

## A Word from Fr. Mike

Okay, not to go all Ebenezer Scrooge on everyone here, but the crusty, crotchety Fr. Mike is about to make an appearance. I need to air one of my biggest pet peeves of our current secular culture—something hovering somewhere between our obsession with instant gratification and the commercialization (or outright secularization) of every major holiday.



What am I talking about? Well...it's Halloween candy displays in August. Mariah Carey Christmas already thawing out before Thanksgiving. Easter being reduced to bunnies, egg hunts, and pastel sugar bombs. Oktoberfest beers sold out before October even arrives. (This one hits me personally.)

Now, don't get me wrong—I'm the post-conversion Scrooge. I love Christmas. I love everything about it. But we can't forget a simple truth: **Our constant obsession with what's around the corner can drown out the grace of the present moment.**

The lights, the early Christmas parties, the gift exchanges, WHAM! and Nat King Cole—all of it can so easily drown out the wonderful *treasure* of Advent. And then, the day after Christmas, the trees are on the curb and everyone is suddenly on to New Year's resolutions they'll abandon by January 12<sup>th</sup>.

But Advent... Advent is intentionally different. Advent is one of those seasons that our culture glosses over, and I think that's exactly why it might be my favorite liturgical season of the entire year. Advent teaches us to *wait* when everything around us says, "Rush." It teaches us *patience and anticipation* in a world that offers same-day shipping and wants answers from ChatGPT in three seconds or less. Advent teaches us

*silence, reflection, preparatory penance*—

to get our house in order because a King is coming.

It invites us into the stillness and the dark, to imagine a world in which Christ had not yet come... so that when Christmas finally arrives, the joy of our Savior's coming can actually mean something. This season is a quiet gift—four short weeks that form us in the virtues our hearts secretly crave: silence, patience, hope, gratitude, expectation.

So here's my invitation. Don't let the world skip Advent on your behalf. Don't rush past the graces God is offering right now.

Enter the season. Let it slow you down. Let it open your heart. Let it make Christmas richer, deeper, and more joyful than ever.

Continued Blessings on this beautiful season.

Sincerely,  
Fr. Scrooge

## Holy Day of Obligation on Monday

Immaculate Conception Masses will be held on Monday, December 8 at 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM.

In 1854, Pope Pius IX infallibly declared that Mary was free of original sin from the first moment of her conception. On this feast day, we celebrate the beauty and goodness of Our Lady!

## Adult Volleyball at SVDP

Friday evenings, January—April

Sign up after Mass this weekend, or email Mike and Claudia Price at [mlcaprice@comcast.net](mailto:mlcaprice@comcast.net). \$10 per player for the entire season—all levels of ability are welcome!



# CRY OUT



John wore clothing made of camel's hair and had a leather belt around his waist. His food was locusts and wild honey.

MATTHEW 3:4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1996, 1970 CCD.

December 7, 2025

ISLP



## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

**KNOW** and celebrate our Catholic Faith,  
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## CONTACT

**Online:** [saintvdp.org](http://saintvdp.org)

**E-Mail:** General: [churchinfo@saintvdp.org](mailto:churchinfo@saintvdp.org)

Prayer Line: [prayerrequests@saintvdp.org](mailto:prayerrequests@saintvdp.org)

**Parish Office:** (763) 425-2210

**School Office:** (763) 425-3970

## SACRAMENTS

### Reconciliation

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday at 7:30 AM;  
Wed. at 4:45 PM; Saturday from 3:30-4:15 PM

**Baptisms:** Please call the office at 763-425-2210.

**Matrimony:** Please call the office at 763-425-2210.

## WORSHIP

### Location

9100 93rd Avenue North, Brooklyn Park, MN, 55445

### Masses

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday at 8 AM

Wednesday at 5:15 PM

Saturday at 5 PM & Sunday at 7:30 AM, 9 AM, 11 AM

# SVDP Giving Tree

Thank you for helping the Giving Tree program make Christmas special for those in need this year!  
Gift donations are due by Noon this Sunday, December 7.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Next Weekend

Our second collection for December will be for a Charity Food Drive. This collection helps purchase Grocery Gift Cards for families in need of assistance. Please use your designated 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Envelope included in your envelope packets or mark your donation as 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection.



