

December 26, 2021 The Holy Family

Guardian Angels Mission Statement

Engaging in God's Service

PARISH INITIATIVES

- Strive to be an Inclusive Community and Engage Parishioners
- Deepen our Witness to Catholic Social Teaching
- Respond to the Church at a Crossroads
- Improve Communication Awareness



www.guardian-angels.org

Caring & Support Ministries



PASTORAL PEARLS

Each of us is called by our Baptism to BE the Love of God to those around us — anyone we encounter. And since those around us will at times have a need for more tender care, I thought I would pass on some brief, concise "Pearls" or "Tools" to help us be that Love of God.

TODAY'S PEARL: What?! Really? Being kind is more important than being right? Well, I guess I must adjust my mental perspective on this. Don't get me wrong – of course I think it is most important to be kind! And to be creative in how we are kind to others. But... I hate to admit that wanting to "be right" sometimes wriggles its way to the forefront. I can't help it! Or at least it seems that way. It must be that inner voice that feels a little less than adequate that wants me to *look good, look smart*, appear to others to be brilliant. Who doesn't want to be seen as brilliant to other people? But maybe it is more brilliant to step back and tune into my heart, and bring out all the compassion I can find.

Now that I think about it, it feels even better, truth be told, when I *listen* to another's story with compassion, with my heart, and connect with another person on this sacred level. It is just less encouraged by the world, I think. My brilliance can actually be enhanced by tuning into another's brilliance and affirming it with kind words – letting God's love for me bubble over into another's heart. Sounds like an intriguing experiment for myself, especially as I look forward to another new year, another chance to follow my curiosity, to see where God is leading me.



Loving God, thank you for creating within me a compassionate heart.

Please help me to exercise this muscle more and more,
until it becomes second nature to me. Amen.



Communion Visitors Needed

How would you like to bring Jesus to people who home-bound? In order to serve our valued homebound members we need people to volunteer as Communion Visitors. We offer a brief training and set you up with people who can't get out and are missing this important sacrament. It means so very much to them. It would greatly help to have more Communion Visitors to serve those who may request Communion, so no one Visitor is overloaded. Please contact MaryPat Potts at 651-789-3178 or via email at mpotts@guardian-angels.org to find out more.



GA Health and Wellness reminds everyone to get your Flu Shot!

Your health care provider or area pharmacies can help you with this. Check with your health care provider if you've questions and take advantage of the opportunities. **Stay well!** Please **let us know** what's going on in your life - share your joys, struggles, **illnesses**, **hospitalizations**, challenges ...

Our Pastoral Team can find the best way to walk with you on your journey so you know you are never alone.



Are you or someone you know homebound? Would you like Eucharist brought to you where you live? Contact Mary Pat at mpotts@guardian-angels.org or 651-789-3178 so we may help to arrange this for you.

Social Justice & Outreach



Pope Francis and A Global Economy Week 3

In a global virtual address in October, Pope Francis outlined nine compelling calls to reform of a variety of economic sectors. His words are a direct appeal to apply our Catholic social teaching to our global economic structures. (You can read the entire address by scrolling down on the front page of the parish website.) In coming weeks, this space will offer for your reflection each of his nine calls. They are challenging, based on a view from the margins of society and rooted in care for each other and for the earth. This week, we highlight Pope Francis' fourth call:

In the name of God, I ask the great food corporations to stop imposing monopolistic systems of production and distribution that inflate prices and end up withholding bread from the hungry.



Everyone at HJH is deeply grateful for the support received from so many of you. Our challenge grant is active until the end of the year and you can still make a donation on the parish website. We can also use donations of shelf-stable, 100% apple and orange juice and new or like-new double sheet sets. Our top need right now, however is for volunteers. Winter means that some of our regular volunteers will take warmweather vacations and we will have spots to fill. If you can serve dinner and clean up afterward or if you can stay in our comfy overnight room we would love to welcome you.

Go to **www.guardian-angels.org/hope** to see the sign-up links.

Who is our neighbor?

If you watch this space, you know that the parish response to our Angel Tree and the family sponsorships was incredibly strong. Now, as winter sets in we will see an increase of neighbors coming to the parish seeking support with basic needs. We can always use your donations for our emergency assistance fund. If you can help, send checks to the parish or donate online.



Did you know that Oakdale's newest food rescue innovation is open and thriving?

Today's Harvest is a wonderful community resource, both for those who find themselves short on funds and for those who just want to make good use of surplus groceries from local stores. It's a beautiful, welcoming space and you can shop just like you would at a neighborhood grocery store – but for free.

