

Engaging in God's Service

January 9, 2022 The Baptism <u>of the Lord</u>

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

After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been

baptized and was praying, heaven opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. Luke 3:21-22a

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: SO New Year's Day has come and gone, but now we have NEW DAY.... & *EVERY* day! What will I do with this new day – whatever day it is? How will I honor Life? Honor God? Honor God's work through me? Beginning with "Thank you, God, for" will bring me forward to "How will I show you, my loving God, just how grateful I am – for you love; your presence with me always; your strength; your comfort and peace; the gifts you've given me to share with those around me and help to make the world (my little world or the BIG world) a better place? New Year's Day is merely the milestone each year that reminds me how each day is a wonderful new beginning, opportunity, filled with possibilities as well as responsibilities. I choose to really focus on making every day count. 6unds like a grand adventure!

Loving God, Thank you for the gift of every new day! Thank you for the opportunities to grow closer to you and honor you through my thoughts, words, and actions. Thank you for the endless opportunities to see you lovingly act in my world, in surprising ways, if I just open my eyes. Amen.



Communion Visitors Needed

How would you like to bring Jesus to people who homebound? 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.

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@guardianangels.org or 651-789-3178 so we may help to arrange this for you. **Caregivers Gathering!** Time to Treat yourself to a little self-care time with our GA Support Group –*Second Thursday* **January. 13, 6:30pm** – **IN PERSON** in the library **AND** via **Zoom** for anyone who can't be here (if you let me know). If you are



juggling work, family and caring for someone living in a care facility or caring for a loved one of any age who may some special care and attention – 24-7 in your home, or even - the weight might seem heavy at times. Others in similar situations can offer understanding, validation, insight, sometimes even ideas. Support like this can make a huge difference for a you as caregiver, empowering you to be better able to care for your loved one. Contact MaryPat Potts if you'd like the link or to answer your questions: mpotts@guardian-angels.org / 651-789-3178

Social Justice & Outreach



Pope Francis and A Global Economy Week 6

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' sixth call:**

In the name of God, I ask the technology giants to stop exploiting human weakness, people's vulnerability, for the sake of profits without caring about the spread of hate speech, grooming, fake news, conspiracy theories, and political manipulation.



GA Week of Service at HJH January 23-29

Calling all GA volunteers!

Our quarterly week of service at Hope for the Journey Home is coming up soon. If you have volunteered in the past, we would love to have you. If you have been meaning to find out more about the shelter and how you can serve, we welcome you! Can you can serve dinner and clean up afterward? Or how about staying in our comfy overnight room? Go to https://tsu.me/hjhjan23 to learn more and sign up. Thank you for helping to make our house a home for those who need it!

Who is our neighbor?

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. Volunteer opportunities are also available.

Go to www.todaysharvestmn.org to learn more.

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

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



Circle

of Welcome

would like to join with others to serve, please call Suzanne at the Parish Office.

Circle of Welcome

Our refugee resettlement team begins this new year with anticipation of our relationship with a family from Afghanistan. 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. We will use an online system for your donations of all the items it will take to create a home. Our first set of needs is posted now and additional items will be added when we learn more details about the family. <u>Please sign up online before you bring any items to</u> the parish, using this link: <u>https://signup.com/go/dvwHspn</u>. If you have trouble with the online option, please call Suzanne at the Parish Office for assistance. Thank you!

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**.

Administrator's Corner

Stewardship Message: As we celebrate this feast of the Baptism of the Lord, we can study His actions at the Jordan River as a powerful example of servant leadership. We see in Jesus a type of leadership that is characterized by humility and leading by example. Certainly, the sinless Savior did not need a baptism of repentance! But Jesus humbly made Himself one with his people to draw us to Him and create a relationship with us so that we would be open to His teachings and influence. As a servant leader, we also see that Jesus leads by example. He doesn't just tell the people they need to be baptized. He shows them how and does it Himself to teach them. To lead like Jesus, we, too, must "walk the walk" and not just "talk the talk." If we want those who we lead to be generous and hardworking, then we must show them how to do this by demonstrating generosity and hard work ourselves. Immediately after His baptism, we learn of the powerful affirmation of the Father who opens the heavens, sends the Holy Spirit upon Jesus in bodily form, and says audibly, "This is my beloved Son with whom I am well -pleased." Let us be filled with gratitude for our amazing God and be reminded that when we are grateful followers of Jesus and servantleaders in imitation of Him, the Father will be well-pleased with us, too. **The Catholic Steward**

Save the Dates: The Fish Fry Fridays for 2022 will be March 11, March 25, and April 8. The ability to recruit volunteers is the team's biggest concern. We will continue require masks and social distancing throughout prep work and delivery to keep everybody safe. Start planning now on which dates you would like to volunteer. Please watch the bulletin and weekly Friday email for instructions on how to sign up to volunteer. Reminder, the team decided that we again will offer Drive Through Service and, new this year, we will also offer a walk-in, pick -up option. To order either option, you will have to use the online ordering system on our website. More

details available as we get closer to Lent.

