
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT | DECEMBER 20, 2020



CATHEDRAL OF SAINT PAUL
NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE APOSTLE PAUL
239 Selby Avenue, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102
651.228.1766 | www.cathedralsaintpaul.org

Rev. John L. Ubel, Rector
Priests In Residence: Rev. Mark Pavlak & Rev. Joseph Bambenek
Deacons Phil Stewart, Ron Schmitz & Nao Kao Yang

ARCHDIOCESE OF SAINT PAUL AND MINNEAPOLIS

Most Rev. Bernard A. Hebda, Archbishop
Most Rev. Andrew H. Cozzens, Auxiliary Bishop



LITURGY GUIDE FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Congregational singing is suspended per COVID protocol.

INTROIT *Rorate caeli* *Gregorian Missal, Mode I*
Rorate caeli desuper, et nubes pluant iustum: aperiatur terra, et germinet Salvatorem. *Ps.* Caeli enarrant gloriam Dei: et opera manuum eius annuntiat firmamentum.

Skies, let the Just One come forth like the dew, let him descend from the clouds like the rain. The earth will open up and give birth to our Savior.

∞. The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament proclaims the work of his hands. *Is 45:8; Ps 19*

GREETING *Roman Missal*

Celebrant: ✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Assembly: Amen.

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. *(or similar greeting)*

Assembly: And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL ACT *Confiteor*

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And striking the breast, say:
through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

KYRIE *Sung by Cantor/Schola alone* *Kyrie salve, Missa XVII*
(10:00) Missa: Super Dixit Maria, Hans Leo Hassler

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison
Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

COLLECT (OPENING PRAYER)

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING *2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16*

When King David was settled in his palace, and the LORD had given him rest from his enemies on every side,

he said to Nathan the prophet,
"Here I am living in a house of cedar,
while the ark of God dwells in a tent!"

Nathan answered the king,
"Go, do whatever you have in mind,
for the LORD is with you."

But that night the LORD spoke to Nathan and said:
"Go, tell my servant David, 'Thus says the LORD:
Should you build me a house to dwell in?'"

"It was I who took you from the pasture
and from the care of the flock
to be commander of my people Israel.
I have been with you wherever you went,
and I have destroyed all your enemies before you.

And I will make you famous like the great ones of the earth.
I will fix a place for my people Israel;
I will plant them so that they may dwell in their place
without further disturbance.

Neither shall the wicked continue to afflict them as they did of old,
since the time I first appointed judges over my people Israel.

I will give you rest from all your enemies.
The LORD also reveals to you
that he will establish a house for you.

And when your time comes and you rest with your ancestors,

I will raise up your heir after you, sprung from your loins,
and I will make his kingdom firm.

I will be a father to him,
and he shall be a son to me.

Your house and your kingdom shall endure forever before me;
your throne shall stand firm forever."

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Cantor, Schola, or Lector alone*
Psalm 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 *J. Randolph Currie*

Ant., For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing for ever of your love, O LORD;
through all ages my mouth will proclaim your truth.
Of this I am sure, that your love lasts for ever,
that your truth is firmly established as the heavens.

"With my chosen one I have made a covenant;

I have sworn to David my servant:
I will establish your dynasty for ever
And set up your throne through all ages."

He will say to me: 'You are my father,
My God, the rock who saves me!'

I will keep my love for him always;
With him my covenant shall last.

SECOND READING *Romans 16:25-27*

Brothers and sisters:
To him who can strengthen you,
according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ,
according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret for long ages
but now manifested through the prophetic writings and,
according to the command of the eternal God,
made known to all nations to bring about the obedience of faith,
to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ
be glory forever and ever.
Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Sung by Cantor alone*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.

May it be done to me according to your word.

GOSPEL *Luke 1:26-38*

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David,
and the virgin's name was Mary.

And coming to her, he said,

"Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you."

But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

Then the angel said to her,

"Do not be afraid, Mary,
for you have found favor with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.

He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,
and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,
and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever,
and of his kingdom there will be no end."

But Mary said to the angel,

"How can this be,
since I have no relations with a man?"

And the angel said to her in reply,

"The Holy Spirit will come upon you,
and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.

Therefore the child to be born
will be called holy, the Son of God.

And behold, Elizabeth, your relative,
has also conceived a son in her old age,
and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;
for nothing will be impossible for God."

