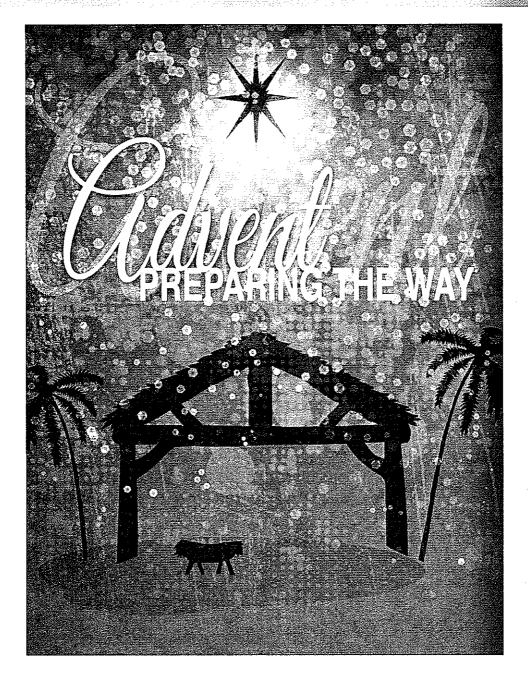
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 4, 2016



Welcoming the Christ in one another

NEW PRAGUE AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Three Sites of Worship, One Faith Community

Including St. Wenceslaus &
The Western Catholic Community of St. John the Evangelist and St. Scholastica

We welcome you...

Welcome to the greater New Prague Area Catholic Community which includes the Church of St. Wenceslaus and the Western Catholic Community of St. John the Evangelist and St. Scholastica. We are happy you are here. Should you be visiting just for today, WELCOME! If you are seeking a church home, we would be honored to have you consider joining our faith community. If you are interested in a membership, please phone the parish office for assistance and registration. If you are over the age of 21, we ask that you register. Please feel free to stop by the parish office during office hours to register or you may do so online. Again, we are happy you are here.

At the Church of St. Wenceslaus

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

MASS SCI	HEDULE .
Weekend Masses	
Saturday	4:00 pm
Sunday	8:30 & 10:30 am
Morning Word & Communio	
Monday & Tuesday	8:00 am
Weekday Masses	
Wednesday, Thursday & Frig	day 8:00 am

SACRAMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

Anointing of the Sick

Available to those who are seriously ill or suffering from a prolonged illness. Call 952-758-3225

Confirmation

Preparation required. Call 952-758-5131

Reconciliation

Saturdays at 3 pm in the church.

Baptism

Preparation required. Call 952-758-3225

Marriage

Six months to one year preparation time required. Call 952-758-3225

Rosary

Monday - Friday 7:30 am & Saturday 8:00 am in the church.

Fatima Prayer Cell

Monday - Wednesday after 8 am service in the chapel.

Friday 9:00 am to midnight in the chapel

Early Morning Scripture Study

Wednesday 6:45 to 7:50 am - Pius X Room in church basement.

Fr. Kevin's Bible Study

Saturdays 9:30 to 11 am - Pius X Room in church basement.

Praver Chain

ludy: 952-758-2220 or Arnita: 952-758-4943

From the Desk of Father Kevin

A New Liturgical Year

The Advent Season opens a new liturgical year for the Church. This is a season of HOPE as we celebrate the birthday of our Saylor and await his second coming at the close of human history. While last year Pope Francis asked us to focus on God's mercy, we might use this Advent season to focus on HOPE. Human beings cannot live without hope. Unlike the animals, we are blessed--or cursed--with the ability to think about the future and to fear our actions in shaping it. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is to surrender to death in despair. But we can hope and pray for: our children, that they might be saved from our mistakes and the sufferings we have known; for a better world, throwing ourselves into politics or medicine or technology so that future generations might be better off.

