

December 13, 2009: Third Sunday of Advent



John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." — Lk 3:16

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LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

Sunday, December 13 (Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18)

8:00 am- For our Parish Family

10:30 am- Jim & Josephine Gutierrez

Monday, December 14, St. John of the Cross (Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27)

7:00 am- Frank Krenak

10:00 am- Rudolph & Stazie Jurena (Hallettsville Rehab)

Tuesday, December 15 (Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32)

7:00 am- Charlie Wagner, Sr.

Wednesday, December 16 (Is 45:6b-8,18,21b-25/Lk7:18b-23)

7:00 am- Adolf, Mary, Jerome & Fred Jansky

8:05 am- Joe & Banna Jares

6:15 pm- Gus Werner (CCD Mass)

Thursday, December 17 (Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17)

7:00 am- Robert & Rosa Helmcamp

10:00 am- Victor & Alma Brosch (Stevens)

Friday, December 18 (Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25)

7:00 am- Bill Sobotik & Hilda Hilton Elstner

8:05 am- Alvin Schneider, Jr.

Saturday, December 19 (Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25)

5:30 pm- For our Parish Family

Sunday, December 20 (Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45)

8:00 am- Joe R., Emilie, Margaret, Jerome & Helen M. Steffek

10:30 am- Eugene & Eva Brent

Area Penance Services:

Moulton – Monday, December 14, 5:30 p.m.

Yoakum – Tuesday, December 15, 5:30 p.m.

Hallettsville – Thursday, December 17, 5:30 p.m.

Shiner – Friday, December 18, 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Confession Schedule

Sacred Heart:

Friday, December 18, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 19, 4:00 – 5:15 p.m.

Tuesday, December 22, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 23, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m.

St. Mary's: Saturday, December 19, 10:00 a.m.

Moravia: Saturday, December 19, 5:00 – 5:45 p.m.

St. John: Monday, December 21, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Sacred Heart: Christmas Eve – 4:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., & Midnight. Christmas Day – 8:05 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

St. Mary's: Christmas Eve – Midnight.

Christmas Day – 9:15 a.m.

Moravia: Christmas Eve – 5:00 p.m.

St. John: Christmas Day – 9:30 a.m.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

-Firefall at 6:00 p.m. in church. Parishioners are invited to join the youth in Eucharistic Adoration.

-KJZT #2 Christmas Party, 4 – 7 p.m., Family Center.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

-Rosary & evening prayer, 5:30 p.m. in church.

-JCDA Christmas Party, 3:45–5:00 p.m., Family Center.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

-Quilting Circle, 9:00 a.m., KC Hall of Fame Room.

-KC's & Catholic Daughters Christmas Party, KC Hall. Social 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Spouses are invited. Ladies bring a snack. Donation of \$3 per person at the door. For information please call KC Hall 798-2311.

-RCIA Class, 7:00 p.m., Family Center.

-Serra Club Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Jalisco's Café.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

-CCD: Grades K – 11th, 6:00 – 7:10 p.m.

-Spiritual Book Study will not meet until January 6.

-Right to Life Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Mary's House.

-Divine Mercy Prayers, 7:30 p.m., Church Cry Room.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

-Baptism Preparation Class, 9:00 a.m. in the Rectory. Please call the Rectory in advance to register.

AMONG OUR SICK: Hubert Grahmann, Alvin Rosenauer, Odessa & Doug Blumberg, Josie Ohnheiser, Mason Leibham, Riley Mika, Mary Bonorden, Annette Krupala, Anthony Corte, Amanda Conniff, Margaret Timm, Helen M. Appelt, Michael Kutac, Rosalie Simpson, Ed Aulick, Paige Haas, Anita Kallus, Hubert Etzler, Jeff Zavesky, Renae Ross, Alma Jurena, Kate Kopecky, Michael L. Drozd, Bill Biehunko, Lindal Finley, Frank Fishar, Pam Dornak, Clayton Patek, Suzanne Romano, Mary Agnes Grahmann, Alice Kocian, Anita Bohuslav, Betty Toman, MacKenzie Fogle, Henri Mae Patek, Louise Pesek, Doyleen Drozd, Bryce Saldi, Travis Klmitchek, Judith Koerth, Thelma Mikulenska, Louise Tesch, Sharon Grahmann, Sandra Henneke, Mary Ann Koenig, Ronald Kanak, Marcella Henke, Helen Mitchon, Tillie Schott, Robert Vasek, Georgia Schaefer, Geraline Morgenroth, Joseph Ilardo, Anthony Petru, Dolores Ludwig, Denise Lewis, Evelyn Kutac, Barbara Tesch, John D. Henneke, Emil Grahmann, nursing home residents, homebound.

Bulletin Sponsor: In memory of Jim & Josephine Gutierrez by Bob & Lou Kubena.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: In memory of Darlene Knezek, Shirleen Vela & Louis Wick by Dennis Haas Family.

