

Church Of Sacred Heart



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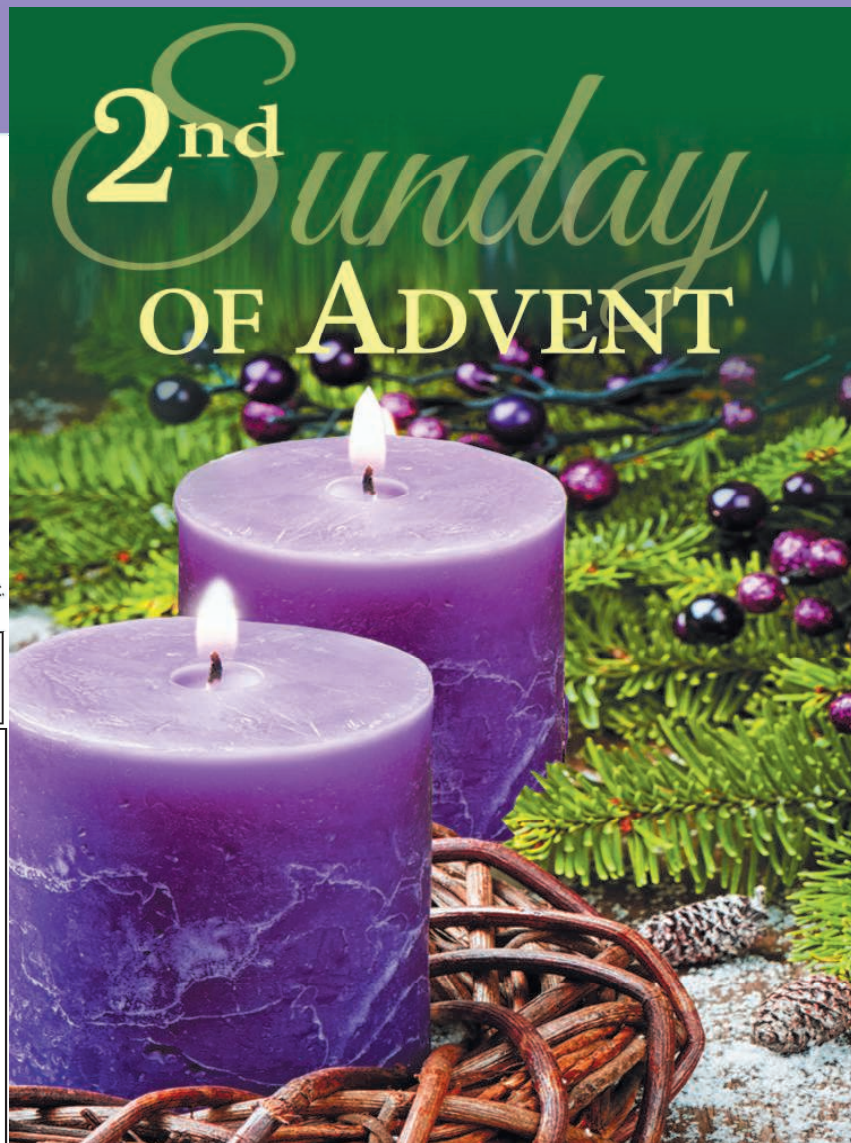
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Mission Statement

Sacred Heart parish is a community of Catholic Christian believers, established by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis. We strive to grow in holiness through prayer, celebration of the Eucharist and other sacraments, and reflection on the scriptures. We work hard to build the kingdom of God through evangelization, catechesis and service for all.



Liturgy of the Eucharist

Saturday 4:00 pm

Sunday 9:00 am

Weekdays

Wednesday 9:00 am

First Friday of each month 9:00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Every Wednesday after 9:00 am Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation

First Friday of each month 8:30 am

First Saturday of each month 3:15 pm – 3:45 pm

Or by appointment

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

December 10, 2017

WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

POPE FRANCIS ON PRAYER, SILENCE, CHATTER, AND WONDER

NOTE- This article is from the November 15, 2017 Catholic News Agency report on the homily Pope Francis gave during his weekly general audience at the Vatican. The reporter was Hannah Brockhaus.

On Wednesday, November 15, Pope Francis called out the common habit of chatting with people around you before Mass, stressing that this is a time for silent prayer, when we prepare our hearts for an encounter with the Lord.