The coming of Jesus in history, as a partial fulfillment of God's promises, immeasurably confirms and strengthens our hope. In Jesus with us and in us, we know that God is not far off, but is already in our midst.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE New Prague Area Catholic Community

Advent Individual Confessions

SW: Saturdays during Advent ~ Nov. 26, Dec. 3, 10 & 17, 3 pm **SJ:** during Advent ~ Dec. 7 & 14, 5:30 pm & Dec. 19, 6:30-8 pm SS: during Advent ~ Dec. 15 & 22, 5:30 pm & Dec. 20, 6:30-8 pm

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Holyday of Obligation **SJ:** Wed., Dec. 7, 5 pm ~ **SW:** Thursday, Dec 8, 8 am & 7 pm SS: Thursday, Dec 8, 7 pm

Advent Penitential Celebrations SW: Tuesday, Dec. 13, 6 pm & Saturday, Dec. 17, 11 am

St. Wenceslaus School Christmas Program

Thursday, Dec. 15, 1 & 6:30 pm

Faith Formation Christmas Programs

Spirit of Christmas Program and Pageant SW: Wed., Dec. 14, 6 pm Program in PAC followed by Nativity Pageant in Church WCC Faith Formation Mass and Christmas Program **SJ:** Wed., Dec. 21, 6:45 pm

Reconciliation at Mala Strana for Residents Thursday, December 15, 11 am

Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24th SW: Masses 4 pm, 6 pm & 9:30 pm (From 5-6 pm and 7-9:30 pm ~ Carols will be sung) SI: Mass 11 pm

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25th **SS:** Mass 8 am & **SJ:** Mass 10 am ~ **SW:** Mass 10:30 am

New Year's Weekend - Solemnity of Mary Saturday, December 31st

SW: Mass 4 pm ~ **SJ:** Mass 8:15 pm Sunday, January 1st

SS: Mass 8 am & **SJ:** Mass 10 am ~ **SW:** Mass 8:30 & 10:30 am

Western Catholic Community

From the Desk of Father Dave

Mary in December

In 1846, the bishops of the United States declared Blessed Virgin Mary to be the patroness of the United States of America. In December, we remember her and ask for her intercession in a variety of ways.

December 8th is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. We commemorate that Mary was conceived without original sin. This doctrine is significant because it allows Mary to be the perfect vessel for carrying Jesus into our fallen world. In 1854, the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception was declared. Theologians over the centuries had written about this action of God. Some accuse Catholics of worshiping Mary. While we do treat her with high regard, we only worship the Triune God. Mary, in her goodness, always points us toward her Son Jesus Christ. We want Mary to pray for us so that we may make it to Heaven. Jesus saves and Mary intercedes on our behalf.

On December 12th, the Church celebrates the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe. This occurred in 1531 in Mexico City to a peasant name Juan Diego. He convinced the bishop of her appearance by giving his cloak, referred to as his tilma, to the bishop with an imprint of Our Lady. This tilma, still brightly colored, is displayed in a church in Mexico City that bears her name. The Mexican people and many other Latinos hold this day to be very special. I have witnessed this day as a big celebration a few times in my life.

The third celebration of Mary is actually a celebration of Jesus. This would be the Nativity on December 25th. The birth of the Savior is prominent, but Mary's participation in this miracle cannot be overlooked. As Catholics, we have a whole season to celebrate this great act of faith that allowed God to become a man in this world. More on the nativity as we move closer. Mary is so important to the Church that we ask her to pray for us.

Fr. Dave Barrett

Regional Associate Pastor

New Prague Area Catholic Community

Mass Schedule Volunteers - St. John's & St. Scholastica

Dec. 10 & 11, 2016	Saturday St. John's 8:15 PM	Sunday St. Scholastica 8:00 AM	Sunday St. John's 10:00 AM	
Lector	Mary Carol Wolf	Becky Colwell	Dan O'Brien	
Eucharistic Ministers	Carol Weiers Ann Prochaska, Becky Colwell & Gary Odenthal		Kaylynn Solheid, Amy Lemke & Jonila Weiers	
Servers	Mitchel & Hunter Pomije	Julia & Joe Schoenecker	Alex & Craig Brezina, Avery & Jordyn Marsh	
Gift Bearer Family		Brad Heimer Family	Tom Fahey Family	

