St. Charles Borromeo Church

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ADVENT

December 5, 2021 • The 2nd Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 6
No Mass
Tuesday, December 7
St. Ambrose
5pm– St. Philip's– Felipa Nunez
Wednesday, December 8
The Immaculate Conception of Mary
7am– St. Charles– For the People of the Parish
Thursday, December 9
St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin
5pm–St. Philip's– Maureen Ankenbrand
Friday, December 10
7am–St. Charles–Shane Patrick Whalen
12:15pm– St. Philip's– Andrew Blagg
Saturday, December 11
5pm– St. Charles– Bob Inyart
Sunday, December 12
8:30am– St. Charles– Evelia Fuentes
11am– St. Philip's– For the People of the Parish
5pm– St. Philip's– All Souls Intention

Stewardship of Treasure

We have **385** households in our Parish Family contributing:

Envelopes	$2,930.00
Loose	221.00
EFT (Electronic Fund Transfer)	425.00
Online Giving	50.00
(Needed weekly)	*$7,250.00*
Campaign - Justice & Hope	405.00
Maintain St. Charles	130.00
Thanksgiving	636.00
Total	$4,797.00

Time Period: **Jul 1, 2021 - Nov. 27, 2021**

Year-to-Date Collected	**$197,966.64**
Year-to-Date Expenses	**$159,206.50**
Deficit/Surplus for Year	**$38,760.14**

THANK YOU to all who continue to support St. Charles during this challenging time. Your donations ensure that we are able to meet the operating costs of the parish.

LIVE THE LITURGY – INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Sometimes, especially when life gets overwhelming and difficult, we can find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable. Wallowing in this uncomfortable darkness seems to be our norm and it's difficult to see a way out of, or through, this experience. If we listen carefully enough, we will hear God's voice calling out deep within, beckoning us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Faith tells us that God has already begun the creation of a good work in us and is with us, bringing it to completion, until Christ Jesus comes again. It is this light of God's glory for which we are asked to pave the way and straighten the paths of our lives so that it can shine. With all that life can ask of us and bring to us, it is our task to constantly discern what is of value. So that we do not get so weighed down by things that we no longer see, or feel, God's salvation.

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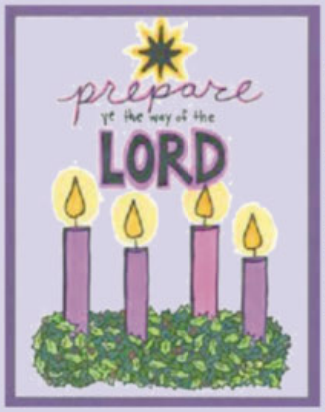

ADVENT PARISH MISSION

Disciples Journeying through Advent and in the New Year. Make plans to join us for this wonderful time for prayer and reflection, and useful resources to help enrichen your Advent journey and renew us for the year ahead! As we prepare for the JOY of the Christmas Season, we hope you will take time to join us on **Monday, December 13 and Tuesday, December 14 at 6:00 p.m.** Joining us are speakers, Katie Price and Sr. M. Consolata!

Mark your calendars for a great Parish Advent Mission this December! All are welcome!

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION will be offered **December 13 and 14** following our Advent Mission. Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to prepare for the coming of our Lord at Christmas.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS – Elderly religious need your help. Thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals, and parishes – often for little to no pay. Now, many religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. We will take up this collection next weekend, December 11 & 12. Please give generously.

FAITH FORMATION

During Advent, we light the candle of Love. Jesus' life, ministry, death, and resurrection were all characterized by love. In return, we are to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. And love your neighbor as yourself." Consider how your family or household might do those things more fully in the coming year.

There are only 2 more Faith Formation classes before Christmas. This weekend and next weekend, December 12th. Please make every effort to attend class as we are continuing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Thank you!

