

## Fourth Sunday of Advent



Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy.

St. Paul to the Romans

**Rev. Barry Windholtz**

*Pastor*

### This Weekend's Hymns

*All hymns can be found in the Seasonal Missalette.*

Opening Hymn: #201

Closing Hymn: #317 vv 6-7

**St. Rose Church**

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## FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT 2019

**Sunday, December 22 Fourth Sunday in Advent**

8:30 BW Carol Ferneding from Helen Weartz

10:30 BW Special Intentions of the Parishioners & Friends of St. Rose

12:00 BW Barry Savage from Chris Ryan

**Monday, December 23**

*St John of Karty*

12:10 Sam & Lou Hamilton from The Three Daughters

**Tuesday, December 24**

12:10 Remedios Halili from Halili Family

3:00 CW Deceased Members of The Smullen Family

5:00 BW Special Intentions of Parishioners & Friends of St. Rose

7:00 BW Intentions of the Celebrant

10:00 BW William & Helen Kurtinitus

**Wednesday, December 25 Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)**

8:30 Benefactors of St. Rose

10:30 Intentions of the Celebrant

12:10 Deceased Members of St. Rose

**Thursday, December 26**

*St. Stephen, The first Martyr*

12:10 Carol Wessel from Cincinnati Catholic Women

**Friday, December 27**

*St. John Apostle and Evangelist*

12:10 Patricia Charles from Judy Thelen

**Saturday, December 28**

*The Holy Innocents, Martyrs*

12:10 Barry Savage from Mickie Cowan and her Children

7:00 BW Purgatorial Society

**Sunday, December 29 Holy Family of Jesus Mary and Joseph**

8:30 BW Special Intentions of the Parishioners & Friends of St. Rose

10:30 BW Carroll McGuire from Tom & Mary Meyer

12:00 BW Barry Savage from Patricia Sayre

### From the Pastor's Desk

**Lucy Rae Wilkey** was welcomed into the Catholic Church and Christian Community through the sacrament of Baptism December 15th here at St. Rose Church.

In the charity of your prayers please pray for the souls of **Michael McManus, Gary Whitney and Meg Hiatt** whose funerals were this past week here at St. Rose Church.

## CHRISTMAS 2019

**Tuesday, Dec. 24th Christmas Eve 3PM, 5PM, 7PM, 10:00 PM**  
**Wednesday, Christmas Day 8:30AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM**

**Mary, Mother of God—Holy Day of Obligation**

**Dec. 31st 7PM Jan. 1st 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM and 12PM**

### CAREGIVING AND THE HOLIDAYS

**Holidays can be difficult. If you know of a caregiver who needs encouragement and support, please tell them about our Caregiver Assistance Network and have them call Angie Homoelle at 513.672.3834 or visit [www.ccswoh.org/caregivers](http://www.ccswoh.org/caregivers) for our local meetings calendar.**

**FOOD FOR ALL**—Every county in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati is home to people who struggle with food insecurity. Interested in reducing food insecurity, volunteering at a mobile pantry or learning more about hunger in our area? Contact April Hoak, Food for All Coordinator at 513.672.3720 or [ahoak@ccswoh.org](mailto:ahoak@ccswoh.org).

**Next Week** is our Quarterly St. Vincent DePaul Collection—The Ushers will be at the doors

**Vocation Night—Mt. St. Mary's Seminary is hosting a Vocation Night on Wednesday, January 29 from 5:00 pm.—9:00 p.m. The night is for men college age and older who are discerning who God wants them to be. For more information or to register, see the website at [www.cincinnati vocations.org](http://www.cincinnati vocations.org) or call Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer at 513.263.3390.**

Lectors/Lay Distributors for December 28th and December 29th

7:00 Joe Christmann, M. Luehrmann, W. Russ, L. Solimine, Joe Keller

8:30 Jon Hemmer, Matt Howland, Tom Perrino, Tim Smullen, Lenny Diaspro

10:30 Roland Becker, Bob Sheil, Joe Sonnefeld

12:00 Patrick Homan, Matt Schwietering, Shawn Gillette



## Living Liturgy™

### Opening Prayer

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord,  
your grace into our hearts,  
that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son  
was made known by the message of an Angel,  
may by his Passion and Cross  
be brought to the glory of his Resurrection.  
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Reflecting on Living the Gospel

On this Fourth and final Sunday of Advent we have a story about Joseph told by Matthew. There are so few stories where Joseph is even named that it is good to read this one carefully. We have no words from Joseph in the New Testament. He is a quiet but righteous man, doing what is right in the sight of God.

