

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



**CURRENT WEEK**

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
 • **Saturday, December 21 - 6:00 PM**  
*Intention:* In Memory of Richard Brennan from Ron and Diane Becktenwall  
 • **Sunday, December 22 - 8:00 AM** *Intention:* For the People of St. Ann's  
 • **Sunday, December 22 - 10:00 AM** *Intention:* In Memory of Joseph Niepokoj from Joan Smith & Barb Thomas  
**CHRISTMAS EVE** • **Tuesday, December 24 - 6:00 PM** Family Mass  
*Intention:* In Memory of Adolf and Maria Dziewa from Family and Friends  
 • **Tuesday, December 24 - 10:00 PM**  
*Intention:* In Memory of the O'Reilly and Ryan Families from Family and Friends  
**CHRISTMAS DAY** • **Wednesday, December 25 - 10:00 AM**  
*Intention:* ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE of the Kolasa and Furness Families from Terry and Nancy Kolasa

**NEXT WEEK**

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH**  
 • **Saturday, December 28- 6:00 PM** *Intention:* In Memory of Leo and Lottie Nekus from Family and Friends  
 • **Sunday, December 29 - 8:00 A.M.** *Intention:* In Memory of Helen Barasinski from Family and Friends  
 • **Sunday, December 29 - 10:00 AM** *Intention:* In Memory of Ludmila Wiklinska from Richard and Gosia Kinney



**Saturday, December 21, 6 pm** - Kristina DAMBRAUSKAS  
**Sunday, December 22, 8 am** - Phil DITTMANN  
**Sunday, December 22, 10 am** - Evelyn JACKSON  
**Saturday, December 28, 6 pm** - Lynda LANCASTER  
**Sunday, December 29, 8 am** - Gloria BOLDUIC  
**Sunday, December 29, 10 am** - Joan BARUFFI  
 If unable to read at your appointed time, please secure a replacement from the master schedule previously sent to you.

Please arrive 10 minutes before Mass & check in with the Sacristan.  
 To all 10 am Lector/Commentators: When a CCD student is scheduled for Readings at your assigned Mass, please only do the Introduction, Prayers of the Faithful, and other announcements as needed.



**Saturday, December 21, 6 pm** - Joe ESTEP, Dorothea PLATH, Linda SPERLING  
**Sunday, December 22, 8 am** - Bert MILLER  
**Sunday, December 22, 10 am** - Perry CARTWRIGHT, Lou FALAT, Ruth PALONIS  
**Saturday, December 28, 6 pm** - Joe ESTEP, Phil HARGARTEN, Cindy HARGARTEN  
**Sunday, December 29, 8 am** - Kira GEISS  
**Sunday, December 29, 10 am** - Ann BEESE, Ralph CARON, Annaliese McSWEENEY

If unable to serve at your appointed time, please secure a replacement from the master schedule previously sent to you. Please arrive 10 minutes before Mass & check in with the Sacristan.



**ALTAR SERVERS**

Servers, you are an important part of our parish liturgical services. We will be conducting on the job training. Please sign up on the Bulletin Board if you are interested. **REMINDER: Those children who made their First Communion are eligible to serve as Altar Servers.**

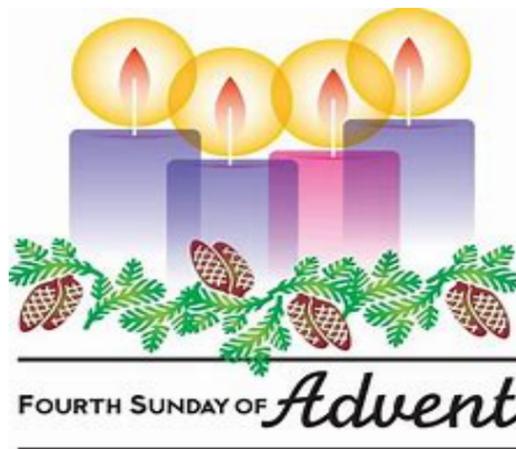
**HOSPITALITY**

• **Sunday, December 22:** DOOLITTLE and LAKIN Families  
 • **Sunday, December 29:** WITEK FAMILY  
**Treats after the 10 AM Mass have been a long-time tradition here at St. Ann's. Please consider volunteering to provide either homemade or purchased treats. If you have any questions, please ask one of our Hospitality Ministry Coordinators for details. Thank you!**

**SCRIP VOLUNTEERS**

- **Saturday, December 21, 6:00 PM:** Joe ESTEP
- **Sunday, December 22, 8:00 AM:** Mary Carol PUNTILLO
- **Sunday, December 22, 10:00 AM:** Kris JACOBUCCI & Arlene BEGLI
- **Saturday, December 28, 6:00 PM:** No Scrip Sales
- **Sunday, December 29, 8:00 AM:** Happy New Year
- **Sunday, December 29, 10:00 AM:** from Scrip Volunteers!

