

HOLY FAMILY Catholic Parish

506 N. BEAUMONT ROAD & 710 S. WACOUTA AVENUE, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN 53821

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Website: www.prairiecatholic.org

Rev. James C. Weighner, Pastor

Email: pastor@prairiecatholic.org

St. John Nepomuc

710 S. Wacouta Ave.

Prairie Du Chien, WI 53821

Phone: 326-6511

Rectory Office Hours

8:00am to 4:00pm (Tuesday - Friday)

St. Gabriel Archangel

506 N. Beaumont Rd.

Prairie Du Chien, WI 53821

Phone: 326-2404

Rectory Office Hours

Closed until further notice

Holy Days

Mass times to be announced.

Baptism

Please call St. John's Rectory office.

Marriage

Please contact the parish at least 6 months prior to the wedding date.

Principal

Wade Marlow

Office Managers

Lana Gratace

Email: lgratace@prairiecatholic.org

Sandy Halverson

Email: sgp@prairiecatholic.org

Dir. of Grade School Religious Ed.

Pat Prochaska

Parish Nursing Program

Rose Bauer, Shirley Cipra

Please call (357-2000)

November 30, 2014

REV. JAMES C. WEIGHNER, PASTOR



1st Sunday of Advent

"Watch, therefore; you do not know when the Lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping." - Mk 13:35-36



St. Gabriel Archangel

HOME COMMUNION MINISTERS FOR DEC. 7

LeAnn Craig, Theresa Heal

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 4:00 pm Debbie Morovits, Molly Kirschbaum,
Don Cipra

Sunday 8:00 am Mary Osterhaus, Ann Lessard, Mark
Gilberts

SERVERS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 4:00 pm Paige Schneider & Katy Welsch
Gina & Angela Sebastian

Sunday 8:00 am Josh & Jonah Linder
Frankee & Harlee Eastman

Lectors-December 6/7

Saturday 4:00 pm Arlene Willms

Sunday 8:00 am Rhonda Stubbe

USHERS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 4:00 pm Richard Steiner, Cliff Stram, Jim
Welsch, Bob Ziel

Sunday 8:00 am Jerry Matousek, Don Osterhaus,
Dick Tesar, & Butch Boland

SCRIP WORKERS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 4:00 pm Melanie Schneider

Sunday 8:00 am Brad & Jenni Linder



St. John Nepomuc

HOME COMMUNION MINISTERS FOR DEC. 7

Nick Nugent, Peg Smith

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 7:00 pm Mary Ellen Pellock

Sunday 10:00 am Gene Carlson, Windy Mezera & Verna
Panka

SERVERS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 7:00 pm Austin & Ashley Mezera
Makayla Steger, Rebekah Champion

Sunday 10:00 am Zach Swiggum, Kierstyn Rogers
Weston & Kendall Hill

LECTORS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 7:00 pm Mary Stoeffler

Sunday 10:00 am Steve Schwager

USHERS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 7:00 pm Don Roh, Bernie Mayer, Alex
Schaefer, Mark Forsythe

Sunday 10:00 am Merle Frommelt, Mike Mara, Mark
Mara & Dennis Mezera

SCRIP WORKERS-DECEMBER 6/7

Saturday 7:00 pm Volunteers

Sunday 10:00 am Ramon Gonzalez

WEEKEND MASSES: MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY REQUESTING THE MASS ARE ASKED TO BRING THE GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE TO THE ALTAR. PLEASE MAKE YOURSELVES KNOWN TO THE USHERS AND SIT NEAR THE GIFTS. THANK YOU!



Tuesday, December 2	8:15 am	St. Gabriel's Church	† John Steger
Wednesday, December 3	8:15 am	St. John's Church	† Vi Atkins
Thursday, December 4	8:15 am	St. Gabriel's Church	† Lauretta Geisler
Friday, December 5	8:15 am	St. John's Church	† Mark Walters
Saturday, December 6	4:00 pm 7:00 pm	St. Gabriel's Church St. John's Church	† Albert Becwar † Charlotte C. Voth
Sunday, December 7	8:00 am 10:00 am	St. Gabriel's Church St. John's Church	For All Those Entrusted to Our Pastor † Marguerite Caya
Confessions	St. Gabriel's St. John's	3:00 pm to 3:45 pm on Saturday 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm on Saturday	

No scheduled confessions on days with weddings or funerals

AN ADVENT REFLECTION FROM
CATHOLICEXCHANGE.COM:

Our church, God's house, is indeed a house of prayer. One question we must ask ourselves today and sincerely try to answer is this: How do we regard the church? Do we pray and worship the Lord when we are inside the church? Advent challenges us to review the things we do in the church and how we respond to the things other people do in the church. Do we use our cell phone inside the church? Do we make noise or cause distractions while attending Mass or other liturgical celebrations like baptisms and weddings? Are we brave enough to correct the misbehavior of our family members, and other people inside the church? We must observe decency in our behavior and in the way we dress up when we go to church because we are going there to meet our Lord.

