

Second Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the U.S. Bishops' Pastoral Letter on stewardship: *"Christians must be God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live – the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards"*.

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SATURDAY, December 05

Confessions 3:00pm at St. Francis Xavier

4:00 PM- SFX - St. Catherine, St. Francis Xavier
& St. Joseph Parish Family

5:30 PM- SJ+ Dan Rasch by Family

SUNDAY, December 06

9:00 AM – SC - Kroll Family Birthdays by
Barry & Mara Kroll

11:00AM-SJ+ Robert & Vera Doyle by Family

Immaculate Conception

MONDAY, December 07

Adoration and Confessions 5:15-6:15pm – SFX

7:00 PM-SFX + Linda VanOeffelen by Bill & Pam May

TUESDAY, December 08

8:30 AM-SC + Jean Olson by M/M René Frazier

10:30 AM-SJ +Josephine Piccard by M/M Phil Brown

WEDNESDAY, December 09

NO MASS

THURSDAY, December 10

8:30 AM- SC + Daisy Conran by Jon & Kathy Morey

FRIDAY, December 11

9:30 AM-SJ + Bill Miller by Steve & Theresa Steffes

SATURDAY, December 12

Confessions 3:00pm at St. Francis Xavier

8:00PM – SJ – Hispanic Mass

4:00 PM- SFX + Mary Denhof by Lucille Finkler

5:30 PM- SJ+Mary Lou Klein by M/M Leo Klein

SUNDAY, December 13

9:00 AM – SC – St. Catherine, St. Francis Xavier
& St. Joseph Parish Family

11:00 AM – SJ + Maury Lothschutz by Cecilia
Lothschutz

Dear Friends,

First, I have to thank all of you for your prayers and generosity to me since I arrived. I am right at home in the parishes, my daily routine is congealing, and I feel so happy to be the priest for three wonderful churches. Keep praying for me.

We had our first Monday night adoration with confessions. This is part of my first priority to make sure that our community prays. One can do so in church or in the privacy of one's home, yet prayer must be the basis of everything we do. As a priest, any good that I accomplish occurs in spite of me, not because of me, caused as it is by the grace of God. If I don't pray, I'm in serious trouble. This goes for all of us. When the pando clears up, we will have to face what may be a harsh reality. With so many good people disengaged, our job will be to re-evangelize our area. This is something I want to do now, but I have to be patient. Looking at the life of Jesus, he spent 30 years of his life hidden, part of a family, and a practitioner of the trade. That, I believe, is the sort of existence this pandemic has forced us into. In this time, we have to pray, be converted, and turn toward the Lord. Then, when all this is over, we will get to work!

Finally, our Mass schedule for Christmas goes as follows:
4:00pm at Saint Catherine – Christmas Eve
6:00pm at Saint Joseph – Christmas Eve
8:00pm at Saint Joseph – Christmas Eve
9:00am at Saint Francis – Christmas Day

Now, perhaps, as would be reasonable, you feel some trepidation about attending any of these Masses because of all the crowds. Remember that the obligation to attend Mass has been lifted, even for Christmas. I would invite you to watch a live stream from, perhaps, the Cathedral in Grand Rapids, or the innumerable collection of options all over the world. But, I do so with one caveat, which is that while watching Mass have value, assists us in prayer, allows us to remember our part of the broader Church, there is nothing quite like worshipping and receiving the Lord in person. I encourage everyone to look at the Octave of Christmas, which consists of the eight days after Christmas, and choose any one of those days to attend Mass.

If you have any questions, concerns or complaints, feel free to email me, (frandrew@ourcluster.org).

God bless you this week,
Fr. Andrew



DIVINE PROVIDENCE ACADEMY

Contact Information

Principal: Kate Beuschel
 Phone: 616-581-4242
 Email: kbeuschel@wingsdpa.org
St. Catherine's Campus Secretary: Anne Lewis
 Email: alewis@wingsdpa.org
 Phone 231-853-6743
 Fax: 231-853-2664
St. Joseph's Campus Secretary: Suzanne May
 Email: smay@wingsdpa.org
 Phone: 616-899-5300
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Due to the ongoing pandemic, St. Catherine Home & School Association will not be hosting the Annual Autumn Auction this year. However, school is still in session, which means our (and your) financial support is still needed. In place of the auction, we are running an Envelope Wall fundraiser in the back of St. Catherine church from now until all envelopes are filled/returned. To participate, simply take an envelope numbered 1 through 200 from the boards and donate the amount written on the envelope you chose. If all envelopes get filled/returned, we will raise \$20,100, which is very close to our annual auction goal of \$24,000! Instructions are inside each envelope.

UPDATE: *To date we have collected \$13,867!* Thank you so much to everyone who has donated. We appreciate you! *To reach our goal we still need to collect \$6,233.* It's a lot but we are hopeful it can happen!

