

# Sacred Heart Parish Family

[www.sacredheartchurchglenullin.org](http://www.sacredheartchurchglenullin.org)

December 19, 2021- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent

## Mass Schedule-Central Time

Saturday 9:00 am & 4:00 pm Mass  
Sunday 10:30 am Mass  
Thursday Mass at 9:00 am

## Masses at St. Ann's-Hebron

Saturday 6:30 pm Mass  
Sunday 8:30 am Mass  
Tuesday & Friday Mass at 9:00 am

## Office Hours

Wednesday & Thursday 9-12

## Celebrating Sacraments

**Confessions:** One half hour before every Mass and by appointment in the Church.

**Baptism:** Call the Parish Office and schedule the date and time for pre-baptismal instructions.

**Marriage:** Premarital preparations need a minimum of 9 months before your wedding date. Contact the Priest in advance.

**Communion to the Sick:** Please contact parish office. Please, inform any actual or impending hospitalization for spiritual care.

## Parish Staff:

**Pastor:** Fr. Gary Benz

**Deacon:** Mr. Lance Gartner

**Secretary:** Ms. Kylee Kuhn

**Finance:** Mr. Lance Gartner

**Primary DRE:** Ms. Renae Duppong

**High School DRE:** Mrs. Lisa Staiger

**Church Janitor:** Mrs. Charlotte Schantz

**Parish Hall Janitor:** Mrs. Linda Wagner

"BLESSED  
is she who has  
BELIEVED  
that the Lord  
would fulfill his  
PROMISES  
to her!"

**Dec 20** Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalm 24:1-6

Luke 1:26-38

**Dec 21** Song of Songs 2:8-14 **or**

Zephaniah 3:14-18a

Psalm 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21

Luke 1:39-45

**Dec 22** 1 Samuel 1:24-28

1 Samuel 2:1,4-8

Luke 1:46-56

**Dec 23** Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24

Psalm 25:4-5, 8-10, 14

Luke 1:57-66

**Dec 24** 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a,  
16

Psalm 89:2-5, 27, 29

Luke 1:67-79

**Dec 25** Isaiah 9:1-6

Psalm 96:1-3, 11-13

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14

**Dec 26**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 **or** 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28

Ps 128:1-5 **or** 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10

Colossians 3:12-21 **or**

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

Luke 2:41-52

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**“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”** A poor Irish shoeshine boy was about his work one day at New York’s Grand Central Station. A silver medal danced at his neck as he slapped his shine cloth, again and again across a man’s shoes. “Sonny”, said the man curiously, “what’s the hardware around your neck?” “It’s a medal of the Mother of Jesus”, the boy replied. “Why her medal”, said the man. “She’s no different from your mother.” “Could be”, said the boy, “but there’s a real big difference between her Son and me.” The boy’s devotion to our Blessed Mother invites me to ask: What role does Mary play in my life? Could it be even bigger? If the Word of God says of Mary, “Blessed are you among women”, then do I consider her to be a great blessing in my spiritual life, beneficial on my pilgrimage to eternal life in heaven?

**Difficult moral issues, “Is it wrong to pay taxes to an unjust or ungodly government?”**

I try not to buy into the current disregard or disdain for the federal government, but even my patience is wearing thin. It’s hard not to be critical of a federal government that funds “family planning” and abortion; promotes gay marriage and transgender rights; attacks freedom of religion, as in forcing Catholic institutions to provide mandatory birth control or abortion coverage; and mismanages the tax dollars of hard-working Americans, as evidenced in an out-of-control federal budget deficit and national debt. At times, I get so tired of the above injustices that the thought crosses my mind, “I cannot in good conscience pay my federal taxes, because this only supports a corrupt government.” But the Scriptures and the teaching authority of the Church challenge me to reconsider my thoughts on the matter, for the following reasons.