Thus, Joseph's desire to end the relationship with Mary quietly upon finding out that she is with child is in keeping with his character. Technically, Mary could be exposed to the law, which would mean a death sentence. But Joseph is not that kind of person. He is content instead to handle this matter discreetly, until the appearance of an angel in a dream.

As Luke tells the story, an angel by the name of Gabriel appeared to Mary. But in Matthew's story an unnamed angel appears to Joseph in a dream. The two stories are not necessarily contradictory and, in fact, many find them complementary. But each evangelist is relating his story on its own terms. Neither seems to have been aware of the other. That is, Luke had not read Matthew, and Matthew had not read Luke.

The appearance of an angel in Joseph's dream is enough to change his mind. He takes his wife into his home in Bethlehem (not Nazareth, as Luke has it). Later the child will be born there, at the home. Again, this is not Luke's story of the family in Nazareth going to Bethlehem for the census. Matthew has no census; Joseph and Mary live in their home in Bethlehem where Mary will soon give birth.

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent the stage is set for Christmas morning, the nativity of our Lord. A discreet, quiet man who does what is right in the sight of God has taken the pregnant Mary into his home as his wife. What was a scandal worthy of death under the law has been directed by an angel in a dream into safety and security for the woman and her unborn child. God is doing something new.

### Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, your coming brings peace to the world. Make us instruments of that same peace, for when we are known as peacemakers, we will be known as your own. We ask this in your name, the Prince of Peace. **Amen.**

### For Reflection:

• In the gospel we hear the familiar phrase "[D]o not be afraid." Where do you see fear affecting your family, community, or society at large?

### Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the "Opening Prayer" (in *The Roman Missal* called the "collect").
2. One person read aloud the gospel.
3. Each read prayerfully "Reflecting on Living the Gospel" and spend some time in personal prayer.
4. Share together responses to "For Reflection."
5. Pray the "Closing Prayers."

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Living Liturgy™ Sunday Bulletin, Liturgical Press, Collegeville, Minnesota 56321. © 2019 by Order of Saint Benedict, www.litpress.org 1-800-858-5450

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 22, 2019

### Gospel

Matthew 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about.  
When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph,  
but before they lived together,  
she was found with child through the Holy Spirit.

Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man,  
yet unwilling to expose her to shame,  
decided to divorce her quietly.

Such was his intention when, behold,  
the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said,  
"Joseph, son of David,  
do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home.

For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,  
because he will save his people from their sins."



All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:  
*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,  
and they shall name him Emmanuel,*  
which means "God is with us."

When Joseph awoke,  
he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him  
and took his wife into his home.

### Readings for the week:

#### 4th Sunday of Advent

Isa 7:10-14  
Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6  
Rm 1:1-7  
Matt 1:18-24

#### Monday

Mt 2:1-4, 23-24  
Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9,  
10 and 14  
Luke 1:57-66

#### Tuesday

2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12,  
14a, 16  
Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27  
and 29  
Luke 1:57-79

#### Wednesday Christmas

Isa 52:7-10  
Ps 98:1, 2-3,  
3-4, 5-6  
Hb 1:1-6  
John 1:1-18  
or 1:1-5, 9-14

#### Thursday St. Stephen, First Martyr

Acts 6:8-15; 7:54-60  
Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and  
8ab, 16bc and 17  
Matt 10:17-22

#### Friday St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

1 John 1:1-4  
Ps 97:1-2, 5-6,  
11-12  
John 20:1a and 2-8

#### Saturday Holy Innocents

1 John 1:5-22  
Ps 124:2-3, 4-5,  
7cd-8  
Matt 2:13-18

#### Sunday Holy Family

Sr 3:2-6, 12-14  
Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5  
Col 3:12-21 or  
3:12-17  
Matt 2:13-15,  
19-23