

Sunday, December 10, 2017

December 11 thru December 17

Monday, December 11      St. Damasus I  
5:30 pm Mass at St. Peter: + Jerome DeBlieck  
SM: 7:30 pm Knights of Columbus meeting

Tuesday, December 12    Our Lady of Guadalupe  
8:30 am Mass at St. Mary: + Jerome Eischens  
SM: 9-10 am Adoration  
SP: 8:45 am Mary Devotions

Wednesday, December 13      St. Lucy  
8:00 am Mass at St. Peter: + Kaylene Weiser  
SP: 9- noon Adoration  
SP: 10:30 am Quilt Group

Thursday, December 14    St. John of the Cross  
8:30 am Mass at St. Peter: + Martin Cox  
SP: 9 am – 9 pm Adoration  
SP: 6:00 pm Forester Potluck Dinner

Friday, December 15                      Weekday  
NO Mass

7:00 am – 7:00 pm      Day of Grace  
at St. Philip's in Bemidji

Saturday, Dec. 16    Vigil: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
4:15 PM Reconciliation at St. Peter  
5:00 PM Mass at St. Peter: + Leonard Aurzada

Sunday, December 17, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
8:30 AM SP: Rosary to end abortion  
9:00 AM Mass at St. Peter: + Thomas Symanietz  
Children's Liturgy Ages 4 to 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
SP: Team 2 & Haiti Coffee & Rolls  
11:00 AM Mass at St. Mary: For the People

**Christmas Mass Schedule**

December 24: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent is the same  
December 24: Christmas Eve 4:00 pm at St. Peter  
December 25: Christmas Day 9:00 am at St. Peter  
December 25: Christmas Day 11:00 am at St. Mary

Ministers of Holy Communion visit the Catholic Residents of **Heritage Living Center Complex and Diamond Willow** on Sunday Mornings.  
December 10: Schmitz  
December 17: McCollum  
**Care Age Facility:** Deacon John Zinniel on Fridays  
If you can help with Homebound Communion, please call the Parish office at 732-5142.

**2018 Calendars are here. Take one home**

**St. Peter the Apostle**

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES: St. Peter's**

**SATURDAY: December 16**

5:00 P.M. Servers ..... **Volunteers Needed**  
Lector.....Theresa Keller  
Accompanist.....Amy Yerkes  
Cantor.....Christine Wilde  
Usher Capt...Pat Boyd & Anne Neumayer

**SUNDAY: December 17**

9:00 A.M. Servers ..... **Volunteers Needed**  
Lector.....Roman Horejsi  
Accompanist .....Amy Yerkes  
Cantor.....Cathy Neumayer  
Usher Capt.....Chuck Schmitz

**St Peter's**

**PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP**

**Collection for December 2 & 3**

Adult Envelopes .....	\$ 4,953.36
Loose Plate .....	\$ 515.00
Visitor Checks .....	\$ 295.00
Other .....	\$ 1,102.50
Weekly Total .....	\$ 6,865.86
Haiti.....	\$ 20.00

If you have any questions, please see Father Tom

**'Direct Deposit' Sunday Offering**

'Direct Deposit' is a **safe and secure** way to submit your Sunday offering and support St. Peter's during the many **out of town weekends** that families take! Contact Faye Wermerskirchen in the parish office for information!

Contributions using a credit card are also available.

**Stewardship**

*"Prepare the way of the Lord..." - MARK 1:3*

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, does just that – it puts us on the path to holiness and it invites others to be holy, too.

**Praying for Vocations**

December 11 – December 17..... Luisa Regino  
December 18 – Dec. 24.....Joel & Nancy Kowalke

**Baptismal Font**

Deacon John is seeking some help in rebuilding the Baptismal Font. The current font is leaking around the drainage tubes, and that problem is being addressed. When the drainage problem is taken care of, the base will need to be rebuilt. If you are willing to help with this project, either financially or physically (i.e. actually help to rebuild the wooden cabinet) please contact Deacon John at the church office.

**Community Meal on December 19**-Sign up sheet is in the Gathering Space. We need a total of 10 dozen Christmas cookies for dessert, and help for set up and clean up.

