



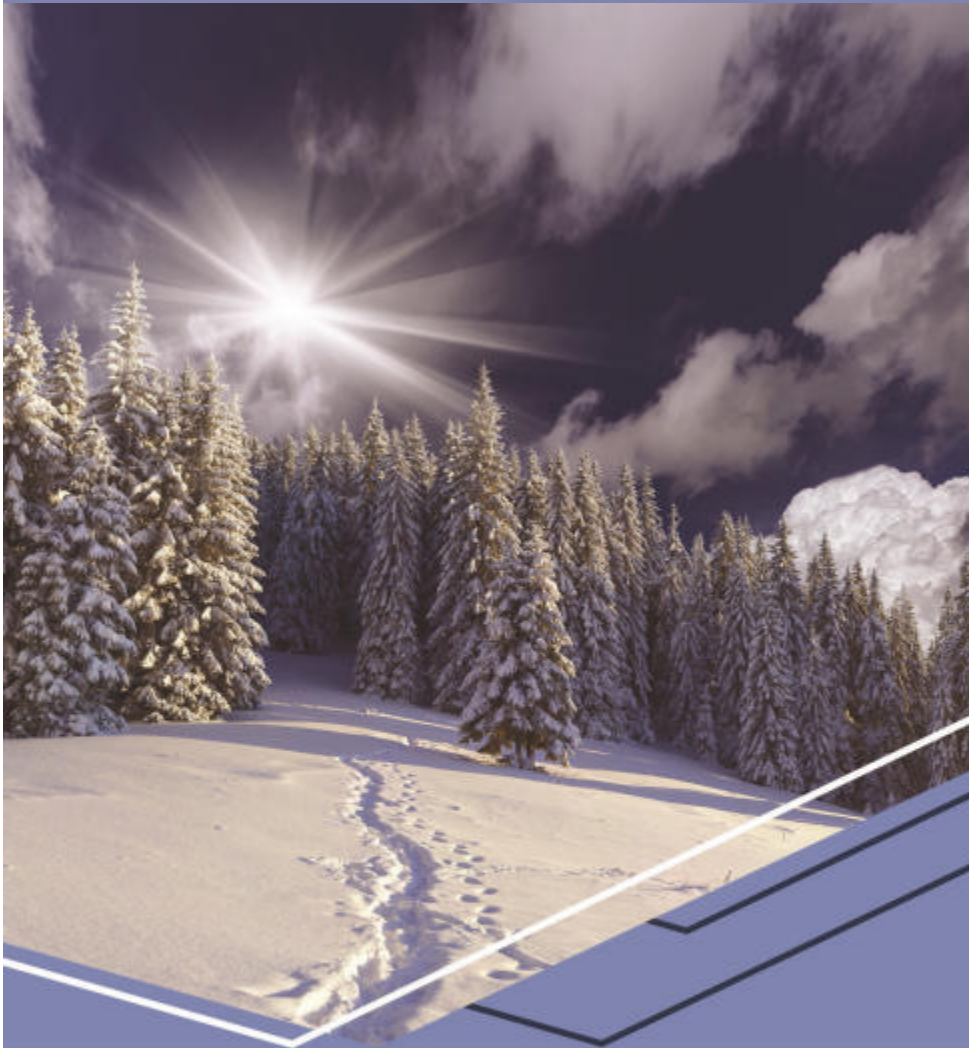
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF
Saint Thomas Becket

**A Welcoming Spirit-led
Catholic Community
where each is called**

to *love*,
to *serve* and
to *be hope*

"Your Spiritual home,
where each is called by name."

Sunday, December 13, 2020



3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am
sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare
your way before you." - Mt 11:10

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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PARISH STAFF:

Pastor:

Fr. Tim Wozniak Ext. 104

Weekend Assistant:

Fr. Mike Erlander

Business Administrator:

Karen Maza Ext. 100

Music Director:

Chris Ángel Ext. 107

Liturgical Ministry Coord & RCIA:

Jackie Graham Ext. 110

Pastoral Care:

Call 651-683-9808

Director of Faith Formation:

Mary McDonald Ext. 108

**Director of Outreach
and Confirmation:**

Dez Sobiech Ext. 109

**Coordinator Middle School
Faith Formation**

Lori Skare Ext. 111

Database Administrator:

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Monica Lopez Ext. 101

Evening Receptionist:

Kevie Skogh Ext. 102

Safe Environment Coord:

Pam Magyar Ext. 103

Director of Strategic Planning:

Kevin Magyar, Ext. 106

Maintenance:

Dave Schelitzche Ext. 105

CONTACT US :

**4455 South Robert Trail
Eagan, MN 55123**

Phone: (651) 683-9808

Fax: (651) 683-0361

parish@stbeagan.org

VISIT US:

Parish Office Hours:

Monday / Wed / Th 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Tuesday 9:00 am - 7:30 pm

Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Lord's Day Masses: All Are Welcome

See website for current information.

