

DECEMBER 20, 2020

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DAILY EVENTS AND MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, December 19th

4:15 p.m. Confessions
 2:00-3:00 p.m. Play Practice
 5:00 p.m. Mass: + Stu Curtis
 7:00 p.m. Neocatech. Way Mass: +Mary Beckman

Sunday, December 20th

8:15 a.m. Confessions
 9:00 a.m. Mass: + Mary Lukassen
 10:45 a.m. Confessions
 11:30 a.m. Mass: People of OLP
 6:30-8:30 p.m. Christmas Play

Monday December 21st

8:30 a.m. Mass: + Stu Curtis
 7:00 p.m. IN IPSO talk: Peter Stur

Tuesday, December 22nd

8:30 a.m. Mass: + Joe Staab

Wednesday, December 23rd

OFFICE CLOSED: ALL DAY

Thursday, December 24th (Christmas Eve)

OFFICE CLOSED: ALL DAY

7:00 p.m. Mass: + Donna Stafford
 10:30 p.m. Christmas Carols/ Canciones navideñas
 11:00 p.m. Mass (Early Midnight): Sainz Family

Friday, December 25th (Christmas Day)

OFFICE CLOSED: ALL DAY

10:00 a.m. Mass: + Mary Beckman
 12:00 p.m. Mass: Fr. John Green

Saturday, December 26th

OFFICE CLOSED: ALL DAY

4:15 p.m. Confessions
 5:00 p.m. Mass: + Stu Curtis

Sunday, December 27th

8:15 a.m. Confessions
 9:00 a.m. Mass: David Prieur
 10:45 a.m. Confessions
 11:30 a.m. Mass: People of OLP

Please pray for those who are ill & in need of our continued prayer:

*Terence Sewald, David Prieur, Bob Yoder, Kaylee Remmich,
 Joe Kranz, Brian & Crissy Cobain, Christopher Endicott, Eddy Messer,
 Erin Palmer, Scott Weaver & Luke Barden, Foster Sauter, and
 Steve Wilmes*

QUESTION OF THE WEEK/REFLECTION

The 4th Sunday of Advent: Jesus & Mary

As human beings, we are not just random creatures, we are known by God and each other, we have our own name. Most of us also took the time to find the name of a saint that inspired us to want to emulate, and we chose the name of that saint at our confirmation. So, what is the significance of Jesus' name? The name Jesus is the Greek form of the Hebrew *Yeshua*, which means 'YHWH (the Lord) is salvation'. The first Joshua, the successor of Moses, saved the people from their enemies. The second Joshua (Jesus) will save the people from their sins. Jesus' calling is to save his people from their sins and to manifest God's presence. It is interesting that Matthew's Gospel begins with the promise that Jesus is the Emmanuel "God-with-us." He will end the Gospel with the promise that Jesus will be with us "always, to the end of the age" (28:20). Matthew understands that in the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth, God is with us, reconciling the world to Himself. The real event of Christmas is that God comes to change the world and each of us; not just through a historical, virginal conception and a baby lying in a manger, but through the God Who is with us today. He is with us and gives us the grace to lead a life of goodness and holiness, of self-giving and selflessness as he comes to destroy selfishness and our slavery to sin. Let us then rejoice in Jesus, God's gift to us.

Even though we receive Jesus as God's gift to us in many ways: through the Church, through prayer, the Word of God, the Sacraments, and especially the Eucharist; we may think that fulfillment and happiness only comes through "doing my own will." And that "it's what I want that matters," or believe that happiness lies in having no commitments or responsibilities and no one to answer to. However, in Mary we find something completely different. She didn't say to the angel, "Sorry, but I have my own plans. I want to do my will." She said, "It's not what I want, but what God wants that matters. Let what God wants be done to me."

Mary made a complete gift of herself to God and accepted the task he gave her. Even though she did not understand all the implications, she trusted that God would give her all the help she needed. We can also follow in the footsteps of Mary, realizing that God desires our good, and that we will also find happiness in doing the will of God by welcoming Jesus into our own daily lives as well. Let us also put our trust in God that he will give us all that we need in our lives as well.

OFFERTORY

December 13th, 2020

\$12,003.64

Thank you for your generosity!

FORMED DURING ADVENT:

The Gift by Tim Gray



Advent

<https://watch.formed.org/advent-1/season:1/videos/the-gift-by-dr-tim-gray>

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

December 24th - 7:00 p.m. (Anticipated)

December 24th - 10:30 p.m. (Sung Carols)

11:00 p.m. (for Midnight)

December 25th - 10:00 a.m. (Christmas Day)

December 25th - 12:00 p.m. (En Español)

PARISH UPDATES

- ❖ **Christmas Play 2020:** The play will be this Sunday, December 20, 2020 from 6:30 pm-8:30 pm.
- ❖ **The Three Kings will be visiting our Parish on January 2nd:** Parents and children are invited to come and greet the Three Kings as they will be stopping briefly on their way to Bethlehem. We invite all the children of our parish to write a letter to the Three Kings asking for some gifts. The celebration will be from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Fr. John will be on Vacation** from December 26th to January 1st.
- ❖ **Please Welcome Fr. Bob (Robert) Nee:** who will be celebrating masses and hearing confessions on December 26th and 27th.
- ❖ **Please also welcome Fr. John Shedlock** who will be staying in the rectory and celebrating masses from December 28th to January 1st.
- ❖ ****NEW** Child Care/Kid's Ministry:** There will be childcare available this weekend during the 9:00 a.m. mass. The room to drop off your children will be the quiet room.
- ❖ **Food donations:** Please bring your non-perishable food items and place them in the black bins in the parish hall. The Knights of Columbus bring those donations to the Strasburg Food Bank throughout the year.

YOUTH EVENTS & UPDATES

- ❖ **SUNDAY Religious Education:** The following dates are the **ONLY Sundays when Religious Ed will be CANCELLED.** There will be **NO RE** on: 12/20, 12/27 & 1/3. Classes will resume on: January 10, 2021.
- ❖ **NEXT RCIA & RCIC class:** January 7th: 7:00 - 8:30 pm
- ❖ **SOPHIA INSTITUTE:** Our next meeting: Jan. 4th, 2021: 6:30-7:30 pm
- ❖ **ACTIVITY OF THE WEEK FOR KIDS!!!** (for K-2nd grade)
This week ~ Advent: <https://watch.formed.org/brother-francis-the-days-of-advent/season:2/videos/advent-kids-day-11>

ALTAR & ROSARY

- ❖ **Silent Auction:** We will be holding a silent auction instead of our annual bake sale and live auction. The Silent auction will be held after all masses on the weekends of Dec. 12 & 13 and Dec. 19th & 20th. The Bidding will close at 1:00 p.m. on Dec. 20th.

The auction will be in the church hall where bidders will pick up a numbered ticket that has their contact information on one part (we keep) and just the number on the other half (bidder keeps). They then walk around and bid on items they want by writing down their number and their bid amount on the paper in front of the item. End of the auction the highest bidder will be contacted, and arrangements will be made for payment and pickup of the item. If you have any questions, please contact the following:

- Jane Kranz, president 303.882.9995
- Diane Fahey, vice president 303.748.3897



*St. Augustine
OF HIPPO*

- Wake up, O human being!
For it was for you that God was made man. Rise up and realize it was all for you. Eternal death would have awaited you had He not been born in time. Never would you be freed from your sinful flesh had He not taken to Himself the likeness of sinful flesh. You would not have come to life again had He not come to die your death. You would have perished had He not come.
- St. Augustine