



ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC CHURCH

820 E. Charles Street
Muncie, IN 47305

December 9, 2018 First Sunday of Advent

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

PHONE: 765-288-9223

FAX: 765-289-9262

e-mail: stlawrencemuncieparish@dol-in.org

Website: www.stlawrencemuncie.com

PARISH STAFF:

Rev. David Hellmann, Pastor.....Ext. 11
fr.dhellmann@dol-in.org

Rev. Robert Williams, Retired;
In Residence.....Ext. 19

Dick Shirey, Business Mgr.....Ext. 22
dshirey@parish.dol-in.org

Jason Hart, Dir. of Liturgy & Music.....Ext. 15
jhart@stlawrencemuncie.com

Jeanette Carnes, Secretary.....Ext. 10
jcarnes@parish.dol-in.org

Joe Beatrice, Maintenance.....Ext. 16
jbeatrice@dol-in.org

Lois Short, Parish Bookkeeper.....Ext. 12
lshort@stlawrencemuncie.com

Marsha Clark, HR Tech.....Ext. 22
mclark@parish.dol-in.org

Sheila Henry, CCD.....765-729-1229

**Kristina Powell, Housekeeper
and Deacon's Pantry**Call Parish Office

ST. LAWRENCE CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2801 E. 16TH ST.

PHONE: 765-282-9353

FAX: 765-282-0475

Rob Frey, Principal

r.frey@stlawrencemuncie.org

LORD'S DAY MASSES:

Saturday: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Sunday: 12:15 p.m.—Spanish Mass

HOLY DAYS:

As announced in bulletin

CONFESSIONS:

Saturday 3:00-4:00 p.m.

(Anytime by appointment)

BAPTISMS:

Call the Parish Office to make an appointment with the Pastor.

WEDDINGS:

Must be arranged at least six months in advance.

NEW TO ST. LAWRENCE? WANT TO REGISTER?

Register online at www.stlawrencemuncie.com; fill out a registration form on the tables in the back of church; or stop by the office.

TRINITY COMMUNITY CENTER:

St. Vincent dePaul 765-282-2842

Soup Kitchen of Muncie 765-287-8439

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Wednesday, 12 Noon. Send items to: stlawrencemuncieparish@dol-in.org.

**PARISH CALENDAR & MASS INTENTIONS
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

SUN. 9 Second Sunday of Advent		
8:00 a.m.	Mass (St. Lawrence Church)	CH
10:00 a.m.	Bi-lingual Mass (✠Tyler Short) (Our Lady of Guadalupe)	CH
11am-12:15pm	CCD Classes-Grades K-5	AH
3:00 p.m.	A Noel Celebration Concert	CH
MON. 10		
7:40 a.m.	Morning Prayer	CH
8:00 a.m.	Mass (L/D Members of Knights of Columbus)	CH
1:00 p.m.	Staff Meeting	RD
6:30 p.m.	RCIA Class	AH
6:30 p.m.	150 th Anniversary Events Comm.	AH
TUES. 11 St. Damasus I, Pope		
7:40 a.m.	Morning Prayer	CH
8:00 a.m.	Mass (✠Lorraine Carter)	CH
10:00 a.m.	Mass at Westminster	
1:30 p.m.	Ministers to Homebound	AH
WED. 12 Our Lady of Guadalupe		
7:40 a.m.	Morning Prayer	CH
8:00 a.m.	Mass (✠Don Phillips) School children attend Mass	CH
6:30 p.m.	Advent Penance Service	AH
THURS. 13 No Mass		
10:30 a.m.	Mass at Morrison Woods	
6:30 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal	CH
FRI. 14 St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church		
7:40 a.m.	Morning Prayer	CH
8:00 a.m.	Mass (✠Gloria Varner)	CH
SAT. 15		
8:00 a.m.	Mass (✠William Dominick)	CH
9:00 a.m.	Church Cleaning	
10:00 a.m.	Baptism-Elena Michelle Santiago	CH
3:00 p.m.	Confessions	CH
4:30 p.m.	Mass (✠Lorraine Carter)	CH
SUN. 16 Third Sunday of Advent		
8:00 a.m.	Mass (✠Tom Eulitt)	CH
10:00 a.m.	Mass (St. Lawrence Parish)	CH
11:00 a.m.	Adoration	CH
11am-12:15pm	CCD Classes for Grades K-5	AH
12:15 p.m.	Spanish Mass (✠Robert and Leona Kinnaman)	CH
5-6:30 p.m.	Middle School Youth Group	AH
5:15-7:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class	AH
7:00 p.m.	Benediction	CH

Dear Parishioners, and Friends of St. Lawrence:

As we await the coming of Christ in glory in the fullness of time, let us also take to heart the words of John the Baptist, "I must decrease that He might increase." It is time to turn our focus away from ourselves and turn it more and more to Christ. It isn't about ourselves, it is what God is doing.

