



4100 Lyell Road
Rochester, New York 14606
www.theparishoftheholymfamily.org
email: pothf@outlook.com

Mission Statement:

The Parish of the Holy Family is devoted to sharing the kingdom of God: making disciples through word, worship, fellowship, service, and love.

Weekday Mass Times :

Monday thru Friday 9:00AM

Vietnamese Mass :

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
6:00PM

Weekend Mass Times:

Saturday	4:00PM
Sunday	9:00AM 5:00PM

Vietnamese Mass:

Saturday	8:00AM
Sunday	11:30AM

Office Phone Number:

(585) 247-4322
(585) 429-5111 (fax)

Office Hours:

Monday, thru Friday 9AM-3PM
(or by appointment)

Website:

www.theparishoftheholymfamily.org

Confession– Saturday 9-10AM
or BY APPOINTMENT: 247-4322

If you are seeking the following
Sacraments, please call the office.

Baptism
Marriage
RCIA
Reconciliation

The Parish of the Holy Family

Growing in Faith Together

ALL ARE WELCOME

First Week of ADVENT

December 3, 2023



Greetings from Deacon Dan

Greetings, brothers and sisters! My name is Deacon Dan Pavlina and, in January, I will begin my new assignment as deacon at Holy Family Parish. My wife and I are really excited to begin this new journey and to become a part of the parish family.

I was ordained in 2003 and have been assigned since then at St. Mary's of the Lake Church in Watkins Glen and St. Benedict's Church in Odessa, where I have been a parishioner since 1978. In June, my wife, Jeanne, and I moved to Victor to be closer to our children and grandchildren. We have been married for 44 years and have three adult daughters. Sarah, our eldest, lives in Chili and has one son. Our middle daughter, Rachel, lives in Pittsford and has three children, two boys and a girl. Our youngest, Michelle, lives in Charlotte, NC, and as of now, has no children. I am also blessed to still have my mother with us. She lives in Horseheads and is 101 years old.

As for personal hobbies, I love reading, golf, disc golf, and music. Jeanne and I hope to do some travelling in the near future. I am a New York State Exempt Firefighter, having served in both the Elmira Heights and Lansing departments. In Lansing, I was promoted to First Lieutenant. It is a major reason that one of my favorite saints is St. Florian, a Roman soldier who was a firefighter during the time of the great fire in Rome.

Both Jeanne and I were born in Elmira and met in college. I worked in IT for my entire career until I retired in May of 2022 and Jeanne was the Faith Formation Coordinator in Watkins Glen, until she retired in 2021. We both love camping, singing and spending time with family. As you may have heard, I am a Baltimore Orioles fan since they had a farm team in Elmira, while I was growing up. GO BIRDS! I know that we are in Buffalo Bills territory, so we won't talk about my favorite football team!

With some other members of our parish, I was able to start a weekly free meal for anyone in the community who wishes to attend. We call this the Community Table and it draws anywhere from 30 – 50 people a week. It was my dream to do something like this since before I was ordained and it has been incredible to see it begin and grow. I will still be involved with this from time to time, but I also know that I have great people who can take over leadership at any time.

One thing to know about me is I don't have the gift that many priests have. I am HORRIBLE at remembering names, so please be patient with me. I will do my best to know you by name as soon as I can. If I don't address you by name, please remind me

Continued on page three.....



MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday/Sunday, December 2/3

8:00AM-FM +Vietnamese Parishioners
 4:00PM +Charles Adams by Family
 +Jim Robinson by Mary Robinson
 +James Murphy by Jerry & Carol Patterson
 9: 00AM +Vincenzo Marino by Wife & Family
 +Rachel Pastorella by Granddaughter Marlene
 +Ray Contrino by The Men's Club
 11:30AM-FM +Vietnamese Parishioners
 5:00PM- +All Parishioners

Preacher: Fr. Martin All Masses

Monday, December 4- ST. John Damascene, Priest

9:00AM- +Deceased Bonsanto & Quattrone Families
 by Tony & Mickey
 6:00PM-FM +Vietnamese Parishioners



