

December 15, 2019

ADVENT
Third Sunday of Advent



Healer of All Our Brokenness

In response to John the Baptist's question
*"Are you the one to come
or should we look for another?"*

Jesus gave evidence of his works: "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised ..." Jesus' encounter with people brings about transformation – signs of God's salvation. The evidence abounds! The Messiah is here!

Today's Bulletin is sponsored in memory of
Mary & Roman E. Wenske Sr. by their family.

MASS INTENTIONS

- Wednesday, December 18
8:00 a.m. Spec. Intention – Scott Wenske
- Thursday, December 19**
10:30 a.m. Shady Oaks – For the Residents & Staff
- Friday, December 20
8:00 a.m. Daniel Fojtik Jr., Vincent Starustka
- Saturday, December 21
6:30 p.m. Joyce Kresta
- Sunday, December 22
6:30 a.m. Janie & Edward Hajek
9:30 a.m. The Deceased of the Rother & Rektorik Families

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *The Fourth Sunday of Advent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.
First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14
Responsorial Psalm: 24
Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7
Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

The Sanctuary Light
will be lit this week
in memory of Delia & Zachary Brigman.

Parish Advent Penance Services



Moulton - December 16, 5:30 p.m.
Praha - December 18, 4:30 p.m.

Come express your desire for holiness by embracing your brokenness. Join us celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Come and experience God's mercy. *See insert.*

2019 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2019 Assessment	\$17,333.00
Contributions So Far	\$13,583.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$ 3,750.00

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

- Lillian Supak
- Angeline Jalufka
- Roberta & Daniel Mejias
- Phyllis & Ken Schoenfeld
- Lorene & Dennis Fishbeck
- Yahaira & Jose Julio Perez Sr.

We thank all those who have contributed towards our 2019 D.S.A. assessment so far. We are close to paying off our debt. We are counting on you to make our quota for the year.

ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIAL CENTER FUND



We are very grateful to the following for their recent donations to the St. Joseph's Social Center Fund:

- Anonymous Donor - \$15,000**
(previously donated - \$10,000)
- In Honor of Nancy Sivyer**
Mary Ann & Patrick Wenske - \$75

THE WEEK AHEAD

- MONDAY – Gold Star Club Meets, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC
– Parish Advent Confessions, 5:30 p.m., Church
- TUESDAY – Quilting Circle Meets, Quilting Room
- WEDNESDAY – Champions Club Meets, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC
– Christmas Pageant Practice, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
– KC/CDA Christmas Party, Parish Hall
- THURSDAY- Quilting Circle Meets, Quilting Room
– KC Bingo, 7:30 p.m., Moulton Oaks Hall
- FRIDAY – Parish Office closed on Fridays. For any Pastoral emergency call the Parish Office at any time.



Remember the sick in your prayers this week,
especially Susan Jasek.

REFLECTION

Ministry - Cause of Great Joy!

Following his interchange with John's disciples, Jesus made one of the most definitive and audacious statements of his entire ministry. Praising John, he called him, "more than a prophet," saying he was greater than anyone born of woman. At the same time, making a clear distinction between the past and present, Jesus went on to say "the least in the Kingdom of heaven is greater than he." This was not a put down of John but the announcement that something new was happening.

Jesus represented God's definitive intervention in human history. The time of prophecy, the time of waiting has come to an end. From Moses through John, the prophets had talked about God. In Jesus, God had come to dwell among the people. With the culmination of Jesus' life in his death and resurrection, God would be as fully revealed as will ever happen in human history. The least of those who recognize that truth have received a greater revelation than John.

We will find a cause for great joy when we continue the ministry and compassion of Jesus.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dec. 15 – Jodie Raabe
Dec. 16 – Amy Klimitchek
Dec. 17 – Niki Chaloupka, Jill Moore, Angie Rothbauer
Dec. 19 – Margaret Hoepfl Berckenhoff,
Margaret Molnosky
Dec. 20 – Brenda Manzano
Dec. 22 – Gregory Holub

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Dec. 17 – Deacon Kenneth Fishbeck Ordination Anniversary
Dec. 18 – Jamie & Thomas Dornak

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Today – Youth Mass (5th Grade), Breakfast W/ Santa

Dec. 16 – After School Program, K – 2nd Grade

Dec. 18 – Christmas Pageant Practice

– After School Program, 3rd – 6th Grade

– 9th-11th Grade C.C.D.

Dec. 23 – Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal

Dec. 22, 23, 25, 29 & 30 – No C.C.D./YMC (Christmas Holidays)



Christmas Pageant Practice Schedule

* **Dec. 18** – 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Dec. 23 – Dress Rehearsal 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

**Parents are asked to send a note to the school so that their child(ren) may be escorted to the Church for the practice.*

Additional Youth Ministry Bake Sale Donation
Lorene & Dennis Fishbeck

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BULLETIN BOARD

Gaudete! Rejoice!

This Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete Sunday* after the Latin word *gaudere*, to rejoice. Rejoicing is the theme of the day. Today's Entrance Antiphon says:



*Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I say, Rejoice.
Indeed the Lord is near.*

– Philippians 4:4-5

It reminds us of the tone of joy that permeates the entire Season of Advent. The basis of our joy is this: "THE LORD IS NEAR". The use of rose vestments and the rose candle on the Advent Wreath underlies this day's special character. It expresses our joy.

Advent / Christmas Schedule

Dec. 15 – *Breakfast With Santa*

Dec. 16 – *Parish Penance Service, Moulton*

Dec. 17 – *Penance Service, Hallettsville*

Dec. 18 – *Christmas Pageant Practice*

– *KC/CDA Christmas Party*

– *Parish Penance Service, Praha*

Dec. 19 – *Penance Service, Shiner*

Dec. 20 – *Penance Service, Yoakum*

Dec. 23 – *Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal*

Dec. 24 – *Christmas Eve (Vigil Mass/Christmas Pageant)*

Dec. 24 & 25 – *Second Collection for the Poor*

Dec. 25 – *Christmas Day (Midnight/Christmas Day Masses)*



Christmas Altar Flowers Needed

You are encouraged to make a donation. Extra Christmas Flower envelopes are available in Church.

Communion to The Homebound

All homebound parishioners who want to receive communion on Christmas Day please contact Mary Ann Wenske by December 22.

Christmas Day Songs of Praise

Join others parishioners at the 10:00 a.m. Christmas Day Mass. Contact Sharon Etlinger.

Annual Christmas Collection for The Poor

A Special Collection for The Poor will be taken up at all the Christmas Masses. You may use the attached Collection for The Poor envelope for this purpose. Drop the envelope in the collection basket, drop slot or mail any time during the month of December.

Knights of Columbus Christmas Party, December 18, 6:30 p.m. social hour. Spouses, guests, children, widows of deceased members and Catholic Daughter members are invited. Desserts are welcome.

Raphael's Refuge - Mass for the Feast Day of the Holy Innocents: Rosary/Christmas carols at 9:15 a.m., Mass at 10:00 a.m. Refreshments after Mass. All are welcome.