

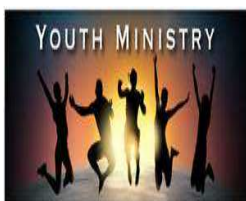
Focusing the gospel

The Third Sunday of Advent offers us more of the promise. The words used by the prophet Isaiah to describe God's vindication are the ones Jesus points to as describing his own mission: "The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners, to announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God."

We continue to focus on the first readings in this first part of Advent. From the Book of Numbers, we have the proclamation that "a star shall advance from Jacob..." Zephaniah is the prophet of impending doom, if the people don't abandon their idolatry. But this week we read about consoling healing, "on that day," when the Lord comes. Isaiah's message is full of promise: "Turn to me and be safe ... for I am God; there is no other!" God promises us, "with great tenderness I will take you back," and "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples."

On Saturday, we reach the December 17th and in these last eight days of Advent the focus returns to the gospels with stories from Jesus' family in the time before he was born. In Matthew's genealogy, we see the ancestors of Jesus.

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



Catholic Youth Ministry

Check us out & be part of fun, fellowship, & faith! ALL high school age youth are invited to join St. Joseph's Catholic Youth Ministry (CYM), from 7 - 8:30 pm in the basement of the OLD RECTORY. The next meeting will be January 8th.

"Oh Come Let Us Adore Him"

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"...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.

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 Willhite



United in Prayer

**St. Joseph Family
Rosary Crusade**

14,105 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.	12/18: Jer 23:5-8, Ps 72:1-19, Mt 1:18-25
Tues.	12/19: Jgs 13:2-25, Ps 71:3-17, Lk 1:5-25
Wed.	12/20: Is 7:10-14, Ps 24:1-6, Lk 1:26-38
Thur.	12/21: Sg 2:8-14, Ps 33:2-21, Lk 1:39-45
Fri.	12/22: 1Sm 1:24-28, 1Sm 2:1-8, Lk 1:46-56
Sat.	12/23: Mal 3:1-24, Ps 25:4-14, Lk 1:57-66
Sun.	12/24: 2Sm 7:1-16, Ps 89:2-29, Rom 16:25-27, Lk 1:26-38

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

Weekly Collection 12/10/2017	\$24,445.08
Weekly tithe amount needed	\$13,483.09
Surplus or (Deficit) YTD	(\$8,640.74)
CMI Fund	\$9,712.00
2017-2018 Fiscal Year	
Roof & Climate Control Repairs (cost so far this fiscal year)	(\$15,242.27)
CMI Balance (Campus Maintenance & Improvement Fund)	(\$5,530.27)

The gift-giving and gift-receiving season is upon us, and parents, in particular, are preaching the importance of GRATITUDE! However, there is no need to wait for this time of year to practice what we preach! Our second reading today reminds us to "Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks to God..." What a perfect time to consider the gifts God has blessed us with and show Him our gratitude by sharing these gifts with our family and friends. And how can we share them with the stranger, the poor, those who live in the margins of society?

Thanks to this Parish Dinner sponsor:

Burtch Accounting & Tax

Individual & Business Income Tax
Bookkeeping & Compliance

316.253.7113

jenniferkburtch@gmail.com

Jennifer (Keiter) Burtch, Proprietor



Holy Mass Schedule & Intentions

Monday, December 18

8:15 a.m. Mass - S.I. Sandy Bugner

Tuesday, December 19

6:00 p.m. Mass +Jerry Bolster

Wednesday, December 20

8:15 a.m. Mass - S.I. Anna Dinh Thi Luang

Thursday, December 21

Saint Peter Canisius

8:15 a.m. Mass +Stanley Robison

Friday, December 22

8:15 a.m. Mass +Alice Mertens

Saturday, December 23

Saint John of Kanty

8:15 a.m. Mass - Jeanna Nguyen

4:00 p.m. Mass - The People of St. Joseph

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:15 a.m. Mass - S.I. Tot Phan

10:00 a.m. Mass +Betty Bean

4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass - The Brad Seiler Family

10:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass - The People of St. Joseph

