# Catholic Tri-Parish Community

ST. PETER - Colman STS. SIMON & JUDE - Flandreau OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL - Elkton 105 S. Bates St., FLANDREAU, SD 57028

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#### **Advent Part 2:**

Last week I mentioned the three comings of Jesus Christ, The first coming of The Incarnation, when God became a man and Jesus revealed the fullness of Faith in God The Father to us in the power of The Holy Spirit. The second coming is when Jesus will come in all of His Glory and Power on Judgement Day. The third coming is spoken of by the spiritual Fathers of the Church, as Jesus is coming to us between the first coming and second coming. This period of time is also known as the Day of Salvation for those who

believe. As I mentioned last week there is no time for God, and "with the Lord, one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years are a single day." (2 Pt 3:8). We are in that Day of Salvation, which is when God The Father pours out on us through Jesus Christ "every spiritual blessing in the heavens, (4) as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him." (Eph 1:3b-4)

As long as we draw breath, we have the opportunity to receive God's Grace and Blessing to assist our efforts to be holy and without blemish, which is to be without sin. We have the opportunity in this life to seek God, to ask God and to reach out to God through the Faith, Hope and Love that is given to us by Jesus Christ. God responds to those who believe in powerful ways. Our Lord Jesus has given us the Sacraments as opportunities to receive Him into our lives in extraordinary ways. We strive to be Holy, which is to be without sin, however, in our striving we struggle in our weak human nature and we fail in this endeavor. But if we believe what Faith tells us, then we pick ourselves up after falling into sin and run to Jesus, Who meets us with all of His Divine Love and Mercy in the Sacrament of Confession. Jesus breathed His Holy Spirit into His apostles and said, "whose sins you forgive are forgiven," (John 20:22-23). In the Sacrament of Confession, we receive the forgiveness of God for our sins, as we repent and ask for Mercy. It is in the confessional that Jesus drives the devil away. This is how we make straight the crooked paths of sin by humbling ourselves before God and man, asking Jesus for Mercy. As long as we have enough Faith in Jesus Christ to humble ourselves, repent of our sins and go to Confession, we will be forgiven. God speaks to us through the prophet Isaiah 40:4 about different types of terrain on earth that are difficult to travel in order to teach us about human ways and God's Ways. Making the mountains low is a reference to the superiority and self-righteous disordered human pride that flatters us into thinking that we are someone great, good and holy even when we are not. The valleys that are filled are the humble being raised up. Jesus forgave the sins of the paralytic and restored him to good health so that he was able to walk again. Jesus tells us the story about the prodigal son, who came to realize his sins, was sorry for his sins, confessed his sins and was forgiven and received by his father. The Graces of The Sacrament of Confession restore us to The Father through Jesus Christ in the Power of The Holy Spirit. The Sacrament of Confession transcends time and space, by making the past present to us, when Jesus was suffering on the Cross and said those beautiful words, 'Father forgive them, they know not what they do.' (Lk 23:34) These Words of Jesus along with His Precious Blood have all of His Divine Love and Mercy. The fullness of this Divine Mercy comes to us at the words of absolution that forgive us and restore us as sons and daughters of The Most High God. The Power of God's Love washes away the power of the devil's influence over us. In the Sacrament of Confession, the sinner becomes a saint. Then after giving our Lord proper thanks and praise, we do our penance and go out to experience life, and we stay a saint as long as we can. Our Lord will always receive us in His Loving Forgiveness and Tender Compassion if we fail, but the better way is to remain a saint.

Fr. Doug Binsfeld

Liturgy Schedule			Location	Mass Intention
Mon., Dec. 9		No Liturgy		
Tues., Dec. 10	7:30 AM	Mass	Flandreau	Deceased & ill CDA members
Wed., Dec. 11	9:00 AM 11:00 AM	Mass/Exposition/Adoration Mass at Edgewood Vista	Elkton	† Emmett Coughlin Dennis/Shirlee Rhead (Anniv)
Thur., Dec. 12	9:00 AM	Mass/Exposition/Adoration	Colman	All Parishioners
Fri., Dec. 13	9:00 AM	Mass/Exposition/Adoration	Flandreau	† Donna Benson
Sat., Dec. 14	5:00 PM	Mass	Elkton	All Parishioners
Sun., Dec. 15	8:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:30 AM	Mass Mass (Retired Priest) Mass	Colman Aurora Flandreau	† Lawrence/Dorothy Mousel All Parishioners † Shirley Evans
	Confe	ssions ~ 1/2 hour prior to e	each weeker	nd Mass.

