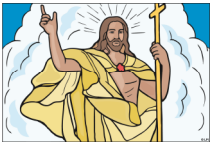


December 2, 2012: First Sunday of Advent



“Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand.”

— Lk 21:27-28
Quoted from the Liturgy for Nov 2011, 196, 199 CCD.

LITURGY

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

**Sunday, December 2 (Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12---
4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36)**

8:00 am- Delores Prasek & Bonnie Grahmann

10:30 am- Joe P. Zappe

**Monday, December 3, St. Francis Xavier, Priest (Is 2:1-
5/Mt 8:5-11)**

7:00 am- Jerome & Alice Kocian

10:00 am- Louis Mikulenska (H'ville Rehab)

**Tuesday, December 4, St. John Damascene, Priest &
Doctor of the Church (Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24)**

7:00 am- Helen M. Appelt

Wednesday, December 5 (Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37)

7:00 am- Frank & Rosalie Henke

8:05 am- Willard & Irene Hagendorf

**Thursday, December 6, St. Nicholas, Bishop (Is 26:1-
6/Mt 7:21, 24-27)**

7:00 am- Steve & Irene Otahal

10:00 am- Elsie Steffek (Stevens)

**Friday, December 7, St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of
the Church (Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31)**

7:00 am- Living & deceased members of Adolf &
Minnie Berger Family

8:05 am- Lucille McCord

7:00 pm- Brenda Bludau (Vigil Mass for holy day)

**Saturday, December 8, The Immaculate Conception of
the Blessed Virgin Mary (Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-6,
11-12/Lk 1:26-38) Holy Day of Obligation**

8:00 am- Ernest Schulte

5:30 pm- Arnold Rother

Sunday, Dec. 9 (Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6)

8:00 am- Alfonse & Dorothy Grahmann

10:30 am- For our Parish Family

Bulletin Sponsor: Don & Barbara Rainosek in memory
of Alvin Grahmann & Margaret Etzler.

Radio Broadcast Sponsor: Laurence & Carol Bludau in
memory of Herbert Bludau, Brenda Bludau, and V.C. &
Alois Labay.

Vigil Light Sponsor: In memory of Eugene Novak.

Our Gift to God: Envelopes-\$5,380.50; Campaign for
Human Development-\$708; Manna Food Pantry-\$1,232;
Cemetery Envelopes-\$533; Loose-\$1,453; Children-\$41.

Anniversaries: Richard & Nancy Braus 40 years Dec. 2

Welcome to the Parish: Steve & Patsy Kalmus.

Please pray for the blessing of beneficial rainfall!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

-Christian Mother's Party, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Family Center.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

-Rosary & Evening Prayers, 5:30 p.m., Church.

-Cantors & Organists Practice, 6:05 p.m., Church.

-Adult Choir Practice, 7:00 p.m., Church.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4

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

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5

-CCD: K-12th, 6:00-7:15 p.m.

-Divine Mercy Study/Prayers, 7:30 p.m., Church Cry Rm.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6

-First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins
at 6:00 p.m. in Church. Intention this month: *Peace in
families and to keep Christ in Christmas.*

-Holy Hour for Priestly Vocations, 7:00 p.m., Church.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

-First Friday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament ends
with Benediction at 6:00 p.m. in Church.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

-Celebration honoring Rev. Msgr. John Peters & Rev.
Msgr. Celestino Say, 10:30 a.m. Mass.

Among our sick: Edna Key, Frank Fishar, Faith Del Castillo,
Michael Gerdes, Renae Ross, Doug Blumberg, Rose Thumann,
Sterlin Ritchie, Ed Aulick, Ricky Skelton, Larry Appelt, Irene
Bordovsky, Milissa Zamora, Rhonda Janak, Chris Layton, Hank
Morris, Frances Moore, Frank, Patrick & Robben Nemeck,
Geneva Strmiska, Joyce Bucek, Chibana Alfaro, LaNora
Konvicka, Delores Grahmann, Bernice Neskora, Benedict
Bujnoch, Lorene Christ, Steve Smith, Donna Coldewey, Braxton
& Bentley Rother, Donna Avant, Wilbert Kalinec, Jack
McNabb, Glenn Rabel, Annette Krupala, Mary Bonorden,
Bobbie Lee Drozd, Richard Terry, Richard Staha, Rev. Lundy
Hooten, Tonie Brooks, Mary Ann Pustejovsky, Joyce Pesek
Hermes, Lucille (Carlwin) Werner, Matt Pohler, Annie Mae
Pesek, nursing home residents & homebound.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of *Dorothy Lenertz*,
sister of Dolores Johnson. *May she and all the faithful
departed rest in the peace of Christ.*

November Baptisms: Greysen Kade, son of Noe &
Shawna Etzler Miranda; Caston James, son of Blake &
Amber Barnes Zidek; Connor Grant, son of Steven &
Kelly Jasek Desautels.