## Nigerian Christians & BIZAA Update

**This Sunday, Dec. 7 at Noon in the West Meeting Rm**

Join us for an informational session on the persecution of Christians in Nigeria and a BIZAA update presented by Okey Anyanwu. BIZAA children are all safe in the southeastern part of Nigeria, which is far away from the predominantly Muslim North where most of the happenings are taking place. For more information, please contact: [okey@bizaa.org](mailto:okey@bizaa.org) or call the parish office at 763-425-2210.

## CCW Christmas Potluck

**Tuesday, Dec. 9 from 6:30-8 PM in the Community Room**



Bring a dish to share. Coffee, water (hot and cold) will be provided, along with plates, napkins and utensils. If you wish to participate in our gift exchange, bring a small wrapped gift (\$10 or under). All parish women are invited to attend.

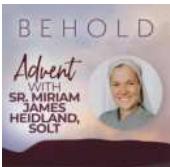
## SVDP Book Club

**Thursday, Dec. 11 from 9:30—10:30 AM in the Community Room**

We will celebrate the Christmas season with fellowship and fun! Members should bring a snack or treat to share with the group. There will be an optional book exchange: members can bring a book to give away, and in turn take a book home. (We will not be discussing a book this month.)

Our first meeting of 2026 will be on Thursday, January 8. We will discuss The Boys In The Boat by Daniel James Brown.

## Advent Reflection & Education Group



**Dec. 11 & 18 from 6:30-8 PM in the West Mtg Room**

Let the Holy Family be your light through Advent! Join us for "Behold," an Advent video program by Sr. Miriam James Heidland SOLT.

## Men of the Cross Fellowship Group

**Saturday, Dec. 13 at 7:30 AM in the Community Rm**

We welcome all men over 18 years old to attend this gathering of Men of the Cross at St. Vincent's. Our topic this month is "Inspirations" and beverages and light breakfast treats will be provided.



## Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration



To sign up or to be a sub, login to [saintvdp.org/perpetual-adoration](http://saintvdp.org/perpetual-adoration), or call JoAnne Newman at 763-420-4089.

**Help is urgently needed for: Sunday at 3 AM; Tuesday at 1 PM; Thursday at 11 PM; Saturday at 2 AM & 2 PM**

**NEEDED: One Hourly Coordinator.** This person watches to see that their hour is covered by requesting subs if one of the adorers can't be there. Most of the work is done by the We Adore Him system, so it is minimal work for the coordinator. If you can fill this need or have questions, please call Joanne at 763-420-4089.

## Readings for this Week

Sunday:	Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/ Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12
Monday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/ Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/ Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab/ Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/ Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Next Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (see Is 35:4)/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-11

## Mass Intentions for December 8—14

Monday	8:00 AM	† Peter Phenow
	7:00 PM	Parishioners
Tuesday	8:00 AM	† Neal Hansen
Wednesday	5:15 PM	† Elisa Christenson
Thursday	8:00 AM	† Craig Biegert
Friday	8:00 AM	† Roger Spotts
Saturday	5:00 PM	† Gary DeFrance & † Fred Glynn
Sunday	7:30 AM	† Daniel Kroll
	9:00 AM	† Don Pfau
	11:00 AM	Parishioners

## Parish Office Hours

Monday—Thursday: 8 AM – 3 PM & Friday: 8 AM – Noon

The deadline for the Dec. 14 bulletin has passed. The **early deadline** for the Dec. 21 bulletin is Wednesday at Noon.



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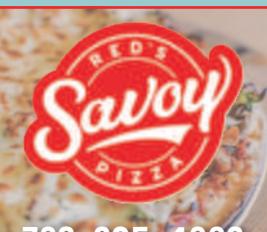
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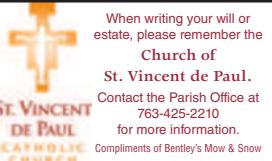
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