SCRIPTURE STUDY – Scripture Study will be on hiatus until January. We have just completed the 1st half of Genesis, and we will begin the second after the holidays. Please consider joining our group as we delve into the Holy Scriptures. We meet every Wednesday at 10:15 a.m.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS – Lectors and Ushers are needed for our Christmas and New Year's Masses. Please contact Tara Johnson if you can help.
Email – taraljohnson70@gmail.com
Telephone – 962-1268

The Mass times and personnel needed are as follows:

Christmas Eve – 5:00 p.m. – Need (1) usher

Christmas Eve – 10:00 p.m. – Need a lector

New Year's Day – 8:30 am – Need (2) ushers

THE WORD AMONG US, a book of daily meditations for Advent, is available in the vestibule. Parishioners are encouraged to take one home to enhance their prayerful preparation during Advent. Having something to read and reflect on each day helps us to keep focused on what the season is truly about.

GIVING TREE: Our Giving Tree will be in the hall after both Masses this weekend, December 4 & 5. We still have a few ornaments bearing the needs and wishes of children in our community. Parishioners can either shop for a child or make a donation for utilities.

We are asking that you spend no more than $40.00 per child as most children have siblings, and it would be best if the children received gifts of fairly equal value. Please read the instruction sheet attached to each ornament. Gift receipts are also appreciated. Please return your gifts by the weekend of December 11 and 12. You are welcome to bring them by the office as well. Thank you for your generosity!

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

...all homebound & nursing home parishioners
...Ben Campanis, Paxton Johnson, Brittany, Delores Abel, Jim Dolwick, Steve Shadwell, Laura Howarth, Kathy Brewer, Diana Carlisle, Mike Kuncl, and Deidre Oliver who have cancer
...Diana Ensign, Robert Montgomery, Lily Orchard, Nancy Jenkins, David Belford, Barbara Buenger, Ellen Johnson, the Acosta Family, Laura Cleaver, Raymond Klawonn, Marty Thomas, Kathleen Bates, Linda Coleman, and Barbara Busch of our parish
...those who have Alzheimer's and their families
...All men and women serving in the Armed Forces
...Parker Burns who has leukemia
...David Quinn requested by Cindy Livingston
...A friend's improved health, requested by Katie Armstrong
...Katie Armstrong's niece, Chloe, who is experiencing health problems
...Mary Alice Kramer, Mickey Miller, Rick, Loretta and Pat Morgan
...Waylon Graven, grandson of Mary Ayers
...Glenda & Manuel Terronez, friends of Penny Clay
...Beau Garrett, great-nephew of Mike & Robin Cox
...Guy Towles, friend of Nancy Jekins, who has Parkinson's disease
...Harold Madigan, brother-in-law of Joyce Madigan
...Fr. John Hollowell who has a brain tumor
...a friend of Katie Armstrong who has been hospitalized due to Covid
...John Sasco, brother of Cindy Sasco, who has leukemia
...Joyce Schmidt, friend of Charmaine Owens
…Glenn & Vicky Richard's Niece
...Allan Pike, friend of Dora Wheeler, who has cancer

If you have a loved one who should be added to or removed from our parish prayer list, please call us at the office. If you wish, requests can be phrased to honor your privacy.

PRAY WITH POPE FRANCIS. As you pray your daily offering throughout **December**, please include this special intention of our Holy Father:

* **Catechists –** Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Youth Group News

High School Youth– There will be class this Sunday, December 5 at 7:00 p.m. and next Sunday, December 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

December 12 – Laser Tag; Please RSVP to Angie as soon as possible

Thank you to Kim Stout, Jacqueline Wehrle, and Bruce Monjardin for taking the youth group rock climbing in St. Charles.

Thank you also to Jenny Weber and Derek & Kim Stout for helping the youth decorate at Camp New Hope last week.

THE CHARLESTON FOOD PANTRY collection is this weekend, December 4 & 5. The suggested item is hearty soups. Donations may also be dropped off at the church office at any time.

Upcoming items are:

January – Pasta and Sauce (no glass jars)
February – Fruit and Fruit Juice
March – Hamburger Helper

Monetary donations are also welcome.