Tuesday, December 5

9:00AM +Bernard Statt by the Rosary Group
 6:00PM-FM +Vietnamese Parishioners

Wednesday, December 6- Saint Nicholas, Bishop

9:00AM- +Special Intention for Jackie by Tom & Agnes
 +Virginia D. Marsico by Daughter Deborah
 +Juan Santos by Family



Thursday, December 7- St. Ambrose, Bishop

9:00AM- +Arcangelo & Felicia Mancino by Family
 +Frank Taccone by Tom & Agnes Falvo
 6:00PM- +All Parishioners

Friday, December 8 Immaculate Conception

9:00AM- +All Parishioners
 7:30PM-FM +Vietnamese Parishioners



Saturday/Sunday, December 9/10

8:00AM-FM +Vietnamese Parishioners
 4:00PM- +All Parishioners
 9:00AM- +Anniversary Cam Ruggerio by Husband
 +Ray Contrino by The Men's Club
 +Darlene Ayotte by John & Pat Krywy
 11:30AM-FM +Vietnamese Parishioners
 5:00PM- +Betty, Chuck & Jim Allison by Family
 +George Behrens by Pat Behrens
 +Giuseppe & Christopher Arena by Family

Preacher: Fr. Steve 4PM,9AM, 5PM Fr. Martin 11:30AM



Sanctuary Lamp



In Loving Memory of
 +DON ELDRIDGE+
 by wife Joanne

In Loving Memory of
 +ABIUSO & MARTINO FAMILIES+
 by Family

Pastor - Fr. Steven Lape

Ext. 101 fr.steven.lape@dor.org

Parochial Vicar ~ Fr. Martin Truong

Ext. 143 fr.martin.truong@dor.org

Deacon

Deacon Binh-Yen Nguyen 247-4322
 Binh-Yen.Nguyen@dor.org

Director of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry

Rose Dunning Ext. 104 Rose.Dunning@dor.org

Regional Finance Director-

Christopher Frontale
 Christopher.Frontale@dor.org

Music Rebecca Kemp

Ext. 137 Rebecca.Kemp@dor.org

Peggy Brown, Part-time Secretary

& Cemetery Coordinator
 Ext. 100 Peggy.Brown@dor.org

Susan Hosie, Bookkeeper

Ext. 108 Sue.Hosie@dor.org

Paul Lobene, Admin. Assistant

Ext. 107 Paul.Lobene@dor.org

Kelly Winkworth Admin. Assistant

Ext. 109 Kelly.Winkworth@dor.org

Parish Staff



Parish Council Members

Tom Basset
 (585)-426-3110 / tatma5@aol.com

Robert Capellazzi (585) 738-8846
 RCapellazzi@rochester.rr.com

Joanne Sleight (585) 738-6779
 josl8@frontiernet.net

Paula Arthmann/pma36@live.com

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 jnguyen6551@gmail.com

Kelly Winkworth
 kelly.winkworth@gmail.com

Pam Allison
 pallison789@gmail.com

Mitch Hetko (585) 747-4639
 mitchh1@aol.com

Eddie Gartz (585) 957-3743
 snapusa1@gmail.com



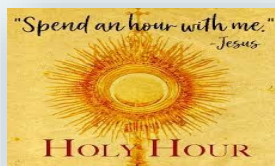
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I am trained in pastoral counseling, so if you need to talk, to see where God may be active in your life, please come to me. I will be honored to walk with you through whatever you may be facing.

My preaching style may be a little different than what you are used to. I like to preach without notes and to be more conversational with my homilies. I have even been known to step out of the ambo and speak from the front of the sanctuary. I welcome any feedback you may have, as I always feel that makes me a better preacher. You will notice a couple of themes that run through my homilies. It was once said that a preacher preaches the same homily over and over, just using different words. You will often hear the message of hope and also the care for God's *anawim*, the little ones, meaning the poor, the widow and the orphan. As explained to me in my diaconal formation, my job is to have one foot in the secular world and one foot in "church world," so I try to make the scriptures relatable and something we can all employ in our daily lives.