This Sunday's readings are so clear, "Your children are gathered from the east and the west at the word of the Holy One, rejoicing that they are remembered by God. Led away on foot by their enemies they left you, but God will bring them back to you. For God has commanded that every lofty mountain be made low and that the age-old depths and gorges be filled to level ground, that Israel may advance secure in the glory of God.....for God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company."

In the second reading, "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception.....filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God."

In the Gospel reading, "In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar.....the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the desert ----- *Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled.....and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.*"

This week let us turn away from our self-reliance, self-centered world view and turn toward Him, the one who is our Lord, Creator and Redeemer – the one in whom we place our hope!

Thanks to all who have contributed to Fruitful Harvest. We have now reached \$123,000 – still short of our goal but way ahead of the \$77,000 when I first began to call it to your attention. Our goal is \$137,176, so our shortage is \$13,000/14,000. If you are in a position to help, please do so. It will be greatly appreciated.

*God Bless,
Fr. Dave*

MINISTRY ASSIGNMENTS FOR 15 AND 16

	Readers	Altar Servers	E.M.H.C.	Ushers
4:30 P.M.	Kathy Crabtree Jeanette Carnes	Nicholas Dosch Andrew Shaw	Richard Grill Nancy Hansan Brenda Manis	Jim Carnes Jeff Crabtree Jim Jones Skip Vorhees
8:00 A.M.	Sydney Baule Mary Burford	Eli Hart	Jack Holland Marilyn Sherrill Tom Ward	Jerry Bricker Mary Burford Sheila Caudill Jack Sharp
10:00 A.M.	Les Coutinho Kayleigh Cooper	Onnie Adams Alex Cox	Bridget Cole Julie Huff Mary Ann Kratochvil Sandy Malerbi Amy Miller Sherry Richardson Deb Saxon	Omar Galan Jeff Huff Mateo Romero Mike Wallace

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God (Baruch 5:1-9).

Psalm — The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy (Psalm 126).

Second Reading — I am confident that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus (Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11).

Gospel — The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth (Luke 3:1-6).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please remember the following parishioners in your prayers this week: Beth Kaiser, Sonja Bickey, Larry Tricker, Isaiah Greiner, Dan Wade, Joe Morgan, Dale Goth, David Traub, JoAnn Brown, Miriam Walker, Charles Hiatt, Adam Pence, Alex Pence, Anthony Pence, Joseph Jenkinson, Clara Persinger, Harry Metzger, Martha Jean McIntosh, Dorothy Duncan, Linda Goth, Pete Whitcomb, Betty Wright, Beverly Dalton, Shirley Jordan, Kameron Kadinger, Joe Duncan, Shirley Phillips, John Persinger, Mary Kerrigan, Mary Bering, Dick and Lucille Kanney, Pat Daunt, John Haack, Sharon Newton, Larry Rigel, Ronald Macken, Joyce Doyle, Marie Rhorer, Bob Bering, for the family of Alex and Kim Flores, Lauren Muzzarelli, Cristina Jones, Stacey Vencel, Joshua Cole, Richard Biehl, Dick Hahn, Marsha Clark, Clifford Tweedy, Rod Clements, Ed Kratochvil, Mary Hadley, Chuck Pearson, Noah Cross, Raymond Gaff, Betty Anderson, Dixie VanCamp, Judy Cool Beaty, Stephanie Echelbarger, Pat Savage.

PRAYER CHAIN

Please call Joan McKinley 716-7073 for the St. Lawrence Church Prayer Chain request.



Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December

Evangelization: In the Service of the Transmission of Faith. God Our Father, In this season of Advent, we pray that all Christians, who are involved in the service and spread of faith, may find in their dialogue with today's culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

Pray for Priests & Seminarians

Sun.	Fr. R. Weisenberger	Liam Thompson
Mon.	Fr. Joseph Westfall	Andrew Thornton
Tues.	Fr. Paul Wicklum	Jeffery Todd, Jr.
Wed.	Fr. Robert Williams	Elliot Zak
Thurs.	Fr. Dominic Young	Dcn. Sean Aaron
Fri.	Dcn. Stan Zak	Michael Block
Sat.	Fr. A. Ziegler, RIP	Jordan Boone

PARISH MINISTRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Saint Lawrence Catholic School

stlawrencemuncie.org

765.282.9353

Rob Frey, Principal: r.frey@stlawrencemuncie.org

Our mission is to provide a Catholic Christ-centered education through an atmosphere of love and compassion for all students.

