



Church of the Holy Childhood

1435 Midway Parkway † St. Paul MN 55108

December 20, 2020



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall name him Jesus.” - Lk 1:31

Pastor's Letter

DO WE STILL SEEK JESUS CHRIST?

Life happens, and this year a lot has happened, and continues to happen, things out of our control, and yet, most of which demand our concern and attention. It can feel as if we're living in a vortex, swirling around us, and all we can do is to rush from one thing to the next and keep trying to hold our lives together.

The question again begs itself for us and for all who profess faith in Jesus Christ: "*Are we still seeking him?*" We call ourselves Christians *because* we continually seek through faith in Jesus Christ the life he offers us: "I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly" (*John 10:10*). He has told us, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (*John 14:6*). If we really believe in and want to receive that life, we would also want to continue that search.

Of course, none of us are cloistered monks or nuns. We all have many other responsibilities in our own vocation of life that demand our attention throughout the day. But, it's exactly in those daily things that we can "see" Jesus Christ most effectively. We will only find God if we search where God can be found, not always where we would prefer to find him. Where God can be found more surely is where he has called and placed us to do his will and his work.

Finding Jesus in our homes, our workplaces, our neighborhoods, our family or other social gatherings means simply to *be* in those situations *the Christian* we know we should be.

A bumper sticker I saw once said it best: "*WISE MEN STILL SEEK HIM.*"

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH:

Sirach 3:2-6 The family is not only where children learn and develop the skills of social interaction in a healthy way, but also where they learn the bonds of love, mutual respect, and personal integrity, qualities that endure and guide amid the challenges of this life, and assure an everlasting reward in the next.

Colossians 3:12-21 The daily practice of personal virtue by each member of a family is the only reliable and solid foundation for a healthy and nurturing life as a family. This is the ideal that guides the Christian family.

St. Luke 2:22-40 The early years of Jesus' earthly life were characterized by both the very ordinary and the truly extraordinary. The ordinary is doing our best in our daily affairs; the extraordinary is what God does with it.

ONLINE STREAMING OF THE SUNDAY MASS

HOLY CHILDHOOD ON ZOOM AT 9:15 am - MATERNITY OF MARY ON YOUTUBE AT 10:30 am

Contact Jim Evanoff to be added to the Zoom email invitation. evanoff.jj@gmail.com or (651) 357-7613

Maternity of Mary - On YouTube through the Maternity of Mary website. Go to www.maternityofmarychurch.org and click on the link: Maternity of Mary YouTube page to watch live Mass. This link is under the Live Stream of Mass information.

ONLINE STREAMING OF THE DAILY MASS

The 7:45 am is now being live streamed on Zoom. Contact Jim Evanoff to be added to the list.

COMMUNION AT HOLY CHILDHOOD

Communion will be available at door # 5 (lower level church entrance off of parking lot) at approximately 8:20 am, Monday - Saturday and 10:00 am, on Sunday for those not attending Mass in the church building.

Christmas Mass

With the substantial increase in Covid-19 cases in Minnesota we have decided that there will be no choir for the Christmas season. In light of this the decision has been made to not have a Christmas Vigil Mass on December 24th.

The Nativity of the Lord

9:15 am - December 25

This Mass will be available to watch on Zoom. Please contact Jim Evanoff to be included in the Zoom invitation.
evanoff.jj@gmail.com or (651) 357-7613

Communion will be available at door # 5 for those not attending Mass in the church building.



ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

CHRISTMAS FLOWER & ALTAR COLLECTION

On the weekend of December 19 & 20 there will be a second collection for the Christmas flowers and decorations. Make checks payable to Holy Childhood. Thank you .

HOLY HOUR AND BENEDICTION SUNDAYS AT 2:00 PM

All are welcome to attend and spend some quality time with Our Lord.



HC MUSIC ON YOUTUBE

Are you missing the traditional Holy Childhood music? Miss it no longer. Thanks to Doug Schmitz who has posted recordings of our choir on YouTube. Visit www.youtube.com and search for schmitzd04.



EARLY BULLETIN DEADLINES

BULLETIN DATE	ARTICLE DUE DATE
January 3	Monday, December 21

All articles must be in the parish office by 10:00 am on the due date.

ADVENT PENANCE OPPORTUNITIES

A service of General Absolution will be provided in the parking lot outside door #6 on Sunday, December 20th at 1:30 pm, for the benefit of those who have been unable to get to individual Confession. Printed instructions on how to celebrate the Sacrament in this manner will be handed out. Stay in your vehicles for that service.

Individual Confession: Dec. 24 7:10 - 7:25 am
(Bell Tower)

PLEASE, NO GIFTS.

