

## Focusing the gospel

Sunday is the beginning of a new liturgical year with the First Sunday of Advent. The first reading from the Prophet Isaiah as the people repent before God: “Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways!” Mark's gospel offers the image of the master who leaves his servants in charge while he is away. Be watchful! Be alert!

Friday is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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.*

### “Oh Come Let Us Adore Him”



### Please Remember In Prayer:

Sr. Lucille Kerschen  
 Juanita Mans  
 Jim Ridder  
 Sue Warren  
 Regina Gaytan  
 Jim Monroe  
 Leroy Nedeau  
 Ruth Freund  
 Joan Kandt  
 Peggy Bowen  
 Doug Howell  
 Betty Sherlock  
 Dorothy Dotterer  
 Nancy Smith



Nell Ball  
 Doug Stuhlsatz  
 Don Williams  
 Tim Chadd  
 Nancy Bradley

Vernie Bloch  
 Dave Rohlman  
 Sandy Gleeson  
 Jim Flanigan  
 Sarah Bigley  
 Jeff Dyer  
 Tim Holden  
 JoAnn Heimerman  
 Patricia Ardisson  
 Mary Moman  
 Tim Benham  
 John Uphaus  
 Janet Wilhite  
 Jack Northem

"...In this world I cannot see the Most High Son of God with my own eyes, except for His Most Holy Body and Blood."- *St. Francis of Assisi*

Volunteers needed for the following hours:

*Sunday - 2 a.m.*

*Monday - 7 p.m. & 8 p.m.*

*Thursday - 8 a.m. & 9 a.m.*

*Friday - 11 a.m., Noon & 6 p.m.*

*Saturday - 1 a.m., 2 a.m. & 6 p.m.*

*For more details, call Jana at 945-5379.*



### United in Prayer

**St. Joseph Family  
 Rosary Crusade**

**13,580 decades prayed**

Please join us in praying for our parish families and the poor souls. Decade cards are available in the vestibule of the church.

## Weekly Readings

Mon.	12/04: Is 2:1-5, Ps 122:1-9, Mt 8:5-11
Tues.	12/05: Is 11:1-10, Ps 72:1-17, Lk 10:21-24
Wed.	12/06: Is 25:6-10, Ps 23:1-6, Mt 15:29-37
Thur.	12/07: Is 26:1-6, Ps 118:1-27, Mt 7:21-27
Fri.	12/08: Gn 3:9-20, Ps 98:1-4, Eph 1:3-12, Lk 1:26-38
Sat.	12/09: Is 30:19-26, Ps 147:1-6, Mt 9:35-10:8
Sun.	12/10: Is 40:1-11, Ps 85:9-14, 2Pt 3:8-14, Mk 1:1-8

## Thank you for your gift of treasure! July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Weekly Collection 11/26/2017	\$10,408.05
Weekly tithe amount needed	\$13,483.09
Surplus or (Deficit) YTD	(\$22,677.77)
<b>CMI Fund</b>	<b>\$9,712.00</b>
<b>2017-2018 Fiscal Year</b>	
<b>Roof &amp; Climate Control Repairs</b>	<b>(\$15,242.27)</b>
<b>(cost so far this fiscal year)</b>	
<b>CMI Balance</b>	<b>(\$5,530.27)</b>
<i>(Campus Maintenance &amp; Improvement Fund)</i>	

In this first week of Advent, the message is clear: be watchful and ready! When we watch for something, it is an intentional action. It is more than seeing or waiting, which are somewhat passive actions. No, watching is an intentional action in which one is ready to respond. The father of the prodigal son was watchful: ready to immediately respond to his son when he was seen at a distance. The father leaving his home to greet his son. As stewards, we too are watchful to see Jesus in the Advent season, especially in the people around us.

## Prayers for Our Military

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

<i>Jay Schoen</i>	<i>Tony Jeffress</i>	<i>Jonathan Burke</i>
<i>Sam Francis</i>	<i>Matt Mork</i>	<i>Timothy Collier</i>
<i>Justin Light</i>	<i>Jeff Cranor</i>	<i>Nicholas Gerhold</i>
	<i>Trevor Samples</i>	

## Holy Mass Schedule & Intentions

### Monday, December 4

*Saint John Damascene*

6:45 a.m. House of Formation Mass - Public welcome

8:15 a.m. Mass +Leo Hamersky

### Tuesday, December 5

6:45 a.m. House of Formation Mass - Public welcome

6:00 p.m. Mass +Hugh Adams

### Wednesday, December 6

*Saint Nicholas*

8:15 a.m. Mass +Bob Bolster

### Thursday, December 7

**Saint Ambrose**

6:45 a.m. House of Formation Mass - Public welcome

8:15 a.m. Mass - S.I. Mary Nguyen Family

6:00 p.m. Holy Day Vigil Mass - The People of St. Joseph

### Friday, December 8

**Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

6:45 a.m. House of Formation Mass - Public welcome

8:15 a.m. Mass +Alice Mertens

10:00 a.m. Masonic Home Mass - Special Intention

6:00 p.m. Holy Day Mass +Jerry Chadd

### First Saturday, December 9

*Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatoatzin*

8:15 a.m. Mass +Bill Sanders

4:00 p.m. Mass +Duane Dater

### Sunday, December 10

**Second Sunday of Advent**

8:15 a.m. Mass - The People of St. Joseph

10:00 a.m. Mass +Marita Flanigan

## Ministry Schedule December 9th & 10th

4:00 PM

(S) Mike Irvin  
(L1) Mike McDanel  
(L2) Angie Bolster-Epps  
(H) Marvin Patterson  
(C1) Jennifer Martin  
(C2) Beth Patterson