Go to www.todaysharvestmn.org to learn more.

Afghanistan C-O-N-N-E-C-T-I-O-N-S

Volunteer opportunities are also available.

Have you or anyone you know served in the military in Afghanistan? Did you connect with any of the residents of the country while there? Or learn about the local culture? If so, might you be interested in connecting with our refugee resettlement team? We will be welcoming a family from Afghanistan in the coming weeks. Please call Suzanne at the Parish Office if you want to talk about this further.

Sunday Evening Meal

Our parish Loaves & Fishes teams are back in the swing of things and we have a few openings for our team that will serve the **Sunday, January 9 meal.** If you would like to join with others to serve, please call Suzanne at the Parish Office.



Circle of Welcome

Bulletin deadlines are out of whack during the holidays – but as of this writing our refugee resettlement ministry team is still waiting for our family match. Thank you to all who have made a financial contribution so far. In the coming weeks, we will have



need of items to set up the household for the family. Please wait for a list of needed items before dropping donations off at the parish. We will use a Sign Up Genius online system that will allow you to sign up for a particular item. Thanks for your patience!

Love Builds Bridges, Not Walls

We invite you to pray for a person caught in our broken immigration system. Each week, we offer a name of someone detained, deported or waiting for justice.

Those who have fled Afghanistan and those who remain

For more information about anything you read here, or about any of the Justice and Outreach ministries at Guardian Angels, contact Suzanne Bernet at 651-789-3181 or sbernet@guardian-angels.org.



May you have a Merry and Blessed Christmas Season!



Stewardship Message: The Holy Family experienced many of the same joys and trials that all parents and children experience today. And, so, we can look to this Family for help in our own family lives and see in them a model of stewardship in family life. The Gospel passage from Luke starts by telling us something about Jesus' parents: "Each year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover, and when he was 12 years old, they went up according to festival custom." This Family took seriously the stewardship of their time. The "Holy Couple" carefully observed the traditions and practice of their Jewish faith and brought up their Son to do the same. They worshiped as a family, and with their faith community. And they did so faithfully.

We can take their example to heart by making Sunday Mass attendance a priority for our families, by making prayer with our family a priority every day, by making sure that we regularly celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and by observing in our family life the feasts and fasts appropriate to the liturgical calendar. When we, as families, prioritize our Time with God and worship of Him we will be imitating the Holy Family. On this Feast of the Holy Family, let us reclaim the beauty and importance of family life. Let's commit to steward our families well in 2022, making time spent with God and practicing our faith the most important appointments on our family calendars.

 \sim The Catholic Steward

THANK YOU: First, thank you to all parishioners who purchased the poinsettias for Christmas decorations. The net proceeds this year will again be donated to Youth Ministry/Mission Trip. Next, we want to thank the Liturgy Commission members and their helpers for decorating the Worship Space for the Christmas Season. Thank you to Zack
Stachowski, our Director Liturgy and Music, for the music before and during the two Masses on Christmas Eve.

DID YOU KNOW: Again this year, we had the opportunity to collaborate with the Oakdale Chamber of Commerce to help facilitate their annual Holiday Helping Hands event. Chamber members collect and distribute holiday gifts for approximately 92 families. The pandemic changed their normal plans, and we were asked to set up a drive by means to drop and store the gifts as well as facilitate a means for the families to drive by and pick up the gifts on Saturday, December 11. Parishioners **Vickey and Larry Eberhard** have volunteered and been co-leaders of this event for many years and facilitated our involvement again this year.

LAST MINUTE REMINDERS:

For the past three months, in the weekly bulletin we have asked parishioners to respond to the 2022 Stewardship Campaign, whether they are able to pledge or not. It is important that we have the best estimate possible of potential revenue as we begin preparing the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Operating Budget in January. In January, Fr. Joe will send another letter to those who have not yet responded. Thank you to the close to 700 out of 1,800 registered families who have responded. Please remember that we encourage everyone to return their card even if you are not pledging.

Additionally, we have to a much lesser degree, reminded parishioners to complete their 2021 Catholic Services Appeal Foundation (CSAF) pledges by December 31. We encourage those who have not responded to the appeal, to consider sending in their envelopes by December 31. Please remember that up to 75% of your donation is rebated back to the parish. We budget for the rebate in our Operating Budget each year to help balance the budget. Currently we are still short of reaching our parish goal, so please help if you are able.