Important Information

Weekend Masses

MCCKCIIU MB33C3		
Saturday	8:15 pm	St. John's
Sunday	8:00 am	St. Scholastica
Sunday	10:00 am	St. John's
Weekday Masses		
Wednesday	5:00 pm	St. John's
Thursday		St. Scholastica

SACRAMENTS & OTHER INFORMATION

Reconciliation

Wednesday	5:30 pm	St. John's
Thursday	5:30 pm	St. Scholastica

Baptism & Confirmation

Preparation required. Call Fr. Dave Barrett

Anointing of the Sick

Call Fr. Dave Barrett

Marriage

Prep required. Call Fr. Dave Barrett

Adoration

Fridays 9:00 am to midnight at St. Wenceslaus Daily Chapel

WESTERN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OFFICE

20087 Hub Drive, New Prague 56071 952-758-4642

Rev. Dave Barrett

Regional Associate Pastor

952-758-0469 (O) 651-470-0970 (C) Dave.Barrett@npcatholic.org

Dave Dairette in peatinoileio

Deacon Bob Wagner

Pastoral Associate

952-758-3225 (O) 612-703-0808 (C) Bob.Wagner@npcatholic.org

Faith Formation:

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Hall Rental:

Patty Giesen 952-758-3008

kpgiesen@bevcomm.net

Prayer Chain WCC:

Jackie Henle	952-758-3465
Noreen Giesen	952-758-2608
Marlene Dohmen	952-492-6879

COLLECTION INFORMATION WESTERN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2016

Total Collected 11/27/16	\$2,292
Collections at Mass	\$2,012
Electronic Collections	\$280
Under Budget for the Week	\$608
Budgeted for Next Week	\$2,900
Actual Collection YTD	\$63,039
Under Budget YTD	\$754

Thank you for your support! Bulletin E-mail: info@npcatholic.org Website: http://www.npcatholic.org

PARISH AND AREA NEWS

FCSLA Meeting

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Assn. Branch W001 will hold their quarterly meeting on Tues., Dec. 6th at 6 pm at State Bank of New Prague Meeting Room.

Volunteers Needed to Help the Homeless!

What: The St. Paul Dorothy Day Center will be opening a new homeless shelter in December, 2016.

Who: Volunteers are needed to serve a meal and be a

friend to those Christ loved the most.

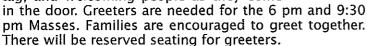
When: Beginning daily in December, 1-2 people are needed from 7-10 pm to serve dinner, provide

light clean up, and be a friend.

How: Call Norb Sticha at 758-3888 to select a date to drive and volunteer together. Visit www.friendsofdorothyday.org for more detailed information (new volunteers would be paired with experienced volunteers). The work is easy and the rewards are great. Please consider. One (1) evening a month or one (1) evening a year ... you are needed!

Greeters Needed for Christmas Liturgies

Please consider volunteering to welcome parishioners and guests at one of our Christmas Masses. This involves coming 20-25 minutes early, grabbing a greeters tag, and welcoming people as they come



Do You Have Time & A Green Thumb?

Helpers are needed to care for the plants and flowers in church during the winter months from immediately after Christmas through Lent and Easter. If you, your family, or a small group of friends are interested in a temporary project, call Cathy at (952) 758-5017. If you can't volunteer the entire time, you may want to consider helping for just a week or two.

Breakfast With Dad Continues in December

Come join us for this popular event! Bring your children (all ages) and join us for food, faith, and fellowship 8-9:30 am Saturday mornings in December, in the St. Wenceslaus Church basement. There are very few things a father can give his children that will last forever. Activities will be provided for the children. Registration appreciated, but not required. lynn.sticha@npcatholic.org.

Calendar Raffle Reminder

Please remember to pick up your calendar packets and help us save on postage. This year there is a Change in Prizes awarded. Please read the letter in the packet for more information.

Need a bit of help Christmas shopping?

Many teens and adults have benefited from the experience of going on mission to San Lucas Tolimon. We want to give back to the mission. We are taking orders for the Juan Ana Coffee that is harvested, roasted, and packaged at the mission. Purchasing this coffee helps

with employment at the mission while it raises funds for their various projects. All proceeds of this sale will go directly to the mission. They have regular roast whole bean, or ground, in one pound bags. Their dark roast is 15 oz. of whole beans. The cost is only \$9 per bag. Orders can be given to one of last year's mission trip teens or by contacting Laura in the faith formation office. Coffee will also be available for sale after all Masses at the SW site on Dec. 10-11.

