

December 2, 2018

Advent

First Sunday of Advent

The Advent Way of Life



The readings for this First Sunday of Advent contain a number of promises, all pointing to the same reality, namely, peace and fulfillment. What is expected of those who receive the promises? – An Advent way of life exhorts us to wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ. This way of life requires us to live the usual unusually well. It informs the attitudes that color our judgments and motivations.

Today's Bulletin is printed in memory of Grace Schoenvogel, sponsored by her family.

Flowers for the Altar this weekend are donated in memory of Cathy Perez, sponsored by her family.

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 3

8:00 a.m. Joe Lombardo

Wednesday, December 5

8:00 a.m. Mary & Cyril Dornak

Thursday, December 6

10:30 a.m. Shady Oaks – Agnes & Herman Bochat, Minnie Bochat

Friday, December 7

8:00 a.m. Augustina & Albert Brom, Daniel Brom, Hertha & Herbert Dierschke

6:30 p.m. For the Welfare of Parishioners

Saturday, December 8

6:30 a.m. Rev. Raphael Baidoo

6:30 p.m. Carrie & Frank Zamykal

Sunday, December 9

6:30 a.m. Evelyn & Walter Schoenvogel

9:30 a.m. Joyce Kresta

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *The Second Sunday of Advent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Baruch 5:1-9

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 126

Second Reading: Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-6

The Sanctuary Light will be lit this week in memory of Adalberto Ibarra.

DECEMBER 8 – IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Holy Day of Obligation

The Blessed Virgin Mary was free from all stain of original sin from the moment of her conception. She was in a state of grace sharing in God's own life.

Mass Schedule

Vigil Dec. 7 – 5:00 p.m., Praha

- 6:30 p.m., Moulton

Mass of the Day, Dec. 8 – 6:30 a.m., Moulton

Copies of *The Workbook for Lectors* and *At Home With The Word* are available at the main entrance of the Church. To order a copy for yourself call 800-933-1800.

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

8:30-9:30 am – Doris Foster, Sharon Etlinger

9:30-10:00 a.m. – Anna & Michael Fishbeck

10:00-11:00 a.m. - Anna & Michael Fishbeck, Cynthia Beran

11:00-11:30 a.m. – Barbara Hermes, *open*

11:30-12:00 p.m. – Gussie Machalec, *open*

12:00-1:00 p.m. – Mary Ann Wenske, James Wenske

1:00-2:00 p.m. – Maria Kloesel, *open*

2:00-3:00 p.m. – Lisa Rothbauer, *open*

3:00-3:30 p.m. – Linda Pilat, *open*

3:30-4:00 p.m. – Linda Pilat, Cathy Wenske

4:00-5:00 p.m. - Rose Rothbauer, Mike Janecek

5:00-5:30 p.m. – Angie Jalufka, *open*

5:30-6:00 p.m. – Angie Jalufka, Dcn. Kenneth Fishbeck

Come spend some time in prayer before the Lord.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



Those who wish to make a donation toward the purchase of Poinsettias for the Church could do so in memory of, or in honor of their loved ones.

Christmas Flower envelope attached.

THE WEEK AHEAD

MON. – Gold Star Club Meeting, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC

WED. – Champions Club Meets, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC

– Community Advent/Christmas Concert, 6:30 p.m., Church, followed by Social in the Parish Hall

THURS. – KC Bingo, 7:30 p.m., Moulton Oaks Hall

FRI. – First Friday Eucharistic Adoration,

8:30 a.m.- 6:30 p.m., Family Room

– Parish Office closed on Fridays. For any Pastoral Emergency call the Parish Office at any time.

SAT. – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Holy Day of Obligation. See Mass schedule.

Remember the sick in your prayers this week, especially Filomena Blaschke.

Youth and Adult Christmas Choirs
Come sing with the Choir. Contact Sharon Etlinger.

REFLECTION

The Comings of the Christ

With the Season of Advent, a new liturgical year begins, and we are called to look back with gratitude on all that has been and forward with hope to what will be. In looking back, we are to ponder on the towering miracle of God's visit to this planet.