As I said earlier, I am really looking forward to ministering with you at Holy Family. Having served with Father Steve in the past, I relish the thought of picking up where we left off. There were a lot of laughs, bad jokes and some serious love and care for the people we served. I am eager to meet you all and begin a new journey with you toward our heavenly home. Peace to you, and all that's good.

Deacon Dan



HOLY HOUR In December



Join us for our next one on **Friday, December 15, from 7 to 8 p.m.** in the church. The Holy Hour will include the recitation of the Rosary (you can bring your own rosary or you can ask for one), Evening Prayer from the Liturgy of the Hours, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, music, and a period of quiet for personal prayer. Come, relax, and be refreshed with the Lord's Holy Presence!



PRO-LIFE REFLECTION

No one can tame the tongue...With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. —Jas 3:8-9

Reflection: In the efforts to oppress various segments of humanity, dehumanizing language is always used. The unborn have been called "parasites," "tissue," and other non-personal names.

Such language not only degrades persons, but dishonors the One who made them in His image. The Culture of Life demands language that ennobles and honors.

Prayer: Guard our tongues, Lord God, that what we say about human lives may always honor them and You.



Our new Cremation Garden is now open for sales of cremation plots and/or niches.

This new section of our cemetery is located behind the shrine of Mary and will feature an above-ground octagonal columbarium with 96 niches. Each plot or niche will hold two standard-size cremation urns. Please stop by the Parish Office to see the map of the garden showing all the plots, and to get a price list to assist you in selecting a family plot or niche. **Call Peggy at the office 247-4322.**



December "Faith & Film Night"

Come and enjoy our next feature in our very popular "Faith & Film" series, which will be on **Wednesday, Dec. 20th, from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. in our Parish Life Center.** It's a fun way to enjoy free movie entertainment and grow in your faith, with a discussion to follow the film, concerning its faith messages.

Our next feature will be **"Come to the Stable,"** a classic 1949 film, with comedy, music, and drama, that was nominated for 7 Academy Awards. Based loosely on a true story, the film concerns 2 young nuns who attempt to build a children's hospital, but face obstacles all around: no money, no land, and not many supporters. Yet, they have one thing that counts the most: faith! Loretta Young and Celeste Holm both received Oscar nominations for their roles.

The film is loaded with themes that tie in well with the spirit of Christmas. Even though the film was not previously rated, consider it a G film. Please RSVP by calling 247-4322. Bring a friend and enjoy!



Advent Day of Penance

Our parish will be holding an Advent "Day of Penance" on **Wednesday, Dec. 13th.** Prepare for Christmas by experiencing God's merciful love through Christ's wonderful, healing gift of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confessions that day will be heard from **12 to 6 p.m.** Two priests will be available during that time to hear confessions. Receive God's grace through this beautiful Sacrament!

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE 2023

Please Note: There will be a box on the table next to the main tree for people to place any gift cards they may have purchased from off of our Christmas Giving Tree.



BLUE ARMY PRAYER GROUP

The Blue Army Prayer Group meets at 7PM in Church every Thursday. All are welcome to attend.



If you give some of your own food to [feed] those who are hungry and to satisfy [the needs of] those who are humble, then your light will rise in the dark, and your darkness will become as bright as the noonday sun.

~ Isaiah 58:10

Holy Day of Obligation: Immaculate Conception



Each year, we celebrate Mary's being immaculately conceived in the womb of her mother, St. Anne. The usual date for this feast is December 8th, and it's usually one of the 6 non-Sunday holy days of obligation, which requires Mass attendance on that day for all Catholics. (The other 5 holy days, just as a reminder, include: Christmas on Dec. 25th, Mary Mother of God on Jan. 1st, Ascension Thursday between the 6th & 7th Sundays of Easter, Assumption of Mary on Aug. 15th, and All Saints Day on Nov. 1st.) Our Mass schedule for the Immaculate Conception solemnity is the Thursday, **Dec. 7th, Vigil Mass at 6 p.m., Friday, Dec. 8th, at 9 a.m. and Friday evening Mass in Vietnamese at 7:30.** Come and celebrate with us for that special day, honoring our Blessed Mother.



