



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2009

Schedule of Masses

Monday	St. John the Cross	
	7:00 a.m.	+Joan Heilman.
Tuesday		
	7:00 a.m.	+Andrew Malsam
Wednesday		
	7:00 a.m.	+Mary Uhrich
	12:10 p.m.	+Brad Peterson
Thursday		
	7:00 a.m.	+Mary Uhrich
Friday		
	7:00 a.m.	+Anton Rohrich
Saturday		
	8:15 a.m.	Light of the World

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	+Rick Glau
Sunday	7:30 a.m.	For Our Parish
	9:30 a.m.	+Paul Henjum
	11:30 a.m.	+Albert/Ilene Gisi

LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

For the weekend of	Dec. 19 th and Dec. 20 th	
Saturday 5:00 pm	Sandra Levsen	See Schedule
Sunday 7:30 am.	Therese Leon	See Schedule
Sunday 9:30 a.m.	Cherie Heinz	See Schedule
Sunday 11:30 a.m.	Georgia Fossum	See Schedule

ALTAR SERVERS

For the weekend of	Dec. 19 th and Dec. 20 th
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Cody/Alex Zikmund, Taylor Morgan
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Christy/Kelly/Lynn Renner
9:30 a.m.	Jayden/Jenna Everson, Lindsey Hahler
11:30 a.m.	Emily Schock, Megan Schulz, and Kaitlyn Stellingwerf

GREETERS

For the weekend of	Dec. 19 th and Dec. 20 th
Saturday 5:00 p.m.	Madeline Hartman, Deb Peterson, and Vicky Meginness
Sunday 7:30 a.m.	Scott/Sharon Goodspeed, Robert Hixon, and Loretta Grote
9:30 a.m.	Bernice Wald, Tonya Senger, and Dan/Penny Malsam
11:30 a.m.	Gene/Corliss Morris and Kathy Carter

VAN DRIVER THIS WEEK

Sun., Dec. 20th –Mark Hahler – 229-2572

Traveling Icon for Vocations.

Carol Sieler will have the icon Dec. 13 - Dec. 19th. The parish office will have the icon Dec. 20th - Jan 1st.



Pastoral Ponderings.....

Gaudete Sunday

Each Mass has its own “entrance antiphon.” This is a sentence or two, most often from the scriptures. We can sing it at the beginning of Mass (although, in our country, we usually begin Mass by singing a hymn instead of the antiphon). Years ago, people gave a title to each Sunday’s Mass. The title came from the first Latin word of the day’s antiphon.

The entrance antiphon for the Third Sunday of Advent begins, “Rejoice in the Lord always.” These words are from St. Paul’s Letter to the Philippians. In Latin, “rejoice” is gaudete. So today is called Gaudete Sunday.

Why should we rejoice on this day in the middle of Advent? The antiphon tells us why: **“Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I say rejoice! The Lord is near.”**

The pink candle in the Advent wreath symbolizes hope and the approaching celebration of Jesus’ birth – the incredible Incarnation, God made man. But does the sight of it being lit on the Third Sunday of Advent send you into a flurry of worry? Coming to the Third Sunday of Advent means there are just two weeks left until Christmas. Gift shipping dates loom and grocery lists seem to grow by the minute. You might wake in a panic, wondering what you forgot to do or buy. The stress of preparation, at this point can threaten to crowd out the very joy of Christmas.

Some of us have greater troubles now: potential job losses or income reductions leave many people worried about how to pay the mortgage or afford a trip to the dentist – never mind Christmas shopping. For others, the Christmas season brings memories of family and friends who have died, and feelings of grief or sadness surface at a time when everyone is “supposed” to be in a festive mood.

But with the grace of God, we can let those problems be the ghost of advents past. Our faith tells us that things will get better. And they will – Jesus is coming. From this perspective, we can embrace the opportunity this year to rediscover Advent. We can leave behind lists and anxieties and let our preparations now be all about the joy of Christmas. We can celebrate whole heartedly the lighting of each candle of the Advent wreath.

The call to rejoice fits in with the call to conversions that is celebrated in penance. There is no denying that confessing one’s sins can be difficult, especially if our sins are many or serious. Yet the sacrament is meant to celebrate the wonder of God’s merciful love, not to focus mainly on our sins or our confession. Special times begin **this Friday, December 18: 12 Noon – 1 p.m., 5 – 6 p.m., and 7 – 8 p.m. and Saturday from 3 – 4:30 p.m., and City Wide Confessions next Sunday, December 20 at 1:30 p.m.** There is great joy in being reconciled. Come and share the joy.

