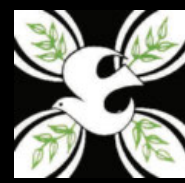


Pax Christi Catholic Church

December 5, 2021 - Second Sunday of Advent



Encountering, becoming and sharing the Presence, Love and Peace of Christ

A Note from Our Pastor

Thanks to all who joined us for the online Advent wreath service. We will gather each Sunday at 4 pm on the Pax YouTube channel as a virtual community. This week we will include a blessing of a Christmas tree. There is still time to get out your Advent wreath (or create one of your own) and be part of this beautiful devotion for the coming weeks of Advent.

Wednesday is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Please join us for one of the Masses that day: 9 am, 12:10 pm and 7 pm.

We will not be having a Communal Reconciliation this year. A few of the parishes will and we will share that info. Please watch for additional confession times in next week's bulletin. We invite you to join us at one of those times.

A couple of years ago I grabbed an Advent reflection book on the way to a meeting hoping for an appropriate prayer for the meeting. This is what I found: "Dear God, we are bombarded daily by evil news from around the world. Help us to seek you in prayer and to drink from the sources of faith so that we can accept unshaken whatever the world sends our way." Our readings today bring us a message of Advent assurance. God is at work in us and will bring God's work to completion within us. Those words are part of the Ordination Rite but also remind all of us that God's purpose goes ever forward and that God is coming to set things right in the world.

The prophet Baruch and the Psalmist offer words of hope as we long for God to do what only God can do – set things right and come in fullness to save our conflicted world. There is lots of bad news. We don't have to listen to the news or read the papers for very long to find evidence of challenge in our world. This was true for Baruch as well. The scribe Ezra also describes this event but it is not so glorious. A broken and dispirited people trudged into Jerusalem without much sense of hope. Baruch uses his exalted language to help raise the peoples' spirits.

The Gospel also roots God's working in human history. The list of the rulers of the age show us that God's Word is not otherworldly. Luke is very specific and concrete in placing where and when the Word of God came to John. He spells out the date and the political and religious realities of the time. It is a reminder that no matter what we face in life, the Word of God is present and active in the here and now.

Fr. John Sauer

MASS

Saturday 5:15 pm

Sunday

7:30 † 9:00, 10:45 am

LIVESTREAM †

Watch live or view later.

www.youtube.com/c/PaxChristiChurch

DAILY

T - 9 am

W - 9 am & 5:30 pm

TH - 9 am

F - 9 am

RECONCILIATION

Sat. 4-5pm or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

4 am-11 pm

T, W & Th

Chapel

All are welcome any time!
For the door code or to sign up for an hour:

adoration.coordinator@gmail.com

paxchristchurch.org

507-282-8542

4135 - 18th AVE NW

Rochester, MN 55901



Follow us on Facebook



Pastor
Fr. John
Sauer



Fr. Shawn
Haremza

Advent



Nativity Painting

Every year a parishioner generously donates her time, talent, and treasure so each of our elementary youth may have a wooden Nativity set. Everything is provided.

Please register.

<https://paxchristichurch.org/wooden-nativity-sets>

Join us to paint on
Sunday, Dec. 5 & Sunday Dec. 12
11:45 am - 2 pm

New pieces added every year. Missing a piece or two?
No problem. We'll get you caught up.



Christmas Concert

featuring the Lourdes High School
Center Street Singers & Hi-Liters



Tuesday, Dec. 7
7 pm
Church



All are welcome ~ Free will offering

Nativity Play

Sunday, Dec. 19
6 pm

All are welcome!

Sign up to participate:

K-Grade 5

Rehearsals:

- Dec. 5, 12 - 4:30-5:30 pm
- Dec. 19 - 4 pm (program @ 6 pm)

Sign up:

<https://paxchristichurch.org/nativity-program>

Questions?

annebajzer@gmail.com



Children's Choir for Christmas Eve 4 pm Mass

Children 1st grade and older
are invited to sing for

Christmas Eve 4 pm Mass. We rehearse
prior to the Nativity program practices:

- Sun. Dec. 5, 3:30-4:30 pm
- Sun. Dec. 12, 3:30-4:30 pm
- Sun. Dec. 19, 3-4 pm

Questions?

Email Stephanie Rauh
ssrauh@gmail.com

Do you need an Advent wreath?

Kits are available:

- M-F 8:30-4:30 in the church office
- After 5:15 pm Saturday or 10:45 am Sunday Mass in lower level of church

A suggested donation of
\$10 is appreciated.



Prayer & Liturgy



Where do I find a
holy place to
encounter God daily?

