

Prayers for the Sick

Please help us keep the list of the sick updated. If you would like to be on the email prayer chain or want to submit a prayer request of any kind please email joanconlon59@yahoo.com:

Carol Sebastian
Cody Jacobsen
William Kelley
Ernie Schantz
Zaylee Schmidt
Christine Lawson
Blake Kuntz
Laurie Hauser
Ashley Braem
Harper Wetzel
Paul Wehri
Lee Ann Hoff
Kurt Tibor
Andi Tuomala

***The Latin responses are found in the St. Michael Hymnal, #105 is the Kyrie that Father sings. Follow along from #101 on for the rest of the Mass parts.**

Mass Intentions

Dec 23 rd	9:00 AM	+Gloria Ann Diede by Kathy Greff
Dec 24 th	7:00 PM	+ For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
Dec 25 th	11:00 AM	For the People of the Parish
Dec 27 th	9:00 AM	+Mary Schantz by Don & Deb Wanner
Dec 30 th	9:00 AM	+Julie Duffy by Kirk & Gretchen Peterson
Dec 31 st	6:30 PM	+ Eva Morman by Leonard & Irene Wehri
Jan 1 st	8:30 AM	+ Dennis Sebastian by Jerry & Bonnie Kuntz

**** Confessions Half an Hour before Mass****

FIRST, THIRD AND FIFTH WEDNESDAYS THERE WILL BE EUCHARTISTIC ADORATION FROM 5 TO 6 FOLLOWED BY MASS. POST CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL ALSO BE ON THESE DAYS AT 7:00 PM.

Ministers

December 24th, Christmas Eve-Saturday-7:00

PM

Lector: Nicole Vogle
Ushers: Kerry & Brenda Richardson
Rosary: Volunteer
Servers: Jovie & Levi

December 25th, Christmas Day-Sunday-11:00

AM

Lector: Kevin Staiger
Ushers: Kevin & Toni Staiger
Rosary: Ken Duppong
Ushers: Calaghan & Easton

December 27th- Tuesday- 9:00 AM

December 30th- Friday- Mass at 9:00 AM;
Adoration 9:30 AM TO 5:30 PM

December 31st- Saturday- 6:30 PM:

Lector: Chester Brandt
Ushers: Clayton & Jan Carter
Rosary: Volunteer
Servers: Addison & Brynlee

January 1st- Sunday- New Year's Day-

8:30 AM:

Lector: Ken Duppong
Ushers: Don & Deb Wanner
Rosary: David Johnson
Servers: Simon & Jovie

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

Christmas Mass Schedule

Saturday, Christmas Eve

4:00 PM - Sacred Heart

7:00 PM - St. Ann's

Midnight Mass - Sacred Heart

Sunday, Christmas Day

9:00 AM - Sacred Heart

11:00 AM - St. Ann's

Mass Schedule – Central Time

Masses at St. Ann's

Saturday 6:30 PM

Sunday 8:30 AM

Tuesday & Friday 9:00 AM

Masses at Sacred Heart:

Saturday 9:00 AM & 4:00 PM

Sunday 10:30 AM

Thursday 9:00 AM

Parish Office Hours are 10 AM TO 1PM

Tuesdays and Fridays

Stewardship of Treasure

Adult: \$1265

Loose: \$122.35

Flower Donations: \$140

Thank you for your donations!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

***Search-** If anyone is interested in Search please get a hold of Sally Vogle!

***Bible Study-** Tuesday after 9am Mass in the basement & Wednesday 7pm in the library - Session 2 - Matthew chapter 1: In the genealogy we find Jacob and his son Joseph (husband of Mary). We recall another Jacob and his son Joseph in Egypt. "The first would not sleep with his master's wife; the second would not sleep with his Master's wife." - from a talk on Matthew by Tim Gray.

***January 7th-** The children's Christmas Program at St. Ann's will be after Saturday night Mass! Come join!

***Raffle-** Please check to see if you won a raffle gift- they are in the gathering space! Thank you!

**Thank you to all that
donated money, items and
time for our Christmas Raffle,
Poinsettias and Giving Tree!
God bless!**

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“And the Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us.” One Christmas day, a young family was outside, making a snowman, and a plane flew overhead. After it had passed, the tiniest child turned to her father and asked, “Daddy, how do people climb up into the sky and get into the planes?” Her father explained that passengers didn’t have to climb up to the sky to get into planes. The planes came down from the sky to get the passengers. The child’s question helps us to understand the mystery of Christmas. We don’t have to climb to the sky to get to God. Rather, God, in Jesus Christ, has come down to earth to me. May we prayerfully ponder this great mystery of our Faith throughout the Christmas season. It is always good to have a childlike faith, but never better than at Christmas.

