

Welcome to The Church of St. Dominic



Parish Office: 507-645-8816 216 Spring St. N.
Sunday Masses: 5:00 PM, 9:00 AM, and 2:00 PM (Misa)
Confessions: 5:00-5:25 PM Tues, 3:30-4:30 PM Sat
Parish Email: secretary@churchofstdominic.org

www.churchofstdominic.org

December 6, 2020

GIFTS

At this time of year, when gifts are mentioned, St. Nicholas, Bishop of Myra (southwestern Turkey) is remembered for the gifts he delivered to families in need. Today, his feast day, December 6, is celebrated with treats placed in children's shoes the night before. Children wake up on St. Nicholas Day, to enjoy the discovery of delicious food and candies in their shoes.

The definition of "gift" is "that which is given." There is no further description, such as "wondrous" or "happy surprise." Is a gift always good?

Bob Burnham explains the gift of pilgrimage in his book *Little Lessons from the Saints* through the story of Juan Diego and Our Lady of Guadalupe, whose feast days are this week, December 9 and December 12. The gift of pilgrimage... Our Lady smiled and said, "Listen and understand, my humblest son. There is nothing to frighten and distress you. Do not let your heart be troubled, and let nothing upset you." To go on a pilgrimage, we must dare to surrender. We have to surrender what we know for what we don't know. We have to surrender the comfort of safety and security for an unpredictable wilderness where we often feel helpless. We would do well to imitate St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin (One Who Talks Like an Eagle). Imagine his world for a moment. His people had just been defeated and humiliated by Spanish conquistadors. Missionaries came and said that the gods they worshiped – the gods that helped the people understand the universe and their place in it – were false. Instead, they were presented with the God of love and mercy; and yet, this message of love and mercy proclaimed by the missionaries was blatantly contradicted by the brutality of the conquistadors who worshiped the very same God. In the face of this confusion, Juan Diego dared to accept something new – he accepted the message of Our Lady of Guadalupe and did as she asked. He dared to begin a new journey, to begin a pilgrimage. He was willing to surrender the traditions of his people so he could begin walking toward the God of love. The journey to God's kingdom will surely lead us out of our comfort zones, but we can take comfort in the example of St. Juan Diego. Let's take a few minutes to meditate on the concept of discomfort, going beyond one's comfort zone. What is God calling you to leave behind?

Ponder the following verse, allowing your mind to become light and still, and your breathing even and smooth: "God chose what is low and despised in the world...so that no one might boast in the presence of God." (1 Corinthians 1:28-29)

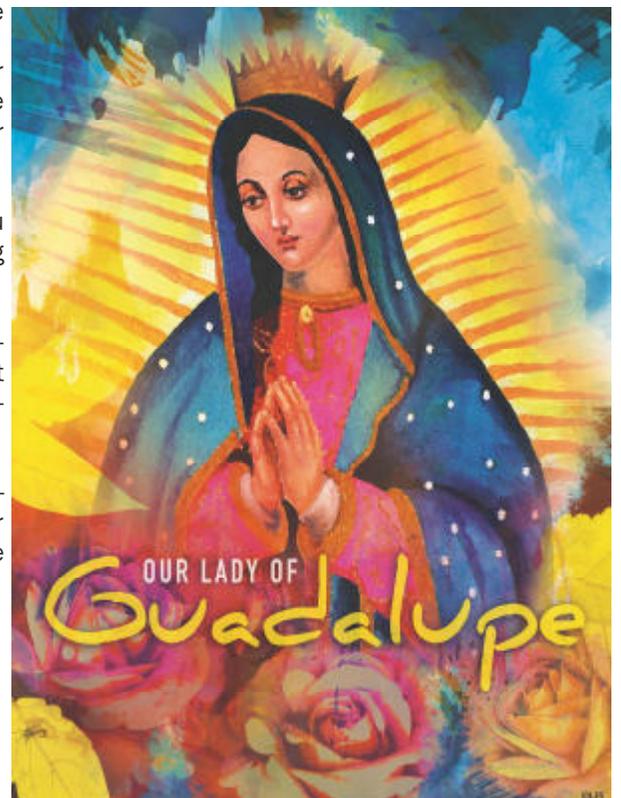
Review your day, looking for a moment when you had to go outside your comfort zone. What forced you out of your comfort zone? What did you have to let go of in order to start this journey? What feelings surrounded your departure? Dread? Resentment? Eagerness? Curiosity?

