



- *ST. PIUS X* (SOLON SPRINGS)
- *ST. ANTHONY* (GORDON)
- *ST. MARY* (MINONG)

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me." — Mk 1:4, 6-7a

Excerpt from the Lictionary for Mass 0081, 1990, 1979 CCD.

Parish Staff

Pastor

Reverend James J Kinney
 P.O. Box 303
 Solon Springs, WI 54873
 Phone: Office 378-4431- ext 4

Office Hours: (usual hours)

Tues - Fri 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
 Closed Monday & Weekends

Office Staff

Bookkeeper/Secretary
 378-4431 - ext 2

Religious Formation/Church Services

715-378-4431 - ext 3

RCIA

715-378-4431 - ext 3

Office E-mail: stpiusx@centurytel.net

Bulletin E-Mail: fran.stpius@gmail.com

Fr. Kinney: pomp1o2000@yahoo.com



New Parishioners

Call the office (378-4431) to register full or part-time.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Due to the Covid-19 virus the Sacrament of Reconciliation (only through a screen- 6 feet away) by appointment and parishioners must call Fr. Kinney directly to arrange for a time that is convenient.

Mass Schedule

In-person masses have been cancelled effective 11/22/20. Live-streamed masses are held Tue-Fri at 9:30 am, Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 10:30 am. These masses can be viewed on Facebook or the tri-parish website. See links at the bottom of this page.

Visitation of the Sick

We are most eager to help anyone who cannot celebrate Mass with us because of illness, handicap or age. If you wish to receive the sacrament please call the rectory. Please notify us of any hospitalizations so that we may be of assistance.

The second collection this weekend is for the Building Fund

Mass Intentions Week of 12/1/20—12/6/20

Florence 'Ty' Sczetenski
 - Virginia Bartelt

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Matt Malone, S.J.: Christmas reminds us that there is only one redeemer (and it's not the president)
America Magazine
Nov. 19, 2020

Almost as soon as we knew for certain that Joseph R. Biden Jr. had been elected the 46th president of the United States, the 44th president came roaring back into our newsfeeds. Barack Obama is on le grand tour des mémoires, hawking the first of two volumes chronicling his life and presidency. In the published excerpts, one passage in particular caught my attention: “What I can say for certain is that I’m not yet ready to abandon the possibility of America—not just for the sake of future generations of Americans but for all of humankind.”

I agree with every word, though perhaps for different reasons than Mr. Obama. I do not know for certain, but I suspect that the former president is referring in some way to the oft-repeated description of the United States as “the last, best hope of earth.” That phrase is usually yanked out of the context in which Abraham Lincoln used it and then employed to justify some form of American exceptionalism, about which every Christian conscience should have reasonable suspicions. The United States is not the last, best hope of Earth because that role is already taken by the one whose incarnation we remember this month.

I’ll give you this though: America is the best thing to come along so far. The United States is a unique achievement in a fallen world. That last part is important. We do not live in any old world, but in a specific kind of world, one forged in the crucible of sin and redemption. We live in the hope that “the arc of the moral universe bends toward justice,” as Martin Luther King Jr. once said; but there is precious little in human history to suggest that it inevitably does. For nothing created is perfect, which is why, as the eucharistic prayer recounts, the Creator sent his only Son to bring “to perfection his work in the world.” The American founders never heard that prayer, but they understood the gist of it, and in the light of its truth they saw government as a means of creating a more just—not perfectly just—political community.

You might be wondering why any of that matters. Many people wrote to me over the last several months asking why America (the magazine, that is) seemed preoccupied with the U.S. Constitution, rather than with matters more overtly spiritual or obviously moral. Some even suggested that our concerns about the Constitution were just a thin cover for our partisan allegiances. Not true. For starters, America the country is what made possible America the magazine. More important, we believe in the constitutional order not in spite of, but because of what our faith teaches us about the reality of sin and redemption.

