

Holy Family Parish Cluster

Sunday, December 13, 2020



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you." - Mt 11:10

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

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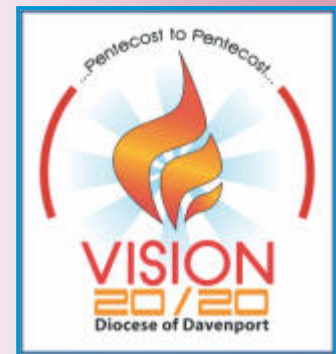
**Our Lady of the Holy Rosary
Lost Nation/Toronto**

**Sacred Heart
Oxford Junction**

**Sts Philip & James
Grand Mound**

Mission Statement

A family of God constituted by the Holy Eucharist and strengthened by the Holy Spirit to make God known, loved and served.



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Sacred Heart Church

309 Church Street

Oxford Junction, IA 52323

Web www.sacredheartoj.org

Cluster Office Hours

Monday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Tuesday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am—2:00 pm

Telephone: 563-847-2271

Bulletin Deadline

Tuesday 12:00 noon

(unless otherwise noted).

- Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the cluster office for arrangements.
- Sacrament of Matrimony: Please contact Pastor 9 to 12 months prior to wedding date.

ORDER OF MASS

Introductory Rites

Entrance Antiphon

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.
Indeed, the Lord is near.

Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

Responsorial Psalm Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked upon his lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed:

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

the Almighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

He has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy.

R. My soul rejoices in my God.

Second Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel Acclamation Isaiah 61:1

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring glad tidings to the poor.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28

Profession of Faith

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Prayer after Communion

Soul of Christ, sanctify me; Body of Christ, save me; Blood of Christ, inebriate me; Water from the side of Christ, wash me; Passion of Christ, strengthen me; O good Jesus, hear me; Within your wounds hide me; Separated from you, let me never be; From the evil one protect me; At the hour of my death, call me; And close to you bid me; That with your saints, I may be, praising you forever and ever. Amen

Concluding Rites

Rejoice Always

We are living in troubling times, facing a worldwide health crisis. Traditions we have known and loved have been put on hold or canceled all together. Fear and worry can sometimes encompass all of our thoughts; everywhere we turn, we see masked people and hear news of the spread of the illness or another death. It's easy for us to become discouraged or depressed. What do we do? How do we respond? Well, in times such as these it's best to look back and remember how God always comes through!

Just over 2,000 years ago, Emmanuel, which means "God is with us," changed the world. In a tiny stable in Bethlehem, God became flesh, and the people of the world watched as prophecies unfolded and hope was born. Jesus, our Emmanuel, provided hope that we wouldn't have to feel alone. Knowing God is with us strengthens and inspires us, because God is not with us only during our hours of prayer and peace, but even more so in our times of doubt and weakness, fear and uncertainty.

This weekend we celebrate "*Gaudete* Sunday" -- the Sunday of rejoicing. In today's second reading, St. Paul tells us that God wants us to "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18) We are meant to have a spirit of joy. It should be our vocation, especially if we really believe that God is with us. On the first Sunday of Advent, Father Francis challenged each of us to

become heralds (messengers) of hope, peace, love, and joy this Advent season. If we take up that challenge by sharing our joy, our sense of peace, and our love for one another, we will show the world our hope that a better day is coming!

To increase our ability to be heralds, we need to pray without ceasing and give thanks in all circumstances. God is always bending toward us, and we must bend toward Him. As Catholics, we believe He comes to us every day in his Word, in the Mass, and in the Eucharist. He is closer to us than we are to ourselves because He lives within us, if we let Him. Too often we think of Jesus as a person of the past and not as Emmanuel, the living God who remains with us even in the present. We should take every opportunity to thank Him for this gift and for all our blessings. When we develop grateful hearts, we begin to notice all the good that God has done for us and proclaim it to the world around us, fulfilling our role as heralds.

