

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018**

**First Sunday Of Advent**

- 11:00 AM—Mass (Matt Gannon)
- 12:00 PM—Coffee & Donuts

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 3**

Saint Francis Xavier, Priest

**Tuesday, December 4**

Advent Weekday(1); *Saint John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church*

- 6:30 PM—Knights Dinner and Meeting

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5**

Advent Weekday

- 9:00 AM—Prayer Service followed by coffee
- 6:00 PM—Faith Formation, K-8

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6**

Advent Weekday; *Saint Nicholas, Bishop*

- 6:30 PM—Altar & Rosary Christmas party and meeting

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7**

Saint Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the, Church

- 7:00 PM—Holy Day mass at Sacred Heart, Newton

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8,**

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

- 9:00 AM—Holy Day Mass at Immaculate Conception

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2018**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- 11:00 AM—Mass (Mike Bell)



“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars.” Luke 21:25

**SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday**

Is 2:1-5  
Ps 122:1-9  
Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday**

Is 11:1-10  
Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17  
Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday**

Is 25:6-10  
Ps 23:1-6  
Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday**

Is 26:1-6  
Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a  
Mt 7:21, 24-27



**Friday**

Is 29:17-24  
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14  
Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday**

Gn 3:9-15  
Ps 98:1-4  
Eph 1:3-6, 11-12  
Lk 1:26-38

**Sunday**

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

**Some Dates to Note**

- Dec. 4—Knights of Columbus Dinner and Meeting
- Dec. 6—Altar & Rosary Society Christmas Party and Meeting
- Dec. 8—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Dec. 12—Communal Reconciliation Service
- Dec. 16—Christmas Pageant and Parish Chili Supper
- Dec. 19—Begin decorating for Christmas
- Dec. 23—Finish decorating for Christmas

**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Saturday, December 8**

Generally when a Holy Day of Obligation falls on Saturday, the obligation to attend mass is lifted. However, because the Immaculate Conception is the patroness of our country, the obligation remains. All Catholics are obligated to attend two masses on the weekend, one on Friday evening/Saturday and one on Saturday evening/Sunday. Holy day mass at Immaculate Conception will be at 9:00 AM on Saturday. Holy day mass at Newton will be at 7:00 PM Friday.



**Knights of Columbus Dinner and Meeting**

**Tuesday, December 2**

Dinner at 6:30, meeting at 7:00.  
All men of the parish are welcome.



**Advent Resources**

Advent begins today. This is a sacred and holy season for us to prepare for the great mystery of Christ's incarnation and birth. There are three daily meditation books in the gathering space to help you with your Advent journey—*The Little Blue Books* from Saginaw, *Five Minutes with the Word*, and *The Word Among Us*. Please help yourself.



Give and it shall be given to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over... Thank you for your gifts.

Envelopes .....\$2,233.00  
(\$1,155.00) in auto tithing)



A voice of one crying out in the desert: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Luke 3:4

**“Let us go forth, then, let us go forth to offer everyone the life of Jesus Christ... I prefer a Church which is bruised, hurting and dirty because it has been out on the streets, rather than a Church which is unhealthy from being confined and from clinging to its own security...If something should rightly disturb us and trouble our consciences, it is the fact that so many of our brothers and sisters are living without the strength, light and consolation born of friendship with Jesus Christ, without a community of faith to support them, without meaning and a goal in life.”**

**Pope Francis, *Evangelii Gaudium (Joy of the Gospel)***



**Altar & Rosary Society News  
December meeting and Christmas party.  
Thursday, Dec. 6, 6:30 PM**

We'll have a potluck starting at 6:30 on Thursday, Dec. 6. Please bring a wrapped white elephant gift for a fun Christmas game. All ladies of the parish are invited. Please come for an evening of fun and fellowship.