Cantors & Organists: On Monday, Dec. 3 at 6:05 p.m.
in church, learn new hymns, review other music, & prac-
tice new Mass music for Advent, especially for 10:30 a.m.
Mass. If you have a recording device, it may be helpful to
you. Adult choir will continue to practice at 7:00 p.m.

If you selected a name of a resident in the nursing home
from **The Sharing Tree**, please bring a wrapped gift with
the resident's name attached to the Sharing Tree by
Sunday, December 2nd.

From the Desk of Msgr. John

This coming Saturday is December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is a holy day of obligation. You may attend Mass Friday evening or Saturday morning for the holy day. If you cannot make one of those Masses, then you may attend the Saturday evening Mass to fulfill your holy day of obligation and then go Sunday for your Sunday Mass. However, you cannot fulfill both obligations by going only to the Saturday evening Mass.

Masses for the holy day at Sacred Heart are Friday at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday at 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary is Friday at 6:00 p.m. Mass at Moravia is Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

Thank you to the family of David Joseph "D.J." Bludau for donating the beautiful Nativity Scene by the school in his memory. He passed away on October 16, 2012. Please remember him in your prayers.

We also thank Frances Holly and her late husband Charles for donating the previous Nativity by the school in 1985.

Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent, the beginning of a new Church year. Let us take this time to prepare ourselves well for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Religious Education (CCD) –

Dec. 5: 7th Grade meets at Lillie Appelt Johnson Youth Center to help fill boxes for St. Nick Ministry.

Dec. 12: 12th Grade participates at 6:15 p.m. Mass.



Sacred Heart Catholic School –

Dec. 3: Blood Drive, 8:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m., Family Center.

Dec. 20-Jan. 1: Classes dismissed.

Sacred Heart Youth – A special thanks to those who came to the latest youth meeting and the movie "For Greater Glory." We hope you take the message to heart and keep your minds open to God's will in your lives. Remember the words of Edmund Burke: "All that is necessary for evil to exist is for good people to do nothing." Those fighting to defend freedom in Mexico were not ashamed to cry out, "Viva Christo Rey" (meaning, long live Christ the King) even if it meant being killed. Are you willing to say "God bless" or even "Merry Christmas" without shame? Are we too ashamed to speak about God and Jesus for fear of offending someone? Do we truly believe that Jesus is the answer to the world's problems? Do we spread His message, or do we hide it? We urge you, live for Christ!! Viva Christo Rey!

"Young people too need to have the courage to live by the same high standards that they set for others. Theirs is a great responsibility: may find the strength to make good and wise use of their freedom. They too are responsible for their education, including their education to justice and peace!"

--Pope Benedict XVI--

The 25th annual collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious** will be taken up at all Masses on December 8 & 9 in the Diocese of Victoria. The parish-based appeal is coordinated by the National Religious Retirement Office (NRRO) in Washington, D.C., and offers financial support for the day-to-day care of over 34,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Last year, the Diocese of Victoria contributed \$50,801.59 to this collection. In 2012, the Missionary Catechists of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary and the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament in the Diocese of Victoria benefited from this collection.

The collection was initiated in 1988 by Catholic bishops of the United States. Proceeds are distributed to eligible religious communities to help underwrite retirement and healthcare expenses. Nearly 95% of donations directly support senior religious and their communities.

Contributions to the 2011 appeal totaled \$27.4 million and enabled the NRRO to distribute \$23 million in financial assistance to 453 religious communities. Additionally, nearly \$2.9 million was disbursed to assist religious communities with the greatest needs and to support ongoing education in retirement and elder-care delivery.

Since the collection began, Catholics in the United States have donated over \$671 million to support senior religious. "Words cannot express our gratitude," said NRRO Executive Director and Precious Blood Sister Janice Bader. "We are humbled by the generous and prayerful support that so many people share with our elder religious each year."

Despite the unparalleled generosity to the collection, religious communities continue to face significant challenges in meeting the high costs of care. Last year's distributions amounted to approximately \$907 per eligible religious. Yet the average annual cost of care for a senior religious stands at \$37,200 per person, while skilled care can exceed \$56,000. In 2011 alone, the total cost of care for women and men religious was over \$1.1 billion.

Religious communities are financially autonomous and thus responsible for the care and support of their elder members. Traditionally, senior religious worked for small stipends, and any surplus income was often reinvested in community ministries. As a result, many religious communities now lack adequate savings for retirement and elder care. Annual distributions from the Retirement Fund for Religious offer religious communities supplemental retirement funding and help to furnish various necessities, such as prescription medications and nursing care.

"Our goal is to help religious communities develop retirement strategies that will enable them to care for their senior members today and in the years to come," said Sister Bader.

*Thank you for your generosity and support of next weekend's collection for the **Retirement Fund for Religious**.*

Advent Wreaths and candles are available at the Rectory Gift Shop. Also stocked are various Christmas items, along with rosaries, bibles, crucifixes, and other religious articles that would make great Christmas gifts. Check us out!

