, warned in dream, waited for him with a gift of a bowl of soup, and a pair of shoes. It was evening, and then night. He didn't come. But he had a few visitors during the day and in the late evening. Martin, though unwillingly, had to give away the gifts he had kept for his guest to the unexpected visitors. As he fell asleep in his couch, waiting for the guest, he came to him in a dream. "I waited for you all day, till this moment. You didn't come", the cobbler mumbled. "Well, I came, and you fed me with a bowl of soup, and you gave me a pair of shoes", said the Lord.

Hearts and manger... let us not separate them this year. Let our hearts and Sacred Heart, our parish, be the manger. Even if we place millions of clay statues of child Jesus in millions of mangers around the world, if Christ is not born spiritually in our hearts, then what is the use? Let us brace up during the remaining days of advent with the memories of the very first birth of the son of God that divided time, that made all the difference in the world. He is the reason for the season; blessed is the one who finds that pearl in the manger of one's heart.

With love,
Fr. Mathew

We will be having an Advent Penance Service on Saturday, December 19 from 11:00am-12:00pm. There will be multiple priests available for confessions. Please consider this opportunity to prepare the way for our Lord.



STEWARDSHIP



December 13, 2020
3rd Sunday of Advent

"Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." – 1 Thessalonians 5:16 - 18

This scripture reading sums up Stewardship. "Rejoice always" means place your trust in God; He will provide all that you need. "Pray constantly" means prayer should be a running conversation with God throughout the whole day, every day. "Give thanks in all circumstances" means even in bad situations, thank God. Suffering a little bit helps build empathy for others in similar situations and shows our dependence on God.

"Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit." ~ **Catechism of the Catholic Church**

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Jubilation to Share

Sometimes you have something to share with people that causes you to well up inside with excitement to the point of going crazy. A pregnancy test, a pay raise, a college acceptance, a wedding or engagement are all examples of moments in life when we might be bursting at the seams to tell somebody the good news. When we finally get the chance to tell somebody, joy just seems to flow through us with ease. We literally want the entire world to share in our jubilation.

When was the last time you shared with a friend or loved one how much your faith in Jesus means to you? You don't feel the same motivation to share? Are you not overwhelmed with a desire to spread the Good News?

Don't feel bad. You are not alone. As Christians, we often fail to grasp the powerful implications of being a disciple of Jesus Christ. We can become complacent and lose sight of what matters the most. That is when sharing with others about our faith seems uncomfortable.

Faith is a gift. As everyday stewards we are called to share with others what God has given us. Advent is a great time to grow in our faith and love of the Lord. The more we cultivate our faith and the closer we draw to Him, the more we will want to share about Him. We might not have the impact of John the Baptist in the course of human history, but our proclamation of the Gospel to another might be the gift that changes their history.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Your Gift of Treasure

Due to the early submission of the bulletin, we do not have the collection amounts for the bulletin. They will be posted next weekend.

Looking for Christmas Gifts-Buy Scrip!

They also make great stocking stuffers. Check out the website www.shopwithscrip.com to see what is offered or stop by the certificate desk in the west sacristy before or after Mass.

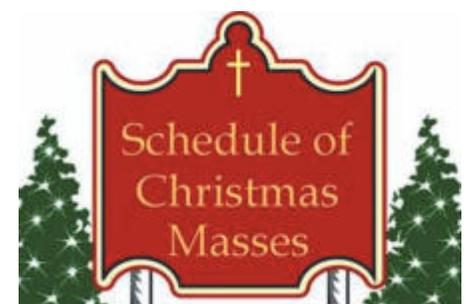


Christmas Mass Schedule

As we begin to make plans for our Christmas celebrations with friends and family, it is also appropriate to make plans to spend time with the Lord and his people in the celebration of the Eucharist on Christmas Day. We have added a Mass on Christmas Eve this year.

Christmas Eve: 5:00pm, 7:00pm & 10:00pm

Christmas Day: 8:00am & 10:00am



A Beautiful Advent Prayer

My hidden Lord Jesus, I love You and thank You with profound gratitude for uniting Yourself with fallen humanity. When You first entered into this world, You remained hidden for nine months in the immaculate womb of Your Blessed Mother. She carried You, body and blood, soul and divinity, within the sanctuary of her body. She also carried You within her heart as a result of her perfect love for You and her perfect obedience to the will of the Father.