Where did this journey outside your comfort zone take you? How did you respond to the unknown? Did the journey expand your horizons by showing you new perspectives, or did you long to retreat to the known and familiar?

Spend some time talking to Jesus about this journey. What does your journey look like from his perspective? Ask him to show you the graces that were present in it. Ask for the graces necessary to welcome such encounters as an opportunity to learn more about yourself, others, and the world.

St. Juan Diego, pray that I may always follow Jesus, even if it takes me outside my comfort zone. For if I am on a pilgrimage, then I am sure to enter into the gift of the presence of God. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." (Mark 1:3)

Mara Mangan,
Faith Formation Director



PARISH NEWS

COVID 19 Precautions

Parish Office: Given the surge in Covid 19 cases we ask your assistance in limiting traffic into the parish office. The parish office staff continues to be available for you. It is preferred that you communicate with staff members by calling/emailing. Some staff will be working from home. For office deliveries/pick-ups we ask that you place them/pick them up in the basket immediately inside the office door rather than coming into the office itself. Envelope deliveries can also be placed in the mailbox in the church entryway. Beginning Dec. 7th the parish office hours will be 8 a.m.–12 p.m. and 1Pp.m-4 p.m. Thank you for your extra efforts in keeping us all healthy!

Mass et al: We will be taking the following steps to keep everyone safe due to the recent increase in Covid 19 cases. We will not have cantors at mass until January 15 or later. We will suspend public funeral visitations and funeral lunches until after January 15. Funeral masses and Weddings will follow the same protocol as weekend masses. We will suspend in-person meetings until January 15, replacing them with Google Meets or Zoom. We appreciate everyone's cooperation with wearing masks at mass and ask for your continued vigilance. Together, we will keep everyone safe.

Pray the Rosary

You are invited to pray the live online family rosary with a parish family and Fr. Gregory each Sunday of Advent at 6pm. The URL link is: <https://vimeo.com/event/463632>



Counting Blessings

Will you join me in counting blessings upon blessings? I am grateful for the blessing of the St. Dominic Thursday Book Group! Thank You! Thank You! God bless the nine members whose contributions made it possible for St. Dominic Faith Formation families to receive the book, Rejoice! Advent Meditations with St. Joseph, two-sided prayer card to St. Joseph and St. Andrew Christmas prayer, Synod Prayer card and Advent calendar. This gift is true comfort food for the soul! Thank You!

Thank You!

I just wanted to quickly follow up after our incredible distribution before Thanksgiving. We served 285 households in about 1.50 hours! Each household was able to receive \$50 in gift cards from St. Dominic's. So many teary eyes! It was amazing! I cannot describe the amount of love and appreciation people

Retirement Fund for Religious

Next weekend we honor our many senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests serving with little or no pay. Your gift helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious. Baskets are available in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support!

Masses

Bulletins are printed Wednesday morning, so scheduled events may be out of date.

Masses will be archived here:

<https://vimeo.com/channels/stdominic>

It is free to view Vimeo videos.

Outdoor Masses / Carside Communion at St. Dominic

Do you wish to attend mass in your car or outside? Check the Archdiocesan Page (<https://www.archspm.org/locations/>) for a list of outdoor masses in the area, including the Annunciation Mass at 10 AM every Sunday.

Communion will be offered to people in cars after mass on the first Tuesday of each month at St. Dominic by Fr. Tim.

Please pray for all those on the prayer list, especially Judy. If you wish to add a name, please contact the Parish Office.

