

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org

THIS WEEK

All Meetings held via "Zoom" unless noted

MONDAY 7 DEC / *Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9-14/Lk 5:17-26*

- SIGN UP FOR Dec 12/13 Public Masses
- **6:30 AM - St. Stephen Parish**
- 7 PM - Point Catholic Community Bible Study

TUESDAY 8 DEC / *Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38*

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

SIGN UP FOR Dec 12/13 Public Masses

- **8:15 AM - Live Stream MASS** (+Helen Olson) FSB
- 9:30 AM - Staff Meeting/Prayer
- 4 PM - Salvation Army Meal Ministry
- 6 PM - Alpha Gathering
- 6:30 PM - Advent Small Group

WEDNESDAY 9 DEC / *Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10/Mt 11:28-30*

- SIGN UP FOR Dec 12/13 Public Masses
- **8:15 AM - Live Stream MASS** (+Mary Jane Messersmith) FSB
- 1 PM - Grief Ministry Committee Meeting

THURSDAY 10 DEC / *Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1, 9-13/Mt 11:11-15*

- SIGN UP FOR Dec 12/13 Public Masses
- **8:15 AM - Live Stream MASS** (+Carl & Susan Jacobson, Louis Rucinski) FSB
- 1 PM - Advent Small Group
- 6:30 PM - Live Stream Reconciliation Service
- 8 PM - Thrive Mom's Group

FRIDAY 11 DEC / *Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Mt 11:16-19*

- **8:15 AM - Live Stream MASS** (+Jerome Bachinski) FSB

SATURDAY 12 DEC / *Rv 11:19; 12:1-6, 10/Jdt 13:18-19/Lk 1:26-38*

- 9-10 AM - Reconciliation, Ministry Center/Library
- **5 PM - Public MASS** (+Sharon Krutza) FSB

LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

3rd Sunday Advent in Ordinary Time / DEC 12/13

Is 61:1-2, 10-11/Lk 1:46-54/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

- **8 AM Live Feed/Video MASS** (+Dennis Groshek) FSB
- **10 AM - Public MASS** (+Jerome Bachinski) FSB

FSB: Fr. Steve Brice FDL: Fr. Dennis Lynch FDP: Fr. Don Przybylski FTM: Fr. Todd Mlsna

Oplatek (Polish Christmas Bread) is available in the Gathering Space during regular office hours and after Masses. Though a Polish tradition, every family is welcome to practice the lovely custom. Those gathered all take a piece of the bread. Then, they offer a piece of their piece to another person present with well wishes or affirmations for the season. The wafers could be easily mailed to family and friends so that this ritual can take place via Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions. A free will offering of \$3.00 will help offset the cost. Please bring exact change for your purchase to limit handling of money during this Covid-19 time as well.



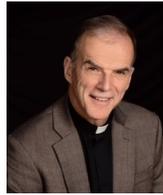
Friday Night at the Movies! - An Adult Faith Formation Event -

Join us virtually, on Friday night, Dec. 11th, beginning at 6:30 pm to partake of the 2010 French film, "Of Gods and Men." Based on a true story, the film centers on the monastery of Tibhirine where, in the mid-1990's, nine Trappist monks lived in harmony with the largely Muslim population of their village, until the decay of the government and the beginning of the Algerian Civil War. This peaceful co-existence between local Christians and Muslims becomes challenged and strained as the monks and villagers contend, first, with guerrilla extremists and, then, with government authorities and soldiers. Faced with the most fundamental and difficult of choices, the monks must ultimately face what it means to them, individually and as a community, to incarnate Christ in today's world. Their choice raises questions for each of us concerning how we grow to be "the light that shines in the darkness . . ." The link, needed at the time of the event, can be found on the parish website.



Dear Holy Spirit Parish:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”
(Mark 1:3)



If it were possible to draw the path our minds take through a day, it would look like a thicket of zig-zag, criss-crossed, lines. We can be sitting in church and our mind is bouncing from the grocery store to work to something long in the past. This second week of Advent we move a layer deeper in our creating a place of stillness for Christ to enter and fill us with peace. Last week our goal was to bring our home environment and our calendars into clearer focus on Christ. This week we will turn our attention to our minds. Preparing a straight path to Christ through our minds would have tremendous impact on our own sense of peace and so on our worlds.