New Trustees: We are pleased to announce that on January 1, 2022, Fr. Joe has named two new trustees for our parish. They are **Greg** Larson, Trustee/Treasurer and Sue Pitts, Trustee/Secretary. These appointments were approved by the Archbishop and the term is two years. Greg will be stepping down as the Vice Chair of the Finance Council and Jeanine Kuwik will be the new Vice Chair of the Finance Council as of January 1. We thank all three of these parishioners for taking on new leadership roles in our parish. Please read more about the roles of a parish trustee in the upcoming February Angel News. The parish feels a deep sense of gratitude towards our two outgoing trustees, Mike Hansel and Craig Johnson. Their two- year terms were renewed six times by Fr. Bill and Fr. Rodger over the last fourteen years. Their guidance helped our parish recover from insolvency back in 2008 to a parish that is now financially sound with reserves. The reserves and endowments that were set up will enable the parish to address any unforeseen financial emergencies and provide for the future. They have been integral contributors to our Strategic Planning process every three years and have taken very active roles in the Parish Pastoral Council and Finance Council to sunset some ministries and add new ministries. Please read more about them and their contributions in the upcoming Angel News. Keeping COVID in mind, we will be scheduling a **reception** for Mike and Craig towards the end of the month to give parishioners a chance to formally thank them for their extraordinary service to our parish. Watch the bulletin and weekly Friday email for the date and details.

2022 Stewardship Campaign: If you haven't responded to the 2022 Stewardship Campaign, you have recently received a letter from Fr. Joe asking for a response. We would like to hear from you even if you are unable to pledge at this time. This will save us the expenses associated

with mailing out another reminder. We will begin the preparation of our year 2022-23 fiscal operating budgeting process in a couple of weeks. We did begin the 2022 campaign one week later than last year, but current number of responses and dollars pledged are down from previous years. In the past, close to 70% of parishioner families have supported the parish financially. For us to continue with the staffing and ministries we have and have currently the opportunity to look at expanding or adding new ministries over the next 18 months, we need hear from those who have not responded. Thank you!

Did You Know: That out of 5,170 registered parishioners less the 502 we don't have ages for in the database, **48.3%** (2,256) are over the age of **50** and **12.1%** (569) are under the age of **20**? We need to clean up the database to remove over 700 children aged 30 to 50 who are still listed as living with their parents. Please contact me if you are interested in helping with this project.

Keep smiling,

PS: In today's reading from the Gospel of Luke we hear the proclamation of the baptism of Jesus with "all the people." Indeed, "heaven was opened," and the Father announced his special favor. Whenever we partake of the body and blood of Christ, heed his call in our daily lives, share his Good News, instruments his become of transforming justice and peace, heaven is opened to us, and through the Holy Spirit, the Lord announces his special favor on us as well. A good stewardship reflection this week might be this: How, or in what ways, have we personally experienced God's special favor in our lives?

Thought of the Week: For all the obstacles we see before us, gratitude and appreciation should prevail over concerns and complaints.

Pope Francis

Financial Corner December 26, 2021 (26 Weeks) Stewardship Giving		

Disability Awareness Update

Our new staff members have been hard at work planning for the seasons of Advent and Christmas and becoming acclimated to the activities of our busy parish. Considering this, the Accessible Ministry Committee has decided to "pause" annual activities for **Disability Awareness Month**, typically included during the month of Janu-ary. The committee will continue to *highlight aware*ness in the bulletin, on social media and coordinate awareness efforts with staff and leadership in the coming year.

Be on the lookout for **#IamChurch**. This new campaign, directed by the Vatican's office for Laity, Family and Life, centers around 5 videos in which people with disabilities from all around the globe share their experience of faith and affirm: I am Church.

If you or a family member would like to discuss ways to participate more fully in liturgy, sacraments or parish activities, please contact MaryPat Potts at mpotts@quardianangels.org or 651-789-3178.