Mary said,
"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word."
Then the angel departed from her.

HOMILY

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

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,

*All bow while saying
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.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER *Assembly:* Lord, hear our prayer.

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREPARATION OF THE ALTAR AND GIFTS

HYMN *Sung by Cantor alone* CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM
Creator of the Stars of Night

MOTET (10:00) *Dixit Maria* Hans Leo Hassler
Dixit Maria ad Angelum: Ecce ancilla Dómini, fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum.
Mary said to the Angel: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord.
May it be done to me according to your word." *Lk 1:38*

SANCTUS *Sung by Cantor/Schola alone* Missa XVII

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dóminus Deus Sábaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra glória tua. Hosánna in excélsis.
Benedíctus qui venit in nómine Dómini.
Hosánna in excélsis.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION *Roman Missal*

Assembly: We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

AGNUS DEI *Sung by Cantor/Schola alone*

Missa XVII

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: miserére nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: miserére nobis.
Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccáta mundi: dona nobis pacem.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,
grant us peace.

ECCE AGNUS DEI

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away
the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the
supper of the Lamb.

Assembly: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter
under my roof, but only say the word, and my soul
shall be healed.

AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (5:15 p.m., 10:00 a.m.)

For those who cannot be present

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I
love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.
Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spirit-
ually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite
myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHONS *Ecce virgo* *Gregorian Missal, Mode I*

Ecce Virgo concípíet, et páriet filium: et vocábitur nomen eius Emmánuel.

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called
Emmanuel. *Is 7:14*

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel VENI EMMANUEL

(10:00) *Ave Maria (Angelus Domini)* Franz Biebl

Ángelus Dómini nuntiávit Mariæ; et concépit de Spíritu Sancto.
Ave María, grátia plena, Dóminus tecum. Benedícta tu in muliéribus, et ben-
edíctus fructus ventris tui, Iésus. María dixit: Ecce ancilla Dómini, fiat mihi
secúndum verbum tuum. Ave María... Et verbum caro factum est, et
habitávit in nobis. Ave María... Sancta María, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis pec-
catóribus, nunc, et in hora mortis nostræ. Amen.

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary; and she conceived of the Holy
Spirit. Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou
amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Mary said, Be-
hold the handmaid of the Lord: be it done unto me according to Thy word.
Hail Mary... And the Word was made flesh: and dwelt among us. Hail
Mary... Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and in the
hour of our death. Amen.

RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION BY THE ASSEMBLY

*Holy Communion will be distributed by individual sections of pews. Please
wait until a Communion distributor arrives at your section before proceed-
ing. Maintain a distance of two pews between yourself and the nearest in-
dividual ahead of you in line who is not from your household. Distribution
begins at the sections nearest the exits and ends in the center aisle. For
Holy Communion in the hand – please extend your hands, one directly over
the other, as the Sacred Host is deposited. For those desiring to receive
Communion on the tongue, please make your way to the Center Aisle,
where both options for reception will be available. All other sections will
be reserved for Communion in the hand, so as to reassure any who may be
concerned. Furthermore, if any contact is made whatsoever, sanitization
will take place immediately before the next communicant comes forward.
Upon reception of Holy Communion, please step aside and consume the Sa-
cred Host immediately before returning to your pew.
Thank you for your cooperation.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

ANNOUNCEMENTS, BLESSING, AND DISMISSAL

HYMN *Sung by Cantor/Schola alone* NUN KOMM DER HEIDEN HEILAND
Savior of the Nations, Come

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CATHEDRAL HOURS

CATHEDRAL - COVID-19 HOURS

Monday - Friday 7:15 to 8:15 a.m.

Sunday Church opens approx. 25 minutes before Mass
Church Office is temporarily closed during Covid-19

SUNDAY MASS

Anticipatory (Saturday) 5:15 p.m.

Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., Noon, & 5:00 p.m.

DAILY MASS - COVID-19 SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Monday - Friday 3:45 to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED DURING COVID-19

Tuesday 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Wednesday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ROSARY

TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED DURING COVID-19

Sundays at 11:15 a.m. in the Cana Chapel and at

6:00 p.m. in the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin

Weekdays at 4:40 p.m. in the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin

OFFICE HOURS (RECTORY AT 239 SELBY AVENUE)

TEMPORARILY CLOSED DURING COVID-19

WELCOME CENTER HOURS

Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

GUIDED TOURS

TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED DURING COVID-19

Offered Tuesday-Friday at 1:00 p.m. (except on holy days
and national holidays).