ONLINE:

www.stbeagan.org

Bulletin & Calendar

Like Us on FACEBOOK

CONFESSIONS:

Call parish office for appointment

Welcome!

a Catholic Community Where ALL are Welcome.

To New Parishioners: If you do not have a church home, we would be honored to have you as part of our parish family. Registration Forms are available at the New Parishioner Welcome Kiosk in the Commons, and online or call our Office at (651) 683-9808 , and we will help you out.

Baptism: All parents (must be parishioners) are asked to attend a baptism preparation meeting prior to the baptism of their child. Please register online; if you have questions call the parish office at (651) 683-9808.

Next baptism preparation meeting is Monday, January 4, 2021 at 6:15 p.m.

Marriage: Registered parishioners should contact the Office at least eight months prior to requested date.

Anointing of the Sick: Available to anyone who is seriously ill or suffering from a prolonged illness. Call Parish Office at (651) 683-9808 .

Faithful Shepherd Catholic School and Tri-Parish Center: www.fscsmn.org or call 651-406-4747

Readings

Week of December 13, 2020

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 51-54
[Is 61:10b]/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9
[4]/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23
[7a]/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12,
13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/
Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17
[cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

Next Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
[2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

Prayers for the Sick

Please hold these parishioners in your prayers:

Janet Higgins	Mary Cloutier
Judy Schmidt	Peter DePover
Dale O'Brien	Lisa LaFrance

If you have someone you would like added to our confidential Prayer Line call Cathy at 651-344-3350.

Offerings

OUR OFFERINGS LAST WEEK: (12/1 - 12/7)

Online	4,660.00
In Person/mail	18,852.00
Simplified Giving (automatic transfers)	10,381.00
TOTAL	33,893.00

YEAR TO DATE: (11/30/20)

	Actual	Budgeted
Operating Revenue	\$ 491,745	\$ 490,250
Operating Expenses	<u>518,060</u>	<u>530,371</u>
Net Income (loss)	\$ (26,315)	(40,121)

Everyday Stewardship

A Constant Companion

As Christians, we are called to a life of prayer. This is not just during seasons like Advent, but all year long. When we talk about being prayerful everyday stewards, we are speaking about cultivating an awareness of God being with us at all times. Each day we begin by offering God the entirety of our day. Each night we rest in Him and hope that the hours that passed gave Him glory.

During this busy time of Advent, it is hard to cultivate this life of prayer, but without it we can too easily lose sight of the reason for the season. It is during this time of year we need to heed the words of St. Paul more than ever when he wrote to the Thessalonians, "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing." This is how we will be able to avoid the pitfalls of consumerism and secularism and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

Bring Jesus with you into the office Christmas party. Take him with you shopping for gifts in the department store. Be aware of him when you sit down to watch television specials you have seen every year of your life. Give him all your time and let his presence fill your every moment. By striving to be connecting with Jesus at all times, you will bear greater fruit and the joy you experience will be much greater than you could imagine. You might even spend a few less dollars and spend more time with those you love, particularly the one who loves you the most, the Incarnation himself.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
©LPi



Advent 2020 A Sense of Place

On Thanksgiving weekend when many of us cannot go to other places to celebrate the holiday with the people we love, the holy season of Advent begins. This year we are unable to celebrate the season and our customs in the same ways as we have done before. However, we are preparing some ways in which our sense of place in our church and in our homes may ground us in the love of God, help us to serve family, friends and strangers and open our hearts to hope for the future and spread it to others.

In our worship the Advent Candles will not be in the pews because there are so few people to make up the wreath. They will be in lanterns at the altar that will light our way to a sense of place called Church.

We will still have an empty manger, but cannot fill it at church. Here are some things you can begin to do now to more fully experience the Sense of Place which is church, home and your inner being.