In the absence of law, we know what follows from the reality that we live in a fallen world: Cain kills Abel. John Courtney Murray, S.J., was wrong about some things, but he was not wrong about the fact that the American constitutional order is fundamentally an attempt to prevent Cain from killing Abel. This journal’s century-long championing of the American experiment stems not from naïve, idealistic or wishful thinking, but from a belief that more than 200 years ago, through an unlikely amalgam of events, this country stumbled onto a form of government that is better than anything previously devised or imagined since.

Yes, I know, the Constitution also involves egregious moral compromises. Like the two centuries of American history that followed its passage, the Constitution involves much of which we are rightly ashamed. It also involves much of which we are rightly proud. Some liberals think there is nothing redemptive about American history. Some conservatives think that only U.S. history is redemptive. Neither are right. The American experiment is not what has redeemed human nature, but neither does it require a revolution in human nature. It merely sets the necessary conditions for a reasonable evolution in human understanding.

In the end, Christmas reminds us that there is only one redeemer. And whether the specific moment of history in which we are now living will mark an evolution or a devolution in human understanding will be determined by the extent to which we are willing to allow that redemptive power to both break us down and build us up. That revolution, inspired by grace, is the reality upon which the success of the American revolution ultimately relies. In fact, it is the only revolution truly worthy of the name.

11/15/20	Solon	Gordon	Minong
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Haiti			
Easter	50.00		
Charity			
Total	\$729.00	\$165.00	\$944.00
CSA Goals	\$10,531	\$6,789	\$13,639
CSA Results			
% of Goal			
Electronic Dona- tions (Monthly)	565.00	235.00	308.17

Mass Schedule

Effective 11/22/20 all in-person masses have been cancelled. Live streamed masses appear on Facebook: Tuesday–Friday at 9:30 am, Saturday at 5 pm and Sunday at 10:30 am. These are also posted on the tri-parish website.



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Prepare the way of the Lord! The message of John the Baptist becomes the calling of every baptized disciple of Jesus Christ. Each one of us is asked to prepare the way of the Lord. Given the humble means of our lives, how can we do this? It certainly does not require that we stand on street corners announcing God’s future coming! We can more readily take up the task of our lifework by clearing our lives of unnecessary, distracting clutter. By creating solid and deep spiritual lives, we can heighten our awareness of God’s presence and help people point to and discover God’s presence around them. By conducting ourselves in holiness and devotion, we can speak volumes to those we meet. Not by preaching actual words, but by living lives that communicate the comfort God wants His people to know. As the world sometimes frantically unfolds around us, we can be people of patience who show others that it’s okay to wait for God’s gift to come. Conducting our lives in this manner, we will know the peace that comes from doing what we have been asked to do.

Pray For our friends and neighbors who are ill or homebound. If you know someone who should be put on or removed from this list, please call the office.

Dawn DenHartog	Joseph Treb
LaVerne Treb	John Poole
Virginia Bartelt	

Readings for the week of December 6, 2020

Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8
 Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
 Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10 [1]/Mt 11:28-30
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
 Next 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

Kids Corner

Hey Kids!

Do you know what a **Holy Day of Obligation** is? Well, Holy Days of Obligation are special days of the year when Catholics must attend mass in addition to the normal Sunday mass. The United States Catholic Church has six Holy Days of Obligation every year.

- Jan. 1st: **The Feast of Mary, Mother of God**
- 40 days after Easter Sunday: **Ascension Thursday**
- August 15th: **Assumption of Mary into heaven**
- Nov. 1st: **All Saints' Day**
- Dec. 8th: **The Feast of the Immaculate Conception**
- Dec. 25th: **Christmas, the Nativity of Our Lord**

So what are you going to do after you finish your school work....or maybe before you do your school work... on Tuesday, Dec. 8th? Why don't you participate in mass with Father Kinney on your computer? Our Bishop Powers has given us **general dispensation** (big word) so we don't have to go into church to attend mass on Sundays or Holy Days of Obligation because of the Covid-19 virus. But we can still celebrate the liturgy in a very special way. Wouldn't Jesus just love for us to figure out a way to be together even though we have to be apart?

* Did you set up your Advent wreath? You can light 2 candles for the 2nd week of Advent.



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