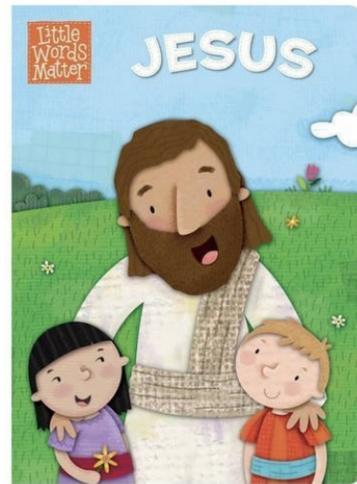


Father Tony's Corner *(continued from front page)*

difficulties, hope in the midst of life's inevitable tragedies, and courage in the midst of temptation and failure. Today we should thank God for the great gift of this knowledge, this certainty that our lives and history itself both have a goal, an endpoint - they are going somewhere. Without this knowledge, we would have to invent our own meaning and block out the burning question of life's purpose. There are people in our lives - friends, colleagues, neighbors, may be even family members - who have never had this knowledge, or who have lost it. And because of that, they are living with a deep sense of frustration. It may be hidden, but it is there. During the Christmas season there is so much hope in the air, that those who have no hope find their frustration turning into despair. This Advent, let us share the Good News of Jesus Christ with someone who needs to hear it. Let us help someone - even just one person - arrive to Christmas this year not just distracted from their troubles, but filled with meaning for their life. None of us is a perfect follower of Christ. We are not perfect listeners - we tend to let ourselves be distracted or seduced by other voices, more self-indulgent voices. We are not perfect co-workers of Christ - we tend to prefer the easier way, the pleasant contours of our comfort zones. Unless we make a fresh effort to hear Christ and to heed Christ, the special graces he has in store for us this Advent may never even get in the door. The best way to refresh that effort is to let the Holy Spirit cleanse, strengthen, and renew our minds and hearts in the sacrament of confession. One of the reasons we use purple vestments during the season of Advent is because purple is the color that symbolizes repentance, and Advent is a time when we all need to repent, to make a fresh start. This Advent, let us make room in our souls, let us take a shower of grace, and let us make good use of the gift of confession.

All Saints Faith Formation Coordinator, Jill Gerling



A great part of our children's faith development is the weekend Mass obligation. During the Faith Formation program year there are Faith Formation Family Masses. These are meant for all of the Faith Formation families and parishioners of All Saints. At these Masses the children are given various liturgical roles to perform with the guidance of their parents and catechists. Please mark your calendars to attend these Masses:

- Sunday, December 8 at 10:00am
- Sunday, January 12 at 10:00am
- Saturday, February 8 at 4:30pm
- Ash Wednesday, February 26 at 6:00pm
- Sunday, March 8 at 10:00am
- Sunday, May 3 at 10:00am (also Graduate Recognition Mass)
- Sunday, May 31 at 10:00am (Confirmation Mass with Bishop Joenson)

Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

<u>Sunday 12/1</u>	<u>Monday 12/2</u>	<u>Tuesday 12/3</u>	<u>Wednesday 12/4</u>	<u>Thursday 12/5</u>	<u>Friday 12/6</u>	<u>Saturday 12/7</u>
Adair 7:30am Rosary & Confession 8am Mass for Robert Fagan	BD: Brady Skram & Becky Tigges	Stuart 6pm Mass BD: Lydia Tongo-Bovinnett	Adair 8:30am Mass for Elizabeth Lillard (health) BD: Kelly Smith	Stuart 9:00am Mass Stuart Community Care Center BD: Iris Young	Stuart 8:30am Mass for Caroline Lacher BD: Steven James	Stuart 3:30pm Confessions 4:05pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass for the People BD: Gina Ocheltree
Stuart 10am Mass for the People						

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Antony Mathew
 Phone: 712-304-4836 (cell)
 E-mail: amathew8@sbcglobal.net
 Secretary/Bookkeeper: Tammy Doud
 Email: allsaintsoffice@gmail.com
 Faith Formation Coordinator:
 Jill Gerling - allsaintsff@outlook.com
 Phone: 515-523-1943
 Website: stuartallsaints.org
 Website: adairstjohn.org



Office Hours

Tuesday: 8:30am - 3pm
 Wednesday: 8:30am - 3pm
 Thursday: 8:30am - 3pm

Bulletin Deadline:

Noon Wednesday



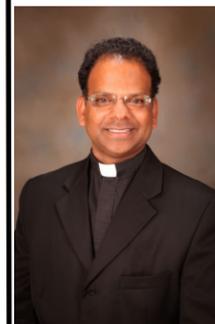
All Saints Mass Schedule

Tuesday: 6pm
 Thursday: 9am (Care Center)
 Friday: 8:30am
 Saturday: 4:30pm
 Sunday: 10am

