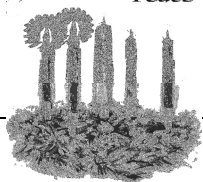


## 2nd Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2009



Dear Parishioners:

Notes from  
Fr. Dean



**St. Paul** tells us "I pray always with joy in my every prayer for all of you...I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus. John the Baptist reminds us to prepare the way of the Lord...make straight his paths. During the Advent Season we prepare the way of the Lord through the call to repentance.

### PENANCE SERVICES

Mark your calendars to prepare for the Birth of Christ by opening your heart to the mercy and love of God. The Parish Penance Service will be held **6:30 pm Monday, December 14**. Several priests will be here to assist us. You may also avail yourself of the Sacrament of Penance at the following Churches:

Dec. 6: 2:00 pm	St. Joseph Church, Springfield
Dec. 9: 6:30 pm	St. Aloysius Church, Spfld
Dec. 13: 4:00 pm	St. Francis Cabrini, Spfld
<b>Dec. 14: 6:30 pm</b>	<b>Church of St. Jude, Rochester</b>
Dec. 15: 6:30 pm	St. Joseph the Worker, Chatham
Dec. 17: 7:00 pm	St. Agnes, Springfield
17: 7:00 pm	Church of Little Flower, Spfld
Dec. 20: 2:00 pm	Cathedral, Springfield.
20: 4:00 pm	St. James, Riverton

### Pastoral Council & Staff Meeting

7 pm Monday evening, December 2. It is an opportunity to examine the results of the feasibility study, begin looking at the future Diocesan pastoral planning of priestly pastoral cooperation, and other items of parish business.

### December 8: Holy Day of Obligation

The Immaculate Conception of Mary is the Feast Day of December 8. Not only do we celebrate what God has done for Mary at the moment of her conception, we celebrate our Diocesan and national patroness. We ask the intercession of Mary, the Mother of God to guide us on our journey of faith. The Mass schedule will be:

**5:30 pm Vigil Mass Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**6:45 am on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.**

### FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

Parents of/and Children preparing for First Reception of Holy Communion are required to attend the Formation Meeting **9:00 am, next Saturday, December 12**.

### MINISTRY OF HOSPITALITY: Doughnuts/Drink

Several families have responded to last week's notice to share in the Sunday morning Hospitality. We need a couple of more families to take one Sunday morning a month. Please call the parish office if you are willing to take 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month to do this ministry. Thanks to all who helped in the past years.

**Celebrate !**  
**Feast of SAINT NICHOLAS**  
today **December 6**  
**2:00-4:00 pm**  
in the parish center.



### HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

#### Sunday – December 06

**9:10 a** PSR classes  
**9:15 a** RCIA  
**2:00 p** St. Nicholas Celebration

#### Daily Monday through Friday

**8:30 a** Morning Prayer

#### Monday – December 07

**9:00 a** Collection Counting Team 1, Rowden, Catalano, Hattes  
**2:00 p** **Parish Staff Meeting**  
**5:00 p** Rosary  
**7:00 p** Pastoral Council/Staff Mtg

#### Tuesday – December 08

**Parish offices closed**

**7:15 a** Rosary

#### Wednesday – December 09

**7:30 a** Rosary  
**5:00 p** Children's Choir Practice  
**6:30 p** PSR classes  
**6:30 p** Adult Ed Class

#### Thursday – December 10

**7:15 a** Rosary  
**7:00 p** Adult Choir Practice

#### Saturday – December 12

**RETURN FRIENDS GIFTS THIS WEEKEND!**

**9:00 a** 1<sup>st</sup> Comm – 2<sup>nd</sup> Ritual Mtg, Parents & children  
**4:30 p** Reconciliation  
**5:30 p** 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Preparation Ritual

#### Sunday – December 13

**8:00 a** 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Preparation Ritual  
**9:10 a** PSR classes  
**9:15 a** RCIA  
**10:30 a** 1<sup>st</sup> Communion Preparation Ritual  
**2:00 p** St. Nicholas Celebration

### CHRISTMAS MINISTRY SIGN-UP

Over the past two weekends the ministry sign-up sheets for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and the weekend of December 26th and 27th have been on the table at the entrance to church. **There are still several ministry positions left to fill for these Masses.** If you are a Coordinator of the Liturgy, an Extraordinary Minister of Communion, Lector, Minister of Hospitality or Server and you are available for the Mass, please volunteer. The **opportunities are listed on the forms in the narthex** or gathering space of the Church. You will be contacted and informed of the Mass or Masses for which you are scheduled.