Buckle Up, Because We Are in for the Long Haul

With the New Year soon upon us, I will begin a new faith formation series in our parish bulletin. For the entirety of the year, we will be focusing on the saints of the Catholic Church, highlighting one saint per week whose feast day falls within that given week. Some might be concerned that it may get a bit tedious, staying on the same topic for 365 days. Can we say, “Boring!” But I believe you will enjoy this series because the saints are incredible people.

They are young and old; men and women; rich and poor; royalty and peasants; husbands and wives; and every other background you can enumerate. But they all had one thing in common: they loved the Lord and their entire life was given to Him with the hope of reigning eternally in heaven with Him. They inspire us, because they lived in the same world as we do, but their hearts were always set on the world to come. They endured the same joys, sorrows, and setbacks that we also must endure and they did so with such deep trust and hope in the goodness of God’s grace. Therefore, they are our great teachers in the Christian virtues, in abandonment to God’s Will, and in growing closer to the Lord in a life of intimate prayer. But even better, the saints are now our intercessors before the throne of the Lamb and plead on our behalf, that Jesus help us by the constant outpouring of His love, mercy, and grace. We indeed have friends in high places!

I hope you enjoy the series on the saints, eagerly looking forward to reading about the amazing lives of these holy servants of the Lord most high. Yet, I pray that admiration is not where we stop, but that we seek as

well to imitate them, so that one day we may reign with them in the glory of the Kingdom. God bless you saints in the making as we remember the luminaries of our Faith. Where they have gone before, may we one day follow. *All you saints of God . . . pray for us.*

Merry Christmas One and All

I offer my prayers and blessings to you and your families on this Christmas Day, as we celebrate the coming of Jesus our Savior to earth, so that one day we might be lifted up to the glory of heaven. As you gather with your families, may Jesus bless you with His grace and peace.

Thank you to everyone who remembered me at Christmas with cards & family photos; cookies and other victuals; libations; pecuniary gifts; crafts; and above all, your prayers. May God reward you for your kindness and generosity. In gratitude, I like to thank our parishioners by giving a gift back to the parishes, something that can be enjoyed for years to come. For Sacred Heart/Saint Joseph, it will be new standing sanctuary lamp and for Saint Ann’s, a Book of the Gospels cover. They are on back order, but let’s hope they arrive soon . . . as soon as modern “supply chain problems” allow.

Again, have a blessed Christmas and be assured of my prayers for you throughout the Christmas season. May the joy of that peaceful stable in Bethlehem enter into your homes as well, as we honor the King of heaven and earth. *Come, let us adore him!*

Ring in the New Year on a Prayerful Note

This year, the Feast of Mary the Mother of God falls on the weekend, so the Mass schedule will be the normal weekend schedule for our parishes. But, on New Year’s Eve (December 31st), you are welcome to join me at **Sacred Heart Church in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 11:00 p.m. to midnight**, concluding with Benediction. What a great way to ring in the New Year, by seeking God’s favor and grace. That night, you could prayerfully consider your New Year’s resolutions, like how often you will invite the priest to supper in the New Year, when German food is served (hint, hint). God bless you and your families in the New Year and may Jesus bless you with a grace-filled 2023.

The Greatest Story Ever Told, and Now Retold by our Youth

Please join us for our Christmas pageants in our parishes the weekend of January 7th and 8th. That **Saturday (January 7th) evening**, after the **6:30 p.m.** Mass, will be the ***Saint Ann's Christmas Pageant***, followed by a potluck dinner. That **Sunday (January 8th)** after the **10:30 a.m. Mass** will be the ***Sacred Heart Christmas Pageant***, followed by a pizza lunch. We hope to see you there, as we see the beauty and glory of the Nativity of our Lord brought to life before our very eyes. I was asked to play the part of one of the Wise Men, which was humbling, until I was told that this part was perfect for our local wise guy. No respect . . . even at Christmas!

Christmas Humor

Little Bobby really wanted a new bike for Christmas and he was pretty desperate. He had been naughty for most of the past year, so the chances of getting on Santa's list of good boys and girls was pretty slim. Then he had a brilliant idea! He went to the Nativity scene in the living room, took the statue of Mary, and left a note in its place. The contents of the note? It read, *"Jesus, if you want to see your mother again, make sure you bring a new bike to my home on Christmas day."* Bobby

A Point to Ponder: *"Lord Jesus, you were born of the Virgin and were crucified for all men, for all without distinction, but yet how differently they pay you back."*

[St. Rafael Arnaiz]