29 November 2020
I Advent

# ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH

## Of Many Things

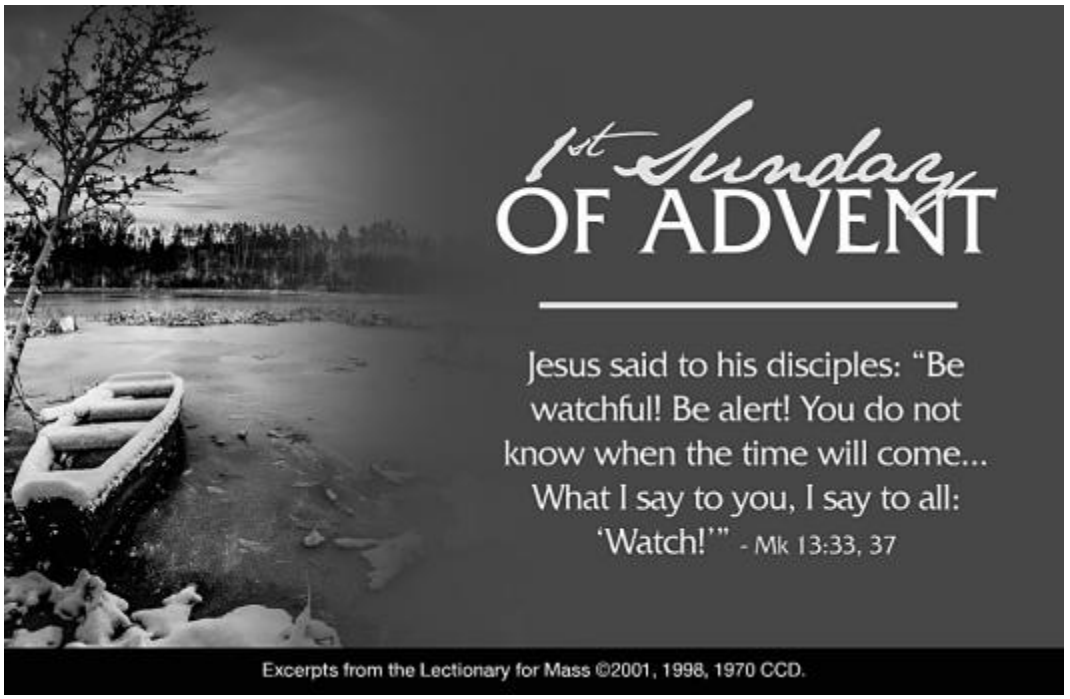
Well somber news this week. With Minnesota shutting down in person dining and pausing sports this fall and winter just becomes harder and harder. Still I think of my parents living through the Great Depression, WWII, the polio pandemic and probably more that I'm not aware of and they were still able to laugh, to create a family, have lives and more than that meaningful lives. We can too.

Now as for hoarding toilet paper...Yup that's supposed to be a thing right now. My father was a semi-truck driver his entire career. One of the things he regularly hauled was toilet paper. We never ran out of it in our home. Why? Well occasionally a big box of it would get crushed or opened or I don't know what but dad would bring home roll upon roll of toilet paper. As a matter of fact, I never knew there was such a thing as Kleenex until I went away to college. When we had colds as children, we'd be in bed with a roll of toilet paper. When we were sick with the flu, we'd be in bed with a roll of toilet paper. There was always a roll in the top drawer next to the sink in the kitchen for the occasional sniffle. So I have to say this scare about not enough toilet paper to go around is a bit baffling to me.

I really don't have anything more for this week. I hope you all had a safe Thanksgiving. Just a few more months to get through--I hope. GRS

## Glory to God

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. • We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. • Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. • For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.




## Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. • I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

For Sunday's readings go to usccb.org/bible/readings

At this time we are unable to come to mass to receive Jesus in a physical way, use this prayer to receive Jesus spiritually.

### An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus,
I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.
I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into 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 unite myself wholly to You.
Never permit me to be separated from You.