The Anointing of the Sick last Sunday was another Covid blessing. Instead of having a large group and rushing people through, Fr. Todd and I were able to sit with people, hear their story and open a straight path to the heart. The two hours were filled.

Today at the 8:00am liturgy we are Commissioning JoAnn Chase and Sherry Boyce as Stephen Ministry Leaders. They have completed their extensive training and are ready to begin recruiting and training parish members. Please contact JoAnn, Sherry, the parish office or the parish website for information and an application.

It is hard to believe that the eleven weeks of Alpha will be ending this Tuesday. Our Tuesday gatherings have been something I looked forward to and will greatly miss..... until the Spring when we start the next round of Alpha! The testimonies given by participants at our last Parish Council meeting had a visible effect on the Council members. Plan to join them in our next round of Alpha!

On our parish website there is a whole page of Advent offerings. From there you can sign up for one of the Small Faith Sharing Groups meeting during Advent. You can also find the link to the “Weekly Prayer With Fr. Steve.” Though designed for families with young children, it offers every family a 20 minute prayer time around the Advent Wreath.

I am hoping for a Covid blessing with our annual Advent Reconciliation Service. The reconciliation service is going to be quite creative. It will be aired on our YouTube channel Thursday the 10th at 6:30pm. Then I and Fr. Todd will be available for confessions the following Saturdays at 9:00am and Wednesdays at 6:30pm. As with the Anointing, I hope this will give us time to make straight paths into the heart. Absolution cannot be given through an online service. If you cannot make a Saturday or Wednesday please call and Fr. Todd or I will meet you when and where it works for you.

Our adult Faith Formation ministry is making its debut this Friday evening with the first of our “Holy Spirit Friday Night at the Movies.” The film is a profound meditation on what it means to be a follower of Christ. It tells the story of the life and death of a group of Monks who surrendered their lives to defend the poor in 1996 in Algeria. The film is: *Of Gods and Men*. Please go to the Advent page of our website to find the Zoom link. We’ll watch the film together at 6:30pm then break into small groups for discussion afterwards.

Next weekend at 10:00am we will meet the most diverse group of RCIA candidates I’ve ever worked with. In the Rite of Welcome they set their hearts on the path to Christ.

I hope you will find in one or more of these offerings the chance to set aside time for God and so bring more balance and peace to the whole of your life.

Fr. Steven J. Brice

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH

*Disciples called to worship,
sent to serve.*

www.HolySpiritStevensPoint.org

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Chairs: John Clifford, Vern Schroth

Ministry Center News

The Parish Offices are closed, however, during regular business hours, the staff is still working. Be assured that email and voice mail are checked regularly by all staff members.

The Church is open for personal prayer between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. daily.

BEING GOOD STEWARDS

Of time, talent and treasure

HOLY SPIRIT PARISH GIVING

Week Ending Nov. 20th

Parish Envelopes.....\$11,628.75

ACH Giving.....\$7,442.25

Offertory.....\$169.00

Total: \$19,240.00

Week Ending Nov. 27th

Parish Envelopes.....\$5,258.00

ACH Giving.....\$7,442.25

Offertory.....\$51.00

Total: \$12,751.25



“We don’t know what the future holds, but it’s all God’s work,” says Sister Theresa McGrath (*center*), 86, a member of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio, for nearly 70 years.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

In good times and bad, Sister Theresa and the senior religious shown here have devoted themselves to God’s work. Together with nearly 30,000 elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests, they educated the young, tended the sick, and ministered to the needy. Today, they pray for a hurting world. Yet many US religious communities do not have enough retirement savings and struggle to provide for aging members. Covid-19 has only increased these challenges. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please be generous.

Envelopes for this year’s collection are included in your monthly giving envelopes packet received by mail.

Additional envelopes are available at the Ministry Center. Or send a check, payable to Holy Spirit Parish, with Retirement Fund in the memo line, to the office at 2151 Stanley Street.

retiredreligious.org

Above, from left: Sister Alice Garcia, SSCJ, 91; Brother Martin Gonzales, OCSO, 95; Sister Theresa McGrath, CCVI, 86; Sister Anne Cecille Muldoon, OSU, 93; Abbot Emeritus Peter Eberle, OSB, 79.
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