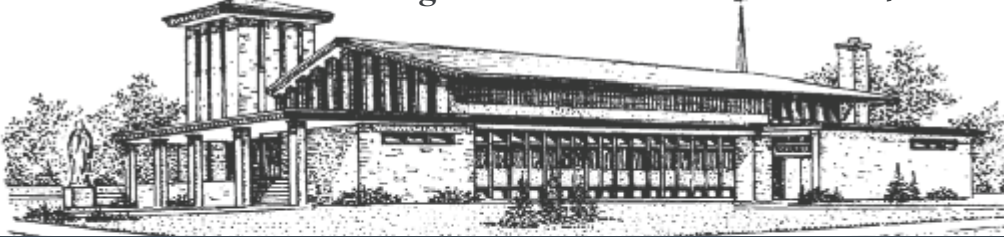


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December 13, 2020

3rd Sunday of Advent

In response to God's Grace,
we serve the physical and spiritual needs of our neighbor.

We believe this requires:

- Respect for the life and dignity of every person from conception to natural death
- Compassionate outreach and evangelization
- A commitment to work for social justice.



3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.
- Jn 1:6-7

Excerpts from the Sacrosanctum for Mass ©2004, 1998, 1978 CCD.

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00 pm & Sunday 9:00 am

Parish Support Endowment Fund: \$1,050

Stewardship Report for December 6th: Envelope and Plate; & Nov. Electr. Contr.

Nov. Electr. Cont.:	\$ 6,148.82	Fiscal YTD Collected:	\$ 117,694.87
Reg. Coll. Dec. 6:	\$ 7,777.00	Fiscal YTD Budgeted:	\$ 115,000.00
Weekly Goal:	\$ (5,000.00)	Surplus/(Loss):	\$ 2,694.87
Surplus/(Loss):	\$ 8,925.82		
Youth \$ 250	Cap. Improvement \$ 635		

Parish Council Members

Amy Hilgers
Gene Janikula

Vicky Hoeft
Judy Younk

Peter Campbell
Rorie McCormick
Carol Youmans

Terry Gallus*
Barry Fritzke*
(*Trustee)

Mass Schedule

Weekend Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am (also live streamed)
Weekday See bulletin.

Pastor

Fr. James Devorak...952-955-1200
Email.....iccfrijm@gmail.com

Parish Office

Admin. Assistant.....DeAnna Clemens
Phone 952-955-1458
Email..... iccwatertown@gmail.com
Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm
Website..... www.iccwatertown.org
Phone App.....myParishapp.com

Religious Education

RE Coordinator.....Ronda Hague
Phone 952-955-1777
Email.....iccwreled@gmail.com

Music & Liturgy

Director.....Bill Windsperger
Phone.....952-381-4076
Email...iccmusicwatertown@gmail.com

Prayer Chain,

Jean Motzko 952-955-1179
Joan Stadlander.....952-955-2686

Communion to Homebound,

Nancy Fritzke 952-955-1560

Sacraments

Reconciliation

Saturday 4:30pm; or by appointment.

Baptism

Call the parish office to make arrangements.

Marriage

Call the parish office at least nine months in advance to make arrangements.

New Parishioners

Please call the parish office to register.



NEWS & NOTES

Retirement for Religious Fund

Help our elders. In good times and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy.

Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities.

Please be generous. Envelopes are available as you leave church, or simply mark 'Retirement for Religious' on your donation.

Parish Advent Reconciliation Service

ICC's Parish Advent Reconciliation Service (general absolution) will be held on **Sunday, December 13th** at 2:00 pm.

Need of Volunteers for Church Ministries

There has been some questions as to why we have limited Masses on the weekend and if we are going to add more Masses, this year, for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. With the Covid-19 pandemic, many of our volunteers for ministries have needed to refrain from coming to church and gathering in groups. Most of our current ministers (ie Lector, Eucharistic Minister, Sacristan, Choir) are in the high risk group. The staff strongly considered adding an earlier afternoon Mass on Christmas Eve, but we couldn't find musicians or other ministers for an earlier Mass, so we had to drop that idea, unfortunately.

We are in dire need of volunteers for the ministries of Lector, Eucharistic Minister, and Sacristan not only for Christmas, but for our regular weekend Masses. If you are able to participate, please strongly consider stepping forward to help in these positions. Contact the parish office and let DeAnna know where you would like to fill in (952-955-1458).

Knights of Columbus

Coats are being collected for the KC Coat Drive. A drop off bin is located in the church entrance.

