

The Church of Sacred Heart



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Rush City, MN 55069

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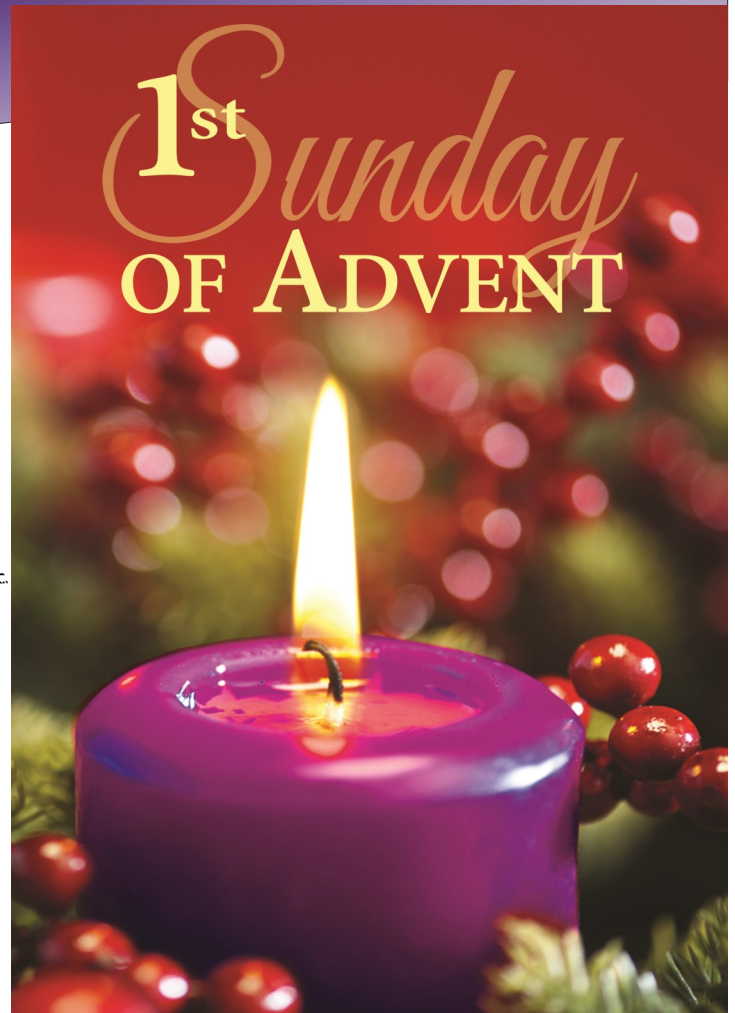
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Mission Statement

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.



Pastor:

Fr. Shane Stoppel-Wasinger

Weekend Assistants:

Fr. Chuck Brambilla &

Fr. Thomas Fitzgerald

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

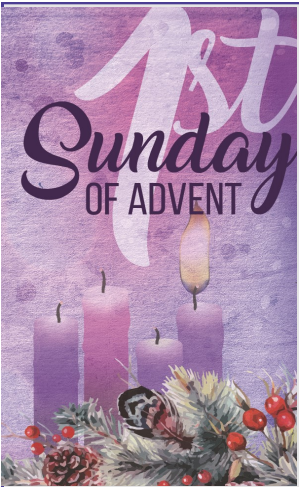
First Saturday of each month@ 3:15 pm –3:45 pm Or by appointment

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday @ 8:00 am. - 1:00 pm.

First Sunday of Advent ~ December 2, 2018

sacredheartrcmn.org



As we begin Advent, we light one candle in the midst of all the darkness in our lives and in the world. It symbolizes our longing, our desire, our hope. We want to be renewed in a sense that Jesus came to save us from our sin and death. We want to experience his coming to us now to help us live our lives with meaning and purpose. We want to prepare for his coming to meet us at the end of our lives on this earth. So, we begin with our longing, our desire and our hope.

When we wake up, each day this week, we could light that candle, just by taking a few moments to focus. We could pause for a minute. Who among us doesn't have time to

pause for a moment? We could each find our own way to pray something like this:

"Lord, the light I choose to let into my life today is based on my trust in you. It is a weak flame, but I desire that it dispel the darkness today. Let this candle be a reminder of my hope in your coming."

Each morning this week, that momentary prayer might get more specific, as it prepares us for the day we will face.

If our family has an Advent wreath, or even if it doesn't, we could pray together before our evening meal. As we light the first candle on the wreath, or as we simply pause to pray together our normal grace. Then, as we begin to eat, we can invite each other, including the children, to say something about what it means today to light this first candle.

Perhaps we could ask a different question each night, or ask about examples from the day. How am I getting in touch with the longing within me? How did I prepare today? What does it mean to prepare to celebrate his coming 2,000 years ago? How can we prepare to experience his coming into our lives this year? What does it mean for us now, with our world involved in so much conflict? How are we being invited to trust more deeply? How much more do we long for his coming to us, in the midst of the darkness in our world? In what ways can we renew our lives so we might be prepared to greet him when he comes again? Our evening meal could be transformed this week, if we could shape some kind of conversation together that lights a candle of anticipation in our lives. Don't worry if everyone isn't "good at" this kind of conversation at first. We can model it, based on our momentary pauses throughout each day, in which we are discovering deeper and deeper desires, in the midst of our everyday lives.

