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DEACON MIKE LONG
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DECEMBER 19, 2021 – 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



| MASS SCHEDULE AT ST. STEPHEN & HOLY ROSARY | | | |
|--|--------------|----------|---------------------------------------|
| DAY | LOCATION | TIME | INTENTION |
| Sunday | St. Stephen* | 8:00 AM | Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary |
| December 19 | Holy Rosary | 9:30 AM | Jerry & Sherry Copenhaver |
| Tuesday | Holy Rosary | 7:30 AM | Chris Couch |
| December 21 | | | |
| Wednesday | Holy Rosary | 7:30 AM | Kenneth Ryan |
| December 22 | | | |
| Thursday | Holy Rosary | 7:30 AM | Brandon Devlin |
| December 22 | | | |
| Friday | Holy Rosary | 5:30 PM | Ina, Bernard, Greg & Pat Mudd |
| December 24 | St. Stephen* | 8:00 PM | Harry & Dena Lindhorst |
| Saturday | Holy Rosary | Midnight | Seth Joseph Hays |
| December 25 | Holy Rosary | 9:30 AM | Tom & Lucille Hays and Family |
| Sunday | St. Stephen* | 8:00 AM | Families of St. Stephen & Holy Rosary |
| December 26 | Holy Rosary | 9:30 AM | Lanny Neyens |

*Mass will be live streamed on Facebook @ "Greg Oligschlaeger"
<https://facebook.com/frgregolig>

RECONCILIATION
 4:00-5:00 PM Saturdays at Holy Rosary
 7:15-7:45 AM Sundays at St. Stephen or by appointment 735-4718

~ PASTOR'S NOTES ~

Dear Parishioners,

A few years ago, at a grade school PSR class, the lesson I presented was on the Season of Christmas. We began the lesson talking about the Nativity Scenes we have in our homes. I had a large tote on one of the desks and, with the children gathered around, I took the stable out of the box and placed it on a bare table top in front of them. I invited each of the ten students ranging from ages 5-13 to come and take a small box out of my tote. They went back to their seat and unboxed their nativity piece.

"Who has Joseph?" I said. And the child brought up Joseph and placed him in the stable. And the requests continued, "Who has Mary?... Who has a donkey?... Who has the baby Jesus?... Who has the Angel?... Who has the Little Drummer Boy? With each request, a child came forward and placed their figurine in the stable and surrounding area. The table filled up. By the time we got through sheep, shepherds, other towns people and the Three Kings, the whole table was full. What started as just a bare, cold empty stable was now crowded, colorful and warm. The table and stable were hardly seen because of all the people and animals who had come to see the New Born King.



Their teacher then asked, "What are some Christmas carols that we sing about Jesus' birth?" The children called out, "O Little Town of Bethlehem... Silent Night... The Little Drummer Boy... We Three Kings!" It was precious and a strong reminder how the message of the birth of our Messiah is the reason we gather and give homage and worship to our God.

We all know the meaning of Christmas when we look at the Nativity Scene that St. Francis of Assisi made popular in our Church since the year 1200. Radio and Streaming channels play mostly songs that sing about a winter wonderland, a White Christmas, being home for Christmas, being good for when Santa Claus comes to town, a snowman, a guinea, a redneck reindeer, and even a terrible accident with a grandparent and a reindeer on Christmas Eve. However, we all know that God becoming human is the reason to celebrate. We experience the peace and joy of knowing Christ has spread to the ends of the Earth, so with the angels we sing "Glory to God in the Highest." Come and worship with your parish family at Mass on Christmas Eve, at Midnight or on Christmas Day and sing those carols that tell the story of the New Born King with us in church and in your homes. Come, Lord Jesus!

Prayers and Blessings,
F. Greg Oligschlaeger

DECEMBER 12TH OFFERTORY - \$2816.00
 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - \$115.00

~ PARISH NEWS ~

- **Donations of Poinsettias** for Christmas in memory of a loved one would be greatly appreciated.
- There are **sign-up sheets** in the vestibule for liturgical assignments for Mass on Christmas Eve at 8:00 p.m. and for Mass on the Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God at 6:30 p.m. on New Year's Eve. Please volunteer!
- A **Christmas Celebration** will be held in the Swinkey gym following 8:00 p.m. Mass on Christmas Eve. All are welcome.
- **The next Finance Council meeting** will be at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 13th at the HR parish office.
- **The next Pastoral Council meeting** will in the Swinkey gym at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 17th.
- A **Weekly Rosary** is prayed each Monday at 12:00 p.m. at St. Stephen. All are welcome to join and share their intentions, both spoken and unspoken.

~ HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL NEWS ~

- **The Holy Rosary Christmas Program** will be held on Tuesday, December 21st in the Holy Rosary School gym. The eighth-grade students will present a Christmas play at 9:30 a.m. followed by the classes singing Christmas songs. All students will be dismissed at approximately 11:00 a.m. Bus service will not be available at dismissal. All parents, grandparents, etc. are welcome to attend this Christmas program.
- **Classes will resume** after the holidays on Monday, January 3, 2022.
- **Holy Rosary School is certainly blessed** with many faithful supporters- parents, grandparents, parishioners, teachers, students, alumni, etc. It is hoped that everyone has a most blessed Christmas as we pray in thanksgiving for all that we have.

Advent Penance Service
 December 21
 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
 Holy Rosary Church

Christmas Mass Schedule

December 24, 5:30 p.m. at Holy Rosary
 December 24, 8:00 p.m. at St. Stephen
 December 25, Midnight at Holy Rosary
 December 25, 9:30 a.m. at Holy Rosary

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
 December 31, 6:00 p.m. at St. Stephen
 January 1, 9:30 a.m. at Holy Rosary

~ PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER ~

Dear God, we place our worries in Your hands. We place our sick under Your care and humbly ask that You restore Your servants to health again. Above all, grant us the grace to acknowledge Your will and know that whatever You do, You do for the love of us. Amen.

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|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| David Griffin | Mark Leake | Caitlin Shively |
| Geoffrey Preckshot | Trent Zeiger | Jeff Thomas |
| Kayla Benson McAndrews | Bill Smith | Phyllis Taylor |
| Lakian Lehenbauer | Janice Kendrick | Richard Elliott |
| Rusty Adam | Regina Hays | Frankie Maddox |
| Tim Quinn | John Kendrick | Dcn Mike Long |
| Hazel Smith | Sue Gilbert | Natalee Amos |
| Rosemary Evans | Deanna Buckman | Jackie Ryan |
| Logan Maher | Bonnie Ess | Barbara Kendrick |
| Connie Kendrick | Nick Mudd | Michael Kellerman |
| Teresa Ritter Toland | | |

FOLLOWING GOD'S LEAD along with Donna

PSR – There are no 7-12 PSR classes today. Classes resume for 7-12 PSR on January 9, 2022. Classes resume for K-6 PSR on January 12, 2022. Students not yet enrolled in PSR are welcome to join their class in January.



Prayers for Confirmation Candidates – Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates. If you would like to pray for a specific student, there are baskets at the entries of Holy Rosary and St. Stephen Churches containing the names of our Confirmation candidates. You can choose a student to pray for during their preparation. Each basket has all the students' names and there will hopefully be 4 people supporting each student in prayer. If you wish to send them cards of encouragement, please mail cards to Holy Rosary School, 415 S. Locust, or Holy Rosary Church, 405 S. Main, and we will make sure the student receives your card. *Please be sure to put the student's name on the envelope.* If you have any questions, please contact Donna at the parish office.

RCIA Sessions – Our next session will be January 5, 2022 at 6:30 pm at Holy Rosary Church basement. Our topic will be *The Sacraments: An Introduction.*

FORMED.org – FORMED has many choices for your Christmas preparation this week. I enjoyed *Christmas in Rome: A Celebration of the Nativity* <https://watch.formed.org/videos/christmas-in-rome-a-celebration-of-the-nativity>.

The Story of the Nativity: The Truth of Christmas is also very good. <https://watch.formed.org/the-story-of-the-nativity-the-truth-of-christmas/videos/the-story-of-the-nativity-the-truth-of-christmas> For our young parishioners there is a Brother Francis story - *The Christmas Pageant that Almost Wasn't*. There are 4 downloadable coloring pages that go with the story. <https://watch.formed.org/the-christmas-pageant-that-almost-wasn-t>

Contact: Donna Long - donnalong.hrss@gmail.com or call me at the rectory at 735-4718. Office Hours: M-F, 8:00 a.m. to Noon.

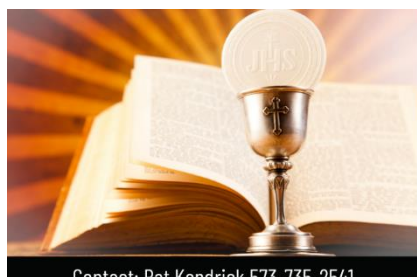
UPCOMING EVENTS

December 20 - Swinkey Rosary at Noon
 December 21 - Holy Rosary School Christmas Program 9:30 a.m.
 December 21 - Decorating the Church for Christmas 1:00 p.m.
 December 21 - Advent Penance Service at Holy Rosary 6:30 p.m.
 December 24 - Swinkey Christmas Celebration following Mass
 December 27 - Swinkey Rosary at Noon
 January 3 - Classes resume at HRS

~ DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTIONS ~

Pope Francis: "Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit."