Ornaments for the Christmas Trees

A basket has been placed on the west altar for homemade ornaments. If there are any families interested in making ornaments for the trees in church, they can place them in the basket any time before December 18th. All families are invited to the Ornament Making Party, as well.



Ornament Making Party

Sat., Dec. 17th at 8 am in the church basement. Bring your children and make an ornament for the Christmas trees in church and make one to take home too! All supplies will be provided. Contact Lynn Sticha with any questions ~ lynn.sticha@npcatholic.org.

Young Adult Book Study

The Young Adult Small Group is starting a 5 month book study on The Joy of the Gospel: Evangelii Gaudium by Pope Francis. In addition, we will be having an Advent dinner and going to various events together over the coming months. Contact Kelsey Becker at kelsey.r.becker@gmail.com if you would like to join or if you have any questions.

Retirement Fund for Religious Collection

Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have offered their lives in service to others ~ educating the young, comforting the sick, seeking justice for the oppressed. Today, many are frail, elderly, and in need of assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to furnish medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please give generously.

~ COLLECTION INFORMATION ~ St. Wenceslaus Site SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2016 Total for 11/27/16......\$15,410 Collections at Mass.......\$9,925 Electronic Collections.....\$5,485 Under Challenge for the Week.....\$1,311 Challenge for Next Week.....\$16,721 Actual Collections YTD.....\$307,481 Under Challenge YTD.....\$33,052

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who make this bulletin possible by their advertising.

This week we thank

DOUG VAYDA, ORTHODONTICS

New Prague Community Christmas Concert

When: Sun., Dec. 11th at 3 pm Where: St. Wenceslaus Church

Featuring the St. Wenceslaus Bell Choir, the St. Wenceslaus Adult Choir, Rose Fife and her students, the New Prague Area Community Band, and Hymnus. No charge, but donations are appreciated to help cover costs. We will be collecting non-perishable food items for the Peace Center.

December Cursillo Ultreya

Western Ultreya will be held on Sun., Dec. 11th at St. Hubert Catholic Community in Chanhassen. Witness speaker, Betty Liedtke. Please join us at 7 pm in the North Fellowship Hall. Rosary will be prayed in the family room at 6:30. DeColores! Jackie Helmeke and Erin Berg.

8th Annual Blankets Because We Care Drive

We (Jason & Jennifer Schmit and 7 kiddos) have been collecting and making blankets for Sharing and Caring Hands for the past 7 years. Over the past 2 years, we have tried to collect even more for those in need. So. new this year, we will be accepting any hygiene items in addition to any gently used or new blankets, coats, or winter gear. We will then bring them to Sharing and Caring Hands in January. Any monetary donations will be used to buy fleece to make additional blankets or will be donated to Sharing and Caring Hands. Show how you care and please help out those in need this Christmas season! Please put your donations in the box labeled "Blanket Donations" boxes at St. Wenceslaus in New Prague, Sweeney Elementary (Shakopee), St. John's School, Jordan Middle, & Elementary School, and Radermacher's (Monetary Donations Only). We would also be happy to pick any donations up as well...just call! (952) 457-9877. Donations will be accepted through January 20th. Thanks so much for your generosity and God Bless!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Volunteers needed at Mala Strana Rehabilitation Center in New Prague to escort residents to in-house events. Looking for someone once or twice a month for four (4) hours in the morning, weekdays only. Please call Lisa at (952) 758-2511 or (952) 758-0125. Thank you!

Annual Christmas Dinner/Dance

The Catholic Single Adults Club of the Twin Cities invites all single Catholics, 21 and older, to join us Sat., Jan. 7, 2017, for our annual Christmas dinner and dance. A social hour and dinner will begin at 5:30 pm, dancing at 8 pm. The cost for dinner and dancing is \$25; dancing only is \$10. Dinner reservations for a delicious buffet meal are required by Mon., Dec. 26th. No reservation required for dance-only participants. For dinner reservation information, please call Carl at (651) 603-1412 or Greg at (651) 636-3508.