Year of St. Joseph

The formal opening to the Archdiocesan Year of St. Joseph will begin on Tues. Dec. 8, the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pius IX's declaration of St. Joseph as the Universal Patron of the Church. Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Paul at 7 PM and all are welcome to participate, whether in-person or virtually. In the course of the Mass, we will be offering a special prayer consecrating the Archdiocese to St. Joseph, especially in this second year of our Synod preparations. Registration is required for in person attendance: <https://bookapew.com/app/mn/cathedralsaintpaul/>

The event also will be live-streamed at <https://www.facebook.com/cathedralsaintpaul>. For more information visit: <https://www.archspm.org/synod/stjoseph/>

At the Masses at St. Dominic and Annunciation on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception we will have an opportunity to reflect upon Joseph and offer our needs to his powerful intercession. If you wish, you could use the Memorare to St. Joseph prayer leading up to December 8th. You could pray it daily as a novena from November 30–December 8th.

Yours in St. Joseph,

Fr. Gregory

Memorare to St. Joseph

Look upon me, O most humble and obedient St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus and spouse of Mary. As God was pleased to entrust Jesus and Mary to your care, I now entrust my cares to you (your intentions ____). As husband and father you diligently provided for the needs of your Son and wife. So I now ask you to be a father to me in my necessities. More than this Joseph, I ask you to be a spiritual father to me, so that under your care I will grow and mature into the likeness of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

St. Dominic School Corner



Mrs. Melodi Van Roekel is our Music Teacher. She grew up on a farm in rural Lonsdale, and she and her husband Larry live in Nerstrand and have one son, Jonathan who recently moved to Lakeview, OR to work with AmeriCore. Melodi and her family enjoy hiking, biking, and living in the woods. They also enjoy traveling internationally!

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated; indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD double for all her sins.

A voice cries out: In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God! Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low; the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together; for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up on to a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings; cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news! Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah: Here is your God! Here comes with power the Lord GOD, who rules by his strong arm; here is his reward with him, his recompense before him. Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

A Reading from the Second Letter of Peter

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day. The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard "delay," but he is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire, and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements melted by fire. But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark

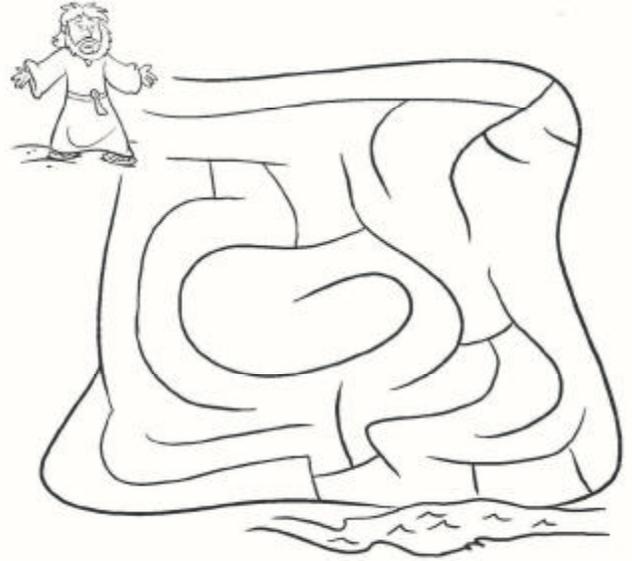
The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: *Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way. A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths."* John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their 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. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."



Children's Corner



Help John the Baptist find his way to the Jordan River.



NEXT WEEK IS THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
(Mk 1:7b-8)

Readings: 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

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

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. Amen.

Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States, second typical edition, Copyright © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine. All rights reserved. Neither this work nor any part of it may be reproduced, distributed, performed or displayed in any medium, including electronic or digital, without permission in writing from the copyright owner.

