

Sunday, December 18, 2016

4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

READINGS: Isaiah 7.10-14 **Psalm:** 24
Romans 1.1-7 **Gospel:** Matthew 1.18-24

Saturday, December 17 - 4:00 pm

Offered for: Daniel Tarbell – 29th Anniversary
Requested by Elizabeth and Norman Tarbell

Altar Servers: Megan, Phillip and Morgan
Lectors: Liz Sunday and Harold Caldwell

Sunday, December 18 – 10:00 am

Offered for: Margaret Lafrance and Louise Bush –
20th Anniversary Requested by the Family

Altar Servers: Reagan, Analeyna, Rylie and Kenia
Lectors: Brian Thomas and Irving Papineau

Tuesday, December 20 – 6:00 pm

Offered for: Priscilla ‘Bulla’ Herne – Memorial Mass
Requested by Mr. & Mrs.’ Luigi Nitti

Wednesday, December 21 – 10:00 am at lakhinsotha

Offered for: Marie Mitchell Smith – Memorial Mass
From the funeral collection

5:30 pm – Christmas Triduum Mass in Church

Offered for: Margaret M. Jacobs – Memorial Mass
From the funeral collection

Thursday, December 22 – 12:10 pm (in Chapel)

Offered for: Louis Smoke Jr. (43rd Anniv.), and Mark Smoke
Requested by parents Louis & Ruth Smoke,
and brother Mitchell, and Carole Smoke

5:30 pm – Christmas Triduum Mass in Church

Offered for: Ann Terrance – Memorial Mass
Requested by her husband, Eddie Terrance

Friday, December 23 – 12:10 pm (in Chapel)

Offered for: Ida Thomas – Memorial Birthday
From the funeral collection

5:30 pm – Christmas Triduum Mass in Church

Offered for: Anne Phillips – Memorial Mass
From the funeral collection

Saturday, December 24 - 6:00 pm - Children’s Mass

Offered for: George Lafrance – Memorial Mass
Requested by Cecelia Lafrance

Altar Servers: Megan, Philip and Morgan
Lectors: Children and Youth

Saturday, December 24 – 12 Midnight Mass

Offered for: Simon King Sr. – Memorial Mass
Requested by his daughter, Nicky King
Lectors: Norma Sunday and Norman Tarbell

Sunday, December 25 –10:00 am – NATIVITY OF THE LORD

Offered for: Alberta Linda Jacobs – 7th Anniversary
Requested by husband, Charlie, and the boys

Altar Servers: Reagan, Analeyna, Rylee and Kenia
Lectors: Lisa Tarbell and Erin Cole.

Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Advent – Dec. 18

This is the Fourth Sunday of Advent. There are events so momentous that they effect immediate and dramatic change. There is no better example than God breaking into human history in a new way through the coming of Jesus, which changes everything. Mary and Joseph model how we ourselves give "birth" to Jesus in our own time. By opening ourselves to the Holy Spirit and cooperating with God's plan for our life, we, like Mary and Joseph, usher in a whole new in-breaking of God into human history - Emmanuel, "God is with us." This story, which begins with the yes of Joseph and Mary, continues through history with our yes to opening ourselves to God's dwelling among us.

The birth of this Child isn't simply a historical event that happened long ago, but is a present experience of "God who is with us." We are to be the Josephs who listen to God in dreams, and the Marys who give birth to this Child who saves. "This is how the birth of Jesus Christ comes about": you and I say yes to God, even if we don't fully understand what God is asking of us. We give birth to Emmanuel in our homes, cities, nations. We are to be the presence of Christ in our world! This is how "God is with us."

It is the final Sunday of Advent, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, yet because of the calendar in this year of 2016, Christmas is still a full week away. We may ask ourselves if we are prepared for Christmas, but that question may focus on the wrong things — we may be thinking of decorations and Christmas gifts and Christmas dinners.

However, the question we should be asking is “Are our souls ready for Christmas?” That should be the most important part of our Advent preparation. Is God present within us? Are we ready to welcome Christ? Do we acknowledge our need to be prepared for Christ’s Second Coming?

In his letter to the Romans, the Second Reading, St. Paul uses the phrase “the Spirit of holiness.” Paul, and in a more important way Christ Himself, calls us to holiness. Holiness is more than what we do; it has everything to do with what we are. It has to do with our very identity. Holiness is characterized by our relationship with the Lord. We are waiting for Christ, but the reality is that Christ is waiting for us. God loves us; knowing and responding to that love is holiness.

St. Teresa of Calcutta may have said it best when she stated, “It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at someone and offer them your hand.” Doing that is being holy, too; that, too, is stewardship. *Stewardship Bulletin Reflections.*

Sacrament of Matrimony

Congratulations to Mr. Michael David and Ms. Leona Thompson, on their recent commitment to the Sacrament of Matrimony. God’s blessing to you both and all the best wishes for your future together as one.

Penance/Confession

The penitential aspect of Advent urges us to recognize oneself as being a sinner, and therefore take the first essential step in returning to God. Father Jerome is available for confession at 4:30 pm on the following three days: Dec. 21, 22 and 23, 2016.