THE ST. CHARLES RELIGIOUS GIFT SHOP and the Handicraft Table will be available after the Masses this weekend, **December 4 & 5**. Come and browse the many items they have available for Advent including wreathes and candles. Early Christmas shoppers are also welcome!

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE QUESTIONS TO PONDER

Preparing the Way. In announcing the first coming of the Messiah, John the Baptist urges all people to be right with one another and the world. In awaiting the coming, prophet Baruch tells us how to dress for that day – clad in justice and peace and mercy. In praying for us, as we await the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, Saint Paul confidently urges us to do good work, to love more and more, and to be filled with what is right.

- In these troubled times, how can I make things right with _____?
- What good work of justice and peace can I do this week?
- What mercy work is Jesus urging me to do?

Calendar of Events

12/5	Food Drive
	Faith Formation– K-8– 9:45-10:45am
	SCW Gift Shop– after Mass– MH
	Giving Tree Ornaments– after Mass
	HS Rel. Ed– 7-8:30pm– MH
12/8	Rosary– 9:15am– Church
	KC Auxiliary Meeting– 6:30pm– MH
	KC Meeting– 7pm– KC
12/9	Adult Formation– 6pm– MH
12/12	Faith Formation– K-8– 9:45-10:45am
	HS Rel. Ed– 7-8:30pm– MH
12/13	Advent Mission– 6pm– MH
	Reconciliation– after the Mission– Church
12/14	50+ Club Christmas Luncheon– 12pm– MH
	Advent Mission– 6pm– MH
	Reconciliation– after the Mission– Church
12/15	Rosary– 9:15am– Church
	KC Blood Drive– 2pm– MH
12/17	Traveling Rosary– 3:30pm– Villas of Hollybrook

ONE STOP CHRISTMAS – Our parish will be collecting socks for the One Stop Community Christmas that will be held on December 10 and 11.

Please bring **ALL SIZES** of **NEW** socks for men, women and children and place in the tub in the vestibule, or drop off at the office by Dec. 6 Thank you in advance!

POINSETTIAS will once again adorn our worship space during the Christmas Season. Envelopes for your donations may be found in your December envelope packet. There is a place to list the names of those whom you wish to have remembered. The names will be listed in the Christmas bulletin, so please have the envelopes returned to the parish office by December 13.

Daily Mass Scriptures
12/05/2021

Mon	Is 35:1-10 / Lk 5:17-26
Tue	Is 40:1-11 / Mt 18:12-14
Wed	Gn 3:9-15, 20 / Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 / Lk 1:26-38
Thu	Is 41:13-20 / Mt 11:11-15
Fri	Is 48:17-19 / Mt 11:16-19
Sat	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 / Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sun	Zep 3:14-18a / Phil 4:4-7 / Lk 3:10-18

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BENEFIT CONCERTS– For more than 25 years, the Coles County Barbershop Chorus has presented a Christmas Benefit Concert for local Food Pantries and Homeless Shelters. The 30 man chorus with members from 16 different communities will perform at the FREE one hour concert to be held on Sunday, December 5. The concert will be hosted by the Wesley United Methodist Church at 3:00 p.m. in Charleston while the First Presbyterian Church in Mattoon will host the 7:00 p.m. program. Both churches require that those attending and those who sing, wear masks.

The first half of the concert will deal with secular Christmas while the final portion is all about the real meaning of Christmas. A classical guitarist will perform and more than a dozen youngsters from Jefferson School in Charleston will contribute with a drum ensemble. Each year, several thousand dollars are collected with the free will offering and more than $50,000 has been given to these worthy causes in recent years.

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE! The Knights of Columbus will be holding a Blood Drive Wednesday, December 15, from 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. in Moriarty Hall. Appointments may be made online by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS. Walk-ins will also be taken. Thank you.

