

Third Sunday of Advent | December 13, 2020

*“...Say, ye faint-hearted, take courage, and fear not,
behold our God will come and save us.”*

- Isaiah 35:4 (Communion Antiphon)



Christ Walking On Water - Julius Von Klever (1880)



Church of All Saints



Mass Schedule (Holy Days as announced)

Sunday 8:00 AM, 9:30 AM, 11:00 AM (High)

Monday - Thursday 12:15 PM

Friday 7:00 PM ~ *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 5:30 PM – 6:45 PM*

Saturday 9:00 AM ~ *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on First Saturdays from 7:30 AM - 8:45 AM*

Confessions: Heard 30 minutes before Daily Mass, 45 minutes before Sunday Masses

+All Masses and Sacraments are celebrated according to the *Usus Antiquior (Traditional Form) of the Roman Rite*

Served by the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter

Fr. Christopher Pelster, FSSP Fr. Daniel Mould, FSSP

Pastor

Associate Pastor

435 4th Street NE Minneapolis, MN 55413 ~ (612) 379-4996

Parish Email: allsaints@fsspminneapolis.org - **Parish Website:** fsspminneapolis.org

Filiae Laboris Mariae Sisters - Mother Maria Regina, FLM, Superior

428 5th Street NE Minneapolis, MN 55413 ~ (612) 353-6343

THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS

The month of December is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception

+Sunday, December 13

3rd Sunday of Advent (*Gaudete*), II Class

8:00 AM Matthew Stempel
9:30 AM Joseph Roers
11:00 AM *Pro Populo* (High Mass)

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: John 1:19-28

+Monday, December 14

Feria of Advent, III Class

12:15 PM Rosalie Stempel

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: John 1:19-28

+Tuesday, December 15

Feria of Advent, III Class

12:15 PM Joseph Minwegen

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: John 1:19-28

+Wednesday, December 16

Ember Wednesday, II Class

12:15 PM Joseph Minwegen

Lessons: Isaiah 2:2-5; Isaiah 7:10-15

Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

The Ember Days represent an ancient and cherished tradition of the Roman Church. Four times a year, at the change of seasons, three days of the week, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, were traditionally devoted to prayer and fasting to call down God's blessing upon the new season and on the ordinations that would traditionally take place on the Saturday. Advent has endowed the December Ember Days with their special character of expectation and preparation for Christmas, thus reducing the idea of fasting and penance to a secondary position. The Mass for Wednesday gives prominence to our Lady, by way of the prophecy of Isaiah and the Gospel of the Annunciation.

Parish Staff and Apostolate Contacts

Pastor + Fr. Pelster: 612-379-4996, ext. 2

Associate Pastor + Fr. Mould: 612-379-4996, ext. 3

Sacramental Emergency 612-379-4996, ext. 8

Parish Office + Sr. Maria Josepha: 612-379-4996, ext.0, allsaints@fsspminneapolis.org

Director of Music + Jacob Flaherty: 612-379-4996, ext. 4, j.flaherty@fsspminneapolis.org

Associate Director of Music + Ben Blackhawk

Director of Youth Group and St. John Bosco Boys' League

+ Jacob Flaherty: 612-379-4996, ext. 4, j.flaherty@fsspminneapolis.org

St. Stephen's Altar Server Guild + Cedric Cortez: 612-379-4996, ext. 0

+ Kurt Greene

+ Alan Young 612-597-2934

All Saints Homeschool Co-op and Catechesis allsaintshomeschoolcoop@gmail.com

+Board Members: Jacob Flaherty (Director), Jeni Bradac, Chad Cmejla,

Michael Hagler, Sibyl Niemann, Stephanie Skulley, Brett Thoreson

St. Joseph Men's Guild + Jeremy Baer

See Flocknotes

Queen of All Saints Sodality +Kirstin Matlock

See Flocknotes

St. Rita's Women's Group +Sr. Maria Josepha and FLM Sisters

See Flocknotes

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd +Anne Schneiderjan

See Flocknotes

20's and 30's Group +Melissa Tolosi

See Flocknotes

Grocery Apostolate +Karen Hastreiter

See Flocknotes

Parish Bookkeeper +James Hentges

Parish Cleaning + Sarah Bergloff

Food Outreach + Deanna Loomis: 917-837-6119, deannacloomis@gmail.com

To sign up for and receive information about/from any of the parish's groups/apostolates simply do one of the following:

- 1.) Text 'COAS' to 84576 and follow the prompts.
- 2.) Go to churchofallsaints.flocknote.com and follow the prompts.

