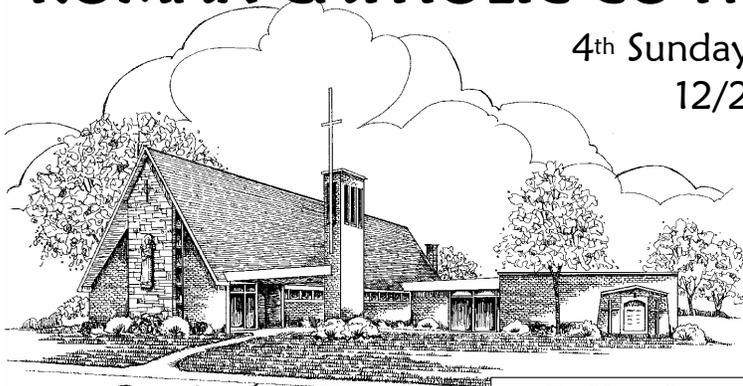
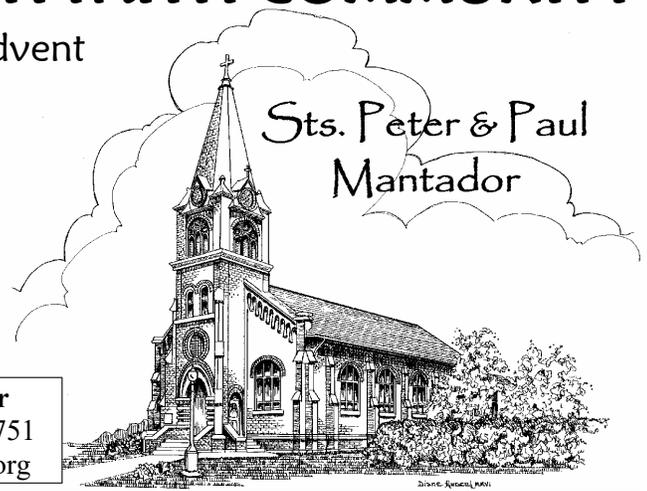


# ROMAN CATHOLIC CO-PARISH FAITH COMMUNITY

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
12/20/20



St. Anthony  
Mooreton



Sts. Peter & Paul  
Mantador

**Fr. Kurt Gunwall, Pastor**  
701-274-8259 or 701-540-8751  
mooretonmantadorcatholic.org

**St Anthony 12/26 5:00 pm**

**Lector**

**Usher**

**Servers**

**Sts Peter & Paul 12/27 8:30 am**

**Lector** Barb Severson

**Usher**

**Servers**

**St Anthony 12/27 10:30 am**

**Lector**

**Usher**

**Servers**

**Christmas & New Year Blessings**

This Holy Week is one of the highlights of the Christian Gospel - the Good News of Jesus Christ!

Nine months ago, we recalled Jesus, the Son of God, incarnate (in the flesh), conceived in the womb of Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit when she said "Yes" to God's plan for her and for the world. Elizabeth and John the Baptist recognized the Lord's presence during Mary's visitation to them. This week we celebrate Jesus' birth - no longer protected in Mary's womb. Now visible to the world - to the worship of the shepherds and magi, but also revealed to the deadly intention of Herod as he slaughtered the innocents of his day. Through the Christmas season (to Jan 10), we celebrate God's love, He became present with us, in the flesh, 2000 years ago and remains present in Jesus' gift of His Body and Blood and present in the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, in the Word, in the Church and the Sacraments. Yet in the days after Christmas, we also 'celebrate' the martyrdom of St Stephen and the witness of the martyrdom of the Holy Innocents - the infants slaughtered by Herod. All this is meant to remind us that our lives here in the world are linked with eternal life.

I want to encourage you to read my Christmas letter and the material I've included. Each item is part of my gift to you and you don't have to wait until Christmas to open it. :) Enjoy the videos that I've invited you to watch; The Chosen makes a great Christmas series (eight episodes) to watch for free (online, ROKU, etc.). See the human relationships of the disciples and others in Jesus' life. In the midst of the quarantines and social isolation we've all experienced to various extents, there are many beautiful Christmas concerts available freely on the internet and television. Sit down with family to listen and enjoy the season in music (e.g. The Piano Guys Christmas on YouTube).

What have you seen as blessings in your life during Advent this year? I am working to appreciate the slower pace of activities that we had this fall. I like to organize and provide opportunities but I also hope this change of pace will have good, lasting effects in personal and family lives. Pause for two minutes right now to ask God to see a positive outcome from this time.

As we enter the new calendar year, I also invite you to deepen your faith in Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life in a 10 week series for teens and adults on Thursday evenings (St Anthony hall and online). More details will be available after Christmas. The session link is on our parish calendar

[www.mooretonmantadorcatholic.org/event-news](http://www.mooretonmantadorcatholic.org/event-news)

**4:00 pm Christmas Eve at St Anthony** - Anyone who arrives later, may be seated in the parish hall with projector and big screen so arrive early for some quiet time before the Christmas Music. I encourage that early arrival for all our Christmas Masses.

