MASS SCHEDULE DECEMBER 23 – 29, 2019

The Nativity of the Lord

Mon. 12-23-19  No Mass

Tues. 12-24-19  HT  4:00 pm  Paul Kovarik, Kenneth Shimek and Ann O’Brien

Tues. 12-24-19  OLMC  4:00 pm  Leona Streif, Jack & Leona Meissen & Chris Bruns, and Jack McKone

Tues. 12-24-19  ABVM  6:00 pm  Cindy Jirak, Larry Jirak and Martin Gossling

Tues. 12-24-19  SJ  6:00 pm  Clair D. Hosting, Leroy Schneberger & Martin & Stella Riha and Judy Ott

Wed. 12-25-19  SM  8:00 am  For all the cluster parishioners

Wed. 12-25-19  SL  9:30 am  Carol Kuenen, Linus Kuenen and Gary Langreck

Welcome Fr. Goerend

Thurs. 12-26-19  SL  9:00 am  Betty Busta, Donald, Margarete & Susan Stammeyer and Ed & Agnes Riha

Fri. 12-27-19  No Mass

WEEKEND MASS

Sat. 12-28-19  OLMC  4:00 pm  Tom Trewin & Leona Streif, and Harold Ackley

Sun. 12-29-19  HT  8:30 am  For all the cluster parishioners

Sun. 12-29-19  SL  10:30 am  L/D Peter & Mary Kriener Family, Shirley Schmitt and Elaine Wurzer

ADORATION –

Tues 4:15-5:15 pm; Wed 7:15-8:15 am; Thurs 9:30-10:30 am; Fri 7:15-8:15 am

RECONCILIATION—Any time by appointment, or

Saturday, 3:15- 3:45 pm and Sunday, 7:45—8:15 am before the Mass
Friends,

We come to the end of the Advent season with a Lady dear to all of us— the Virgin Mary. God gave Mary to us not simply as someone to adorn our mantles or holy cards—but truly as someone who wants to help us welcome Christ into the home of our hearts.

I struggled with Mary for sometime and one of the key bits of advice that helped me overcome this reluctance of going to her came from St. Maximilian Kolbe: “Do not be afraid of loving Mary too much; you cannot love her more than Jesus did!” And indeed, Mary is given to us as a model and a help, our greatest friend and advocate in this world or the next.

I would invite everyone who may be struggling with any aspect of faith, with an addiction, with a habitual sin to go to Mary and ask for her help in a particular way. God wanted to be “God with us,” Emmanuel, through her. He wanted that 2000 years ago and He still wants it today.

May God’s love, seen in His becoming flesh for us, fill all of your hearts this Christmas! God bless you and know of the prayers of all of Christ our Hope’s staff.

In Christ through Mary,
Fr. Aaron

**Homily Highlights**

- Receiving joy takes patience, and so God invites us to that patience and trust in His promises.
- An encounter with Christ in His Church should set us free from sin, sorrow, inner emptiness, and loneliness.
- Let us encounter Christ in each of those places in our lives so that we can experience and share Christ’s liberating power.

**Notes:**

**Pray For...**

- **Cluster Prayer Chain**
  Please pray for Peter Kriener, Rosemary Kriener, Dennis Franzen, Edmund (Sam) Samec, Barbara Kubesh Jacobs, Evelyn Hruska and Doris Bouska.
  Please pray for all caregivers and those in their care.

- **Rest in Peace**
  Alan Steinlage, whose Memorial Mass was held at St. Luke on Friday, Dec. 20.
  May he rest in peace and may God’s blessings and our prayers be with his family always.

**Reflection**

**Question for Children:** When you pray, how do you hear God’s voice in response?

**Question for Youth:** God speaks to us in our intuitions and imagination, as he did to Joseph in this dream. What is your experience of hearing God speak in this way? What is God asking of you?

**Question for Adults:** What experiences do you have of God “speaking to you” and directing your life and work? How does God speak to you in prayer?

[https://lifelongcatechesis.osv.com](https://lifelongcatechesis.osv.com)

**Readings for the Week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Readings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday Dec 23</td>
<td>Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday Dec 24</td>
<td>Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday Dec 25</td>
<td>Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14</td>
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<td>Thursday Dec 26</td>
<td>Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22</td>
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<td>Friday Dec 27</td>
<td>1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8</td>
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<td>Saturday Dec 28</td>
<td>1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18</td>
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<td>Sunday Dec 29</td>
<td>Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/ Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-19, 23</td>
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**Bulletin Planning Ahead**

Deadline for 1/5 Bulletin will be 9:00 am on Fri, Dec. 27

**Office Hours**—
The parish office will be closed Dec. 23 - 25 and Dec. 30 - Jan. 1, for the holidays. The office will be open normal hours, 8:00 am—3:00 pm, on Thursday and Friday of those weeks.

The faith formation office in Lawler will be closed Dec. 23-Jan 1. Normal hours, 7:00-12:00, will resume January 2.

**Planning Ahead: Mass Schedule**

**New Year’s Eve**

4:00 PM St. Mary, Waucoma
6:00 PM St. Luke, St. Lucas

**New Year’s**

10:00 AM Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Lawler
OLMC Choir practice for Christmas will be Sunday, Dec. 22, at 3:30 pm. All singers welcome!

OLMC Parish Society's and Cluster Minutes are by the church entrances.

