

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2015
OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

- 11:00 AM—Mass (Rick Susic)
- 12:00 PM—Fair Trade Sale

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Weekday (34); *Saint Clement I, Pope, Martyr; Saint Columban, Abbott; Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest, Martyr*

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24

Saint Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest, and Companions

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Weekday; *Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin*

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Weekday

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Weekday

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Weekday

- 9:30 AM—Prepare Worship Space for Advent

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 11:00 AM—Mass (Marguerite Hamer)
- 12:00 PM—Fair Trade Sale



"For this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth."
 John 18:37

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK

Monday
 Dn 1:1-6, 8-20
 (Ps) Dn 3:52-56 158
 Lk 21:1-4

Tuesday:
 Dn 2:31-45
 (Ps) Dn 3:57-61
 Lk 31:5-11

Wednesday
 Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28
 (Ps) Dn 3:62-67
 Lk 21:12-19

Thursday
 Dn 6:12-28
 (Ps) Dn 3:68-74
 Lk 21:20-28

Friday
 Dn 7:2-14
 (Ps) Dn 3:75-81
 Lk 21:29-33

Saturday
 Dn 7:15-27
 (Ps) Dn 3:82-87
 Lk 21:34-36

Sunday
 Jer 33:14-16
 Ps 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14
 1 Thes 3:12-4:2
 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

SOME DATES TO NOTE

- Dec. 2—Meeting for parents of First Reconciliation Students
- Dec. 7—Bishop opens Holy Year of Mercy at Sacred Heart, Newton
- Dec. 9—Communal Reconciliation Service
- Dec. 10—Knight's Dinner and Meeting



Adopt-A-Family for Christmas

Please select an ornament from the trees in the gathering space and purchase the item needed. Gifts must be returned by **Wednesday, December 9**. Gifts should be left unwrapped but please include paper and a gift box if needed. Be sure that the ornament is firmly attached to the gift. Thank you to everyone for your generosity.

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand."
 Luke 21:28

Please Note: No Communion Service this Wednesday, November 25!

Advent Resources Available

In the gathering space, you will find the Little Blue Books from Saginaw. This book contains a six-minute meditation for each day of Advent. You will also find the Advent edition of *The Word Among Us*. Both are excellent ways to add more prayer and meditation to your Advent season to prepare for Lent.

Looking ahead, **we will prepare the worship season for Advent at 9:30 AM on Saturday, November 28**. We will need help with hanging the Advent wreath.

Communal Reconciliation will be Wednesday evening, December 9, at 7:00 PM.



After mass and continuing through November, the social action Committee will be conducting a Fair Trade market. There will be items for you to buy as gifts or for your personal use. There will be jewelry, decorative items, baskets, chimes, candle-holders, chocolate and coffee (we hope—the coffee was back-ordered but should be here soon.)

- Fair trade recognizes the **DIGNITY OF THE WORK** of artisans and farmers and ensures that they earn fair wages.
- Fair trade producers **CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION** by treating the environment with respect.
- When you purchase fair trade products, you are standing in **SOLIDARITY** with the poor and vulnerable.

"There is no worse material poverty than the poverty which prevents people from earning their bread and deprives them of the dignity of work." —Pope Francis



Altar & Rosary Society News

The A&R is conducting their annual fall supply drive. A list of needed items can be found in the gathering space. However, paper towels, toilet paper, paper cups (please no Styrofoam), and general cleaning products are always needed.

- Give and it shall be given to you, good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over...
 Thank you for your gifts.
- Collection\$1,311.28
 (\$77.00 auto-giving)
 Campaign for Human Development..... \$51.00



From the Deacon's Desk

Celebrating Christ the King may seem a little odd in a democracy, perhaps more appropriate to the medieval period than the modern one. Plus, with trust of politicians and leaders in general at low ebb, it may even seem a bit awkward to call Jesus a king! Yet the liturgy offers beautiful images to describe what Jesus' kingship is all about, and in them we quickly discover that Jesus is a king like no other!

Today we honor Christ the king whose dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not be taken away, (first reading). And today we praise Christ as the Alpha and the Omega, the one who is and who was and who is to come, the almighty. (second reading). In the Gospel, we learn the Jesus' kingdom does not belong to this world—for this I was born and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. . No wonder we dream of such a king.

