

... a day for rejoicing ...

Third Week of Advent

Living in the world today as disciples of Jesus the Christ

saint **John f**isher chapel
UNIVERSITY PARISH

December 13, 2020

Calendar

December 12 - December 20, 2020

Saturday, December 12

- 8:30am ● Reconciliation
- 9:00am ● Mass
- 4:30pm ● Reconciliation
- 5:30pm ● Mass

Sunday, December 13

- 10:00am ● Mass - Advent III
- 6:00pm ● Mass - Advent III

Monday, December 14

- Parish Offices Closed
- 12:15pm ● Mass

Tuesday, December 15

- Parish Offices Closed
- 12:15pm ● Mass

Wednesday, December 16

- Parish Offices Closed
- 12:15pm ● Mass
- 7:00pm ● Catholic Campus Ministry Night - Virtual

Thursday, December 17

- Parish Offices Closed
- 6:00pm ● Eucharistic Adoration
- 6:00pm ● Reconciliation
- 7:15pm ● Mass

Friday, December 18

- Parish Offices Closed
- 12:15pm ● Mass

Saturday, December 19

- 9:00am ● Mass
- 4:30pm ● Reconciliation
- 5:30pm ● Mass

Sunday, December 20

- 10:00am ● Mass - Advent IV
- 6:00pm ● Mass - Advent IV

Readings for the week of December 13

- **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
- **Monday:** Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
- **Tuesday:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
- **Wednesday:** Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
- **Thursday:** Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
- **Friday:** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
- **Saturday:** Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25

OR

Please access the following link from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops website to view the readings for each day:
<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings>

Offertory 11-29-2020 YTD Total: \$97,052 short
(46,668) Please find more detailed information in "Offertory Collections."

Due to an accelerated bulletin submission schedule, the December 6 report will be reported in the December 20 bulletin.

Third Week of Advent 2020 - Sunday December 13, 2020

A meditation based on John 1:6-8, 19-28

There is one among you whom you do not recognize. (John 1:26)

Today is Gaudete Sunday, or “Pink Candle” Sunday, as some children call it. It’s a day for rejoicing, to rejoice “without ceasing” and “in all circumstances,” St. Paul tells us (1Thessalonians 5:17-18). But why rejoice today? Because Jesus is near!

In Today’s Gospel, some Jewish leaders are interrogating John the Baptist about who he is. John replies that he isn’t the Christ who would come to save Israel. He is merely testifying to him, proclaiming, “Make straight the way for the Lord” (John 1:23). But then he turns the conversation toward them. “There is one among you,” John says, “whom you do not recognize” (1:26). He is the Messiah. He is so holy that John wouldn’t even untie his sandal. John hoped that they would rejoice that the Messiah was near - but these men couldn’t see him.

Jesus is near to us too, but sometimes we have trouble recognizing him. In the flurry of our Christmas preparations. In our grieving over a deceased loved one. In our worries about the future. Our faith tells us that Jesus is there, but it feels hard to sense his presence in our midst. Even John had trouble: “I did not know him,” he says later, but “now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God” (John 1:33, 34).

So who makes the difference? The Holy Spirit. Jesus calls him the “Spirit of truth” who guides us to all truth (John 16:13). The Spirit is the One who makes Jesus present to us and helps us understand who he is. John tried to show his questioners that they were missing something important. Similarly, the Spirit can open our eyes so that we don’t miss seeing Jesus present in our lives.

Jesus isn’t hiding; he gave us the Spirit so that everyone can know him. And that’s a reason to rejoice.

Pray... “Open my eyes, Holy Spirit. Help me to recognize Jesus today.”

- Taken from *Five Minutes with the Word Advent 2020*, *The Word Among Us* publication.

what's coming? events, programs, classes ...

Now through December 22

Christmas Mass Reservations

Please join us for mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. **Masses will be:** Thursday, Christmas Eve at 4pm, 7pm and 12am (midnight).

Friday, Christmas Day at 8am, 10am and 12pm (noon).