Lk 3:1-6

Mass Times

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday, Dec 8 - (Holy Day of Obligation)

9 am, 12:10 pm & 7 pm

Christmas

Friday, Dec. 24 ~ No 9 am daily Mass

4 pm (Children's Choir)

6 pm **MASKS REQUIRED**

10 pm* (Cantata at 9:25 pm)

Livestream - www.youtube.com/c/PaxChristiChurch

Saturday, Dec 25 ~ No 5:15 pm Saturday Mass

10 am* (Cantata at 9:25 am)

* incense used

www.paxchristichurch.org



EXPLORING THE MYSTERIES OF LIFE

The Search explores life's biggest questions, assists in finding or reigniting meaning and purpose, and strengthens one's faith. While *The Search* is video based, it is not meant just to be watched . . . and it is certainly not meant to be watched alone.



For seven weeks in January and February, Pax Christi will be hosting *The Search* Parties, video presentations and small group discussion.

Join our Search Party team. Host, discussion leaders, hospitality, and prayer intercessors are needed.

Contact the parish office.

282-8542

Watch all episodes and learn more!

www.paxchristichurch.org/the-search

**We welcome Kiyara Lynn Arneson
through the holy waters of Baptism**

Mother: Kayla Arneson
Grandparent: Melinda Hight

Saturday, Dec. 4



Readings for the Week

**Monday
December 6**

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14
Luke 5:17-26

**Tuesday
December 7**

Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13
Matthew 18:12-14

**Wednesday
December 8**

*Immaculate
Conception of the
Blessed Virgin
Mary*

Genesis 3:9-15, 20
Psalm 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4
Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12
Luke 1:26-38

**Thursday
December 9**

Isaiah 41:13-20
Psalm 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab
Matthew 11:11-15

**Friday
December 10**

Isaiah 48:17-19
Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6
Matthew 11:16-19

**Saturday
December 11**

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11
Psalm 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19
Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

**Sunday
December 12**

*Third Sunday of
Advent*

Zephaniah 3:14-18a
Psalm: Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6.
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18

Mass Intentions

† Deceased

Monday, December 6 - No Mass

Tuesday, December 7, 9:00 am Living and deceased members of the Mary Hines family†

Wednesday, December 8 - Immaculate Conception

9:00 am Gabriel Hell † & David Falk †

12:10 pm - Living and deceased members of Kroczenki family

7:00 pm - Nancy McAlpine †

Thursday, December 9, 9:00 am Walt Schultz †

Friday, December 10, 9:00 am Willy McConnell†

Saturday, December 11, 5:15 pm Don Pankowski †

Sunday, December 12

7:30 am Pax Christi parishioners

9:00 am David & Denise Gunderson (Birthday)

10:45 am Rob Streit †

Time, Talent & Treasure

Catholic Charities - Afghan Refugee Resettlement

Pax Christi is proud to walk in solidarity with those in need as a Community Sponsor with the Catholic Charities Refugee Resettlement Program. Our role will be to welcome one family from Afghanistan and help them get settled into the Rochester community. Pax Christi volunteers may help the family find a grocery store, sort through mail to identify bills or junk mail, transport families to appointments, or become familiar with our banks.

Right now, we are collecting names of those willing to help. The next step will be a training and a Q & A session with Catholic Charities, and then we will wait for our family to arrive in Rochester.

**Please contact Jessica
in the parish office for more information.**

**Jessica.Scully@PaxChristiChurch.org
507-282-8542 ext. 104**

"Community Sponsorship is a way to "welcome the stranger" through actions; by walking beside a refugee family from the moment they arrive through the first 6 months in the US."

www.ccsomn.org/refugee-resettlement-program/community-sponsorship/

2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Catechist Spotlight

My name is Miss Amy. I am from the Zumbro Falls area, and I have an 8 year old son. What I enjoy most is spending time with my son and family. I love to be outside and enjoy many things such as, walking, hiking, hunting, going to tractor and truck pulls, as well as demolition derbies, vacations, making lots of memories with my son, etc. I am excited to meet each and everyone of you.



This year three parishioners donated their time and talent to create over 50 brand new costumes for the children to wear during our Nativity Play on Dec. 19. If you would like to make a donation to help with the cost of material, please make checks payable to Pax Christi with "Nativity Play" in the memo line or place in an envelope marked "Nativity Play."

