



Saturday, December 20

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 21:

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

Monday, December 22: Late Advent Weekday

1 Sm 1: 24-28, Lk 1: 46-56

No Mass today

Tuesday, December 23: Late Advent Weekday, John of

Kanty priest

Mal 3: 1-4, 23-24, Lk 1: 57-66

No Mass today

Wednesday, December 24: Vigil of Christmas

Is 62: 1-5, Acts 13: 16-17, 22-25, Mt 1: 25

4:00 pm Children's Mass

8:00 pm Mass

Thursday, December 25: Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

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

10:00 a.m. Mass

Friday, December 26: Stephen, first martyr

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

No Mass Today

HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH

Gn 15: 1-6, 21: 1-3, Hb 11: 8, 11-12, 17-19, Lk 2: 22-40

Saturday, December 27:

5:00 p.m. Mass

Sunday, December 28:

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

PRIVATE CONFESSION

If you would like to receive the sacrament of Penance privately, just call (673-2346) or come to the Rectory. Fr. Dennis would be happy to celebrate the sacrament with you.

NEWLY BAPTIZED

We are happy to welcome into our Catholic faith community, Brooklyn Renee Tomaszewski who was baptized at Sacred Heart recently. May the Light of the Lord always be her guide.

IT'S TIME FOR HOCKEY!

Our parish is once again offering tickets for a Saginaw Spirit/Plymouth Whalers Hockey game. This is fun for people of all ages. **When:** Friday, Jan. 2nd, **Time:** 7:11 pm **Where:** Dow Event Center, Saginaw. **Why:** To gather as a community of faith. **How:** We provide tickets, and you provide transportation. **Cost:** \$8.50 per ticket. Checks payable to Sacred Heart. Tickets - Call Karen @ 673-2276.

RETIREMENT FUND

We appreciate your generosity from last week's Religious Retirement collection. The amount received was \$2098.50.

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 2008, please call the office @ 673-2346. Please make your request known by Jan. 28, so we can have your tax info by the end of January.



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

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 & 28

LECTORS:

5:00 p.m. Eleanor Razmus
9:00 a.m. Mario D'Addezio
11:00 a.m. Mary Ann Szpunar

MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:

5:00 p.m. Mary Ann Vandemark*
J.R. Vandemark, Karen Cody
Denise Burkey, Theresa Burkey
9:00 a.m. Rose Putnam*
Art & Carolyn Graff
Norm & Jan Daniels
11:00 a.m. Dolly Aymer*
Rita Papp, Chris Creguer
Lee & Carol Starling

ALTAR SERVERS:

5:00 p.m. Andrew Rollend, Alex Rollend
9:00 a.m. Liz Schlaud, Aradia Bristol
11:00 a.m. Nicole Quick, Courtney Furst

GREETERS:

5:00 p.m. Onna Lee LaPratt, Mark, Lynn Petiprin,
Margaret Cockerill, Cheree Szidik
9:00 a.m. Joan Smith, Cal, Joanne Richardson,
Daniella Babcock, Gloria Orban
11:00 a.m. Lee Starling Family, Al, Kim Wasik, Cindy
Jackson, Linda Strasz

USHERS FOR DECEMBER:

5:00 p.m. John Merz*, Dave Luebbert
Kyle Kausch, Logan Kausch
9:00 a.m. Kris Ball*, Dick Bertrand
Tom Braun, Bob DeLorenzo
11:00 a.m. Vic Guzman*, Jon Findlay
Chris Taylor, Doug Prosser

CHURCH DECORATING



If anyone would like to help decorate and make our church beautiful for Christmas, please join us Monday, Dec 22, 10:00

am

BEFRIENDER PROGRAM

Our Befriender Ministry of visiting and listening is active and available to anyone in the parish who needs a kind ear and a caring presence. As the holidays can bring on added stress and difficult memories, remember there is someone who can listen and that you are not alone. For a visit from a Befriender please call Ginny at the parish office 673-2346.

OUR SYMPATHY

Our prayers and sympathy to the family of John (Jack) Cole who was buried from Sacred Heart recently. May he know the abundant love of Jesus as he enters eternal life.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

For your listening pleasure—the Men's Choir will begin singing their beautiful Christmas music before the Christmas Eve Mass @ 7:30 p.m. The Mass will begin @ 8:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Saturday, Dec. 20 @ 5:00 pm-4th Sunday of Advent Mass
Sunday, Dec. 21 @ 9:00 & 11:00 am-4th Sunday of Advent
Wed. Dec. 24 @ 4:00 pm-Children's Mass
Wed. Dec. 24 @ 8:00 pm-Vigil of Christmas Mass
Thurs. Dec. 25 @ 10:00 am-Christmas Mass

PARISH SUPPORT

Our weekly need.....\$5800.00
 Last Weekend.....\$5329.00
 476 Envelope Holders...208 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 to 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 with 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 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.

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.

†**FAITH FORMATION NEWS**†

- Dec. 20/21-After Mass Cookie and Coffee social
- Dec. 21-No Sunday classes
- Dec. 22-Christmas Break
- Jan. 2-Spirit Hockey Game
- Jan. 5-Faith Formation classes resume
- Jan. 7-Sacramental meeting 6:30
- Jan. 11-Confirmation Inscription Service 9:00 Mass
- Jan. 11-High School youth group meets 12:00 noon
- Jan. 14-After School social 3:30-5:00
- Jan. 17-Jesus Experience Day 10:00 a.m.
- Jan 18-Confirmation @ 9:00 a.m. Mass
- Jan. 18-High School youth group meets 12:00 noon
- Jan. 21-24 March for Life Washington D.C.

SWEATSHIRTS-Sacred Heart sweatshirts are for sale in the Parish Center. We have a variety of sizes and colors to choose from. Cost is \$20.00 each.

Sunday By Sunday meets on Mondays @ 6:15. This is an informal gathering and a fun group to be part of. Join us as we read and discuss the upcoming Sunday readings.
 Info: Lynne Petiprin @ 673-3795.



THE BIRTH OF JESUS

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock. The angel of the Lord appeared to them and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were struck with great fear. The angel said to them, " Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Messiah and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God and saying" Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." (Luke 2: 1-14)

CHRISTMAS EVE-4:00 MASS –CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Our Children's Christmas liturgy will take place at the **4:00 Christmas Eve Mass**. There will be songs for the **PRE-SCHOOLERS, KINDERGARTENERS, FIRST AND SECOND GRADERS** to sing before Mass. **ALL THIRD THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS** are invited to sing with the Children's Choir **during** the Mass.

PRACTICE TIMES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS:

Pre-school/Kindergarten on Dec. 23, 9:30-10

1st & 2nd Grade on Dec. 23, 9:45-10:15

Third-Eighth Grade:Tues. Dec. 23, 10:00-11:00

Parents needed to help with Pre-school-2nd graders.

Call Mary Gettel @ 673-8281 for more info.