We will follow the social distancing

guidelines and masks are required.

To allow us to social-distance, our chapel has a capacity of 200 people.

The following link addresses are long so you can also access the links from our website at stjohnfisherparish.org and click on the Christmas picture.

Or access the links via the Eblast sent out on Tuesdays (if you are signed

up to receive the Eblast).

Reservation link:

Please reserve your seat(s) by December 22 so we can see if another mass needs to be added. Please click on the Sign-up Genius link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E084AAAAF22ABFF2-christmas>

Video of Mass link:

If you feel more safe to view the mass

on Christmas Day via video, please check on our YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCF6Ns3IJ6MYWtCZYHkvEUYQ> Please note that the video will first be available on Christmas Day since we will be filming on Christmas Eve.

Now through December 13

The Giving Tree

Outreach and Catholic Campus Ministry is providing an opportunity to support those in our community who are in need even more during the pandemic and hard economic times this holy season. A giving tree will be in the lobby of St. John Fisher starting November 14 and will be up through the second weekend of Advent, December 12 and 13, the feast of St. Lucy. Lucy means light, so as we wind down our liturgical year with Christ the King and start anew with Advent may our charity be a sign to others of our love and shine the light of Christ in our community. There will be ornamental tags that will be available and the gifts will help people through CCRT, HOPE Warming Center and Neighborhood House.

Please return tags and gifts to the Parish Office and make checks payable to St. John Fisher with the agency in the memo line. Thank you for your support and prayers this Thanksgiving and Advent Season.

Any questions please contact Drew Peters by phone: 248-370-2189 or email: catholiccampusministry@sjfcup.com

Now through December 13

Sharing the Holidays with Family and Friends Oakland County Jail and Outreach Ministry

Over the years the St. John Fisher Community has donated a generous supply of Christmas cards for the incarcerated



for them to send holiday greetings. Because of the large supply of cards, this year, no cards are needed. Instead **Forever postage stamps** would be greatly appreciated.

Please consider purchasing some extra stamps so that the inmates can keep in touch with their children and friends by sending Holiday cards. Staying connected during their jail time is essential for their future lives.

If you don't get a chance to get stamps, a donation of cash or check is welcome. Please make checks payable to *St. John Fisher Chapel* and also write Jail Ministry on the memo line.

You can drop the stamps or donation in the **mailbox** on the table in the Gathering Area through the month of December.

Thank you. - *Outreach Ministry*

Now through December 22

Parish Office

The Parish Offices will be closed through December 22 due to the latest update in state restrictions.

Masses WILL continue at the regularly scheduled times. The church will also be open during specified times for private prayer. Please check the calendar on our website:

www.stjohnfisherparish.org/calendar, for the latest updates. Please email the frontoffice@sjfcup.com if you have questions.

During Advent

Advent Family Prayer Challenge from 52 Sundays

You are invited to join the Advent Family Prayer Challenge from 52 Sundays!

Prayer is the life-breath and heart-beat of a domestic Church, and it's an important way to help your family prepare for Christmas.

Beginning the first Sunday of Advent, you will receive a daily prayer prompt with a reflection on the Antiphon from Evening Prayer and a prayer for your family to pray together.

You can sign-up and receive reminders to pray via email or by text message. For email, click <https://www.52sundays.com/advent-prayer-challenge>. To receive them by text, simply text ADVENT20 to 33777. For more information about the Advent Family Prayer Challenge, please visit: www.52sundays.com/advent-prayer-challenge

For questions, contact the Family Evangelization Team at evangelization@aod.org

Ongoing Pledge

Catholic Service Appeal

In his pastoral letter, *Unleash the Gospel*, Archbishop Allen H. Vigneron asks us to make Jesus "known by our word and deed" - timely guidance for the 2020 Catholic Services Appeal.

The CSA gives us an opportunity to live out our discipleship in Christ through the many benefits our annual appeal provides. These ministries, programs, and services meet the spiritual and physical needs of parishes and countless people throughout the Archdiocese. Our support demonstrates our own Catholic faith as we strive to grow in our love of Jesus as His missionary disciples.