ST. CATHERINE'S PARISH NEWS & INFORMATION

Parish Prayer Line: Mara Kroll: 231-853-6880
 Ethel Nutt: 231-853-6733

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE DECEMBER 13, 2020

SACRISTAN: Nancy Adams
LECTOR: Florence Postema
MUSIC: Jim Jensen
USHER: Ron Pavlich & Paul Helsen



COLLECTION FOR NOV. 29, 2020
 34 Adults - \$3,055.00, 1 Youth - \$1.00,
 Loose - \$16.00, Votive - \$16.00,
 Electronic - \$0.00, for a total of
 \$3,088.00. CCHD - \$30.00.

Thank you for your support!

Men's Club News: The 50/50 drawing winner of \$225 for November is Paul Helsen from Randy Helsen's book. Your chance to win is available from any Men's Club member or call the Parish Office.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S PARISH NEWS AND INFORMATION

Parish Prayer Line: Lucille: 616-899-2367
 Kate: 616-678-5838
 Parish Office: 231-853-6222

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE DECEMBER 12, 2020

SACRISTAN: Irene Bosman
LECTOR: Terri Anderson
MUSIC: Jim Jensen
USHER: Ted Crowley



COLLECTION FOR NOV. 29, 2020
 17 Adults - \$1,370.00, Loose - \$112.00,
 Votive - \$2.00, Electronic - \$0.00, for a
 total of \$1,484.00. CCHD - \$140.00
 Rectory Reno-\$320.00

Thank you for your support!



Giving Tree "A Children's Christmas" - We welcome all to help make Christmas special for three local families in need, through our Christian spirit of caring, sharing and giving, by selecting a tag(s) from the Giving Tree. Please place your wrapped gift, with the tag attached, under the tree on or before December 19th, 4:00 P.M. Mass. We invite everyone from our Cluster Parishes who come to St. Francis to take part. May God Bless you all for your compassion and generosity.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH NEWS & INFORMATION

Prayer Line: Linda Nowatzke-616-8992166
Theresa Miller-616-899-5561

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULE DECEMBER 12 & 13

SACRISTAN

December 12-5:30PM-Marty Brown
December 13-11:00AM- Chuck Rasch

USHERS

December 12-5:30PM –Carl Dunn & Norm VanDyke
December 13-11:00AM- Tyler & Charlie Armock

Lector

December 12--5:30PM- Bill Gavin
December 13-11:00AM- Helen Dietrich

Music

December 12-5:30PM- Eileen Hoogterp
December 13-11:00AM-- Eileen Hoogterp



Our annual giving tree at St Joseph will look a little different this year. We will have a box for personal hygiene products, socks, hats & And a box for gift cards...food place cards, gas cards, Amazon cards, Meijer & Family Fare cards. To help families in need. Thank you, Christian Service Committee.

Giving back to God 11.29.2020



Adults: \$2600. Loose: 61: HH: 10
Total:\$2671

Thank you for your support!

Liturgical Notes



Rosary Intention for November- Let us pray for all those that we have lost this past year. Remember their families as they struggle with the upcoming holidays.

LIFE TEEN

12/06 - Holy Hour - SFX 7-8PM – reflection
by Deacon Noah Thelen

12/13 - Holy Hour - SFX 7-8PM – reflection
by Father Andrew

CLUSTER INFORMATION



Part-Time help needed: Snow removal for DPA and church sidewalks. Clearing snow, and salt application. Hours are 6:00AM 7 days a week if needed. \$15.00 per hour. Please call St. Joseph's office.

Weekly Scripture Readings

Monday, Dec 07-Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday, Dec 08- Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12

Wednesday, Dec 09- Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, Dec 10-Is 41:13-20/Mt 11:11-15

Friday, Dec 11- Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, Dec 12- Zec 2:1-17/Lk 1:26-28

Sunday, Dec 13 –Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

by Bud Ozar

Why is it so hard to forgive, yet so easy to get even? Listen to John the Baptist in today's gospel and repent of the anger and ugly feelings which block your ability to forgive. This Christmas give a gift which makes a difference. Give forgiveness.

Question of the Week

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

Bringing joy through justice

Reading I Isaiah 61:1–2, 10–11 (the mission to the afflicted)

Reading II 1 Thessalonians 5:16–24 (Christian conduct; blessing)

Gospel John 1:6–8, 19–28 (John as witness to the light)

Key Passage I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation. (Isaiah 61:10)

Adult What work of justice could you do this week to bring someone joy?

Child What could you do for someone this week to make them happy?

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #4404

Grand Knight: Chris Stebbins – 616-299-8424

Email: pentagonwa@aol.com

Website: www.4404.councilnet.us

Meeting: First Tuesday of the month – 7:00pm

at St. Vincent DePaul Bldg. Corp. Hall

St. Vincent DePaul Bldg. Corp. Hall Rental

Ed & Cindy Denhof: 616-302-0368

MSGR. LEO ROSLONIEC 4TH DEGREE ASSEMBLY #3492

Faithful Navigator Rick DeVries

Email rickldevries@yahoo.com Phone 616-813-1874

Meeting: Third Tuesday of the month, 7:00pm at St. Joseph's Hall