MUSEUM HOURS

TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED DURING COVID-19

Call the Cathedral at 651.228.1766 for hours of operation.

VIRTUAL TOURS

Visit www.stpaulcathedraltour.com for a mobile app tour
and to virtually "walk through" the Cathedral.

RADIO BROADCAST ON RELEVANT RADIO® 1330 AM

The 5:15 p.m. Saturday Mass is recorded and aired on

Relevant Radio 1330 AM Sundays: 9:00 a.m.

Weekday Masses are recorded and broadcast at 7:30 p.m.

Monday through Friday.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL CAMPUS

Twin Cities Hmong Catholic Community

Located at 651 Virginia Street, Saint Paul

Sunday Mass (Hmong and English) 9:00 a.m.

SUNDAY STEWARDSHIP

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DECEMBER 6, 2020

Sunday Envelopes	\$	6,140.00
Member EFT	\$	8,611.84
Plate	\$	1,113.54
Total Sunday Contributions	\$	15,865.38
Second Fuel Collection	\$	3,297.48
Thanksgiving (additional)	\$	230.00

Thank you for your tremendous generosity!

Saint Vincent de Paul Campus	\$	n/a
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"WHY DISTINCTIONS MATTER": VACCINES AND PRO-LIFE



It wasn't the biology classes that did me in; rather, chemistry and physics forced me to reconsider my pre-Med plans. That combined with a gnawing sense of vocation led me to switch to a philosophy major midway through my sophomore year. My "pre-Med" chapter ended for good— "all in" for the seminary! So, to write about **vaccines** today is a bit of a stretch.

On such **thorny issues** my "go to" source on such matters has long been the **National Catholic Bioethics Center**, located in Philadelphia. Founded in 1972, its mission is "to promote and safeguard the dignity of the human person in medicine and the life sciences, thereby sharing in the ministry of Jesus Christ and his Church." They are a reliable guide through a maze of complex issues. Bottom line—some COVID vaccines **never** made use of cell lines that originated in fetal tissue at any level of design, development or production. Others did. **Distinctions matter.**

The USCCB Committees on Pro-life Activities and Doctrine issued a joint statement on Dec. 14: "In view of the gravity of the current pandemic and the lack of availability of alternative vaccines, the reasons to accept the new COVID-19 vaccines from **Pfizer** and **Moderna** are sufficiently serious to justify their use, despite their remote connection to morally compromised cell lines." Read it [here](#). With respect to these two vaccines, **zero material** derived from any cell line from an abortion is present in these vaccines. But the story does not end there. The "remote connection" refers principally to **limited use in lab testing** of the vaccine from those unethical cell lines developed decades ago. What does that mean? It means they reached back to already existing tainted cell lines for testing, though not in the production of the new vaccine. Still, some will object. Yet, such cooperation is **so remote** as to remove moral culpability upon those **receiving the vaccination**, which should be considered an act of love for our neighbor in service of the common good.

Take the case of **German measles**, one of the most dangerous infections for a pregnant woman to contract. Congenital rubella can cause serious abnormalities in the fetus, even resulting in spontaneous abortion (miscarriage), induced abortion, or neonatal death. No vaccine exists for this that did not involve aborted fetal cell lines. The Catholic position has been to **strongly advocate** to develop **other cell lines**, so that scientists initiate **no new cell lines** with remote **fetal** origins. A fetal cell line is taken from an aborted baby, multiplied into many cells of the same kind. They may be grown indefinitely, used to grow viruses and then create inactive viruses for vaccines. But vaccines can be **developed ethically** using cells from animals, insects, chicken eggs, yeast or even no cells. A vaccine works when a lipid particle containing genetic instructions (mRNA) merges with a person's cells, "telling it" how to make a viral protein. Recognizing this as foreign, our immune cells create antibodies. These stockpiled antibodies then go into overdrive should an actual virus invade us.

Cell lines maintained from aborted fetuses, even many decades ago, continue to be used in various ways in the laborious process of vaccine development. In June 2005, the **Pontifical Academy for Life** issued a [document](#) *Moral Reflections on Vaccines Produced from Cells Derived from Aborted Human Fetuses*. It distinguished between formal and material cooperation. "*Formal cooperation* is carried out when the moral agent cooperates with the immoral action of another person, sharing in the latter's evil intention." Conversely, if one cooperates with the immoral action of another person, **without sharing his/her evil intention**, it is a case of *material cooperation*. If available, a grave responsibility remains to use alternative vaccines and to make a conscientious objection with regard to those of dubious origins.