(Rosary) Mike Irvin  
(M. Server) Hunter Martin  
(Candle 1) Aiden Blick  
(Candle 2) Louis Wiechman  
(GB) Angie Bolster-Epps

8:15 AM

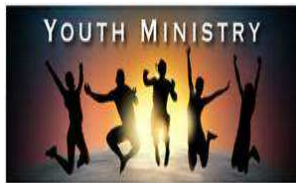
(S) Charlie Deitchler  
(L1) Larry Setzkorn  
(L2) Bonnie Setzkorn  
(H) Pat Dittmore  
(C1) Carl Dittmore  
(C2) Charlie Deitchler

(Rosary) Ken Sueper  
(M. Server) Grace Boman  
(Candle 1) Sam Boman  
(Candle 2) Lauren Busch  
(GB) Ernie Hallacy

10:00 AM

(S) Donna Riddel  
(L1) Jacque McLain  
(L2) Jack Johnson  
(H) Jack Johnson  
(C1) Mindy Johnson  
(C2) Judy Johnston

(Rosary) Florence Marx  
(M. Server) Angela McKinney  
(Candle 1) Vickie McKinney  
(Candle 2) Isabella McKinney  
(GB) Jacque McLain



## Catholic Youth Ministry

Come check us out and be part of lots of fun, fellowship, and faith! ALL high school age youth are invited to join St. Joseph's Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM), held every MONDAY night from 7 - 8:30 pm in the basement of the OLD RECTORY.

## Lord's Diner Hat Drive

The Lord's Diner will collect winter hats, gloves, scarves, and with NEW socks, to distribute to our guests for Christmas. Drop off your new items at the Broadway location through December 15th. Thank You!!

## Retrouvaille Event

Retrouvaille offers tools needed to rediscover a loving marriage. This program begins in a Weekend Experience, with a series of follow-up sessions to help keep your healing on track and further develop the tools you've learned. Visit our website [HelpOurMarriage.com](http://HelpOurMarriage.com), or text or call 314-249-5227 for more information about the upcoming Wichita weekend program beginning Dec 8 for both Spanish and English.

*Be still and know that I am God.*

*Psalms 46:10*

## Spiritual Life Center

**Dinner with the Doctors: St John of Damascus** Monday, Dec. 4; 6-8:30 p.m. Enjoy dinner, socializing, and a talk on this doctor of the Church. Presented by Erin Doom of the 8th Day Institute. \$15

**Good Books: The Canterbury Tales** Begins Tuesday, Dec. 5; 7-9 p.m. The Good Books program meets on the first Tuesday of each month to discuss books from the great Christian Tradition. This marks the first meeting for The Canterbury Tales. No charge. Book available in SLC Bookstore.

**Catholic Assembly for Business Quarterly Breakfast** Wednesday, Dec. 6; 7:20-9:30 a.m. The Catholic Assembly for Business is a ministry of the Catholic Diocese of Wichita and hosted by the Spiritual Life Center, designed to serve the unique spiritual, social, and vocational needs of Catholic Professionals. All are welcome! Suggested donation: \$10 for non members

**Apologia: Defending the Faith in the 21st Century** Thursday, Dec. 14; 7-8:30 p.m. Join guest presenters for these sessions of apologetic dialogue. Each session features a topic pertinent to 21st century Catholics which we have the need and obligation to be able to defend and explain. \$10

**Docentium: Catholicism and Culture with Frank Sheed** Tuesday, Dec. 19; 6-8:30 p.m. Join us on the third Thursday of every month for an evening of food, friendship, and learning. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m., and a lecture will be given on some topic related to religion and culture. Dr. Malcolm Harris presents on Catholic thinker Frank Sheed in December. \$15

**Mark Your Calendars for the Catholic Faith Conference!** Jan. 19-20, 2018 - A great Christmas gift for yourself! Please join us for the 1st Annual Catholic Faith Conference: Catholicism Beyond the Pew this January, where we will celebrate all that is beautiful and inspiring about our Catholic Faith! This year's program will feature national keynote speaker Jon Leonetti, an Info Fair, Breakout Sessions, Adoration, and a 'Stump the Padre' panel! More information on our web site.

*Advance registration requested. For more info and to register, visit [www.slcwichita.org](http://www.slcwichita.org) or call 316.744.0167.*