MANGER:

Make a manger at home in a craft project or using any container, like a bowl or box which is meaningful to you. See below for an idea.

ADVENT WREATH:

Make an Advent Wreath and light it when we light the Advent Candles at the video Mass. These wreaths are limited only by four candles and your imagination. Some helpful websites: <https://mariebostwick.com/diy-advent-wreath/> or <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/98657048058774629>.

Begin thinking about a special item that you have that is meaningful to you. Something that brings you joy, peace, hope, evokes a good memory. That gives you that sense of place in your life. Bring it to Mass on the Feast of Christ the King or have it with you that weekend when you watch the on-line Mass. We will bless those objects at that Mass and use them for contemplation during Advent.

Do you have a green thumb?

People are needed to water the plants in the church. You would be on a monthly schedule with a partner for roughly three to four months a year of your choosing.

Email Jackie at jackieg@stbeagan.org for information or to volunteer.

Help kids with homework

Mary's Place Homeless Shelter Tutoring Program desperately needs volunteers ages 16+ to help our homeless youth with their homework/reading. No teaching/tutoring experience required. We provide you with training on your first day. We have a Covid Safety Plan in place.

Open Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays from 4:00-6:00PM. Volunteers pick one day per week to attend.

Interested? Contact Kathy Klement at kklement@sharingandcaringhands.org / 612-596-3418

Stewardship Message

Be the light that helps others see.



JUST-FAITH MINISTRIES

Faith & Racial Healing:
Embracing Truth, Justice,
and Restoration

REMOTE SESSIONS

Do you want to address racism in your community, but you don't know where to begin?

Presented through the lens of the Christian faith, JustFaith Ministries' program, *Faith & Racial Healing: Embracing Truth, Justice and Restoration* is an eight-session program that guides participants in telling the truth about the history of racism in the United States, that we might work toward true reconciliation with God and restoration with one another.

Your only cost, besides faithful participation in the prayer, reading and conversations, will be the cost of the three books, about \$40. The parish will pay the registration fees.

The program will be offered

remotely via Zoom on

Monday evenings

from 6:30 pm -9:00 pm

starting January 11th - March 8th.

If you are unfamiliar with Zoom, we can assist you in getting the app set up - very easy!

This program is open to others in the community, including non-parishioners.

Invite a friend to share the journey - all are welcome!

If interested, please contact Dan Rietz at mnrietz@gmail.com.

Explore, Develop, and Use Your God-given Gifts

In all aspects of your life!

Check out the [St. Thomas Becket's Gifts Website](http://www.STB-LYTS.net) (www.STB-LYTS.net) where you can access a variety of gift reflection and development opportunities and resources, including St. Thomas Becket's [Online Small Group Gift Classes](#).

The next Online Gift Classes are in January!

The two types of Gift class options include:

● Explore Your God-given Gifts

New to STB, this introductory reflection process will help you to begin reflecting on your God-given gifts, which include your:

- spiritual gifts like faith, hope, and love;
- talents of body and brain;
- cherished relationships with family and friends;
- material goods;
- the achievements of human genius and skill;
- the world itself.

You have the option to download the **Explore Your Gifts** booklet and reflect on your own and/or you can also attend a small group Zoom session to further reflect on your gifts with other STB parishioners.

● Living Your Talents & Strengths (LYTS) Learning Modules

Attending LYTS learning modules gives you the opportunity to dive deeper into your God-given talents and then equips you to be more intentional about developing and using all of your God-given gifts in all aspects of your life – at home, at work, at school, volunteering in your community, and as a STB parishioner.

Take a look at what LYTS Participants are saying...

Please register for January gift classes at www.STB-LYTS.net by December 29.

Questions?

Send an email to strengths@stbeagan.org

Exploring Sunday scriptures?

Are you interested in exploring the Sunday scripture readings with a small group of parishioners?

A group of parishioners has been meeting via Zoom at 10:30-11:30 on Friday mornings to break open the Sunday readings. As we begin the new liturgical year with the first Sunday of Advent, November 29, it might be a good time to consider a new way to enhance your worship experience.

If you are interested in joining us please contact Mary Lou Logsdon at logsdon.marylou@gmail.com. All are welcome.

Help make some phone calls

Caring Ministries wants you - help make phone calls to parishioners

The Caring Ministries Council wants to form a small group of parishioners who will make phone calls to parishioners who may be especially isolated during these Covid-19 restrictions.