Poinsettias Help

The poinsettias are beautiful! Will you help keep them beautiful?

We water them twice a week on a flexible schedule. Please call the Parish Office and will tell you more. Thanking you in advance.



Women's Club News

GA Women's Club Update

Happy 2022, Friends! This New Year's, we are thankful for our members! Make a resolution to connect with the Women's Club this year, we are here for you whenever or however you can join us!

Our Card Making Ministry continues with our next sessions on January 24, February 14, February 28, March 14, and March 28 from 10:00 am -12:00 pm 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 (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 6pm 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. Save the date for our next meeting on February 7, at 6:00 pm in POH and on zoom.

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
- * GIFT Faith Formation resumes on Wednesday, January 12 at 6:15 pm. We look forward to seeing our children, youth, and volunteers.
- CONNECT meets Sunday, January 23, 12:30-* 1:30 pm for Q and A with Fr. Joe. All youth grades 9-12 welcome in Peter O'Neill Hall. Masks required.

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-

10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and

Thursday:1 Sm 4:1-11/

Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-

22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4,

4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3,

25/Mk 1:40-45

19/Mk 2:1-12

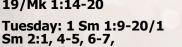
5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk

1:29-39

Readings for the week of January 9, 2022

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/ Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/ Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20



Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

STAFF CONTACTS

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

Parish Team	
Administration Fr. Joe Connelly, Parochial Administrator Denny Farrell, Parish Administrator	789-3188 789-3169
Faith Formation	
Paul Deziel Sarah Gibson	789-3173 789-3162
Deborah McMahon	789-3174
Liturgy/Music	700 2107
Zack Stachowski Deacon Mick Humbert	789-3187 366-0758
Maintenance	
Jason Kustritz Tom Specht	789-3186 789-3186
Office	769-5160
Cindy Sutton	789-3165
Heidi Tousignant	789-3168
Carla McGough Sharon Schwarz	789-3167 789-3182
Michelle Fox	789-3190
Pastoral Care	
MaryPat Potts	789-3178
Justice/Outreach Suzanne Belongia Bernet	789-3181
Hope for the Journey Home	709-5101
Trish Brokman	503-3380
Parish Finance Council	
Marc Cove, Chair Jeanne Kuwik, Vice-Chair	770-6475 491-8855
Parish Pastoral Council	191-0022
Craig Svendsen, Chair	739-5759
Teri Asiala, Vice-Chair	612-396-3770
Trustees	725 0000
Greg Larson, Treasurer Sue Pitts, Secretary	735-0966 739-3911

Prayers of the Faithful

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

Titus Ciolkosz Dolores Crane Judy Dahl Kathy Fleck Frank Steel Teresa Johnson Henry Klotz Jodi Landry Ruth Olson

Catherine Scoles Pat Sherrill Sue Smith Carol Stewart Amara Strande Robert Tatreau Irene Watson Walt Welna Joan Nedeau

Mary Cinquegrana Suzanne Schmidt Colleen Pierre Tim Ihrke Amy Lippert Hoffman Bob Uzoen Ursula Palesh

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



Phone	651-738-2223
Fax	
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.

Liturgies

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 8:30 a.m.	January 11 †Bill Netwall	
Wednesday 8:30 a.m.	January 12 †Dick Smith	
12:00 p. m.	+Mary John	
Thursday 8:30 a.m.	January 13 †Bruce Sherrill	
Friday 8:30 a.m.	January 14 †Jack Henninger	

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!

Crafters Corner

"Happy New Year" from the Crafters!

We want to say "Thanks" to all of you for your support this past year; those who bought our items, those who donated items, and the husbands and Men's Club members who carted our merchandise and tables for set up/ take downs of our sales. We especially say "Thank You" to the staff for all they do to support the Crafters! Last year, the Crafters were blessed with their own space (M6), added several new members, and far exceeded \$15,000 in sales (our best year ever)! All in all, 2021 was a great year for the Crafters! With God's blessings upon us, may 2022 be an even better year for everyone!

Crafters Corner

SANTA SHOP - I am starting to collect for Christmas 2022. The Santa Shop needs to replenish our inventory for next Christmas. The Santa Shop provides a safe place where children can shop "all by themselves" for relatives & friends.

If you have received gifts or prizes , etc. that you cannot use the children will be happy to regift them. We need items for women, men & children also Christmas gift bags & tags, jewelry boxes & tissue paper. Please leave your donations in the Giving Area & mark them Santa Shop. Thank you, Karen Bollmann



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