Wednesday, December 12 – 8am Mass at church

This weekend, December 8 and 9, Christmas cards are for sale in the back of church for \$3/box.

****Scrip Orders and payment are due in the School Office or Parish Office by 10am on Monday, December 10.** Gift cards will be in on or before December 14.

Congratulations to our November Virtues in Practice recipient! This student represented Saint Lawrence Catholic School proudly by modeling Humility (Accepting your limitations and God-given talents). Kautana-Grade 1

“Kautana recognizes her strengths and weaknesses in the classroom. She's not afraid to ask for help, and will work tirelessly during class to complete assignments. She works hard at her own pace, rather than competing with the pace of others.”

–Miss Gardner

“They Said It”

What is the best thing about going to school at St. Lawrence? *“I like Tech because Mr. Hart is fun, and I like Miss Gardner she is fun, too. Irah, grade 2*

Weekly Collections

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Weekend of December 2, 2018

St. Lawrence Parish.....	\$9,406.00
School Support.....	\$ 793.50
Children’s Envelopes.....	\$ 121.00
Deacon’s Food Pantry.....	\$ 665.00
Fuel Fund	\$ 307.00

See page 6 for the totals for the month of November

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults



Our next class will be on **Monday, December 10 beginning at 6:30 p.m.** The session will conclude by 8:00 p.m. and will be held in St. Agnes Hall—the building directly behind the church which faces Hackley St. Use the side/alley entrance.



Eucharistic Adorers Ministry

The next opportunity for Adoration will be next Sunday, **December 16**, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. If you are interested in joining our ministry, please contact Marilyn Sherrill at 765-396-3583 or 765-744-4086.



WOMEN’S PRAYER/ BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The next meeting of the Women’s Prayer/Bible Study Group will be

Wednesday, December 19 at 2:30 p.m. in St. Agnes Hall. If interested in attending, please call the Parish Office or stop by the office to get your copy of the book.

Hearts of Hope Ministry

This Ministry meets on a regular basis—once a month in **St. Agnes Hall. Time: 3:30-5:00 p.m. or 6:30-8:00 p.m.** **Our next meeting will be Tuesday, December 18.** Due to the Christmas holiday, we are meeting earlier this month. Also, this will be a carry-in with delicious treats to enjoy from all those who attend. All are welcome who have lost a loved one or anticipate the loss of a loved one. Join us! If you have any questions, contact Deb Saxon at 765-760-4800.

FOOTPRINTS SEWING GROUP

Footprints Sewing Group will not have a working meeting until January 3.

Please Note: If you would like additional information about this ministry, contact Carmen Simmons 765-808-1917 or Jayne Waechter 765-288-8920.



Religious Education

CCD CLASSES for grades K thru 5 meet this Sunday, December 9 from 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m. in St. Agnes Hall. If you have any questions, contact Sheila Henry at 765-729-1229.

CONFIRMATION CLASS – Our next class is Sunday, December 16, from 5:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in St. Agnes Hall. Contact Jason for additional information at jhart@stlawrencemuncie.com.

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP (MSYG) for grades 6 and 7 will meet on Sunday, December 16 from 5pm-6:30pm in St. Agnes Hall. Bring a friend and come enjoy time together!



Advent Wreath Lighting

Volunteers are needed to help light the Advent Wreath during the entrance procession during Advent Masses. If you would like to volunteer, please see

the sign-up sheet on a clipboard on a table in the back of the Church!

Arts and Environment Committee



Giving Tree As noted, we will again help the children at United Day Care and their families. **Thank you to all who took tags off the tree. All gifts need to be returned**

and wrapped by December 16. We must purchase items for any tags not returned. Please don't be late! **Please note:** toys are requested for the "Baby Jesus" tags. **Money envelopes need to be returned by Dec. 16 also. You can drop those in the collection basket.** If you have more than one gift for the tag you took off the tree, each gift has to have this information on the package. If you have any questions, contact Phyllis Dornberger 730-9495.

Nursing Homes-Communion Services

Dec. 11 – 10:45am – Bethel Pointe
Dec. 18 – 10:00am – Albany Nursing Home—**Please Note: This has been changed to a Mass**

In Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Jack Donati. Jack passed away on November 30. His funeral was held on Wednesday, December 5.