First, the New Testament instructs Christians to pay their taxes. Devout Christians living

under the Roman Empire hardly considered the Roman government to be just and good. Rome persecuted the Church; its rulers claimed for themselves quasi-divine status and demanded that all Roman subjects (Christians included) worship them, which violated the Lord’s command to worship Him alone; and Rome extracted a lot of tax revenue to fund wars which Christians opposed, as many of them were strict pacifists. Indeed, Christians looked forward to Rome’s eventual destruction (c.f. Revelation, 17-18). Yet, in the New Testament, Jesus taught His followers to pay the required taxes. The Gospels relate an exchange between Jesus and some people who confronted Him about the dilemma of paying taxes to the emperor. Jesus told them to “Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to give to God what belongs to God” (Mark 12:17). Jesus is clearly stating that taxes should be paid even to an unjust government. Why? Because God gives rulers their authority, with the hope that they will prevent wrongdoing and provide the stability for virtue to advance. Taxation provides the resources to advance these worthy goals. Granted these lofty goals are often negated by an unjust and corrupt government, but the hope is still present that God can do good work in spite of such a government. Thus, the moral instruction to pay one’s taxes remains part of Church teaching and must be adhered to by faithful Catholics.

Second, the nation is not its government. A nation is a people living together in a common region and sharing many common interests. The government is merely an organization needed by a nation to promote its interests, for the well-being of its citizens. Sadly, governments often violate the mandate given to them by their citizens and engage in bad actions and policies. With the citizen’s tax revenue, governments do bad things. But this is not reason enough

to cease paying taxes. We must keep in mind the many good things that governments do provide by way of tax dollars: national defense; law enforcement; regulation of drugs for public safety; health care for the disabled and elderly; the upkeep of national parks; the education of our youth; the upkeep of highways and roads; etc. Yes, we may not agree with the bad policies of government, but we cannot deny the many ways we benefit from good government policies and programs. As in all things, Christians must seek to find the good even in the midst of evil. If we don't, we become a cynical people, bereft of charity and hope. [To be continued]

### **A slight change for the better**

As Christmas falls on a Saturday this year, I decided not to have Saturday Vigil Masses that evening at our parishes. I don't expect families to come to Sunday Mass (i.e., the Saturday Vigil Mass) on Christmas day. But as New Year's Day is not on par with Christmas, especially in terms of family gatherings, there will be Saturday Vigil Masses that day at the usual times. I know it's a lot of time to spend in church, but that's where the really cool people hang out. Be part of the in crowd!

### **A heads up, or should I say, a nose up**

Some who don't like the smell and irritation of church incense have asked when I will be using it during the Christmas season. These Masses are as follows: Christmas (12/25); The Holy Family (12/26); The Solemnity of Mary (1/1); The Epiphany of the Lord (1/2); and the Baptism of the Lord (1/9). I should also warn you that I might be wearing Old Spice Classic Cologne, which is far more irritating than incense.

### **Come as we continue to celebrate the birth of our Savior**

The children of our CCD programs in both parishes will be putting on a Christmas

pageant for us on **January 2<sup>nd</sup> at Sacred Heart** after the **10:30 a.m. Mass** (followed by a parish potluck) and at **Saint Ann's on January 5<sup>th</sup>** after the **5:00 p.m. Mass** (followed a by a potluck). Thank you to our children for bringing the greatest story ever told to life for us; it makes Christmas more joyful and merry when it is acted out for us. I was hoping to be cast as one of Three Kings, but was told by the directors that they were looking for Wise Men, not wise guys. Ouch . . . that stings.

### **Thank you for your generosity**

Thank you to those who so generously gave to the *Christmas Wish Lists* in our parishes. May God reward you for your generosity. Sacred Heart: paschal candle (Chuck & Loretta Gerving); book of the Gospels cover (Laura Wehri); lavabo bowl, cruet set, and bells for morning Mass (Women of Sacred Heart). Saint Ann's: cassocks and cruet set (Leonard & Irene Wehri). The *hair plugs for the pastor* estimate came in a little too high, so we may have to set this one aside. I think I would look better with a toupee anyways, kind of like the Donald Trump of Glen Ullin/Hebron.