Let's say I head to a local grocery store to satisfy my craving for a snack of dried apricots. Upon arrival, I see several signs posted in the store window, one of which reads: "I Stand with Planned Parenthood." Is my patronage of that store and purchase of the apricots rendered an immoral act because my money is supporting an owner whose views are against defined Catholic moral teaching? The answer would be a clear "No," and yet, **personally** I would **absolutely choose** to shop elsewhere. I've done precisely that in fact on numerous occasions. I went to purchase groceries, not receive an unsolicited lecture about the owner's political views. The **mere act of purchasing** a product of someone whose views are antithetical to mine is **not sufficient** to render the purchase itself immoral. Applied to the issue at hand, we must recognize the multivalent layers of responsibility involved in the production of a vaccine. Ought Catholics be concerned about some of the COVID-19 vaccines being produced? Absolutely!

In an imperfect world, good and evil are too often intertwined. The examples are too numerous to list, the grocery store example being but one. Unlike **Moderna and Pfizer** processes cited above, the **AstraZenca** vaccine used the HEK293 **abortion-derived cell line** for its **production**. Thus, this vaccine should be avoided, if alternatives are available without a lengthy delay. We must **remain vigilant**, so that nothing desensitizes us to the evil of abortion or the use of fetal cells in research. The 2008 "Instruction on Certain Bioethical Questions" (paragraphs [34-35](#)) by the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith is most helpful.

- "Been a long time—great to see you, neighbor!" On the evening of Monday, December 21, **Jupiter and Saturn** will be closer together than they have been for 400 years. This "great conjunction" is not new, of course, but has been dubbed "the Christmas star." On Monday after sunset, look for Jupiter (the "bright planet") low and to the west; **very near** you will see a fainter Saturn.
- The **Twins** are relocating their AAA minor league franchise from Rochester, NY to St. Paul! The St. Paul Saints will no longer play in an independent league. Independent ball is filled with gimmicks; I'd call it "anti-establishment" in some ways. Yes, some fans love the zany Saints, but others prefer to be entertained by the game—not by a **pig** outfitted in a **wig**! Sorry to be the skunk at the garden party, but I'm **very skeptical**! I'm already a coffee snob—I guess now I'm a baseball snob too.
- Your **cooperation is critical** as we prepare for Christmas Masses. If you made an online reservation or phoned the office (for those without the internet) you must **present the printed e-mail receipt**. Without such a system, it would be quite **chaotic** with people being turned away at the door. Please have your information handy. All members of a household should enter the Church together.
- All Cathedral households were sent an end of the year mailing that includes our **Christmas schedule** and other information. You may drop your envelope with names for the Communal Mass intentions or Flowers immediately in the four drop boxes or mail it. Your support is deeply appreciated.
- As this bulletin went to press (early deadline), via Operation Warp Speed, the first doses of a COVID-19 vaccine were being delivered to health care workers, on the front line since last spring. Deo gratias!

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. John L. Ubel,
Rector

PROTOCOLS

STEWARDSHIP PROTOCOLS

Located at the **four main doors** (two on Selby Ave. and two on Dayton Ave.) you will find **gold colored metal** drop boxes. Please distribute your **Sunday Stewardship** envelopes or cash in those slots, preferably before Mass. Otherwise, you may deposit them when leaving.

ENTRANCE/EXIT PROTOCOLS

Doors are clearly marked and identified as either for **entrance** or as an **exit**.

The **upper Selby Ave. door** (by St. Peter Chapel) is an **Entrance**. Note: The handicapped may use this door in both directions. The **lower Selby Ave. door** is an **Exit only**. It is the one closest to the Bus Stop.

On the **Dayton Ave. side**, the upper Dayton Ave. **door nearest the Sacred Heart Chapel** is an Entrance, while the lower Dayton Ave. door is designated as an exit. The **main doors** at the back of the Narthex are designated, one as Entrance (nearest Selby Ave.) and the other as an Exit (nearest Dayton Ave.).

