

**Saturday, December 12:**

5:00 p.m. Service in Absence of Priest

**Sunday, December 13:**

9:00 a.m. Mass (K/C Corporate Communion)

11:00 a.m. Mass

**Monday, December 14: John of the Cross, priest & doctor**

Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a, Mt 21:23-27

No Mass today

**Tuesday, Dec. 15: Advent Weekday**

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13, Mt 21:28-32

No Mass today

**Wednesday, December 16: Advent Weekday**

Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25

8:30 a.m. Mass

**Thursday, December 17: Late Advent Weekday**

Gn 49:2, 8-10, Mt 1:1-17

8:30 a.m. Mass

**Friday, December 18: Late Advent Weekday**

Jer 23:5-8, Mt 1:18-25

8:30 a.m. Mass

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Mt 5:1-4a, Heb 10:5-10, Lk 1:39-45

**Saturday, December 19:**

5:00 p.m. Mass

**Sunday, December 20:**

9:00 a.m. Mass

11:00 a.m. Mass

**FOOD FOR THE NEEDY**

Once again the baskets will be at the entrances of the church next weekend to receive your donations of non-perishable food for the less fortunate. Thank you for all you do to help our brothers and sisters in Christ who are in need.

**K/C LADIES AUXILIARY REMINDER**

Our Christmas party will be held this Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> starting @ 6:00 pm. If you wish to attend, but have not yet responded, please call Carol Papp (673-8002) ASAP. Also, please note there will be a gift exchange (\$8-\$10.00) and a raffle if you wish to bring a wrapped gift for that. (Carol Papp, President K/C Auxiliary)

**ADVENT EVENING PRAYER SERVICES**

Sacred Heart will celebrate evenings of prayer and song on December 20, 21, 22 @ 6:00 pm. Mariann Saenen will lead these short, but inspiring celebrations with music by Janet Markham. Please plan to attend as we await the coming of Jesus, our Savior.

**K/C SENIORS**

Our Christmas party will be held Monday, Dec. 21 @ noon at the K/C Hall. We will be serving meat with our usual potluck luncheon. If you wish to participate in the gift exchange, you may bring a \$5.00 gift to pass. Please mark it "man" or "woman". Reservations are not required, so join us in celebrating the Christmas season! Also keep in mind this will be our last get-together until spring. No meetings in Jan., Feb., March. See you in April! (Sharon, Secretary)

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19 & 20****LECTORS:**

5:00 p.m. Eleanor Razmus

9:00 a.m. Diane Reed

11:00 a.m. Wally Kent

**MINISTERS OF THE EUCHARIST:**

5:00 p.m. Dave Klebba\*

Donna Klebba, Mary Knoll

Irv &amp; Ginny DeRoche

9:00 a.m. Norm Daniels\*

Jan Daniels, Angie Campbell

Art &amp; Carolyn Graff

11:00 a.m. Char Bauerschmidt\*

Dolly Aymer, Chris Creguer

Rita Papp, Jenny Sabo

**ALTAR SERVERS:**

5:00 p.m. Jared Burkey, Jerzy Kolanowski

9:00 a.m. Liz Schlaud, Fischer Smith

11:00 a.m. Crystal Messing, Courtney Furst

**GREETERS:**

5:00 p.m. Marge Biebel, Michelle, Brittney, Nicole Quick, Mandy Knox, Dale &amp; Patty Churchill

9:00 a.m. Cal &amp; Joanne Richardson, Mario

D'Addezio, Jeff, Tammy Foor Family,

Richard, Barb Tetil

11:00 a.m. Pat Gettel, Bernard Lenda, Irene Aymer, LaBerge Family

**USHERS FOR DECEMBER:**

5:00 p.m. Dave Kolacz\*, Kevin Kausch

Kyle Kausch, Logan Kausch

9:00 a.m. John Papp Jr.\*, Charles Pistro

Bob Kamrad, Floyd Echols

11:00 a.m. John Kopko\*, Vic Guzman,

Chris Taylor, Mark Ransford

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE****Tues. Dec. 15 @ 12:00 noon-Communal Penance****Thurs. Dec. 17 @ 7:00 pm-Communal Penance****Sat. Dec. 19 @ 5:00 pm-4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent Mass****Sun. Dec. 20 @ 9:00 & 11:00 am-4<sup>th</sup> Sun. of Advent****Thurs. Dec. 24 @ 4:00 pm-Children's Mass****Thurs. Dec. 24 @ 7:00 pm-Vigil of Christmas Mass****Friday, Dec. 25 @ 10:00 am-Christmas Mass****THANK YOU FROM THE K/C AUXILIARY**

The K/C Ladies Auxiliary wish to thank all those who helped with our fund raiser by purchasing pumpkin rolls and pies for their Thanksgiving dinners. We hope everyone enjoyed them as much as we enjoyed making them. (Carol Papp, President K/C Auxiliary)

**NEW PARISH COUNCIL MEMBER**

We are happy to welcome Bonnie Braun to our Sacred Heart Parish Council. Bonnie will replace Adam Rodriguez as our new member. Our appreciation to Adam for his wisdom and advice during his term on the Parish Council. God bless you both.

