

November 29, 2020

ADVENT

First Sunday of Advent



The Coming of the Day of the Lord

During the season of Advent, as during any season of life, our leaning on God brings us closer to the source of our strength. On any given day, our world like the world of Isaiah can be a frightening, horrible place fraught with the terrible effects of human greed, violence and sin. Yet God has become so personally invested in our world through Jesus Christ that no evil can stand against God's goodness. Therefore, we cling to God in trust, in hope and in joy, living in God's competent care.

Today's Bulletin is sponsored in memory of Sidney Bochat by his family.

MASS INTENTIONS

Wednesday, December 2
8:00 a.m. Daniel Brom and Augustina & Albert Brom
Friday, December 4
8:00 a.m. Marvin Fisbeck, Carrie & Frank Zamykal
Saturday, December 5
6:30 p.m. Hertha & Herbert Dierschke
Sunday, December 6
6:30 a.m. The Welfare of Parishioners
9:30 a.m. Susan Jasek

Individual Confessions in Moulton and Praha

- Available anytime by appointment. Call the office.
- On Fridays in the Family Room after Mass in Moulton.
- On Thursdays after the 5:30 p.m. Mass in Praha.
- During Advent/Christmas season and in Lent.

PREPARING FOR THE SUNDAY LITURGY

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

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 85

Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel: Mark 1:1-8

Remember the sick in your prayers this week, especially Marjorie Anders.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH REPAIR FUND



We thank the following for their donations:

Rose Rothbauer - \$200

Elizabeth & Ben Wenske - \$100

In Memory of Maggie Mejias: Angeline Wagner - \$25

To make a tax-deductible donation you may go to our website www.stjosephsmoulton.org and donate online or make a donation directly to St. Joseph's Church.

ST. JOSEPH'S MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of Maggie Mejias

Rose Selzer

Mary Lou Dierschke

Bernadette & Darren Fikac

ST. JOSEPH'S CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of Maggie Mejias: Angeline Jalufka

FIRST FRIDAY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

8:30-9:30 a.m. – Sharon Etlinger, *adorer needed*
9:30-11:00 a.m. – Anna & Michael Fishbeck
11:00-11:30 a.m. – Barbara Hermes, Donna Sturm
11:30-12:00 p.m. – Nancy Sivyver, Gussie Machalec
12:00-12:30 p.m. – Gussie Machalec, Nancy Sivyver, Mary Ann Wenske
12:30-1:00 p.m. – Mary Ann Wenske, *adorer needed*
1:00-2:00 p.m. – Maria Kloesel, *adorer needed*
2:00-3:00 p.m. – Lisa Rothbauer, *adorer needed*
3:00-4:00 p.m. – Linda Pilat, *adorer needed*
4:00-5:00 p.m. – Mike Janecek, Rose Rothbauer
5:00-6:00 p.m. – Angie Jalufka, *adorer needed*

Christmas Flowers: Those who wish to make a donation toward the purchase of Poinsettias for the Church could do so in memory of their loved ones. *Christmas Flower envelope attached.*

Thank You: We thank Lorena & Mario Pinedo for making and donating the new Altar for the Family Room.

THE WEEK AHEAD

THURSDAY – KC Bingo, 7:30 p.m., Moulton Oaks Hall
FRIDAY – First Friday Eucharistic Adoration, 8:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Family Room
– Parish Office closed on Fridays. For any Pastoral emergency, call the Parish Office at any time.

REFLECTION

Alert to the Signs of the Times

**Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7 Psalm 80
1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:33-37**

Advent is probably the church season most vulnerable to corruption and being overshadowed by everything that coincides with it. Whereas the church starts to celebrate Christmas on the night of December 24 and continues through the feast of the Baptism of the Lord, society rolls into holiday mode after Halloween and into uncompromising materialism beginning with “Black Friday.” Our cultural Christmas ends abruptly on the night of December 25 – leaving only the tree that nobody wants to take down. Ironically, there is nothing more distracting from the mood of Advent than our culture’s preparations for Christmas.

Our readings remind us that, as of today, we are not simply getting into commercial Christmas season but entering into a season of conversion. Isaiah’s prayer calls on God to be the potter forming the clay of our lives. Jesus calls us to be alert to God’s unexpected appearances in our lives.

Traditionally, we talk about Advent as a time of waiting. But this week’s readings emphasize watching – watching for the signs of God’s presence, watching for the ways in which God desires to act as the potter of the clay of our lives. Jesus told the disciples that the master could show up at any hour. The task of discipleship then is not so much to be busy as it is to stay alert.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Nov. 29 – William Self
Nov. 30 – August Etlinger, Lauren Roznovsky
Dec. 1 – Clara Kinney
Dec. 2 – Taylor Bohuslav, Joyce Hanzel, Leonard Kalisek,
Richard Kresta Jr., Shirley Schoenfeld,
Nancy Sivyver, Blake Zidek
Dec. 4 – Jean Bochat
Dec. 5 – Aaron Chudej, Linda Pilat

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Today – No C.C.D. (Thanksgiving Holidays)
Dec. 2 – 9th-11th Grade C.C.D.
Dec. 6 – Confirmation Enrollment; C.C.D.
Dec. 13 – 8th Grade Youth Mass/Breakfast with Santa

Christmas Pageant: Plans are underway for the annual Christmas Pageant. The children are excited and many have already signed up to participate. If your child wants to be in the pageant and has not yet signed up, please do so this week so we can assign their roles.

We thank Betty & Harry Maskey for their \$100 donation towards supplies for the Christmas Pageant.

LOOKING AHEAD THE SEASON OF ADVENT

Liturgical Orientation

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 new year, Cycle B, St. Mark’s gospel is proclaimed for the first two Sundays, St. John on the third Sunday and St. Luke on the fourth Sunday. The outline looks like this:

The First Readings - Old Testament

1st Sunday: The season begins with a lamentation. The reading inaugurates a sort of dialogue, which will continue in the Old Testament readings of the remaining Sundays.

2nd Sunday: The reading responds to the lamentations of the people, speaking words of comfort and encouragement, assuring them of God’s presence.

3rd Sunday: The reading continues the conversation. A voice responds to God’s comforting word. Lamentation is a thing of the past. The reading is exuberant with hope.

4th Sunday: God seems to have the last word. This Sunday God speaks words of assurance. The nation will be re-established.

The Second Readings – Epistles

1st Sunday: Is an expression of thanks and an exhortation to remain blameless until the coming of the Lord.

2nd Sunday: We are reminded that the Day of the Lord will come and we are exhorted to live holy and devout lives.

3rd Sunday: Bids us to rejoice, to pray and render constant thanks.

4th Sunday: The reading moves into exhortation and ends with praise.

The Gospels

1st Sunday: A call to stay awake.

2nd & 3rd Sundays: Suggest how to live during this time of waiting, John the Baptist call for a change of heart.

4th Sunday: The annunciation shakes the world with an end-time presence.

Christmas Cookies For The Homebound: CDA members have quite a few deliveries to make. They need homemade cookies to fill the tins. Each member is asked to bring 2 dozen cookies to the Family Room kitchen, by Tuesday morning, December 15. Put your name and *CDA Cookies for the Homebound* on the container. The cookies will be packaged and delivered on December 15.