Precious Lord, as I embrace this Advent Season, please open my eyes to see the great value and blessing of Your Incarnation. Help me to discover Your hidden presence in this world and within my own soul. I desire to see, understand and experience the profound effects that Your Incarnation has on my life and I desire to receive those effects more fully this Advent. May I become a sanctuary in which You dwell so that I, like Your dear Mother, may bring Your presence into the world.

My loving Jesus, I choose You, this Advent, as my King and my God. I abandon myself to You and seek to put all my trust in Your tender care. Draw me close to You and free me from my sin so that I may love You with a pure and holy heart.

Mother Mary, as You carried your dear Son in your immaculate womb, you also carried Him in your heart. Pray for me, this Advent, that I may surrender myself to the will of the Father in imitation of you. You said "Yes" to all that God asked of you and never hesitated to fully embrace His divine will. Pray that I may imitate your perfect example so as to share a deeper union with you and your divine Son.

**Come, Lord Jesus,
Come, Lord Jesus,
Come, Lord Jesus!**

Amen.



**WAY of
LIGHTS**
a family tradition

Way of Lights 5-9 pm

For over 50 years the *Way of Lights* at the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows illuminates the Shrine grounds. Continue to make this a part of your family tradition. This breathtaking display focuses on the birth of Christ, the one true light of the world.

Due to COVID Restrictions the lights are on but all indoor activities are virtual. Visitor Center will be closed at 5 pm
Shop the Gift Shop from 10 am – 5 pm
[Snows.org/wayoflights](https://www.snows.org/wayoflights)

Dynamic Catholic, Alive! – Gaudete Sunday

Rejoice! On Gaudete Sunday we remember the joy that is coming soon to the world: Jesus Christ. Where do we find our joy in life? If we seek it in anything but Christ, we are missioning out because true joy comes from the knowledge that God loves us and has come to save us from sin and death. As John the Baptist preached, true joy comes by way of repentance. Our desire for holiness and pursuit of genuine freedom from sin and death inspire us to renounce evil and to open a place for Christ to enter our hearts, minds, and souls. When we are open to experiencing the grace of Christ, we can receive mercy, forgiveness, healing, consolation, and peace along with joy. (CCC 523-524, 719-720)
[archstl.org/dynamic](https://www.archstl.org/dynamic)

Helpers of God's Precious Infants Mass & Rosary

***In-Person and Live-Streamed
from the Cathedral Basilica
on Saturday, December 19**

Please join the St. Louis Catholic and pro-life community in prayer on Saturday, December 19 for the 8 a.m. Helpers Mass & Rosary. Following Mass, the *Rosary walk to and from Planned Parenthood will be held.

***If COVID-19 restrictions still continue, and we cannot do a Rosary Walk, we will pray a Rosary in the Cathedral immediately after Mass.**

To attend the Mass in-person: please practice social distancing, & please bring and wear a mask. To pray with us from home, **please go to this link** <https://cathedralstl.org/liturgy-sacraments/livestream> about 5-10 minutes before the 8 a.m. Mass.

For more information, please contact Madeleine Appelbaum at madeleineappelbaum@archstl.org



Adoration of the Lord
Sacred Heart Adoration Chapel is OPEN and volunteers are needed.

“One need not say much to pray well, we know that Jesus is there in the tabernacle; let us open our hearts to Him, let us rejoice in His Sacred Presence. That is the best prayer.”

We have **SEVERAL OPENINGS** please call at **Terri Wolk at 314-620-7527** for more information.

Openings for the following hours are needed to be filled ASAP. This is a great way to give your time and talent to your Parish and The Lord!

- Sunday: 6:00pm**
- Tuesday: 9:00pm**
- Thursday: 11:00pm**
- Friday: 7:00am & 7:00pm**
- Saturday: 8:00pm & 9:00pm**

Christmas 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Rejoice! The weeks of Advent waiting are over, and Christ is born!

We rejoice in our Savior’s birth—remembering the great gift of faith He has given us through the mystery of His incarnation and the saving power of His death and resurrection.

If you are like me, you have a lot of uncertainty about the coming weeks and months. Because of the pandemic, there are many challenges ahead. But I am sure of one thing, Christ will be with us in the midst of our difficulties. Now is the time for Catholics to step forward, giving generously to help those in need.