Our house can also be an expression of our faith. Is God present in our home? Or have we commercialized our domestic life? How shall we decorate our home this Advent and Christmas seasons? One suggestion is to set up an Advent wreath or a nativity scene. Put Christ in the center especially this Christmas. Wouldn't it be beautiful if all Christians, one way or another show their faith with every season?

AND FROM THE DIOCESE OF LA CROSSE OFFICE OF
CATECHESIS:

Advent, which means *coming*, is the four weeks leading up to Christmas. The time of Advent is to be spent preparing our hearts spiritually for the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, who came to save us from sin and eternal death. However, this focus of spiritual preparation and joyful anticipation can be difficult to maintain in the hectic hustle and bustle of the materialistic side of this sacred season. Taking time during Advent to prepare ourselves spiritually can result in a truly meaningful Christmas Day and Christmas Season

An important point for Advent is to keep everything simple. That is, try not shopping or baking too much, but take time for quiet prayer and for simply being with family members. This is an opportunity to gather the family and prepare together by remembering the darkness that pervaded the time of the people of God at the time of Christ, as they awaited the birth of the Savior.

The Advent wreath, with its rich symbolism, helps us to stay focused on this time of preparation. A wreath can be assembled by simply using evergreen limbs from a tree in the yard and four candles. The wreath made of evergreens - which retain their green, vibrant life throughout the year - signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life found in Christ who was victorious over sin and death through His own passion, death, and Resurrection.

The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent. The light of the candles shines in the darkness, which is most evident during this time of the year which is darker due to shorter daylight hours. Candles in the Advent wreath and lights on a Christmas tree signify the coming of Christ Who is the Light of the world. After all, Christ is "*the Light that came into the world*" to dispel the darkness of sin and to radiate the truth and love of God (See John 3:19-21).

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The progressive lighting of the candles symbolizes the expectation and hope surrounding our Lord's first coming into the world and the anticipation of His second coming. In family practice, the Advent wreath is most appropriately lit at dinner time after the blessing of the food.

It is also important to set aside specific times of quiet prayer during Advent. It can be especially fruitful to read beforehand the Bible passages for the upcoming Sunday Mass, which focus on the coming of Christ, pondering the words and allowing the Holy Spirit to make a connection between the reading and your own life. The words of Advent hymns provide the story of the first Christmas and stir our hearts with their beautiful melodies.

Confession: Receiving the Sacrament of Confession during Advent frees us from the effects of sin, such as selfishness, anger, lack of forgiveness, guilt, bitterness. As our hearts are purified, there is more room for Christ to bring us His joy.

Acts of Charity also need to part of our preparations for Christmas. We can give to our favorite charity; pray for the persecuted Christians in the Middle East and even donate so that they will have housing in time for winter; visit an elderly neighbor or someone in assisted living; send a Christmas card to a friend or neighbor who is sick; give extra time and show kindness to the person that we find hardest to love; donate unused clothing and toys and above all spend more time with family.

The preparation of our heart for Christmas will make the coming of Emmanuel - God with us - mean so much more. Receiving the Christ Child in Holy Communion will be the highlight of our Christmas Day.

Sweepstake Calendars are now available from Holy Family Rectory - St. John's location and the school office or call John Fischer at 326-2827. \$20.00 per calendar or 6 for \$100.00.

Prayer Corner

God, grant healing and peace to the sick of our communities and those who have requested our prayers. Please pray for: Steve Moris, Eileen Sutton, Mary Ann Heisz, Jerry Matousek, Loren Fishler, LaVern Sutton, Janet Dickman, Peg Stoeffler, John Felder, Ann Fulcher, Elaine Shedivy, Nancy Patzner, Janelle Becwar, Carissa Waldo, Michael Hinrich, William Blake, Cathy Vondrum, Mildred Prew, John & Cheyenne Messling, Earl Nye, Ethel Sebastian, Tara Pellock, Margaret Konicheck, Geraldine Barr, Marguerite Begnoche, Roberta Marfilus, Ann Rowe, Bill McCoy, Edith Ritchie, Scott LaBonne, Debbie Eden, Michael Aschom, Ken Fleshner, Lara Czajkowski Higgins, Carrie Breuer, Graham Shedivy, Marion Bernabei, Mary Gillitzer, Richard Aschom, Mark Janz, Lorna Porvaznik, Carolyn Schmidt, John Rink, Dale LaBonne, Dallas Valley, Pam Hamann, Mary T. Shedivy, Lavon David, Diane Fernette, Joe Ludvik, Stacey Johnson, Alben Sutton, Patricia McCoy, Bernie O'Connell, Frank Tiller, Carl Shedivy, Kerriann Placko, Rosanna Mayer, Jason Bierman, John Gillitzer, Dana Kahler, Nancy Aschom, Marilyn Rybarczyk, Pam Waller, Jackie Cherrier, John Fischer.

