

PARISH FAMILIES OF ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE & ST. VITUS

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CONFESSIONS: One half hour before Masses or by appointment



First Sunday of Advent
November 27, 2022

MASS SCHEDULE			
Monday	November 28 th	7:50 am	+ All Souls--Novena
Tuesday	November 29 th	7:50 am	Intentions of James Super
Wednesday	November 30 th	7:50 am	+ Lorraine Firley
		5:30 pm Touhy	+ All Souls--Novena
Thursday	December 1 st	7:50 am	+ Bob Hedges
Friday	December 2 nd <i>First Friday</i>	7:50 am	+Darrell Walla
Saturday	December 3 rd	7:30-8:20 am Touhy	HOLY HOUR
		5:30 pm	Liv/Dec Families of Lumir & Dolores Maly
Sunday	December 4 th	8:00 am Weston	Intentions of John & Melanie Burke
		10:00 am Touhy	Missa pro Populo

NOTES FROM FR. VANDEWALLE

Happy Liturgical New Year – Advent begins the Church’s liturgical year. We ask the Grace to prepare for Christmas well, especially in prayer. The First half of Advent, surprisingly concentrates less on the birth of Christ than on the second coming of Christ at the end of time, and of course the coming of Christ between those two times, into our hearts.

Advent Music – Pope Benedict XVI said that when the creature encounters the Creator there are parts within the soul that must sing. However, even offering one’s whole being to God is not enough, the soul wishes to join in a song of all creation to God. In a sense, we do that when we sing during the liturgy. The Advent song “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” jumps to my mind with its profound tone. Of course, we have a certain secretary at school who likes to listen to Christmas music as soon as it comes on the radio. Fortunately, I have my own office (smile). St. Augustine says that the soul’s song cannot be expressed in words. Nevertheless, we do our best with the audible singing. Sometimes silence with God in prayer, allows for the “music” of our soul. St. Cecilia, who’s Feast we just celebrated, is the patron of music not because we know if she played an instrument, but the music of her soul for God. Following my own homework assignment from last Sunday, the new song I found was Vivaldi’s Gloria. A favorite Advent Book “The Reed of God” speaks of how Mary’s soul was empty of self and sin, so that God could play upon it His most beautiful music, as if on a reed. Advent hopefully allows some time to empty oneself of the cacophony so as to allow God to play His Christmas music within us.

Ukraine Mission – (This story, is especially appropriate having just celebrated Thanksgiving.) With zeal to help the Ukrainian refugees, a local employer invited her staff to join her on a mission trip to Poland where many have escaped. There are almost no men there since they are fighting back home. These missionaries served refugees at a convention center in Poland which housed about 6,000 beds in a large space. One helper, a school dad, spoke to our school kids after his trip. Among many interesting things he had to say, he communicated with the refugees through a translator app. They got the refugees whatever they needed. He bought a blood pressure gauge for an elderly man who needed it. For the dad to buy it was no big deal, yet the elderly gentleman was so gracious and touched, repeating his thanks. The dad asked the students: Though the people there have almost nothing other than their luggage, there is one thing they all have. What is that? God! The people were often praying. The dad said that we sometimes forget how much we have, pretty much everything we need and want. So we need to make sure we are at church every weekend for that one hour on Sunday (or Saturday) mass to at least thank God.

Wahoo KC’s, Council 1833.... will be holding their annual toy drive. Toys new or lightly used. These will be picked up after the weekend of December 10th / 11th. They can be dropped off at the back of St. John’s or St. Vitus’s or at St. John’s School. If you have something bigger, you may contact Rich Tvrdy about delivery.

Christmas Flower Envelopes - If you would be interested in giving a contribution to the Christmas flowers that will be on display in the churches at Christmas, there is an envelope in your tithing packet for this donation.

Advent Resources/Opportunities – (1) Formed.org includes not only movies but Advent devotionals. Use St. John’s parish subscription code: 68NGD2 (2) On the way are 15 softcovers of Sr. Miriam’s short Advent book *Behold*. Or you can download it via your preferred app. I’m not sure if we’ll have a book class, but Fr. Kennett is having *Behold* holy hours in Colon every Wednesday of Advent from 7-8pm which includes: a brief reflection on the *Behold’s* four-week Advent journey; reflective music (3) the opportunity to be prayed over if you would like. See Sr. Miriam James Heidland’s brief reflections on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MHJZBVbeOfI> (3) *The True Meaning of Christmas* for parishioners will hopefully arrive soon.