Looking for Altar Servers

We are hoping to build up once again our list of altar servers to assist at weekend Masses. Those baptized Catholics who are in 4th grade or older and have received 1st Communion are invited to serve in this role.

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Fr. Steve.



HOLY GHOST CEMETERY

Holiday Decorations may be placed at the cemetery between the dates of **November 1, 2023 & April 1, 2024.**

Please be sure to remove all decorations by **April 1.**

Thank you for your cooperation.



2024 SAVEAROUND ROCHESTER Books

Makes a perfect Christmas Gift!

Books are \$25. For every book sold, \$10 comes back to our Parish! Books are now available for sale after Mass, and also available in the Parish Office.

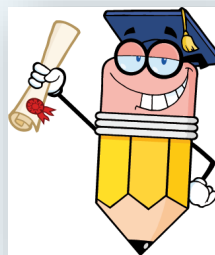
"Welcome the Child" Concert



St. Pius X Church in Chili is hosting a free concert called "Welcome the Child" on Sunday, Dec. 17th, at 3 p.m. This classic Christmas collection by renowned liturgical composer Marty Haugen is truly one of a kind, and a unique musical experience for the whole family to enjoy! An adult choir, children's choir, and an instrumental ensemble make up the cast. Doors open at 2:30 p.m. A reception will follow in the Parish Center at St. Pius X, which is located at 3010 Chili Avenue. All are welcome, so come and enjoy!

CATHOLIC REVIEWS FOR FILMS

With movie viewing a popular Winter activity, it's wise to check ahead to see what the content in these films is, since they may be problematic according to our high Christian faith standards. Check the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) website for movie reviews (especially for current releases), film recommendations (especially family releases), morality ratings, and descriptions of problematic content (profanity, sex, violence, and other issues) to help you be more knowledgeable in your choices before going out to the movies. Just go to its website, which is www.usccb.org/movies, and find out what you're getting into before walking into a film that may be less than suitable for what you want.



Vogel Legacy Award Tuition Assistance the Vogel Legacy Award was established by the Vogel Family to help offset the cost of a Catholic School education.

All registered parishioners of the Parish of the Holy Family are eligible for this award. Application and information packets will be available soon.

Please direct any questions to **Rose Dunning** at 247-4322 x 140.



If you have not received your church envelopes in the mail, they may be at your post office. Please contact your local post office.



Participation in Baptism Preparation Class is necessary before your child is baptized. Please contact the office at least three months before the date you would like to celebrate this sacrament.

Please contact Sue Hosie at (585)247-4322 Ext. 108 Or email: Sue.Hosie@dor.org



EVERY TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY will meet at 7PM in person in the Library . No previous Bible Study experience is required. Feel free to join us any evening and see if it meets your needs.

Lord, hold our troops in Your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.

Dominic Bushen, Army	Shawn Bunton, Army National Guard
James Calamita, Army	Vincent Le, Marines
Anthony Calamita, Army	Daniel Davis, Army
Martin DeBock, Army	Timothy Vara, Navy
Russell Montante Jr., Air Force	Aimee Muscato-Bateman, Army
Michael Rigoni, Navy	Michael Shott, Army
Ethan Stott, Army	Evan Stott, Navy
Jason Bosch, Navy	Andrew Zani, Army
Christopher Decker, Navy	Anthony Gionta, Army
Quinn Calder, Army	Ryan Principi, Air Force
Jason Mickelson, Navy	



If you have someone in the Military, please send their name to Paul Lobene at:
Paul.Lobene@dor.org and they will be added to our list.