Holy Trinity Parish ALL YOUTH & PAST ALUMNI are invited to sing and play instruments for Christmas Eve Mass at 4 P.M. Please call Sue Panos, 569-8263 or e-mail gpanos@iowatelecom.net. Parents, please contact your out of town children to join us!

St. John’s extra choir members are welcome to sing at St. John’s on Christmas Eve. Carols will start at about 5:40. Any questions, contact Kathy Wickman at 563-387-7331.

The Christ Our Hope Chorale and St. Mary's Choir will lead the music of the New Years Eve Liturgy at the 4:00 pm Mass, Dec. 31, St. Mary, Waucoma. Prelude will begin at 3:45 pm as we continue the celebration of the Christmas season.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Sun, Jan 5, 9:30. Contact the Faith Formation office with any questions.

CD of A Ct. Queenship of Mary 1806 Meeting Mon, Jan. 13, 1:00 pm, at the Senior Center. Items to discuss: Circle of Love Project, Educational Contest and Scholarships. Hostesses: Cathy Dietzenbach, Norma Hackman and Sally Hensley.

OLMC Soup Supper—Saturday, January 11, after Mass. All are welcome.

Trinity Annual Fund Drive- Thank you to all who have already donated to Trinity’s Annual Fund Drive. The support of our alumni, parents, grandparents, and communities allows us to continue to provide a faith-filled education for our area youngsters.

Our goal this year is for our Annual Fund Drive to continue growing, as it has done since its inception sixteen years ago. First and foremost, funds from the Annual Drive will again be used for tuition assistance for families that might otherwise be unable to send their child to Trinity, missing out on the strong Catholic education that we hold so dear. Secondly, it is used for academic advancement, providing for learning opportunities that might otherwise be unaffordable. Finally, the Annual Fund Drive allows for special building projects and other general operating expenses in order to keep tuition costs low. We are also committed to helping the churches keep future subsidies at a reasonable level.

We are asking for your support and help in realizing our goal. No donation is too small! Donor cards are available in all area churches or you can send them to Trinity Catholic School Annual Fund, PO Box 246, Protivin, IA 52163. Thank you in advance for your commitment to Trinity School and a Catholic education.

Thank you to Ron Nolte who remembered his beloved parish, St. Mary, St. Mary Cemetery and St. Rose Cemetery in his estate planning. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord.

Thank you to St. Lukes Parish and to St. Lucas Legion Auxiliary for their donation of winter gear to Turkey Valley. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. The community support for Turkey Valley is phenomenal! Thank you so much!

~Turkey Valley School Board Members

Assumption Christmas flower donations, please let Shirley or Neoma know so that you may pick up the flower after Christmas Eve mass to enjoy in your home on Christmas.

Christmas Flowers / Decorations
Donations are being accepted in all parishes. Please note for what parish and if they are in memory of a loved one, their name and yours. Donations can be labeled and placed in the weekend collection. We will publish the donations after Christmas.

In addition to the address list for those in care facilities, priests and religious, and those serving in the Armed Forces, that was in the bulletin the last couple weeks, we have a couple additional address:

Cpl. Preston Schaufenbuel
11th MEUCE Det C
Unit 89001 Box 264
FPO AP 9611-3200
Margaret Kleve
New Hampton Nursing and Rehab
703 S. 4th Ave
New Hampton, IA 50659

The End of 2019 is fast approaching. The IRS has sent a notice that all 2019 contributions must be made in 2019. Please work with us to comply. We can and do get audited. Thank you for your understanding.

If you are new to the area, turned 18, or recently married, we encourage you to register at one of our cluster parishes. We would like to get to know you and show you how you can become an active member of the parish. Check it out on christourhopecluster.com or call the office at 563-569-8259.

Name_______________________________________
Phone_______________________________________
Address_______________________________________

Circle the parish town you wish to join.
Fort Atkinson   Lawler   Little Turkey
Protivin        St. Lucas   Waucoma

You can complete the following and mail it to our office, or place it in the collection basket. God bless.
Holiday Open House - Come tour the school/museum and historic displays, view the Christmas decorations and atmosphere and enjoy the treats. 'Christmas In the Barn' - Come celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ on Saturday, Dec. 21, 7pm at Chase the Adventure Lodge near Calmar. Music, Scripture readings, a live Nativity scene, and a 30-ft tree adorned with thousands of lights. Refreshments will be served also. There is no charge for this event. Bring your whole family & be inspired by this beautiful tradition! By St. Wenceslaus Holy Name Society will be held Sunday, Jan. 12, at Chihak Hall in Spillville. Serving from 3:30-8:00 pm. Tickets available from Holy Name members, Ernie’s Ag Center, and Citizens Bank in Spillville. Adults $8 in advance, $8.50 at the door; children 5-12 $4; 4 and under free. Carryouts available.

St. Benedict Parish in Decorah will be hosting a series of Lectures. The 1st lecture will be Wednesday, Jan. 22, 7:00-8:00 pm in the St. Benedict Parish Hall. Luther Professor and St. Benedict Parishioner, Loren Toussaint will be presenting - FORGIVING AND LIVING: Finding Health and Happiness in a Forgiving Life. Please join us for an enlightening evening!
Families Feeding Families

For ad info. call 1-800-950-9952 • www.4lpi.com
Christ Our Hope, Protivin, IA