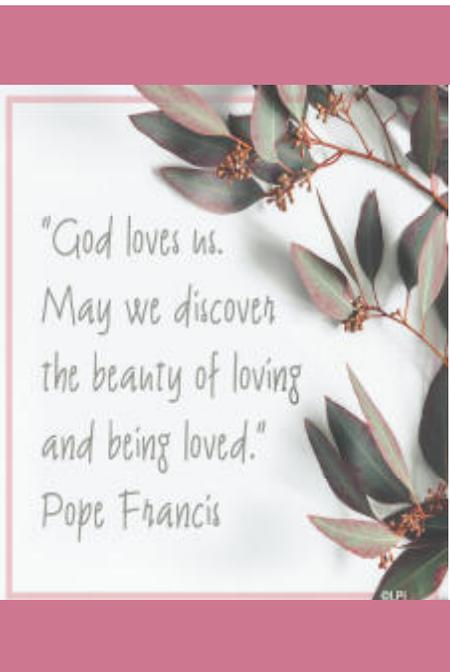
Each year, the people of the archdiocese are asked to make a special gift on Christmas Day to support our seminarians at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. These men are responding to Christ's call to follow Him as they discern a vocation to the holy priesthood and have dedicated themselves to living, growing, and serving in His love as they prepare for a life of parish ministry. God-willing, these men will bring the faith given to us by Christ 2,000 years ago to future generations.

This Christmas, I ask you to pray for vocations and for all our priests and seminarians. I also ask you to be generous in your donation to the Christmas collection at your parish, which helps ensure that our seminarians receive the education and formation they need to grow closer to Christ each day. Your support is a source of inspiration for the seminarians and helps to build up the Church in St. Louis. Together, we can encourage our future priests to walk the path of holiness as they seek to configure their hearts to the Heart of Jesus Christ.

I am blessed to be celebrating my first Christmas with the people of the Archdiocese of St. Louis! I am grateful for the warm welcome I have already received. What a gift it is to be part of this community! Please be assured of my prayers for you during the season of Christmas. May the Lord of life come into your hearts and homes in a special way during this holy time of year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis



Ministry Schedules



Weekend of December 19th and December 20th

Altar Servers

5:00pm Michael Argana
7:30am Shayne Hoffmeister
9:00am Daniel Molloy
11:00am Evie Mahue

Eucharistic Ministers

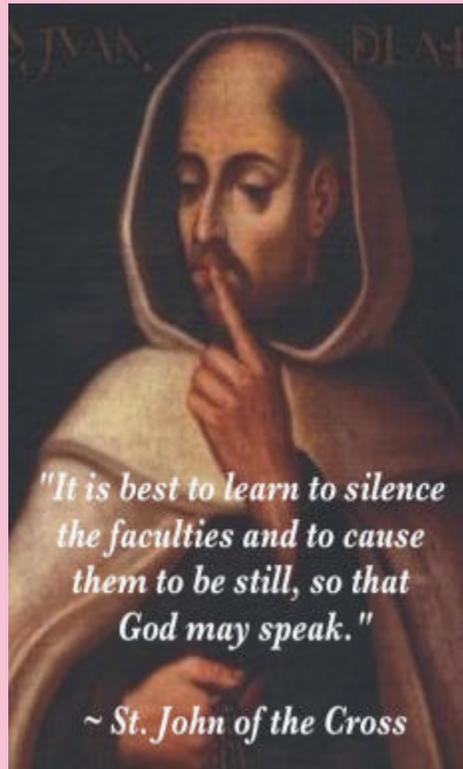
5:00pm Donna Litton
7:30am Deacon Jerry
9:00am Laurie Roubidoux
11:00am Dolly Govro

Lectors

5:00pm Denise Yount
Sue Cresswell
7:30am Cathy Johns
Penny Halley
9:00am Joe Berkgigler
Judith Bailey
11:00am Carrie Loukas
Mary Lou Darnell

Scrip

5:00pm Sue Boyer
7:30am Cathy Johns
9:00am Carly Roubidoux
11:00am Carrie Loukas



According To The
Scriptures

Readings for the week of December 13, 2020

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54 [Is 61:10b]/
1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28
Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/
Mt 21:28-32
Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/
Lk 7:18b-23
Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/
Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Observances for the week of December 13, 2020