We will provide the information and training to help you make the calls. If interested, please email Jamie at jmoloney1240@gmail.com.

Finding it hard to focus?

Feeling anxiety and unrest?

Longing to go deeper and feel God's presence?

Learning about and practicing Centering Prayer may be a gift to you!

Here are a couple of links that offer information and insight about this personal prayer style. These are not short, simple descriptions, but Centering Prayer is not a short, simple idea. These are intended for those who want to explore a spiritual practice rooted in Jesus' own words.

See, for example these words of invitation from the Gospel of Matthew 6:6, "But you, when you pray, go into your inner room, close your door and pray to your Creator who is in secret, and your Creator who sees *what is done* in secret will reward you."

* Contemplative Outreach: <https://www.minnesotacontemplativeoutreach.org/centering-prayer.html>

* You tube resources: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5FWvxwfN_CE&t=262s

We still need several small group leaders!

We are in need of about 10 more adult or confirmed teen small group leaders for Confirmation Year1.

The students are mostly in grade 9; they will begin preparation this winter, break for the summer, and return in the fall for "Year 2."

We need leaders who can commit to seeing them through the entire process. The vision for the Confirmation program is, "A place where every young person is **Respected** as a child of God, **Supported** in developing a personal relationship with Christ, and **Challenged** by the Spirit to discover and share their unique gifts." If this sounds like something you want to be a part of, contact Dez Sobiech at dezs@stbeagan.org, or call the parish office. (Note: Classes this winter/spring will be either in person or online, depending on public health conditions. We hope to have everyone in person next fall.)

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve Mass / Th, December 24 / 3 pm & 10 pm
Christmas Day Mass / Friday, December 25 / 11:00 a.m.

Each Mass is limited to 150 people. Reservations are required and may be made by going to our website beginning **December 11 at 10:00 a.m.**

You may also call the parish office if you do not have access to a computer. When you sign up you need to read the protocols that are required to celebrate Mass in person. If you sign up and then change your mind, please be sure to cancel the reservation so that the space is available for someone else.

Other options for Mass:

A video recording for Christmas Mass

will be available on our website by noon on Christmas Eve.

Livestreamed Mass

The Christmas Eve 3:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. Masses will be livestreamed. See our website for the link.

HELP NEEDED I am also asking that if you are willing to help in any of the ministries at one of these Masses to email Kevin Magyar at kevinm@stbeagan.org. We need greeters, ushers, and people to help sanitize after the Masses. We are also in need of young people who have been Confirmed to be Eucharistic Ministers; please contact Jackie Graham at jackieg@stbeagan.org if you are willing to help.



Keep Christ in Christmas

Creativity Contest!

Every year the Eagan Knights of Columbus sponsors an annual contest for our STB Youths in grades kindergarten to five. And this year, you can enter and submit virtually and safely!

Q: How do I enter?

A: Go to stbeagan.org and look under "What's Happening" to print the form and return it via email to monical@stbeagan.org or drop it off safely outside of church in the STB drop box. Printed copies can also be picked up at church.

Q: Why should I enter?

A: The top three winners in grades preschool-2 and grades 3-5 will win Target gift cards in time for Christmas!

Q: How are winners notified?

A: Winners will be notified via email or text (whichever you supply) and gift cards will be mailed.

DEADLINE: December 15, 2020

Kids corner

Read the Gospel & Color



3rd Sunday of Advent • John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sharing the Gospel

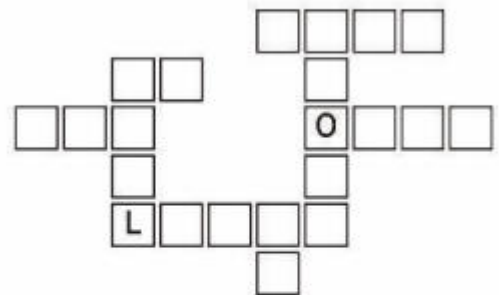
People noticed John the Baptist. He loved God, and he used words honestly. He really wanted to help people change and grow closer to God. He stood out as someone really different and special. People came from all around to hear him and learn about him. When people asked him questions, he pointed them to Jesus.

Prayer

Jesus, help me to be different because I love you.

PUZZLE

Fit this Gospel message into the empty squares:
He came only to tell about the light.



MISSION

Ask a friend if he or she is ready to meet Jesus.



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