

Come let us



adore Him

On Christmas 2016

In gratitude to the Blessed Virgin Mary and thanks to the Holy Spirit, the birth of Our Savior Jesus Christ has finally arrived. For nine months Saint Mary carried Jesus, conceived by the Holy Spirit, in her womb. God became incarnate on Earth because one woman, Mary, said "yes" to God through his messenger Gabriel the Archangel. We are grateful to Our Mother.

At the Annunciation of Our Lord on March 25, Mary was greeted with a message from God; she was troubled and afraid, uncertain about the news (Luke 1:26-38). While Gabriel continued to be present with Mary, she was open to hearing the message that was being given to her. She also listened attentively to what was being said by the Archangel. Furthermore, the soon to be Mother of God conversed with Gabriel, "How can this be, since I have had no relations with a man?" This was done so she could better comprehend the plan God had for her and the world.

While she eventually accepted God's will for her, she wasn't impulsive, for Mary first "pondered what sort of meaning of greeting by Gabriel this might be." Believing in the message that the Archangel brought to her from God, Mary agreed, concluding the conversation by saying, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word."

Although the Angel departed from her, it really was only the beginning of God coming to us as flesh. Despite the fact that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit, like all other human beings he was formed in his mother's womb for nine months. Jesus, from the start of His conception, was very much human. Today we celebrate the Birth of Our Savior, the fruit of the Blessed Virgin Mary's saying "yes" to God's messenger. What a great gift from God to send His only Son, the incarnation of the Word of God.

We honor our God by accepting His gift today when we keep Jesus in our lives, not just this Christmas, but every day throughout the coming year. We are asked to share Jesus by the way we talk and by the way we ask, bringing Him to others in our lives. While it is easy to keep Jesus in our lives during this time of the year, may we make an extra effort to keep Him fully alive every day. Like the Blessed Virgin Mary, but in a spiritual manner, we are to carry the message of Jesus to all. May we do this not only today but also each and every day.

Merry Christmas, Father Shane



Fr. Shane, Fr. Chuck, Fr. Fitzgerald and the parish staff wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

THIS IS THE
Miracle
OF CHRISTMAS...
THAT GOD SO LOVED
THE WORLD HE SENT
HIS ONLY SON.

CHURCH OF THE SACRED HEART WELCOMES YOU

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Saturday at 4:00 pm
Sunday at 9:00 am
Wednesday at 9:00 am
First Friday of each month at 9:00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesdays from 9:30 am - noon

Please Note:

Beginning 12.21.2016
There will not be Eucharistic Adoration
until further notice due to the weather.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

First Friday of each month at 8:30 am
First Saturday of each month
3:15 pm - 3:45 pm
Or by appointment

Parish Office

**415 West 5th Street
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Website: sacredheartrcmn.org

Office Hours

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Parish Staff Contacts

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December 25 2016

PARISH NEWS

GIVE BLOOD—GIVE LIFE

The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on January 6, 2017 from 1:00—7:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church. Give the gift of blood this Christmas. You can make a difference!

INVITATION TO LADIES OF THE PARISH

Ignite your Spirit! Join women from around the Archdiocese on Saturday, February 25 for a day of inspiration, faith, fellowship and fun. WINE (Women in the New Evangelization) is sponsoring *Small Things, Great Love: It's What We Do*, a one day conference including speakers, prayer and shopping. The cost is \$55 for early registration before January 25 and \$65 after. Lunch is included in the price. Register online at: 2017winecwc.eventbrite.com. Call Barb at St. Gregory's parish office if you need help getting registered!

*Let us all rejoice in the Lord,
for our Savior has been born in the world.
Today true peace has come down to us from heaven.*
Christmas Midnight Mass Entrance Antiphon

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, December 31 4:00 p.m.

Lector: Rick Drevecky
Communion: Mary Stenger,
Ginny Thorn
Gifts: Drevecky Family
Ushers: Ted Stathes, Joe
Wegleitner
Servers: Maggie Roth

Sunday, January 1 9:00 a.m.

Lectors: Jeremy Albright,
Mary Jane Dahl
Communion: Mary Pat Hest-
beck, Audrey Larson,
Clarence Larson
Gifts: Penno Family
Ushers: Don Belland, Dennis
Kaufmann, Joe Moore
Servers: Maggie Roth,
Brodrick Larson

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Totals for the week of 12/18/2016

Plate	116.65
Envelopes (46)	1,626.00
Candle Money	98.10
Stipends/Stole	7.00
EFT	490.00
Immaculate Conception	25.00
Ministree	138.00
Liturgical Environment	15.00
Retirement for Religious	40.00
Christmas Flowers	313.00
Total	\$2,868.75

2016 Contributions:

All donations on your 2016 commitments to St. Gregory the Great postmarked by December 31, 2016 will be recorded on your 2016 statement. All payments after December 31 will be credited to your contributions for 2017. Thank You.

MASS INTENTIONS



December 28	Open
December 31	Parishioners
January 1	†Guy Schnoecher

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Wednesday, December 28

Fr. Nygaard	Sacred Heart	9:00 am
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Saturday, December 31

Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	4:00 pm
Fr. Chuck	St. Gregory	5:00 pm

Sunday, January 1

Fr. Chuck	St. Gregory	8:30 am
Fr. Shane	Sacred Heart	9:00 am
Fr. Chuck	St. Gregory	10:30 am

Please Note:

There will not be Eucharistic Adoration until further notice due to the weather.

HOLY DAY MASS SCHEDULE

Mary, Mother of God

Vigil Mass—Saturday, December 31

Sacred Heart	4:00 p.m. Fr. Shane
St. Gregory the Great	5:00 p.m. Fr. Chuck

Mary, Mother of God—Sunday, January 1

St. Gregory the Great	8:30 a.m. Fr. Chuck
	10:30 a.m. Fr. Chuck
Sacred Heart	9:00 a.m. Fr. Shane



†Deacon Larry Walker

May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

NEEDING OUR PRAYERS

Marjorie King	Margarette Brooker	Kim Sarago
Jean Amunson	Marvin Johnson	Jim Kirchberg
Arlene Greenhagen	Bill Sempel	Ethel Thomas
Mary Knack	Bev Hurley	Tom McKenzie
Wayne King	Jim Mitchell	Sue Roth
Robby Murry	Judie Peltier	Abby Larson
Heidi Blatz	Eileen Kost	Betty Erickson
David Gaul	Jim Noon	Rose Peloquin
Colleen Najewski	Cecilia Shinler	Nick Cieminski
Joan Parkin	Betty Anderson	Lenny Anderson
Cathy Gamache	Gerald Mollberg	Tom Solorz

Please advise the office if any of these names can be removed. Thank you.

"Loving God, we ask that you enfold in your tender compassionate care all those in our community whose hearts are breaking and whose worries consume them."

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