If you have a special intention or loved one who is in need of prayers; please let us know so we can include them.

PARISH SUPPORT

	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes for Nov. 23rd	\$4,905.00	\$6,087.00
Plate for Nov. 23rd	<u>679.58</u>	<u>486.41</u>
Total	\$5,584.58	\$6,573.41

The second collection came to **\$456.95** and will be used for Prairie Catholic School and our Religious Education Program expenses.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

PLEASE PICK UP YOUR REMEMBRANCE CANDLES AFTER THE MASS THIS WEEKEND

Many thanks to our Family Life Committee for sponsoring the Parish Mission and thank you to all who attended.

Bingo Workers for Monday, Dec. 1st: Check Writer: John Fischer, **Floor Workers:** Lucy Cornford, Betty Fischer, Peggy Fischer, Kati Forsythe; **Caller:** Kyle Teynor; **Food Preparation by:** Tammy Cram & Kati Forsythe; **Lunch Stand Workers:** Parents of Jerrod Osterkamp & Jack Peterson. Next Monday the Jackpot will be at **\$962.00** plus 50% of the progressive cards sales in 55 calls or less.

Catholic Charities is very excited to announce that our office in Prairie du Chien is assuming the coordinating role of the former Faith in Action program, now known as Hands of Hope! We are looking forward to coordinating and providing services by offering a helping hand. We are thrilled to be able to offer an avenue for these services to continue. If you or someone you know would benefit from the Hands of Hope program, please contact our office at 608-326-1616.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED TO THE DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL. We will be listing the names of all who responded. We will begin with around 50 parishioners and run them for a few weeks and then list 50 or more, so if you don't see your name it will appear in following bulletins. Michael & Zita Balk, Mary Barrette, Robert & Cecelia Becwar, Mary Becwar, Dick & Ann Beinborn, Cecilia Benda, Irene Beneker, Eugene & Colleen Bouzek, Linda Cherrier, James & Lucy Cornford, Donald & Joan Draka, Irving & Carol DuCharme, Janice Duve, Edgar Eichmann, John & Betty Fischer, Jeffrey & Karen Fisher, Paul & Matilda Flansburgh, Karen Fritsche, Neil & Yvonne Gillitzer, Gary & Joan Howe, Connie Hudson, Terry & Kathleen Igou, Kurt & Teresa Jaynes, Michael & Mary Jaynes, Gerald & Judith Kuchenbecker, Mark & Katie Lenzendorf, Michael & Deborah Mara, Audrey Mara, Jeanine Mara, Lyle & Roberta Marfilus, Bernard & Rosanna Mayer, Donald & Patricia McGuire, Terry Meyer, Anne Mezera, Dennis Mezera, Michael & Kayla Mezera, Patricia Mezera, Patrick & Iva Mulhern, John Mulrooney, Elizabeth Munson, Jeffrey & Jennifer Nack, Janet Nelson, David & Marilyn Nies, Lawrence & Joan Novey, Richard & Verna Panka, Vernon & Mary Pedretti, Mary Pellock, Joan Poots, Paul & Lorna Porvaznik, John & Annette Powers, Terry & Clara Powers, Gregory & Ann Quick.

THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH

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Sunday, November 30

4:30 pm Bible Study at the Grunwald residence

Monday, December 1

7:00 pm Bingo at St. Gabriel's School

Tuesday, December 2

3:30 pm Mass at Prairie Maison

Wednesday, December 3

6:45 pm CCD at St. John's School

Thursday, December 4

Adoration after the 8:15 am Mass

Benediction at 1:00 pm

6:00 pm Education Commission meeting at St. Gabriel's School

Saturday, December 6

Sunday, December 7

9:00 am Coffee & Rolls after the 8:00 am Mass in St. Gabriel's Hall plus drawing for the Sweepstakes Calendar and Holy Name Raffle

1:00 pm JWalkers meeting at St. John's School

BELLRINGERS NEEDED for the Salvation Army on Friday, Dec. 12, Saturday, Dec, 13 & Sunday, Dec. 14. Two hour shifts between the hours of 10:00 am to 8:00 pm at Zinkle's Piggly Wiggly Store. If you can help out please call Pat or Steve Mercaitis at 608-988-4556.

Thank you to the family of Keith Kozelka for the generous donation given to the school library. The gift has been used to purchase books for our Prairie Catholic School Library in loving memory of Keith Kozelka. Your generosity and thoughtfulness are very much appreciated.

IN SYMPATHY

Please remember **Paul W. Igou** in your prayers. His funeral was held on Monday, November 24th at St. Gabriel's Catholic Church of the Holy Family Parish. May God grant him eternal life and comfort to his family.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

MONDAY DEC 8, 2014

MASS TIMES / CHURCHES

8:15 AM ST GABRIEL CHURCH

12:10 PM ST JOHN'S CHURCH

6:00 PM ST GABRIEL CHURCH

Please note the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day of Obligation even when it falls on a Monday. Please plan accordingly.