I again want to thank those who express their kindness to me at this time of year with a gift, but please, I would prefer that any resources you have this year be directed rather to the many needs felt by so many individuals and families caused by the current pandemic. I would have a much happier Christmas knowing that your kindness is helping someone who really needs it. Thank-you. Fr. Cloutier



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 25 Mary Barton
26 Kevin Connolly
Bob Schmall



FAIR SHARE PLEDGE DRIVE KEEP THOSE CARDS COMING!

In the fifth week of our drive, 56% of our pledge cards have been returned. Hopefully we will have 100% returned by Christmas. Oh what a nice gift to the parish that would be. Thank you.

YEAR END GIFTS

Contributions you wish to be credited to 2020 **MUST** be received by **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2020** or earlier. A final 2020 statement for tax purposes will be available by mid January 2021.

THANK YOU for your faithful support of Holy Childhood.

FAIR SHARE ENVELOPES

I will be making the Fair Share envelopes for 2021. If your current supply is abundant and you **DO NOT** need envelopes, please call Mary in the parish office. Thank you.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 19

7:45 am †† Bill and Mary Hill

5:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday, December 20

9:15 am † Jim Christiansen

Monday, December 21

7:45 am Intentions of the Dehn Family

Tuesday, December 22

7:45 am † Tom Schraad

Wednesday, December 23

7:45 am † Gale Anderson

Thursday, December 24

7:45 am † Michael Plakut

Friday, December 25

9:15 am Parishioners

Saturday, December 26

7:45 am † Rev. William Gamber

5:00 pm Parishioners

Sunday, December 27

9:15 am †† Ron & Lu Finnegan

Parish Support

FAIR SHARE - December 13, 2020...\$7789.00

Religious Retirement Fund...\$1280.00


THANK YOU!

Parish Information

Pastor, Fr. Timothy Cloutier

Parochial Vicar, Fr. Joseph Fink

Weekend Assistant, Fr. James Reidy, Ph. D.

Parish Office 651-644-7495

Buchanan Hall 651-647-0689

Our Current Services

Confessions - Saturday.....4:00-4:30 pm

Thursday.....7:10-7:25 am

Door #6 - in the bell tower entrance to Buchanan Hall

Saturday Anticipatory Mass..... 5:00 pm

Sunday Mass.....9:15 am

Weekday Masses...Monday - Saturday..7:45 am

Holy Day of Obligation as announced.

Rosary - Thursday 6:00 pm

Prayer Chain.....Peggy - 651-645-4955

Website.....www.holychildhoodparish.org

Email.....contact@holychildhoodparish.org

Victim Assistance Program.....651-291-4497



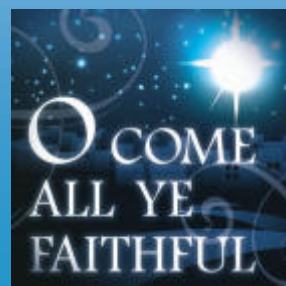
A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FOR 2020: KEEPING THE FAITH

This has been a year of highs and lows, of exhilarating joys and of profound sadness, of resounding successes and of discouraging failures for us as a nation, and also for many of us individually. In the midst of it all there remains our faith. Not only have we maintained it, but have deepened it, shared it with others, and it has become stronger.

This precious treasure, “which we carry in vessels of clay”, as St. Paul reminds us (*cf. II Cor 4:7*), is our mainstay in the often turbulent waters of this world. The celebration of the birth of the Word made flesh is an occasion which should need no further elaboration. It speaks to us in its silence, with a loving eloquence unheard of in the world. Amidst all the things we do and all the things we undergo, we can all be deeply thankful at the end of this year, during this blessed time, for the privilege of being among those who possess that which not only does not change, but that which in its changelessness gives us strength; in the strength of its timelessness gives us comfort; in the comfort it gives envelops us in hope; and in the hope it offers brings us Life.

“In the beginning was the Word ... In him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness ...” (*John 1:4*). May the brightness of Christ’s light bring his peace and joy to you and to your loved ones now and throughout the coming year.

Father Timothy Cloutier





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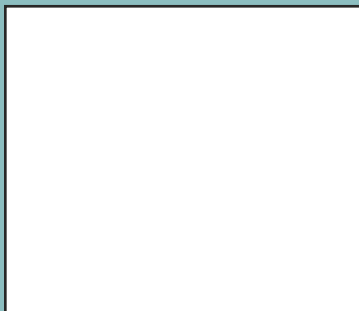
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Help homeowners through claims process due to hail storms

- \$75K - \$125K + realistic first year income with no experience, no cap on commissions
- 4-5 leads provided daily • Top reps make \$300K+ per year
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