

St. Joseph Church

Rev. Bernard Starman, Pastor
Rev. Ross Burkhalter, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Joseph Sund, Associate
Deacon MJ Kersenbrock
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November 28, 2021
First Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions for the Week

Mon NO MASS
Tue 10:00 AM + All Souls @ Good Samaritan Home
Wed 8:15 AM + Marilyn Breiner
Thu NO MASS
Fri 8:15 AM + SJ Memorial Society
Sat NO MASS
Sun 8:30 AM **IN STUART**
10:30 AM - Pro Populo
Confessions 1/2 hour before weekend Mass

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

"WE ARE A COMMUNITY WITH A CALLING TO BUILD AND STRENGTHEN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST SO THAT WE MAY LEAD OTHERS FORWARD IN FAITH."

The Harvest Is Great, Laborers Are Few
Vocation crucifix this week—Karen Thompson. The week of Dec. 5—Roger & Gayle Jungman.

There will Be...a 2nd collection next SUNDAY to benefit individuals with intellectual disabilities..also known as the 'tootsie roll drive'.




Tue., Nov. 30—Avanti @ the KC Hall, Atkinson beginning @ 6:30 with a potluck supper. All CECers or 4th dayers are welcome to join us. Direct ??? To Cathy Minchow, 402.942.2721.
Wed., Dec. 1—Adoration will begin @ 11am & CCD Classes
Dec. 5—KC (Tootsie Roll Drive)—2nd collection
Sun., Dec. 5—Breakfast (supper) from 4pm—7, KC Hall
Wed., Dec. 8 & 15—Adoration begins @ 11:00am
Dec. 8—Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary...a Holy Day of Obligation
Tue., Dec. 14—Confessions @ Stuart, 6-7:00pm
Wed., Dec. 15—St. Joseph School Christmas program, 6:30 @ church
Thu., Dec. 16—Confessions @ St. Joseph, 7-8:00pm.

THE AUCTION WAS INDEED A SUCCESS!!

THE TOTAL TO DATE: **\$90,796.**
\$200.00 WAS ADDED TO THE TOTAL THIS PAST WEEK. MANY BLESSINGS TO ALL WHO ARE REMEMBERING TO SEND THEIR DONATION.

The Altar Society...is discontinuing the Lighthouse Catholic Media CD Program. You are welcome to take any of the CDs in the back of church without a donation.

 **PRAY FOR...** ...those in need of restoration of health: Emma Lou Gunther, John Gilg, Garrett Scholz, Barb McTavish, Judy Steimle, Adalynn Bouska, Nancy Krysl, Ethel Bogue, Sally Manzer, Marian Cook.

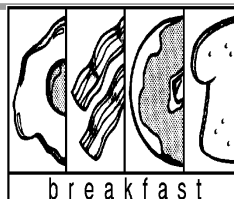


We Pray For...the repose of the soul of Mack Schneider formerly of Atkinson & a 1970 graduate of St. Joseph's High School. Mack passed away Nov. 17. May perpetual light shine on Mack & all who have been called home by the Father.



THE BEST WAY TO PREPARE FOR JESUS' RETURN IS TO LET HIM MAKE HIS HOME IN YOUR HEART

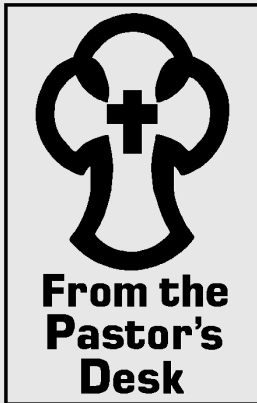
Mass @ St. Joseph's is canceled for Sat., Dec. 4 due to Parade of Lights...the usual route for line-up is in front of St. Joseph's Church. Thanks for understanding!



Breakfast For Supper!!! Plan to attend a meal by the KCs on Sun., Dec. 5 from 4pm—7 @ the KC

Hall.

Dear Parishioners and Friends of the Catholic Parishes of Western Holt and Boyd Counties,



On this first weekend of the church year, many of us will gaze on the single flame that is burning on the Advent wreath. It seems so small and insignificant against the background of world events, and even of our own lives. Often, we are so physically and mentally exhausted at the end of the year that we may be skeptical about this tiny, flickering flame and the illumination it can offer us. But as we enter this season, the church encourages us to have hope in the promises of God that can so easily flicker in and out of our consciousness. At first hearing, Luke's gospel (Luke 21:25-28, 34-36) may seem to be proclaiming a message of fear and doom; its truth, however, is different. Christ, in his second coming as the glorious Son of Man, will liberate the cosmos and all humanity from fear and menace. Luke uses large, symbolic language for large events. It is the only way to speak of events that have not yet been experienced.

Many people in our world commit themselves to what has not yet happened and to long-range hopes. Medical researchers speak about positive outcomes in decades ahead; ecologists are concerned not just for our planet at this moment, but for its future in the centuries to come; astrophysicists conjecture about developments in terms of millennia. We accept these long-range forecasts and hopes, yet we may feel uncomfortable with, and even dismissive of, the emphasis on the future at the beginning of Advent. We don't mind thinking, with comfortable nostalgia, about the past coming of "baby Jesus"—but that is not where the church wants us to start Advent.

When we take our first plunge into this season, we seem to be caught in a liturgical riptide that drags us away from the comparatively safe and familiar shore of the present into the uncharted end of human history and reflection on the second, and as yet unrealized, coming of Christ.

Advent challenges us to let our hopes reach beyond cozy domesticity to the huge and human hope of a new creation. Just as a woman watches for signs that the birth of her child is imminent, so Jesus urges his disciples to be alert to the birth pangs of the reign of God in all its fullness. In our present time, in the womb of human and cosmic history, God is nurturing and preparing for the birth of the new heaven and new earth. In the midst of any personal suffering, international tension, opportunist politics, or natural disasters that we might experience during these Advent weeks, the word of God urges us to be people of hope. Nor are Christians to be captives of frantic seasonal consumerism. We are called, rather, to be a people awake and alert to the promises of God already revealed, grateful for what has been liberating for us as Jesus's disciples in the year just past, and confident in the gifts of God that are yet to come. Jesus proclaims to us in today's gospel the same good news he spoke to the bent-over woman (cf. Luke 13:10-17). Touched by Jesus, the woman who for eighteen years had only looked at feet and dust was able to "stand up straight" and to see the Sabbath stars shining on his face. Today, we too are urged to lift up our heads and have faith that we will see our redemption drawing near in the Son of Man.

Ad multos annos!

Fr. Bernard Starman

THE LORD'S PORTION—11.21.21

Adult Env. (27)	1,703.00
Loose Checks (4)	145.00
Loose Cash	96.00
Midweek Donation	50.00
CCHD	334.00
Harvest	51.00
Online Giving (7)	875.27
TOTAL	3,254.27

LITURGICAL MINISTERS – Dec 5

MASS TIMES	SAT. NO MASS	SUNDAY
EMHCs		Lindsey Nemetz
LECTORS		Pam Bergstrom
GIFTS		R&D Rentschler
ORGANISTS		
SERVERS		Lainey Skrdla Avery Nemetz Landri Nemetz
USHERS		Tim Laible Jerry Laible Greg Dostal Richard Kilmurry



We Warmly Welcome... newly registered parishioner, Rose Vrooman. So happy you have joined us!

Throughout the Month of December... the Altar Society will be having the Advent Baby Shower. Baby items will be given to New Beginnings Pregnancy Resource Center. A bassinet will be in the vestibule of church. Baby products such as diapers, sleepers, blankets & bottles are needed. Direct ?? to Cindy Kubik, 402.340.0049.