The Lord’s Prayer (in Mohawk)

Ta kwa ien ha, ne, ka ron hia ke, te si te ron, a ie sa sen na ien, a ie sa wen ni ios ta ke, a ie sa wen na ra kwa ke, non wen tsia ke, tsi ni iot, ne, ka ron hia ke, kie sa wen na rak wa. Ta kwa nont, ne, ken wen te, ia kion he kon, nia te wen ni se ra ke, sa sa ni konr hen, ne ion kwa ri wa ne ren, tsi ni iot, ni, i, tsi on kwa ni konr hens. O the non, ion ki ni konh rak sa ton, non kwe; to sa, a ion kwa sen ni, ne ka ri wa ne ren, ak we kon, e ren, sa wit, nio tak sens.
NE NE KA NA KE RAH TSHE RA, NE NE KA SATS TENH SE RA, KA IA TA NE HRA KWAH TSHE RA, SA WEN'K NON:WA NOK TSI NEN:WE – E THO E THO NA IA WEN.

December 18 – 4th Sunday of Advent

BY FAR, THE best way to celebrate Christmas is to be with children. And we are so close to Christmas now that our children can barely contain their excitement? Yet, before his marriage, poor Joseph could not have been very excited to hear that Mary was with child. Sure, most fathers, when they learn their wife is expecting, can get a little bewildered, too. But Joseph felt that this was not the expected way to bring children into the world, and so he planned to dismiss Mary quietly from his life. And then the unexpected happened to this bewildered man who was just looking to do the right thing. Divine intervention arrived in the form of a dream – complete with talking angels. This convince Joseph that his plans had to change. Will the unexpected presence of God awaken us this Advent, and really change our lives as a result? Advent is all about deeply living this exciting time of expectation, a precious time to prepare to change ourselves, our homes, and our hearts, for sharing. We have to remember that it was the Divine who initiated this sharing in that first Feast of the Incarnation, sending his Son to be the Saviour that our lives yearn for most. Emmanuel – “God with us?” Can we open our hearts to see the signs that “God is with us” today? *Joe Gunn, Ottawa, ON.*

We pray for our parishioners and friends who are sick, especially Alex Arquette, Edward Terrance, April Benedict, Isabel Rourke, Laurie Connors, Sheila Ransom, Marie Casey, Sarah Mitchell, Esther Burnham, Florence Cook, Francis Cree, Orlo Ransom, Clyde Cree, Bill Sears and Larry Pyke. Give them strength in body, courage in spirit, and patience in pain. Let them recover their health so that, restored to our Christian community, they may joyfully praise the Lord’s name, **Amen**

In Gratitude – NIAWENKO:WA

To the Eucharistic Ministers for Pastor Care for your commitment to bring the Holy Eucharist to our sick and homebound: Nancy Arquette, Vicky Phillips, Caroline Peters, Harold Caldwell, Carole Ross, Jamie Ross, Sharon Thompson, Rosemary Bonaparte, Beatrice Lazore and Debbie Thomas.

To our youth in training to become Altar Servers, we pray for their perseverance and to their parents for their commitment and dedication to their children Called to Serve. Anticipated investiture is January 2017.

To the Knights of Columbus for putting up the Christmas Tree in front of the Church.

To Dawn Lazore for sewing the ambo banner and the Tabernacle cover in preparation of the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

To the Altar & Rosary Society for the purchase of new rose-colored chasuble in time for the celebration of the 3rd Sunday of Advent.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please welcome our newest Church community member, *Coen John Roderick Etherington*, on receiving the Sacrament of Baptism.
Prayers and blessings to his family

Sacrament of Baptism: Next Baptism Seminar: Tues., January 10 at 5:30 pm at St. Kateri Center. The child(ren) must be pre-registered with a copy of their Birth Certificate.

Religious Education:

Registration forms are still being accepted for all groups: Confirmation, First Communion and Adult Formation. **The deadline to register is Dec. 31/16.**

Confirmation: next class is on Dec. 21, at 5:30 pm in the Church.

First Communion: next class is Dec. 21 at 5:30 pm in the Church. AMS school next class is Tuesday, December 20, immediately following school hours at 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm (for students attending AMS school).

Funeral Mass Preparation Workshop – if you are interested in learning how to prepare for a funeral mass, and would have the time to visit with the family, please contact the rectory office to sign up, or contact Father Jerome.

Sunday Missals – only a few copies remain for a small donation of \$5.00. Obtain your copy soon.

Parish Ministry Meetings
@ St. Kateri Tekakwitha Center

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| Parish Council | Dec. 28 – 5:00 pm |
| Finance Council | Dec. 19 – 4:30 pm |
| Maintenance Committee | Dec. 19 – 4:30 pm |
| Liturgy & Faith Ministry | Jan. 9 – 5:30 pm |
| Choir/Music Ministry | Jan. 14 – 9:30 am |
| Altar & Rosary Society | Jan. 8 – 12:30 pm |

| Collections for December 11, 2016 | | |
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| \$421.78 | US | \$489.50 |
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