

# The Nativity of the Lord

## December 25, 2016

### Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 31<sup>st</sup>

5 P.M. – John & Mary Rainosek

Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>

7 A.M. – Julius & Theresa Michalec

9 A.M. – Willie Maresch

Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup>

5 P.M. – Deceased Members of the  
Louis & Emma Wick Family

Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>

7 A.M. – Dolphie Jalufka

9 A.M. – Elizabeth Swaney

### This Sunday's Holy Scriptures

Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

### Your Gift to God: December 18<sup>th</sup>

Sweet Home	\$1,964
Koerth	\$374

*May God reward your generosity!*

### Christmas Weekend: Special Collection

Christmas weekend there will be a second collection at the Masses for the Parish Building/Maintenance Fund. The funds donated will assist in the ongoing repairs to the parish facilities...perfect time to make an end of year donation for charity!

### Celebrate the Lord's Abundant Mercy

Each Saturday the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance/Confession) is available from 4:00 P.M. to 4:40 P.M. in the Sweet Home confessional.

# Merry Christmas!

### Blessings at Christmas!

On behalf of your priests please know how grateful we are for the many kindnesses shared with us as the holiday season approached. We both realize how blessed we are to be part of this parish family--and the many "extras and gifts" simply instill more reason to be grateful and humbled. May the Christ child impart choice blessings on all of you for your thoughtfulness and sharing!

### Office Christmas Schedule

The Pastoral Center will be closed December 23<sup>rd</sup> and reopen at 8:00 A.M. on Monday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### Stayed Tuned for Continuous Christmas Music – 91.5 FM

Listen to continuous Christmas music beginning December 21<sup>st</sup> thru December 25 by tuning in to KHCB 91.5 FM radio.

### Annual Contribution Statement

Those who would like a statement of their envelope support contributions should call the parish office.

### Offering Envelopes

As a reminder, the offering envelopes will be mailed at two month intervals starting with 2017. Those who requested offering envelopes at the time of the census renewal will begin receiving them with this new service.

## Ongoing Projects Update

The rectory has had insulation added upstairs, been re-wired, and some of the downstairs window work has begun. Work continues. The church exterior protective frames/windows will be done in the beginning of the new year.

Koerth Church received its windows this past week and they are quite beautiful. They have the same frosted look with the addition of some etching along the edges as well as a glass medallion with a symbol of the faith. Now that the windows are in place the painters can get back in and the final stages of work can begin. It's still not "safe" to project a completion date when we will return to using the Church, but it is much, much closer!

*Lord, I know you love me and have great plans for me.*

*But sometimes I am overwhelmed by the thought of my future.*

*Show me how to walk forward one day at a time.*

*May I take heart while I search openly for what it is you want me to do with my life.*

*Inspire in me wisdom and understanding to see your vision for my life and respond with openness to whatever you call me to be.*

*Show me your way Lord!*

## Online Giving

The company that provides our offertory envelopes has the ability to allow "online giving" for those who would want to utilize it. There is a link on the parish website that has more information. It offers the possibility of using this for a one-time gift or for setting up regular giving in place of using envelopes. There is an instructional video that provides extra information posted there as well. The donations/gifts given are deposited directly either in Queen of Peace or St. John the Baptist Church accounts--and can be done by bank transfer, electronic check, or using a credit card--and can be setup for single instance, weekly, monthly, etc.

## Baptismal Preparation Class

The next Baptismal Preparation Class will be held Saturday, **January 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 A.M.** in the St. Joseph Family Center Meeting Room in Yoakum.

### Want to Grow in Holiness, But Too Busy?

Want to transform your work, your marriage, your family, and your life, but don't have time? Looking for the quickest, surest, and easiest way to holiness, but don't know where to begin? In our hectic day and time, Saint John Paul II and Saint Mother Teresa knew that the quickest way to be transformed into a saint is through a relationship with Our Blessed Mother, Mary.

**Join us on January 3, 2017, at the St. Joseph School Library**, as we begin a 33-day preparation for Marian Consecration. For six weeks, we'll individually read about and reflect on four great Marian giants: St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Mother Teresa, and St. John Paul II. They'll teach us the secrets to drawing closer to the Heart of Jesus through the Heart of Mary. In our weekly meetings, Sundays from 6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M., we'll share our insights within our small group and then watch a 30-minute video. The video by popular author and speaker, Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC, brings our individual reflections and group experience into a clear and live-able focus.

If you are looking for a simple way to be spiritually renewed, develop a deeper relationship with Our Merciful Savior, and grow in holiness, join us for 33 Days to Morning Glory Small-group Retreat. Pick up a flyer located at the entrances of the church. **Contact Joyce Harper, 361-798-6325, prior to December 23<sup>rd</sup>.**

### [www.qpcatholicchurch.com](http://www.qpcatholicchurch.com)

Make sure and check out the parish website for Queen of Peace and St. John the Baptist. A few of the historical pictures are there (still looking for pictures of the church interiors) as well as CCD/Faith Formation calendar, registration and weekly bulletin. There is also a link to the diocesan cemetery database for both cemeteries and links to Catholic sites of interest.

*Vesele Vanoce!*

*Feliz Navidad!*

## TMIY Update

For the past 13 weeks over seventy men have sacrificed and prayed with the help of the "That Man Is You" program to deepen their faith. As a result they better understand their roles as husbands and fathers. They learned about the effects of today's culture on our children and grandchildren and the importance of men in their lives. Each Wednesday morning the men gathered at the bright and early hour of 6:00 A.M. for breakfast, camaraderie, inspiration/reflection and discussion. All meetings concluded by 7:30 A.M. It was both a challenge and reward to be able to dedicate the best part of the day to focusing on what defines us: our faith! If you were not able to take advantage of this opportunity you are in luck! The next semester is now scheduled to begin February 1, 2017. And as all good Catholics recall...it will include the time of Lent...offering yet another way to better engage and deepen your faith. This is a new semester so it will be a great time to join us. If you are not sure just ask one of the men that attended the last semester to find out what they think.



## Cemetery Inquiries

Anyone with questions regarding the Catholic Cemeteries should contact the local representatives for the Cemeteries.

### Queen of Peace:

Harvey Matussek & J. O. Hermes

### St. John the Baptist:

Gene Velek & Jerry/Joyce Kurtz

They can provide the needed information and help with locating available plots. They will also provide the needed details to complete a purchase/reservation and receive a deed for record purposes.

*"The Lord bless you and keep you!  
The Lord let his face shine upon you,  
and be gracious to you!  
The Lord look upon you kindly  
and give you peace!"*

# Oh Holy Night

*"I proclaim to you good news  
of great joy:  
today a Savior is born for us,  
Christ the Lord."*

## Felicem Natalem Christi!