Thank you for your support.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, Dec. 5: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:45 am Mass

11:45 am - Nativity Painting, Dining Hall

3:30 pm - Children's Choir for 4 pm Christmas Mass, Choir Room

4:00 pm - Men's Holy Hour, Chapel

4:00 pm - Advent Wreath lighting, Church

4:30 pm - Nativity Play rehearsal, McCauley Hall

6:00 pm - Kingdom Kids faith formation, lower level

6:00 pm - Confirmation and Youth Ministry, Youth Center & lower level church

Monday, Dec. 6: No Mass

6:30 pm - Bible Study, Zoom

Tuesday, Dec. 7: 9:00 am Mass

9:30 am - Bible Study, Zoom

9:30 am - Rosary Makers, Library

4:30 pm - Divine Will Cenacle, Room 2

6:00 pm - Women of Pax & Men of Pax pizza, Dining Hall

6:30 pm - Baptism Class

6:30 pm - Lumen Christi Prayer Group, Church

7:00 pm - Lourdes High School Christmas Concert, Church

Wednesday, Dec. 8: 9:00 am, 12:10 pm & 7:00 pm

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

6:30 am - Bible Study, Office Round Table

Thursday, Dec. 9: 9:00 am Mass

6:00 pm - Saturday 5:15 pm Choir practice, Choir Room

6:30 pm - RCIA, Library

Friday, Dec. 10: 9:00 am Mass

7:00 pm - Frassati Fraternity, Youth Center

Saturday, Dec. 11: 5:15 pm Mass

10:00 am - RCIA, Library

4:00 pm - Reconciliation, Reconciliation room

Sunday, Dec. 12: 7:30, 9:00 & 10:45 am Mass

11:45 am - Nativity Painting, Dining Hall

3:30 pm - Children's Choir for 4 pm Christmas Mass, Choir Room

4:00 pm - Advent Wreath lighting, Church

4:30 pm - Nativity Play rehearsal, McCauley Hall

6:00 pm - Kingdom Kids faith formation, lower level

6:00 pm - Confirmation and Youth Ministry, Youth Center & lower level church

Catholic Community

Discipleship Quad Information Night

Tues. Dec. 7

7:30 pm

St. James Coffee, Rochester

Are you interested in investing in your faith with three others this 2022? Come learn how to run a Discipleship Quad, view the free materials, and get connected with others who are interested.

Rochester Catholic Young Adults

For more information on any of our activities, events, or efforts please visit our website:

www.rochestercatholicmn.org



Mark your calendar for a fun, family-friendly event this season!

Join together with family and friends to solve 15 clues, each with a mission to complete in your home, neighborhood, or in the Rochester community.

Many festive photo opportunities along the way, too!

Free and open to the public.

Learn more and RSVP by December 8

www.rcsmn.org/christmas

Pope Francis new book - *Let Us Dream*

Amazon Review:

***Let Us Dream* is an epiphany, a call to arms, and a pleasure to read. It is Pope Francis at his most personal, profound and passionate. With this book and with open hearts, we can change the world.**

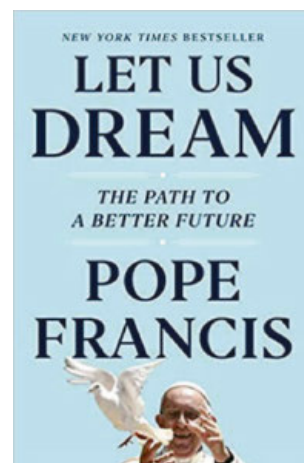
In the COVID crisis, the beloved shepherd of over one billion Catholics saw the cruelty and inequity of our society exposed more vividly than ever before. He also saw, in the resilience, generosity, and creativity of so many people, the means to rescue our society, our economy, and our planet. In direct, powerful prose, Pope Francis urges us not to let the pain be in vain.

He begins *Let Us Dream* by exploring what this crisis can teach us about how to handle upheaval of any kind in our own lives and the world at large. With unprecedented candor, he reveals how three crises in his own life changed him dramatically for the better....If we have the courage to change, we can emerge from the crisis better than before.

Francis then offers a brilliant, scathing critique of the systems and ideologies that conspired to produce the current crisis, from a global economy obsessed with profit and heedless of the people and environment it harms, to politicians who foment their people's fear and use it to increase their own power at their people's expense. He reminds us that Christians' first duty is to serve others, especially the poor and the marginalized, just as Jesus did.

Finally, the Pope offers an inspiring and actionable blueprint for building a better world for all humanity by putting the poor and the planet at the heart of new thinking... Yet rather than simply offer prescriptions, he shows how ordinary people acting together despite their differences can discover unforeseen possibilities.

Along the way, he offers dozens of wise and surprising observations on the value of unconventional thinking, on why we must dramatically increase women's leadership in the Church and throughout society, on what he learned while scouring the streets of Buenos Aires with garbage-pickers, and much more.



Advent Prayer

Heavenly Father, give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts.

May the Lord find us watching and waiting in joy when He comes. Amen.

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