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Advent
Monday: St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Tuesday: 3rd Tuesday of Advent
Wednesday: 3rd Wednesday of Advent
Thursday: 3rd Thursday of Advent
Friday: 3rd Friday of Advent
Saturday: 3rd Saturday of Advent
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Advent



Mass Schedule

Monday, December 14th
8:00am Mary J Browne

Tuesday, December 15th
8:00am Ervel "John" Bittick

Wednesday, December 16th
8:00am Robert Gibbs

Thursday, December 17th
8:00am Millie DePyper

Friday, December 18th
8:00am Communion Service

Saturday, December 19th
5:00pm Robert Gibbs

Sunday, December 20th
7:30am Aida McCarver
9:00am People of the Parish
11:00am Sara Jane Church



Parish Calendar

Tuesday, December 15th
8:45am Legion of Mary RMR

Wednesday, December 16th
6:40pm PSR Family Mass with CH
The Blessing of Baby Jesus

Thursday, December 17th
8:45am Quilters ANN
6:00pm Quilters ANN

Saturday, December 19th
11:00am-12:00pm Advent Penance Service CH



Mass Christmas Eve 5:00pm Reservation

If you would like to attend the 5:00pm Mass on Christmas Eve we are asking that you contact the Parish Office for reservation. We are only allowing the max of 85 due to Covid restrictions. There will be a 7:00pm mass that was added also this year. The office number is 937-4662.

Christmas Eve: 5:00pm, 7:00pm & 10:00pm
Christmas Day: 8:00am & 10:00am



Pray For Our Sick: Your prayers are requested for the sick of the Parish. Please remember the many people who are suffering with cancer and various other illnesses in the hospitals, the Nursing Homes, as well as at home and **also remember** all those of the parish who are pregnant that they will have a safe delivery and a healthy baby. **Prayer Requests:**

Martin Ames
Agnes Baker
Terry Bates
Norma Bequette
Kevin Blechle
Carole Boxdorfer
Brenda Boyer
Mary Breitbarth
Kristen Brewer
Carolyn Bridges
Frances Burch
Ryan Burger
Francis Coleman
Charles "Jerry" DeClue
Jonie DeClue
Jeff & Karen Dettmer
Betty Dobs
James Eisenbeis

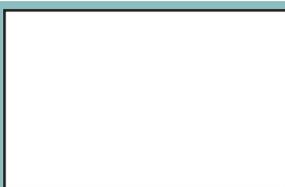
Glen Elsworth
Phyllis Elsworth
Tim Fears
Steve Figge
Wanda Figge
Wilfred Figge
Michael Foley
Michael Frey
Nicholas Green
Joseph Grohs
Al & Joyce Guenther
Lori Hassel
Mary Hill
Phyllis Hill
Shari, Bert & Andrea Horn
Steve Jennings
Mike Johnson
Carol Kaltenbronn
Carol Kestermont

Bill Krey
Joshua Lucas
Beth Mahn
Holly Martin
Dorothy Meyer
Ethel Meyer
Carol Turgeon- Miller
Joshua Miller
Cerita Munshaw
Bonnie Neimanis
John & James Norris
Jax Okenfuss
Tim Perry
Ed Peterlein
Carolyn Pool
Kathleen Portell
Geraldyn Prior
Prosser Family
Donna Riedy
Millie Ritcher

Kathy Robertson
Steve Roth of Iowa
Linda Schmitt
Jeanette Smock
Janene Spresterbach
Louise Spresterbach
Alice Stubits
Patricia Swader
Juanita Swyers
Rita Thuesen
Merrily Varone
Leah Broyles Vogt
Jim Wadsworth
Henry Walker
Patty & Greg Ward
Robert Weber
Stella Weidenbenner
Ken Werner
Jordan Winkel
Chuck Yount

PLEASE NOTE: If a name has been on for a long time, it may be taken off to make room for others who are seriously ill.

Festus Crystal
MONUMENT and STONE
IN IMPERIAL
Rodney & Mary Thompson
636-464-9276



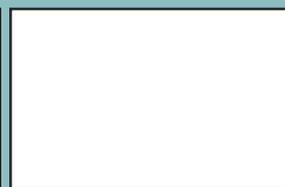
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