

Saint George Church Morse Bluff

260 Short Street
Weekend Masses: Saturday @ 6:00 p.m.
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays @ 8:00 a.m.
Coffee and rolls: 1st Sunday of the month

Second Sunday of Advent December 9, 2018

To Know, Love, and Serve God

Sacred Heart Church Cedar Hill

2750 County Road 27
Sunday Masses:
1st, 3rd, and 5th Sundays @ 8:00 a.m.
2nd and 4th Sundays @ 10:00 a.m.
Coffee and rolls: 2nd Sunday of the month

PASTOR: Fr. Dennis Hunt, e-mail: dhunt@gtmc.net, st.gmb@nntc.net and cell phone: (402) 694-8582
RECTORY: 260 Short Street (68648-4884), P.O. Box 98, Morse Bluff, NE 68648-0098, 402-666-5280

LITURGY SCHEDULE:

MASS INTENTIONS:

FEAST DAY:

Day	Date	Time	Church	Intention	Feast Day
Monday	10 Dec	10:30 a.m.	St. Charles	+Peggy Havener	
		6:00 p.m.	St. George	+Jean Shavlik	
Tuesday	11 Dec	7:00 a.m.	St. George	+Lorin, Nadine & Larry Racek, and Lorna Pelan	
Wednesday	12 Dec	7:00 a.m.	St. George	+Delores Kresbach	Our Lady of Guadalupe
Thursday	13 Dec	7:00 a.m.	St. George	+All Souls Day Intention	St. Lucy
Friday	14 Dec	7:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart	+Rollie Preister	St. John of the Cross
Saturday	15 Dec	8:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart	New Evangelization	
		6:00 p.m.	St. George	Jim & Diane Hansen Intentions	Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday	16 Dec	8:00 a.m.	Sacred Heart	For our parishioners (Missa pro populo)	
		10:00 a.m.	St. George	St. George Altar Society Living/+Deceased	

Parish Confession Schedule: Confessions usually heard 30 minutes before all weekend Masses, ending 5-10 minutes before Mass. (Confessions before the 10:00 a.m. Mass may be shortened because of priest's travel time between parishes.)

Please indicate -Bulletin- in the Subject line to: dhunt@gtmc.net, st.gmb@nntc.net

Mass Times for USA parishes: <http://www.masstimes.org/>

Parishes: <http://stgmbne.com>



SUNDAY LITURGICAL MINISTERS/SERVERS:

Church	Date	Time	Reader	Acolyte	Server(s)
St. George	Saturday	15 Dec	6:00 pm	Steve Minarick	Mike Brabec
Sacred Heart	Sunday	16 Dec	8:00 am	Alan Sloup	

Christmas Masses

St. George Church

Monday ... 24 Dec. ... 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday ... 25 Dec. ... 9:00 a.m.

Sacred Heart Church

Monday ... 24 Dec. ... Midnight.

Christmas Hymns at 11:30 pm

Deanery Advent Penance Service Schedule:

Multiple Priests at each Penance Service

Sunday, December 16th:

2:00 pm Ashland, Colon, Mead
4:00 pm Weston, Prague, Morse Bluff
5:30 pm Davey, Valparaiso

Monday, December 17th:

7:00 pm Wahoo
7:00 pm North Bend

Announcements

Retreat w/Bishop James Conley - Fr Gary Coulter, Dec. 14-16

at Good Counsel Retreat House for men and women of all ages. Entitled, "The Mysteries of Christmas," the retreat theme ties in with the Rosary Crusade that Bishop Conley has invited the diocese to participate in this year, encouraging families to take time in daily prayer and the rosary.

"The rosary is a powerful weapon," Bishop Conley said. "Praying the rosary allows us to meditate on the life of Jesus as we reflect upon the mysteries of the rosary."

Several of the Joyful Mysteries of the rosary are typically associated with Christmas, such as the Annunciation, Nativity, and Presentation in the Temple, but what not everyone knows is that Epiphany is traditionally associated not only with the wise men but also two other mysteries: the Baptism of Jesus and the Miracle at the Wedding in Cana are also 'Epiphanyes' that make Jesus known.

Fr. Coulter points out, "Although Mary plays a key role in the Christmas story, and occupies a central focus in the Rosary, she always leads us to know and love her son, Jesus. As Mary's last recorded words in the gospels say, 'Do whatever he tells you.' (John 2:5)"

As both great books for Advent reading, and as source for the retreat, Bishop Conley recommends *Jesus of Nazareth: the Infancy Narratives* by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI. Fr. Coulter recommends *Joy to the World: How Christ's Coming Changed Everything (and Still Does)* by Dr. Scott Hahn.