### **Late, but still sincere**

I forgot to thank Deacon Lance at both parishes last Sunday for giving us much food for thought in a great homily. It is a great blessing to have a wonderful homilist when I am away for such occasions as weddings. Thank you, Deacon Lance, for your faithfulness to your diaconal ministry; may God reward you.

### **The open door**

If you have a family member or friend in our parish who is away from the Church, I welcome their cell phone or home phone numbers to call and hopefully visit them in person as well. Thank you for your loving concern for them and for your desire to welcome them back home this Christmas.

# Prayers for the Sick

We will pray for and publish names of members of the parish and immediate family members who request such prayers. They will remain on the list for 4 weeks. You may call the office if you wish to add the name again.

Helen Geck  
 Dave Opp  
 Mike Hellman  
 Mary Ann Duppong  
 Anh Gietzen  
 Kathy Hertz  
 Charles Schumacher  
 Ellen Schafer  
 Pete & Sylvia Wagner  
**All Residents & Staff of Marian Manor**  
 Fr. Jeff Zwack  
 Fr. Paul Becker  
 Patty Geffre, Niece of Irene Geck  
 Dawson Schneider, nephew of Rita Wallin  
 Mesa Sheldon, great granddaughter of Ernie & MaryAnn Fitterer  
 Duane Hutzenbueler, brother in law of Chuck Gietzen  
 Sebastian Shaw, great nephew of Mike Koller

## Mass Intentions

Dec 23	9:00 am	+Scott Morman (#7071)
Dec 23	4:00 pm	<b>MM:</b> +Mary Mormann (#6685)
Dec 24	4:00 pm	+Duane Duppong (#6740)
Dec 24	Midnight Mass	<b>St. Joes:</b> L&D of St. Joseph Christian Mothers (#7050)
Dec 25	10:30 am	L&D of +Randy & Mary Morman Family (#6926)
Dec 26	10:30 am	+Bernice Gartner (#6812)
Dec 27	9:00 am	+Virginia Wilson (#6794)
Dec 29	4:00 pm	<b>MM:</b> +Mike Steckler (#7091)
Dec 30	9:00 am	+Dave Soupir (#7090)
Dec 31	4:00 pm	For the Soul in Purgatory (#6680)

## Calendar of Events

Dec 22	5-6 pm	Adoration
Dec 22	6:00 pm	Mass at Sacred Heart
Dec 23	9:00 am	Mass at Sacred Heart
Dec 24	12-3 pm	Adoration
Dec 24	4:00 pm	Mass at Sacred Heart
Dec 24	6:30 pm	Mass at St. Anns
Dec 24	Midnight	Mass at St. Joe's
Dec 25	8:30 am	Mass at St. Anns
Dec 25	10:00 am	Mass at Sacred Heart
Dec 26	8:30 am	Mass at St. Anns
Dec 26	10:30 am	Mass at Sacred Heart
Dec 27	9:00 am	Mass at Sacred Heart
Dec 29	4:00 pm	Mass at MM *Note Day Change*
Dec 30	9:00 am	Mass at Sacred Heart

# Ministers

All Ministers please report to the sacristy 20 minutes before service begins.