St. John Mass Schedule

Wednesday: 8:30am
 Sunday: 8am

Father Tony's Corner



The Gospel passage we just listened to is part of a conversation that Jesus had with his Apostles after a day of preaching in the Temple, just before his passion. He and his Apostles left Jerusalem and made their way back towards the nearby town of Bethphage, where they frequently stayed. Today, as we listen to this beautiful narrative, we are reminded that Advent is a time when Jesus invites us to climb the mountainside and sit conversing with him, listening to his words and trying to understand them better, just as the Apostles did. God has something to say to each one of us this Advent, but in order to hear it, we have to listen: we have to tune in. God has something he wants to do in each one of our lives this Advent, but in order for him to do it, we have to be willing to let him work: we have to work with him. This Advent is different from every other Advent that we have ever lived. It is different because we are different. In the past year, we have changed. We have another year of life under our belts. May be it was a year full of successes, joys, and advances. May be it was a year full of failures and sins. May be it was a year of suffering and hardship. Whatever happened during the past year, it has affected us. We have more experience, more knowledge, and, we hope, a little more wisdom and a deeper love for God and neighbor. As a result, when we turn our attention once again to Advent, to the three comings of Christ: his first, 2000 years ago; his last, sometime in the future, and his ongoing one, through his grace, his providence, and the sacraments - when we turn our attention to these three comings of Christ, we will see something new, something different. Jesus Christ is God. He is infinite beauty, power, goodness and truth. We can never know him completely. He is an inexhaustible treasury of greatness. Because of our life experience during the past year, we are now ready to discover new facets of this treasure, new levels of meaning, wisdom, strength and joy. God's providence has been preparing us over this past year, so that we could now learn things about God and his plan of salvation that he could not show us before, because we were not ready. All three of those comings of Christ have the same purpose: to reestablish and deepen our friendship with God. He is looking forward making that happen, to deepening our friendship with him, in these coming weeks of Advent. We believe 'n Christ, and we are constantly being reminded of this all-important truth that life on earth is only the path, not the goal. This is why we are able to find: strength in the midst of life's

(continued on back page)

Sacraments:

Reconciliation:
 3:30pm Saturday in Stuart;
 7:30am Sunday in Adair;
 or by Appointment

Anointing of the Sick:
 Call Fr. Tony before/after hospitalization

Baptism: Call the office during pregnancy for preparation class

Marriage: Call the office at least nine months to one year ahead to plan marriage preparation. Wedding Date should not be set until preparations have begun

Annulment/ Marriage Validation:
 Call Fr. Tony to learn more about this process with Diocesan Tribunal if you are divorced and remarried or never married in the Catholic Church.

RCIA: Call Fr. Tony if you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or the RCIA process.

Membership/Registration:
 If you are new, welcome to our parish. Please register by calling the office. If you are moving away, please contact the office to notify us before moving.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Thank You!** We want to thank Monica Fagan for coordinating the altar server appreciation party on Sunday, November 24th at St. John, and all those who were present at the party. Thank you parents for bringing your children, and thank you, children for your wonderful ministry. Your collaboration, and sacrifice is greatly appreciated by your parish family. Thank you. ~ Fr. Tony
- **Card Shower:** Bernadine Beane was a long-time Dexter resident and All Saints' parishioner. She turned 99 on November 23rd; let's "shower" her with well wishes and cards. You can mail cards to: Grover C. Dils Medical Center, Attn: Bernadine Beane; PO Box 100, 700 Spring St., Caliente, NV 89008.
- **New Liturgical Season:** God gives us wonderful opportunities to celebrate His offer of love and friendship, in and through His Incarnate Son, Jesus Christ. We enjoy that great offer of God's love and friendship by being members of All Saints Catholic family and St. John Catholic family. The season of Advent prepares us for the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord (*Holy Day of Obligation*). Hence it is a time of grace to nurture and strengthen our life of Christian discipleship by devoting a little more of our God-given time for prayer, participating in the Holy Eucharist regularly, spending a little of our time for spiritual reading, and getting involved in other corporal works of mercy. Each year as we celebrate the birth of Christ, we are also reminded of His Second Coming at the end of the world. In order to encounter the Lord when He comes to meet us, as prophesied in the New Testament, we should be prepared and ready. It is my hope, and prayer, that we will utilize the season of Advent as preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of the Lord.
 During this season of Advent, let us answer the challenge of preparedness by receiving the sacrament of reconciliation. Following is the schedule:
 Wednesday, December 11th at 6:30pm for All Saints Religious Education children
 Sunday, December 15th @ 11:30am- All Saints
 Sunday, December 15th @ 4:00pm - St. John
- **The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary:** The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patronal Feast day of the United States of America, is celebrated on Monday, December 9th. Let us honor our patroness, and imitate her example of discipleship. Following is the Mass schedule: -
 Mass on Monday, December 9th at 8:30 a.m. at St. John
 Mass on Monday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m. at All Saints
- **Poinsettia Envelopes Available:** If you are interested in purchasing a poinsettia in Memoria of a loved one, please pick up an envelope in the gathering space. All orders need to be turned into the church office by December 22nd.