Contributions - May God reward your generosity!

Thurs. Dec. 3 - Wed. Dec. 9: **To be printed next week.**

Rose

+Thursday, December 17

Greater Feria of Advent, II Class

12:15 PM *Filiae Laboris Mariae* Sisters

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: John 1:19-28

+Friday, December 18

Ember Friday, II Class

7:00 PM Rev. J. Matz +

Lesson: Isaiah 11:1-5

Gospel: Luke 1:39-47

While the Church continues to recall in succession the mysteries which formed the immediate preparation for the birth of our Lord, today we hear the extract in which Isaiah describes in advance the spirit that was to animate the Messiah in the saving mission which He came to accomplish

+Saturday, December 19

Ember Saturday, II Class

9:00 AM Mother Abbess Cecilia

Lessons: Isaiah 19:20-22; Isaiah 35:1-7; Isaiah 40:9-11; Isaiah 45:1-8;

Daniel 3:47-51 *Canticle*: Daniel 3:52-53

Epistle: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

+Sunday, December 20

4th Sunday of Advent, I Class

8:00 AM Buford and Irene Young +

9:30 AM Mackenzie St.Cyr

11:00 AM *Pro Populo* (High Mass)

Violet

Violet

Violet

Violet

Parish News

+ Fathers and Mothers, no doubt you are wondering about **First Communion class** for your children. The *Filiae Laboris Mariae* will teach the class this coming year as they did last year. The classes will begin on Jan. 3rd (Sunday) and they will go from 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM each Sunday. The tentative First Communion date is Mother's Day, May 9th, 2021. If you wish to sign your children up for First Communion, there are forms in the back of the church which you can fill out and return to a box available in the back of church for that purpose. Also we ask that everyone provide a photocopy of their child's baptismal certificate as part of the enrolment process, i.e. before the first day of class. Just so that everything is clear, please note that students will not be allowed to attend this class without first providing a baptismal certificate and students will not be allowed to receive their First Communion without first taking this class. Lastly, please note that children must be 7 years old by May 1st in order to receive their First Communion this year. If anyone has questions they can be directed to me (Fr. Pelster) or Sister Joanna Marie.

+The Pope introduced the **Year of Saint Joseph** to celebrate the 150 years of his patronage over the Universal Church. Details on how to gain the Plenary Indulgence attached to this special year of observance can be found online at various Catholic websites. "St. Joseph, an authentic man of faith, invites us", the decree reads, "to rediscover our filial relationship with the Father, to renew fidelity to prayer, to listen and correspond with profound discernment to God's will." *St. Joseph, pray for us!*

+ The **Christmas schedule** is as follows:

Starting on December 24 - *Matins* at 9:00 PM; Carols at 11:30; Solemn High Mass at Midnight with full choir and small orchestra; December 25 - 8:00 AM Low Mass; **9:30 AM High Mass (no 11:00 AM)**. +As has been our policy from the start, please note that Governor Walz has issued a series of **executive orders** which can be found here: <https://mn.gov/governor/news/executiveorders.jsp>. These executive orders require proper social distancing and face masking in public places, with accommodations made to those with medical exemptions.

Keeping All These Things - *A Weekly Bulletin Reflection from the Filiae Laboris Mariae Sisters*
Christian, What Are You Living For?

"The world is thy ship, not thy home!" Saint Thérèse proclaims. But how many of us treat this world like an aimless cruise ship, clinging to its shallow and passing attractions, paying little regard to the approaching horizon, or where our ship is heading?

We were made for Heaven. But do we really believe that? Do we actually desire it? How much are we willing to give to make it there? Frank Sheed, in his book *Theology and Sanity*, gives an uncomfortably accurate rendering of the average Catholic view on Heaven...

"As we think upon the things we have enjoyed in this life, the joys of heaven seem noble, of course, but definitely thin: with a slight sinking in the pit of the heart, we find ourselves hoping that it may turn out better than it sounds. This is an amiable weakness, much as if a small child, learning that adults like poetry or science or mathematics, should feel how ill such things compare with the tin soldiers and the rocking horse and the plum tarts of his own ecstasy."

The child thinks the excitements of grown-ups are boring. They can't understand how adults can enjoy the things their own minds cannot currently grasp. They do not yet understand that their toys and games are just shadows and reflections of real life, and that far greater and more wonderful things await them in their future – much greater than 'tin soldiers and rocking horses'.