## St. Mary's – Two Inlets

### Ministries for Sunday, December 17

<u>LECTOR</u>	Margaret Sharp
<u>COMM DIST</u>	Jodi Sunram, Winnie Thelen
	Volunteer
<u>ALTAR SERVER</u>	Shawn Ohm
<u>USHERS</u>	Jim & Rose Higgins
<u>GIFTS</u>	Leo & Lynn Gartner
<u>SACRISTAN</u>	Winnie Thelen

### St. Mary's Collection, December 3

Adult Envelopes	\$710.00	Loose Plate	\$95.00
Cemetery	\$60.00	Christmas Flowers	\$265.00
Total Collection	\$1,205.00	Building Maint.	\$75.00
St. Mary's Mission Appeal	\$20.00		
Campaign for Human Dev.	\$20.00		

Direct Deposit is available at St. Mary's. Contact Lynn for details.

There will be Adoration on Tuesdays after weekday Mass. If there is no Mass, there will not be Adoration.

Knights of Columbus will meet Monday, December 11 at 7:30 pm in the church basement.

We extend sympathy and prayers to the family of Beverly Swerdfiger who died November 29. May she enjoy life on high at the table of the Lamb.

We will be decorating the church for Christmas after Mass on December 17. Everyone is invited to help.

### **Special Collection-Retirement Fund for Religious**

**Help religious communities.** "Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry," writes a religious sister. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders!

We will be decorating the church for Christmas, December 21 at St. Peter's after Thursday morning Mass. Help is needed to decorate the tree and the crèche scene will need to be put out. The flowers are scheduled to arrive that day too. Contact Deacon John (732-5142) if you can help.

**NOW HIRING! Our Northland Diocese newspaper is seeking freelance journalists!** Freelancers will attend diocesan and parish events, conduct research, and write articles as assigned. High resolution photos will be expected to accompany written articles. Work will be submitted to *Our Northland Diocese* via e-mail by pre-established deadlines. Freelancers will work for the newspaper as independent contractors. Possession of a valid driver's license and the ability to travel independently in the diocese is a must. Visit [www.crookston.org/employment](http://www.crookston.org/employment) for full details or contact Janelle Gergen with inquiries at [jgergen@crookston.org](mailto:jgergen@crookston.org) or 218-281-4533.

## Fr. Tom's Desk

'Tis the season.... in this busy time of year as we prepare to celebrate the Savior's birth, we need to prepare our hearts to welcome him.

Once again our Deanery will be offering a Day of Grace on Friday, December 15 at St. Philip's, Bemidji. This is an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Christmas. Make a day of this opportunity - do some shopping, enjoy dinner out, have your photo taken next to Paul and Babe. Join our brothers and sisters from all the parishes experience the great love and mercy of the Savior.

The flu season is also here. Just a friendly reminder that if you are ill with the viral flu, please do not partake of the common cup. Better yet, stay home! It is the teaching of the church that if you miss Mass due to serious illness it is not a sin. There are hand sanitizer dispensers in the church by the entrances. Please use them.


Red Lake to Park Rapids, Fosston to Laporte, Cass Lake to Blackhawk calling all Catholics to Bemidji for an opportunity to experience God's Grace through reconciliation.

### **Advent Reconciliation Day**

Friday, December 15 • 7:00am - 7:00pm

St. Philip's Catholic Church  
702 Beltrami Avenue, Bemidji

2 priests will be available every hour in the Chapel Reconciliation Room to hear individual confessions. Reconciliation aids available in the confessional to assist.



*"When was the last time you made your confession... if much time has passed, do not lose another day... Jesus receives you, he receives you with so much love. Be courageous and go to Confession!"*  
-Pope Francis

## Oil for your Lamp

As I begin to write this column I wait patiently for the "big storm" to hit. It makes me think about the Gospel message and what was written about John the Baptist, "... make straight his paths". Having been through a few winter storms, many of us have a deeper appreciation of making straight a path. Trying to put the Gospel into simple everyday language is to make straight the path. I would venture to bet that many who hear the Scripture readings in Mass have never taken the time to reflect on them and put them into practice in their own daily life. The Bible is instead, for them, a twisted crooked, jumble of words that don't make any sense. We understand what is needed to prepare the way after a snow storm, but fail to understand the need to prepare our hearts for Jesus. This coming Friday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> the priests of our deanery are hosting a day of grace, (reconciliation) at St. Philips in Bemidji. To prepare our hearts properly for Christmas is to lay our sins at the foot of his representative (the priest) and leave with a clean heart ready for the fullness of the light of Christ.

