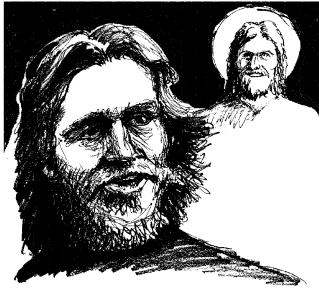


December 17, 2017

ADVENT

Third Sunday of Advent



Rejoice

On this *Gaudete* (Rejoice) Sunday the Church aspires to be one with the prophet Isaiah who rejoices *heartily in the Lord* and with John the Baptist who identifies himself as *the voice of one crying out in the desert*. John the Baptist will diminish as Jesus arrives on the scene. This underlies the role of the prophet as a self-effacing witness for the Lord.

On this Sunday we are aware that Christ has already come in the flesh. We are celebrating and rejoicing because we have already been clothed in baptism. We celebrate now and prepare for the coming feasts.

Today's Bulletin is printed in memory of Alice & Albert Pilat, sponsored by their family.

MASS INTENTIONS

- Wednesday, December 20
 - 8:00 a.m. Margaret & Alphonse Simper
- Thursday, December 21
 - 8:00 a.m. Msgr. Robert Schmidt
 - 10:30 a.m. Shady Oaks – For Residents & Staff
- Friday, December 22
 - 8:00 a.m. Georgia Kalisek, Dorothy & Laddie Maresh, Hattie Meyer, Robert Weitzel, Pauline Welfl
- Saturday, December 23
 - 6:30 p.m. Bessie & Frank Michalec
- Sunday, December 24
 - 6:30 a.m. Brent Arthur
 - 9:30 a.m. Geraldine & Edward Toth
 - 4:30 p.m. Youth of the Parish
- Monday, December 25
 - Midnight Our Parish Family
 - 6:30 a.m. Benefactors of the Parish
 - 10:00 a.m. The Welfare of All Parishioners

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday of Advent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.
First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89
Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

2017 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2017 Assessment	\$17,303.00
Contributions So Far	\$16,660.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$ 643.00

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

- Richard Kalisek*
- Marilyn Strmiska*
- Pat & Tom Lawrence*
- Beth & Aaron Gaertner*
- Lisa & David Rothbauer*
- Marian & Dcn. Milburn Kram*
- Margaret & Larry Berckenhoff*
- Kathy & Dcn. Kenneth Fishbeck*

We thank all those who have contributed towards our D.S.A. assessment so far. With your generous donations we should be able to pay off the remaining debt to the bishop before year's end. We are counting on all who have not yet contributed to the fund so far to do their part.

ST. JOSEPH'S MEMORIAL FUND

- In Memory of Darcy Fisbeck*
- In Memory of Georgia Kalisek*
- Mary Lou Dierschke*

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY FUND

- In Memory of Georgia Kalisek*
- Shirley Welfl*
- Evelyn Kubicek*
- Georgia Kalisek Family*
- Lorene & Dennis Fishbeck*

In Memory of Darcy Fisbeck: Patsy Zamykal

RESURRECTION CHAPEL FUND

In Memory of Georgia Kalisek: Georgia Kalisek Family

THE WEEK AHEAD

- MONDAY – Gold Star Club Meets, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC – Christmas Pageant Practice, 3:30-5:30 p.m., Church
- TUESDAY – Adult Christmas Choir Practice for Christmas Morning Mass, 5:30 p.m., Church.
- WEDNESDAY – No Champions Club Meeting (Christmas Holidays) – KC/CDA Christmas Party, Parish Hall
- THURSDAY – KC Bingo, 7:30 p.m., Moulton Oaks Hall
- FRIDAY – Parish Office closed on Fridays. For any Pastoral emergency call the Parish Office at any time.
- SATURDAY – Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal. See article.

Pray for the repose of the soul of **Alfred Ernest Morrey III** and for the comfort of his loved ones.
May he rest in peace.



The Sanctuary Light will be lit this week in memory of Marvin Rothbauer.

REFLECTION

The God of Joy Comes To Save Us

Midway through Advent, the prophet Isaiah, St. Paul and the Gospel according to John team up to remind us that the news of God's coming among us is glad news. When the priests and Levites from Jerusalem asked John who he was, John said: "No, I am not the messiah, not Elijah, not a prophet. I am but a voice; I am a witness to the Light and the herald of One who is to come." This clarification of John and Jesus' roles served to ease the confusion on the part of those who believed that John the Baptist was the messiah.

