

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**  
(ANY CHANGES, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.)

Floyd Helgoe, Fr. Finnestad, Loretta Lovcik, John Christianson, Betty Novak, Pauline Dusek, Patricia Rodvold, Jane Zidon, Marla Zidon, Dorothy Snell, Heidi Gustafson, Adriane Wellman, Isabelle Copeland, Tracy Letzring, Kelly Morrison, Jody Deibert, Allison Bleick, Dale Hultin, Bob McCartney, Lonnie Guderjahn, Susie Dimsha, Sherry McDonald, Shelbie Goodoien, Oliver Goodoien, Brent Collins, Merle Larson, Robert O'Toole, Ruth Rieger, Melanie Fischer, Ruth Ivesdahl, Mae Jackson, Carol Smith, Mary Louise, Bernard & Aletha Schommer, Brianna Fernandez, Brett & Rick Letzring, Jane Grazadzieleski, Rick Kilichowski, Donald Denault & Gary Olson.

**FAMILY FAITH FORMATION!**

Family Faith Formation this week is on Wednesday, December 9th, Grades 1—8 will dive into Chapter Ten! The high school group will meet at St. Patrick that week.

**ST PATRICK ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Pray the Rosary:** Sun at 8:00 AM. **Adoration with Confessions:** Sat at 8:00 AM. **More Confessions :** Sun 8:00 AM. **December Church Cleaners:** Isaac & Christina Burrell, Paul & Eileen Rinde, & Kari Phelps. **Collection:** Deidre & Diane (Dec 6); Jim & Volunteer (Dec 13). **Reader:** Jim (December). **Sanctuary Lamp:** Cecil Novak (Dec 6); Dorothy Rudnick (Dec 13). **Sacristan:** Duane (Dec 6); Scott (Dec 13). **Rosary:** Mary T (Dec 6); Mary S (Dec 13).

**ST BRIGID ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Pray the Rosary: Sundays** at 10:00 AM. **Adoration with Confessions:** Wed and Fri at 11:00 AM; **More Confessions:** SAT. 4-5:00 PM, MON 5-5:15 PM. **December Church cleaners:** G-K. **Collection:** Michael & Val (Dec 6); Allan & Randy (Dec 13). **Readers** (Dec.): Sat.-Michael H; Sun.-Matt F. **Sanctuary Lamp:** Miller Family (Dec 6); Duane Indridson (Dec 13).

**Mass Intentions!**

Monday, Dec 7—5:30 pm, Preston Allex  
 Tuesday, Dec 8—Noon, Addison Allex; 5:30 pm, Both Parishes  
 Wednesday, Dec 9—Noon, Michelle Allex  
 Thursday, Dec 10—8:00 am, + Thomas Copeland  
 Friday, Dec 11—Noon, + Ray & Florence Robinson  
 Saturday, Dec 12—9:00 am, Both Parishes; 5:00 pm, + Everett DeMars  
 Sunday, Dec 13—8:30 am, + Michael Dumas; 10:30 am, Both Parishes

Note: The Masses for **December 8th**, the *Immaculate Conception*, are: Monday, Dec 7 at 5:30 pm at St. Brigid; Tuesday, Dec 8 at Noon at St. Brigid; Tuesday, Dec 8 at 5:30 pm at St. Patrick.

\*During the **next couple of weeks**, we will have Catholic gifts available, in case you wanted to get a head-start on your Christmas activity. What better gift can one give than the gift of faith!

Stewardship (as of 11-22-20)	St Brigid	St Patrick		St Brigid	St Patrick
<b>Adult Envelope</b>	<b>1,570.00</b>	<b>345.00</b>	<i>St Patrick's Care Collection NOV 2020</i>		<b>285.00</b>
<b>Plate</b>	<b>103.00</b>	<b>9.00</b>	<b>God's Gift Appeal Goal 2020</b>	<b>23,768.00</b>	<b>8,928.00</b>
<b>Weekly Total</b>	<b>1,673.00</b>	<b>354.00</b>	<b>God's Gift Appeal Actual</b>	<b>16,323.82</b>	<b>8,743.70</b>
<b>Yearly Actual Total</b>	<b>100,295.48</b>	<b>38,882.59</b>	<b>Percent of Members Participating</b>	48%	73%
<b>LAST YEAR TOTALS at this time</b>					
<b>Monthly Envelope Building Fund</b>	<b>585.00</b>		<b>Cemetery</b>	<b>3,240.00</b>	<b>5,163.51</b>
<b>St Pat Tuckpointing \$54,955.00</b>			<b>All Saints</b>	<b>263.00</b>	<b>135.00</b>
<b>St Patrick Sidewalk Repair \$11,080.00</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>66,035.00</b>	<b>Home Missions</b>	<b>120.00</b>	<b>105.00</b>
<b>Funds Raised for both Projects</b>		<b>60,788.90</b>	<b>St Bernard Cemetery</b>		<b>235.00</b>
<b>Monthly Envelopes Building Fund</b>		<b>5,005.00</b>	<b>St Anthony Cemetery</b>	<b>920.00</b>	
<b>Balance needed for Sidewalk Repair</b>		<b>541.00</b>	<b>St Helen Cemetery</b>	<b>870.00</b>	