See the full schedule of retreats and register at www.goodcounselretreat.com. Also listen to free recordings of past retreats, sign-up for a monthly email newsletter, leave a prayer request, make a donation, and more. One can also email goodcounsel@cdolinc.net or call 402-786-2705.



Update: Pro-Life Collection for those in Need – new pamphlets with revised & updated information are in the back of each Church. This includes updated info on the St. Mother Teresa Homeless Center at CSS. Contact Lynn Nemecek (402-666-0799) or Patrice Hines (402-666-9292) is questions. Also, some member of the Sacred Heart Altar Society are making a special effort to assemble "care-packages" for the homeless,

there is a round basket in back of Sacred Heart Church if you would like to donate supplies for care-packages (suggestions for care packages items are included in the new Pamphlets.)

An Advent Gift During Advent we prepare to receive God's greatest gift, His Son Jesus. On your way out of Church please accept a little gift of a Holy Card from Saunders Catholic Elementary Schools, St. Wenceslaus and St. John Nepomucene. It is offered as a token of gratitude for our parishes' support of our schools that help us receive Jesus. This year's theme is the Eucharist. The prayer is the Anima Christi, or "Soul of Christ" and the artwork was done by one of our grade school students.

--- Postponed --- **St. John the Baptist, Prague, “Sip ‘n Shop”**

Holiday Craft Fair & Wine Tasting: **Sunday, December 9** at St. John’s Parish Hall from 9 am to 3 pm. The hall will be full, with over 40 crafters and vendors! Come enjoy the wine tasting. Bottles of wine will also be available for sale – perfect for Christmas gifts and your holiday meals. The coffee will be on early so drop by for a kolache in the morning. Lunch will be served throughout the day. Free Admission!

Please pray for: *Caleb Daniel Hile, St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, Theology 3, 1Brother & 2Sisters, Daniel & Debra Hile, Born: 7/29/93*

St. Luke's Czech Catholic Shrine Mass Sun. Dec 16, at 4:00.
Ostry family will sing Czech Christmas carols beginning at 3:30.

Praying For Our Priests prayingforourpriests.org/free-prayer-resources

“The priest is a gift from the Heart of Christ: a gift for the Church and for the world.” - Pope Benedict XVI at the close of the Year for Priests

The Road Home: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday of Advent; Baruch 5:1–9; Psalm 126:1–6; Philippians 1:4–6, 8–11; Luke 3:1–6

Today’s Psalm paints a dream-like scene—a road filled with liberated captives heading home to Zion (Jerusalem), mouths filled with laughter, tongues rejoicing.

It’s a glorious picture from Israel’s past, a “new exodus,” the deliverance from exile in Babylon. It’s being recalled in a moment of obvious uncertainty and anxiety. But the psalmist isn’t waxing nostalgic.

Remembering “the Lord has done great things” in the past, he is making an act of faith and hope—that God will come to Israel in its present need, that He’ll do even greater things in the future. This is what the Advent readings are all about: We recall God’s saving deeds—in the history of Israel and in the coming of Jesus. Our remembrance is meant to stir our faith, to fill us with confidence that, as today’s Epistle puts it, “the One who began a good work in [us] will continue to complete it” until He comes again in glory.

Each of us, the Liturgy teaches, is like Israel in her exile—led into captivity by our sinfulness, in need of restoration, conversion by the Word of the Holy One (see Baruch 5:5). The lessons of salvation history should teach us that, as God again and again delivered Israel, in His mercy He will free us from our attachments to sin, if we turn to Him in repentance.

That’s the message of John, introduced in today’s Gospel as the last of the great prophets (compare Jeremiah 1:1–4, 11). But John is greater than the prophets (see Luke 7:27). He’s preparing the way, not only for a new redemption of Israel, but for the salvation of “all flesh” (see also Acts 28:28).

John quotes Isaiah (40:3) to tell us he’s come to build a road home for us, a way out of the wilderness of sin and alienation from God. It’s a road we’ll follow Jesus down, a journey we’ll make, as today’s First Reading puts it, “rejoicing that [we’re] remembered by God.”