Every
Donation
Makes A
Difference

Christmas Food Basket Needs:
Please bring all items to the food cupboard
by December 15.

Turkeys
Eggs

Butter

Hams
Milk



Attention please -- A VERY BIG THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO OUR THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKET DRIVE. NO MATTER HOW BIG OR SMALL YOU HELPED THE PARISH FEED 25 FAMILIES AND BY DOING SO THESE FAMILIES WERE ABLE TO PUT A THANKSGIVING DINNER ON THEIR TABLE. THANK YOU!



Food Cupboard hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday
10 a.m. to Noon
by appointment

Our SEMINARIANS
Need Your **PRAYERS**



"They left everything and followed Him." -Lk 5:11



James Muscatella
Holy Family
Gales, NY



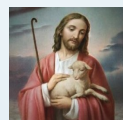
David Catalano
Our Lady of Peace
Geneva, NY



George Bastedo IV
Saint Joseph the Worker
Clyde, NY



Joseph Maurer
Saint Thomas the Apostle
Bronxville, NY



A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

God of Love, Our World is wrought with war and violence, as brother turns on brother, and the innocent awake to gunfire and bombs.

May Your compassion and healing move hearts and bring a new day to Ukraine. Fortify your children to resist aggression and instead become instruments of peace. We ask this in the name of the One who is the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. —



WEEKLY EVENTS

December 3 thru December 10

Sunday- December 3

10AM Jr. Sr. Faith Formation-PLC
1-3PM VCC Advent Retreat-CH

Monday- December 4

3PM Madonna Rosary (Italian)-CH
7PM Bible Study (Zoom)

Tuesday- December 5

7PM Bible Study-LIB

Wednesday- December 6

Thursday- December 7

1PM Women in Faith-LLMR
6PM Immaculate Conception Vigil Mass-CH

Friday- December 8

9AM Immaculate Conception Mass-CH

Saturday December 9

9AM Second Saturday Devotion-CH

Sunday- December 10

10AM Jr. Sr. Faith Formation-PLC

NCYC-2023



Five of the parish's teens, Caroline Arthmann, Alyssa Basset, Maddie Basset, Leah Reh and Mariana Silivestro, along with their chaperones Gina Capellazzi and Matthew Reh, recently attended the National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC) in Indianapolis, Indiana.

During the two-day conference, the teens participated in Masses and adoration, listened to speakers, attended workshops and more. They also met and interacted with teens from all over the U.S. The teens and chaperones had an amazing time and came back feeling fully alive in their faith.

Thank you to Rose Dunning, who organized the trip for the teens and who checked in with the group each day, and thank you to the parish for the prayers and support.



December

December 3, 10a.m.-11:30 a.m. Parish Life Center.

December 10, 10a.m.-11:30a.m. Parish Life Center.

Saturday, December 16th-Annual

Helping with Family Enrichment followed by our Christmas Party.

We will start with Mass at 4:00pm followed by the Family Enrichment session. Dinner will be provided.





Attendance/Financial

November 18/19

Budget: \$ 12,000

Total: \$11,680

Variance: \$ (320)

YTD Actual: \$ 256,281

YTD Budget: \$252,000

YTD Variance: \$4,281

Attendance: 938



Attendance/Financial

November 25/26

Budget: \$ 12,000

Total: \$11,706

Variance: \$ (294)

YTD Actual: \$ 269,964 (Incl. E-giving)

YTD Budget: \$264,000

YTD Variance: \$5,964

E-giving- 11/1 to 11/26 \$1,977

Attendance: 995

Attention please



SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

This weekend, there will be a special second collection at all the weekend Masses to help promote quality, faith-filled Catholic education at the Catholic University of America and other Catholic institutions of higher learning around our country. You can make a big difference in sharing our faith in Christ to future generations not only in helping to shape students intellectually in the various fields of study, but morally and spiritually. Thanks in advance for your prayers and any financial assistance you can provide that weekend.



