

December 4, 2016

## ADVENT

### Second Sunday of Advent



#### *Announcing the Coming Savior*

John the Baptist takes center stage today. John's mission is to remind us that the broken world as we know it is not the will of God. John assures us that God will soon intervene but we have to be ready if we are to be a part of what God is about to do in our midst. John wants each of us to review our lives, sifting weed from grain and then to go into the water to come out renewed and ready for what is to come. Repentance in preparation for the Lord's coming is the only way to get at the meaning of Advent.

Today's Bulletin is printed in memory of Lillie & Henry Dornak and is sponsored by their family.

#### MASS INTENTIONS

Wednesday, December 7  
8:00 a.m. Daniel Brom  
Thursday, December 8  
8:00 a.m. Grace Schoenvogel  
Friday, December 9  
8:00 a.m. Elizabeth Dierschke, Janie & Edward Hajek, James Kolar, Bynah Stallings  
Saturday, December 10  
6:30 p.m. Mary, Daniel & Albert Pavlicek  
Sunday, December 11  
6:30 a.m. Dorothy & Laddie Maresh  
9:30 a.m. Della Bujnoch

#### PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *The Third Sunday of Advent*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

**First Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10**  
**Responsorial Psalm: 146**  
**Second Reading: James 5:7-10**  
**Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11**

**Lectors & Extraordinary Ministers of Communion Meeting Today, Family Room after the 9:30 a.m. Mass.**

**The Sanctuary Light  
will be lit this week  
in memory of Lillie & Henry Dornak.**

#### 2016 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2016 Assessment ..... \$17,080.00  
Contributions So Far ..... \$15,527.00  
Amount Yet to be Contributed ..... \$ 1,553.00  
Number of Families Who Have Contributed ..... 32  
Number of Families Yet to Contribute ..... 282

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

*Anonymous Donors*  
*Annette & Jerry Fojtik*  
*Shannon & L. A. Simper*

We thank all those who have contributed towards our D.S.A. assessment so far. With your generous donations we should be able to pay off the remaining debt to the bishop before year's end. We are counting on all who have not yet contributed to the fund so far to do their part.

#### DECEMBER 8 – IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Holy Day of Obligation

*Mass Schedule*

Vigil, December 7, 5:30 p.m. Praha  
*Mass of the Day, 8 a.m., Moulton (Family Room)*

#### PREPARE!



John the Baptist is one of the models offered to us for our imitation. He announced the advent of Jesus. He himself lived a life of radical self-denial, but he did not require this of those who came to hear his message. What he preached was repentance, or change of heart, not a rejection of the circumstances of life but of the character of that life. He called for a return to righteousness, to lives of integrity, to relationships rooted in honesty and respect. He spoke against presumption and arrogant reliance on one's religious origin, against complacency and the shirking of responsibility, against disinterest in the welfare of others.

This is a powerful image in a world such as ours, where we are tempted to compromise our principles in favor of enhancing our status, where we are instructed to get what we want with the least amount of effort, where we are encouraged to disregard the needs of others and take care of "number one."

#### THE WEEK AHEAD

MON. – Gold Star Club Meets, 3:30-5:50 p.m., YMC  
WED. – Champions Club Meets, 3:30-5:30 p.m., YMC  
– Christmas Pageant Practice, 3:30-5:30 p.m.  
– **Pre-Christmas Concert for the Community. Social to follow. Parishioners are asked to bring Christmas cookies/dessert. See insert for more details.**  
THURS. – Immaculate Conception. See Mass Schedule.  
– KC Bingo, former KC Hall  
FRI. – Parish Office closed on Fridays. For any Pastoral emergency, call the Office at any time.

## REFLECTION

### The One We Await Shapes Our Waiting

In a very real sense, the gathering at the Jordan presided over by John the Baptist in today's gospel was liturgical in character. Many from the surrounding area had come to hear the Word of God as spoken by John, and to listen to its interpretation and its application to their lives. Some were baptized in preparation for hearing an even more challenging Word, soon to be among them in the person of Jesus Christ.