Born of Mary from the line of David, God has come to us in Jesus, the "just shoot" celebrated by Jeremiah (first reading). Through his words and works, Jesus has established God's justice on earth. All who believe and are bound to God in love and hope are also bound to one another. Those so bound, insists Paul, are to increase in love for one another and for all people, and to conduct themselves, at all times, in a manner that honors God and God's greatest gift to humankind, Jesus.

Our rejoicing in the fact that God has actually been here is half the meaning of Advent. The other half focuses our attention on the second coming of Christ, which is described in today's Gospel; although the language is symbolic and quite picturesque, it instills in us a sense of the suddenness of the end. When Christ appears with the power and glory, the human experiment will end, illusion will give way to reality, the temporary will disappear before the permanent and the king will be seen for who he is. We, for our part, are to be vigilant at all times and pray for strength. Our annual remembrance of the Incarnation celebrates God's desire to become immersed in every aspect of our lives. To do justice to this great gift, we are also to immerse ourselves in the world. There we will find Christ.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dec. 2 – Joyce Hanzel, Leonard Kalisek, Richard Kresta Jr., Shirley Schoenfeld, Nancy Sivyver, Blake Zidek
Dec. 4 – Jean Bochat
Dec. 5 – Aaron Chudej, Linda Pilat
Dec. 6 – Bryan Fernandez, Ann Hrcir, Betty Kloesel, Jayden Raabe
Dec. 7 – Odilia Fernandez, Gene Schoenvogel
Dec. 8 – Mitchell Blaschke, Madison Raab

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

December 8 – Delores & David Raab

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Today – Confirmation Enrollment; C.C.D.
Dec. 3 – Gold Star Club Meets (K-2nd Grades)
Dec. 5 – Champions Club Meets (3rd – 6th Grades)
– 9th – 11th Grade C.C.D.
Next Sunday – C.C.D.

Christmas Pageant Practice Schedule

Dec. 12 – 3:30-5:00 p.m.
Dec. 18 – 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Dec. 23 – Dress Rehearsal 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Overview of the Season of Advent

Advent has a twofold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered, as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation.

In all three cycles of the lectionary there is a special focus for each of the four Sundays, beginning with a gospel of the Lord's return on the first Sunday, John the Baptist on the second and third Sundays and the beginning of the infancy narrative on the fourth Sunday. This year, Cycle C, St. Luke's gospel is proclaimed for all four Sundays of Advent. The outline of the gospel readings looks like this:

First Sunday - *The return of the Lord.*

Second Sunday – *John the Baptist, a call to conversion.*

Third Sunday – *The relationship of John to Jesus.*

Fourth Sunday – *Mary and the events immediately preceding Christ's birth.*

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BULLETIN BOARD



Dec. 1 – *KJ.Z.T. #14 Members Decorate the Christmas Tree*

Dec. 2 – *Czech Advent/Christmas Concert, 2 p.m., Praha*

Dec. 5 – *Community Advent/Christmas Concert*

Dec. 10 – *Altar Society Meeting/Christmas Party*
– *Parish Penance Service, Moulton*

Dec. 11 – *Penance Service, Hallettsville*

Dec. 12 – *CDA Christmas Cookies to Homebound*
– *Christmas Pageant Practice*
– *Parish Penance Service, Praha*

Dec. 13 – *Penance Service, Shiner*

Dec. 14 – *Penance Service, Yoakum*

Dec. 16 – *Breakfast With Santa*

Dec. 18 – *Christmas Pageant Practice*

Dec. 19 – *KC Christmas Party*

Dec. 23 – *Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal*

Community Advent/Christmas Concert: The school band will play Christmas music in Church. The community is invited to come celebrate with us. Parishioners are asked to bring desserts for the reception after the Concert.

Christmas Cookies for The Homebound: CDA members have quite a few deliveries to make. They need homemade cookies to fill the tins. Members, bring your cookies to the Parish Hall by December 12. Put your name and *CDA Cookies* on the container. The cookies will be packaged at 9:00 a.m. on December 12 and delivered to the homebound.

Advent/Christmas Decorations in Church: We thank Lori Janecka of the Praha parish for decorating the Church so beautifully for the Advent/Christmas season.