Is this how we might be tempted to think of Heaven? What must it be like to be the saints in Heaven? What do they do, exactly? Is it not boring, being outside of space and time?

To our relief, we couldn't be more wrong. Sheed goes on to explain that everything in this world that gives us joy has been created *by God – out of nothing*. If we find joy in a beautiful sunset, an intricate, moving symphony, or a beautiful face and soul, how much greater will our joy be when we encounter God who is the source of all goodness, of all joy? This life on earth, our *reality*, is distorted and muddled by things that are not of God, that are not true, that are not good, and are *not real*. And yet we still experience exquisite moments here. How much greater will it be when we are stripped from all that is nothing, to be immersed in the blazing fire of God, the author of every good; the artist behind every wonder of nature?

This life, and this world God created for us is very beautiful. But it is only a faint glimmer of what He is preparing for us in the eternal Paradise! We try, again and again to fill our cravings with the finite things of this life, but there is a void in our souls which only God can fill. All the joys and experiences of this life fade away. But in our eternal home, the joy we experience will remain as intense as its highest moment. This is why we were made! Heaven is more real than this material universe! Let us order our lives and act like we believe that!

We can't find fulfillment in taking whatever we can get in this world. God alone can fulfill us. God, who is Love, is our fulfillment. Our fulfillment is in love, for *he who abides in love abides in God* (1 Jn 4:16). When we love, we abide in God, and Heaven is the ultimate realization of that union with God, in love.

God is infinite beauty and loveliness. Heaven is possession of Him. It is on the horizon. God is coming! Will we dare open our hearts to His love this Christmas? Will we detangle ourselves from the things that prevent us from throwing ourselves wholeheartedly into His arms? Will we let Him love us?

FINAL THOUGHT - "At first it may seem difficult to realize that our happiness in Heaven can possibly consist in an act of contemplation and love. On earth the common idea of enjoying oneself consists in some gratification of the senses: a sumptuous banquet, sweet music, healthy exercise, a beautiful landscape, or the company and praise of our fellow men, the achievement of some great work through the exercise of our brain and skill, the discovery of something fresh and new, the travelling through unknown and sunlit lands. These and a thousand other things flit before the human mind when it imagines supreme happiness, for this happiness is thought of as an endless variety of such things as our own experience on earth suggests. A life of contemplation may seem a pale and attenuated existence, holding little attraction for us. On reflection, however, it becomes more and more evident that the highest and happiest life must be the complete satisfaction of mind and will in the sight and possession of an infinite personal Being.

Even on this earth the greatest known joy is intimacy – i.e., knowledge and nearness with another intelligent being. Imagine a mother, after the Great War, gazing again on the face of her son, and hearing his voice, and then clasping him in her embrace, and holding him as her very own possession, of which the battlefield had almost robbed her! The first moments of their mutual happiness contain a joy so intense that all other so-called enjoyments are as nothing in comparison.

"Strong as death is love and many waters cannot quench its fire." So far from a pale and extenuated existence, heaven is the romance, the never-ending love story of the soul and God.

To see is to enjoy; to enjoy is to possess. God is infinite beauty, but to embrace infinite beauty by knowledge is to possess it. God will give Himself to us. A friend gives himself to a friend by throwing himself into his arms and being pressed to his bosom, a spirit embraces not with material fleshly arms, but by the power of thought. We shall clasp God to our bosom spiritually, and we shall be united to Him with closer bonds than ever joined a lover to His beloved.

These are not mere expressions of poetical exaggeration or mere emotional piety; they are endorsed by strict philosophy and theology; they are almost technical in their value. To possess God is supreme happiness, for God is infinite beauty and loveliness."

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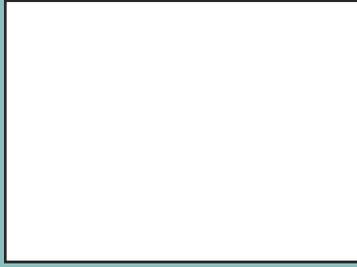
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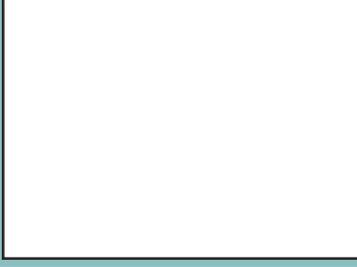
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