READINGS OF THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 4:2-6; Mt 8:5-11	Friday	Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24	Saturday	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Wednesday:	Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22	Sunday	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27		

SEMINARIAN OF THE WEEK

This week please pray for Derrek Sumner from St. John, Lincoln, who is at St. Gregory the Great Seminary.

SPIRITUAL CORNER

“At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God’s own love and concern.” - Mother Teresa

OTHER INFORMATION

Please remember in your prayers and, on occasion, call or send a card to our home-bound/assisted care facilities parishioners: South Haven—Charles Kadavy, Rose Walla, Mary Lou Woita, Albina Kellner; Saunders County Care Center—Marcella Meduna; David’s Place—Patsy Sabatka. Please let us know if you would like to be added to this list.

ST. JOHN NEPOMUCENE PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of December 3-4 and the Immaculate Conception – December 8, 2022

Acolyte:	Sat. 12/3 Paul Virgl	Sun. 12/4 Matt Tvrdy
Lector/Reader:	Sat. 12/3 Ron Walla	Sun. 12/4 Barb Opp
Servers:	Sat. 12/3 Volunteers	Sun. 12/4 Hudson Fortik/Jaden Berggren
Ushers:	Sat. 12/3 Rich Virgil/Rich Cherovsky	Sun. 12/4 Charlie Jelinek/Marion Bartek
Gifts:	Sat. 12/3 Rich Virgil Family	Sun. 12/4 Chuck Lacey Family

Immaculate Conception (7:00 am Thursday) Immaculate Conception (5:30 pm Thursday)

Acolyte:	Thur. 12/8 Volunteer	Thur. 12/8 Pat Carroll
Lector/Reader:	Thur. 12/8 Volunteer	Thur. 12/8 Deb Carroll
Servers:	Thur. 12/8 Volunteers	Thur. 12/8 Volunteers
Ushers:	Thur. 12/8 Volunteers	Thur. 12/8 Don Sabatka/Justin Sabatka
Gifts:	Thur. 12/8 Volunteers	Thur. 12/8 Rich Tvrdy Family

Stewardship of Treasure: November 20, 2022 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...
Total: \$922.30 PLUS: Candles: \$72.00 Cloistered Sisters: \$165.00

Food Drive—Please bring the following items to church between November 1st and November 30th: Canned meat, rice, pasta, pasta sauce, soup, cereal and canned fruit. There is a tote in the back of church.

St. John’s PCCW Group will have Coffee & Rolls after the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, December 4th.

Christmas Party—Monday, December 5th at 6:30pm at Barbara Opp’s home, 620 School Street, Weston. Main dish will be provided, please bring a side dish or dessert to share and a \$10 value wrapped gift for Bingo prize.

St. John’s PCCW is in need for two officers for the upcoming two year term: Vice President & Secretary. Please contact Peg Bouc at (402) 480-2962 if you are interested. Thank you!

ST. VITUS PARISH

Liturgical Ministries for the weekend of December 3-4 and the Immaculate Conception - December 7, 2022

Acolyte:	Sun. 12/4 Tom Rezac	Wed. 12/7 Volunteer
Lector/Reader:	Sun. 12/4 Jeff Walla	Wed. 12/7 Volunteer
Servers:	Sun. 12/4 Cade Grant/Caleb Osmera	Wed. 12/7 Volunteers
Ushers:	Sun. 12/4 Pat Bartek/Bryan Woita	Wed. 12/7 Volunteers
Gifts:	Sun. 12/4 Tom Rezac Family	Wed. 12/7 Volunteers

Stewardship of Treasure: November 20, 2022 We gave back to the Lord in return for all that He has given us...
Total: \$4,718.81 PLUS:

St. Vitus’ Altar Society Coffee & Rolls—Please join us for coffee and rolls after the 8:00am Mass on Sunday, November 27th at the school house. Group #2 will be serving.

