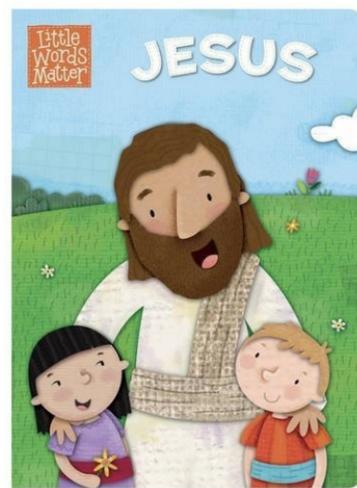


Father Tony's Corner *(continued from front page)*

Christ's coming also involves positive action, it means 'bearing good fruit'. Active, self-forgetful service towards our neighbor shows that our repentance is real. If we do these two things, repent and reform, we will be ready to experience the joys of the coming Kingdom in a fresh way this Christmas, just as Christ wants us to. God knows better than anyone how hard it can be for us to repent and reform. We live in a fallen world, and we have a fallen human nature. As a result, part of us is drawn towards selfishness, laziness, arrogance and self-indulgence. We absolutely need God's grace to help counteract the spiritual gravity of our selfish tendencies. God knows this. And since he is so eager for us to come closer to him, so that we can experience and spread his blessings more and more, he has provided an anti-gravity solution. He has given us the sacraments, reservoirs of grace. We can always go to them to fill up our water bottles. They are free fountains of supernatural spring water. And one of them is dedicated especially to this fundamental Advent activity of repenting and reforming: the sacrament of confession. God invented it and gave it to the Church in order to make the difficult process of repenting and reforming less difficult. Everything is ready for us. All we need to do is spend a few minutes examining our conscience to call to mind our big sins and also our little habits of selfishness that do so much hidden damage. Confession is like a new baptism, a fresh start, a rebooting of the spiritual life, a simple, concrete way that God has given us to let his grace and forgiveness replenish our hope and relieve our anxiety. God has more blessings that he is eager to shower upon us, and to send through us to others – let us give him the chance, let us renew our commitment to repent and reform. Through us, through our words, example, and actions, he wants to send Jesus, the Savior, into the lives of those around us who are searching for the light. He wants to do it, and he will do it, if we let him.

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

Sunday 12/8	Monday 12/9	Tuesday 12/10	Wednesday 12/11	Thursday 12/12	Friday 12/13	Saturday 12/14
Adair 7:30am Rosary & Confession 8am Mass for Robert Fagan 12/15 mass for Anna Donnelly		Stuart 6pm Mass BD: Jo Beaman ANN: Pat & Jo Beaman 1983	Adair 8:30am Mass for Anna Donnelly BD: Desmond DuBois	Stuart 9:00am Mass at ALL SAINTS CHURCH ANN: Francis & Deb Hollinrake 1981	Stuart 8:30am Mass for Caroline Lacher BD: Brecken Johnston, Maggie Marnin & Elizabeth Moreland ANN: Bob & Brenna Bird 2014	Stuart 3:30pm Confessions 4:05pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass

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



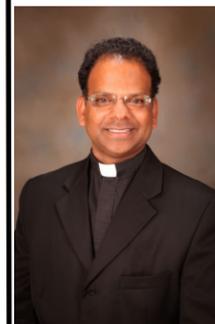
All Saints Mass Schedule

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



Christ sent John the Baptist to announce his first coming 2000 years ago, because he wanted the people of Israel to be ready to receive him. He was coming to bring them new hope, forgiveness, joy, interior peace, meaning and fruitfulness - all the benefits of Redemption and grace. The Holy Spirit prepared John for the mission entrusted to him as forerunner of the Messiah, Jesus Christ - the Word of God who became man for our salvation. John pointed to Jesus as the Lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world by offering his life on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins and the sin of the world. John broke the prophetic silence of the previous centuries when he began to speak the word of God to the people of Israel. His message was similar to the message of the Old Testament prophets who chided the people of God for their unfaithfulness and who tried to awaken true repentance in them. Among a people unconcerned with the things of God, it was his work to awaken their interest, unsettle them from their complacency, and arouse in them enough good will to recognize and receive Christ when he came. John's baptism was for repentance - turning away from sin and taking on a new way of life according to God's word. Our baptism in Jesus Christ by water and the Spirit results in a new birth and entry into God's kingdom as his beloved sons and daughters. The Lord Jesus gives us the fire of his Spirit so that we may radiate the joy and truth of the Gospel to a world in desperate need of God's light and truth. His word has power to change and transform our lives that we may be lights pointing others to Christ. Like John the Baptist, we too are called to give testimony to the light and truth of Jesus Christ. In Advent, we remember the first coming of Christ, and we also re-live that coming in the 'today' of our own lives. This Christmas, Christ wants to make a new surge of grace in the world, in the Church, and in each one of our lives. He wants to keep pouring out those benefits of Redemption. And he wants us to be ready to receive this year's new surge of grace - he does not want us to miss out on it. And so, through the liturgy, he sends his messenger once again to teach us how to get ready. Clearing the way for Christ to enter more deeply into our society and our lives means, first of all, repenting. To repent is to turn away from selfish behavior patterns. To repent means to acknowledge our sins. After all, how can we have room in our hearts for the coming of a Savior unless we are aware of our need to be saved? But that is only the first step. Preparing for Christ'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



• **Knights of Columbus Meeting:** The Knights of Columbus will hold their monthly meeting Sunday, December 8th at 6:00pm in the music room.

• **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

• **Care Center Mass, Thursday, December 12– Location Change:** Due to a scheduling conflict at the care center, Mass will be celebrated at All Saints Church on Thursday, December 12th at 9:00 a.m.

• **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



• **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.

• Jesus, Emmanuel, 'God is with us', looks forward to entering into a deeper intimacy with us as we commemorate his birth. Let us enthusiastically respond to that challenge. Following is the Christmas schedule: -

Tuesday, December 24 Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord (Holyday of Obligation)

4.00 p.m. Mass at St. John

6.00 p.m. Mass at All Saints

Wednesday, December 25 The Nativity of the Lord (Holyday of Obligation)

9.00 a.m. Mass at All Saints

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 NEED LOTS AND LOTS OF COOKIES AND CANDIES.** We also need people to help arrange cookies that morning and work the sale.

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 the 14th.

Please consider signing up in the gathering space to help.

Leftover goodies will be available for sale before and after masses that weekend.

These make nice homemade gifts!

Contact Connie Drake at 515-418-2423 or drakeconnie2@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday, December 14

Rosary: Frank Holle

Ushers: Mark Tisl & Dave Boss

Altar Server: Connie Drake

Lector: Mark Tisl

Commentator: Roni Wilson

Greeters: Marvin & Janet Bassett

EMHC: Mark & Kari Tisl & Jodi Bassett

All Saints

Sunday, December 15

Ushers: Dennis Van Pelt & Bob Olson

Altar Servers: Riley & Davis Doud & Lilah Aubert

Lector: Donna Olson

Commentator: Sean Bovinett

Greeters: Vince & Christy O'Brien & Family

EMHC: Joyce Van Pelt, Jill Gerling & Linda Lee O'Neel

St. John

Sunday, December 15

Cross Bearer: Jovie Denney

Greeters: Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Lector: Theresa Elgin

Host: Adella Vogl

Cup: Sister Andre & Les Elgin

Altar Servers: Luke Brincks & Addy Richter

Traveling Chalice: John & Adella Vogl

MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, December 10 @ 1pm: Eric Tiernan, Donna Donnelly & Gina James

Wednesday, December 18 @ 9am: Donna Olson & Gina Ocheltree

All Saints Financial Partnership

December 1, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 1,515.00

Children's Offering: \$ 11.31

Building Fund: \$180.00

St. John Financial Partnership

December 1, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 581.00

Children's Offering: \$ 13.00