#### MINISTERS OF SERVICE

#### **ELKTON** ~ **SATURDAY**, **DECEMBER 14**

Lay Minister: Chris Myers, Judy Kampmann Lect/Comm: Sharon Landsman, Mary Remund Altar Servers: Gabby Mejia, Andrew Landsman Greeters/Gift Bearers: Cory/Mary Ann Stuefen Ushers: Dave McMahon, Steve Erickson

# COLMAN ~ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Lay Minister: Ryan/Mary Zwart, Alice Berg

Lect/Comm.: Ann Voelker

Altar Servers: Jase Mousel, Kadance Landis Gifts/Ushers/Greeters: Mike/Julie Preheim

#### FLANDREAU ~ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Lay Minister: Jim Redder, Marty/Rita Parsley

Lect./Comm.: Pat/Amy Weight

Altar Servers: Sam/Matthew Gassman,

Libby Hursey, Josie Hamilton

Ushers/Greeters: Ed Duncan,

Glenn Burggraff Family

Sacristan: Erica Rorvik

# **Intention of the Holy Father for December:**

That every country take the measures necessary to prioritize the future of the very young, especially those who are suffering.



# **Daily Mass Reading**

Dec 9: Genesis 3:9-15,20; Ps 98:1-4; Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12; Luke 1:26-38

Dec 10: Isaiah 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3,10-13; Matthew 18:12-14 Dec 11: Isaiah 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4,8,10; Matthew 11:28-30 Dec 12: Revelation 11:19, 12:1-10; Judith 13:18-19; Luke 1:39-47

Dec 13: Isaiah 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-6; Matthew 11:16-19

Dec 14: Sirach 48:1-4,9-11; Ps 80:2-3,15-19; Matthew 17:9-13 Dec 15: Isaiah 35:1-10; Ps 146:6-10; James 5:7-10; Matt. 11:2-11

#### **Stewardship Thought for the Week:**

"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." (Matthew 3:10) Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent, and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter, and junk. Our time, our talent, and our treasure are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

**RCIA**: (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) TUESDAYS ~ 7:00 PM IN SS&J MEETING ROOM

#### **Advent Communal Penance Services**

Sun., Dec. 15 - 1:30 PM ~ SS&J, Flandreau Sun., Dec. 22 - 1:30 PM ~ STM, Brookings





Parish Christmas Programs

Sunday, December 15 - 4:00 PM ~ OLGC, Elkton Sunday, December 15 - 5:30 PM ~ SS&J, Flandreau Wed., December 18 - 6:30 PM ~ St. Peter, Colman

# STS. SIMON & JUDE

<u>Choir Practice:</u> Sundays - 9:00 AM in the choir loft. New members welcome!

Help Wanted - Parish Handy Man: Someone to help with minor repairs and upkeep of parish facilities. Contact the parish office (997-2610).

**Quilting:** Thursdays at 8:30 AM in the church basement. Questions, call LaVonne 633-1739.

# Mark your Calendar:

Dec. 15 - 1:30 PM ~ Communal Penance - 5:30 PM ~ Christmas Program

Jan. 8 - 5:45 PM ~ CCD Preschool Class begins

#### We Remember

Harry Gaspar: his funeral was Wednesday
Betty Cullen: her funeral was Saturday
May the Lord grant them eternal peace and give their families and friends hope and comfort.

# **OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL**

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Wednesdays from 12:00 - 1:00. You are invited to come and be with the Lord in adoration.

<u>Communal Penance</u>: Dec. 15 - 1:30 at SS&J. <u>Christmas Program</u>: December 15 - 4:00 PM.

D-Camp (Discipleship Camp): D-Camp is for Junior High and High School youth held at Broom Tree. Come hear talks to help you grow in your faith, bond with a small group of other teens, compete in epic all-camp Olympic games, have the chance to go to Mass, Confession and Adoration, and meet lot of new friends! Register before February 1st and receive \$50 off of your registration at www.sfcatholic.org/youth

Going Deeper Retreat will be held at St. Thomas More, Brookings on Feb. 7-9. These retreats are designed for youth in grades 9-12 who are desiring to go deeper in their prayer life. This is not a confirmation retreat. Register at www.sfcatholic.org/youth/

#### ST. PETER

<u>Communal Penance</u>: Dec. 15 - 1:30 at SS&J. Christmas Program: December 18 - 6:30 PM.

Help Wanted - Parish Handy Man: Someone to help with minor repairs and upkeep of parish facilities. Contact the parish office (997-2610).

<u>Thank you</u> to everyone who supported the CDA Christmas raffle. The court raised \$627 to be used for CDA programs and projects. The following prizes and winners are:

\$100 Gift Card Mug: Jim Merges

Tool Set: Charley Zwart Christmas Sign: Jane DeLay

Afghan: Ann Voelker Picture: Denise Wiese

Dish Towels: Whitlie Shoenrock Goodie Tray: Darlene Heinricy

Mickey Mouse Bowl: Sydnie Shoenrock

\$20: Lora Zwart



St. Peter Parish religious education students delivered fruit baskets to families in the area on December 4. The baskets were donated by St. Elizabeth Court #1362 of the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. This tradition has been ongoing over 25 years.

