Mass Intentions for the Week

Monday, December 21
@ Wexford .................................................. 8:00am

Tuesday, December 22
@ New Albin ................................................. 8:30am

Wednesday, December 23
@ Cherry Mound ......................................... 7:30pm

Thursday, December 24
@ Harpers ...................................................... 4:00pm
@ Lansing ...................................................... 6:00pm
@ Lansing ...................................................... 8:00pm

Friday, December 25
@ New Albin .................................................. 8:30am
@ Wexford ................................................... 8:30am
@ Lansing ...................................................... 10:00am

Saturday, December 26
@ Harpers .................................................. 4:00pm
@ Wexford .................................................. Wexford Foundation, Inc. Benefactors 5:30pm
@ Lansing ...................................................... 5:30pm

Sunday, December 27
@ New Albin .................................................. 8:00am
@ Lansing ...................................................... 10:00am
Living & deceased of Bill Manderscheid family

CONFESSION SCHEDULE
No Confessions scheduled the weekend of Dec. 26/27
Call the office and schedule an appointment if necessary.

Schedule of Liturgical Ministers • December 26 & 27
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Lector</th>
<th>EMHC</th>
<th>Altar Servers</th>
<th>Ushers</th>
<th>Giftbearers</th>
<th>Rosary</th>
<th>Sacristan</th>
<th>Greeters</th>
<th>Communion to the Homebound [Lansing]</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, Dec 27</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Sheila Diggins</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>Ann Delaney</td>
<td>Helen &amp; Mike Melde</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>- - - Dan &amp; Mary Scholtes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Theresa Heuker</td>
<td>Kay (Mike) Gavin</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>Helen &amp; Mike Melde</td>
<td>Ann Delaney</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>Helen &amp; Mike Melde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Ann Delaney</td>
<td>Helen &amp; Mike Melde</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>Larry Mitchell</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Julie Rethwisch</td>
<td>Joan Reburn</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>Larry Mitchell</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Izzy Mettiller</td>
<td>Peter Berns</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>Lane Rich</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
<td>None at this time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Linked Parish Office
Immaculate Conception, Lansing + 648 Main St. + Lansing, IA 52151 + (563) 538-4171
Rev. Sean Smith, Pastor............................................dbq115@dbqarch.org (563) 538-4171 (O)
(319) 382-0940 (C)
Shawn Klesk Peck, Bookkeeper & Secretary ...dbq115sec@dbqarch.org (563) 538-4171 (O)
Barb Winters-Kelly, Faith Formation Leader.....dbq115re@dbqarch.org (563) 538-3933 (O)
Mandy O’Neill, Youth Minister.......................dbq216ym@dbqarch.org (563) 568-3671 (O)

HFB website: www.holyfamilyofthebluffs.org
“Holy Family of the Bluffs” and — “Father Sean Smith”

Find us on Facebook
This Advent has been a time of waiting for us, a time of wonder as we prepare for the coming of God in the flesh, and one day for his coming on the clouds. But what exactly have we been wondering? Have we been wondering what that day will be like, when we see Jesus face to face? Have we been wondering how we can experience his coming in our lives this very day? And every day? Have we been wondering how God might be calling us to be witnesses to the Savior in the world? Or are we wondering how this Christmas could get any worse, with so many family and friends separated because of a dumb virus?

Friends, God is greater than a virus, and eternity is greater than a day, or a year (even 2020)! That doesn’t mean that today is unimportant, or that our sorrow at the difficulties and losses we’ve experienced is not real. But it does mean that they are not the whole story! In fact, the coming of God as man 2000 years ago was God’s response to the reality that sin and darkness, death and pain, are not the whole story! That’s the very promise of Christmas, that through Jesus, “the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it” (John 1:5)! Friends, lean into that promise. Allow the light that shines in the darkness to shine brightly in and through you! May God bless you this Christmas, and for all eternity!

“Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests” (Luke 2:14).

Speaking of Christmas . . .

On the following page you will see for the final time the schedule of Masses for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and the following weekend. Please keep in mind that we need to be vigilant regarding our COVID-19 precautions. What does that mean? It means we won’t be having “standing room only” or be putting out extra chairs or having people in choir lofts. It means we will still be leaving every other pew vacant to allow for social distancing. It means that for the sake of your brothers and sisters you should wear a mask. It means that when the church is full based on these guidelines, it is full, and you may not be able to come in. One thing we can all agree on is that no one likes all these “rules”, but at the same time, no one likes to be sick. There is an extra 8:00 pm Mass in Lansing on Christmas Eve to try to help. There is also an extra Mass on Saturday, Dec. 26, in Lansing at 5:30 pm. Remember, Christmas isn’t just a day, but is a season, and we can and should celebrate the coming of Jesus all the time! Plan accordingly, be patient and kind, and don’t let this steal your Christmas joy!

Goodbye and God Bless You, Seminarian Jeff

As many of you probably know, I’m a seminarian who’s been staying with Fr. Smith while I finish online classes for the semester. If we haven’t met, I suppose that this is my opportunity to say hello just in time to say goodbye. Either way, thank you for hosting me and welcoming me into your community for the past few weeks. Even though this wasn’t technically supposed to be a pastoral internship, God has blessed me with lots of opportunities to learn from you all and from Fr. Smith. Thank you for your hospitality and for sharing your beautiful home with me. This truly is God’s country. With warmth and charity, Jeff Frieden

Eternal Rest

Dorothy McCormick of Harpers Ferry died recently. We pray for the repose of her soul and for the peace and comfort of the Holy Spirit for her family and friends.

Eternal rest, grant unto her, O LORD, And let perpetual light shine upon her.

May she rest in peace. Amen.

May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Weekend Mass Schedule

December 19 & 20

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Harpers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Wexford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

December 26 & 27

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Harpers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Wexford</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Meetings & Happenings in “HFB”

- December 25th: MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Daily Mass readings (December 20 - December 27)
To subscribe to receiving daily readings by email every morning visit: https://bible.usccb.org/

Sunday, December 20: 4th Sunday of Advent
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-3

Monday, December 21: St. Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-4

Tuesday, December 22: Ordinary Weekday
1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Wednesday, December 23: St. John of Kanty, Priest
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66

Thursday, December 24: Christmas Eve
2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79

Friday, December 25: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-2

Saturday, December 26: St. Stephen, the First Martyr
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22

Next Sunday, December 27: The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Holiday Mass Schedule
Below you will find the Christmas Mass schedule. Please note the highlighted Masses added since the original schedule was published.

Christmas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 23</td>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Cherry Mound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 24</td>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Harpers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 25</td>
<td>8:30 pm</td>
<td>Wexford</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 26</td>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Lansing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(an extra weekend Mass in addition to the regular schedule)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 25</td>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Lansing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 25</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Lansing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“Stewardship” Report
for December 12 & 13

Note: All donations for this weekend will be reported in next week’s bulletin

December’s “Act of Kindness” Collection is this weekend the 19th & 20th:
All loose money dropped into the collection basket at these Masses will be directed to the Fuel Assistance program for those in need this winter.

For today in the city of David’s savior has been born; who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.”

Lk 2:11-12


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