FAITH FORMATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth Ministry Event

On Thurs., Dec. 29th, 8:30 am - 2:30 pm, Youth Ministry will plunge into an Immersion at The Center for Changing Lives in Minneapolis. Come learn, serve, and share in fellowship with LSS. For more information, contact Pamela Sherlock at (952) 758-0477.

January 15 - 9 & 10 Grade Confirmation Resumes Freshmen begin with 10:30 Mass and go until 5:30. Sophomores have regular class time ~ 8:45-11:30. Cheryl and Eric's group meets with Father Kevin after Mass. Merry Advent and Christmas ~



SCHOOL NEWS from SWS

School Christmas Concert

Please join us for our All School Christmas Concert, Thursday, Dec. 15th at 1 and 6:30

pm. All are welcome!

Amazon Smile Program

Do you shop on line? If the answer is yes, then please sign up for the Smile Amazon Program. Amazon will give 0.5% of every purchase back to the school. You must go to the link and designate our school as your choice. Be sure to click on the correct St. Wenceslaus Catholic School. There are two of them. (The other one is in Nebraska) http://smile.amazon.com/ Remember, when shopping online, always go to Smile Amazon first!

WESTERN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY St. John's & St. Scholastica

Our Lady of Good Help CCW Meeting

Our Lady of Good Help Council of Catholic Women meeting is Dec. 5th at St. John's school basement. Rosary at 6:45 and supper at 7 pm. This is a Christmas POTLUCK gathering and we will have a guest speaker, Deb Brown, Director of Partners for Affordable Housing. Instead of a gift exchange, please bring an item for the homeless, i.e. blanket, pillow, gloves, socks, etc. Deb will take the donations for distribution. Lunch committee is: Lois Solheid, Ann Prochaska, Jackie Henle, Anne Meger, Patti Giesen and Fran Barten. ALL women from the WCC Parish are encouraged to attend and join in the fun.

Christmas Poinsettias

We will be accepting donations for Christmas poinsettias for St. John's and St. Scholastica churches. Please sign the book to let us know who the poinsettias are from and in whose memory you are donating them.



FRIENDS of DOROTHY DAY



SERVING IN CHRIST'S LOVE

Seven years ago, in the face of unprecedented over crowding at the Dorothy Day Center, we patched together a band of men to make a difference. Men who gave their nights that others didn't have to sleep in the frigid cold of a Minnesota winter. And because of those efforts, no one was ever turned away from Dorothy Day.

This fall, a new shelter is opening in St Paul that will provide dignified accommodations for all who need. No longer will people sleep on thin mats on cold floors in abandoned buildings staffed by volunteers.

But in the ashes of what we did lies a continuing call: to be friends with those who remain in need. Despite a gleaming new facility with dignified accommodations and lots of great space, it's individuals like you who make that environment more than a building, more than a shelter. You make it a home where individuals can rebuild their lives and regain their position in society knowing that they are of value and have purpose and are loved.

Friends of Dorothy Day's simple goal is to be friends to those in need. We may not be sleeping overnight anymore, but what we do does make a difference. The couple hours we spend each evening serving dinner and befriending those whom Christ loved the most, builds hope and confidence in those who may have lost both. But that can only happen with your continued help. If you can spare one evening a month, one evening a quarter or even one evening a year, you are needed! New volunteers are always paired with experienced volunteers, so don't worry. Please check out our website www.friendsofdorothyday.org The work is easy and the rewards are great.

For volunteer information, please see page 4 of the bulletin. Contact Norb with any questions – <u>norbsticha@gmail.com</u> or 952-758-3888.