THE TRAVELING ROSARY GROUP will meet at the Villas of Hollybrook Friday, December 17, to pray with our parishioners who are residents there. Contact Jackie Bennett if you would like to be a part of this ministry.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS– The normal deadline to submit an item for the Sunday bulletin is noon on Tuesday. Due to the upcoming holidays, the bulletin deadlines have been revised as follows:

December 12 bulletin – noon on December 6
December 19 bulletin – noon on December 10
December 26 bulletin – noon on December 16
January 2 bulletin – noon on December 22

Items received after the deadline will be included in the next available bulletin as space allows.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL ANNUAL QUILT RAFFLE – The Vincentians will be selling raffle tickets after each weekend Mass for a chance to win this beautiful queen-sized quilt. The drawing will take place at the Epiphany Dinner on January 2, 2022. The funds raised will be put to use immediately for those in need of help with rent, water, utilities, and gas. Thank you for your generosity.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for our annual Epiphany Dinner! It will be held on January 2, 2022, at 12:30 p.m. in Moriarty Hall. All parishioners are invited! Look for the sign-up sheets in the vestibule.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES – Nov. 9, 2021

PRAYER

Opening Faith Reflection – Fr. Braden

Remember the month of November is for those who have departed and our prayers for them are helpful.

Fr. Braden's Report

- Advent Mission on December 6th (sweets) and 7th (savory) at 6:00 p.m.
  (Advent Mission dates were rescheduled to December 13th and 14th after the Pastoral Council Meeting.)

FORMATION

Deacon Jeff's Report:

- Wednesday morning finished Genesis.
- Adult Formation on Thursday evenings is going well.
- Hollybrook Rosary group is working with the director to establish a place to meet more groups.

Faith Formation (Sarah) Report

- K – 8 completed.
- Formation of sexuality and healthy life-style curriculum is being discussed through the Catholic Faith in Springfield as well. More direction to come.

Youth Report:

- High School students are going to attend NCYC in Indianapolis for November.
- Rock climbing for fun.
- Service – bazaar, feast day clean-up, and Camp New Hope decorating.

GROW YOUR MARRIAGE! - The Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend coming to Springfield this March is a positive and personal experience offering married couples an opportunity to learn a technique of loving communication that they can use for the rest of their lives. It is a chance to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God. It is a time to share their feelings, hopes and dreams with each other. The emphasis of the Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend is on the communication between husbands and wives. It is not a retreat, marriage clinic, group sensitivity, or a substitute for counseling. It is a unique approach aimed at revitalizing Marriage. This is a time for you and your spouse to be alone together, to rediscover each other and together focus on your relationship for an entire weekend.

It's March 18-20 at the Villa Maria Conference Center in Springfield. The cost is $100. Apply at stl-wwme.org/applyWeekend.php by January 17.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES – Nov. 9, 2021

HOSPITALITY

- Wrap up of Parish Picnic and St. Charles Feast
  - Wonderful participation and glad that all came to participate.
  - Look at different dates and times for picnic.
- Epiphany Dinner – January 2, 2022
  - There will be a sign-up sheet in the hall for everyone to participate

SERVICE

- Giving Tree
  - Tree will be set up the first two weekends of Advent.
  - Items will be due by December 13, 2021.
- One Stop Community Christmas
  - Reaching out to see if we can participate as a parish.
  - Socks are something they are requesting from St. Charles.

Next meeting: November 30 at 5:45 p.m. – Dinner at Luke and Amy's

Opening Faith Reflection Assignment –

Closing Prayer

Meeting minutes submitted by: Amy Jackson

GO ON an ADVENTure - This Advent, join us as we go on an ADVENTure! Where are we going? Get on board to find out. Head to dio.org/adventure to sign up and secure your ticket. Reflections, articles, stories, and activities to prepare you for Christ. Are you ready?

SAINT OF THE WEEK –

St. Nicholas | Feast Day December 6

St. Nicholas of Bari (March 15, 270 – December 6, 343), the bishop of Myra in the fourth century, is the saint that Santa Claus is modeled after. Known for his kindness and generosity to the poor, the story has it that St. Nicholas once tossed bags of gold through the open window of a poor man's house to help his daughters. According to legend, the gold landed in stockings dangling on the corners of the beds, which is why many of us celebrate St. Nicholas Day by hanging stockings and filling them with candy, fruit, and small toys. Not much else is known about this beloved saint, but regardless, his reputation as a generous man continues today.

