

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, 9th, The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

No Mass

Tuesday, 10th, Advent Weekday

8 a.m.: Lee Mentel, by family

Wednesday, 11th, Advent Weekday

11 a.m. (Nursing Home): Glennon Rau, by SJB Quilters

Thursday, 12th, Our Lady of Guadalupe

8 a.m.: Joyce DuFrenne, by St. Anne CCW

Friday, 13th, Saint Lucy, Virgin & Martyr

8 a.m.: Timothy Krebel, by mom & dad

Saturday, 14th, Saint John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor of the Church

4 p.m.: Jeff "Chopper" DuFrenne, by Vera Birke

Sunday, 15th, Third Sunday of Advent

10 a.m.: Mary Blow, by family; For the Parish

LITURGICAL ROLES

Saturday, December 14th, 4 p.m.:

Eucharistic Ministers: J. Meyer, J. Gorman, J. Walker, D. Gross, Volunteer Needed

Gift Bearers: B. Maes family

Lectors: R. Heizer

Servers: G. Maes

Ushers: K. Donjon, C. Schaefer

Sunday, December 15th, 10 a.m.:

Eucharistic Ministers: P. Mudd, L. Billingsley, J. Cowell, M. Poirrier, Volunteer Needed

Gift Bearers: D. Brewer family

Lectors: D. Letcher

Servers: H. & P. Billingsley

Ushers: C. Scheffert, A. Scheffert

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

When we find ourselves not quite as close to God as we once were, all we have to do is move.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Lucy's mother often recited nursery rhymes to her little girl. One day she recited the one about the cow jumping over the moon. Her mother noticed Lucy's great excitement from it. Then Lucy asked, "Mommy, what book of the Bible is that miracle in?"

PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

Marlene Engler, Nursing Home Residents, Homebound Parishioners

Names remains for 4 weeks. Call the rectory.

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD & PARISH

Sunday.....	\$6,209.00
Loose.....	\$736.00
Total (Goal: \$5,866.00).....	\$6,945.00
Adopt-a-Parish.....	\$195.00
School Support.....	\$765.00
Thanksgiving.....	\$552.00
Capital Campaign.....	\$202.00
CCHD.....	\$10.00
Christmas.....	\$165.00
Christmas for the Needy.....	\$25.00
Christmas Flowers.....	\$495.00
Immaculate Conception.....	\$70.00
Retired Religious.....	\$25.00

READINGS

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1 - 10

"A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse," prophesied Isaiah. "The spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him" through wisdom, understanding, counsel, strength, knowledge, and awe in the presence of God.

2nd Reading: Romans 15:4 - 9

The Scriptures were written for our instruction, that we might draw encouragement from them and that "we might have hope."

Gospel: Matthew 3:1 - 12

John the Baptist came as a preacher in the Judean desert: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" Many people flocked to him for baptism and conversion to prepare for the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

FROM THE DESK OF FR. DENNIS

Peace and Harmony. Last Sunday as we began the Season of Advent, Isaiah inspired us with a vision of peace, when swords are beaten into plowshares. Today, Isaiah speaks of a state of harmony, when a lamb can lie down with a wolf. Paul encourages the Romans to think in harmony with one another. John the Baptist calls for repentance, so that all may bear good fruit. As we come to this second week of Advent, let us imagine the harmony we can create when all of us ready ourselves for Jesus' coming.

The one way you can ready yourself is by **coming to one of our Advent Penance Services this week. See the schedule listed in this bulletin.** What a great way to come to know the peace and harmony that Isaiah and John the Baptist spoke about in today's readings. You won't regret coming!

Have a blest 2nd week of Advent! Remember, don't worry so much and know that you are loved! ~ Fr. Dennis

HAPPENINGS THIS WEEK

Sun.: Confirmation Commitment at St. Joseph's 8 a.m.

Mass; Advent Penance Service at 2 p.m. at the Convent

Mon.: Confessions at 8 a.m. with school students; Advent Penance Service at 7 p.m. at St. John's; No RCIA Session

Tues.: Bible Study at 8:50 a.m. in Church; No School Board mtg.; Advent Penance Service at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Chester

Wed.: School Christmas Program Matinee at 10 a.m. in the gym; Mass at the Care Center at 11 a.m.; Bible Study at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement; PSR classes at 6:45 p.m. in school; Advent Penance Service at 7 p.m. at St. Boniface in Evansville

Thurs.: School Christmas Program at 7 p.m. in the gym

Sat. & Sun.: Angel Blessing & Holiday Raffle

Sun.: Help needed to decorate church after 10 a.m. Mass

BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Congratulations to Levi Beare and Madison Schmitz on the baptism of their daughter Karsyn last Saturday. Welcome to our Church family.

CHRISTMAS CHOIR PRACTICE

Christmas Adult Choir practice: Dec. 16th at 6:30 p.m.

**POPE FRANCIS
SPEAKS TO OUR HEARTS**

(Children Are a Sign) Today...children are a sign. They are a sign of hope, a sign of life, but also a "diagnostic" sign, a marker indicating the health of families, society and the entire world. Wherever children are accepted, loved, cared for, and protected, the family is healthy, society is more healthy, and the world is more human.

**PARTNERSHIP MASS
SCHEDULE: DECEMBER**

Sat.: 4 p.m. St. John's; 6 p.m. St. Patrick's
Sun.: 8 a.m. St. Joseph's; 10 a.m. St. John's;
11 a.m. Convent

OUTREACH UPDATE

Thank you very much for returning the gifts this past weekend. **We are still missing 64 presents. The deadline is December 8th.** It is very, very important we get all of these gifts back no later than Sunday, December 8th. Thank you to those who have donated cash; it will definitely be useful during our year of helping others. God bless you all for your generosity.

