

Saint Columbkille

CATHOLIC CHURCH



God **CALLS** us to be disciples and **FORMS** us by our Catholic Faith to:

ENCOUNTER Christ · **EMBRACE** deeper faith · **EMPOWER** Christian action



2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist
appeared...saying,
"Repent, for the kingdom of
heaven is at hand!"
- Mt 3:1a, 2

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD, ©LPI

RECONCILIATION

Thursday: 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM
Friday: 6:30 AM to 7:00 AM
Saturday: 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM
or by appointment

ROSARY

Monday-Thursday: 8:30 AM

MASS TIMES

Monday: 9:00 AM
Tuesday: 9:00 AM
Wednesday: 9:00 AM
Thursday: 9:00 AM
Friday: 7:00 AM
Saturday: 4:15 PM (livestreamed)
Sunday: 8:00 AM | 10:00 AM

DECEMBER 04
2022

MASS INTENTIONS

PASTOR'S REFLECTION

Monday
Dec. 5
9:00 AM

† Kenneth Thill
† Fritz Biver

Tuesday
Dec. 6
9:00 AM

† Richard and Ann LeConte
† Samuel J. Becker
† Bill Wagner
† Fleege and Cue Family
† Nauman and Larson Family

Wednesday
Dec. 7
9:00 AM

† Tom Healy
† Betty Sullivan
† Lois Stewart



6:00 PM

Pro Populo

Thursday
Dec. 8
9:00 AM

† Joan Higley
† Evelyn G. Steiber
† Billie Jo Thul and Family
† Jack, Dorothy and Peggy O'Neill

6:00 PM

† Betty Schatz

Friday
Dec. 9
7:00 AM

† John and Joan Higley

Saturday
Dec. 10
4:15 PM

† Todd Faley
† Howard Herman
† June and Kenneth Palm

Sunday
Dec. 11
8:00 AM

† Melvin Schuster
† Russ Goebel
† David and Judy Ochs

Sunday
Dec. 11
10:00 AM

Pro Populo
† Roy and Millie Schlickman
† Matt Cusack
† Barb Setter

What do you think about the role of a “prophet”? In our readings today, we have two different images.

Isaiah uses his poetic skill to share God’s Messiah transforming the world. This vision became particularly important to our Church because of a single line: “a little child to guide them” (11:6). This prophecy spoke about a reality occurring sometime in the future and 600 years later Jesus was born.

In John the Baptist, we have a prophet who proclaims a completed task: “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is **at hand!**” (Matt. 3:1). John is not predicting the future but proclaiming the fulfillment of prophecy. Profoundly different messages yet both are called prophets.

Somehow, our religious ancestors were able to recognize and learn from both of them. Who are our “prophets” today? Who shares both hope and challenge? I would love to be able to answer that question. All I can offer is a few questions to test a prophet’s message.

1. Does the prophet’s message have weight? In our Gospel, John gives us the image of the chaff being blown away and the heavy seed remaining. We have to weigh the truth of a prophet’s statement because we live in a world of hyperbole.

2. Does a prophet’s message have a transcendent message? Although John’s message was immediate, the focus is on the “kingdom of heaven.” The human person is so much more than what can be seen. A prophet has to engage all aspects of the person.

3. Does a prophet’s message depend upon secret or hidden knowledge? John coming in the desert signals the barrenness of his message. It is available for all to come and see. As part of the Catholic Church, we are gifted with Scripture and Tradition that is completely public and helps us evaluate any prophetic message.

This season of Advent invites us to be challenged and discover hope through the gift of faith revealed by the prophets. How do we help one another embrace the “little child” to lead us?

In Christ,

Fr. David Schatz

CATHOLIC Q&A

Q: What’s the story behind the Advent wreath?

A: Each season in the liturgical calendar comes with its own local and regional rituals. During the Advent season, wreathes adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn’t falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God’s love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who “shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means “rejoice” in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we’re roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ’s coming at Christmas.

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

The Fiscal YTD totals as of Nov. 27, 2022:

FYTD received: \$367,063.72

FYTD budgeted: \$435,776.00

Deficit: **\$68,712.28**

December 4, 2022

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PARISH NEWS

Did you know? You can honor the memory of a loved one and provide monetary assistance to the parish by:

- Providing the hosts and wine (\$250 for one month)
- Providing the Sanctuary Lamp candle (\$12 for one month)
- Requesting a Mass intention (\$5 per Mass)

Call or stop by the parish office to make your request.

For the month of December:

Hosts & Wine – Mike Reilly Family

Sanctuary Lamp – In memory of Maury Sturm

Christmas Poinsettias in Memory of a Loved One

Our worship space will once again be decorated with poinsettias for the Christmas season. If you would like to contribute in memory of a loved one, or to the fund in general, please send a check payable to St. Columbkille in the amount of \$15, or submit your request and payment online at:

stcolumbkille.net/Christmas-poinsettias. The deadline for inclusion in the Christmas bulletin is Monday, December 5.

COMMUNITY NEWS

City-wide Communal Penance Service | December 21

St. Joseph the Worker parish is hosting a city-wide communal penance service on Wednesday, December 21 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend!

2022 STO Tax Credits Available Through December 31

Time is running out! Donating to the Our Faith School Tuition Organization (STO) will help qualifying Catholic school families with tuition assistance while you will receive a 75% STO tax credit. With the tax credit, the impact of your donation is multiplied. Here's how it works: When you donate \$2,000, you will receive a \$1,500 Iowa income tax credit, making your final net investment only \$500. Your \$500 donation is multiplied 4x, making STO tuition support available for Catholic school families. Visit www.ourfaithsto.org or contact the Our Faith STO at (563) 556-2580, x296.