Within our own liturgical assembly, we hear anew the challenge of this Word of God about the necessity of conversion. It is our decision whether or not to welcome the transformative Word, but upon that choice will hang our effectiveness as witnesses to the coming Kingdom of God.

John was a witness to that Kingdom par excellence. He reminded his hearers that repentance would lead to membership in the coming Kingdom, while a failure to repent would reap judgment.

The repentance that will best welcome the One who comes to save us consists in a radical surrender to Jesus Christ in all our living.

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- Dec. 4 - Jean Bochat, Christina Darilek  
Dec. 5 - Aaron Chudej, Linda Pilat  
Dec. 6 - Ann Hrncir, Lisa Klimitchek, Betty Kloesel, Cathy Perez, Jayden Raabe  
Dec. 7 - Melanie Mikulencak, Eugene Schoenvogel  
Dec. 8 - Mitchell Blaschke  
Dec. 9 - Marian Darilek, Harvey Kloesel, Ryan Koncaba, Sheridyn Nieto  
Dec. 10 - Dale Fojtik, James Freytag, Eli Rother

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- Dec. 8 - Delores & David Raab  
Dec. 10 - Cleo & Leroy Nieto

### YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

- Today** - Altar Server Commissioning; C.C.D.  
**Dec. 5** - After School Program, K - 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
**Dec. 7** - After School Program, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> Grades  
- Christmas Pageant Practice  
- 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> C.C.D.  
**Next Sunday** - Youth Mass (6<sup>th</sup> Grade), Confirmation Enrollment, Breakfast With Santa  
**Dec. 18 & 25** - No C.C.D. (Christmas Holidays)

#### Christmas Pageant Practice Schedule

- Dec. 7** - 3:30-5:30 p.m.      **Dec. 14** - 3:30-5:30 p.m.  
**Dec. 23** - Dress Rehearsal 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Parent helpers are asked to attend the practices is possible.  
Parent helpers must attend the Dress Rehearsal.

## SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

### Retired Fund for Religious

The annual appeal for Retired Religious raises funds for aged nuns who served ministering to the needs of others for many years. The Incarnate Word Sisters taught in St. Joseph's Catholic School here in Moulton for free for many years and after the school closed they continued to serve by teaching C.C.D. They need your help now. *Be generous.*

## ADVENT/CHRISTMAS BULLETIN BOARD



- Today - K.J.Z.T. #14 members decorate the Christmas Tree**  
**Dec. 7 - Christmas Pageant Practice**  
- Pre-Christmas Concert / Social  
**Dec. 11 - Breakfast with Santa**  
**Dec. 12 - Altar Society Christmas Luncheon**  
**Dec. 13 - CDA to deliver cookies to the homebound**  
**Dec. 14 - Christmas Pageant Practice**  
**Dec. 15 - Parish Penance Service, Moulton**  
**Dec. 21 - Parish Penance Service, Praha**  
- KC/CDA Christmas Party  
**Dec. 23 - Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal**  
**Dec. 24 & 25 - Annual Christmas Collection for the Poor and Needy**

### Christmas Altar Flowers Needed

You are encouraged to make a donation.  
Extra Christmas Flower envelopes are available in church.

### Christmas Cookies For The Homebound

CDA members are asked to bring their cookies (marked with their name/CDA cookies) to Family Room. The cookies will be packaged and delivered December 13.

### Youth Choir For Christmas Eve Mass

Come sing at the Pageant and Mass.

### Altar Society News

**Christmas Luncheon** following a brief meeting regarding the Noodle Soup Dinner. Luncheon will be potluck. Members are asked to bring a dish, salad or dessert. We invite everyone to come join the group for an afternoon of holiday festivities.

**Need a great stocking stuffer? St. Joseph's Altar Society Raffle Tickets for sale.**

### Praha Cookbooks For Sale At the Parish Office

They make great Christmas Gifts. Proceeds from the sale go to the St. Mary's Praha Restoration Fund.

### Bulletin Inserts

**Advent / Christmas Schedule**  
**Pre-Christmas Concert at St. Joseph's**