

**FOURTH SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

DECEMBER 22, 2019

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for Dec. 29th The Holy Family Jesus, Mary and Joseph
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

How are you honoring parents – living or deceased?

Romans 1:1-7

Which are your greatest virtues?

Matthew 1:18-24

How has God protected your family?

WEEKDAY MASSES December 24 – 27

Tues: 4:00 pm +Albert & Katherine Ackerman **Christmas Mass – St. Alphonsus**

Tues: 5:00 pm +Alex & Delina Chaput **Christmas Mass – Nekoma**

Midnight +Ruth & Stacey Chaput **Christmas Mass – St. Alphonsus**

Wed: 9:00 am +Jake Kram **Christmas Mass - Wales**

Wed: 10:30 am +Vincent & Betty Schaan **Christmas Mass – St. Alphonsus**

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Flora Howell

Fri: 10:15 am **Maple Manor** +Dorothy Jakoubek

WEEKEND MASSES December 28 & 29

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma People of the Parishes

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus +Pearl Chaput

Reader: Colin Fetsch

EMHC: Bernadette Fetsch

Servers: Muhs Family

Musicians:

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus In honor of Daryl & Linda Kempel

Reader: Greg Fetsch

EMHC: Linda Kempel

Servers: Volunteer

Musicians: Bob & Choir

9:00 am St. Michael's – Wales +Fr. Leo Kinney

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Philip & Agnes Waslaski

Reader: Pat Wheeler

EMHC: Pat Wheeler

Servers: Volunteer

Musicians: Bob & Choir

Fellowship Hall Host: Pat Wheeler

Fr. Phil's cell phone: 701-740-7593 and Fr. Will's cell phone: 701-640-2858

Website for St. Alphonsus Parish – <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Tuesday after 5:00pm Mass, Wednesday after

8:40am Mass, Thursday after 5:00pm Mass & Saturday at 6:45pm

Weekly Reflection for December 9 & 15, 2019: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$7,007.84
Intentional Givers	\$3,183.67
Plate	\$267.00
Improvements	\$20.00
Total	\$10,478.51

Thank you to all who donated money for Christmas Flowers in memory of the following:

Jesus, Mary & Joseph by Anonymous
Ron Mikkelsen by Bette Mikkelsen & Marla Zeis
John E. & Jon Delvo by Shirley Delvo & Family
Kathy, Jerry, Ella & Joe Kram by Jim Kram
Percy Kram by Randy & Janelle Bata & Family
Thomas & Geraldine Waltz by Their Family
Pat Hoffarth & Sharon Kalis by Theresa Hoffarth & Family
Ray, Margaret, JoAnn & Alan Beauchamp by Tom & Sheila Beauchamp & Family
Richard & Evelyn Schill & Bud & Ila Murie by Larry & Helen Murie
Victor Waltz by Lea Waltz & Family
Joe & Arlene Klemisch by Joann Klemisch
Justin Kruk by Floyd & DeDe Boesl
Ronald Mikkelsen & Vivian Novak by Kent & Carol Mikkelsen & Family
Dennis Lyons by Holly & Family
Jack Bisenius by Darwyn & Wendy Smith
Dale, & Isabelle Fetsch & Harry, Marie & Larry Everson & Pam Lafrenz by Greg & Patty Fetsch & Family
Lawrence & Tillie Schiestel & John, Gert & Michael Wild & Edna Slama by Jack Wild Family
Walter, Olaf & Genera Rude, Theodore, Angeline, Angie, Robert, Jason, Shawn & Kody Kalis, Joey & Lisa Hodge, Larry & Patricia Graveline, Neil & Elizabeth Schill, Alan Thompson, Reinhold & Martha Stegman, Cory Chaput by Lorraine Rude Wallace M., Christie, Jacob, Theresa & Bernard Sauer & Florene (Sauer) Rowley by Annabelle Sauer McGhie Family
Sonia Heinle by Katie Barta
Eddie & Rhena Lorenz by Duane & Ruthann Olson
Richard Otto & Richard Chaput by Sally Otto
Art, Lena, Lloyd & Bernard Ottesen & Roman Michaels by Norb & Bernice Schneider

Fourth Sunday of Advent

At first glance, King Ahaz seems to be a good man who has complete trust in God; he refuses to ask for a sign: "I will not put the Lord to the test." In fact, the reverse is true. Ahaz proves himself to be an evil king. Faced with invasion and imminent defeat, Ahaz turns away from the true God to worship pagan gods, even instigating child sacrifice to appease them. Ahaz doesn't want to put his trust in the Lord God and he definitely doesn't want sign, because if the sign comes true, Ahaz will have no choice but to admit his mistake and turn back to the Lord. However, God promises a sign anyway: a maiden who is with child. And the child himself will be a sign of the very thing that Ahaz rejects: that the Lord is with his people.