Sympathy is also extended to the family and friends of William "Bill" Taylor who passed away on December 1. Bill's funeral was held here at St. Lawrence on Thursday, December 6.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

Wednesday, December 12
6:30 p.m. – here at St. Lawrence



Envelopes to help defray the cost of decorations, flowers, and other church furnishings are available in the pews. If you would like to remember a loved one with your gift, please mark it on the outside of the envelope and place it in the collection basket.

THE ORNAMENTS HAVE ARRIVED!



**ST. LAWRENCE CHURCH
150TH ANNIVERSARY KEEPSAKE
Beautiful High-End Brass Ornament**

of St. Lawrence Church, created by the CharlestonMint. If you are interested in purchasing an ornament or two, call the Parish Office at 288-9223.

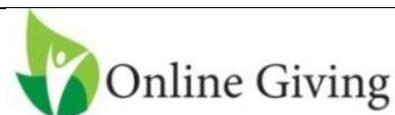
**150th Anniversary
St. Lawrence Church**

The committees have been hard at work making plans for our 150th Anniversary Celebration year in 2019! We want to reach out to all our alumni for these special events, so please let family and friends know about these events and mark them on your calendar too!

Our "kick-off" event will be a **Candlelight Mass at 4:30 p.m. on December 31** This is the Vigil Mass for the Holy Day of Obligation. More details will follow in future bulletins.

An event is being planned for each month during the entire year. Our big events will be:

- February 13 – Frank Runyeon** will be back to present the Gospel of Luke.
- February 15 – St. Lawrence School-Mystery Dinner**
- June 15 – Gala** – (dinner and band) at Cornerstone. Tickets will be sold for this event.
- August 10 – 4:30 p.m. Mass** – Bishop Doherty will be here to celebrate Mass with us and there will be a dinner following at the K of C Hall.



Leaving for the winter? Please consider online giving. Go to www.osvonlinegiving.com/4289 or call Dick Shirey at 765-288-9223, Ext. 22. He will help you work through the process in no time.

For Reflection

(A message from Sue Wilhelm, Adult Faith Formation Director)

**Advent in Households of God: Light in Darkness
I am a member of the Household of God. God is head of my household.**

Light in darkness brings us hope, calms our fears, guides our steps and helps us anticipate the deeper experiences of celebration. Think of when you bring out candles to celebrate—at birthdays and anniversaries perhaps.

On the way to Christmas, we prepare our homes in a myriad of ways to celebrate the beauty and joy of Christ dwelling among us. Usually this includes special lights—the Advent Wreath has one more candle lit this week. We may have special lights strung on our tree and greenery throughout our home. Perhaps there are tea lights or candles lit near a manger scene.

A quieting ritual so appropriate for the Advent season might be to shut off the regular lights including electronic lights from TV and computer, and to turn on the lights of the tree, light the Advent wreath or other candles. Then sit quietly in the space noticing the beauty of these special lights during this darkening season of the year. The family might use quieter voices, and share how Jesus has been present in the dark moments of the day or the week. One way to close this time is to sing or pray: “Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.” Psalm 119:5. May Christ shine in your hearts and in your household as we anticipate the celebration of his birth.

Hosts or Facilitators for Be My Witness Small Group Sessions

We would like to invite and encourage every household to consider how they might participate in Be My Witness Small Groups in the spring. This 12 week experience will form us to be disciples and witnesses for Christ in our everyday lives. Currently we are looking for people who would assist with either (or both) hosting a small group in their home and/or facilitate the small group experience. We will have two training sessions in January and two in February for those who will facilitate the process. Please call the office if you sense God nudging you to assist in this way. Sue Wilhelm will be happy to have more conversation with you and answer any questions if you would like more information.

**MONTHLY COLLECTION TOTALS
FOR NOVEMBER**

Regular Collection.....	\$30,070.93
School Support.....	\$ 3,561.50
Children’s Envelopes.....	\$ 247.00
Fuel Fund.....	\$ 862.00
Deacon’s Food Pantry.....	\$ 886.00

**MONTHLY ONLINE TOTALS
FOR NOVEMBER**

Regular Church Offering.....	\$ 6,914.00
School Support.....	\$ 990.00
Fuel Fund.....	\$ 55.00
Deacon’s Food Pantry.....	\$ 495.00
Other.....	\$ 315.00



PIANO -- We have a spinet piano in St. Agnes Hall that needs a “new home.” The brand name is

Gulbransen. If interested, please call the Parish Office 288-9223.

**2018 FRUITFUL HARVEST UPDATE
“Walking Together in the Light of Christ”**

We are now at \$123,000 in pledges for the 2018 campaign. Our assessed goal is \$137,176. If you have not already made your pledge, it is not too late. You can still send it in or drop in the collection basket. You can also donate online at: www.dol-in.org. Go to the “How Do I” tab and click on “Make a Gift.” There you will find the Fruitful Harvest 2018 Appeal. A huge thank you to all who have made their pledge.