LITURGIES & PRIEST'S MASS INTENTIONS

INCLUDES ALL CHURCH LOCATIONS WEEK OF DECEMBER 5-11, 2016

Rosary at St. Wenceslaus MONDAY - FRIDAY at 7:30 am SATURDAY at 8:00 am

Monday, December 5
8:00 amWord & Communion – SW
Tuesday, December 6
8:00 am Word & Communion – SW
4:00 pmMass – Mala Strana
Wednesday, December 7
8:00 am Mass – SW
5:00 pmMass – SJ
5:30 pmConfessions – SJ
Thursday, December 8
Immaculate Conception
8:00 amSWS – Mass – SW
7:00 pm Mass – SW
7:00 pm
Friday, December 9
8:00 am Mass – SW
Saturday, December 10
3:00 pmConfessions – SW
4:00 pm Roger Zaun, Fran Pexa,
Leonard Franek, Debra Zerr – Mass – SW
8:15 pmMass – SJ
Sunday, December 11
8:00 amJoseph & Alma Pint, Eleanor Rynda – Mass – SS
8:30 amAngie & Clarence Ruehling, Wally Pfeifer,
Bessie Zelenka Tuma, Al Zelenka, Rudy Tuma,
Urban & Alice Deutsch, Ervin J. Bendzick
Mass – SW 10:00 am Randy Seurer,
Edwin & Martha Hrabe – Mass – SJ 10:30 am Dorothy Bisek – Mass – SW

STAFF DIRECTORY NEW PRAGUE AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Kim Dovle

952-758-3225

Rev. Kevin Clinton Pastor 952-758-3225 Kevin.Clinton@npcatholic.org Rev. Dave Barrett Regional Associate Pastor 952-758-0469 Dave.Barrett@npcatholic.org Deacon Bob Wagner Pastoral Associate 952-758-0463 Bob.Wagner@npcatholic.org **Mary Higgins** Pastoral Ministry Associate 952-758-0464 Mary.Higgins@npcatholic.org **Peter Guzulaitis** Parish Business Administrator 952-758-0465 Peter.Guzulaitis@npcatholic.org **Ruth Weinandt** Parish Accountant 952-758-0466 Faith Formation Assistant 952-758-0486 Ruth.Weinandt@npcatholic.org Laura Schoenecker Faith Formation Director Pre-K through Adult 952-758-5131 Laura.Schoenecker@npcatholic.org Pamela Sherlock Youth Ministry 952-758-0477

Pamela.Sherlock@npcatholic.org

St. Wenceslaus School Principal 952-758-3133 Kim.Doyle@swsaints.org Jodi Chromy Preschool Director 952-758-0480 Jodi.Chromy@swsaints.org **Debbie Gregor** Director of Liturgical Music at SW 952-758-4207 Debbie.Gregor@npcatholic.org Lisa Leverson Parish Administrative Assistant

Lisa.Leverson@npcatholic.org

PARISH BUSINESS OFFICE

215 Main St E, New Prague, MN 56071 PH 952-758-3225 FAX 952-758-2960

FAITH FORMATION OFFICE

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227 Main St E, New Prague, MN 56071 PH 952-758-3133 FAX 952-758-2958

LITTLE SPIRITS PRESCHOOL

On campus of SWS ~ 1950's building 952-758-0480

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

952-758-2327

ST. WENCESLAUS MEETINGS & **EVENTS CALENDAR**

WEEK OF DECEMBER 5-11, 2016

Monday, December 5:

Basketball Practice, 2:30 pm - Gym

Tuesday, December 6: SWS Home Basketball Games - Gym

Separated & Divorce Support Group, 6:45 pm

- Parish Office

Bible Timeline Study, 7 pm -

Parish Office Upper Parlor

Wednesday, December 7

Early Morning Scripture Study, 6:45-7:50 am -

Pius X Room, CB

Basketball Practice, 2:30 pm – Gym Children's Choir I & II – Choir Room

CORE TEAM, 5 pm - Faith Formation Office

Youth Alive, 6 pm - Parish Office Upper Parlor

Faith Formation 1-8, 6:15-7:30 pm

Campus Wide

Adult Bells & Choir - Choir Room

Thursday, December 8:

Teen Choir, 2-3 pm - Choir Room SWS Home Basketball Games - Gym

DOTS Group, 7 pm – Parish Office Dining Room Friday, December 9:

Adoration, 9 am-midnight - Chapel

Marriage Encounter Mtg, 7 pm - Parish Office

Saturday, December 10:

Prep & Serve Meal at Dorothy Day Center, St. Paul

Adult Scripture Study, 9:30-11 am -Pius X Room, CB

Juan Ana Coffee Sales, 5-5:30 pm - CB

Sunday, December 11:

CLW at 8:30 and 10:30 am Masses - SW Chapel Juan Ana Coffee Sales, 9:30-noon - CB

Community Christmas Concert, 3 pm

– SW Church

SCRIPTURE READINGS

WEEK OF DECEMBER 5-11, 2016



Monday, December 5: IS 35:1-10 / LK 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 6: IS 40:1-11 / MT 18:12-14

Wednesday, December 7: IS 40:25-31 / MT 11:28-30

Thursday, December 8:

GN 3:9-15, 20 / EPH 1:3-6, 11-12 / LK 1:26-38

Friday, December 9:

IS 48:17-19 / MT 11:16-19

Saturday, December 10: SIR 48:1-4, 9-11 / MT 17:9A, 10-13

Sunday, December 11:

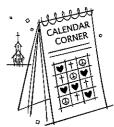
IS 35:1-6A, 10 / JAS 5:7-10 / MT 11:2-11

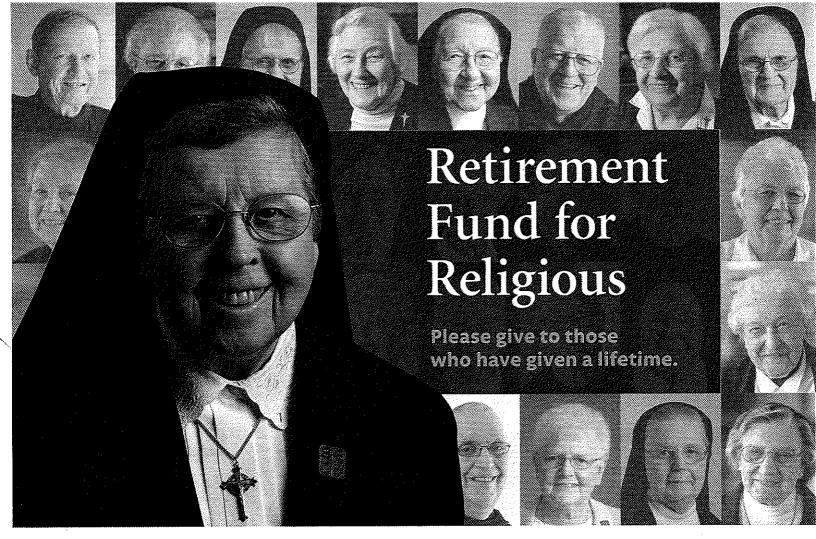
ST. WENCESLAUS CALENDAR CORNER

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12/1	#0091	Evelyn Bastyr
12/2	#2240	Joe & Carol Sticha
12/3	#1036	Heather King





"Be faithful to your prayer life and have a sense of humor," says Sister Rita Polchin (foreground), a member of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, Pennsylvania. "That's my advice for a long, happy life." And, at age 87, she ought to know. Throughout nearly 70 years of religious life, this philosophy has served her well, especially as she ministered in Catholic schools. "One year I had a class of 54 students," she recalls with a smile, "but they were all good!"

Like Sister Rita, the senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests shown here—and some 33,000 more across the nation—have offered their lives in service and prayer. They have educated the young, cared for the sick, and spoken for the oppressed. Many, including Sister Rita, continue to serve. Others need assistance. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide nursing care, medications, and other necessities. Please be generous.

Roughly 95 percent of donations aid senior religious.

To give at your parish: Make your check payable to parish, (Write RFR on the memo line.

(Arch)diocese

To donate by mail: Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.

you parish. (which is the file file in the						
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www.retiredreligious.org

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Photos: (foreground) Sister Rita Polchin, SSCM, 87; (background) visit retiredreligious.org/2016photos for a list of names. ©2016 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, DC. All rights reserved. Photographer: Jim Judkis.

20200416

Patty's Place

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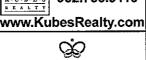


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