Fr. Ed Pierce

STEWARDSHIP

Last Week's Collection		\$17,876.68
Youth envelopes		\$82.50
Geo-Thermal - funding needed including parking lot		\$467,581.35
Amount paid		\$401,258.68
CFSA	pledged	\$105,944.68
	Paid	\$98,444.68
Immaculate Conception		\$1,190.46

We took in \$870.00 last week!! Thus far during the *Crusade* we have collected \$111,920.33. Our daily interest paid is \$116.76

We started our *Crusade* at \$898,652.00. As of 12-04-09 our balance was \$774,878.98. We so appreciate your generosity. \$5,000 per week covers principal and interest due. We are awaiting the interest split for the past two weeks.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Sunday, Dec. 13th

Breakfast will be served by LOTW after the 7:30 and 9:30 a.m. Masses. A full breakfast will be served.

Youth Groups: Grades 7-12 meet from 7-9 pm in the parish hall.

Tuesday, Dec. 15th

RCIA will meet in the Rel. Ed. Office at 6:30 p.m. Touch points with God (Liturgy & Sacraments Overview)

Wednesday, Dec. 16th

CCD - Class – Christmas Story Program Practice Gr. 1-4 in the parish hall. Class Christmas service projects for Gr. 5-10. Parents needed.

Saturday, Dec. 19th

Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet at 10:00 a.m. in the parish hall..

Youth Ski Trip - Now taking applications for our youth ski trip on January 18th. Open to youth in grades 7-12. Go to www.sacredheartym.com for applications and more info.

SEARCH - The next Search retreat will on January 8-10. Search is open to anyone in 10th grade or older. Applications and information are available at www.sacredheartym.com

Advent Vespers every day M-F at 5:15 p.m. in the chapel. Contact person is Cherie Heinz.

Mothers in Love + Fathers in Love = Families in Love!

Give your kids the best gift they can get -- Parents with a **GREAT** marriage! Sign up today to attend a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend. The next scheduled weekend is February 12-14, 2010 at the **BroomTree Retreat and Conference Center** in Irene, SD. For more information or to register, please contact Curt & Rochelle Lauret at 605-362-9145 or visit www.WWME.org.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NOTES:

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 20: City Reconciliation Service 1:30 p.m. Christmas Program & Tree decorating 4-6 p.m.

Dec 23: NO class

RONCALLI (this week)

Wed Dec.16: RES Mass – 12:10 p.m. – Sacred Heart
RHS Booster Club – 7:00 p.m. RHS

Thur. Dec. 17: RPS Mass – 12:10 p.m. – St. Mary's
BB at Webster – 6:30 p.m.

Fri. Dec. 18: RHS Mass – 9:30 a.m.
GBB vs Webster – 6:30 p.m.

Sat. Dec. 19: WR NEC at Britton – 11:00 a.m.
BB vs Perham, MN at NSU – 4:00 p.m.

Recycling Benefits Roncalli

Those aren't bells you are hearing, it's the sound of metal pouring into Mardian Scrap Recycling at 609 SW Sixth Avenue, as family, friends and neighbors donate their metal recyclables for Roncalli.

Tell everyone that any person taking metal recyclables to Mardian Scrap Recycling can ask to have the proceeds donated to Roncalli. Mardian has set up a special account for the Aberdeen Catholic School System.

Thank you for helping our Roncalli schools by your donation.

RONCALLI NEARLY NEW:

All Christmas items are ½ price. Our store will be closed Thur. Dec. 24th and Sat. Dec. 26th. This week we will be open Tues., Wed., Thur. and Sat. from noon to 4:00 p.m. at 220 N. Main. Let us help you complete your Christmas shopping list!

Family Faith Formation – Dec. 13th

Theme: John baptized with water, but the Messiah will baptize with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Listen to the word: As you hear this reading, what words or phrases strike you? What in this reading touches your heart? What lingers in your memory?

Question for Children: Why is it so important to keep promises which you have made?

Question for Youth: What do you remember from stories about your Baptism? What does your Baptism mean to you now?

Question for Adults: How can you live the promise of your Baptism each day?

ADVENT BABY SHOWER

Again, this year we will set up a crib in the church to collect new baby items for our Advent Baby Shower. Please help us support these new lives by donating unwrapped gifts of clothing, diapers, toys, and blankets.

