

## Focusing the gospel

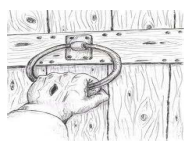
Sunday is the beginning of a new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. The first reading from the Book of Jeremiah offers a comforting promise of safety to beleaguered Israel: “those days Judah shall be safe and Jerusalem shall dwell secure.” Luke's Gospel offers us a repeat of several of the daily gospels, advising us to be alert and vigilant, watching for signs. “And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.”

Monday is the Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle. Wednesday we remember the great Jesuit missionary Saint Francis Xavier, Priest.

During the first part of Advent - until December 17 - we focus on the first reading. This week it is from the Prophet Isaiah. These readings are about promises. Isaiah is consoling, building up and preparing his people to have hope. “In the days to come,” he says over and over. When the day of promise comes, “They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again.” Even though King David's line, and that of his father, Jesse, are almost wiped out, Isaiah proclaims hope: “On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots a bud shall blossom.” Who would believe even a peace in nature - lion lying down with the lamb? “There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the LORD, as water covers the sea.” God's unique ways of favoring the poor, which Mary comes to know and proclaims in her *Magnificat*, are seen when Isaiah says, “He humbles those in high places, and the lofty city he brings down; He tumbles it to the ground, levels it with the dust.” Even Jesus' own statement about his mission is seen in the powerful images Isaiah uses to give us courage and hope: “On that day the deaf shall hear ... the eyes of the blind shall see ... the lowly will ever find joy in the LORD ... ” “On the day the LORD binds up the wounds of his people.”

The gospels for this first part of Advent are chosen from several gospels. They are meant to match the first readings and to show that the promises are fulfilled in Jesus. Jesus brings healing. He raises up the childlike. And Jesus calls and sends the twelve apostles to continue his ministry.

*Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer” on Creighton University’s Online Ministries Website: <http://www.creighton.edu/collaborativeministry/prayer>. Used with permission.*



### He is Standing at the Door. He Knocks.

“Come to me all you who labor and are overburdened and I will give you rest (Mt 11:28)”

There are 21 open hours in our Perpetual Adoration Chapel. Please consider spending one hour with our Lord in His gentle oasis. For more information, call Jana Schoen at 945-5379.

*Sunday - 2 a.m.*

*Monday - 1 a.m., 2 a.m. & 8 p.m.*

*Tuesday - 2 a.m., 5 a.m., & 8 a.m.*

*Wednesday -*

*Thursday - 1 a.m., 2 a.m., 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.*

*Friday - 2 a.m., 7 a.m., 6 p.m., 8 p.m. & 9 p.m..*

*Saturday - 1 a.m., 2 a.m., 1 p.m., 9 p.m. & 10 p.m.*

*He is waiting just for you!*

### Please Remember In Prayer:

Sr. Lucille Kerschen  
Matilda Puetz  
Katy Carney  
Juanita Mans  
Jim Ridder  
Sue Warren  
Regina Gaytan  
Jeanne Sullivan  
Joyce Armstrong  
Nancee Scheffer  
Kadie McDonough  
Deannie Little  
Andy Little  
Ray Rancuret



Cheryl Burke Julian  
Jim Monroe  
Leroy Nedeau  
Charles T. Morton  
Gail Alcaez  
Robie Campbell  
Evelyn Monty  
Sarah Skidd

Clair Vanzelfden  
Eldon Freund  
Duane Wilson  
Nancy Bradley  
Vernie Bloch  
Joan Kandt  
Jim Flanigan  
Peggy Bowan  
Marci Limon  
Robert Range  
Doug Howell  
Betty Sherlock  
+Luke Limon  
+Leah Stepanek

### Be on the Look-out!

*Information will be in upcoming bulletins about: how you can help prepare for our church buildings 100th Anniversary; the parish pictorial directory; and how to renew your Dillons rewards card for 2016.*



### Weekly Readings

- Mon. 11/30: Rom 10:9-18, Ps 19:8-11, Mt 4:18-22
- Tues. 12/01: Is 11:1-10, Ps 72:1-17, Lk 10:21-24
- Wed. 12/02: Is 25:6-10, Ps 23:1-6, Mt 15:29-37
- Thur. 12/03: Is 26:1-6, Ps 118:1-27, Mt 7:21-27
- Fri. 12/04: Is 29:17-24, Ps 27:1-14, Mt 9:27-31
- Sat. 12/05: Is 30:19-26, Ps 147:1-6, Mt 9:35-10:8
- Sun. 12/06: Bar 5:1-9, Ps 126:1-6, Phil 1:4-11, Lk 3:1-6

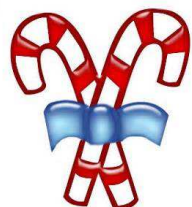
### Holy Mass Schedule & Intentions

- Monday, November 30  
Saint Andrew  
8:15 a.m. Mass +Andrew Gerstenkorn
- Tuesday, December 1  
6:00 p.m. Mass +Janet Munch
- Wednesday, December 2  
8:15 a.m. Mass +Margaret Cupps
- Thursday, December 3  
Saint Francis Xavier  
8:15 a.m. Mass +Joseph Nhuong Phan
- Friday, December 4  
*Saint John Damascene*  
8:15 a.m. Mass +Andrew Gerstenkorn  
6:00 p.m. Mass S.I. Marci Limon
- Saturday, December 5  
8:15 a.m. Mass S.I. Respect Life  
4:00 p.m. Mass S.I. Rafila (Lupe) G. Robles
- Sunday, December 6  
The Second Sunday of Advent  
8:15 a.m. Mass +Virginia Schreffler  
10:00 a.m. Mass S.I. People of St. Joseph