The Christmas Line of Haiti Library

Foundation Gourmet Apples is now ready to debut! Each large granny smith apple is dipped in caramel, drenched in white chocolate and then drenched in dark chocolate & decorated so ornately they could be hung from your Christmas tree! These delicious gems shine in reds, greens, golds & other jewel-tones, making these the most dazzling hostess gifts, and treats for neighbors, coaches, teachers, baby & dog-sitters, co-workers, volunteers, & clients. And of course, Santa would appreciate help with stocking stuffers for your family too, as a reminder of how sweet charity can be!! Apples are only \$10.00 cash/check, 100% going to support the Library. **Place your order** or ask any questions by emailing starost@comcast.net or phoning 759-9910. Apples orders will be ready for pick-up at the St. Francis Newman Center on Riverside Avenue on Thursday Dec. 20th. Happy Holidays to All!”



**2019 Catholic Calendars
Provided by the
Knights of Columbus
are available on the tables in church.
Help yourself!**

Little Blue Books, provided by the Knights of Columbus, are on the tables in church which provide a daily reflection during Advent and the Christmas Season. Help yourself!

“Clip and Save”

Masses for Christmas:

**December 24 – Vigil Masses:
4:30 p.m.; 6:30 p.m. – bi-lingual**

**December 25 – Midnight Mass
(prelude: 11:30 p.m.)
9:00 a.m. Mass**

**Masses for Solemnity of Mary,
The Holy Mother of God:
(Holy Day of Obligation)**

**December 31 – Candlelight
Vigil Mass at 4:30 p.m.
January 1 – 9:00 a.m. Mass**

“SAVE THE DATE”

6TH Annual Mystery Dinner

**Benefitting St. Lawrence School
Masquerade Murder**

**February 15, 2019 – K of C Hall – 5:30 p.m.
\$45 Individual tickets; \$300 Table of 8**

Our Parish Mission and Vision

Mission: St. Lawrence Parish, a people of prayer and service glorifying God. **Vision:** Through prayer and service, St. Lawrence Parish deepens its love for and knowledge of God.



**Please pray for those serving our
country in the military – especially:**

Davis Brown, William Cox, Jared
Hargis, Kyle Jones, Kyle & Leandra

Long, Jon Powell, Stephen Smith, Kyle Stewart,
Christopher Tolmachoff, and Matt Johns.



In case of an emergency, an AED
(Automatic External Defibrillator) is located
in the vestibule of the church.

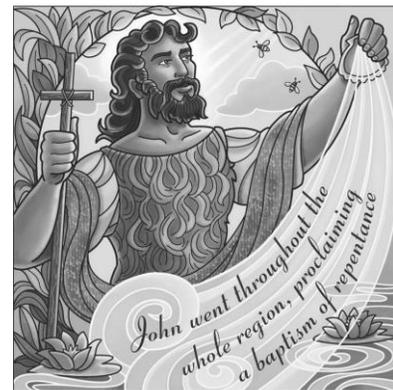
Stewardship Bulletin Reflection:12-9-18

The readings for the Second Week of Advent offer both encouragement and challenge as we reflect and prepare for the two “comings” of Christ — His coming as a baby on the great feast of Christmas, and the anticipation of His second coming at the end of time.

Our First Reading, from Baruch, is a wonderful reminder that God has triumphed over sin and death and that we — His faithful disciples — will live in the light of His glory one day. Until He comes again, we must remain faithful to Him as true disciples and good stewards of all the gifts He has given us.

While it can be tempting to give in to the materialism and calls for self-indulgence that surround us, (ironically more than ever at this time of year), this reading calls us back to the spiritual reality that this life is passing and that we are made for eternal life with God. We are called to prepare for *eternal* life by the way that we use our time, our talents and our treasure *now*.

The Gospel reading from Luke shows us how personal and detailed is God’s love for humanity as He prepared the way for Christ’s coming among us. We are told the precise time, place and person, John the Baptist, He appointed to announce the arrival of our Savior. John tells us how to celebrate to the fullest this first “coming” on the feast of Christmas and how to prepare for the second coming — through repentance. This Advent, let’s turn away from any bad habits or sin that may have crept in to our lives and turn our hearts and minds back to Christ. This is what the stewardship way of life is all about —moving closer ever closer in relationship with Christ and imitation of Him, ready to celebrate His birth, with eyes fixed on eternal life with Him.



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