REGISTRATION REQUEST FORM

It is always a great joy to welcome new members to our Community. Are you interested in becoming a member of the Parish of the Holy Family Community or would you like further information on our Parish? Please cut out this coupon and put it in the collection.

We will then have a member of our Welcoming Committee

contact you to complete the Registration Form and/or share information with you.

Name _____

Address _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Best time to contact:

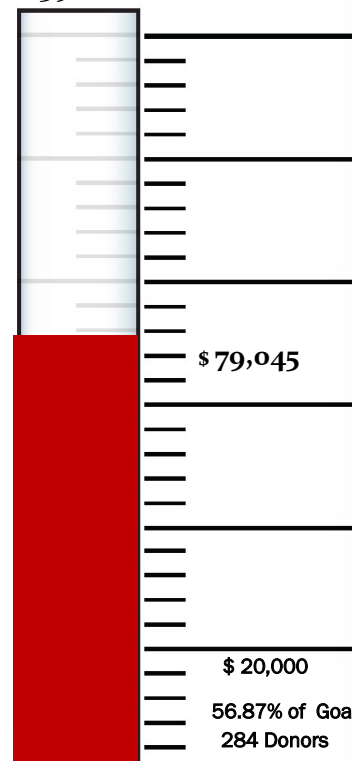
AM _____ PM _____

Forward in Faith



\$139,00

OUR GOAL!



Current Figures as of November 26
Thank you for your generosity!



Everyone can use more prayer. Anyone, regardless of age, can request a prayer for any purpose-spiritual, physical, emotional health, loss of a loved one, or family problems.

To activate the Prayer Tree, call the parish office at 247-4322 with the person's first name and a brief description of their need. Soon, many people will be praying for your concern. Anyone who would like to be a part of this ministry can call the parish office.



Have you seen the screens at Mass and are interested in learning more about how it is done? We are looking for new members to join the A/V Media Ministry team to assist at all three weekend Masses. No prior experience is required. Full training will be provided. If you are interested, please email paul.lobene@dor.org.



Mùa Vọng là mùa mong chờ Chúa đến. Đây không chỉ là dịp nhắc lại biến cố Tình Yêu Ngôi Hai xuống thế làm Người. Nhưng còn nhắc nhở chúng ta lần xuống thế thứ hai vào giờ cánh chung. Ngày mà mọi người chúng ta bước ra trước toà chung thẩm.

Có thể chúng ta nghĩ Mùa Vọng, mùa Giáng Sinh năm nào lại không có. Rồi chúng ta để nó trôi qua đi mà không bổ ích gì cho chúng ta.

Có một bài báo muốn khảo sát xem nước nào bán được nhiều bảo hiểm hơn và kết quả là những nước có nền kinh tế vững vàng thì người ta mua bảo hiểm nhiều hơn. Con người, hầu hết ai cũng lo lắng cho số phận của mình, tương lai của mình, nên con người luôn cố vươn lên để đảm bảo cho cuộc sống không những hiện tại mà còn ở tương lai của mình. Nên khi con người có khả năng hơn về kinh tế, thì con người sẽ nghĩ ngậy tới phần bảo hiểm.

Khi người ta xin vào một công ty xí nghiệp nào, thì dường như điều đầu tiên là người ta hỏi xem bảo hiểm của hãng đó, xí nghiệp đó có những loại bảo hiểm nào, cover được bao nhiêu để nhằm bảo đảm cho cuộc sống tương lai của họ.

Tại sao người ta lại quan tâm về những loại bảo hiểm? Bởi vì những cái chuyện bất ưng, những cái chuyện tai nạn, những cái chuyện mất công ăn việc làm dường như nó có tính bất ngờ, khó mà có thể tiên liệu trước được. Vì cái sự bất ngờ đó mà người ta tìm mọi cách để bảo vệ mình, ích là bảo vệ một cách nào đó, một phần nào đó. Nhưng chúng ta nên nhớ không có một cái bảo hiểm nào có thể bảo hiểm cho chúng ta khi chúng ta chết rồi chúng ta sẽ được sống lại. Chúa Giêsu sẽ đến, đến với chúng ta, hãy dọn mình đón chờ Chúa. Ngài sẽ đến lúc chúng ta không ngờ, vậy hãy luôn sẵn sàng.