Monday, December 2

The Nativity of the Lord

10:00 a.m. Mass - The Ball Family

Ministry Schedule December 23rd & 24th

4:00 PM

(S) Mike Irvin

(L1) Corrinna Irvin

(L2) Mike Irvin

(H) Linda Bolster

(C1) Johnnie Bell

(C2) John Bolster

(Rosary) Ann Jaegar

(M. Server) James Janzen

(Candle 1) Aiden Blick

(Candle 2) Gage Lee

(GB) Christina & Paige Hallacy

8:15 AM

(S) Charlie Deitchler

(L1) Carl Dittmore

(L2) Barbara Wattman

(H) Barbara Wattman

(C1) Judy Shideler

(C2) Gabrielle Shideler

(Rosary) Ken Sueper

(M. Server) Thomas Kucera

(Candle 1) Grace Boman

(Candle 2) Dan Wagner

(GB) Judy Shideler Family

10:00 AM

(S) Alice Johnson

(L1) Julie Sanders

(L2) Richard Johnson

(H) Cheryl Gulick

(C1) Doug Sublett

(C2) Kristen Allen

(Rosary) Florence Marx

(M. Server) Angela McKinney

(Candle 1) Lexi Acosta

(Candle 2) Josh Schnoor

(GB) Teresa Lee

Prayers for Our Military

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

Jay Schoen

Sam Francis

Justin Light

Tony Jeffress

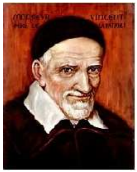
Matt Mork

Jeff Cranor

Jonathan Burke

Timothy Collier

Nicholas Gerhold



Saint Vincent DePaul Society News

The Saint Joseph Conference of the Saint Vincent de Paul Society recently helped two neighborhood families with \$500 in rental assistance to prevent them from being evicted. The Saint Vincent de Paul society is a Catholic lay ministry dedicated to charitable works for those in need. Our primary mission is conducting home visits to determine people's financial needs, and then offering financial and other assistance as necessary. Please consider supporting us by joining us at our next meeting on Monday, January 8th at 6:30 pm, or supporting us financially by donating through the parish office.

St. Joseph Women's Circle Outreach

Do you know someone in need of medical equipment? St Joseph Women's Circle has new and gently used equipment for those who need the following:

Bath Stools
 Bedside Commode/Toilet Seats/Safety Rails
 Adjustable Metal Crutches
 Adjustable Canes & Regular Canes
 Wheelchairs
 Walkers, 3 Wheel Walkers & Folding Walkers

For further information, please contact Linda Bolster at 316.650.1878 or lfbolster@yahoo.com.

Memorial Mass and Breakfast On January 13th. If you have lost a loved one this past year, you and your family are invited to attend the Memorial Mass at 8:15. a.m. on Saturday, January 13th, 2018 Breakfast to follow in the Parish Hall. Please R.S.V.P. to Kelly, Mike or Martha at 261-5812 by Wednesday January 10th.

Be still and know that I am God.

Psalms 46:10

Spiritual Life Center

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

New Year's Eve Marian Retreat December 31; 7 p.m. - midnight. Celebrate New Year's Eve by ringing in the New Year with Our Lady. Program includes conference, adoration, Mass and an indoor procession. \$20 (overnight accommodations available).

Good Books: The Canterbury Tales Tuesday, Jan. 2; 7-8:30 p.m. The Good Books program meets monthly to discuss books from the great Christian Tradition. This marks the second meeting for The Canterbury Tales. New attendees always welcome! No charge.

KidsPrayToo! Mass with Children Thursday, Jan. 4; 11:15 a.m. This monthly celebration of our regular Daily Mass especially welcomes little children and their caregivers! Pack a lunch to enjoy in our dining room afterwards. No charge.

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 or call 316.744.0167.



Christmas Eve: 4:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m. only

The Fourth Sunday of Advent Stewardship Thoughts

Hundreds of years before Jesus was born of Mary, Isaiah prophesied that a virgin would conceive and bear a son as a sign to the king, Ahaz. The fulfillment of the scriptural prophesy of the virgin birth helped the people of Jesus' time recognize that he was sent by God. Through the angel's message to Joseph, we come to understand the depth of God's love in sending his Son to us. Throughout Advent, the readings from Isaiah encouraged us to exult in the glory of God's coming. May our celebration of Christmas open our hearts to the love and mercy generously given by our Heavenly Father.

Parish Family Agreements

The 2018-2019 Parish Family Agreements will be mailed to the High School Families on December 19th. All forms need to be signed and returned to the parish office by January 15th, 2018. Please be on the lookout for these to arrive by mail.



RCIA News

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a Catholic, please call the parish office for information on beginning the process of RCIA. Current Catholics are also welcome to come learn more about their faith. Individual lessons are available.



Christmas Call to Sharing

Priests of the Church minister and mediate. They help us break open and digest the Word of God week after week, year after year. Gradually, the Gospel of Jesus becomes our own mind and heart. God's Word influences the way we think, decide, and act. Priests bring us sacramental life from the waters of Baptism through Eucharist to the final Anointing. The Diocesan "Call to Sharing" collection supports our retired priests, who have fulfilled their promise of a lifetime of service, and the education of our 46 seminarians. What a promising future these seminarians represent for our diocese! A special "Christmas Call to Sharing" envelope was mailed to all registered parishioners. Please prayerfully consider participating in this voluntary offering this Christmas. God bless!



Thank you to everyone who has so lovingly reached out with prayer, by acts of service or with monetary donations to help our family during this difficult time. We are overwhelmed with the love that has been poured out to us. Each and every one of you has given us so many blessings to count. God bless you all.

~Mike, Susan, Abby & Jacob McDanel.