Vigil Light: In memory of Heddy Greer.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$5,894; Loose-\$1,036; Children's-\$40; Bldg. Repair-\$548; Immac. Concep.-\$1,416.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Jerome Kocian* of our parish family, and *Thomas Parks, Sr.*, father of *Libby Bludau*. *May they rest in the peace of Christ.*

If you have not picked up your picture taken for the parish directory, please pick it up in the foyer of the church.

From the Desk of Father John

Our new church calendars for 2010 are now available in church. Please take one per family. Please say "Thank you" to Leopold Insurance Agency and Hoffer's Drive In Grocery & Washateria for sponsoring our Sacred Heart calendars.

A special thank you goes to all who took part in the Christian Mother's Sharing Tree project for the Catholic residents in our nursing homes. The response was great, as usual.

A special thank you also goes to everyone who participated in the St. Nicholas project to help those in need at Christmas. Also, a big thanks goes to the young parishioners who took part in the St. Nicholas Mass and festivities last Saturday evening, as well as the parents and other adults who helped.

Many good things are happening in our parish at this time of year to help others. It is a spirit that should (and does) continue throughout the year. I continually thank God for our loving and caring parishes and community.



The Youth ConneXion



December 13: Youth meet in church at 5:00 p.m. Firefall at 6:00 p.m.

Youth Christmas Party, January 10, Youth House (8 – 12 Graders).

Music Practice: Mondays, 6:00 p.m., Youth House.

Religious Education (CCD) ~~ Office 798-3124

Janice Busselman, Coordinator
Angela McConnell, Assistant

December 16: CCD Christmas Mass, 6:15 p.m.

December 23 & 30: CCD classes dismissed for Christmas & New Year's Holiday.

Sacred Heart Catholic School ~~ 798-4251

December 13: Band Christmas Concert, 6:00 p.m., Gym. Refreshments will be served after the concert. Please bring a non-perishable food item for LAMB.

December 16: Early dismissal, Grades 9–12, 12:00 noon.

December 17: Early dismissal, PreK–12, 2:00 p.m.

December 17: Reconciliation services for high school students, 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

December 18: Early dismissal, Pre-K – 12, 12:00 noon for Christmas & New Year's holidays. No extended care.

December 16 – 18: High School semester exams.

Perpetual Adoration will continue through Christmas & New Year's Holidays. If you will be unable to fulfill your regular adoration hour, please find a replacement or call your hourly captain. For questions, please call Charlene Bradbury 798-3224.

Calendar Membership: Dec. 3: Anton Honish-\$100; **Dec. 4:** Erv & Mary Rose Grafe, Houston-\$100; **Dec. 7:** Angela Rivers, Yoakum-\$50; **Dec. 8:** Jennifer Golsch-\$50; **Dec. 9:** Mr. & Mrs. James Honish-\$50.



If you would like to contribute toward the Christmas Poinsettias, you may bring your donation to the Rectory or place it in an envelope & drop it in the collection basket. Thank you!

KJZT Society #2 Christmas Party, Sunday, Dec. 13, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m., Family Center. Dinner at 5:00 p.m. provided by the Society. Members & spouses are invited. RSVP by December 9 to Bea Heinzl 798-4186.

Flowers in the Adoration Chapel last week were in honor of Joseph & Dorothy Jansky's 57th anniversary by Donna, Steve & Brian Kossa.

Advent Wreath Prayer Week 3 (3 purple candles lit): *As we draw near to you, Lord God, keep us aware of your presence in all we do. Come with power to enlighten us by your grace, that we may live in praise and peace all our days. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.* (Burn candle during evening meals, at prayers or bedtime.)

JCDA Christmas Party, Monday, December 14, 3:45 – 5:00 p.m., Family Center. Bring a \$5 gift to exchange.

Drive through Live Nativity, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Yoakum, 6:00–8:00 p.m., Sunday, December 13.

3rd Sunday of Advent

Pretty practical advice from John the Baptist in this week's Gospel: if you have two cloaks, share one; if you have food, do the same; be honest, don't cheat; don't lie about others.

Practical advice is the kind of thing elders would dole out to children and grandchildren. Be polite; wait your turn; say "thank you"; wash your hands before meals; take a walk; have regular check-ups. You know the routine.

While the simple practical advice of our elders was meant to situate us in a wholesome life that was respectful of self and others, the practical advice of John the Baptist has a great end in mind. The actions he promotes are directed toward the coming kingdom of God. John's vision takes in the whole world and extends beyond his moment in time. He is foreseeing a day when God's justice will reign supreme. He is asking his listeners to begin now to make that justice happen.

The kind things we do at this time of year are to be more than simple acts of charity. Donating food, bringing gifts for the poor, contributing to agencies that help those in need are all good things. But if we see our actions for what they can be – giving from what has been given to us to the many who have less – we then begin to understand our place in the kingdom of God. If we have more than someone else, it is always incumbent on us to share. That is the practical advice that John lays out for his listeners as preparation for the coming of the Messiah. And just to make it clear, John adds that this Messiah is coming with

his winnowing fan to separate wheat from chaff. God's
justice will not be denied.

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