### Thank you for your gift of treasure! July 1, 2015- June 30, 2016

Weekly Collection 11/22/2015	\$11,521.82
Weekly tithe amount needed	\$12,960.77
Surplus or (Deficit) YTD	(\$5,561.24)

The Lord our Justice! A common idea in today's culture is that we 'deserve' more. This appeal conditions us to expect our every desire to be satisfied by the people or things around us. Jesus tells us today in the Gospel that our focus on the anxieties of the world distracts us from seeking God's Kingdom just like drunkenness and carousing can pull us in the wrong direction. Today's readings center on the justice of God. The distress described by Christ during the end times would result from the anticipation of receiving the justice we deserve for our actions. May the grace of God open our eyes that we may see his love in action.



### CYM Babysitting Night

*Saturday, December 19th, St Joseph's Catholic Youth Ministry is hosting a babysitting night. For \$20 per family, you*

*can send your kids to an evening filled with fun - graham cracker "gingerbread" houses, games in the gym, a visit from St Nicholas, a movie, and so much more! All proceeds will be donated to foreign missionary families from our diocese! Save the date for a night out or wrapping up Christmas preparations. Whatever you do with your time, you will be helping a good cause at the same time!*

### Ministry Schedule Dec 5th & 6th

#### 4:00 PM

- (S) Mike McDaneld (Rosary) Corrinna Irvin
- (L1) Mike McDaneld (M. Server) Patrick Cooke
- (L2) Jeff Dyer (Candle 1) Matthew Probst
- (H) Corrinna Irvin (Candle 2) Jeremiah Epps
- (C1) Mike Irvin (GB) Wilma McDonough
- (C2) Jeff Dyer

#### 8:15 AM

- (S) Charlie Deitchler (Rosary) Alice Mertens
- (L1) Tomas Voboril (M. Server) Dylan Morch
- (L2) Cassidee Cummings (Candle 1) Caleb Cummings
- (H) Judy Shideler (Candle 2) Grace Bowman
- (C1) Gabby Shideler (GB) Melissa Nguyen Family
- (C2) Bill Babich

#### 10:00 AM

- (S) Jack Johnson (Rosary) Florence Marx
- (L1) John Cooke (M. Server) David Sanders
- (L2) Jack Johnson (Candle 1) Santos Limon
- (H) Judy Johnston (Candle 2) Zachary Dowell
- (C1) Mindy Johnson (GB) Douglas & Bridget Sublett
- (C2) Dan Dugas

### Prayers for Our Military

**Please pray for all members of the military, especially our parishioners:**

- Jay Schoen      Tony Jeffress      Jonathan Burke
- Sam Francis      Matt Mork      Timothy Collier
- Justin Light      Jeff Cranor

## National Night of Prayer for Life



On Tuesday December 8, 2015, our diocese will participate in the National Night of Prayer for Life from 9:00 p.m. to Midnight.

The purpose is to unite our prayers with Catholics across the country, in an effort to bring the world back to Christ and to bring about an end to abortion. The hours are chosen to coincide with Our Lady of Guadalupe's appearance to Juan Diego. Prayer, adoration, a Rosary and confessions will be available as part of the event. It will be held at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, 430 N Broadway, in Wichita, Ks.

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## Donations Requested and Gratefully Accepted

A Better Choice is a Catholic ministry providing Christ-like counseling concerning pregnancy issues, abortion alternatives & healthy lifestyle choices in a dignified & respectful atmosphere. Please prayerfully consider a financial gift to ensure we can be here for young women who need help facing their fears, changing their lives and making loving decisions for their babies. Gifts can be mailed to 3007 E. Central, Wichita, KS 67214. We also accept PayPal donations through our website, [www.pregnancywichita.com](http://www.pregnancywichita.com). Your gift of any amount is appreciated.

*Be still and know that I am God.*

*Psalm 46:10*

## Spiritual Life Center

**A Walk Through the Mass** Wednesday, Dec. 2; 7-8:30 p.m. In this evening program Fr. Ken will discuss the signs and symbols we experience each time we attend Mass. Participants will learn what we're really doing and how to do it more effectively. \$10

**A Catholic Look at the Hunger Games Trilogy** Thursday, Dec. 3; 6:30-9 p.m. With the release of the final film in the series, Dusty Gates will lead this program discussing how this popular movie and book can be viewed with a lens of Catholicity. Suggested donation of \$10.

**Advent Day of Renewal: The Beloved Disciple** Saturday, Dec. 5; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Step away from the bustle of the season and truly enter into Advent. This year's annual Advent retreat will focus on St. John, the Beloved Disciple. \$20

**Dinner with the Doctors: St. Ambrose** Monday, Dec. 7; 6-8 p.m. Join us for an evening dinner and presentation on the Feast of St. Ambrose. Surrounded by our beautiful icons of the all the doctors of the Church, you will enjoy a presentation focusing on this great doctor. \$15 in advance; \$20 week of

**How to Discern God's Will** Tuesday, Dec. 8; 7-8:30 p.m. Follow the lives of notable saints and holy people to understand how to know God's will in your own life. \$10

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