

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**CURRENT WEEK
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- **Saturday, November 30- 6:00 PM** *Intention:* In Memory of the O'Reilly and Ryan Families ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE from Ed and Danielle O'Reilly
- **Sunday, December 1 - 8:00 AM** *Intention:* In Memory of the Jakubowicz & Kovach Families ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE from Ron and Dora Kovach
- **Sunday, December 1- 10:00 AM** *Intention:* In Memory of Father Dave Gosnell from St. Ann's Parish Family
- **Wednesday, December 4- 8:00 AM** *Intention:* For the People of St. Ann
- **Friday, December 6- 8:00 AM** *Intention:* In Memory of David Frazer from Barbara Plampin

**NEXT WEEK
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

- Saturday, December 7 - 6:00 PM** *Intention:* In Memory of Beatrice, David and Brenden Mello ALL SOULS REMEMBRANCE from Jim and Camille Mello
- Sunday, December 8 - 8:00 AM** *Intention:* In Memory of John S Lanigan from Mary and Jude Lanigan
- Sunday, December 8 - 10:00 AM** *Intention:* For Greg & Lurlene Tischler from Ralph & Faith Caron
- Wednesday, December 11 - 8:00 AM** *Intention:* In Memory of Sam Falbo from Parish Family
- Friday, December 13 - 8:00 AM** *Intention:* In Memory of Donna Polkowski from Parish Family



- Saturday, November 30, 6 pm** - Lynda LANCASTER
- Sunday, December 1, 8 am** - Phil DITTMANN
- Sunday, December 1, 10 am** - Cindy BLOCK
- Saturday, December 7, 6 pm** - Kathy TANTILLO
- Sunday, December 8, 8 am** - Gloria BOLDUC
- Sunday, December 8, 10 am** - Frank AMBROSIC

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, November 30, 6 pm** - Phil HARGARTEN, Cindy HARGARTEN, Linda SPERLING
- Sunday, December 1, 8 am** - Julie KASNIUNAS
- Sunday, December 1, 10 am** - Ralph CARON, Robert STANFORD, Jim VAN DE KEERE
- Saturday, December 7, 6 pm** - Joe ESTEP, Dorothea PLATH, Scott STOLARZ
- Sunday, December 8, 8 am** - Ron KOVACH
- Sunday, December 8, 10 am** - Sharon AMBROSIC, Lou FALAT, Ruth PALONIS

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 1:** The Haggerty Family
- **Sunday, December 8:** The Adent 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, November 30, 6:00 PM:** Lynda LANCASTER & Ed RYSUCK
- **Sunday, December 1, 8:00 AM:** Mary Carol PUNTILLO
- **Sunday, December 1, 10:00 AM:** Faith CARON & Sharon AMBROSIC
- **Saturday, December 7, 6:00 PM:** Joe ESTEP
- **Sunday, December 8, 8:00 AM:** Ron & Dora KOVACH
- **Sunday, December 8, 10:00 AM:** Mary KEANE & Lisa OATES

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 1, 2019** - Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalms 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44
- Monday, December 2, 2019** - Isaiah 4:2-6; Psalms 122:1-2, 3-4, 8-9 or 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Matthew 8:5-11
- Tuesday, December 3, 2019** - First Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 16:15-20; Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalms 72:1, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Luke 10:21-24
- Wednesday, December 4, 2019** - Isaiah 25:6-10; Psalms 23:1-3, 3-4, 5, 6; Matthew 15:29-37; Second Timothy 1:13-14; 2:1-3
- Thursday, December 5, 2019** - Isaiah 26:1-6; Psalms 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27; Matthew 7:21, 24-27
- Friday, December 6, 2019** - Isaiah 29:17-24; Psalms 27:1, 4, 13-14; Matthew 9:27-31
- Saturday, December 7, 2019** - Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalms 98:1, 2-3, 3-4; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38; Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26; Psalms 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Matthew 9:35-10:1, 6-8



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. Feel free to contact Rosanne Kouris at 219-796-9292 ext 259 or rkouris@dcgary.org with any questions.



NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

St. Mary of the Lake Parish invites you to their Annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 7th from 9 am to 3 pm and Sunday, December 8th from 9 am to 2 pm. Shop and dine in their Winter Wonderland. There will be cookies and pictures with Santa. St. Mary of the Lake is located at 6060 Miller Ave, Gary. For more information, call the Church at 219-938-1373.

QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Volunteer at the Nursing Home on Saturday, December 7th at 9:30 am. Join QAS Young Adult Ministry members at the Aperia Nursing Home in Michigan City. RSVP to jessicar@qas.org.

FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP WITH QAS YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Join Queen of All Saints Young Adult Ministry as they enjoy food and fellowship at the Legacy Center on Thursday, December 19th at 6:30 pm. Bring a side dish to share and a canned good for charity. A main dish will be provided. Bring a gift for a Christmas gift exchange. \$10.00 or less. Remember, everyone is welcome – your kids, Catholic or not, divorced, single, married-everyone! Contact jessicar@qas.org.

NEW ADVENT DISCUSSION AT ST. THOMAS MORE

Everyone is invited to a talk about Advent as the Education Commission of St. Thomas More in Munster presents: What is Advent and How Can We Celebrate It? Guest Speaker will be St. Thomas More Associate Pastor, Fr. Declan McNicholas. Enjoy an evening of learning how to make the most of this special season. Wednesday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Thomas More Weis Center, 8635 Calumet Avenue in Munster (next to the Munster Public Library). Call the Parish Office for more information at (219) 836-8610.