When we embrace the CSA for carrying out the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy, we witness Christ, and in turn, we open doors so others may also develop a deeper relationship with Him. We also extend our personal involvement in our local Church beyond our home parishes.

The CSA enables Archbishop Vigneron, his auxiliary bishops, the clergy, religious men and women, and the lay faithful to carry out Christ's ministry of mercy and love throughout south-east Michigan and beyond - works no one individual or parish could possibly do alone.

St John Fisher Chapel goal is: \$75,945. Our current paid amount is: \$4,312. Please pledge to help support the CSA programs. If you have any questions

contact: Lori Rafferty, 248-373-6457, X3109 or busmgr@sjfcup.com

Ongoing Drive

Corner Shower Laundry Needs

The Corner Shower Laundry is located in St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Detroit. St. Peter's also hosts the Manna Soup Kitchen. The Corner Shower Laundry is a separate 501c3 organization. Both organizations serve the poor by providing a Gospel response to those in need.

The Corner Shower Laundry's mission is to "give people a fresh start" by providing a warm, clean, safe place to wash/groom themselves and do laundry. Corner Shower Laundry has four private shower stalls, three sink stations, a lavatory, and washers and

dryers. **They need the following toiletries in TRAVEL size only:**

- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Bar Soap
- Deodorant (Not anti-perspirant)

Also needed are:

- Men's disposable razors
- Air fresheners
- Detergent "Free and Clear" - full size

We are collecting these items on an ongoing basis. Collection bins are in the Coatroom for your donations. Thank you for any items you can provide.

For more information about Manna, please visit St. John Fisher's website at stjohnfisherparish.org

did you know?

information, opportunities, notes ...

New Donation Boxes

Please note: New donation boxes have been installed to receive offertory donations and gift card donations (Giving Tree and Stamp Drive) when the building is closed or the front office is closed. One box is on the brick pillar by the East Entrance and one box is next to the coatroom in the Gathering Area (lobby). Please know that we are very grateful for you and your generosity.

Help from Mary: A Memorare Prayer Campaign

**Help us Pray One Memorare
for Every \$1 needed**

The Objective:

To help St. John Fisher Chapel University Parish obtain every Dollar needed to cover our Financial Shortfall

(Imitating St. Teresa of Calcutta)

The Details:

Each week pray as many Memorares as you and your family are able/willing. At the end of each week write down your total on the cards placed in the back of church and put it in the box provided. We will keep a running total of all the prayers prayed to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Holy Cards with the Memorare Prayer available in the back of church.

Thank You...

Dear Prayer Shawl Members

Thank you for your continued donation of beautiful blankets to St Joseph Mercy Oakland. We cannot express our gratitude for your support to the Volunteer Department, Spiritual Care & the Comfort Companion "No One Dies Alone Program" of St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland Hospital.

Please know that through your generosity you will bring comfort & joy to those patients and their families who will receive the blessings of these precious items you so lovingly made for our program. Without donors like you, we could not make these programs possible to bring dignity and comfort to our patients and their families.

"We live in the present, we dream of the future and we learn eternal truths from the past"

Our Most Sincere Appreciation & Blessings, Barbara J. Stephen, Volunteer Specialist & Bereavement Care.

Job Opportunity

**HELP WANTED at Holy Family
Regional School.**

Do you know someone who is looking for a job? We are looking for a Morning Extended Day Care Supervisor for

North Campus. Hours are from 7am-8:30am. Please contact Mr. Myers at 248-299-3798

In Sympathy

The St. John Fisher Community extends its deepest sympathy and prayers to:

Nancy Brennan and family on the death of her husband and parishioner, **Richard "Dick" Brennan**, who passed away November 19, 2020, in Rochester Hills, MI.