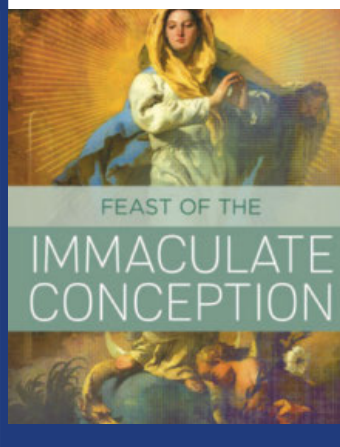
Archdiocese of Dubuque Women's Conference | Jan. 28

Are you giving your Fiat? Are you saying YES to God?
Attend the 2023 Archdiocesan Women's Conference,
Beauty in Christ: Fiat! Saying Yes to God!

Saturday, January 28, 2023, 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Join hundreds of women from across the archdiocese attending virtually or at a parish near you to ponder our own *Yes to God*—in large and small ways! Our inspirational speakers, Marcia Lane-McGee and Jamie Rathjen, will each share her story of giving her fiat to God—and the difference it made in their lives. This conference offers prayer with the Archbishop, speakers, great conversation, music, and more – all at an incredibly low price! Invite your sisters and friends, and be ready to say YES! For more information, visit www.archwomensconference.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation

Vigil Mass:

Wednesday, December 7
6:00 P.M. (followed by Adoration and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament)

Holy Day:

Thursday, December 8
9:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.

Monday

Dec. 5

Cub Scouts

6:00 P.M. | Presentation Hall

Boy Scouts

6:00 P.M. | Fogarty Hall

Families Anonymous

7:15 P.M. | Fogarty Hall

Tuesday

Dec. 6

Holy Family Wrestling Practice

3:00 P.M. | Convent Building

Finance and Pastoral Council Meetings

6:00 P.M. | Fogarty Hall

Wednesday

Dec. 7

Eucharistic Adoration With Students

12:05—2:15 P.M. | Church

All are welcome to join our students!

Holy Family Youth Program

3:00 P.M. | Presentation Hall

Knights of Columbus Meeting

6:00 P.M. | Presentation Hall

Thursday

Dec. 8

Catholic Charities Circle Meeting

4:30 P.M. | Convent Building

Encourage Meeting

6:30 P.M. | Fogarty Hall

Adoration with students moved to Wednesday.

Saturday

Dec. 10

Peiffer Baptism

4:15 P.M. | Church

Sunday

Dec. 11

Communal Reconciliation Service

4:00—5:30 P.M. | Church



Next Sunday, December 11, the loose coin collection goes to our sister parish, Our Lady of the Sioux.

STAFF CORNER

Not long ago, a four-year old began the Hail Mary as follows: “Hello, Mary, full of Jesus” as I chuckled inside, I realized that this little one knew what Christmas is about! The Incarnation happens every single day of our lives. We are full of Jesus in so many ways.

We are full of Jesus as we put aside our “to do list” and are present to a family member, friend or a stranger, who just needs us to listen to his/her story. We are full of Jesus when we take time to sit in solitude and reflect on the many gifts (smiles, clothing donations, hugs) that we give all year long. We are full of Jesus when we volunteer to help those who can’t help themselves. We are full of Jesus when we attend Mass and welcome those around us. We are full of Jesus when we sit and cry with another, knowing words are useless. We are full of Jesus when we take time to make memories with those we love instead of cleaning or doing “one more Christmas chore.” We are full of Jesus as we stand in the darkness focused on the twinkling stars and remember the people who are stars in our lives.

Throughout this month, I challenge you to be aware of how “you are full of Jesus” as you dash from store to store, attend Christmas gatherings galore, embrace traditional Christmas chores and hope and pray for peace more and more.



Sr. Catherine Stewart, OP, Ed.D.
Principal, St. Columbkille Elementary

SACRAMENTS

Baptism

Baptism is the basic Sacrament of the whole Christian life, the gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments. With the new birth through water and the Word, we are freed from sin and regenerated as sons and daughters of God. We ask expecting couples to visit our website or contact Serena Freisinger at s.freisinger@dbqarch.org during pregnancy to help prepare for the baptism of their child.

First Reconciliation & First Communion

These sacraments are typically celebrated when a child is 7 or 8 years old, or in second grade. At St. Columbkille, we have a firm belief that since Reconciliation and Communion are part of everyday Catholic living, preparing for these sacraments at home within the family is essential. We are guiding families in a way that not only provides parents with the tools they need to prepare their child, but also walking with them to learn how to use those tools in their daily Catholic family life. If you are looking for more information in regards to these exciting Sacramental firsts, please contact Jessica Rauen at j.rauen@dbqarch.org.

Marriage

The sacred covenant in the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony is a symbol of the union between Christ and his Church, and we would love to celebrate it with you at St. Columbkille. Please contact the parish office at least 6 – 12 months prior to the intended wedding date. For more information, visit our website or contact the parish office at 563-583-9117.

THE STAFF OF ST. COLUMBKILLE WELCOMES YOU!

Parish Office Hours: Mon.—Thurs., 9:00 AM—3:30 PM



Father Tom McDermott

Co-Pastor

t.mcdermott@dbqarch.org



Father Dave Schatz

Co-Pastor

d.schatz@dbqarch.org

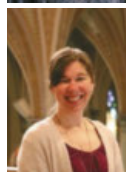


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Travis King

Deacon

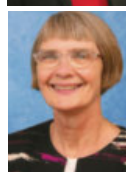
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