Inter-Parish

Family Rosary – Tue., Dec. 15th at 7:00 pm–at Sacred Heart.
Catholic Daughters will meet at Davis Ct., Thur., Dec. 17th.
Rosary will be at 6:30 p.m. meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

GREAT GIFT IDEAS

New Advent CD's are available on the display stand.

Don't let your gifts end up in a yard sale; give them something they will cherish forever ~ **The Truth!**

Choose from a selection of Lighthouse Catholic Media Gift Certificates for just \$3 each and place your donation in the donation box. The recipient of your gift will be able to select the titles they want and "pay" with their gift certificates.

You don't have to worry about wrapping another gift or running out to the store – just stop by the kiosk after Mass! Consider enclosing one in a Mass card, thank you card, and two in a birthday card!

Looking for the perfect gift for your spouse this Christmas?

Give the gift of your time and undivided attention by taking them on a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter**. The next scheduled weekend is Valentines Day Weekend - February 12-14, 2010 at the **BroomTree Retreat and Conference Center** in Irene, SD. For more information or to register, please contact Curt & Rochelle Lauret at 605-362-9145 or visit www.WWME.org.

Need unique Christmas cards? The 125th Anniversary Committee has Christmas greeting cards. The card features an inside and outside photo of Sacred Heart with Christmas greetings inside. 4 cards for \$3.50 or sold individually for \$1.00.

Need a great Christmas gift! The 125th Anniversary Committee is selling remaining anniversary throws for \$30 each. Both the cards and throws are available at the church office.

\$10,000 CASH – the perfect stocking stuffer!!

Roncalli families and staff are selling raffle tickets for a \$10,000 cash prize. Sales from the raffle support instructional expenses such as teacher salaries and classroom materials. Please contact those individuals to buy your tickets, call 226-2100 or stop by the Development Office at the high school. Tickets sell for 1 chance for \$20; 5 chances for \$50; or 20 chances for \$100. One lucky winner of the \$10,000 will be chosen March 27, 2010 at the 31st annual Roncalli Ball "A Night in Moracco."

End of Year Giving: Making a charitable gift to the Church or Roncalli before the end of the tax year? Be sure to mail your payment by December 31, 2009, to get credit for this tax year. If you are donating securities, be sure to initiate it early to ensure it's completed in time to be credited for this year.

CHRISTMAS AT THE CATHEDRAL to present "Hope's Promise" Dec. 17-20 at St. Joseph Cathedral in Sioux Falls. This year's production will feature the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Dan Goeller. Proceeds from the event will again go towards the continued preservation, restoration and beautification of the cathedral. Tickets are available at all Sioux Falls Hy-Vee stores, online at www.stjosephcathedral.net or call toll free 1-888-246-3386.



LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Praise be to God! Our LOTW Small Faith Communities remain active by preparing and serving this Sunday's breakfast for the parish family and by bringing the JOY of CHRIST to some of our precious homebound parishioners with visits and singing Christmas songs. Would you like to be a part of this? Join us at our Lenten weekend retreat February 27, 28, 2010 here at Sacred Heart Parish.

WE AS A COMMUNITY:

Welcome into the Body of Christ Kyra Lynn daughter of Robert and Lynn Heupel, Mason Grey, son of Michael and Rita Moe, Caiden Paul, son of Justin and Christine Maack, and Tatum Rae, daughter of Mitch and Tyneille Hanson who were initiated into the Christian Mystery through Baptism on Dec. 6th.

Extend our Sympathy and Prayers to the family and friends of Kathleen Ann (Vander Hoek) Manning whose funeral we celebrated this past week.

ENTHRONEMENT PACKETS are available in the parish office for a \$10 donation.

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

When the crowds in today's gospel asked "What shall we do?" the Baptist was very clear: SHARE. Resist giving token obligatory Christmas gifts. Instead give NECESSITIES to the poor. If those who have nothing or very little are not on your Christmas list, you missed the point of Christmas.



CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATIONS

We invite those who wish to make donations in honor of loved ones during the Christmas season to please do so. Dedications may name one person, a couple, or family group. All names will be printed in the church bulletin. Members may be living or deceased. Please use the form below to send your gift to the parish office, or drop in the collection.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEDICATION

Enclosed is my gift of _____, to be used for the Christmas flowers at Sacred Heart:

In memory of: _____

From: _____

With dedication to: _____

From: _____