



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 12th—3rd 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

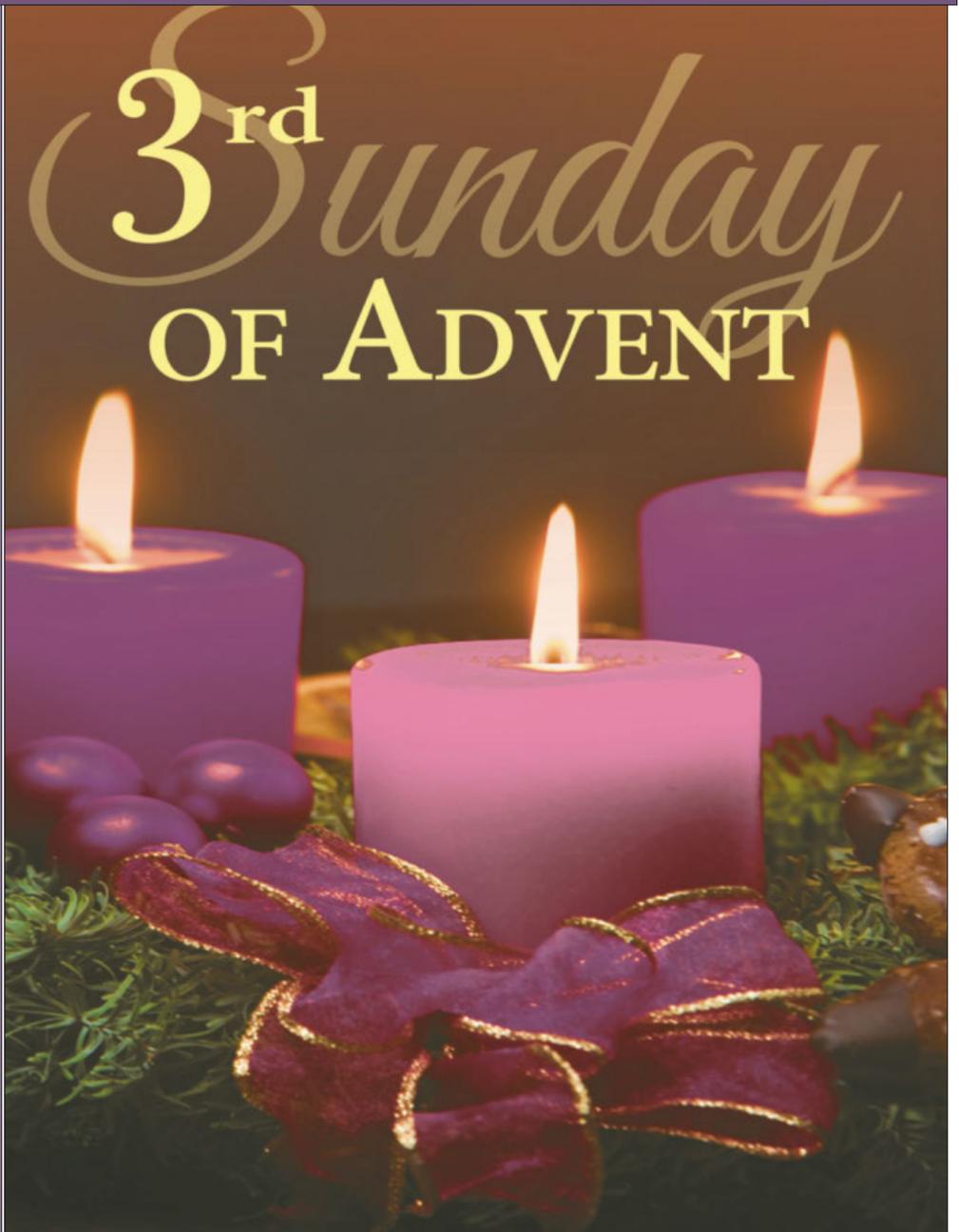
Sunday Masses

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: Each of us has his or her own role to play in the coming of the kingdom of God. John the Baptist was called to be the herald of the Messiah, preparing the way of the Lord. To what is the Lord calling me?

SCRIPTURAL READINGS
4th Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14

The Lord offered Ahaz a sign. Ahaz answered “I will not ask! I will not tempt the Lord!” Nevertheless, the Lord gave a sign. “The virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall name him Emmanuel.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 24:1-2

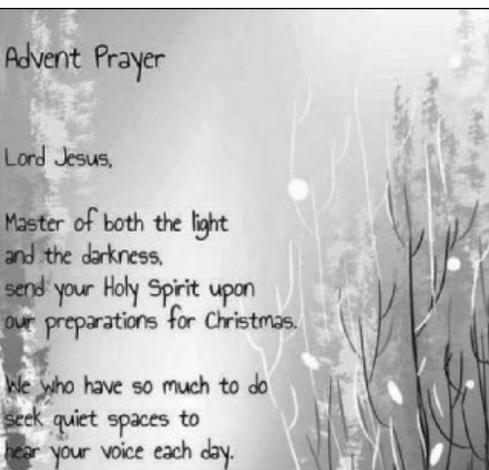
Let the Lord enter, he is king of glory.

Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

Paul told the Romans he was called to be an apostle and set apart to proclaim the gospel of God about Christ Jesus. He said to them, “We have received the grace of apostleship.” that we may spread the name and bring to faith all those called to belong to Jesus Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

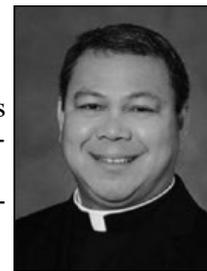
Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they wed, Mary became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph decided to break the engagement. He changed his mind when an angel in a dream told him to receive Mary as his wife.



Thank you to everyone that took a tag off our annual giving tree. The residents at Valley Hi Nursing Home appreciate your tithes of time, treasure and talent. Please keep them in your prayers.

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

In this 3rd Sunday of Advent, we continue to reflect on the Gospel which still involves John the Baptist, one of the greatest Advent figures. The Gospel reading describes John as someone who is initially unsure about the authenticity of Jesus as the coming Messiah. One could hardly blame the Baptist for experiencing doubt about the identity of Jesus. His audacity in front of the powers that be sent him to a dungeon facing the prospect of death. In his prison cell, he had been receiving reports on the peaceful behavior of Christ which did not fit the conventional expectations of a stern Messiah bringing down fire and brimstones. Anxious to find out if Christ was the promised one for whom he had prepared the people by his preaching, for whom he had worked so hard for, John the Baptist sent his messengers to Jesus with a pressing question: “*Are you the one that is to come or should we look for another?*” Jesus’ reply was not a direct yes or no; rather one that focused on the impact of His ministry on the lives of people as they come to Him. The deaf were hearing, the blind were seeing, and the lames were walking. People were beginning to experience the newness of life and the poor were receiving the Good News that God was on their side. John would hear the echo of Prophet Isaiah from the answer of Jesus. He would not be slow to draw the conclusion from such words that Christ was indeed the long awaited Messiah. He, indeed, could die in peace assured that his own life had been meaningful and that all his sacrifices had been worth it.



Perhaps like John the Baptist, we have some moments of serious doubts and profound uncertainties about the deep and abiding questions in life. Is Christ really the answer or should we look for another one? The question voiced by John has relevance in every age and indeed, is of particular importance to us this weekend. It is because the basic requirement for entry into God’s Kingdom depends on our acceptance of Jesus as the Messiah. Advent is an opportune time to renew our yes to Him and to our faith that He is the only Answer to the deepest longing for meaning within our hearts. May like John the Baptist, we rest assured knowing through faith that Jesus is the fulfillment of the words foretold by the prophets of old.

Jesus, our Messiah and Lord, came to dwell with and in us. He is Immanuel, God-with-Us. He came among us to seek the lost and heal the broken. He came for the wounded heart and the bruised soul to restore and make them whole. He came that we may have life and have it to the full. As we light the third candle of the Advent wreath, the pink Gaudete Candle symbolizing joy, we call to mind that Jesus is the source of our true Joy. Joy in Christian understanding does not mean the absence pain and suffering. Our Joy comes from knowing that Jesus is Immanuel, God-with-Us, who will be with us every step of the way. And once we know He is with us, *who can be against us? Who can separate us from the love of God?*, St. Paul rhetorically asked. Indeed, there are no troubles and woes in this world that would be able to do that. Happy Joyful Sunday!

St Patrick’s needs one or two people to represent us on the board of the Woodstock Food Pantry. They meet once every other month on Tuesday morning, you must be vaccinated for Covid. If you are interested in serving on this board please call Alie Thompson at. 815 382-8998. Thank you for your tithe of time and talent!!



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.

Vocation Corner: Time Crunch

Believe it or not Christmas is almost here! For many people I think this is the time of year when they feel incredible pressure and maybe even anxiety to get the last presents purchased and wrapped and to get the house cleaned for upcoming Christmas celebrations. The bottom line is that they are expectations placed on us that need to be fulfilled in this final week, this period of crunch time, and so it is easy to create either a mental or even jot down a physical list of things to do. What is harder to do than creating that list is to remember to put "PRAY" as the very first thing on the list (and to put it down numerous other times on the list as well so that we don't cross it off and call the job done!)

This is especially true when it comes to discerning our vocations and the bigger pieces of our lives. Society places expectations on us when we graduate from high school or college, when we get married, and at other big moments in our lives. And if we don't know exactly what our next move is, yet the time to make a move is coming close, it can be easy to forget about God. The thing is that this is the time when we need Him and His guidance the most. So put communicating with god through prayer at the top of your to-do-list each day and then have confidence that everything will work out just fine in the end.

Ministry Schedule Sunday, December 19th

8:00 a.m.

EM: Tom Rome
L: Michael Vest
U: Vest Family

10:15 a.m.

EM: Peggy Buechler
L: Rick Buechler
S: Jaclyn Fifer
S: Kevin Riley
U: Jaclyn Fifer
U: Lucas Fifer

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	Rick Hoffman
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



Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 19th

8:00 a.m.: People of the Parish

10:15 a.m.: John Hardt

Requested by Audrey Hardt Davis

Please pray for those on our sick list!

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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