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ONLINE MASSES
Mass-online.org
saintjohnsabbey.org/
catholictv.org/masses/catholictv-mass
EWTN TV and other local masses on TV
"St Joseph Prescott" on YouTube
The Diocese of Lacrosse https://diolc.org

# WEEKLY PRAYER

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

| | |
|---|---|
| SUN **11/29** | Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/1 Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37 |
| MON **11/30** | Rom 10:9-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [10]/Mt 4:18-22 |
| TUE **12/1** | Is 11:1-10/ Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24 |
| WED **12/2** | Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37 |
| THR **12/3** | Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27 |
| FRI **12/4** | Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31 |
| SAT **12/5** | Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/ Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8 |
| SUN **12/6** | Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8 |

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

**Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent

**Monday:** St. Andrew, Apostle

**Thursday:** St. Francis Xavier, Priest

**Saturday:** St. Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent

## LIVE THE LITURGY

### Inspiration for the week

Be watchful! Be alert! The core message of Advent cannot be more direct or simple. As those who are postured in a spirit of readiness and anticipation, we must always be attentive and vigilant. We have to be ready not only for the anticipated arrival of our Lord, but watchful and attentive to the unexpected visit as well. While we know that the Christ is coming, we also do not know the exact time. Cultivating this expectant attitude is the purpose of this season. It is easy to grow slack, inattentive, and too self-assured. We can easily deaden ourselves to the wonder and surprise of God's presence. We get so absorbed in so many other distractions that it can seem like Christ's second coming, and even Christ's coming in time are of lesser importance. When it finally dawns on us that we have wandered far away from where we need to be, and lost our attentiveness and focus, we will wonder how this all happened. We may even try to put the onus on God and blame God for a lack of involvement or presence. We are the ones, who through our own choice, put the distance in our relationship and lost touch. Now it's time to come back and perk ourselves up a bit!

*The One Who is to Come*

## DRESS A CHILD

As many of you realize COVID-19 has changed the way we do things. This is true for the Dress a Child project as well. However, the need is still great! This year we are asking parishioners NOT to shop for children's clothing but donate the money and/or gift cards that you would normally spend on a child. Pierce County will only accept cash or gift cards for this project. **NO CHECKS PLEASE.**

These donations can be mailed to the church office: Dress a Child/St Joseph Church, 269 Dakota Street, Prescott, WI 54021 or they can be put in an envelope marked Dress a Child and put in the locked drop box at the door to the parish office.

***Due date is December 7th.***

The Pierce County Human Services Dept staff will distribute the donations to the parents so they can purchase clothing for their children. If the parents are unable to shop, then the social workers will shop for them.

Thank you in advance from the Pierce County Human Services Dept for your generosity. Your generous gifts have made such a difference in the past that we know St Joseph's parishioners will once again step up.

Questions can be directed to Janet Cleary 715-262-0141 or to Katie Murphy 612-205-0468.

## PRAYER CORNER

*Please keep the following in your prayer.*

Joan Schoenecker (Husband Steve & Daughter Josie); Becky Venegas (Sylvia Falteisek's 2nd cousin), Norm Killian; Shirley Skwira (Sylvia Faltiesek's cousin); Anita Casey (Darla Ironside's Sister-Inlaw): Jessica Sabelko (Steve & Cindy's Daughter -in-Law), Laura Kemmerer; Denise Cornell (Sylvia Falteisek's daughter); Jana Morrow (Walt & Carol Matzek's Daughter); Eileen Chase (Rich Niebur's mom); Kelly Niebur (wife of Ryan); Joe Riley; Jackie Unser; Dorothy Yanisch; Bill Casperson (Nancy Peterson's brother); Robert Hei (Shirley Hei's Son); Dwight Hollen; Jerry Rosga; Kristi Meier; Evan Horn; LaVerne Cobian; Richard Cornell; Joanne Cobian; Dick Baker; Leroy Tobias; Casie Johnson; Rick Cobian; Richard Hulne; Mike Meier; Jerry Killian; Michael "Chip" O'Brien; Steve McGree; Leslie Cobian; Marv Lindseth; Matt Wolf; Greg Anger and all the parishioners who are homebound or in the nursing home.

*To add a name to the prayer corner, call 715-262-5310. Names will remain on the list for one month, unless the parish office is notified otherwise.*

## STAYING IN TOUCH

In order to keep our community informed during this difficult time, Rev. Szews' homilies are posted on the website each Thursday. Parish updates are available each week on the website and by email. If you have not been receiving the emails from the parish over the past month please email us so we can add you to the list. ParishOffice@StJosephPrescott.com Please reach out to any elderly neighbors you may have to see if there is anything that could be done to help them during this time.