### FROM THE DEACON'S DESK

Today is the First Sunday of Advent and the beginning of our new liturgical year. We will put the Gospel readings from Mark away for three years and begin reading from the Gospel of Luke. Luke's account emphasizes the universal appeal of the message of Jesus to the Roman empire and beyond. The Evangelist looks upon the world with a peaceful serenity. There is much attention given to Jesus' ministry to the poor and lowly, the outcast, the sinner and the afflicted. The role of the Spirit in the life of Jesus and his disciples and the importance of prayer are all prominent in Luke's account of the Gospel. The demands of discipleship are strongly emphasized. God's plan for salvation history is fulfilled in the life, ministry, Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus. The fulfillment of God's plan is extended to all humanity, not just the Jewish people.

Advent is time to look back, to consider the present, and to look towards the future. We look back to the tremendous event that happened in Bethlehem 2000 years ago as God himself become one of us because of his great love for us. What a gift. And so we take some time to consider all that that means.

We also consider the present. How are we letting Jesus enter into our hearts and lives right now? How are we being Jesus to the world. Jesus not only came to us in a very special way 2000 years ago but he longs to enter into relationship with us each and every day. Are we allowing that to happen.

And finally we look forward in great anticipation to Jesus coming again—not only at the end of time when he will come to establish God's kingdom and justice for all time but also when we meet him at our own death. Jesus came to us once physically and in a very special way 2000 years ago, Jesus comes to us each and every time we open ourselves up to him, and Jesus will come to each of us at our death be that an individual death or the end of time.

Advent means "coming". Each Sunday, as we gather to celebrate the mass we pray as a community that Christ will come again. And so we have a special four week period to pray about all the ways Jesus comes to us. We look back, we look to the present, we look to the future.

Saturday is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, the patroness of our parish. Please join us to pray the mass at 9:00 Saturday morning. Looking ahead, Wednesday, December 12, we will celebrate Communal Reconciliation.

My sincere prayers that all of you experience a wonderful, peaceful Advent season.

God's abundant blessings

Dc. Joe

**Saturday Evening Mass at Sacred Heart,  
Newton is at 4:00 PM during December,  
January and February.**

**This starts this weekend, December 1 & 2**

Father will hear confessions at 3:00 PM those months.



**Christmas Pageant  
Sunday, December 16, 5:30 PM  
All are invited**

Immediately following the pageant, there will be a chili and hotdog supper for all the parish.



### Communal Reconciliation Wednesday, December 13

One of the best way to prepare to celebrate the birth of Our Lord and open our hearts to him is to experience the loving forgiveness of God through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will have a communal celebration of the Sacrament on Wednesday, December 12, 7:00 PM. Please plan on joining us.

Communal reconciliation at Sacred Heart, Newton, will be at 7:00 PM, Sunday, December 9. Father hears confessions every Saturday at 3:00 PM.

**Christmas Cookie and Candy Walk  
Saturday, Dec. 15 from 10:00 to 12:00 in  
the Gathering Space**

Free will offering, boxes will be provided.

We need lots of donations of Christmas goodies for this fundraiser. There is a signup sheet in the gathering space. Please consider helping and of course, come and buy lots of wonderful goodies.



### SAINT OF THE WEEK Nicholas: 270-343

Feast Day—December 6

From the ninth century in the East and the eleventh century in the West, Nicholas has been one of the most popular saints in Christendom and in Christian art and is the patron of many countries, dioceses, churches, and cities. He was a Greek bishop of Myra in Lycia (now Turkey). According to folklore, he may have saved three girls from prostitution, restored to life three children who had been killed, and saved three unjustly condemned men from death. While some sources say that he may have been imprisoned during the Diocletian persecution, there is no historical certainty that he suffered persecution for his faith. Likewise, while some sources place him at the Council of Nicaea in 325, it is uncertain if he attended. His charity to the poor is commemorated in modern times by those who follow the tradition of stuffing a boot or a stocking with gifts on his feast day. "Santa Claus" comes from the Dutch form of his name, "Sinterklaas." He is the patron saint of sailors, merchants, and children.

