

# Pax Christi Catholic Church



December 26, 2021- Christmas & Feast of the Holy Family

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

## *A Note from Our Pastor*

On behalf of the parish staff and trustees, I wish A Joyous and Merry Christmas to all. We welcome in a special way our young people, who have been away at college, working or have settled in another place as they return at Christmas. We are blessed to have you join us. May you experience the peace of the Christ Child.

Let us welcome the Prince of Peace into our hearts and our world. This from an early American carol.

*Lovely Child, Holy Child, Gentle, mild, Undefined;  
Infant King, Fairest King, Gifts we'll bring and anthems sing: Alleluia.*

*Child of light, Born tonight, Our delight, Promise bright;  
Child so fair: See him there; Now declare him ev'rywhere: Alleluia.*

*Rest thy head, Sweetest head; Gifts we'll spread At thy bed.  
Jesus Lord, Be adored, May this word now be outpoured: Alleluia.*

*To this boy, Our great joy, We employ Hymns of joy;  
Child so fair; See him there; Now declare him ev'rywhere: Alleluia*

A **tremendous "thank you"** to all who worked so hard on our beautiful Christmas liturgies. Many hours are spent in planning and preparation (think of the hours spent just by our musicians!). How blessed we are with such dedicated parishioners and staff who, each year, go out of their way to assist us in our praise and worship – not just on this one week but every week throughout the year. May the Lord bless them in a special way as we enter a new calendar year.

Family is an important aspect of our parish life. The Sunday after Christmas is the **Feast of the Holy Family**. We celebrate that Jesus came, not fully formed and powerful but, in the midst of a human family. The vulnerability of the baby Jesus is a mirror of our own vulnerability as we make our way through life. I am struck by the ways that dreams take center stage in the nativity narratives of Matthew and Luke's Gospels. A few years ago, Pope Francis spoke to a meeting with families and talked about the importance of dreams in our families:

"I am very fond of dreams in families. For nine months, every mother and father dream about their baby. Am I right? [Yes!] They dream about what kind of child he or she will be... You can't have a family without dreams. Once a family loses the ability to dream, children do not grow, love does not grow, life shrivels up and dies. So I ask you each evening, when you make your examination of conscience, to also ask yourselves this question: Today did I dream about my children's future? Today did I dream about the love of my husband, my wife? Did I dream about my parents and grandparents who have gone before me?" –  
Address, Meeting with Families, January 16, 2015

**January 1 is the Solemnity of Mary**, under her title of Mother of God, and a **holy day of obligation**. Please check this bulletin for Mass times. The title "Mother of God" is one of the most ancient of all Mary's titles.

*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/](http://www.youtube.com/c/PaxChristiChurch)

[PaxChristiChurch](http://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**