## Contact Information

**PARISH STAFF**

Rev. George R. Szews .....Pastor
Rev. Mr. Gerald Rynda.....Deacon
Chris Magee.....School Principal
Carol Mercord .....Director of Religious Education
Rita Johnson .....Parish Secretary
Ann Schwebach .....Finance Secretary
Crystal McCarthy..... School Administrative Assistant
Howie Kittleson .....Building & Grounds Manager
Don Sabelko ..... Cemetery Sexton

**PHONE**

Rev. George R. Szews - Emergencies Only.....715-262-2520
Parish Office .....715-262-5310
St. Joseph's School.....715-262-5912, Fax 715-262-5901
Religious Education.....715-262-3514
Don Sabelko, Cemetery Sexton.....715-262-3123

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**OFFICE HOURS**

Closed. Responding to emails and voice mails.

**DEVOTIONS**

Perpetual Help Novena

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

A class for new and expecting parents is held quarterly. Parents must be registered as parish members prior to attending the class. Call the parish office for more information. Baptisms are not celebrated during the Lenten season.

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Couples planning marriage should contact the parish office at least six months in advance. Marriages are not celebrated during the Lenten season.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

Contact the Parish Office to make an appointment with the pastor.

**MINISTRY TO THE SICK**

Holy Communion is brought to the sick and homebound every Wednesday. Those who are seriously ill or anticipating surgery should contact the parish office to arrange for the Anointing of the Sick.

**PARISH BULLETIN**

**Items for the weekly bulletin must be in the parish office by Friday at 12:30pm. (i.e. 9 days before the bulletin date)**

**PARISH WEBSITE…… ….. WWW.STJOSEPHPRESCOTT.COM**
**PARISH EMAIL..... .....parishoffice@stjosephprescott.com**
**Fr. Szews EMAIL .....gszews@stjosephprescott.com**
**Finance EMAIL.....finance@stjosephprescott.com**

## St. Joseph Parish School

During the entire month of November, we do a number of things in the school to focus on the lives and examples of the saints. We began by celebrating All Saints Day on November 1st. Many of the students came dressed as a favorite saint, and the 2nd Grade led a procession into Mass with the cantors singing "When The Saints Go Marching In". In addition to our remembrance of saints from the past, we highlight the fact that those of us living are part of the communion of saints too. We continue to remind students of our tradition to pray for the intercession of those saints who have gone before us, who pray to God on our behalf. We look to the example of those holy men and women who modeled living "In Christ, As Christ and For Christ", so that we too can live more fully as saints.

This year, due to Covid restrictions, we won't be hosting some of the in-person visits to the school that we have in the past during the week of Thanksgiving. But our 4th Grade students are still working on their living museum of saints. We continue to try to honor many other traditional milestones during this month of November, but in different ways. Mrs. Laust created a beautiful Veterans Day video that highlighted each of the classes in the school as they honored Veterans on November 11th. And our Kindergarten will still be performing renditions of nursery rhymes just before Thanksgiving, which also will be captured on video and shared with our families and on Social Media. We are finding new ways to honor and mark events which are so special to our school

— *Mr. Magee, School Principal*

## VIRTUAL KNIGHT GALA

St Joseph's Parish School is asking you to Save the Date!
The School Gala will take place January 24-30, 2021. They will have a silent and live auction. More details to follow.

## MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday 1 December
Charlie & Dorothy Most by Beth & Jerry Voss
Thursday 3 December
John & Jim Matzek by Family

## Financial News

Due to early publication deadline, the financial information will be updated next week.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Today is the First Sunday of Advent. We are in the 9th week of Virtual Learning. I hope you found some great Advent ideas on YouTube.

As I said last week, whether we are physically together, or on a video screen, let us joyfully prepare our hearts as we journey together with the Holy Family towards Christmas. Classes continue December 2nd, 9th, and 16th. December 23rd and 30th we will be on Christmas break. Be sure to send a special Christmas thank you to the amazing teachers who virtually teach your children each week. Are you hiding your lamb and looking for it each day (like the Old Testament people who waited for the Messiah)? Pray for grades 2 and 10 as they are preparing for First Communion and Confirmation. They need our prayers and help. Thank God it is Advent. Ready or not, Jesus is coming. We have spent enough time feeling shut in this year. Advent gives us the opportunity to rejoice with those we love and actually stay home with them. So, hide the lamb, bake some cookies, shop a little online, and watch some great Christmas videos, Jesus is coming!

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