

December 19, 2021

## Advent

### Fourth Sunday of Advent



#### *The Blessedness of Believing*

On this Sunday we stand on the threshold of fulfillment, filled with anticipation of the Lord's coming, while we celebrate his presence in our midst. The future God has prepared for us is open before us, even though we have not yet stepped out into it. Today, we are invited to pause at the threshold and gaze for a moment into this future as with joy and hope Mary and Elizabeth meet.

An invitation is extended to us today so that we can appreciate the gift being given to us.

Today's Bulletin is printed in memory of  
Regina & Willibald Kleihege, sponsored by their family.

#### MASS INTENTIONS



Thursday, December 23

10:30 a.m. Shady Oaks – Residents & Staff

Friday, December 24

4:30 p.m. The Welfare of the Youth of the Parish

Saturday, December 25

6:30 a.m. The Welfare of the Benefactors of the Parish

10:00 a.m. The Welfare of All Parishioners

\*\*\*\* *There will be no Saturday Evening Mass* \*\*\*\*

Sunday, December 26

6:30 a.m. Janet Darilek

9:30 a.m. Willie Mae Hermes

#### 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 4:30 p.m. Mass in Praha.
- During Advent/Christmas season and in Lent.

Pray for the repose of the soul of  
**Leroy Mikulencak, Sr.**  
and the comfort of his loved ones.  
*May he rest in peace.*



#### 2021 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

Amount Yet to be Contributed ..... \$ 1,178.00

*We thank the following for their recent contributions:*

*Anonymous Donors*

We thank all those who have contributed towards our D.S.A. assessment so far. We are counting on all who have not yet contributed to the fund so far to do their part so we can pay off our debt to the bishop by year's end.

#### End of The Year Donation

We thank the anonymous donor for the recent donation of \$4,000 for the needs of the parish.

To make a tax-deductible donation you may go to <https://www.victoriadiocese.org/donate-stjoseph-moulton> and donate online or make a donation directly to St. Joseph's Church.

#### Youth Ministry Center Bake Sale/Fundraiser Update

The Y.M.C. Bake Sale/Fundraiser was very successful. We thank all those who contributed by donating/buying Bake Sale items and making monetary donations. Through your generosity we realized a profit of \$2,510.50 (\$1,085.50 from the Bake Sale, \$705 in monetary donations).

**Update on Community Thanksgiving Service/Donations to L.A.M.B. (Lavaca Assistance Ministry Body):** We thank to all those who donated canned goods and made monetary donations. We collected 32 bags of groceries and \$490.91 for our less fortunate brothers and sisters in the county.

#### PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *The Feast of the Holy Family*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28**

**Responsorial Psalm: 84**

**Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24**

**Gospel: Luke 2:41-52**

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

MON. – No Gold Star Club Meeting (Christmas Holidays)

– No Catholic Daughters Meeting

WED. – No Champions Club Meeting (Christmas Holidays)

THURS. – KC Bingo, 7:30 p.m., Moulton Oaks Hall

FRI. – Christmas Eve, See Mass Schedule. Office Closed.

SAT – Christmas Day, See Mass Schedule. No Saturday evening Mass.



**The Sanctuary Light  
will be lit this week  
in memory of Janet Darilek.**

## REFLECTION

**Micah 5:1-4a Psalm 80 Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-45**

### *Standing on the Threshold*

Today's readings open a crack and we are amazed that everything inside seems so ordinary. The readings get us ready for the imminent future, giving us glimpses into the mysteries we are about to celebrate.

Through the crack, we see Bethlehem, an unsophisticated little village that is but a stone's throw from the thriving capital, Jerusalem. If we look further through the crack in the door, to the side we will see a young pregnant woman hastening to help an older relative who is also with child. There is nothing extraordinary about this either, especially in a society that is family oriented. Young women acted in this way. Catching these glimpses of ordinary life, we might ask: Just what is God up to? Why does God choose what is ordinary to carry the radiance of the divine? Is it possible that we overlook the unpretentious through which God is revealed and mistake what is loud and flashy for what is truly marvelous?

God's choices recounted in today's readings insist that the mystery of the incarnation comes to ordinary people living ordinary lives. All that is required is an openness to do God's will, a willingness to respond to God's call.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Dec. 19 – Margaret Hoepfl Berckenhoff, Margaret Molnoskey  
Dec. 20 – Brenda Manzano  
Dec. 22 – Gregory Holub  
Dec. 24 – Allen Barta, Edward Nieto, Kenneth Schoenfeld  
Dec. 25 – Allison Drabek, Isac Manzano, Isaias Manzano

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



**Dec. 23 – Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal, 5:00-6:30 p.m.** All participants, parent helpers and choir members must attend. *The Christmas Pageant will be part of the Vigil Mass.*

**Dec. 19, 22, 26 & 29** – No C.C.D. (Christmas Holidays)  
**Dec. 20, 22, 27 & 29** – No YMC (Christmas Holidays)

**Youth Ministry Center Fund Donation  
In Memory of Mildred Pilat  
Kathy & Dcn. Kenneth Fishbeck**

**Remember the sick in your prayers this week,  
especially Robert Darilek and Ron Greening.**

**ST. JOSEPH'S PANCAKE SUNDAY TODAY**

## CHRISTMAS COLLECTION FOR THE POOR

In the spirit of sharing blessings with our less fortunate brothers and sisters, a collection will be taken up at the Christmas Masses. *We encourage you to be generous.*

***In the Past Our \*Collection Has Helped Many Charities Including:***

Shady Oaks Residents  
Lavaca Assistance Ministry Body (L.A.M.B.)  
Billy T. Cattin Recovery Outreach Center, Victoria  
Perpetual Help Home, Victoria  
Christ's Kitchen, Victoria  
Moulton 4-H Clubs, FFA Chapter & Fire Department  
& other local charities.

*\* Includes funds from the proceeds from the Fish Fry.*

## Maranatha!



Advent is the season when we stand on the threshold of fulfillment. However, it is the fulfillment of an event that has already taken place. We remember it, we ritually reenact it so we never take it for granted, so we never forget that it is in and through history that the marvelous deeds of God are accomplished. Each year we pause to celebrate these events, not because they have not yet occurred but because they *have* happened and are happening now before our eyes. The celebration of anticipation is also the celebration of fulfillment, fulfillment of the promises made, fulfillment of our redemption, fulfillment of our transformation. Blessed are we who believe that what was spoken to us by the Lord has been fulfilled!

**Christmas Day Songs of Praise:** The Christmas Choir will begin singing at 9:30 a.m.

**Christmas Altar Flower Fund Donations:** See insert.

**Christmas Pageant:**

**Dress Rehearsal December 23, 5:00-6:30 p.m.**

**Christmas Pageant, December 24 during the 4:30 p.m.**

Mass. All pageant participants and parent helpers must be at the Family Room by 4:00 p.m. The children should be dressed in their costumes.

## A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE

My dear friends,

May you have a blessed Christmas. May Christ's coming among us bring happiness and peace to all families.

God bless,



**Raphael's Refuge - Mass for the Feast Day of the Holy Innocents:** Rosary/Christmas carols at 10:15 a.m., Mass at 11:00 a.m. Refreshments after Mass. All are welcome.