MORE THANK YOUS: We thank the following members of the Men's Club for volunteering to direct traffic for the Community Thread Holiday Hope gift distribution last December 13 and 14: John Capecchi, Mike Knutzen, Dave Lilja, Mike Loos, Dean Sherburne, and Pat Thiegs. We were asked to host this event because of our ability to accommodate curbside pickup. Community Thread's mission is to improve the quality of life for adults and their families in our local area, as well as advocating for and supporting volunteers throughout the St. Croix Valley region. Their name symbolizes their belief that each act of service is a thread that ties people, communities and lives together. Thank you to staff member Suzanne Bernet for coordinating this collaborative effort.

Keep smiling, Denny

PS: The ultimate aim of Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians is to teach the community how to deepen its relationship with Christ Jesus. His list of virtues summarizes the ideals of communal stewardship: compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. For Paul, practicing these virtues opens our hearts to Christ as individuals and as a worshipping community. This is how the Christian community ought to live. This is how its members should behave in their dealings with others, particularly with fellow believers. As we approach a

new year, how might we embrace one

of these virtues more fully in order to

deepen our relationship with Jesus?

Thought of the Week: You may have mistaken ideas, you may have made a complete mess of things, but the Lord continues to love you. How often do we think that God is good if we are good and punishes us if we are bad? Yet that is not how he is. Christmas reminds us that God continues to love us all, even the worst of us. ~ Pope Francis

Financial Corner

December 12, 2021 (24 Weeks) Stewardship Giving

Please note, that due to bulletin print deadline, Financial Scoreboard is through December 12

Stewardship Giving
Envelopes Year to Date
Budget \$ 692,400
Actual \$ 699,869
Difference \$ 7,489

Regular Plate Collection (Excludes Outreach Sunday Collections)
Plate Year to Date
Budget \$ 6,600
Actual \$ 11,824
Difference \$ 5,224

Advent & Christmas Schedule

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE 2021

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturdays at 4:30 p.m. and Sundays at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

DAILY MASSES

Tuesdays - Fridays at 8:30 a.m., Wednesdays at noon

INDIVIDUAL RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:30 - 4:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Friday, December 24
Vigil Mass at 4:00 p.m. Carols at 3:30 p.m. (livestreamed)
Night Mass at 10:00 p.m., Carols at 9:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Saturday, December 25, Masses at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

Sunday, December 26, Masses at 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. *Pre-recorded liturgy with ASL will be available.*

FEAST OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S EVE)

Friday, December 31, 4:30 p.m. (livestreamed)

EPIPHANY (NEW YEAR'S DAY)

Saturday, January 1, Mass at 4:30 p.m. (livestreamed) Synday, January 2, Mass at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m.





Women's Club News

Thanks to everyone who shopped, volunteered and/or organized the Christmas Boutique, Cookie Sale, Santa Shop, White Elephant Sale and Holiday Pie Sales earlier this month. It was so much fun and a great turnout. We hope those gift items and the pies brought joy to your home and lightened your task load for the holiday season. The money raised from the Pie Sales will go toward the Angel List item of Livestreaming Equipment for the Church.

Our Card Making Ministry continues with our next sessions on January 10 & 24 and February 14 & 28 from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. in the Teen Room. All are welcome!



- Interested in helping to plan our Morning of Reflection for Lent, the Spring Salad Luncheon or the Scholarship Committee? Email us at womensclub@guardian-angels.org and we will get you in touch with the planning groups!
- Join us Monday, January 10, for our next Women's Club meeting, the January Potluck/ Meeting, which starts a bit earlier at 6:00 p.m. in Peter O'Neill Hall or email us to get the Zoom link. Bring a dish to share if in person and bring a recipe to share if you attend by Zoom. We look forward to catching up.

We hope you and your families have a blessed Christmas!

Youth Ministry and GIFT Faith Formation

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

- High School Mission Trip to Watertown, South Dakota, June 19-24. Grow in faith by serving others and meeting new friends. Email Paul for more information pdeziel@guardian-angels.org
- Growing In Faith Together Faith Formation for Elementary and Junior High JOLT do not meet December 29 or January 4. Sessions resume on Wednesday, January 12.
- * Youth Council meets Sunday January 2, 10:00 a.m. in the Youth Center for planning. All high school youth welcome.
- ** CONNECT meets Sunday, January 23, 12:30-1:30 p.m. for Q and A with Father Joe. All youth grades 9 - 12 welcome in Peter O'Neill Hall. Masks required.