BEING PROACTIVE AS A PARISH

As we have had in the bulletin the past weeks, last weekend we began locking the doors of Church after Mass begins. **People will always be able to go out the doors once they are locked, but you won't be able to get back in unless you knock. Stop and tell the ushers so they can let you in again if you are returning.** We want to be sure that everyone is safe. I know you will be understanding as we begin taking these safety measures. Thank you for working with us!

PICNIC MEETING

2020 Picnic meeting: Jan. 16th, 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. Please plan to attend!

GIVING TREE

Don't forget to stop by the Giving Tree in back of Church and pick a paper ornament which tells you what item you are to purchase as we give these items to the Care Center residents, Garden Place, and R and R. (Place the paper ornament on the gift wrapped package.) **Gifts are due no later than December 15th!**

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Join the Knight of Columbus for Christmas caroling on Sunday, December 8th! Meet in the SJB cafeteria parking lot at 4 p.m. Everyone is invited!

TWO-WEEK BULLETIN

The weekends of Dec. 21/22 and Dec. 28/29 will be combined into one bulletin. Please plan ahead if you want any information included.

ECUMENICAL COLLECTION

The total collected at our Ecumenical Service was \$546.00. Thank you!

2020 CALENDARS

Stop by the church entrances and pick up a free 2020 calendar!

AN ADVENT REFLECTION

The second week of Advent we remember the **Gift of Peace** we have in Christ. Peace is a gift that we must be prepared for and must work for. God gives us the gift of peace when we turn to him working together in faith. Through John the Baptist and all the prophets, God asks us to prepare the way of the Lord, whom the prophet Isaiah calls "the Prince of Peace." As we light the first two candles, we look with hope for the day that Christ's peace will reign in our hearts, in our homes, in our communities, and in our world. We are reminded to work for that peace of Christ to come and take root in us. **Let us Pray** - Loving God, we thank you for the gift of peace you give us through Jesus. Help us prepare our hearts for the Lord's coming by working for Christ's peace to take root in our family. We ask this in the name of the one born in Bethlehem, Jesus our Lord.

"CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES"

Come out for an evening of fun and laughter, and support The Messenger! The Church Basement Ladies in *Away in the Basement*, presented by Clinton County Showcase at the Avon Theater in Breese on Dec. 12th at 7 p.m. (doors open at 6 p.m.) Tickets: \$15; RSVP to The Messenger at 618-233-8670 or email messenger@diobelle.org; pay at the door by cash or check.

**HOLIDAY RAFFLE &
CHRISTMAS ANGELS**

Have you purchased/sold your raffle tickets? The **drawing will be Sunday, December 15th!** Remember to turn in your Christmas Angels in time for the **blessing the week-end of Dec. 14th & 15th!**

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Sun., Dec. 8th: 2 p.m. Ruma Convent
Mon., Dec. 9th: 7 p.m. St. John's, Red Bud
Tues., Dec. 10th: 7 p.m. St. Mary's, Chester
Wed., Dec. 11th: 7 p.m. St. Boniface, Evansville

CSMA

Your contribution to the Catholic Service & Ministry Appeal enables the Office of Faith Formation to impact the lives of over 9,000 students at 27 Catholic grade schools, three Catholic high schools and in PSR classes throughout our Belleville Diocese. If you haven't already done so, we prayerfully ask you to consider making a gift to The 2019 Appeal today...no amount is too large to too small!

TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST

TEC Retreat: Jan. 18th-Jan. 20th, 2020, Immaculate Conception, Columbia. TEC is designed for high school juniors through adults who are searching for goals, for acceptance, for meaning, for community, for values, for God. Parents, those who work or volunteer with youth, and interested adults are also encouraged to participate in this renewal weekend; however, adults must be child protected. Applications: back of church or online at www.belleville.org. SJB parish will pay half of any parishioners attending. Questions: Lea Ann Becker (618-830-2414).

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS:

Koch-Liefer Funeral Home

VOCATIONS CORNER

Our vocation starts as an indwelling, with the quiet whisper of God's pull on our heart. It's often personal and difficult to describe to others and often takes much prayer and discernment to see clearly. Are we to become another John the Baptist - that "voice of one crying out in the desert?" St. Francis de Sales reflected on this individual nature of our call, "We all have a vocation. We believe that God has placed us in this life to fill a special need that no one else can accomplish."

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

"The nuns left lasting impressions on me," writes a donor. "I shall always be grateful for my Catholic education." Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need.

PRAYER SHAPING

A changed mind fosters a changed life. Who would want to be accused of being part of a brood of vipers? Appearing to be good is not enough. When the Lord comes again, justice and faithfulness will reign supreme from top to bottom. Won't that be grand? We don't have to wait. Though there will be a Second Coming, Christ is also with us now! Justice and faithfulness; hope and harmony are part of our lives already. Saint Paul, in the Romans reading, urges three things: Heed the instruction - Everyday, how will I let Scripture guide me?; Pray in one voice - Everyday, how will I pray alone and with others?; Welcome each other - Everyday, how will I live in harmony with others as the Lord does with me?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Alzheimer's Support Group, Dec. 11th, 6:30 p.m., Red Bud Regional Hospital auditorium. Info: Julie at 282-5456.

Cookie Walk, Dec. 14th, 8 a.m.-12 noon, Ss. Peter & Paul cafeteria, Waterloo.

Sunday Euchre, Dec. 15th, American Legion, Rocher. Sign up at 1 p.m.; play at 2 p.m. Info: Ray Wiegard at 284-7704.

Gibault Christmas Concert, Dec. 15th, 7 p.m., gym. Free admission; refreshments provided.

Fish Fry, Dec. 20th, 4:30-8 p.m., American Legion, Rocher. Dine-in/carry-out; 3 kinds of fish. Info: 284-9509.