SCRIP is always looking for extra volunteers to help sell SCRIP. If you can help out, stop by the SCRIP table to find out more information. THANK YOU TO ALL OUR VOLUNTEERS!



**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Sunday, December 22, 2019** - Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalms 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24  
**Monday, December 23, 2019** - Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Psalms 25:4-5, 8-9, 10, 14; Luke 1:57-66  
**Tuesday, December 24, 2019** - Second Samuel 7:1-5, 8-11, 16; Psalms 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29; Luke 1:67-79; Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalms 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Matthew 1:1-25; Isaiah 9:1-6; Psalms 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14  
**Wednesday, December 25, 2019** - Isaiah 62:11-12; Psalms 97:1, 6, 11-12; Titus 3:4-7; Luke 2:15-20; Isaiah 52:7-10; Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14  
**Thursday, December 26, 2019** - Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Psalms 31:3-4, 6, 7, 8, 17, 21; Matthew 10:17-22  
**Friday, December 27, 2019** - First John 1:1-4; Psalms 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; John 20:2-8  
**Saturday, December 28, 2019** - First John 1:5-2:2; Psalms 124:2-3, 4-5, 7-8; Matthew 2:13-18



**WELCOME TO ST. ANN OF THE DUNES!**

Whether you come from another part of the world or a nearby parish, we welcome you to St. Ann of the Dunes! We thank you for sharing in the celebration of the Eucharist with us and we appreciate your generosity. We invite you to join our parish family if you are looking for a spiritual home or a summer church home. Registration forms can be found at the back of the church. We look forward to getting to know you. **All parishioners are asked to keep us informed of change of address, phone number or email address. Should you need the Eucharist brought to you, please let one of the Greeters know and we'll be sure that someone will bring Communion to you at your seat.**

**HELP US - HELP YOU!**

"I was hospitalized and my pastor did not visit me." "I was in the hospital and wanted to receive the Eucharist but no one came." Do these comments sound familiar? There are two solutions to solve the issues:

- When you are admitted to the hospital, request that they notify your pastor that you have been admitted. They can enter the name of your parish on the admitting form.
- You or your family can call the parish office at 879-7565 to notify the parish of your hospitalization.

**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY SERVICE MEN & WOMEN**

St. Ann is honored to have members serving in both the Armed Services and the Peace Corps. As a community of Christ's people, we at St. Ann's honor their service and salute their dedication by offering prayers for their safety and welfare. Please remember all members of the U.S. military in your prayers. **Please note, we have been asked not to publish individual names, ranks, and locations of our military for security and safety reasons.**



**BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS**

Any items you would like to be included in the bulletin each week need to be to the parish office, preferably via email, by **Tuesday for the week you wish to include the information. Further, if you wish to post something on the parish bulletin board, please request permission from Fr. John.**

**NEWS FROM OUR DIOCESE**

**NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING**

The Diocese is offering live natural family planning classes at the Pastoral Center in Merrillville. A new course will start the third Monday of each month for the rest of 2019. A full course consists of 3 classes, each one month apart. Classes begin at 6 PM. Preregistration is required and can be done online at [www.ccli.org](http://www.ccli.org). Feel free to contact Rosanne Kouris at 219-796-9292 ext 259 or [rkouris@dcgary.org](mailto:rkouris@dcgary.org) with any questions.

**NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS**

**MARCH FOR LIFE**

Join thousands at March for Life Chicago on Saturday, January 11, 2020 as we come together from across Chicago, the Midwest and the U.S. to defend, protect and celebrate life. All denominations welcome. Kick-off Mass is at St. Patrick's Church at 10 AM CDT. Free round-trip bus transportation and box lunch from St. Patrick's Church. Bus will leave at 11:15 am and return approximately 5:30 pm. For registration and information: <http://bit.ly/NWI-MFLC-2020> or contact Clark Gloyeske at 219-680-0901 or [ycdi\\_now@hotmail.com](mailto:ycdi_now@hotmail.com)

**SING WITH THE ANGELS**

The Queen of All Saints Adult Contemporary Choir, under the direction of Stephanie Sobecki, will present a Christmas Cantata, Sing with the Angels at Queen of All Saints Church, 606 S. Woodland Avenue, Michigan City, IN, on Sunday, December 22, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. This cantata re-tells the Christmas story from the vantage point of the angels from Gabriel's first appearance to Zacharias, to the glorious scene of angels filling the heavens singing "Gloria in excelsis Deo!" The program ends on a high note with the congregation joining to sing "Angels We Have Heard on High" and "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing". The program is free and all are welcome.

**RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY**

NW Indiana's largest and best pro-life Interdenominational meeting. 1st Thursday of every month at 5:30 pm, St. Agnes Center on the St. Paul Campus, 1855 W Harrison in Valparaiso. Open to the pro-life public. Bring a friend. Teens and young adults welcome. For additional information email [rsplcf.ministry@gmail.com](mailto:rsplcf.ministry@gmail.com)

**LEGACY CENTER AVAILABLE TO RENT**

The new Legacy Center at Queen of All Saints Catholic Church in Michigan City is available for your next gathering! We are open to hosting all types of events from family gatherings and milestone markers (baby and bridal showers, anniversary and birthday parties) to small business or non-profit meetings to corporate conferences. Prices vary by event, and more information can be found at [www.qas.org](http://www.qas.org). If you're ready to book an event or would like a tour, contact Jessica at [jessicar@qas.org](mailto:jessicar@qas.org) or (219) 872-9196.

**QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS - CHRIST THE KING ADORATION CHAPEL**  
 Could you adore our dear Lord for one hour at Queen of All Saints Church, Legacy Center? The chapel is open daily from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. If you wish to adore after 8:00 p.m., you can obtain a key from the rectory. Please come and visit Jesus any hour. "Could you not watch one hour with ME?" Adoration is still needed for certain times and days, please call Ann Fletcher at 874-4506 or Sandy Butler at 879-7142 for a list and more information.

**ST. PATRICK CHURCH BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY**

This ministry was formed to bring a faith-based approach to those who are working through various stages of grief. Ministry members bring a perspective of having lost a spouse, children, parent(s), sibling, and friend. It is a time to explore and to share the wide range of emotions dealing with bereavement. To discover the faith that helps those who have suffered a loss. Come to share or come to listen; all are welcome. The ministry meets the second Monday of each month except August and every meeting is open to all friends of St. Patrick's parish. Please join us at St. Patrick Parish, 638 N. Calumet Rd., Chesterton, IN 46304 in the Ministry Room of Building 2 at 7 pm. Questions, contact the church office at 219-926-1282 or 219-241-2732.

**NEWS FROM OUR PARISH**

**CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS!**

I would like to express my sincere wishes for a blessed Christmas to all our Parishioners and Visitors. May the God-Child whose birth we celebrate bring you happiness and joy throughout 2020. Also, I extend my thanks to all the volunteers who so generously gave of their time and talents to make the Christmas Liturgies a great celebration of life and joy here at St. Ann's. I thank our parish choir, choir director, organist, pianist, extra musicians, our lectors and Eucharistic ministers, sacristans, greeters, those who spent time cleaning and decorating, and all those who contributed to the Christmas memorial flowers. God Bless You All!

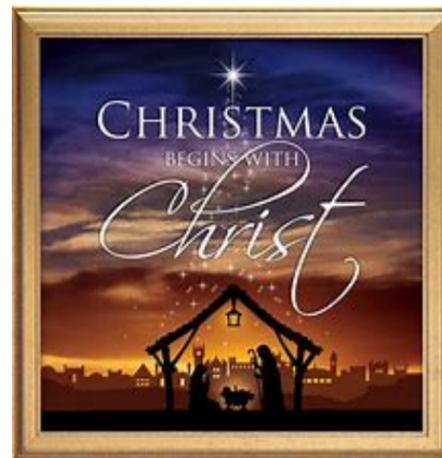
~Fr. John

**OPLATKI/OBLATEN**

In response to requests for the traditional Christmas "sharing wafers", we are happy to make available: Oplatki/Oblaten. The wafers can be found on the table next to the scrip table at the back of church. The history of these wafers can be found on the back of the envelopes. A donation of \$5.00 would be greatly appreciated.

**OUR NATIVITY MEMORIAL**

Thanks to the extreme generosity of gifts to the memorial fund, we were able to purchase a new Nativity last year. The generous gifts were made in the name of Joseph "Joey" Niepokoj, a former parishioner who passed away last year. We are very grateful to the family and friends of Joey who thoughtfully created a memorial to him.



*Dear Lord Jesus Christ, in the midst of all the hectic activity during this Christmas season let me never forget this holiday is about you, first and foremost. Help me to embrace true humility as you, the King of Kings, did by being born not in a mansion or even an inn, but rather in a cave so that I might one day merit Eternal Life with you in heaven.*

**APPRECIATION FOR OUR ACCOUNTANT**

Thank you to Mike Palmer for becoming our new bookkeeper/accountant for the Parish. We are very grateful to Mike for accepting the position. Ed O'Reilly and Mike have been working together the past few months during the transition process. A very special thank you to Ed and Danielle O'Reilly for all of their years of service to our Parish. May they have sunny skies and leisurely days in Florida as they enjoy their well-deserved retirement. We will definitely miss them.