**HAPPY ADVENT & MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

## LITURGISTS FOR NEXT WEEKEND – Dec 12-13

<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>	<b>Saturday 5:30pm</b>	<b>Sunday 8:00am</b>	<b>Sunday 10:30 am</b>
<b>Lector</b>	Scheufele/Settles/Deacon Tom	Godar/G&C Leach	Walker/Warren/Clare
<b>Hospitality Servers</b>	Merkley/McMinn	J & H Hendrickson	Garcia/Deimel
<b>Minister of Care</b>	Carrigan Family	Lauwerens Family	E&J Bedore/C&M Houser
<b>Mass Coordinator</b>	Settles/D&M Western	C J & J Merriman	G & A Henson/Foster
<b>RCIA Minister of Dismissal</b>	Tomashavich	Lenna DeGroot	Van Dyke
<b>Church Dusters for the week of December 7:</b>		R & B Yong	
<b>Art &amp; Environment for next weekend:</b>		Deacon Tom	
<b>Children's Liturgy of the Word for next weekend:</b>			
<b>Recycling Volunteers for December:</b>			
<b>St. Martin's Food Volunteers for December:</b>			

### MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Dec 05 Sat</b>	5:30 p	Rose Beeve †
<b>Dec 06 Sun</b>	8:00 a	Catholic War Veterans †
	10:30 a	Our Parish Family
<b>Dec 07 Mon</b>	5:30 p	Mary Ann & Margo Nelson †
<b>Dec 08 Tue</b>	6:45 a	Grover Smith †
<b>Dec 09 Wed</b>	8:00 a	All Souls †
<b>Dec 10 Thu</b>	6:45 a	Helen Peifer Family †
<b>Dec 11 Fri</b>	8:00 a	Mary Agnes Nevins †
<b>Dec 12 Sat</b>	5:30 p	John Blasko †
<b>Dec 13 Sun</b>	8:00 a	Brandis Family †
	10:30 a	Our Parish Family

The cross reflects those who have died; non-cross reflects special intention for those still living.

### OUR GIFT TO GOD Fiscal Year 7/1/09 – 6/30/10

	Year to Date	Last Sunday
Collection	\$111,360.46	\$ 7,063.00
Electronic Funds	\$ 23,584.40	\$ 1,938.44
Bldg. Dev. Fund	\$ 7,610.14	\$ 376.00
EFT – Dev. Fund	\$ 2,630.00	\$ 218.00
Poor Fund	\$ 389.00	\$ 38.26

**Children's Stewardship:** Collection \$ 11.42

Among the Deeds: Helped set up Christmas decorations; helped my mommy; helped clean house; helped with Christmas Friends

### Stewardship Message

Good stewards believe that God, who has begun this good work in them, will carry it through to completion. In words and deeds, they can sing with the Psalmist, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!"

Annual Catholic Services appeal: Goal \$35,000.00  
As of 11/24/09: 93 Contributors Pledged: \$15,089.00

### DAILY READINGS:

#### December 6 - 13

**Sun** – Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

**Mon** – Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

**Tue** – Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12;  
Lk 1:26-38

**Wed** – Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

**Thu** – Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13; Mt 11:11-15

**Fri** – Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

**Sat** – Zec 2:14-17; Judith 13:18-19; Lk 1:26-38

**Sun** – Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18



### Please pray for the sick

**Maude & John Kenworth** (Parishioners)  
**Mary Beth Vetter** (sister of Teri Dambacher)  
**Frank Beeve** (parishioner)  
**Ray Roland** (parishioner)  
**David Yoggerst** (parishioner)  
**Beverly Zimmerman** (sister of Tom Bowen)

**Barbara Barnett** (niece of Joan Mavis)

**Barbara Williams** (mother of Doug Williams)

(Note: Names will remain on the active prayer list for three weeks unless a request is made to extend it for an additional three weeks.)

### Advertiser of the Week

#### UNITED COMMUNITY BANK

Jim Lauwerens, Vice President, Lending  
483-2491

**ADULT EDUCATION** - The Adult Faith formation group will meet again this **Wednesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.** The topic will be on Mary and the rosary. Please come join us as we prepare for the birth of our Lord this Christmas season.

The **Lincoln Land Community College Madrigal Singers** presents **A HOLIDAY ROMANCE**, on Sunday, December 13, 4:00 p.m. at the Rochester United Methodist Church. **Concert is free** and open to the public!

### Correction

Our parish has only one date for ringing the bell for the **Salvation Army Red Kettle** campaign, Tuesday, **December 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.** The computer gremlins got the better part of our newsletter submission! If you and your family would like to volunteer to ring the bell on some other date than December 22<sup>nd</sup>, you can contact Dave McDonough with the Salvation Army at 525-2196 Ext. 208. It requires a commitment to two hours between now and Christmas.

**St. Jude Women's Tea** group will meet next Wednesday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 p.m. at the home of Darlene Kratz. Please call Darlene 498-7572 if you have any questions.