**Mass Intentions Changes in Bold**

Mon, 21 StA 8:30 am Norman Norby (†) - O Oriens - (m) St Peter Canisius  
Tue, 22 StsPP 8:30 am Frank & Mary Ann Hermes (†) -O Rex Gentium -(m) St John Kanty  
Wed, 23 StA 5:45 pm Fr. Kreidermacher (†) - O Emmanuel  
Thu, 24 StA 4:00 pm All parishioners  
Thu, 24 StsPP 7:30 pm John Mertes (†)  
Fri, 25 StA 10:00 am Mary Jeffrey - (S) Christmas  
Sat, 26 StA 5:00 pm All parishioners - (F) St Stephen  
Sun, 27 StsPP 8:30 am James Lingen (†) - (F) Holy Family  
Sun, 27 StA 10:30 am Ida & Markus Franck (†)

**Pray for the Sick/Elderly:** Family & friends w/COVID, Loretta Althoff, Arnice Foertsch, Broden Froehlich, Bill Giesen, Jacinta Goerger, Larry Goerger, Nargis Golwalla, Tony Heitkamp, Christal Hutchison, Erwin Lugert, Pat Malone, Dennis Mauch, Diane (Jim) Mauch, Jim Mitchell, Alice Pausch, Alice Pellman, Elizabeth Thom, Wayne Ward, Aron Waxweiler, Frances Zajac. **Send names of loved ones** needing prayer

**Upcoming Events**

Sun, 20 StA Christmas drama postponed (to Jan 3)  
Christmas Masses: Thu, 24 StA 4pm (overflow in hall with big screen projector)/ StsPP 7:30 pm & Fri, 25 StA 10am / Christmas music 30 min. before each Mass

### Questions of the Week

How do I bear witness to my faith? How can the world see that the Lord is with me?

**Verse of the Week:** "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit; she will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." (Matthew 1:20b-21)

**Assignment of the week:** Find a charity to support (if you want ideas, Fr. Gunwall has great suggestions), and make a resolution, a commitment to God, to increase your scheduled time for prayer by 2-3 minutes each day.

**Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life** - As I mention on the front side, we have an opportunity to grow closer to Jesus together. Reserve Thursday evenings on your calendar and join in person or online.

**Christmas Season** - As a Church, we celebrate Christmas through a season. In much of life, we hold onto, and stretch every minute at the important and meaningful moments in our life. We are given this gift of the Christmas season by the Church. Unwrap the gift of God each day.

**Communion visits** - We will arrange a time to visit with the greatest gift of Jesus' Body & Blood, Soul & Divinity for our homebound.

*"In the face of the hatred and anger of the world we must bring the gentleness and the smile of the Infant Jesus of Bethlehem. In the face of the pride of the world we must bring the littleness and powerlessness of the tiny new born baby of the crib."*  
- Little Sister Magdeleine



**Poinsettias** - To make a donation for Christmas poinsettias "in honor of" or "in memory of" notify Fr. Gunwall this weekend. Include the name(s) you want listed in the bulletin.

**Christmas letter** - Stop and pick up your Christmas letter from the back of the churches. I will mail those that remain on Monday .

**Stewardship Moment:** "Hail, full of grace, the Lord is with you!" (Luke 1:28)

After Jesus, we look to Mary as an ideal steward. Her entire life was lived in obedience to God's call. Mary teaches us to live with joy for all we have been given. Just as the moon reflects the light of the sun, Mary reflects the light of Christ. Like Mary, we are called to reflect Christ's light to the world through our gratitude and generosity.

### In the Community

**Gifts that support Christians in the Holy Land** - The coronavirus pandemic has forced thousands of pilgrims to leave the Holy Land. The streets of Bethlehem and Jerusalem are empty for quite some time. The cancellation of pilgrimages having a serious repercussions for many Christian families. In the past, when the Holy Land experienced wartime conditions, some people managed to temporarily find an economic niche outside tourism. However, the pandemic measures have affected all business sectors, including olive wood industry, and everything to shut down. Even we as Holy Land Crafts & Pilgrimage group; are unable to lend them a hand during this difficult time because of the closures here in the U.S. Because our visit to your parish this year is unpredictable, we humbly ask you to visit [www.HolyLandCrafts.net](http://www.HolyLandCrafts.net) and browse through the beautiful hand carved religious items. We value your support through these unprecedented times. May God bless you and keep you safe.

**Someplace Safe** sent a "Thank You" card for the gloves, mittens and caps donated for their work.

**Ruby's Pantry** - If finances are tight, remember that Ruby's Pantry, in Breckenridge, is available the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month. It is also an opportunity to volunteer and help others, talk to Jane Althoff or Dori Palmer.

### Area Reconciliation Services (today/this week)

- Dec 20 - 5 pm at St Boniface - Lidgerwood
- Dec 20 - 7 pm at St John - Wyndmere
- Dec 23 - 4-7 pm at St Boniface - Lidgerwood

Clean your heart, mind and soul in God's call and command to be reconciled with him and with one another in the gift of the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. You can attend these services or come before every Mass in our parishes (except Sun 10:30).

You are invited to join Fr. Gunwall, Jack Kennelly, from SMP Health System, and Dr. Chris DeCock, from Essentia Hospital, for a **workshop on ethical standards and moral guidance in health care**. We will reference the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services: "first to reaffirm the ethical standards of behavior in health care that flow from the Church's teaching about the dignity of the human person; second, to provide authoritative guidance on certain moral issues that face Catholic health care today." The Catholic Church has centuries of experience and understanding of the human person and society to guide how we relate, serve, and care for those in need. See the PDF before we meet from [mooretonmantadorcatholic.org/faith](http://mooretonmantadorcatholic.org/faith). Join us Mon., Jan. 11, at 7:00 pm using the link on our parish calendar page. Contact Fr. Gunwall with questions or specific items that you would like us to address.



### Keeping the House of God beautiful!

**Dec - Sts PP:** \*Jo Mertes, Kari Foertsch, Trudy Glynn, Patty Lingen / **St A:** \*DeeAnn Mauch, Cindy Braun, Rhonda Erbes, Renee Griffith, Bethany Mauch, Kassie Pauly, Celeste Whitebear



This week's celebrations:  
Pellman, Orin Pausch.  
Adam & Jennifer Mauch.

Michael  
*Happy Anniversary.*