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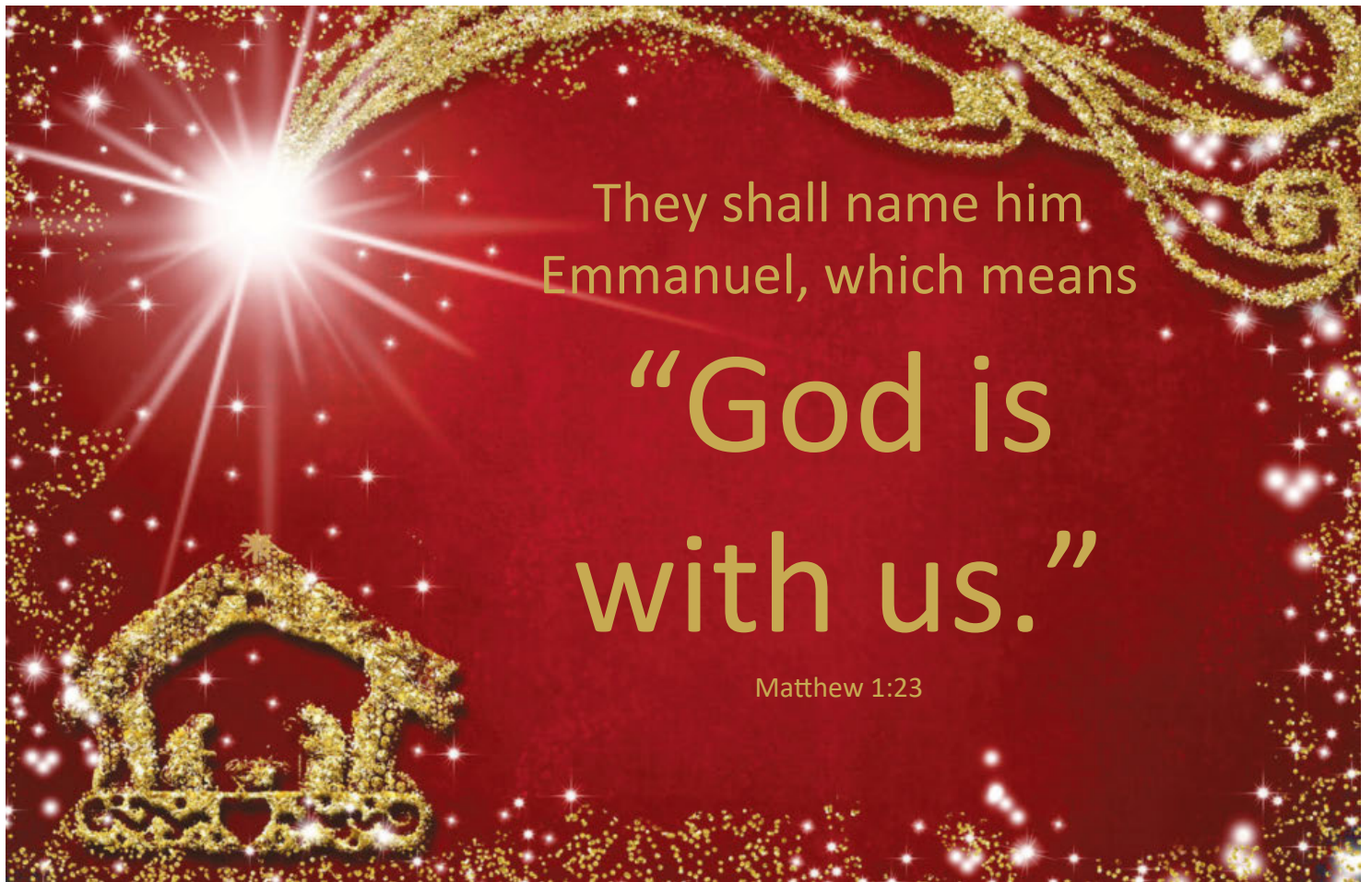
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**Pastor**  
Fr. John  
Sauer



Fr. Shawn  
Haremza



## God is With Us in the Sacraments

### Sacraments of Initiation

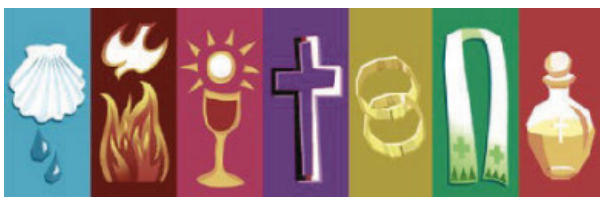
- † Baptism - Sign up for the 40 minute class. [www.paxchristichurch.org/baptism](http://www.paxchristichurch.org/baptism)
- † Confirmation - Be sealed with the Holy Spirit. Contact Anna Nordquist: [anordquist@paxchristichurch.org](mailto:anordquist@paxchristichurch.org)
- † Eucharist - Welcome to the table of the Lord. Children contact Michelle Todd [mtodd@paxchristichurch.org](mailto:mtodd@paxchristichurch.org); adults: Fr. John Sauer - [jsauer@paxchristichurch.org](mailto:jsauer@paxchristichurch.org)

### Sacraments of Service to Others

- † Holy Orders - Is God calling you to the priesthood? Contact Fr. Jason Kern at the Diocese of Winona-Rochester. [www.dowr.org/offices/vocations/index.html](http://www.dowr.org/offices/vocations/index.html)
- † Matrimony - A union between you, your spouse, and God. Contact the office at least six months prior to your wedding date. 507-282-8542.