Pastor: Fr. Charles LaCroix  
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*laid Him in a manger.*

No one has written more eloquently than St. Paul about the condition of the human race **before** the coming of Christ. Both Jews and Greeks were all under sin.

*“There is not one just man; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God. All have gone astray together; they have become worthless. There is none who does good, no, not even one. Their throat is an open sepulcher; with their tongues they have dealt deceitfully. The venom of asps is beneath their lips; their mouth is full of cursing and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; destruction and misery are in their ways. And the path of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes.”* (Romans 3:10-18).

All that we know about the pre-Christian world verifies this strong language of the Apostle. Abortion and infanticide were legalized. Ambition, greed and lust were **glorified**. The world before Christ was a world steeped in sin.

**God became man** and came into the world to redeem the world from sin. Any other estimate of Christmas Day is not Christian. It was because He wanted to free us from the slavery of sin and give us the freedom of the children of God, that God was born at Bethlehem. The very name Jesus means *Savior*, which for the believing Jews before Christ meant that the Messiah would deliver a fallen human race from slavery to sin. The experience of liberation from sin is peace. Because the "Savior *has been born to you,*" *there will therefore be "peace on earth among men of good will"* (Luke 2:14).

The advent of The Son of God in human flesh has **changed the world**, for those who believe.

Because of His birth at Bethlehem: we **now** have access to the peace of God in a way never before available, through the sacrament of reconciliation, we **now** have the assurance of God's friendship, through the sacrament of the Eucharist in which we receive the same Jesus whom Mary brought forth on Christmas Day, we **now** have available the fullness of divine truth through the Church which the Son of Mary established to teach us what we must know to reach our eternal destiny, we **now** can tap the resources of divine power which comes from Christ, to enable us to live up to the humanly impossible demands He places on those who are called by His name.

All of this and more has come into the world through the coming of Christ. But sadly **not everyone** has this peace of divine forgiveness, or joy of Christ's friendship, or conviction of possessing the truth, or the strength of coping with the trials of life. As we are now in the third millennium of Christian history, we see widespread conflict between people, which is the result of disturbance *within* people. We see broken treaties, broken marriages, broken families and broken vows, which are the **result** of broken friendship with God.

So **we ask**, where is this peace that was promised at Bethlehem? Where? In the hearts of those who believe. After the shepherds heard the angel's directive, "*they went with haste*" as they were told. They found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in the manger. "*And when they had seen, they understood what had been told them concerning this child*" (Luke 2:16-17).

Their **simple faith** gave them an understanding of Christ's living presence on earth. Our faith in His continued presence in our midst will provide us, too, with an experience of that peace which only He, and not the world, can give. It is the tranquility of a mind that sees divine order in a world of turmoil. It is the happiness of soul that comes to those who, like Mary, *ponder on God's mysterious ways* but never question His divine purpose in every event in their lives.

By: Fr. John Hardon

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**St Brigid & St Patrick**  
**December 6, 2020**

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***THE TURNING POINT OF HISTORY!***  
(God Became Man...While Still Remaining God)

Most people take for granted that we number the years as we do. This year is 2020 A.D. But behind the number is not only a fact of history; it is the turning point of history. It separates two ages in the annals of the human race: "*Before Christ*" (B.C.) and "*in the year of the Lord,*" (*Anno Domini*, in Latin) (A.D.), since the birth of Jesus Christ.

There is more than passing value in asking ourselves what do we mean when we say that Christmas Day **literally** divides two eras of mankind: the centuries before Bethlehem and the now two millennia since Mary gave birth to her Son, wrapped Him in *swaddling clothes* and