<u>Prayer Calendars</u> listing our Diocesan Priests, Permanent Deacons/Wives, and Seminarians and Deacon Candidates are available in the church entrance.

"If we pray, we will believe.

If we believe, we will love.

If we love, we will serve."

St. Teresa of Calcutta

"Understanding the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception" by Msgr. Charles Mangan on Sunday, December 8, 7-8 p.m. in the Catholic Pastoral Center, Sioux Falls. Hosted by The Office of the Marian Apostolate.

<u>Advent Mission</u>: From the Wood of the Crib to the Wood of the Cross.

**6:30 pm on Dec. 9**<sup>th</sup> & **10**<sup>th</sup> at **St. Therese** in **Sioux Falls.** Many of the saints have noted that Jesus was born to die. Join Dr. Chris Burgwald for an Advent Mission and discover how Jesus' mission to suffer and die on the Cross out of love for us began with his birth and infancy. Both nights will begin with Mass followed by presentation & discussion and then adoration & confession. No cost. No registration necessary.

Broom Tree Day of Recollection: My Soul Proclaims the Greatness of the Lord December 10-directed by Fr. David Roehrich Begins at 10 a.m. and include conferences, time for Adoration, Mass, and an opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day ends in mid-afternoon. Because lunch is served, we ask that you please register. A prayerful donation is requested.

www.broom-tree.org, (605) 263-1040, or broomtree@sfcatholic.org

#### Read our parish bulletins on-line:

www.parishesonline.com/find/sts-simon-and-jude-parish

Grieving the Loss of a Spouse: Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 pm. Jan. 7-Feb. 11 at Catholic Family Services, SF. Directed by Dr. Marcie Moran. For adults who have lost a spouse and are trying to cope with the pain of separation and loss. Call 988-3775 or 1-800-700-7867 to register.

Cookie Parade, Lunch, Crafts: Sun., Dec. 8, 11:30-2:30; Risen Savior, Brandon, SD

**Baptismal Preparation Class:** Required of all parents requesting to have their child baptized. Classes are held on the **1st Thursday** of each month in SS&J Parish Basement. Contact Fr. Doug (997-2610) <u>prior to the class</u> to register and give baptismal information.

"What do you want for Christmas?" This is a question we ask each other often before Christmas. Yet how many of us actually take a few minutes to kneel before the infant Jesus and ask Him what He wants from us this Christmas.

When we kneel before the manager and ask Jesus what He wants, it is very possible that we will hear Him whisper that He wants us to share a little more of our time with Him. Maybe each of us could make a New Year's resolution to spend more time with God.

sw rear s resolution to spend more time with God
☐ Go to Mass more frequently.
☐ Find some time for prayer in the morning.
☐ End our day with spiritual reading.
☐ Say the rosary while we drive to work.
☐ Participate in Eucharistic Adoration
☐ Stop into church occasionally for a quiet visit.
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The gift of time with God could be the very best gift we could give this year, not only to Jesus but also to ourselves. It might be just what our own hearts are truly longing for.

Advent Baby Shower: We invite you to participate by leaving unwrapped <u>new</u> gifts in the church entrance collection box. Gifts may include clothing in sizes Newborn - 12 months, lotions, wipes, diapers, rattles & toys, etc. These gifts will help fill local needs and the needs of the diocese.

**Reckless:** Looking for a thoughtful Christmas gift for your spouse? Consider giving the gift of quality time together at *Reckless: A Catholic Couples Conference!* This is such a thoughtful way to surprise your spouse and allow the spirit of Christmas to extend far beyond the 25th of December. www.sfcatholic.org/couplesconference.

#### Christmas at the Cathedral: December 19-22

Proceeds will benefit the Bishop Dudley Hospitality House and the Cathedral of St. Joseph ongoing care and maintenance endowments. Tickets at any Sioux Falls HyVee store on-line at <a href="www.ccfesd.org">www.ccfesd.org</a> phone 605.988.3765, email <a href="events@ccfesd.org">events@ccfesd.org</a>

"Marian Blue Wave": Bishop Joseph Strickland of Tyler, Texas has initiated the "Marian Blue Wave" which is a call to Catholics to pray a weekly Rosary for the ending of all clinical, chemical, medical and surgical abortions and shutting down abortion facilities in our country. To join in this endeavor, please go to: https://marianbluewave.com/

#### **CCD: Wednesdays**

Flandreau: K-6 ~ 5:45 PM; 7-12 ~ 7:15 PM Colman & Elkton: All grades ~ 6:30 PM