**"To keep a lamp burning, we have to keep putting oil in it."**  
(Saint Teresa of Kolkata)

In the peace of Christ . . . Deacon John Zinniel

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION - YOUTH MINISTRY**

Annette Haas Office: 732-5142

CELL NUMBER: 218-616-2404

My Email address is: [annette@arvig.net](mailto:annette@arvig.net)

Our evening classes are Wednesday evenings at 7pm for grades 7-11. The Youth Room is open after school and supper will be served from 5:30-6:30. High school seniors, you are invited to join us also!

**Looking** for 1-2 people willing to teach students on Wednesday evenings. Contact Annette in the office if you are interested. 732-5142

**E-Mail/Telephone Prayer Chain**

If you have a request for needed prayers for yourself, family or friends, please call (SP) Diane Schmitz at 732-4638 or (SM) Theresa Keller at 237-2322

**Lakes Area Habitat for Humanity** is pleased to announce that we will be starting to build April Bower's home on Dec 5<sup>th</sup>. The house will be located at 621 3<sup>rd</sup> Street W in Park Rapids. Put God's work into action by praying for a successful build, volunteering (no experience necessary), or to bring meals or snacks. Shifts are from 8 – 12:30 and 12:30 – 4:30. Call Karen at 218-454-7020 to sign up or for questions about the home

**Christmas Piano Concert by Amy Yerkes**

**Saturday, December 16 at 1:00 pm at St. Peter's**

Free will offering – Donations will go to help with rebuilding costs of St. Mary's Mission's Church in Red Lake

**BAKELESS BAKE SALE Would love your help!**

Park Rapids now has an MCCL (Minnesota Citizens Concerned For Life) chapter. The purpose for raising these funds is to pay the advertising for the 2018 Fifth Annual March for Life on January 20<sup>th</sup>. In the past it has been paid for by the KCs, the Foresters and/or out of the pockets of the little group planning each march. This year we would like to expand the ads in our effort to raise awareness for the protection of the sanctity of life. You can make your check payable to the Park Rapids MCCL Chapter and send it to our treasurer, Luisa Regino, 700 Front Av, Park Rapids. If questions, call Rita Boyce, Chair, 573-3174, or Elli Wattenhoffer, Co-Chair, 732-8814. Our chapter currently has members from not only St. Peter's, Our Lady of the Pines and St. Theodore's, but also First Baptist Church of Park Rapids, Faithbridge, St. John's Lutheran Church and Grace Community Church of Osage. Thank you for your help.

Advent Word Among Us, and other reading materials are available in the Gathering Space at St. Peter and in the back of the church at St. Mary

Faith, Wellness, and You

Eating well during the holidays can be difficult, but with a couple tips it can be done. First, think about people and not food– focus on socializing, making new acquaintances and having fun as opposed to focusing on food choices. Next, plan before you eat– when you arrive at celebrations, check out all the food options and develop a plan which enables you to sample foods you enjoy without abandoning the good habits you've formed. It's important to remember it's ok to have some holiday treats, just spend your calories wisely and enjoy the foods you choose. Next, don't arrive on an empty stomach (which can cause you to overeat), offer to bring a healthy dish, select small portions, eat slowly and leave the table when you are done eating (if you stay at the table, you may be tempted to eat more). Healthier food choices (foods you should choose more often) include: turkey breast, chicken breast, plain potatoes, tossed salad, steamed vegetables, and fresh fruit. Unhealthier foods (foods you should choose less often) include: beef prime rib, pie, cake, stuffing, high-calorie alcoholic beverages, gravy, candy, and eggnog.

Did you know... ?? Most people typically gain about one pound over the holiday season. But these simple tips could help you avoid the extra weight gain over this joyous time of year. You can contact your parish nurse at: Diane: 218-255-1270 and Tiffany at 218-252-8227.

**Forester Christmas Party**, Thursday, Dec. 14 at 6 p.m. in the parish center. Bring a dish to share and spouse or friend are also invited. Will play bingo for popcorn balls after the meal. Anyone interested in helping make the popcorn balls meet in the parish center kitchen at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS:** St. Peter's Parishioners-If you wish to donate towards the purchase of flowers to decorate the Church for the Christmas Season, please use the special envelope in your envelope packet or fill out the slip below and place it in the collection basket with your contribution.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Donated by \_\_\_\_\_