



St. Patrick

CHURCH OF HARTLAND-FOUNDED 1837

St. Patrick Parish-Hartland
15012 St. Patrick Road
Woodstock, IL 60098
815-338-7883
www.stpatrickofhartland.org

Office Hours
Tuesday and Thursdays
9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Or by appointment.
815-790-3643

Sunday, December 5th—2nd Sunday of Advent

We are a Catholic Faith Community, united in Christ through Sacrament, dedicated to charity, community, service and spiritual growth.

Parish Staff

Pastor.....Fr. Burt Absalon
Associate.....Fr. Sanchez
Marian Spirit. DR.....Fr. Warren
Deacon Joe Kayser
Deacon815-236-3803
Business Mgr. ..Jeanine Nowakowski
Jeanine.....815-790-3643
Bldg & GrdsMatt Weidner
Sacristan.....Ray Wagner
Keyboardist.....Braedon Sullivan
Keyboardist.....Aron Olivares
Cantors.....Madison Kenyon,
Avery Hill, Jordyn Kratochvil,
Caroline Stumpf and Hannah
McNulty

Sunday Masses

8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.

Confessions

30 Minutes prior to each Mass.

We need your help! If you are able to act as a server for either of our Masses, easy instruction will be provided. Please contact Jeanine at 815-790-3643. Thank you!



Disciple Stewardship: John the Baptist’s call to repentance is echoed in the U.S. bishops’ pastoral letter on stewardship: “Christians must bed God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live-the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards.”

SCRIPTURAL READINGS

December 8th Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

First Reading: Genesis 3:9-15

Adam and Eve ate from the tree that the Lord God forbade. Enmity would rise up between the serpent and the woman.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 98:1-2

Sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous deeds.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:3-6

Christians received “every spiritual blessings in the heavens” through Jesus. Through Christ, God freely chose and adopted the faithful as children.

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

The angel greeted Mary, “Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you.” The angel told Mary she would conceive a son by the power of the Holy Spirit. She answered, “May it be done to me according to your word.”

December 12th 3rd Sunday in Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6

The deserts exult and burst into flower. The hills ring with joyful song. The feeble grow strong; the frightened take courage. The Lord comes to save us.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 146:6

Lord, come and save us.

Second Reading: James 5:7-10

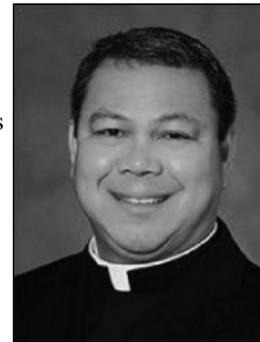
“Be patient until the coming of the Lord,” said the author of the letter of James. “The Judge is standing before the gates.” Take the prophets as your models in facing hardship. They spoke in the Lord’s name.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

John sent his disciples to ask Jesus, “are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?” Jesus answered them affirmatively, pointing to the blind who see, the lame who walk, the lepers who are cured, and the poor who hear from him good news of hope.

Dear friends in Christ,

We are now in the second Sunday of our Advent celebration. Our Gospel reading this weekend focuses on the figure of John the Baptist, one of the most powerful characters in the Bible. John had a magnetic personality as people from all walks of life are drawn to him. With his long hair, camel’s hair garment, and open sandals, he attracted crowds to hear him preach in stern and uncompromising language. He fearlessly denounced the evils of his time and shook the powers that be in their moral complacency. John’s words were clear cut in their simplicity. He came with a definite mission. That is to announce to the people that God’s kingdom is already here and if they want to enter it, positive moral changes need to take place in their lives. John the Baptist challenged the people to reform their ways, to repent of their sins and to undergo purification through baptism in river Jordan. When a group of Pharisees and Sadducees approached, he addressed them harshly as “brood of vipers.” He confronted them in their complacency and warned them not to count on the good name of their ancestors. Being descendant of Abraham would amount to nothing unless good deeds motivated by genuine love were the very expression of their lives.



John the Baptist knew that his ultimate calling in life is to pave the way for the Messiah to come. As a prophet of God, he pointed beyond himself and served as a signpost to the coming of Christ into the world. The call of John the Baptist to repentance in his time is also a present and urgent invitation for all of us to prepare a way for the Lord to come into our hearts. And when we come right down to it, it is what our Advent celebration is all about. Preparing to celebrate Christmas means renewing our lives by acknowledging our need for redemption and for Christ who is constantly calling us to higher things. John the Baptist warns us that the greatest obstacles to the Lord’s coming into our souls is sin. We are free to heed or ignore his call for repentance. Our faith, though, reminds us that we have a responsibility to make the values of Christ present wherever we go. This can never be possible unless we are making a sincere and constant effort in our lives to root out the sin that keeps holding us back. To settle for less is to treat Christ as if He were just a passing guest and not a forceful presence influencing our actions. Each event of our life is an opportunity for us to come closer to the Lord and deepen our relationship with Him through prayers and repentance. His power is at work in our lives when we make peace with the family members we have hurt and disowned, with the relations we don’t speak to, with the neighbors we have fallen out with, with the poor we have no time for and whose plight we don’t want to know about. Breaking down these barriers will open the way for Christ to come to us and be born in our hearts. May at this coming Christmas, Christ will have within our hearts a place fit for a king to be born because it is a heart cleared of sin as a result of our sincere repentance. God bless you all!