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Parish Office & Rectory
921 Madison Ave. • Charleston, IL 61920
Phone: 217-345-3332 • Fax: 217-348-8449

Office Hours: 8:00am-4:00pm

www.saintcharleschurch.org

Moriarty Hall: 217-345-3066

Luisa DiPietro Memorial Library
in Moriarty Hall open by appointment

Hedwig Haus: 345-6901
hedwigcatholicworker@gmail.com

Diocesan Vocations Office
698-8500 ext. 182

Diocesan Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation
To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy -- even if it is in the past -- individuals are encouraged to call (217) 321-1155.
Individuals may also contact the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Child Abuse Hotline at 1-800-25-ABUSE, or your local police authority.

BAPTISM: Prior to Baptism of an infant, parents are to attend a Pre-Jordan class, preferably before the birth of the baby. Please call the office well in advance for information.

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: Those who are homebound and wish to receive Communion, please call the office at 345-3332.

MARRIAGE: Preparations for marriage begin at least 6 months prior to the wedding. Please contact the office to set an appointment with Fr. Braden Maher.

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES: Faith Formation classes for grades kindergarten through 12th are offered on Sundays during the regular school year. First Reconciliation will take place in 2nd Grade. First Eucharist and Confirmation will take place in 3rd Grade.

RCIA– RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: Adults and children who wish to learn more about Catholicism, becoming a Catholic or help with the RCIA may contact the parish office.

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK: This sacrament offers the healing strength and peace of Christ to anyone who is seriously or chronically ill, hospitalized or about to have surgery. Please call the office for arrangements.

NEW PARISHIONERS: To register, please contact Fr. Braden Maher at 217-345-3332 or by email at bmaher@dio.org to set up an appointment.

Parish Staff

Fr. Braden Maher, *Pastor*
Email: bmaher@dio.org

Deacon Jeff Beals, *Permanent Deacon*
Email: jbeals@dio.org

Sarah Fehrenbacher, *Director of Faith Formation*
Email: sfehrenbacher22@gmail.com

Reba Kortte, *Office Manager*
Email: office@saintcharleschurch.org

Angie Buescher, *Youth Minister*
Email: Buescherangie@gmail.com

Ray Kuznicki, *Custodian*

Allan Horney, *Choir Director*
Email: alhorney@eiu.edu
Phone: 348-0207

Addie Gladu, *Permanent Keyboardist*
Email: argladu@eiu.edu

Pastoral Council Members
Terry Coulton, Kathy Hussey
Luke & Amy Jackson, Mike Metzger,
Lexe Volk, Christina Yousaf

Youth Members
Jacob Morrisey and Molly Weber

Finance Council Members
Mark Bates, Jeff Coon, Dan Ensign,
Judi Heckel, Jerry Herman, Bob O'Rourke,
Shahid Yousaf, Al Volk

Ray Kuznicki, *Knights of Columbus – Grand Knight*
Sarah Fehrenbacher, *KC Women's Auxiliary – President*

Rosie Schniers and Kay Wheeler, *SCW Co-Chairs*

Rosary
Wednesday-9:30 a.m.– St. Charles

The Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday – 3:30-4:30 p.m. – St. Charles
Tuesday – 3:30-4:30 p.m. – St. Philip's
Wednesday (Before Mass) – 6:30 a.m.– St. Charles
Wednesday – 8:00-9:00 p.m.– St. Philip's

By appointment – call 345-3332 to schedule

Eucharistic Adoration
Eve of First Saturday: 4:00 p.m. - 8:30 a.m.
First Saturday Mass: 8:30 a.m.

Monday: 8:00-9:00 p.m. @ St. Philip's
Wednesday: 8:00-9:00 p.m. @ St. Philip's

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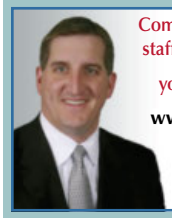
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