Mass Intentions

Sat. Dec 5	5:00 PM	† Elvin Anderson
Sun. Dec 6	9:00 AM	† Edel, Kalina, & Redder Families
	2:00 PM	† For the Parish (Misa)
Mon. Dec. 7	6:00 PM	† Mary Ellen & Bob Jesse
Tues. Dec 8	7:00 AM	For the Parish
	8:20 AM	For the Parish
	6:30 PM	† Aurora Rosas Conde(Misa)
Wed. Dec 9	8:20 AM	† Rev. William K. Gamber
Thurs. Dec 10	5:30 PM	† Lorraine Grossman
Fri. Dec 11	7:00 AM	† Janet Jones
Sat. Dec 12	5:00 PM	† Melvin Malecha
Sun. Dec 13	9:00 AM	† John & Delores Blazina
	2:00 PM	For the Parish(Misa)

There is only one Sunday mass regularly scheduled and no Care Center Masses. Mass intentions will be adjusted to the closest possible date.

LITURGICAL + ROLES**Dec 12 — 5 PM Mass****Lector** TBD**Pianist** Matthew Anderson**EMHC** Dale Fredrickson, Cheryl Marek**Ushers** Pat Mahowald, Kathleen Homa, Rick Nelson**Mass Coordinator** Dale Fredrickson**Dec 13 — 9 AM Mass****Lector** TBD**Pianist** Shawn Dudley**EMHC** Dusty Budd, Andy Devney**Ushers** John Noack, Matt Bernstorf, John McDonnell**Mass Coordinator** Bernie & Mary Quick

Reminder: You are required to find a replacement if unable to serve as a minister on your scheduled weekend.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Mass times for the Feast of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary are as follows: Dec. 7 at 6 PM and Dec. 8 at 7 AM, 8:20 AM and 6:30 PM in Spanish.

Ministers Needed

We want to thank all of our Mass helpers! From those who clean the linens, decorate the church, seat parishioners at Mass, clean, serve as Eucharistic Ministers, coordinate the Mass, film the Mass, and read the Good News! If you are comfortable returning to Mass, consider helping these ministers.

Fare For All

Fare For All drive thru style will be at St. Dominic Church on Thurs., Dec. 10th from 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. They offer nutritional food at affordable prices. They will be featuring their holiday packs for \$30.00. For more information visit <https://fareforall.thefoodgroupmn.org/>

Callings of Women in the Church

Who can Catholic women turn to for encouragement? How is God calling people of all genders to speak their truths and stand up to the patriarchy? Presented through a young feminist lens, this presentation welcomes people of all genders to consider how the church can grow into a more inclusive, empowering community. Friday, Dec. 11, 9-11 AM . Visit www.collegevilleMN.com/theologyday, call 320-363-3560, or email theologyday@csbsju.edu to register for this free webinar, registration is required.

Bethlehem Academy Family Tours

Prospective Grade 6-12 students are encouraged to set up an on-campus family tour led by one of our student ambassadors. Tours are offered Monday through Friday from 3:00–6:00 pm. To start your Cardinal journey, sign up on our website (www.bacards.org) under the Enrollment tab to see how our ACT-aligned, Christ-centered curriculum and supportive Bethlehem Academy community can make a difference in the life of your student!

Equal Rights Institute

St Olaf Women's House will share their work in the Equal Rights Institute with St. Dominic parishioners online on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 7 PM. ERI trains pro-life advocates to offer productive dialogue between people who disagree. Emily Albrecht sees herself and the work she does at ERI as "helping pro-lifers to not be weird." All are invited to attend online at Google Meets meet.google.com/sje-vwes-eor to listen to Emily and St. Olaf President of Students for Life, Meredith Maloley. Please contact Mara Mangan at the parish office for further details and assistance in attending this event online.

Archbishop's Discernment Retreat

Have you thought that maybe God is calling you to be a Catholic priest? This annual weekend retreat is for Catholic men, who are Juniors in High School, up to age 24, who have not completed a college degree. This retreat will be Dec. 18-20 at The Franciscan Retreat Center in Prior Lake. For more information and to register, www.10000vocations.org



Eye Candy

Thank you Christine Hamblin and crew for continuing to beautify our grounds with your seasonal arrangements, and maintenance! Your generosity, hard work and creative appeal always adds a beautiful touch to our facilities!

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