**OUR NEW HEAD SACRISTAN**

Thank you to Matt Block for accepting the position of head sacristan here at St. Ann's. When former head sacristan Sam Falbo passed away in September, he left big shoes to fill so we are especially grateful that Matt has agreed to become head sacristan and scheduler. Matt also serves as hospitality coordinator with his wife Cindy.

**PARKING LOT GATE IS INSTALLED**

A new parking lot gate has been installed at south entrance to the parking lot. The gate will be open for all Masses however it will remain closed throughout the week. Please be cautious and drive slowly when approaching the parking lot. You will need to use the north entrance of the parking lot to access the Church and Parish office during the week.

**PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION FOOD DRIVE**

The Commission on Peace and Social Justice is still collecting non-perishable food items and scrip grocery cards to donate to the Westchester Neighbors Food Pantry. Please add our neighbors in need to your Christmas gift list so that they know our Christian love. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

**CHECK OUT THE PARISH WEBSITE**

Our new website is up and running. Be sure to check out our website for information about our ministries, news, schedules and events. You may now opt to contribute to St. Ann electronically by using one of our online options. Access us on line at: <https://st-ann-of-the-dunes.org>.

**ADVENT SCHEDULE**

**Celebration of Holy Mass:** 8 am every Wednesday and Friday  
**Christmas Eve:** Youth and Family Mass at 6:00 pm  
 Traditional Christmas Eve Mass at 10:00 pm  
**Christmas Day:** There will be NO 8:00 am Mass  
 Solemn Christmas Mass at 10:00 am  
**New Years Eve:** There will be no Mass on New Years Eve  
**New Years Day 2020:** Mass at 10:00 am ONLY – Solemnity of Mary



**PRAYER FOR THE DEPARTED**

Please keep all of our departed family and friends in your prayers who recently passed away.

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.*

**ICY PARKING LOT ALERT**

You may have noticed our parking lot is often icy. Because it is a gravel lot, the water is unable to drain away in winter. This creates icy conditions when water is left on the surface then freezes and thaws. Please be careful as you make your way through the parking lot.

**IN THE SPOTLIGHT -- A Little Something**

**About Our Advertisers**

@ **Properties** - Parishioner Ted Lelek has been a Real Estate Agent since 1982 and his knowledge of the Duneland area is unrivaled. He offers homebuyers and sellers the highest level of service for their real estate needs through @properties award-winning sales and marketing programs and industry-leading technology, and experience. Ted is committed to offering highest standards of service and representation you expect and deserve. With local leadership and national and international reach, Ted brings results to clients wherever their buying and selling goals take them. Ted also holds a brokerage license in Florida and many clients of Lakeshore to Seashore are thrilled to vacation to Florida, thanks to his efforts. If you want a smooth transaction from start to finish, contact Ted.

**COMMISSION MEETINGS AND REPORTS**

**LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE SCRIP THIS YEAR**

Scrip is being sold at all masses this weekend. Scrip will NOT be sold next weekend. Be sure to stock up now for your last minute stocking stuffers and New Year party supplies. A BLESSED CHRISTMAS FROM ALL THE SCRIP VOLUNTEERS  
**STEWARDSHIP: YES LORD**

Of all the kings, prophets, and holy men and women of ancient Israel who had waited in faithful hope for the coming of the promised Savior, God chose to announce his coming to a young woman. The message was not proclaimed in a palace or even the temple in Jerusalem, but in a backwater village called Nazareth. Artists typically show a startled or shy Mary, usually seated and partly turning away from the heavenly messenger in confusion. In a small brightly colored painting created over a thousand years ago, the artist shows something entirely different. The angel is holding up one hand in greeting. Mary is standing up and facing him directly with both her hands extended toward him, as if to welcome him. In this encounter between the human and the divine, we see again God's capacity to confound human expectations. The words of the angels (Greek for messenger) are rich in power and promise: "you have found favor with God . . . [your child] will be called Son of the Most High . . . he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end. . . The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you" (Luke 1:30, 32, 33, 35). Mary was no shrinking violet. Because she was pure of heart and trusted completely, she responded to God with a wholehearted "yes." At this point, God broke into our world. Through the cooperation of a simple village girl, God breathed the air we breathe, walked the earth we walk, and experienced our sorrows and joys as a human like the rest of us. Everything on earth became sanctified because God became human. God became flesh in the Son, Jesus Christ, born of Mary. The world would never be the same again. The time is here to let him into our hearts and change us completely.

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