Calendar Membership: **Nov. 22:** Raymond Henke-\$100; **Nov. 23:** Paul L. Janak-\$100; **Nov. 26:** Randy Ray & Courtney Perez-\$50; **Nov. 27:** Wink & Ida Bludau-\$50; **Nov. 28:** Roland Schaefer-\$50.

Spring 2013 - Adult Religious Education Sign-up.

In celebration of the Holy Year of Faith, the Spring series of classes for Fr. Tommy's Tuesday night Adult Religious Education will be using the beautiful Catholicism DVD series by Fr. Robert Barron. This series of twelve classes will be studying the basics of our Catholic faith. Come and refresh your knowledge of the beauty of our Catholic faith! Please call the church office to sign up for the classes and to order the workbook. The workbook is \$25 and must be prepaid. The last day to sign-up is January 14, 2013, so that the materials may be ordered. Classes will begin on Tuesday, January 29.

Solemn Vespers (Evening Prayer) on Sundays during Advent (Dec. 2, 9, 16, & 23), 5:00-6:00 p.m., Chapel of Incarnate Word Convent, 1101 N.E. Water St., Victoria.

First Thursday Holy Hour for Priestly Vocations

Every First Thursday, the Church commemorates Jesus' institution of the Sacrament of His Body and Blood and of the holy Priesthood, which is intrinsically tied to the Eucharist. Join us each First Thursday for a special Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration in the church from 7:00-8:00 p.m. for the intention of the priests and seminarians of our Diocese of Victoria, and to pray for more good and holy priests for the service of our diocese.

1st Sunday of Advent –

Tough economic times weigh on everyone. While some people seem to be able to afford everything, go everywhere, and enjoy what they want, there are so many people that have come to a point in their lives where every penny is pinched and every purchase scrutinized. Data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that consumers are spending less on big-ticket items to afford basics. Households hit by layoffs, the tight job market, and heavy debt burdens are holding back on spending. The savings rate has dropped, indicating that consumers are using up scant resources to stay afloat. Even people who might be able to spend a little more are being cautious, because the economic mood is so gloomy. The words of Jesus in today's Gospel could well characterize the overall global experience, "on earth nations will be in dismay."

It might seem a bit odd that we begin Advent, which is a season of hope, with a rather dismal and disturbing Gospel. The end of time is not something that we usually think about to any great extent. We are often more

concerned with the anxieties of daily life, as the Gospel puts it. Those daily worries seem like enough for most of us. We don't need to add the end of the world on top of it.

But for many people today, in this economic environment, daily anxieties can seem like the end of the world. Bills mount up, tensions grow, jobs or homes are lost. We need this season of hope to renew our own longings and expectations. The prophet Isaiah reminds us that God fulfills His promises. God's mercy endures in every generation, including ours. The actions we take to assist others become an expression of God's mercy and a sign of God's renewing hope. In the weeks to come even a small

kindness to someone could help to ease anxiety, and help that person believe that redemption is at hand.

(2012 Liturgical Publications, Inc.)

SACRED HEART CHURCH ENDOWMENT FUND –

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Bernard & Mary Grahmann-\$10; John & Sherry Henke-\$20; Robert & Barbara Grahmann-\$10; Arthur & Rose Mary Etzler-\$10; Barbara Grahmann-\$10; Jason & Virginia Krobot-\$20; Franklin Billimek-\$15

SACRED HEART CHURCH MUSIC FUND –

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Bob Kubena-\$30

SACRED HEART RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (CCD)

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Leonard & Mary Sklar-\$10

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND –

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Chris Janak-\$10; Forrest & Ann Dittrich-\$20; Albert & Dorothy Olsovsky-\$20; Leon & Theresa Matula-\$10

SACRED HEART SCHOOL OPERATING FUND –

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Charles & Dorothy Jansky-\$10; Georgie Henke-\$10; Dennis & Darlene Shimek-\$20; Andrew & Jane Pesek-\$10; Ronnie & Janet Hornischer-\$20; Marvin & Annette Grahmann-\$10; Gene & Maureen Schott-\$10; Leo & Dorothy Henke-\$10; William & Charlene Bradbury-\$10; Paul & Annette Henke-\$20. **In memory of Judith Koerth:** Charles & Dorothy Jansky-\$10

SACRED HEART SCHOOL BAND FUND –

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Anonymous-\$20

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ATHLETICS FUND –

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Mark & Karen Janak Family-\$15; Daniel & Dorothy Rother-\$15; Robert & Carol Rother-\$25; Aaron & Rhonda Bludau-\$20

DOROTHY HENNEKE SCHOLARSHIP FUND –

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Tommy & Elsie Grahmann-\$10

GEORGE BUJNOCH TRUST FUND –

In memory of Julius Hanslik: Dorothy Bujnoch-\$20

SACRED HEART QUILTING CIRCLE – **In memory of Julius Hanslik:** Hubbard & Bea Wyatt-\$25