CLOTH FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCH

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends all people 2 years of age and older wear a cloth face covering in public settings and when around people who don't live in your household. The emerging evidence from clinical studies shows that cloth face coverings reduce the spray of droplets when worn over the nose and mouth. COVID-19 spreads mainly among people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet), so the use of cloth face coverings is particularly important in settings where social distancing is difficult to maintain, such as in Church. **Doing this for others help keeps all safe and healthy.**



THE "O ANTIPHONS" OF ADVENT

The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

The "O" Antiphons for December 19 and 20 are:

December 19

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

December 20

O Key of David,
opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom:
come and free the prisoners of darkness!

[Click here](#) to view the complete list of the "O" Antiphons.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday - Sunday, December 19 - 20

- 5:15 p.m. Robert Koller †
 8:00 a.m. Mary Tacheny †
 9:00 a.m. SVDP Campus ~ For the People
 10:00 a.m. Cathedral Parish ~ For the People
 12:00 p.m. Illuminada Ramirez †
 5:00 p.m. Bonnie Yahrmatter †

Monday, December 21

- 7:30 a.m. Kevin Maas

Tuesday, December 22

- 7:30 a.m. Eloise G. Brand †

Wednesday, December 23

- 7:30 a.m. Sr. Eliya of the Child Jesus O.C.D.

Thursday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- 7:30 a.m. Cathedral Benefactors
 2:00 p.m. Communal Mass Intentions
 4:00 p.m. Communal Mass Intentions
 6:00 p.m. Communal Mass Intentions
 10:00 p.m. Communal Mass Intentions

Friday, December 25 - Christmas Day

- 12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass
 Cathedral Parish ~ For the People
 8:00 a.m. Communal Mass Intentions
 9:00 a.m. SVDP Campus ~ For the People
 10:00 a.m. Communal Mass Intentions



Readings for the week of December 20, 2020

- 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
 Monday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56
 Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
 Thursday: Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
 Friday: *Vigil*: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25.
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14.
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12 Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20.
Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c] Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
 Saturday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
 Next Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

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CATHEDRAL NEWS - 2020 CHARITABLE GIVING

CARES Act Deduction

The CARES Act allows a new deduction in your taxes this year. Donations up to \$300 per taxpayer (\$600 per couple) may be deducted by those who are using the standard deduction, creating an “above the line” deduction available this year. Individuals who **do itemize** are eligible for deducting **much higher amounts** of their contributions. Visit: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/how-the-cares-act-changes-deducting-charitable-contributions> for more information.

Year-End Charitable Giving

If you are at least 70 1/2 or older, you may consider a year-end charitable donation to the Cathedral of Saint Paul through your IRA account. In the year 2020, a direct transfer from your IRA account to the Cathedral may both satisfy your desire to support the Cathedral, while also having beneficial tax advantages to you. Please check with your tax advisor. Please contact Business Administrator Michael Snyder 651.357.1332 with questions about stock donations. Thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration. May God bless you for your generosity.



Christmas 2020 The Cathedral of Saint Paul



Pre-Christmas Confessions Monday-Wednesday, December 21-23 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 24 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.



Christmas Masses (sign up required)

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve
2:00 p.m. | 4:00 p.m. | 6:00 p.m. | 10:00 p.m. (newly added)
Masses with Organ and Cantor

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day
12:00 Midnight Mass - Most Rev. Bernard A. Hebda, Celebrant
with Cathedral Schola
8:00 a.m. Mass with Organ and Cantor
(9:00 a.m. Mass at the Saint Vincent de Paul Campus)
10:00 a.m. Mass - Most Rev. Andrew H. Cozzens, Celebrant
with Cathedral Schola



Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday - Sunday, December 26-27
Regular weekend Mass and Confession schedule- No sign up required



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31
5:15 p.m. (Anticipatory Mass)

Friday, January 1

Masses at 8:00 a.m. | 10:00 a.m. | 12:00 Noon

N.B. All Masses are subject to Covid-19 restrictions (250 person max)

* Check Cathedral website for sign-up and livestream information

VOICES FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Christmas story should be told . . .

Cathedral to Have Outdoor Nativity Scene. In December, 1948, a local news headline in the *Pioneer Press* announced: “The Christmas story will be told dramatically on the snow-covered slope outside the Cathedral this year.” The article quoted Msgr. George Ryan, Rector, “There are some people who will not go inside to see the Nativity scene in the Cathedral, so we are moving a crib outside for them. The Christmas story should be told even to casual passersby.”

