

November 27, 2016
1st Sunday of Advent

All Saints Catholic Church

Mission Statement: *"Rejoicing with gratitude in God's blessings, we invite and welcome all to share in the fullness of the Catholic faith. We live our baptismal call through worship, teaching, and serving one another."*

Parish Contact Information

Rev. Raymond J.
Higgins
Pastor

Church Office

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Closed: Monday & Friday

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Dear Parishioners,

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) provides us with the following information regarding the season of Advent:

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and also to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, focus particularly on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord (Christmas).

Traditionally, Advent wreaths are constructed of a circle of evergreen branches into which four candles are inserted, representing the four weeks of Advent. Ideally, three candles are purple and one is rose, but white candles can also be used.

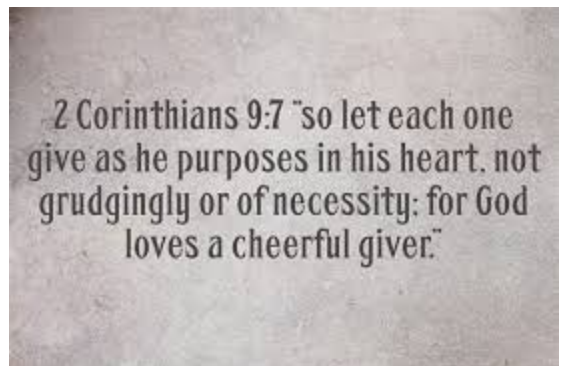
The purple candles in particular symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and good works undertaken at this time. The rose candle is lit on the third Sunday, Gaudete Sunday, when the priest also wears rose vestments at Mass; Gaudete Sunday is the Sunday of rejoicing, because the faithful have arrived at the midpoint of Advent, when their preparation is now half over and they are close to Christmas.

The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of his second coming to judge the living and the dead.

Building on the phrase "preparatory sacrifices and good works," we may reflect on those people around us who may not be as fortunate. They may find the Christmas season as a very sad or depressing time. Parents may not be able to provide enough food for their children, much less a large deposit of gifts under the tree on Christmas morning.




We have several opportunities to give of ourselves, not just in "clearing out our closets," but in sacrificial giving to those in need. St. John's Faith Formation students are asking for toy donations that will be given to "Toys for Tots" as well as for Catholic Charities. All Saints' projects include a Giving Tree, sponsored by their Faith Formation department, and the Knights of Columbus are asking for items that will be given to the St. Joseph's and St. Mary's shelters in Des Moines. Aside from the toys requested, the shelters can use: school supplies, cleaning supplies, baby items, kitchen items, household items, personal care items, furniture, and seasonal clothing.

Another opportunity to give is the special collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious which happens during December each year. This fund helps roughly 33,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. **Thank you!**



Parish News & Events

November 27, 2016
1st Sunday of Advent

Sunday 11/27	Monday 11/28	Tuesday 11/29	Wednesday 11/30	Thursday 12/1	Friday 12/2	Saturday 12/3
9am Choir Practice 10am Mass For Bob Willeke 	Birthdays: Anna Maria Leyva, Matthew Huerta <i>Church office is closed on Mondays & Fridays</i>	Birthdays: Mary Fillman, John Lonsdale, Eli Smith 6-7am TMIY 6pm Mass For Tom Billheimer 6:30pm Adult R.E. Class	Birthdays: Olivia Klassen, Nancy Moore 6:30pm Faith Formation 	9am Mass at the Community Care Center For Bob Griffin <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> 2017 CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE GATHERING SPACE </div>	8:30am Mass For Clair Dickey Birthdays: Frank Hadley, Rebecca Tigges	3:30pm Confessions 4:30pm Mass For Dylan Watson  Donations being accepted by KC's

Altar & Rosary Society There will be a year-end business meeting of the Altar & Rosary Society following Mass (@5:30pm) on Saturday, December 3rd.



The Knights of Columbus will conduct a collection of items for those in need on the weekends of Dec. 3-4 and 10-11. Emphasis will be on items most needed by the St. Joseph's and St. Mary's shelters in Des Moines. Those include, but are not limited to:

- Diapers - sizes 4, 5, & 6
- Personal - deodorant, toothpaste & toothbrush
- Seasonal clothing - hats, gloves, & kids' coats



See a full list at the table in the gathering space. It also includes household, kitchen and other items.

See Wayne Nosbisch (641-740-0882) with any questions.

Weekly Prayer Requests Please pray for: *Ruby Waltz, Bob & Mary Dickson*. To request prayer for someone for publication in the bulletin, please contact the church office at 515-523-1943 or via email at: stjohnallsaints@gmail.com. *Be sure to include the person's name, your contact information, and that you have permission to submit the name.*

Financial Report

for the week of November 20

Tithes \$1,988.00 **Children:** \$19.00

Building Fund: \$0.00 **Special Collections:** \$35.00

2016 ADA Balance Due \$9,129.66

SATURDAY 12-3 Liturgical Ministers	Rosary Leader Frank Holle Cross Bearer Wayne Gilman	Ushers Wayne Gilman Jan Gilman Lector Roni Wilson	Altar Servers Connie Drake Zoey Dickson	Commentator Carol Smith Greeters & Gifts Wayne & Jan Gilman	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Donna Donnelly Mark Tisl Kari Tisl	<i>REMEMBER: If you cannot serve, please be kind and find your own replacement.</i>
SUNDAY 12-4 Liturgical Ministers	Ushers Wayne Nosbisch John Gulbranson	Cross Bearer Wayne Nosbisch Lector Daisy Nevins	Altar Servers Alli Boyle Cora Boyle Evie Boyle	Commentator Wayne Nosbisch Greeters & Gifts Nick & Tanya Boyle	Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist Harriet Gulbranson,	Tyler Johnston, Cathy Hicks 

SACRAMENT of BAPTISM: Preparation class for parents and godparents is required. Please contact the church office to make arrangements.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Preparation for marriage must begin at **least six months** before the anticipated date of the wedding. Please contact the church office to set up an appointment to speak with Father.