### Sacraments of Healing

- † Reconciliation - Experience the healing love of Jesus. Saturdays 4-5 pm or by appointment. Our reconciliation room is located in the north hallway by the Vocations Board.
- † Anointing of the Sick - Healing of mind and body. Contact the office to schedule 507-282-8542.



### Upcoming Mass Times

#### Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

Friday, Dec. 31, 5 pm; Daily Mass 9 am

Saturday, Jan. 1, 9 am

#### Epiphany of the Lord (Regular Sunday Mass times)

Saturday Jan. 1, 5:15 pm

Sunday, Jan. 2

7:30 am, 9 am & 10:45 am



# God is With Us in Parish Life

With Covid still impacting our parish and our world, many parish activities were adapted to either meet online or to ensure social distancing. Pews were roped and parish meals in person were halted. Besides daily and Sunday Mass, highlights of our parish activities this year were:

- ♥ Summer Picnics - four Wednesdays over the summer we were able to get together outside to reconnect over a meal.
- ♥ Faith formation met in person!
- ♥ Summer Camps for elementary, middle school & high school
- ♥ Knights of Columbus continued their monthly parish meals, but transitioned to drive through pick-up.
- ♥ Ministry Fair was held the weekend of October 9 & 10. Parishioners were able to meet with leaders of ministry groups.
- ♥ GPS - Glorious Praise through Song met the fourth Saturday of the month for informal praise and worship audience participation music. Dates for 2022: Jan. 22, Feb. 26, Mar. 26, and Apr. 23
- ♥ Men of Pax meetings and Steak Dinner
- ♥ Saint Vincent de Paul continued to meet and help those less fortunate in our community
- ♥ Prayer shawl



We thank all those who returned to in-person activities. This last year has been a challenge!



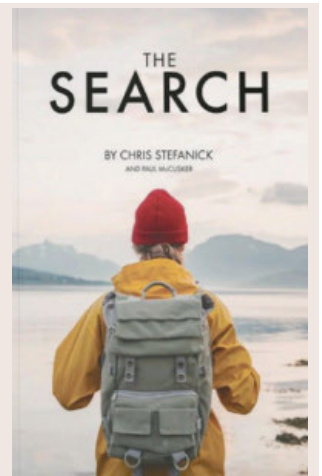
## EXPLORING THE MYSTERIES OF LIFE

*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. 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](http://www.paxchristichurch.org/the-search)



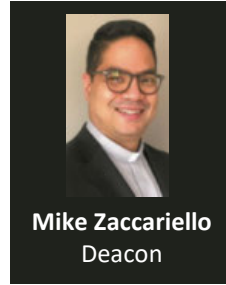
# God is With Us as We Serve Others

**Catholic Charities - Afghan Refugee Resettlement** Pax Christi is proud to be a Community Sponsor and walk in solidarity with those in need. We'll welcome one family from Afghanistan and help them get settled into the Rochester community in various ways: finding a grocery store, sorting through mail to identify bills or junk mail, transporting families to appointments, or becoming familiar with our banks. We are currently collecting names of those willing to help, then there will be a training and a Q & A session with Catholic Charities. The final step is to 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

[www.ccsomn.org/refugee-resettlement-program/community-sponsorship/](http://www.ccsomn.org/refugee-resettlement-program/community-sponsorship/)



As many of you know, Deacon Mike Zaccariello is a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army Reserves. He just left for a six month deployment. Look for his address in the coming

months in the bulletin. He has also asked that if

you choose to write to him that you also include a letter to "any service member" that he can pass on to another soldier who may not have received any mail that day.



