

## A Word from Fr. Mike



One of my favorite things about Christmas is how suddenly everyone becomes cheerfully unreasonable. We put lights on houses in the middle of a Minnesota winter. We eat cookies like it's a competitive sport. We sing loudly in public places about snow and sleigh bells.

We convince ourselves that this year we will finally enjoy fruitcake. It's magical. It's intense. It's Christmas.

And in the middle of all that joy and chaos, something beautiful happens: People come home to church.

Some of you are here every week. Some of you are visiting family. Some of you maybe haven't set foot in a church since last Christmas (or longer). Wherever you find yourself on that spectrum—welcome home. I'm so genuinely glad you're here!

At the heart of Christmas is not just nostalgia or tradition—it's an encounter. An encounter with the living God who didn't stay distant or abstract or "up there somewhere," but chose to enter *our world* as a tiny, vulnerable baby. And the astonishing truth is this: He doesn't just want to be born in Bethlehem long ago—He wants to be born in each of our hearts today.

The Church exists for this very reason. In a world that can often feel cold, dark, divided, lonely, and downright exhausting, the Church is meant to be our **warm fire on a winter night**—a place where hearts thaw, where light pushes back the darkness, where weary people come in from the cold and rediscover hope. And at the center of that fire is always the same thing: **Jesus Christ, our Savior, lying in a manger.**

And that is why, after two thousand years, **the weary world still rejoices!**

Here at St. Vincent de Paul, that rejoicing looks like real people with real lives trying to love God, serve one another, and laugh along the way. We're far from perfect—but we're joyful, we're striving, and we're in this together. Whether you're deeply rooted here or just stepping through our doors this Christmas, you belong.

So from my heart to yours: **Merry Christmas!** May the newborn Christ draw near to you this season, steady your heart, lift your spirits, and remind you that hope is never far away.

With gratitude and prayers for you and all you love,  
**Fr. Mike**



## 4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."  
- Mt 1:21

December 21, 2025

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. (L)



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

**KNOW** and celebrate our Catholic Faith,  
**LOVE** God and our neighbor,  
**SERVE** as disciples of Jesus Christ.

## 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



*Waiting in Joyful Hope*

Join us for our Christmas Masses

Wednesday, December 24 at  
4:00 PM, 6:00 PM and \*10:00 PM

Thursday, December 25 at  
7:30 AM, \*9:00 AM and 11:00 AM

\*Mass with Incense

## Coffee & Company this Sunday



We will be hosting Coffee & Company gatherings of parishioners after all Sunday Masses. Please join us in Regan Hall after Mass for good company and delicious donuts.

# EXTREME FAITH CAMP 2026

All current 6th-8th graders are welcome to join us for a week-long high adventure camp with Jesus at the center!

MONDAY, JUNE 22 -  
FRIDAY, JUNE 26

## PRE-REGISTRATION ENDS JANUARY 15.

SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT [SAINTVDP.ORG/EXTREME-FAITH-CAMP](http://SAINTVDP.ORG/EXTREME-FAITH-CAMP) FOR DETAILS  
EMAIL [BILLYUTECHT@SAINTVDP.ORG](mailto:BILLYUTECHT@SAINTVDP.ORG) FOR QUESTIONS

## Baptized into the Family of God

**October 18, 2025**

**Achilles Frances,**  
son of Andrew & Janna Norris

**October 19, 2025**

**Callum Jerome,**  
son of Tom & Sophia Baker

**Brooks David,**  
son of Kale & Stephani Brockmann

**Robert Michael,** son of Anthony & Jennifer Elia  
**Charlotte Angeline,** daughter of Joshua & Emily Grittner

**Leo Brooks,** son of David & Gina Tollette

**November 9, 2025**

**Olivia Hazel,** daughter of Ryan & Sarah Brandt  
*was previously baptized in the hospital and on this day  
we celebrated her Rite of Reception into the Church*

**November 16, 2025**

**Scottie Daniel,** son of Gavin & Abby Sanford



## 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; Thursday at 11 PM;**  
**Saturday at 2 AM & 2 PM**

## Readings for this Week

- Sunday:** Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (7c, 10b)/  
Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
- Monday:** 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/  
Lk 1:46-56
- Tuesday:** Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/  
Lk 1:57-66
- Wednesday:** *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3,  
4-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79
- Thursday:** *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 (2a)/  
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25  
*Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12,  
13 (Lk 2:11)/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14  
*Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/  
Lk 2:15-20  
*Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 (3c)/Heb  
1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
- Friday:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab,  
16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22
- Saturday:** 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Next Sunday:** Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 (see 1)/  
Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

## Mass Intentions for December 22-28

Monday	8:00 AM	† Sister Barbara Marian
Tuesday	8:00 AM	† Irene & Joseph Culhane
Wednesday	<b>4:00 PM</b>	† Dick Potter and † Bud & Margaret Printy
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	† Bob Burks
	<b>10:00 PM</b>	Parishioners
Thursday	<b>7:30 AM</b>	† Bert McCarthy
	<b>9:00 AM</b>	The Goding Family ( <i>Living &amp; Deceased</i> )
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	† Emily Prasky
Friday	8:00 AM	† Mercedes Ordonez
Saturday	5:00 PM	† The Johnson Family & † Geraldine Leonard
Sunday	7:30 AM	† Daniel Kroll
	9:00 AM	† Neil Torbenson
	11:00 AM	Parishioners

## Parish Office Hours

Monday—Tuesday: 8 AM – 3 PM

*The Parish Office will be closed on Wednesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>,  
Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup> for Christmas.*

The deadline for the Dec. 28 bulletin has passed.  
The **early deadline** for the Jan. 4 bulletin  
is this Friday at Noon.

Please pray for the souls of...

† Brian Kleven      † Marian Dziuk

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May the souls of all the faithful departed,  
through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace. Amen.



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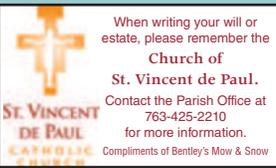
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