

The Church of the Sacred Heart

The Mother Church of East Central Minnesota

First Sunday of Advent 12/1/2019

PREPARE THE WAY FOR CHRIST

Hope

**May the Lord
make you
increase and
abound in love
for one another
and for all**

1 Thessalonians 3:12



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ON OUR NEW ADVENT JOURNEY

The season is upon us once again, and no I'm not referring to busy shopping malls, buying more things we don't need, or even binge-watching Christmas shows on the Hallmark channel. I'm speaking of Advent. Advent in Latin means "coming". Advent is a period of time devoted to us Catholic Christians, so we can prepare and reflect on the true meaning of the season, the *coming* of Our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

God sent his only son, to be born and live amongst us, teaching us and finally giving up his life for us, so that we may have eternal life with the forgiveness of our sins. How do we prepare for something that has already happened? This unfathomable sacrifice was done for us! How do you thank God for saving our souls? How do you say thank you to Jesus for showing us the true meaning of love?

One way we can prepare during Advent, is to make room in our hearts for Jesus. Sit quietly and remember his earthly life. Talk to others about his love for us! Thank him and praise his name! And most importantly, just love him! We all tend to find the time to take care of ourselves, making sure we get our hair cut, running errands or even watching the Vikings or Packers game on tv; however, how much time do we set aside for Jesus? I know, I know, I hear it all the time... "We're just so busy". As Catholic Christians, we *must* be making our faith a priority. What better gift to give to your children and loved ones, than the gift of faith and eternal salvation! Show them God is number one. Be the example they need to become better disciples as they grow older. Make the time for Mass every week. Turn off the tv and electronics for even a half hour and pray! Pray and ask Jesus to come into your life more. Jesus is longing to spend time with all of us.

Not only is Advent a time to prepare our hearts, but it is also the time of year we are shown how hopeful the world we live in truly is. Pope Francis said "Advent increases our hope. A hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down". Hope is a wonderful gift we have received from God. This is the time of year to practice having hope, each and every day! Hope is a positive leap of faith. It can replace the stress we can feel in our busy lives, by leaving us with the feeling that everything is going to be fine. As humans, we love to feel in control. We are in control when we drive, control of our actions and even our words. Then why is it I hear over and over again, how out of control life is getting? Even young children and teens are saying "enough" of the busyness. Another one of my favorite sayings is "let go and let God". As much as we like to think we are in control, we are not. Take this time during Advent and give God your burdens. Have hope, for God will carry you through your toughest times. The more you bring hope near to you and trust God will be there for you, the faster the stress of your busy life will disappear.

I am hopeful you will all be preparing room in your hearts for Jesus!

Advent Blessings, Father Shane

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION!

Mass will be held on Monday,
December 9 at 9:00 AM

The Immaculate Conception, according to the teaching of the Catholic Church, was the conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary in the womb of her mother, Saint Anne. Mary was conceived naturally but God kept her soul *immaculate*, i.e. free from original sin. Is the Feast of Immaculate Conception Obligatory in 2019?

In 2019, at least in the United States, the obligation to attend Mass is dispensed because December 8 falls on Sunday and the celebration is *transferred* to Monday, December 9. The transfer is made as the Second Sunday of Advent takes precedence.



Advent & Christmas Schedule

December 9

Feast of The Immaculate Conception

Monday, December 9

Masses at 9:00 AM

December 25

The Nativity of The Lord

Tuesday, December 24

Vigil Mass at 5:00 PM

Wednesday, December 25

Christmas Day Mass at 9:00 AM

January 1

Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31

Vigil Mass at 9:00 AM

Wednesday, January 1

At 9:00 AM

Celebrants

Wednesday, December 4th

Fr. Shane Sacred Heart 9:00 AM

Saturday, December 7th

Fr. Shane Sacred Heart 4:00 PM

Fr. Chuck St. Gregory's 5:00 PM

Second Sunday of Advent, Sunday, December 8th

Fr. Shane Sacred Heart 9:00 AM

Fr. Chuck St. Gregory's 9:30 AM

Immaculate Conception, Monday, December 9th

Fr. Chuck Sacred Heart 9:00 AM

Fr. Nygaard St. Gregory's 9:00 AM

Fr. Shane St. Gregory's 6:00 PM



S.H.
Rosary
Devotion

Rosaries Said:

11/10: 31
To Date: 2214

Liturgical Roles

Saturday, Dec. 7th at 4:00 pm

Lectors: Wayne Herberg

Communion: Mary Stenger, Jeanne Kay

Gifts: Kay Family

Ushers: Ron Faber, Tim Morris

Servers: Mikayla Ertz

Youth Sunday, Dec. 8th at 9:00 am

Lectors: Youth

Communion: Kristi Frasier, Scott Tryon*

David Prickett

Gifts: Youth

Ushers: Kevin & Justin Murphy, Rodney Swanson

Servers: Alexis Murphy, Alexis Ertz

Mass Intentions



Nov. 30th † Michelle Stenger-Fisk
Dec. 7th † Douglas DuWayne Hanson
Dec. 8th † Ralph Anderson

Faith Formation

Reminder that Dec. 7-8th is Youth Mass and the food drive.

Parish News



Santa Day!

It's that time of the year again! Santa Day is Saturday, December 14, which means its cookie sale time... Time to break out the cookie's sheets and recipes of your favorite Christmas cookies. Ladies, kids, even you guys who like to bake can bring a double recipe of your cookies to the RC library at 9:00 am on Santa Day, Saturday, December 14. Thank you in advance.

Financial Update

Totals for weekend	11/17/2019
Plate	569.59
Envelopes (44)	5125.00
Bldg. maint. Env.	260.00
Food Shelf	4.00
Anniversary Bldg. Improv.	1915.00
Military Archdiocese	479.79
Furnace Donations	50.00
Total	\$8403.38

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!

"Capital Campaign Corner"

Financial Update:

Project Goal	\$ 100,000.00
Pledges Received (50)	\$ 55,510.00
Paid to Date	\$ 33,802.00

If you have not returned your pledge card please do so soon.

Thank you for supporting Capital Campaign— A Call to Restore and Preserve.



faith + love + generosity

NEW ENVELOPES FOR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Envelopes are now in the back of church for use in remitting installment donations for the Capital Campaign.

They are green in color and should be used as follows:

1. Be sure to put your name (s) where indicated.
2. Write in the amount for a check or cash placed in it.
3. Write in your envelope number if you have one. If not, circle the N/A.
4. On the left, mark the type of donation, monthly, quarterly, etc.
5. When complete, drop in the collection basket.

If you have already made a one-time donation, these envelopes need not be used (unless you would like to add to your previous one, in which case check the "Special Donation" category).



Needing our Prayers



Tony Lenneman
Erika Matzke-Stoltz
Danielle Peter
Elaine Schneider
Margarette Brooker
Matt Yurick
Jean Isackson

Sue Roth
Jim Kirchberg
Bill Wolff
Judy Strandmark
Cinda Clark
John Hatcher
Savannah Yurick



Free Community
Christmas Eve Dinner
Sacred Heart Church
In the Wey Hall
Monday, December 24th
At 6:00 pm

Donations of any desserts
would be greatly
appreciated.
Thank you!