St. Vitus Catholic Church Soup Dinner is being planned for Sunday, February 12, 2023! Silent and Live Auctions & Raffle will be held! Shop Christmas sales! Raffle tickets will be distributed soon! Watch your mailbox for an upcoming letter with more info!! Thank you!! The Soup Dinner Committee!

St. Vitus November Church Cleaning—Chairman: Judy Rezac. Group: Carla Kastl, LuAnn Maly & Kathy Becky Grant.

SCHOOL NEWS

Winter Scrip Challenge—We are challenging each grade to sell Scrip from November 1st – December 5th! The class that sells the most (in dollars) will win a jean day, pizza party and a special gift for their teacher!! Christmas shopping season is upon us!! They are in the office if anyone wants to stop by and buy some scrip!!

Please Keep Saving Your Labels/Box Tops—Please continue to save Box Tops for Education labels, Our Family UPC's, Best Choice UPC's, and store receipts from Sun Mart and Corner Market. There is a basket in back of church to drop off all your labels and receipts.

AREA NEWS

Children of Maria Club—The Children of Maria Club is a service/vocation club for 3rd-6th graders from St. John Nepomucene's School. It is under the direction of Mrs. Donna Furasek, Mrs. Andrea Furasek, and Sister Peggy Kucera. On Saturday and Sunday, November 26th and 27th, after each of the Masses at St. John's in Weston and at St. Vitus in Touhy, our club will be selling homemade Christmas decorations in order to raise money for our club. It will be a free will offering. Thank you for your support, either spiritually or financially. May God bless you. The Children of Maria Club!

St. John the Baptist - Prague Holiday Craft Fair – Sunday, November 27th, St. John’s Parish Hall, 9:00am-2:00pm. The hall will be full with vendors to begin your holiday shopping and Admission is Free! The coffee will be on early so drop by for a kolache in the morning. Shop at St. John’s bake sale for Czech bakery and the lunch stand will be open throughout the day. Come enjoy the Wine Bar with your family and friends. Bottles of wine will be available for sale – perfect for Christmas gifts and your holiday meals.

Catholic Daughters will meet at 2:00pm on November 28th at St. Wenceslaus in Wahoo starting with our special Memorial Mass for our deceased members. Meeting will follow. Everyone is reminded to bring food items for the Marian sisters. We always welcome anyone interested in joining Catholic Daughters to attend as a guest.

Looking to go deep during the Advent Season? Join Fr. Joseph Wahlmeier for “The ‘O Antiphons’ of Advent” Retreat on December 2nd-4th at Good Counsel Retreat House, Waverly. Regnum Christi will host a “Men’s Spiritual Exercises” Retreat on December 8th-11th. On December 16th-18th we will have the “Incarnational Intimacy” Retreat with Fr. Steve Mills and December 28th-30th we will be hosting a virtual watch party for the “Encounter Ministries Conference”. Read more and register at www.goodcounselretreat.org, email office@goodcounselretreat.org or call 402-786-2705.

FCSLA Life (First Catholic Slovak Ladies Assn) members—Reserve your seats at the annual district ADULT Advent party to be held in the Prague parish hall on Saturday, December 3rd. A memorial rosary will be said at 2:30pm followed by the annual meeting. Then a complimentary meal of tasty pork and dumplings will be served. Please RSVP by November 22nd to Clarice Sabata at 402-784-3154 or ksabatane2035@gmail.com. This event is open to all members and their guests.

FCSLA Life is pleased to announce its 2023-24 scholarship program—Candidates must be FCSLA members for at least 3 years. Scholarships will be awarded in all educational areas – early elementary, elementary, high school, college, grad school, vocational, trade, and technical schools. Submission deadline is February 14, 2023. Applications and further details may be obtained by visiting the FCSLA website at www.fcsla.com or sending an email to Scholarship@FCSLA.com.

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

“Just to establish some parameters,” said the professor, “Mr. Tarr, what is the opposite of joy?” “Sadness,” said the student. “And the opposite of depression, Ms. Helms?” “Elation.” “And you, Mr. Fields, how about the opposite of woe?” “I believe that would be giddy up!”