20/20 VISION IN 2020

St. Matthias Parish in Crown Point is proud to present "20/20 Vision in 2020: Setting our sights on Christ", a monthly educational session on various topics that will help you explore your faith and give you more clarity in your life goals. Attend one session or all. To sign up for individual sessions, contact the St. Matthias Parish office at 219-663-2201.

- December 14, 2019 12:00 pm Goal Setting Fr. Jim Wozniak
- January 18, 2020 10:00 am Strengthfinders Fr. Jim Wozniak

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH

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.

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY MASS

If your children/grandchildren would like to participate in the Christmas Eve Family Mass, please look at the signup list on the bulletin board at the back of church near the treat table. There are opportunities for greeters, lectors, gift bearers, and singers and bell ringers in the choir! Contact Marsha Jerome at 219/742-0658 if you have questions or would like more details. We plan to have a few choir rehearsals on Tuesday evenings, Dec 10 and Dec 17 at 6 pm. The Youth and Family Christmas Eve Mass is at 6:00 PM.

PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION FOOD DRIVE

Peace and Social Justice is once again organizing a food drive to benefit the Westchester Food Party during the Christmas season. Please bring non-perishable food items to church or stop by the scrip table to purchase and donate a grocery card. You can help make Christmas dinner memorable for so many of your neighbors! Thank you for your generous support!



ADVENT SCHEDULE

- Celebration of Holy Mass:** 8 am every Wednesday and Friday
- Anointing of the Sick:** Sunday, December 15th, at the 10 am Mass
- Penance Service:** Wednesday, December 11th, between 6:00-7:00 pm with an opportunity for confessions in Lithuanian
- Sunday, December 15th:** Mass for our Lithuanian Community at 1:00 pm
- 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



CSA PLEDGE GOAL IS MET

After a very long wait, the Diocese has issued the financial report for all Parishes in the Diocese. We are very excited to announce we met the 2019 goal for the Catholic Service Appeal (CSA). Thank you to all who contributed and helped us to reach our goal. We are grateful and humbled by your generosity. However, there are still a few outstanding pledges so be sure to submit those payments directly to the Diocese as soon as possible. All Parishes who fulfill their pledges will receive a 10% additional rebate as well as any amount exceeding the goal.

- 2019 Parish Goal: \$25,823.00
- Pledges received: \$27,020.00
- Total Paid: \$22,800.00
- Remaining Balance: \$4,220.00

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

We are grateful every year to those who donate for our Christmas Flowers. We are so Blessed as a Parish. We would like to make sure we are spelling your name and those you would like to honor correctly. Please print clearly so we can easily read your intention. Thank you so much.

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.

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.*

IN THE SPOTLIGHT -- A Little Something About Our Advertisers

Smith Group Construction, was founded in 2002. With a diverse construction background, they've built their reputation on construction and remodeling tailored to their customers' needs. From simple to complex, they've experienced it. And if they haven't, they have the talent and connections to figure it all out and can help you every step of the way. No job is too small or too big for their knowledgeable crews. They've happily done it all. Our work is good. We promise. And behind that promise, they want you to know that they back their work. It may be your building, but it's theirs too. They want to share your pride and success.

COMMISSION MEETINGS AND REPORTS

HOLIDAY SCRIP ORDERING INFORMATION

The holidays are once again upon us. Scrip WILL be sold all weekends before Christmas. Special Orders will be taken through Dec 14-15, for a pick-up date of the following weekend, Dec. 21-22. Order early to ensure delivery in time for Christmas. Order early, as Scrip sells out of the on-hand quickly so cards will have to be reordered, to arrive the following week.

STEWARDSHIP: ON GUARD

The author of Saint Mark's Gospel was what we call a straight shooter. His writing style is plain, with no elaboration or sophistication. In today's Gospel reading he gets right to the point: be on your guard; stay awake; the Lord must not find you asleep when he arrives. Advent comes from the Latin word *advenire*, which means "to come to." The season of Advent, then, is a time to think about and to reflect on three advents in particular: God's coming into the world as a human child, God's coming into our world today, and God's glorious coming at the end of time. These reflect three promises: God's promise to bring salvation to all people, Jesus' promise to be with those who follow him, and Jesus' further promise to return at the end of time. It is not enough simply to admire Jesus and be impressed by what he says. We are asked to take the extra step and follow the way of discipleship. We do not know where the path of discipleship will lead us, or when Christ himself will return. In the meantime we are the gatekeepers, the stewards, and the ones left in charge. Our responsibility is to stay alert and focused, even when others seem to be asleep or distracted, so that we are ready to welcome Christ into the world when he comes again. We are also asked to be attentive to the coming of God into our lives today: in the sacrament of Christ's Body; in the unlikely guise of the homeless, the hungry, the prisoner, the addict in whom Christ appears before us; and in the Spirit who is within us. We are urged to live with hope in our hearts for Christ's final return. If you have young children, make a Jesse tree or use an Advent calendar, preferably one with Advent rather than Christmas themes. Find more information on both at www.catholicculture.org.