December 10, 2023 Second Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 / Second Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14 / Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

If you can envision yourself living during the time of John the Baptist's ministry, do you think you would have responded to his message to, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight"? Would you have stopped, turned from what you were doing and moved toward him to heed his call, or would you have simply noted his presence and continued on your way unaffected? Perhaps a more important question is how will you respond to the call to prepare for Christ's coming during this Advent Season?

Jesus, of course, has already appeared in the flesh. This is what we celebrate as the First Advent of Christ, commonly called Christmas. Jesus is going to appear a second time to complete His reign as Lord and ruler of all. This future appearing is commonly referred to as Jesus' Second Coming, or Second Advent. This Second Advent is something we should look forward to with hope and anticipation as all of history submits to His rule and reign. In between these two historical events, there are many individual advents of Jesus as He appears in the lives of people and comes to reside there. These personal appearances in our lives as Savior and Lord should be recognized and recalled with equal gratitude and celebration. The Advent Season provides an opportunity when this spirit of hope, expectation, and preparation can be renewed as we recall, with gratitude, celebration and hope, all three advents of Jesus.

Preparing the way of the Lord can be likened to preparing the soil of a garden to receive new seed. The hardness of the ground must be broken up into loose, receptive soil. Weeds must be pulled up and removed, and a place prepared so that the seed can be received, take root and thrive. John the Baptist used the term "repentance" to speak of this spiritual preparation to welcome Jesus' reign as Savior and Lord. Because of misuse, the term "repentance" has received somewhat of a bad rap. Repentance is not mental, emotional, and spiritual flagellation. Rather, repentance is turning from the direction we were going and turning toward God's call of love and forgiveness. It is moving toward the one who calls, with your arms and heart opened wide to receive and be received.

Preparing the way of the Lord implies a readiness to change, which, in the words of Dietrich Von Hildebrand, "might even better be termed *readiness to become another man....* To do so, he is not required literally to relinquish everything in the sense of the evangelical counsels: this would be in answer to another, more particular call. He is merely required to relinquish his old self, the natural foundation, and all purely natural standards, and open himself entirely to Christ's action — comprehending and answering the call addressed to *all* Christians: 'Put on the new man, who according to God is created in justice and holiness of truth.'"*

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight," and opening yourself "entirely to Christ's action" is still the message of Advent. Will you simply acknowledge the presence of the call and pass on, busily pursuing other things? Or will you stop and turn, opening wide your heart to Jesus, welcoming His appearing in your life?



* *Transformation in Christ*, by Dietrich Von Hildebrand, page 8.

Fall-Winter Recipes- Whole Grain Cherry Almond Cookies

Ingredients:

- 1 1/4 cup Unbleached White Whole Wheat Flour
- 1 cup Milled Flax Seeds
- 3/4 tsp baking soda
- 1 pkg (8 oz) almond paste
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 cup Unsalted Butter, softened
- 3/4 cup Dark Brown Sugar, packed
- 1 Large Brown Egg
- 1 tsp Pure Vanilla Extract
- 2 cups Sweetened Dried Cherries
- 1 cup Wegmans Blanched Slivered Almonds, toasted



- Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Combine flour, flaxseed and baking soda in a small bowl. Set aside.
- Beat almond paste in large mixing bowl, gradually adding water until well-blended and smooth. Add butter and dark brown sugar; mix until creamy. Add egg and vanilla; mix until combined. Gradually beat in flour mixture until nearly combined. Add dried cherries and almonds; stir until evenly distributed.
- Drop rounded Tbsp of dough onto ungreased baking sheets. Bake 10-12 min until done; centers will be soft and edges
- Let cookies rest 1-2 min on baking sheet before transferring to cooling rack.