The stable, made from packing-box lumber and designed by Msgr. Ryan was built in the basement of the Cathedral by Cathedral workers. Three sections—a large center section, and two smaller side sections—provided a background for life-size statues of Mary, Joseph and the Child Jesus. The figures were designed by Sydney Woolett, who designed the statues of the Sacred Heart and Saint Patrick in the Cathedral. An angel in flight was suspended above the head of the Blessed Virgin. Three small lambs and two large sheep grazed in the side sections.

By 1952, the side sections were crowded: on the left Three Kings and one sheep, on the right, two shepherds and one sheep. In 1963, these three sections were expanded to five. Three Kings, an attendant—and a full-size camel occupied the left section. On the right, two shepherds stood among a small flock of lambs. Later a full-size cow and donkey were added.

The first archival record of the indoor crèche is the date, 1941, and a note. It describes the Christmas scene inside the Cathedral, set in the Chapel of the Blessed Virgin, “made up of countless small figures, carved and painted in great detail.” The twenty-six figures in the indoor crèche include—the Holy Family, the Kings, the Shepherds—and animals—a camel, a cow, a donkey, sheep and lambs. The figures, created by the St. Paul Statuary Company in the 1930s, were restored in 2007 by Helen DeNardo Sandbeck, daughter of the founder of the St. Paul Statuary Company. ACSP.

Note: Traditionally, the Cathedral Men’s Association volunteers set up the outdoor crèche every year, rebuilding the stable, carrying and setting the figures in place. (It takes six men to carry each piece.) In 2017, the *Pioneer Press* noted that “the Christmas scene that faces the City from the Cathedral steps is the most popular site for photo snapshots in town.” ACSP.



RACHEL’S VINEYARD WEEKEND RETREAT

Friday, January 8 through Sunday, January 10
Coon Rapids, MN

A Rachel’s Vineyard retreat is a weekend opportunity for women and men to resolve issues of guilt, shame, pain, grief, and anxiety after an abortion. The retreat provides a safe and sacred place for you to open up to our Lord and unburden yourself without fear. You will be able to grieve, work on any anger, forgive yourself, reconcile with God, and reconcile with your children.

You can register by mail, phone, email, or online with our **secure registration form**. If you wish to register by mail, [click here to print a registration form](#). Please contact us either at rachels@rvineyardmn.org or call 763.250.9313 (confidential voice-mail) if you have questions. The cost of the retreat is \$180 per person. If you are unable to pay, financial assistance is available. Registrations are kept in the strictest confidence and privacy.

RITEs

BAPTISM

We welcome those who have been newly baptized. Please pray for them as they continue to grow in Christ.

MARRIAGE

Please join us in praying for all couples preparing for the sacrament of Matrimony.

FUNERAL/MEMORIAL MASS

Please remember in your prayers those who are in grief because of the loss of a loved one.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

BAPTISM

The sacrament of Baptism is celebrated for our parishioners on Sundays after the Noon Mass. Parents must attend a preparation class. Call Gail Wood at 651.357.1325.

FIRST RECONCILIATION/HOLY COMMUNION, AND CONFIRMATION

Registered parishioners are encouraged to register for preparation for the sacraments. For more information regarding catechesis for children ages 3 through Confirmation, call Stephen Hilgendorf at 651.357.1340.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Curious about Catholicism? Considering becoming Catholic? RCIA, a process of learning and formation, is modeled on how people were brought into the Church in the first centuries. Visit cathedralsaintpaul.org/rcia and call Stephen Hilgendorf at 651.357.1340.

MATRIMONY

To be married at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, one or both persons of the engaged couple must be an active, registered Cathedral parishioner for **six months prior to requesting a wedding date**. For more information about wedding policies, call Gail Wood at 651.357.1325.



ONLINE CHRISTMAS RESERVATIONS

For those who already made an online reservation, be sure to access your **e-mail receipt** which is **required** at the door. If your inbox does not include a confirmation e-mail, check the junk or the clutter box, in case the reply mistakenly went there.

We encourage you to arrive early together. Please be patient, as this is our first time using this system. Please wait until **all in a household are present** before entering. Have your reservation ready to present at the door. If your plans change, access the link on the bottom of the email confirmation receipt to cancel their reservation, freeing up space for someone else.

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