Creighton Model NFP Introductory Sessions held throughout the Diocese. Single women, engaged or married couples are welcome to attend to learn more about this revolutionary form of women’s health tracking and natural family planning. Sessions meet Diocesan requirements for marriage prep. For more information visit www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp

Smart Planning, Generous Giving There are so many opportunities and ways to give to the organizations that are important to you. Our job is to make it easy for you to understand. Let The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska show you how you can fulfill a dream to give and still provide for the financial needs of your family. Call 402.488.2142 to learn more. 3700 Sheridan Blvd, Ste. 9 | Lincoln, NE 68506 | www.catholicgift.org

Marriage Help – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the program being offered Feb 15- 17, 2019, in Schuyler, Nebraska call 1-800-470-2230 or check the web site www.retrouvaille.org. Feb 5th is the last day to sign up for Retrouvaille.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline We can all help prevent suicide. The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

1-800-273-8255 --- <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org>

Encounter Jesus

This Advent, Be Shaken Awake

User’s Guide to Sunday, Dec. 2, the First Sunday of Advent, By Claire Dwyer, Sunday, Dec. 2, is the First Sunday of Advent. Mass Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36.

“Advent is a time of being deeply shaken, so that man will wake up to himself.” — Alfred Delp, Jesuit priest and martyr

This week we enter into Advent, the season anticipating the birth of Christ. As the world bursts into a flurry of celebratory activity, however, the Church gives us a Gospel not of a joyful Annunciation of a virgin birth, but a warning of the earth-shattering Second Coming.

Jesus has just foretold the destruction of the Temple, the crushing of Jerusalem as God’s judgment upon Israel, and the definitive end of the Old Covenant. Everything the Jews have known, even the glory of the Temple, will crumble and collapse.

And now in the Gospel Jesus prophesies further, telling of his second coming, when the “powers of the heavens will be shaken.” This time — the end of time — is something to watch for with close attention. “Be vigilant at all times,” Jesus warns his disciples, and “pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.”

It’s a sobering thought. And it begs the question: What is Advent for, really? Is it a kind of pre-Christmas? Party after party tells us Yes. No, we are told by our faith, even as the culture breaks into Christmas carols. It is a time of keeping our heads up and our eyes on the East, even while allowing our inner temples to tremble. It’s actually a penitential time to reset and rewind our interior clocks to the holy reality of wait, even as the world has fast-forwarded to the feast. We do this “so as to strengthen your hearts, to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his holy ones,” Paul prays in the second reading.

It’s a time for quiet attention, and if we “become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life,” we might miss Jesus altogether. While not begrudging the giddy excitement of the season, there simply must be attentiveness to the work of God in the soul as he plants his seeds of promise. “Guide me in your truth, and teach me,” we might say under our breaths with the psalmist, even while wrapping and baking, “for you are God my savior, and for you I wait all the day.”

After centuries of expectation, even after Scripture after Scripture foretold him, even after Gentile scholars knew to look for this King from the East, still, Jesus slipped into the world with such gentleness that most missed him. He won’t crash our parties. He waits for us as much as we wait for him. And in that expectant hush of Advent, we will find him, even if the quiet is only in our hearts.

Even more, the leaning towers of the cities of our souls must sometimes be leveled in order to see him in the sky, just as in Jerusalem the old makes way for the new.

Every temple we’ve built around sin must be torn down for the coming of Christ. We allow ourselves to be conquered by love and submit to the sufferings such surrender brings. It’s beautiful, this season of waiting, but it’s meant to sting a little, too. Waiting and longing is meant to be a type of purifying. The entire feast of Christmas itself will be that much sweeter after a bit of sacrifice — when our senses aren’t dulled and drowsy by months of merry-making.

Christ came to us, emptying himself. We must come to Christmas the same way. Lord, help us live Advent with hearts alert, quiet and expectant.

Claire Dwyer blogs about saints, spirituality and the sacred every day at EventheSparrow.com and contributes regularly to WomenofGrace.com, CatholicMom.com and EndowGroups.org. She is editor of SpiritualDirection.com and coordinates adult faith formation at her parish in Phoenix, where she lives with her husband and their six children.

The Bishop’s Appeal for Vocations, If you have not already helped us reach our parish goal, please offer a donation to the Vocation Appeal. Thank you!

I hope you will display the vocation brochure. It can remind us for the need to pray for seminarian and religious. Our prayer for their holiness also grows the love of God in us. Thank you for your generosity.