“When we go to Mass, maybe we arrive five minutes before, and we start to chit-chat with those in front of us,” the Pope said Nov. 15. However, “it is not a moment for chit-chat.”

“It is a moment of silence for preparing ourselves for dialogue, a time for the heart to collect itself in order to prepare for the encounter with Jesus,” he said, adding that “silence is so important.”

Continuing his new catechesis on the Eucharist, the Pope recalled his message the week prior, that the Mass is not a show, but a place where we encounter the Lord. In this encounter, he said, silence is what “prepares us and accompanies us.”

But to really understand this, first we have to answer a question, he said. And that is: What is prayer?

Prayer is, “first and foremost dialogue, a personal relationship with God,” he said. And in prayer, just like in any dialogue, it needs moments of silence “together with Jesus.” This, he said, is because it is only in the “mysterious silence of God” that his Word can resound in our heart. Francis explained that to pray is not difficult, and is something that Jesus himself taught us to do first of all by example, when in the Gospels he withdraws to a secluded place to pray. And second, he teaches us again when he tells his disciples that the first word in knowing how to pray is “Father.”

This is “so simple,” the Pope said. “So we have to learn, ‘Father.’” Then, we must take on the attitude of a small child before his or her parents. One full of trust and confidence, knowing that God “remembers you and takes care of you,” he said.

The second attitude we should take is one of childlike surprise and wonder. The child, he said, “always asks a thousand questions because he wants to discover the world; in our relationship with the Lord, in prayer, wonder,” he said, telling pilgrims to “open the heart to wonder.”

When it comes to prayer, he noted that often we are busy with many different activities or projects and say we don’t have time. “We lose sight of what is fundamental: our life of the heart, our spiritual life, our life of prayer with the Lord.”

However, Jesus surprises us in truth by loving us and calling us even in our weaknesses, he said, adding that just as Christ called his disciples, he also calls us to him at each Mass.

“This is therefore the greatest grace: to be able to experience the Mass, the Eucharist. It is the privileged moment to be with Jesus, and through Him with God and his brothers and sister.”

PS: Quiet welcoming and small talk in the vestibule before entering the worship space is fitting. Chatting after Mass in the church is acceptable as well, providing one is not disrupting others while they are praying.

Daily Prayer This Week



Finding intimacy with God in the midst of our busy lives begins with getting in touch with our own desires. Advent is a wonderful time to ask myself, “What am I looking for? What do I desire? What longing can I recognize in my heart?” The

answers to those questions will be our best guide for daily prayer. The readings this week offer some ways to talk with the Lord about our desires.

We can begin by trying to get in touch with a part of my heart that is divided, perhaps with a desert separating the two parts. For example, is there a disconnect between my primary commitments and the amount of time and attention that I give to them? Is there a distance between who I say I am, and who I actually am? Do I experience something missing between what I believe and how I live those beliefs? We all have these contradictions and inconsistencies within us. These are the places into which we can let our Advent desiring grow. This week, we can imagine the prophet saying, “there will be a path between what is separate or divided or at a distance in your life!” “What is desert, barren, dry, life-less in you will come to life!” “You will find freedom and comfort, where you have been finding yourself in a captivity to pattern and routine, where you have felt weak and weary.” “Learn from the Lord and learn real wisdom.”

When one or more of these desires really strikes a chord in our hearts, Advent begins for us. Each morning this week, we can turn to our God, when we first wake up, while in the shower or getting dressed, and simply ask: “Come, Lord. Come into this place, into this embarrassing place of need in my life.” We may be able to be specific and ask, “Please, Lord, come and be with me and bring life and hope into my morning as I face this meeting.” As we go to work or do laundry or go shopping, or head home from work, we might ask even more specifically for the grace to love - to take the liberating journey across the desert and let the Lord bring us home to a place of comfort, healing and peace.

Advent is about our coming to a felt sense of our need for a Savior and letting our Savior into our hearts to save us. Advent comes alive for us as we identify our desires and let them be expressed as longing and expectant hope. Into this space our Lord comes with good news, healing and a peace the world can’t give. As we taste our desires and longing grow, we can give thanks each evening before we go to bed, to acknowledge we are being given a great grace of a growing intimacy with our God, right in the mist of our very busy days.