Helping SJF through our Reward Partner: Amazon Smiles

Make a difference this holiday. Shop for your loved ones gifts at smile.amazon.com/ch/38-6116545 to generate donations for St John Fisher Chapel. Smile.amazon.com will donate 0.5% of eligible purchases to our favorite charitable organizations - no fees, no extra cost. Simply browse, order, and enjoy giving.

Hearing Devices

Do you have trouble hearing the mass? Please come a few minutes early and come in the front office. The hearing devices, are in a case on the table by the door. The device is wirelessly connected to the sound system in the chapel. After mass, please return the device and place on the front office desk. The device will be cleaned and ready for use when you return. Please call the front office with any questions. 248-373-6457.

Mask Etiquette - Masks Required in the Building

We would like to remind our parishioners that **facial coverings are required** at all times while we worship together, whether it be at weekend or weekday Masses. Facial coverings are

also required when just dropping something off, making a donation or stopping in the office. This is for the safety and protection of the Parish and office staff. While it is not always comfortable, it is now an essential part of our wardrobe to keep us healthy during this time of pandemic. Please wear it up over both your nose and mouth for it to be most protective for yourself and others around you. If you are unable to wear a mask due to health reasons, please wear a face shield.

Hand sanitizers are located at the front of each entrance for your convenience. If you forget your own mask, please notify the priest and he will get one for you. During this time, we trust and appreciate your responsibility for caring for your health and that of others.



A Family Perspective

Third Sunday of Advent

Today's gospel reports "there is one among you whom you do not recognize." It is hard to believe Christ is present in a family with crazy schedules, suppers that start too late and end too early, cars that don't start, misunderstandings, frustrations, piles of laundry, unmatched socks and stretched food budgets. The list is endless. The words spoken at mass, "The Lord is with you," are not a hope, they are a fact.

- **Bud Ozar**

Offertory Collections...

Our Offertory is the primary source of funds for our day-to-day operations. Donations through our Online Giving program are deposited daily. Please contact Lori Rafferty with any questions.

Due to an accelerated bulletin submission schedule, due to Christmas, the December 6 report will be reported in the December 20 bulletin.

Week ending November 29, 2020:

Envelopes: \$2,024

Electronics: \$2,333

Total: \$4,357

Fiscal Year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

YTD Offertory Collected: \$97,052

YTD Offertory Budgeted: \$143,720

Over/(Short) from Budget: \$(46,668)

Other Collections:

Peter's Pence: \$225

Priests' Pension: \$683

Mission Sunday: \$23

Catholic Charities of SEM: \$77

Retirement for Religious: \$350

Total: \$1,358

Our current year to date offertory shortfall of \$(46,668) is measured against an offertory budget target which is about 40% below our past giving level. This target was established to reflect giving levels during the pandemic, and following leadership changes at the parish. Current parish operations cannot be sustained with this growing deficit! We will be forced to make more operational changes if this level of giving continues. We will continue to keep you updated on our financial situation.



**St. John Fisher Chapel
University Parish**
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Main Contacts:

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Facebook.com/SJFCUP

University Ministry: 248-370-2189
stjohnfisherparish.org/campus

Bulletin Submissions to:
frontoffice@sjfcup.com

St. John Fisher Community Prayers:
prayer@sjfcup.com

Pontiac Area Vicariate:
[Facebook.com/pontiacarevicariate](https://www.facebook.com/pontiacarevicariate)

Pastor:
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Associate Pastor:
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Frey & Jennifer Detiva
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Finance Manager
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**Marketing / Communications /
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Parish Finance Council
Chair: TBD

Ministry Contacts

Administration/Buildings/Grounds
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Child Church Ministry
TBD

Campus/Young Adult
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Finance & Development
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Worship
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Earth Care Ministry
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Low-Gluten Ministry
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Knights of Columbus #5452
Parish Representatives:
TBD

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Music Ministry
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PeaceXPeace Ministry
Liz Loria, 248-318-0012,
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Prayer Companions
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248-373-6457, prayer@sjfcup.com

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Helen DeRaedt, 248-227-7869
Roxanna Jankovits, 248-930-2766

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