During this time of fear and uncertainty, let us refuse to worry or be afraid because when the world needed a Savior, one was sent. Jesus was given to us. He always, without fail, accompanies us, empowers us, and encourages us. So let's remember to thank Him today for His presence and keep our eyes and hearts fixed upon Him. The Lord Jesus Christ, the Almighty God is Emmanuel, and He is with us!

Colleen Burke
Evangelization Team

Virtual Advent Recollection

Today, Sunday, December 13 at 4:00 pm, you are all invited to our Cluster Virtual Advent Recollection! A recollection is intended to be a personal encounter with God often characterized by meditation, silence, reflection, and prayer. This Recollection will be presented on zoom. Please let us know if you would like to attend by emailing the office.

At the request of Pope Francis we will have our annual Good Friday Collection that was cancelled due to the Corona virus on **Sunday, Dec. 20!** This collection supports Christians living in the Holy Land. Please be generous!

SSPJ November Financials

Income -	\$8,159.91
Expense -	\$7,899.79
Surplus -	\$ 260.12
Building Fund (roof) -	\$2,270.00
Bequests -	\$ 70.00

Please consider donating a Christmas flower to decorate our altar during the Christmas season. You may bring your flower anytime and place in the kitchen. We'll be decorating after December 20 for our Christmas Eve service on December 24.

A gentle reminder that if you have not yet given to our parish fund-raising goal, please try to do so before the end of December, 2020. We have many expenses during the winter, and we want to make sure Sacred Heart continues to be a safe, happy, holy place to gather with our parish family.

Sacred Heart is collecting hats, head bands, ear muffs, scarves, mittens and gloves to be given to the elementary school at OJ after school begins in the new year. Please bring your new or hand-made items and place them in the basket at the back of church. Thanks in advance for your generous donations!

WEEKLY ANTIPHONS

Entrance Antiphon

Tuesday 12/15

Behold, the Lord will come, and all his holy ones with him; and on that day there will be a great light.

Wednesday 12/16

The Lord will come and he will not delay.
He will illumine what is hidden in darkness
and reveal himself to all the nations.

Thursday 12/17

Rejoice, O heavens, and exult, O earth,
for our Lord will come to show mercy to his poor.

Friday 12/18

Christ our King is coming,
he is the Lamb foretold by John.

Weekly Recessional Antiphon

O Root of Jesse's stem,
sign of God's love for all his people:
come to save us without delay!

From Words Among Us

Pope Francis Prayer Intention **For December**

For a Life of Prayer

**We pray that our personal
relationship with Jesus Christ be
nourished by the Word of God and a
life of prayer.**

Opportunities for Confession

Before daily mass

Before weekend masses at SSPJ & OLHR

After weekend mass at SH

Call for an appointment 563-847-2271

Cluster Parish Prayer List

1. **Our Shepherds:**

Bishop Thomas Zinkula, Archbishop
Michael Jackels, Fr. Francis Odoom,
Deacon Mike Shiel

2. **The Aged & Infirm:**

- Melvin Duwa, Dorothy Hasenmiller, Gloria Kagemann, Grace Kinney, & Dick Nodurft
- Betty Anderson, Jerica Christensen, Rich Kleineck, Leonard Lasack, Paul Lasack & Marilyn Stevenson

MASS SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Place	Intention
Saturday 12/12	05:00pm	Lost Nation	Irene Duwa
Sunday 12/13	8:00am 10:00am	Grand Mound Oxford Junction	Sandy Crosthwaite Lawrence, Chuck, David & Dennis Koppes
Tuesday 12/15	8:00am	Grand Mound	Holy Name Society
Wednesday 12/16	5:00pm	Grand Mound	Richard Nichols Family
Thursday 12/17	5:00pm	Lost Nation	Scott Benischek
Friday 12/18	08:00am	Oxford Junction	Glen Regenitter
Saturday 12/19	05:00pm	Toronto	Natalie Regan
Sunday 12/20	08:00am 10:00am	Grand Mound Oxford Junction	Monica, Howard & Harold Green Lawrence, Chuck, David & Dennis Koppes

Bulletin due dates –
 Dec. 20th due Dec. 14
 Dec. 27th due Dec. 18

DAILY READINGS

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


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