



The Virgin shall be with child and give birth to a son, and they shall call him

EMMANUEL...

Saturday, December 22:

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 23

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

Monday, December 24: Vigil of Christmas

2 Sm 7: 1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16, Lk 1: 67-79

4:00 p.m. Children's Mass

8:00 p.m. Mass

Tuesday, December 25: Nativity of the Lord

Is 52: 7-10, Heb 1: 1-6, Jn 1: 1-18

10:00 a.m. Mass

Wednesday, December 26: Stephen, First Martyr

Acts 6: 8-10, 7: 54-59, Mt 10: 17-22

No Mass today

Thursday, December 27: John, Apostle, Evangelist

1 Jn 1: 1-4, Jn 20: 1a and 2-8

No Mass today

Friday, December 28: Holy Innocents, martyrs

1 Jn 1: 5-2: 2, Mt 2: 13-18

No Mass today

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Sir 3: 2-7, 12-14, Col 3: 12-21, Mt 2: 13-15, 19-23

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29:

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 30:

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS

We appreciate the beautiful flowers that adorn our altar and Church this Christmas, given through the generosity of Joni Hall & family in memory of husband, father, grandfather, Jack. Also, flower arrangements have been given by the Young family, in memory of Carol Jankowski. Thank you for sharing this special time with your parish family.

TAX CONTRIBUTIONS

Your Church contributions may be tax deductible. If you wish to have a copy of your contributions mailed to you, to be used in preparing your income tax returns for 2007, please call the office @ 673-2346. Please make your request known by January 28, so we can have your tax information by the end of January.

WORKERS APPRECIATED

We appreciate those of our Church family who graciously helped work at the funeral of Mary DeNoyelles: Sharon Vandebossche, Merc Boylan, Barb Tetil, Jane Romain, Clara Ackerman. May God bless you for your kindness.

Christmas Blessings

Fr. Dennis and the staff of Sacred Heart wish all of you a very happy and holy Christmas season.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 & 30

LECTORS:

5:00 p.m. Richard Emery

9:00 a.m. Becky Learman

11:00 a.m. Wally Kent

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:

5:00 p.m. Mary Ann Vandemark*

J.R. Vandemark, Mary Knoll

Chris Taylor, Karen Cody

9:00 a.m. Bob Chisholm*

Pat Chisholm, Richard Bertrand

Carol Papp, Joan Smith

11:00 a.m. Carol Starling*

Lee Starling, Sharon Vandebossch

Jerry & Sue Lasceski

ALTAR SERVERS:

5:00 p.m. Andrew Rollend, Alex Rollend

9:00 a.m. Evan Smith, Michael Bednarski

11:00 a.m. Ann Starling, Crystal Messing

GREETERS:

5:00 p.m. Mandy Knox, Eva Rodriguez, Marge Biebel, Volunteer

9:00 a.m. Joan Smith, Daniella Babcock, Norma, Bob Berry, Gloria Orban

11:00 a.m. Lee, Carol Starling Family, Al, Kim Wasik, Cindy Jackson

USHERS FOR DECEMBER:

5:00 p.m. Kyle Nordstrom*, John Merz
Dick & Dolly Emery

9:00 a.m. Bob DeLorenzo*, Robert Kamrad
Joe Greene, Mike Greene

11:00 a.m. Joe Fessler*, John Kopko
Chris Taylor, Pete O'Brien

JESUS IS 'OUR HOPE AGAINST HOPE'

In those last days, he spoke to us through a son...who is the refulgence of his glory, the very imprint of his being. (Hebrews 1:2-3)

He is the Son of God and Son of Man, he is the running water for which we yearn. He is the servant, the Lamb, the suffering Messiah, salve for our wounds. He is the helpless child under the night sky, and he is the ruler of the cosmos. He is the prophet, the poet, the proclaimer of God's Kingdom; he is the agitator, the troublemaker, the one who annoys everybody. He is food for a world that is starving, and he is light for a world that has wandered from the straight path...Like finest wine, he is intoxication; like best of bread, he fills up. Through the locked doors of our despair, he passes effortlessly, and across the roiled seas of our fear he walks. He is the transfiguration of our frail humanity and he is the manifestation of God's frail divinity. He is the heartbroken God who heals the heartbreak of humankind. Jesus of Nazareth is the coming-together for which we have longed since Eden, the embrace of God's relentless love and our hope against hope. (From Living Faith)

THANK YOU

We wish to thank all those who bought wreaths from the Homeless Coalition during our recent "Advent Celebration". These donations are a great help to those facing homelessness in our community.