St. Patrick’s Giving Tree

If you are able, please take a tag off of our annual “Giving Tree.” We support the Valley High nursing home right here

in our community. Your generosity is appreciated! Please return the wrapped gift, with the original tag **firmly** attached to the outside of the gift Sunday December 5th or 12th. The nursing home has requested that we get them back by the 9th if possible! Thank you very much. We will also be looking for volunteers to load their cars and drive the gifts over to Valley High after each Mass.



Mass Intentions

It is time to schedule Mass intentions for 2022—please let Jeanine know through an email at:

Jeanine.nowakowski@gmail.com , or a phone call to 815-790-3643. Each Mass intention is \$10.00. We still do not have any for January, so please let me know if you would like to schedule one that soon!

Vocation Corner:

In the midst of discerning what God calls us to do with our life in both our life's vocation as well as in the day to day things, it is crucial that we don't lose sight of the big picture, which of course is the call to holiness that will lead us to heaven. Nothing else matters if we don't live in such a way as to end up enjoying eternity with our Lord when this life ends. I think that far too often we get wrapped up in what this world has to offer, and our consideration of this can lead us away from following whatever it is that God has planned for us and whatever it is that He is calling us to do. Maybe to get on the right track it would be helpful to specifically set aside time to think about the peace, the joy, and the rest that can flood in when we think about the fact that heaven is our destination. Do you think about heaven each day? Do you base your life decisions based on a desire to end up in heaven and based on what will be most conducive to achieving this reality? Don't make decisions based upon what will get you ahead in the world, rather be concerned only with pleasing the Lord and inching closer and closer to heaven, because in the end, this is the only thing that really matters!



“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, ‘Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb’”

Luke 1: 41-42 (NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission.)

St. Patrick Parish Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

5:30 p.m. Mass

Christmas Day

8:00 a.m. Mass

10:15 a.m. Mass



St. Mary Parish Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.— Mass in Church

4:05 p.m. Mass in Gym

Christmas Day

12:00 a.m., 7:30 a.m. & 9:00 a.m.
—Mass in Church



People of God

Your prayers are requested for the sick;

Casey Porch	Jeff Kruzan
Erwin Arendt	Cindy Kruzan
Lisa Ash	Robert Kutella
Mary Bassett	Barb Lanphier
Emily Davis	Henry Kranz
Renee Biestek	Steve Welch
Rich Biestek	Matt Weidner
Mary Lou	Billy Matussek
Draper	John Ferraro
Barbara Dye	Viola Huff
Wayne Dye	Paul Kries
Steve Fitzgerald	Melissa Rath
Mary Watson	Philip Weidner
Dennis Gallagher	Jeremy Scully
Mary Gillis	Geraldine Slarai
Nancy Golbeck	Derrick Verona
Gaye Johnson	Rita Hagenbruch
Rick Hoffman	



Mass Intentions

Thursday December 8th

Jim Pilat

Requested by the Wagner Family

Sunday December 12th

8:00 a.m.: Regina Rail

Requested by Gabrielle Ertmann

10:15 a.m.: Regina Kurz

Requested by Barbara Lanphier

Sacramental Policies

Baptism: Contact the parish Office to participate in the Sacramental Baptismal preparation program.

First Eucharist: Children will be permitted to approach First Eucharist upon completion of the Parish Religious Education Program required for the reception of Holy Communion.

Matrimony: Rev. Burt Absalon, should be contacted at least one year prior to the anticipated date for the marriage. It is the policy of the Rockford Diocese that those to be married be at least 19 years of age, and will be required to participate in instructional programs: including Pre-marriage and Natural Family Planning Seminars. One of those to be married must be a registered member of the St. Patrick Parish of Hartland.

Confessions: The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be available 30 minutes prior to the 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. Sunday Masses.

Anointing of the Sick: For reception of the Sacrament of the Sick, and visits, please contact the Parish office at 815-338-7883.

New Members: New members to our community are asked to fill out a registration form found in the back of the church and drop it in the collection, or contact the Parish office.



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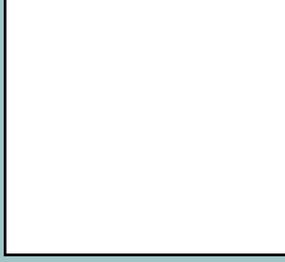
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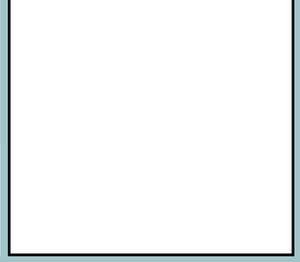


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