Prayer & Reflection

Readings for the week of December 26, 2021

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/ Lk 2:41-52

Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/ Jn 20:1a, 2-8

Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/ Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18



Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b -6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35 Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/ Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40

Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18

Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/ Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/ Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

STAFF CONTACTS

Email: 1st name initial + last name@guardian-angels.org All Phone Numbers Area Code 651

Parish Team

Parisii realii	
Administration	
Fr. Joe Connelly, Parochial Administrator	789-3188
Denny Farrell, Parish Administrator	789-3169
Faith Formation	
Paul Deziel	789-3173
Sarah Gibson	789-3162
Deborah McMahon	789-3174
Liturgy/Music	, 05 01, 1
Zack Stachowski	789-3187
Deacon Mick Humbert	366-0758
	300-0730
Maintenance	700 2406
Jason Kustritz	789-3186
Tom Specht	789-3186
Office	
Cindy Sutton	789-3165
Heidi Tousignant	789-3168
Carla McGough	789-3167
Sharon Schwarz	789-3182
Michelle Fox	789-3190
Pastoral Care	
MaryPat Potts	789-3178
Justice/Outreach	
Suzanne Belongia Bernet	789-3181
	703 3101
Hope for the Journey Home Trish Brokman	503-3380
THOM BIOMHUM	503-3360
Parish Finance Council	770 6475
Marc Cove, Chair	770-6475
Greg Larson, Vice-Chair	735-0966
Parish Pastoral Council	
Craig Svendsen, Chair	739-5759
Teri Asiala, Vice-Chair	612-396-3770
Trustees	
Craig Johnson, Treasurer	485-1701
Mike Hansel, Secretary	770-2544
•	

Prayers of the Faithful

We pray for all in our community who need our loving support.

Titus Ciolkosz Catherine Scoles Pat Sherrill Dolores Crane Judy Dahl Sue Smith Kathy Fleck Carol Stewart Frank Steel Amara Strande Teresa Johnson Robert Tatreau Henry Klotz Irene Watson Jodi Landry Walt Welna Ruth Olson Joan Nedeau

Mary Cinquegrana Suzanne Schmidt Colleen Pierre Tom Huebsch Amy Lippert Hoffman

Please submit names for prayer requests to MaryPat Potts at 651-789-3178 or mpotts@guardian-angels.org

Find us on

www.facebook.com/GuardianAngelsOakdale Twitter.com/GuardianAngelsC

Office Information **8260 Fourth Street North** Oakdale, MN 55128





Fax 651-738-2453 www.guardian-angels.org

Parish Business Office Hours

Monday - Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Saturday & Sunday: Closed

Parish Center Hours

Building is open 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mon - Friday

If you have a Pastoral emergency after hours, please call the Parish Office at 651-738-2223.

Mass Saturdays at 4:30 p.m. (also livestream) with ASL The livestream will be available online after 5:30 p.m.

Mass Sundays 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Adoration Chapel

Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Reconciliation Saturdays, 3:30 p.m.

Please call the Parish Office regarding these Sacraments:

RCIA, Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation * Marriage

* Anointing of the Sick * Communion for the Homebound

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, January 4, 8:30 a.m. †Ann Lasky

Wednesday, January 5, 8:30 a.m. †Geraldine Everson

Wednesday, January 5, 12:00 p.m. †Don Beltzner

Thursday, January 6, 8:30 a.m. †Jaci Meyer

Friday, January 7, 8:30 a.m. †Tom Stanton

Other Updates



Thank you to the consistent and dedicated livestream volunteers who have provided this service for our community! As we are in the second year, we would like to invite new volunteers to the ministry of Sound operator and Livestream operator. We can train anyone who is interested, as mentioned earlier, this is a volunteer run ministry. If you could help out, please email us at helpatmass@guardian-angels.org or call the Parish Office at 651-738-2223. Thank you!

Santa Shop & White Elephant Sales

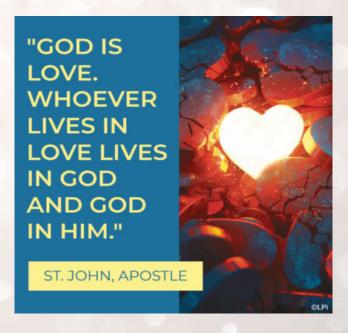
Thank you to all our customers & donors who made another sale possible. Our profit this year was \$4,451 most of which will be donated to the Angel list. We will begin collecting for 2022 after Christmas, Please leave donations in the Santa Shop tote located in



the Giving Center and mark them Santa Shop.



We appreciate some supplies including tissue paper, gift bags and gift tags. We are very grateful for your generosity. Please call Karen Bollmann at 651-735-2421 with any questions. Thank you.





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