Call for New Members: Visit KofC.org/JoinUs

The Watertown Knights of Columbus council is inviting ALL ICC boys and girls ages 5-14 to participate in the organization's international 'Keep Christ in Christmas' poster contest. Entrants compete in one of three age groups: ages 5-7, 8-10 and 11-14. Contact Ronda Hague for poster requirements and to submit posters with entry form. **Due by Dec. 24, 2020**. Winners in each age category receive \$25.00 from the Knights and there'll also be 2nd and 3rd place prize cash awards. Additional prizes awarded to winners at state, national and international levels.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, December 15
8:00am +Elaine Schlechter

Wednesday, December 16
8:00am +Fran Janikula

Thursday, December 17
8:00am +Howard Meuwissen

Friday, December 18
8:00am People of Immaculate
Conception Church

Saturday, December 19
5:00pm +Rita Kuka

Sunday, December 20
9:00am +Clinton Pearson

**The Sanctuary Lamp
burns this week for:**
Migrants and Refugees

PARISH CALENDAR

**Mass gatherings are open
at reduced capacity.**

* indicates also live streams at
www.facebook.com/ICCWatertown

Tuesday, December 15
8:00am Mass

Wednesday, December 16
8:00am Mass

Thursday, December 17
8:00am Mass

Friday, December 18
8:00am Mass

Saturday, December 19
5:00pm Mass

Sunday, December 20
* 9:00am Mass

Thursday, December 24
Christmas Eve
* 4:00pm & * 8:00pm Mass

Friday, December 25
Christmas Day
* 9:00am Mass

*The Parish Office will be closed the
week of December 21st - 25th*



MY GOOD PEOPLE,

We have been reflecting these past few weeks on the Holy Father's new Encyclical, Fratelli Tutti. The theme of the sixth chapter of Fratelli Tutti is "Dialogue and friendship in society". The Holy Father speaks about the concept of life as the "art of encounter" with everyone, even with those on the margins and with original peoples, because each of us can learn something from others. Dialogue is our pathway forward if we wish to improve our world. Dialogue stands between two extremes: selfish indifference and violent protest. It opens a nation to its rich potential. (par 200) Dialogue is not the same as a fanatical exchange of ideas on a social media platform in which no one listens and everyone talks. (para 201) In fact, the often-false information shared in that way tends to make people hang on stubbornly to their own ideas. So-called discussions in this forum are often manipulated for the benefit of powerful forces. (par 202) The common good then takes a back seat to special interests. The heroes of the future are the ones who can break with this approach and enter into authentic dialogue.

Authentic dialogue leaves open the door to changing one's point of view and to respecting the views of others. We can be frank and open about our beliefs while allowing differences that unite rather than divide us. (par 204) Such interdisciplinary dialogue is also needed in science. (par 205) The media and internet offer us immense possibilities for extending dialogue, but we must ensure honesty and charity. An important point is the Pope's reference to the "miracle of kindness", an attitude to be recovered because it is a star "shining in the midst of darkness" and "frees us from the cruelty ... the anxiety ... the frantic flurry of activity" that prevails in the contemporary era. A kind person, writes Francis, creates a healthy coexistence and opens paths in places where exasperation burns bridges.

The basis of consensus

Certain truths are fixed and unchangeable. (par 207) One such fixed truth is the sacred dignity of each human being. (par 208) Certain universal values arise from the truth, so we must carefully avoid manipulating or distorting what is true. (par 209) If we do not guard what is true, those in power will deny fundamental human rights. They will build a false consensus for what is false. (par 210) In this environment, only the strong and powerful will prevail while the vulnerable and weak will flounder.

Consensus and truth

Dialogue is the best way for a pluralistic society to arrive at a shared understanding of core human values on which laws are based. (par 212) Through dialogue, the interests of society, the consensus of the people, and the reality of unchangeable truth swim together. (par 213) Human dignity remains a fundamental universal truth, and no one has the right to deny it. (par 214) For agnostics, this truth is the basis of ethics. For believers, God is the source of such dignity.

God bless you!

~ Fr. Jim

LITURGICAL ROLES Dec. 19 & 20

Lectors

5:00pm Chris Boerner 9:00am Kari Jo Kantrovich

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00pm Steve Boerner/(needed)

9:00am Nancy Adickes/Theresa Sullivan

Ushers

5:00pm Phil Maiers/Dennis Nester
(needed)/(needed)

9:00am Lyle Kantrovich/Carol Youmans
Tom Foley/Tom Neaton

Sacristans

5:00pm Lori Salonek 9:00am Deb Koehnen

2020 Christmas Schedule

Parish Reconciliation
(General Absolution)
Dec. 13th at 2:00pm

Christmas Eve Mass
Dec. 24th at
*4:00pm & *8:00pm
(*Both Masses also live streamed)

Christmas Day Mass
Dec. 25th at *9:00am
(*also live streamed)

Mary, Mother of God Mass
Dec. 31st at 5:00pm
Jan. 1st at 9:00am

Live streams at: www.facebook.com/ICCWatertown

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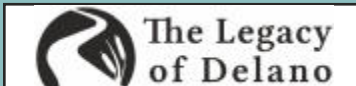
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