Today's liturgy, then, offers a marvelous opportunity to explore the mystery of Christ's rule, one marked by humility, service and mercy. Our prayers should seek such gifts for not only our earthly leaders but for us as well.

Thursday is of course Thanksgiving Day. I hope you all have a wonderful day with family and friends. It is good to enjoy these special days with those we love and care about. I also hope that you will take a little time to thank God for all the blessings of your life, especially the people. I know I will say a special prayer of thanksgiving for all the members of our parish. We do have a wonderful parish and I thank God for that. I do very much enjoy working with all of you and for all of you and I am thankful for the opportunity as well as all the other blessings of my life.

As so often happens, next weekend is also the beginning of the Advent Season. It often but not always falls on Thanksgiving weekend. So after you have enjoyed the company of your friends and family, and the turkey, and the football, I hope you will take some time to consider how you will spend this Advent time in preparation to celebrate the great mystery of Christmas, Christ becoming human for our sake—the mystery of the incarnation. Advent is a time of preparing, preparing to celebrate the Christmas holiday by shopping and cooking and decorating, yes, but more importantly a time to prepare our hearts to receive Christ. So as you plan for all the other activities this time of year brings, plan also for a little more time in prayer, plan to attend mass and listen to the word of God and share in the Eucharistic feast, plan to reach out to your neighbors who might be in need, plan to prepare for and observe the real reason for all of this—the birth of Emmanuel, God Among Us. The Little Blue Books are a good way to observe the holy season of Advent as are *The Word Among Us*. They take only six minutes a day and help us to meditate and pray the Advent season. They are available in the gathering space, please take one.

God's abundant blessings

Dc. Joe



Deanery Opening of the Year of Mercy

**Monday, December 7
7:00 PM**

**Sacred Heart, Newton
Mass with the Bishop
followed by a reception for
all.**

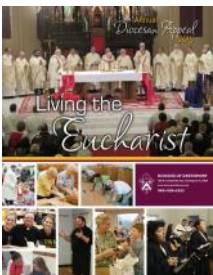
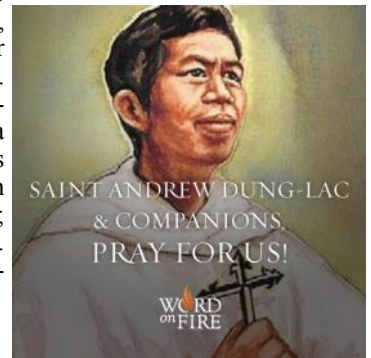
This mass will fulfill your Feast of Immaculate Conception holy day obligation to attend mass. There will be a mass at Immaculate Conception on

Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 6:00 PM.

SAINT OF THE WEEK ANDREW DŨNG LAC AND COMPANIONS

Memorial—November 24

Andrew Dũng-Lac was among the 117 martyrs of Vietnam killed by government of officials during persecutions to suppress European ideals and religious values in the 18th and 19th centuries. The group consisted of 96 Vietnamese and 21 foreign missionaries (11 Spanish and 10 French); the martyrs were bishops, priests, and laypeople, including a woman. They endured horrible tortures in prison before being beheaded, crucified, quartered, or burned alive for refusing to deny their faith. Andrew, a Vietnamese educated in Catholicism, became a catechist and priest. He was arrested and imprisoned with his companion, St. Peter Thi; they were beheaded in 1839. St. John Paul II canonized the martyrs as a group in 1988.



**ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL
Everyone's help is needed
We have pledges for
\$14,975.00**

**Our Goal is \$17,840.00
We are 84% of the Way to
Our Goal**

Thank you to all who have pledged. You are very generous as always. Those who have not yet had a chance to pledge, please do so soon.

Annual Winter Coat Drive

The Social Action Committee will be collecting coats for until Sunday, November 15. We will see if any of the coats can be used by the Riverview Center in Prairie City. What ever they don't want will go to St. Mary's Center in Des Moines. If you have coats that you no longer need, please bring them to the church.