# God is With Us in Prayer

## Encounters with Mary - Saints Who Held Baby Jesus

Many of us have seen the holy cards or statues of saints such as Saint Anthony tenderly cradling the Infant Jesus in their arms—but are we familiar with the beautiful true stories behind these depictions? For



example, Anthony often spent time praying in a hermitage supported by a Count about 11 miles from Padua. One night, Anthony's little cell suddenly filled up with light when Jesus appeared to him in the form of a tiny child. Passing by the hermitage, the Count saw the light shining from the room and Anthony holding the infant. The Count fell to his knees upon seeing this wondrous sight. When the vision ended, Anthony saw the Count kneeling at the door. He begged Count Tiso not to reveal what he had seen until after his death. Come and explore with us this and other heartwarming stories of saints who held Baby Jesus.

## Encounters with Mary

Pax Christi Church

Monday, December 27

7 pm

Artwork and arias at 6:45pm

Do you know somebody who can't make it to Mass?



**HOMEBOUND MINISTRY**



Contact Brigitte at 226-0396 or get them signed up for visits at:



Our Ministry Teams would love to bring your friends and loved ones Holy Communion and offer them a visit



# God is With Us as We Joyfully Give

## End of Year Donations

With the end of the tax year upon us, now is the time to catch up on charitable donations.

Deadlines to make a 2021 contribution:

- Drop off in the parish office by 4:30 pm on December 30.
- Ensure it is received in the U.S. mail by December 31.
- Place in the Sunday collection basket at Mass on December 24, 25 or 26.

All contributions received after these deadlines will be credited to 2022 calendar year donations.

*As Christian stewards, we receive God's gifts gratefully,  
cultivate them responsibly,  
share them lovingly in justice with others,  
and return them with increase to the Lord.*

Time,  
Talent,  
and  
Treasure



Fall 2021

Pax Christi is an active parish. With our many opportunities to share your time and talent, you are sure to find an area that fits your gifts and interests.

Pick up a copy of our Time, Talent & Treasure booklet in the Gathering Area, in the office, or view it online.

[www.paxchristchurch.org/ministries](http://www.paxchristchurch.org/ministries)

We graciously thank you for your one-time or on-going gift.

Online Giving 

[PaxChristiChurch.org](http://PaxChristiChurch.org)

CHRISTMAS



## Thank You to Our Volunteers

Many of you give so selflessly of your time and talent throughout the year. Our liturgical ministers, our choirs, our faith formation leaders, our landscaping crew, our launderers, and many others keep our parish running.

Michelle Todd, Elementary Faith Formation Coordinator, thanks some extraordinary volunteers who gave of themselves during the Advent season:

*I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to a few special volunteers who made preparing for Advent so much fun. Not only did I have fun, but the children were elated and captivated by everything that went on during the month of Advent.*

*Julie Viet, you began preparing for a set of costumes for Summer Camp in April. This started the ball rolling for the Nativity costumes. After you created 10 new camp costumes you kept looking for more and more ways to utilize much of a fabric stash. Then you continued to inspire me during Advent and the preparation for the children. Little did I know how much excitement you created. You had to ask Val Broz and*

*Judy Savage to assist in finishing up the costumes. I am also grateful they said yes and assisted you to completion. Julie, your time, talent and treasure created over 60 new costumes that will be utilized by many future students of Pax Christi. For this, I am grateful.*

*Anne Bajzer, I thought you were over prepared to start asking children to sign up to be in the Nativity Play in late October. You nailed the timing perfectly. You created an easy to use electronic sign up, you organized a script with music, made time for rehearsals on three consecutive weekends and you directed 55 students through a beautiful performance.*

*Kathy Linder-Nigon, you once again took the time to come at the end of November and stock our wooden pieces and accessories for the Nativity Painting. You made a lot of children delighted by giving them the ability to paint some very quality pieces of wood for their Nativity Sets. This tradition is something so many children have done for over 30 years.*

*I wish I could say more than thank you. May you all be bountiful in blessings and know how much you mean to our programs, our parish and me. I thank you from the bottom of my heart and for Pax Christi's faith formation programs, we thank you.*

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