During this season of Advent John reminds us of our role in this world; to point away from ourselves, to direct others to Christ. There are ample opportunities for exercising a John-like role by deflecting attention away from ourselves so that the focus of faith and hope might be fully and directly on Jesus. Advent is also the time for praying that God himself by the coming of his Son may help us to reduce the distance that exists between the little that we are and all that God has in store for us. Jesus' coming brings light into every darkened corner of mind and heart. The light represents the very life and love of God.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dec. 17 – Margaret Satsky Berckenhoff, Niki Chaloupka,
Jill Moore, Angie Rothbauer
Dec. 19 – Margaret Hoepfl Berckenhoff,
Margaret Molnoskey
Dec. 20 – Kenneth Kirkland, Brenda Manzano
Dec. 22 – Gregory Holub
Dec. 23 – Steve Machart

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Dec. 17 – Deacon Kenneth Fishbeck Ordination Anniv.
Dec. 18 – Congratulations Jamie & Thomas Dornak
on your 35th Wedding Anniversary
Dec. 19 – Deacon Milburn Kram Ordination Anniv.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Today – No C.C.D. (Christmas Holidays)
Dec. 18 – After School Program, K-2nd Grade
– Christmas Pageant Practice
Dec. 20 – No 3rd-6th Grade After School Program / 9th-11th
Grade C.C.D. (Christmas Holidays)
Dec. 23 – Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
Next Sunday – No C.C.D. (Christmas Holidays)
– Christmas Pageant During Christmas Eve Mass

Youth Ministry Fund Donations

*In Memory of Darcy Fisbeck
Kathy & Dcn. Kenneth Fishbeck*

*In Memory of Evelyn Raab,
Georgia Kalisek & Joyce Kresta
Angeline Jalufka*

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BULLETIN BOARD



Gaudete! Rejoice!

The Third Sunday of Advent is sometimes called the *Gaudete* Sunday because the first word of the entrance antiphon in Latin is *gaudete*, which means rejoice. The antiphon is taken from Philippians 4:4, Paul's warm and loving letter to the community he founded in Philippi. It doesn't sound very elegant to call this day "Rejoice Sunday" but that's the idea. It is a day of joy. The use of rose vestments and a rose candle on the Advent wreath underlines this day's special character.

Advent / Christmas Schedule

Dec. 18 – Christmas Pageant Practice
Dec. 19 – Adult Christmas Choir Practice
Dec. 20 – KC/CDA Christmas Party
Dec. 23 – Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
Dec. 24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent (Morning Masses)
– Christmas Eve (Afternoon Mass)
Dec. 24 & 25 – Second Collection for the Poor
Dec. 25 – Christmas Day (Midnight/Christmas Day Masses)

Christmas Altar Flowers Needed: You are encouraged to make a donation. Extra Christmas Flower envelopes are available in church.

Youth/Adult Christmas Choirs: Come sing with the Choir. Contact Sharon Etlinger.

Communion To The Homebound: All homebound parishioners who want to receive communion on Christmas Day please contact Mary Ann Wenske by December 21.

2018 Religious Calendars have been placed at the church entrances. One calendar per family please.

Annual Christmas Collection for the Poor: A Special Collection for the Poor will be taken up at all the Christmas Masses. You may use the attached envelope for this purpose. Drop the envelope in the collection basket, drop slot or mail any time during the month of December.

Annual Pre-Christmas Concert a Great Success: The Annual Pre-Christmas Concert was well received. The High School Band performed very well to the applause of the audience. We thank Jamie Dornak, the High School Principal for coordinating the program. Thanks also to Joel Whittington, the Band Director and all the students who participated in the program. Lastly thanks to all who brought chips, dips and desserts for the social. It was great.

Christmas Pageant Practice Schedule

***Dec. 18 – 3:30-5:30 p.m.**

Parents are reminded to send a note to the school informing the school officials that their child(ren) will be going to the Church after school on December 18.

Dec. 23 – Dress Rehearsal 1:00-3:00 p.m.
All pageant participants and parent helpers must attend the Dress Rehearsal.