Music Director, Brenda Wedemeyer

We are now in the season of Advent. There are a few things to notice in this liturgical season of preparing our own hearts for the Birth of Jesus Christ our Lord. In the area of music, you will notice that the hymns will be subdued - quieter, more contemplative. The words of the hymns will be pointing in anticipation toward Jesus' birth. The Mass settings - the parts of the Mass sung in response to Father's prayers - are now done in the Latin Chant. (*I heard you roll your eyes!*) *Why Latin, you might ask? It is the common language used worldwide. There are an endless amount of articles written on the subject if you want to look further. The Church is worldwide. Using a common language means that we could worship at any Catholic Church in the world and still be able to understand what is being said. This link is very useful if you are interested in brushing up on the Latin Chant Mass parts that we will be using now until Christmas Eve.* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcEtHharcDU>
 This link is one of many that discusses the use of the Latin language.
<https://www.catholic.com/magazine/print-edition/extraordinary-form-101>

Altar & Rosary Announcement



The Altar & Rosary Society is hosting a Christmas Cookie (& Candy) Walk on Saturday, December 14 from 10am - Noon. We need all our wonderful bakers, and excellent candy makers, to get out your favorite recipes. We also need people to help arrange cookies that morning and work the sale. You can drop off your items on Friday, December 13th from 7:30am-3:00pm at Harmony Chiropractic, 122 N Division Street, or at the church from 4:00pm-6:30pm, or Saturday from 8:00am-9:00am. All items need to be delivered by 9:00am Saturday. Please sign up in the gathering space if you are able to help in any way. Leftover goodies will be available for sale before and after masses that weekend. These make nice homemade gifts! Please contact Connie Drake at 515-418-2423 or drakeconnie2@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Gifts for Sarah's Holiday Caring program need to be dropped off at the Stuart Herald by **December 6th**. If you'd like to make a cash donation instead, these may be made at First State Bank. Teen appropriate gifts are the greatest need, although all gifts are appreciated, including adults. Our parish is going to focus on providing gifts appreciated by teens. Some suggestions are gift cards, personal care items like toiletries & hair supplies, jewelry, t-shirts and/or sweatshirts. If you have any questions, please call or text me at 515-669-0374. ~ Jodi

St. John Faith Formation 2019-2020 by Monica Fagan

The St. John's Children have been working hard on a Christmas play that will be performed on Sunday, December 15 following mass. Please mark your calendars and plan to stay to enjoy this fun performance about the true meaning of Christmas. Cookies and coffee will be served in the hall following the play.



All Saints

Saturday, December 7

Rosary: Frank Holle
Ushers: Dennis Donnelly & Matt Dickson
Altar Server: Zoey & Bailly Dickson
Lector: Donna Donnelly
Commentator: Sharon Doud
Greeters: Dennis & Donna Donnelly
EMHC: Donna Donnelly, Jodi Bassett & Sister Nesta

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Sunday, December 8

Ushers: Faith Formation
Altar Servers: Faith Formation
Lector: Faith Formation
Commentator: Faith Formation
Greeters: Faith Formation
EMHC: Faith Formation

St. John

Sunday, December 8

Cross Bearer: Larry Drees
Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Doug Richter
Lector: Barb Bachman
Host: Sister Andre
Cup: Dave Richter & Adella Vogl
Altar Servers: Belle Fagan & Carley Fagan
Traveling Chalice: Matt & Monica Fagan

MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, December 3 @ 1pm: Janet Bassett, Mary Morgan & Pat Hohn
 Tuesday, December 10 @ 1pm: Eric Tiernan, Donna Donnelly & Gina James

All Saints Financial Partnership

November 24, 2019
Weekly Offering: \$ 1,543.00
Children's Offering: \$ 16.89
Human Development: \$ 197.00

St. John Financial Partnership

November 24, 2019
Weekly Offering: \$ 687.00
Children's Offering: \$ 5.00
Human Development: \$196.50