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**December 2 2018—11:00 AM**

**Lectors:** John Heggen & Terri Rosonke  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Pam Brown, Mackensie Brown, Linda Barnum, & Meta Hill  
**Altar Servers:** Matthew Rosonke & Sharon Jones  
**Greeters:** Joann Carrothers & Karen Van Dusseldorp

**December 9 2018—11:00 AM**

**Lectors:** Joe Hayden & Sharon Jones  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** Joann Carrothers, Cathy Hayden, John Heggen, & Kathy Williams  
**Altar Servers:** Dane Owens & Rita Krueger  
**Greeters:** Ed & Mary Dell Flattery



## Pray for God's Peace and Joy

Please pray for:  
Diane Wood  
Wes Koebrick (Father of Linda Barnum)  
Michael John Nelson, cousin of Mike Wood, nephew of Diane Wood  
James and Edward cousins of Janette Baldwin and Claire Gillan  
For all who have died.  
For vocations, our parish, and our faith formation program.



## Faith Formation News

Classes on Wednesday, November 28, will be at the regular time, 6:30 to 7:30. The parents of the second grade students will meet in the gathering space..



## DIOCESAN PRAYER:

### Vision 20/20 - From Pentecost to Pentecost

As you know from the article above, Bishop Zinkula has a new initiative, Vision 20/20. Prayer for the success of this initiative is so very important. Please consider praying the following prayer daily for the success of Vision 20/20

Send your Spirit, O God  
To open our eyes  
That we might see clearly your gifts and blessings,  
Past and present,  
And so be filled with gratitude.

To open our eyes  
That we might see clearly where we have failed to proclaim  
The Good News and welcome the stranger,  
And so be moved to ongoing conversion.

To open our eyes  
That we might see clearly the signs of the times  
And where your Christ lies hidden at the margins,  
And so see where and how we are being called to serve.

To open our eyes  
That we might see clearly the vision that you, O God, have for us, The Diocese of Davenport,  
And so answer your summons into a future together.

Yes, O God, send us your Spirit in a new Pentecost:

Renew our hearts  
Renew our Church  
Renew our world.  
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



## THE LORD'S LAUGHTER

“The One whose throne is in heaven sits laughing.” Psalm 2:4  
Psalm 2:4  
R.I.P.

A teacher asked her class of elementary students what the initials R.I.P. stood for on a tombstone. None of the children seemed to know. After a time of silence, she encouraged her class to just guess. One brave boy raised his hand and tentatively answered, "return if possible."

### Thanksgiving Prayer

A four-year-old boy was asked to return thanks before Thanksgiving dinner. The family members bowed their heads in expectation. He began his prayer, thanking the Lord for all his friends, naming them one by one. Then he thanked the Lord for Mommy, Daddy, brother, sister, Grandma, Grandpa, and all his aunts and uncles. Then he began to thank the Lord for the food. He gave thanks for the turkey, the dressing, the fruit salad, the cranberry sauce, the pies, the cakes, even the Cool Whip. Then he paused, and everyone waited -- and waited. After a long silence, the young fellow looked up at his mother and asked, "If I thank the Lord for the broccoli, won't he know that I'm lying?"



## Adopt-A-Family for Christmas Gifts are due today. Sunday, Dec. 2

Gifts are due back today, Sunday, December 2. If you were unable to get it here, please call the office (515-674-3711) to make arrangements. Do not wrap the gifts. Include paper and a gift box if needed but the parents will actually wrap them.



## ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL (ADA)

So close. We need only \$1,986.00 to meet our goal. We have pledges for \$15,678.00 of our \$17,646.00 goal or 89%. You will find fliers and envelopes in the gathering space To all of those who have contributed—thank you for your generosity. If you have not yet had a chance to make your pledge, please do so soon.



## Wounded by Abortion? Project Rachel Can Help:

Project Rachel understands the emotional pain that follows an abortion. Please call the Helpline: 563-333-4107 or 1-888-456-HOPE. Calls are answered personally and confidentially Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Voice messaging is available all other times. Calls will be returned promptly and directly.

## PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

To report child abuse contact: Iowa Department of Human Services Child Abuse Hotline: 800-362-2178 and if it involves clergy or church personnel also notify Alicia Owens, the Victim Assistance Coordinator, 563-349-5002; vac@diodav.org or PO Box 232, Bettendorf, IA 52722-0004.