### December 22 – Wednesday 6:00 PM:

**Lector:** Betty DelaBarre

### December 23 – Thursday 9:00 AM:

**Lector:** Ernie Fitterer

**Server:** Art Hellman

**Rosary:** Shelby Schantz

### December 24 – Friday 4:00 PM:

**Ministers of Hospitality:** George & JoAnne Schantz

**Servers:** Aerial Schaaf, Olivia Schaaf

**Lector:** Bella Schaaf

**Music:** Vicki Horst

**Rosary:** Betty DelaBarre

### December 25 – Saturday 10:30 AM:

**Ministers of Hospitality:** Eric & Kelsy Duppong Family

**Servers:** Cassidy Duppong, Braxton Duppong

**Lector:** Kelsy Duppong

**Music:** Glory & Praise

**Rosary:** Phyllis Morman

### December 26 – Sunday 10:30 AM:

**Ministers of Hospitality:** Norma Wehri, Bob Herz

**Servers:** Tyler Kuntz, Kaden Kuntz

**Lector:** Valerie Schaaf

**Music:** Sandy Gerving

**Rosary:** JoAnn Opp

### December 27 – Monday 9:00 AM:

**Lector:** Joseph Gartner

**Server:** Michael Gartner

**Rosary:** Anissa Gartner

### December 30 – Thursday 9:00 AM:

**Lector:** Art Hellman

**Server:** Eli Gietzen

**Rosary:** Ernie Fitterer

### December 31 – Friday 4:00 PM:

**Ministers of Hospitality:** Kevin & Charlotte Schantz

**Servers:** Malicij Meyer, Micah Meyer

**Lector:** Mike Koller

**Music:** Lynnette Schirado

**Rosary:** Bev Koller

### January 2 – Sunday 10:30 AM:

**Ministers of Hospitality:** Karen & Dennis Emter

**Servers:** Courtnee Soupir, Damian Gerving

**Lector:** Eli Gietzen

**Music:** Glory & Praise

**Rosary:** Walter Emter

**If you are unable to fulfill your ministry,  
including Altar Servers,  
PLEASE FIND SOMEONE TO FILL IN FOR YOU.**

# Parish News

**Flower Fund –** Thank you to those who have already donated this year to the flower fund! Your gift is greatly appreciated especially during the Christmas season so we can display all the beautiful fresh flowers throughout church! Haven't donated to the flower fund yet, but would still like to? You can! Just grab a flower fund envelope in the back of church and drop it in the collection basket with your donation! Great News, it counts towards your giving as well, just as your weekly offering does!

**Looking for a Bulletin Folder!** The office is looking for a volunteer to fold and stuff bulletins for December thru March. Kathy is taking some well-deserved time off and needs a replacement for a short time! It would be on Thursday mornings for not more than an hour normally! Let Kylee in the office know if you are interested!

**Religious Give Thanks.** A sister writes, "Our prayers belong most of all to the generous benefactors whose donations have made this financial assistance possible." Thank you for supporting last week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection. Visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org) to learn how your gift supports elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

**Stewardship Message:** "Honor the Lord with your substance and with the first fruits of all your labors."

## **Stewardship of Treasure**

Adult Envelopes .....	4008.00
Plate .....	138.00
Flower Fund .....	70.00
Parish Center Loan Reduction .....	22.00
Children's Collection.....	0.00
Retirement Fund for Religious Collection ...	355.00
St. Joseph's Adult Envelopes .....	0.00

We are looking for donations of candy or other items to fill the treat bags for the kids. The bags will be given out after the Christmas Pageant on January 2. Cash Donations are also welcome to help pay for filling the bags with goodies.

We are also looking for people to help serve the parish pot luck meal after the Christmas Pageant on January 2 after the 10:30am mass.

## **REMINDER:**

Bulletin Announcements are due by  
WEDNESDAY AT NOON!!

If you are interested in purchasing or selling more parish raffle ticket books, there are some in the back of church. The committee asks that you sign your name and how many extra books you took!

Tickets and money can be returned to the office or dropped in the collection basket.

Monday, December 27<sup>th</sup> we will be having a morning mass at 9:00 am



## *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

## Upcoming Mass Schedule

### **Dec 24 - Christmas Eve (Friday)**

4:00 PM at Sacred Heart (No Adoration at St. Ann's)  
6:30 PM Mass at St. Ann's  
**Midnight Mass at St. Joseph**

### **Dec 25 - Christmas (Saturday)**

8:30 AM St. Ann's  
10:30 AM Mass at Sacred Heart  
**No Night Masses**

### **Dec 26 -(Sunday)**

8:30 AM St. Ann's  
10:30 AM @ Sacred Heart

### **Dec 31 - New Year's Eve (Friday)**

9 AM Mass at St. Ann's (NO Adoration at St. Ann's)  
4:00 PM at Sacred Heart  
11-12 PM Adoration at Sacred Heart

### **Jan 1 - New Year's Day (Saturday)**

10:00 AM Mass at St. Ann's  
**NO Mass at Sacred Heart**  
**No night Masses**

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