Bishop McKnight: "For our children and youth: that the example of parents and other adults of the parish may foster a sense of openness to the Holy Spirit in their lives."



Available Adoration Hours

Sunday: 2-3pm
 Monday: 2-3am
 Tuesday: 1-2am, 2-3am, 11-noon, 3-4pm, 10-11pm, 11-midnight
 Wednesday: 1-2am, 2-3am
 Thursday: 3-4am
 Friday: 8-9pm, 9-10pm
 Saturday: 7-8am

Contact: Pat Kendrick 573-735-2541

2022



Catholic
STEWARDSHIP APPEAL

Parish Goal: \$9200
 \$ Committed: \$9650
 \$ Received: \$8240
 Goal Remaining: You did it!



SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR DECEMBER 26, 2021

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

First Reading: 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28: Hannah conceived and bore a son, Samuel, whom she presented to the Lord in the temple at Shiloh saying, "As long as he lives, he shall be dedicated to the Lord."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10: "Blessed are they, blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord."

Second Reading: 1 John 3:1-2, 21-34: God's love has been given to us so we may be called his children. And so we are. We should believe in Jesus Christ and love one another as he commanded.

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52: At age twelve, Jesus sat in the temple at Jerusalem listening to the teachers and asking them questions. He astounded everyone by his understanding and answers.

Liturgical Assignments

December 19 – 4th Sunday of Advent

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| Sacristan | Doug & Julie Orf |
| Greeter | Phil Hays |
| Rosary | Madeline Williams |
| Music | Sr. Sue Walker |
| Song Leader | Judy Irons |
| Servers | Russell Lemongelli & Kyle Hays |
| Cross Bearer | Bill Gill |
| Lector | Laura Mulvaney |
| Offertory | John Jansen |
| Communion | Beth Whelan, Phil Whelan, Dwayne Williams, |
| Ministers | Madeline Williams, Kathy Anderson |
| Counters | Danny Sims, Joe Shively |

December 24 – The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) 8:00 p.m.

There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule

December 26 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

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| Sacristan | Dwayne & Madeline Williams |
| Greeter | Matt & Jennifer Hays |
| Rosary | Glenn Bichsel |
| Music | Jan Adam & Debby Quinn |
| Song Leader | Beth Whelan |
| Servers | Skylar Mulvaney & Holden Orf |
| Cross Bearer | Chris Quinn |
| Lector | Tyson Mulvaney |
| Offertory | Ted & Judy Irons |
| Communion | Deanna Buckman, Mary Sims, Sally |
| Ministers | Lemongelli, Rose McNally, Laura Mulvaney |
| Counters | Danny Sims, Sam Smith |

December 31 – Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule

January 2 – The Epiphany of the Lord

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|--------------|------------------------------------|
| Sacristan | Doug & Julie Orf |
| Greeter | Donnie & Marie Hays |
| Rosary | Katie Foster |
| Music | Debby Quinn & Carol Mudd |
| Song Leader | Whitney Pfaff |
| Servers | Michael Spalding & Caitlin Shively |
| Cross Bearer | Chuck Wunsch |
| Lector | Nancy Shively |
| Offertory | Kody & Dahrea Karr |
| Communion | Julie Orf, Doug Orf, Marie Puroi, |
| Ministers | Nancy Shively, Amanda Spalding |
| Counters | Carol Hagan, Shane Spalding |

Ushers for December

Tom Winking, Chuck Wunsch, David Yates, Steve Yates

Ushers for January

Lee Anderson, Matt Anderson, Dan Bichsel, Glenn Bichsel

Pastoral Council: Chair - Doug Orf, V. Chair - Eric Keller, Sec - Carol Hagan, Lee Anderson, Danny Sims, Matt Hays

Finance Committee: Sec - Tom Hagan, Phil Whelan, Susan Winking, Desiree Mudd

K of C's: Grand Knight - Ed Bom, Deputy Grand Knight - Kevin Long

Altar Society Officers: Pres - Lynn Ogle, Treas - Julie Hays, Sec - Marie Puroi

Picnic Committee: Coordinator, Lee Anderson, Treas - Darin Underhill

Cemetery Committee: Pres - Joe Puroi, Treas - Marie Puroi, Dwayne Williams, Matt Hays, Shane Spalding, Dan Buckman