MORE THANKS

Christian Service wishes to thank everyone who purchased poinsettias during our "Advent Celebration" sale. Special thanks to Mary Gettel, Sue Lasceski and the volunteers who helped make this project a success. The

money received will be used for our high school scholarship fund.

OUR PARISH SUPPORT

Our Weekly Need.....\$5800.00
 Last Weekend..... \$5754.47
 482 Envelope Holders- 223 Envelopes Used Last Weekend



From the Pastor's Desk

As you read this letter I extend to you and your family a very joyous and Merry Christmas. It is incredible that Christmas is already here. All the planning, decorating, and preparation that has taken place culminates in the celebration of this special feast.

I say this is a special feast because the heart of Christmas is the welcoming of Jesus Christ, our Savior, into our lives and world. What a celebration and miracle this is-that God loves His people so much that He would send to us His only Son. Over the years I have read some very moving verses on Christmas cards and have heard many slogans associated with Christmas, but the verse that sticks in my mind most is "Christ is the reason for the season". This is very true. We may have witnessed our society moving toward the commercial and material aspects of Christmas, but what we should really be remembering and celebrating is the spiritual nature of this season.

We witness this spiritual aspect of the season when we see people taking on a "more generous" spirit. You and I have seen this. During the month that leads up to Christmas there is a different attitude among people. They are, for the most part, in a different mood. A mood that brings out very giving and caring qualities.

During this season we have also witnessed the increase in giving to the poor and needy. Many families have given gifts for our "Giving Tree". We must not overlook the fact that our community and some very generous people have spent many hours seeing to it that needy children, families and individuals have a special Christmas. They have been serviced with clothes, toys and food. These presents will truly help them to have a brighter Christmas. We are very grateful for this outpouring, showing the goodness within us.

Christmas is a time for both giving and receiving. It is a special time of the year when we are invited to open ourselves to the many possibilities that come our way. It is a time when we are invited to open ourselves to the many possibilities that come our way. It is a time when we give of ourselves in a more "selfless" way to those around us. This could be through a gift, a generous attitude, or words of caring and support.

I truly hope that you have a very happy Christmas. May the Lord bless you in many ways.

In Christ's Peace,
 Fr. Dennis.

REMINDER

Please be reminded that during the winter season when the Caro schools are closed due to inclement weather, all Parish Center activities and Faith Formation classes will also be cancelled for the day, as well as weekday Mass.

OLD TOWELS NEEDED

We are in need of old towels to be used for rags in cleaning our Church and Parish Center. If you have some you would like to donate for this use, please drop them off at the Parish Center. It will be appreciated.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY ACCORDING TO LUKE

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem...To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord, And this shall be a sign unto you; You shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, good will toward men. (Luke 2:4-14)

†FAITH FORMATION NEWS†

Dec. 23-Jan. 6- No Faith Formation classes

Dec. 29-Movie Night at the Rectory 6:30 p.m.

Jan. 7-Faith Formation classes resume

DISCIPLES IN ACTION-Thank you to all of the parishioners who supported the Faith Formation disciples by attending the after-Mass cookie social. Despite the snowy weather, we had an excellent turnout! Thank you for taking the time to enjoy a cup of coffee and cookie with your church family. ☺

THE FAITH FORMATION DISCIPLES have collected pennies for the past 3 weeks to raise money for their Advent service project. The money collected will be used to purchase items for the Assault Crisis Center. The disciples collected an amazing amount of pennies, a little over **\$350.00 worth of pennies!** Way to go disciples!

SKI TRIP UPDATE: Money and forms for youth who plan on participating in the ski trip must be **turned in by 3:00 p.m. on January 15th**. Call Ann @ 673-2276 with any questions.



"CIRCLE OF STRENGTH" is meeting on Monday's from 6:15-7:30 in the Parish Center. Join us as we read Sunday by Sunday and reflect on the upcoming Sunday readings and how they relate to our own lives. The cost is FREE, the learning and growth you will attain are priceless!

MOVIE NIGHT-Join us in the rectory basement on Dec. 29th to watch the movie "The Nativity Story". This film is rated PG. We will order pizza, watch the movie and allow time for discussion. All ages are welcome to attend. Please call the parish center (673-2276) to say you will attend!

MORE LIKE HIM

May each Christmas as it comes, find us more like Him who became a child for our sake:

More simple, more humble, more affectionate, more happy, more full of God. (John Cardinal Newman)