God Never Disappoints

Second Sunday of Advent—Romans 5:5

JESUS, the season of Advent restores my hope, a hope which does not disappoint for it is founded on God’s Word—and God never disappoints! God is faithful! God does not disappoint! Give me courage always to move forward. Thanks to God’s help, I can always begin again.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 13		
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 am
Saturday, December 16		
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	4:00 pm
Fr. Fitzgerald	St. Gregory's	5:00 pm
Sunday, December 17		
Fr. Fitzgerald	St. Gregory's	8:30 am
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 am
Fr. Fitzgerald	St. Gregory's	10:30 am

NEEDING OUR PRAYERS

Marjorie King	Margarette Brooker	Kim Sarago
Jean Amunson	Marvin Johnson	Jim Kirchberg
Bill Peno	Arlene Greenhagen	Ethel Thomas
Mary Knack	Gerald Mollberg	Tom McKenzie
Wayne King	Jim Mitchell	Sue Roth
Robby Murry	Judie Peltier	Abby Larson
Heidi Blatz	Betty Erickson	Cathy Gamache
David Gaul	Phyllis Swanson	Tom Solorz
Cecilia Shinler	Nick Cieminski	Colleen Najewski
Joan Parkin	Betty Anderson	Lenny Anderson
Ariel Thull-Rulfzen	Jim Bartz	Kathy Quinn
Jim Notsch	Bob Wilbur	

"When we pray, God hears more than we say, answers more than we ask, gives more than we imagine...in HIS own time and HIS own way."

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Totals for the week of 12/5/17

Plate	258.09
Envelopes	1551.00
Bldg. Maint.	220.00
Candle Money	81.00
Stipends/stole	7.00
CCW	20.00
Food Shelf	15.00
Silent Auction	33.00
EFT money	344.00
Religious Retirement	10.00
Christmas Flowers	15.00
Liturgical Environment	73.00
TOTALS	\$2627.09

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LITURGICAL ROLES

<u>Saturday, Dec. 16 at 4:00 pm</u>	<u>Sunday, Dec. 17 at 9:00 a.m.</u>
Lector: Sue Roth	Lectors: Jeremy Albright, David Prickett
Communion: Chuck Debevec, Jeanne Kay	Communion: Beth Churchsmith, Jean Peno*, Mary Pat Hestbeck
Gifts: Kay Family	Gifts: Peno Family
Ushers: Dick Ordner	Ushers: Craig Peterson, Ron Peltier, Bill Peno
Servers: Maggie Roth	Servers: Isabelle Harer, Devon Larson

NEWS



Holy Family Church on the Island of St. Thomas sent a letter of thanks for the \$615.20 we sent them to assist during the hurricane restoration. The letter is posted on the back bulletin board.

Come have lunch with us at the Rush City Senior Dining or have your meals delivered. Cost for 60 and over \$4.00 under 60 \$7.75. Meals are served daily, Monday thru Friday. Bingo every Wednesday & Friday at 11 am. For more information or to order a meal please call 320.358.3611 between 10am and 1pm.

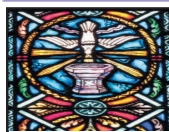


We are looking for a new Chairwoman or Co-Chairwomen to take over the 2018 Salad Luncheon. Lists and instructions will be provided from previous years. All members of CCW assist with the luncheon, but we do need someone to chair the event. If you are interested, please contact Brenda Dahl.

Money Counter

We are in need of a money counter, if you are interested please contact the Church office at 320.358.4370.

MASS INTENTIONS



December 13	Open
December 16	Sgt. Geoffrey Alan Day †
December 17	Open

An Advent and Christmas Procession

This year's Advent and Christmas decorations at Sacred Heart include a large banner on the wall behind the choir. It represents a cross bearer and two acolytes making their way toward the horizon of a wintry landscape, while the star of Bethlehem shines bright and strong overhead in a star-filled sky.

What message was this scene meant to convey? Three things are key. Firstly we can easily see that the star of Bethlehem is shaped differently than all the other stars in the sky. Its shape echoes that of the cross directly below. In this way, we are reminded that the star and the cross are inextricably entwined, the cross giving to the star its ultimate meaning. Secondly, we know that the function of a cross bearer and acolytes is to lead a procession. But there are no other figures on the banner. That is because *WE* are the procession. Lastly, the luminosity of the scene is intended to convey the wonder of that night which transformed the world.

At the start of Advent each year, we, both as individuals and as church, begin anew the walk of discipleship which will lead us to the manger, to the cross, to the empty tomb and beyond. May this transformative journey be meaningful to each of us as we begin to process together.





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