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Ministers: November 22, 2015—11:00 AM

Lectors: Joe Hayden & Brad Hagarty

Eucharistic Ministers: Cathy Hayden & Irma Bell

Altar Servers: Mackenzie Bussan & Lisa Bussan

Greeters: Bill & Meta Hill

Ministers: November 29, 2015—11:00 AM

Lectors: Mary Dell Flattery & Nancy Webb

Eucharistic Ministers: Claire Williams & Rita

Krueger

Altar Servers: Mackenzie Brown & James

Flattery

Greeters: Jack & Joann Carrothers



Pray for God's Peace and Joy

Please pray for:

Greg Ernst, nephew of Rita Krueger

Susan Hildebrandt, sister of Sarah Hildebrand-Evans

Julia Jorensen, niece of Mary May

Wes and Donna Koebrick (parents of Linda Barnum)

Jeannette Weldon, mother of Irma Bell

JoAnn Besler, sister of Karen Van Dusseldorp

Michael John Nelson, cousin of Mike Wood, nephew of Diane Wood

James and Edward cousins of Janette Baldwin and Claire Gillan

For our parish and our faith formation program.

For all who have died and for vocations.



A Stewardship Moment

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The exchange between Jesus and Pilate in today's Gospel is, arguably, the most important exchange in all of literature. Pilate asks Jesus: "What have you done?" Jesus replies that he testifies to the truth. In the second reading we are reminded of the essence of that truth: Christ, ruler of all, loves us, liberates us from the bonds of sin, makes us a new kingdom. As we approach the Advent season, this week would be a good time to reflect on the question: What have we done in our daily lives, in our actions, words, private prayer, and in our interaction with others, to testify that Jesus is Lord?

Prayers for Our Deacon Candidates and for our Seminarians

It is important that we keep our deacon candidates and our seminarians in our prayers as well as all who are discerning a call to the priesthood or diaconate. In the gathering space, you will find a brochure concerning prayer for our deacon candidates as well as for our seminarians. Please take them and add them to your daily prayers.

If any man in our parish is considering the diaconate, please see Dc. Joe soon. Even if it is only a slight possibility, you and Dc. Joe can talk about it to help you discern. If you are interested in the diaconate, preparation in order to enter the next class (which begins in two years) should start soon.



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

No class this week, November 25 because of Thanksgiving. Parents of First Communion candidates (second grade) will meet on Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 6:30 PM.



Youth Ministry News

The high school will not meet this week, November 25.. .

THE LORD'S LAUGHTER

"The One whose throne is in heaven sits laughing." Psalm 2:4

Baseball in Paradise

There were two old guys, Abe and Sol, sitting on a bench in a park feeding pigeons and talking about baseball just like they did every day. Abe turned to Sol and asked, "Do you think there's baseball in heaven?"

Solomon thought about it for a minute and replied, "I dunno, Abe, but let's make a deal: If I die first, I will come back and tell you -- and if you die first, you come back and tell me -- if there is baseball in heaven." They shook on it. Sadly, a few months later poor Abe passed on.

One day soon afterward, Sol was sitting there feeding the pigeons by himself when he heard a voice whisper, "Sol... Sol...."

Sol responded, "Abe! Is that you?"

"Yes it is Sol," whispered the spirit of Abe.

Sol, still amazed, asked, "So, is there baseball in heaven?"

"Well," Abe said, "I got good news and I got bad news."

"Gimme the good news first," said Sol.

Abe said, "Well... there is baseball in heaven."

Sol said, "That's great! What news could be bad enough to ruin that!?"

Abe sighed and whispered, "You're pitching on Friday."

Flu Season is Here

While we will not be making any changes to the liturgy at this time please keep the following in mind:

Sunday Obligation: The Obligation to attend Mass on Sunday other Holy Days of Obligation, is the ordinary expectation of Catholics. Obviously, extraordinary circumstances such as sickness, travel, or severe weather excuse the faithful from this obligation. If you are not feeling well, especially during this time of concern, please stay at home and do not risk spreading infection to others.

Sign of Peace: Members of our congregations should not be offended if someone chooses not to shake the other person's hand at the sign of peace. If you are ill (and still come to Mass), the appropriate response to someone extending a sign of peace might be to bow to them and say, "Peace be with You", to avoid bodily contact or one might wave slightly at the other person.

Reception of Holy Communion: While it is the teaching of the Church that the Fullness of the Body and Blood of Christ are contained in the Holy Eucharist, under the form of the Host that is distributed at the Mass, the Church has also extended the privilege to receive communion in the form of wine. However, if you are feeling sick, please receive communion in the hand, and refrain from receiving communion under the form of the Blood of Christ.

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.