Joseph also has to make a decision about whom to trust. Will he trust Mary, his betrothed? Will he believe the fantastical claim that though still a virgin she is pregnant and that this is God's doing? Joseph also has to decide whether to trust his dream in which God's angel gives him a message that harks back to that ancient promise of God to Ahaz, that the child will be the fulfillment of God's promise to be with the people. The Gospel doesn't tell us explicitly how Joseph makes the decision to trust Mary and to trust his dream. But clearly it has to involve a process of combining his intuition and his experience both of Mary and of God. Ultimately, of course, Joseph has to trust himself and his ability to listen both to his heart and his head.

Taken from *The Living Word*

4th Sunday of Advent

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." MATTHEW 1:24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

Christ's call can be heard by you alone. The best path for you to take toward eternity is told to you alone. Are you listening?

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Our Sympathy to the family of Mary Mann who was called home last week.
May she rest in the love of the Father.

Our **Christmas Mass Schedule** can be found on our parish website. Go to the calendar. All of our Masses are listed.

Christmas Mass schedule is as follows: Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) 4:00pm – St. A’s; 5:00pm Nekoma and Midnight – St. A’s. Christmas Day (Dec. 25) 9:00am – Wales; 10:30am – St. A’s.

Altar Server, Reader and EMHC Schedules lists are in the church sacristy. Please take your copy; they will not be mailed out.

NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION Dec. 24-27, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1. Have a Merry Christmas and many blessings in the New Year!

There is a signup sheet for Altar Servers, Readers and EMHC’s for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year’s Eve and New Year’s Day Masses at the back of the church.

The Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a “**Consecration to the Holy Family**” after both Masses on December 29th the first Sunday after Christmas. Join us in consecrating ourselves under the protection of the Holy Family.

The annual **Christmas Dinner** will be held on December 25th at the St. Alphonsus Parish Center starting at 12:00pm Please join us whether you are alone or with many. All donations of salads, pies, turkeys or your time is greatly appreciated. For more information contact Carla or Dennis Horpestad. Dennis phone is 701-370-2924 and Carla is 701-370-0594

CD of the Week: The True Meaning of Christmas – Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen’s books, tapes, homilies, retreats, and television series have inspired countless souls all over the world. This digitally-mastered presentation combines classic recordings of his timeless reflections on the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus, mixed with Gregorian Chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite! **Have a very Blessed Christmas and thank you for your generous support of Lighthouse Catholic Media!**

Altar Society Position Open - The St. Alphonsus Altar Society is in need of a co-chair to fill the vacated position of Bev Metzger. Or if you have someone you would like to work with, there is the option to take over both co-chairs for all business other than the fall supper, which Bev and Lisa would still be in head of. If you are interested or know of anyone who would be a good fit for the job, please contact Lisa Howatt at 256-3757 or Bev Metzger at 256-5803. Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this matter.

Altar Society Dues are now due – special cash and retired members only. Dues may be paid by sending them to Candace Bimler, 10028 103rd Ave. NE, Wales, ND 58281 or put it in an envelope marked “Altar Society” (be sure to include your name) and drop in the weekend collection baskets. Thank you.

Fellowship Hall cleaning for December – 20 – Barb Hill, Bernadette Fetsch & Maryl Borgen; 27 – Lisa Bodnar, Barb Karsky & Emily Benoit

Knights of Columbus will be collecting non perishable food items for the Cavalier County Food Pantry. There is a purple plastic tote at the back of the church.

New Parish Website: Check out our new parish website. It's at the same address - stalphonsuslangdon.com. It's wonderful! One of the new features is a parish calendar of events. It will be a very helpful resource for our parishioners.

Communion for the homebound: do you know of someone who is not able to get to Mass due to medical or health reasons? Call Fr Phil or Fr Will to be put on our Communion Call List.

Catholic Daughters are accepting religious articles (statues, pictures, rosaries, pray books and etc.) to send them to Universal Living Rosary Association in Texas. You can leave them at the back of the church or call Linda Kempel 256-2493