Every night this week, we can pause briefly. We can be aware of how that one, small candle's worth of desire brought light into this day. And we can give thanks. Going to bed each night this week with some gratitude is part of the preparation for growing anticipation and desire.

***Come, Lord Jesus! Come and visit your people.
We await your coming. Come, O Lord.***

Daily Prayer This Week

Despite all the distractions at this time of year, we really can focus on Advent during these weeks. We seem to get very busy, and at times must go to several social events or wrestle with budgets and shopping, but the heart of this season is all about expectant hope. So, we begin our Advent journey by giving ourselves some time - just a few minutes each day - to reflect on how much God promises us.

Each morning this week, while we are first coming to consciousness, we can name a desire, name an emptiness or feeling of anxiety or worry that we can feel. It is into the raw places in our lives such as these, that our Lord came to be with us. So, this week, we can begin to invite our Lord to be Incarnate in our lives, in the places we need him the most.

Our goal this week is to let ourselves feel like those to whom the promises of our God are made. We want to get in touch with ourselves, especially those parts of ourselves that need a Savior. We do this by keeping our focus on the places that feel like a desert, the places that feel like we've been through a war, the places that feel like a lifeless stump. When we have a hard time seeing, we ask for the grace to be able to believe the promise that we shall see. When we seem deaf, we place our trust in the One who assures us that we will hear. And when we feel beaten down and awfully lowly, we turn to the One who promises that we will "find joy in the Lord." And, who among us doesn't have days on which we are aware of various kinds of wounds? On the day of promise, "the Lord binds up the wounds of his people."

As we let these deep realities of our daily, busy lives come into focus and interact with the readings, something wonderful happens. We become more and more aware of our need for God. Very naturally and quite spontaneously, a prayer comes forth from deep within us, which we can say in the smallest moments of our busiest days. "Come, Lord." "Come and save me." "Come and be with me in all of these messy, empty, dry and disordered places in my life." "Come, Lord. I feel my longing for you grow. I feel my hope grow. And, as I place my hope in your promises, Advent begins to come alive in me."

All this preparation can happen in the simplest way, before the first Christmas decoration goes up. And, for each moment of each day that we encounter a place that we desire, that we long for our Lord's coming, we can express our thanksgiving. Each night we might pray:

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?

The LORD is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?" (Ps. 27)



Celebrants

Wednesday, Dec. 5th

Communion Service Sacred Heart 9:00 am

First Friday, Dec. 7th

Fr. Nygaard Sacred Heart 9:00 am

Immaculate Conception, Saturday, Dec. 8th

Fr. Chuck Sacred Heart **9:00 am and 4:00 pm**

Fr. Fitzgerald St. Gregory's 9:00 am

Fr. Nygaard St. Gregory's 5:00 pm

Youth Sunday, Dec. 9th

Fr. Chuck Sacred Heart 9:00 am

Nygaard St. Gregory's 9:30 am

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, Dec. 8th at 4:00 p.m.

Lectors: Wayne Herberg

Communion: Mary Stenger,
Jeanne Kay

Gifts: Kay Family

Ushers: Ted Stathes

Servers: Elena Herberg

Sunday, Dec. 9th at 9:00 am

Lectors: Youth

Communion: Kristi Frazier, Scott
Tryon*, David Prickett

Gifts: Youth Sunday

Ushers: Kevin & Derrick Murphy,
Rodney Swanson

Servers: Alexis Murphy, Alexis
Ertz

Financial Update

Weekend of 11/25/2018

Plate 249.00

Envelopes 2525.00

Fr. Andy 65.00

Calendar Ad 100.00

Total..... \$2939.00

*Thank you for your generosity!
Happy Holidays!*

Mass Intentions



December 7th Parishioners

December 10th Dick Gibson Family

December 11th Parishioners

Needing our Prayers

"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."

Ron & Judie Peltier
Carole Swanson
Alison Duffy
Sue Roth
Jim Kirchberg
Mary Pierce



News

Effective Immediately:

The email address for Sacred Heart has changed as a result of switching from Century Link to Midcontinent for our phone service. The new email address is shc415@hotmail.com. It can also be found on our bulletin cover page. The phone number has not changed.

***There was a black address book left in the parish office. Please contact or stop in the office if it belongs to you.**



Support the Retirement Fund for Religious.

A donor writes, "Your flyer touched my heart-seeing the retired religious, such memories surfaced." Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance.

Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. The weekend of December 17-18 we will be taking a second collection.

Food Shelf Sunday is the second Sunday of every month. The upcoming Food Shelf Sunday is Dec. 8-9. Please bring non-perishable food items and leave in the Food Shelf bin in the back of church. There is also a need for personal hygiene items. Envelopes for monetary donations will also be available in the pews that weekend.

Advent & Christmas Schedule

December 8

Feast of The Immaculate Conception

Mass: Saturday, December 8
at 9:00 AM

December 25

The Nativity of The Lord

Vigil Mass: Monday, December 24
at 5:00 PM

Christmas Day Mass:

Tuesday, December 25 At 9:00 AM

January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Mass: Tuesday, January 1
At 9:00 AM

Best Advent Ever! Weekly Prayers

Week 1, Hope

Dear Jesus,
you are the hope in our messy world.
This Advent, help us slow down,
listen to your voice,
and focus on what's really important.
We place our hope in you as we
prepare our hearts to celebrate
your birth on Christmas.