**THE GREATEST GIFT**

This year-and every year-we reenact the arrival of a helpless baby, Jesus the Messiah, the only Son of God. There is a present under the tree for us: a babe wrapped in a blanket with the tag "To (*your name*) with *all* my love, God," a concept so enormous, so unconditional it must surely engulf us like a tidal wave. This year, in all the hubbub of Christmas Day, take a few quiet moments; heart filled with the gift of Jesus, to say, "Thanks, God. That was exactly what I wanted!" (From Living Faith)

**PARISH SUPPORT**

Weekly Need.....	\$6800.00
Last Weekend.....	\$7477.51
478 Envelope Holders.....	262 used last weekend.

**FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

**HAPPY ADVENT**-We are beginning the third week of Advent and once again I hope you are doing "something special" to make this Advent Season a time of prayerful watching and waiting for the coming of the Lord at Christmas and His Second Coming. I also hope the "Little Blue Books" are giving you an opportunity to pray at least six minutes a day. Throughout the four weeks of Advent you are invited to "prepare" the way for the Lord. Our preparations may be accomplished in many ways. One way in which we prepare for the Lord is to reflect upon our lives, behavior, values, motives and relationships with one another. We may also celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation. We will celebrate **COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION on Tuesday, Dec. 15 @ 12:00 noon and Thursday, Dec. 17 @ 7:00 pm.**

**CHRISTMAS COLLECTION**-There has been the tradition over the years in our diocese that the Christmas collection was intended for the Diocese of Saginaw Priests' Retirement Fund. Each year you have been very generous with your contributions of this collection. On behalf of all priests of the diocese I thank you for your support and generosity. Over the past couple of years the diocese has changed its practice concerning the Christmas collection. This change was spelled out in a directive which states: The practice of using the Christmas collection as a source of funding for the priests' retirement has worked well in many respects the past 20 years. However, there have been continuing questions regarding time, fairness among parishes and stewardship from following this practice. Therefore, the Diocesan Finance Council asked the Clergy Benefit Society to study the issue of funding and consider possible alternatives for funding the retirement fund. After seeking the input of priests and with their support the following change was approved:

1. The Christmas collection will remain in the parish.
2. Each person served by a diocesan priest as pastor will be billed for retirement funds based upon: a) the needed contribution to the fund as determined by our annual actuarial study, and b.) the number of envelope holders in each parish.

All this means is the Christmas collection will remain in the parish. The parish has been billed its yearly assessment. The amount of this assessment is \$9880.50. In the coming years more and more priests will become dependent upon these retirement benefits as they retire from ministry (including myself). Thus, your ongoing support and generosity is important and necessary. As you give to the Christmas collection, your support will help the parish of Sacred Heart to pay its yearly Priests' Retirement Assessment.

In Christ's Peace,  
Fr. Dennis

**GIVING TREE**



During the weeks of Advent we will once again celebrate the GIVING TREE here at Sacred Heart. Each parish family is asked to take one ornament from the tree. You are asked to purchase what is requested (many not more than a few dollars) and wrap it. Be sure to label the gift well regarding its contents, or attach the ornament from the Giving Tree.

Place the gift under the Giving Tree ASAP this week. (Human Development needs time to distribute the gifts). During this time of gift giving we remember that JESUS is the most important gift of the season.

**†FAITH FORMATION NEWS†**

- Dec. 13**-Middle School shopping trip
- Dec.15**-S.P.R.E.D. Advent Party 6:00 p.m.
- Dec. 16**-After school social 3:30-5:00
- Dec. 19/20**-Coffee and cookie social after Mass
- Dec. 22-Jan. 3**-No Faith Formation activities
- Jan. 4**-Faith Formation classes resume
- Jan. 10**-Inscription Service @ 9:00 Mass
- Jan. 10**-No 7/8 grade class today
- Jan. 13**-Sacramental meeting @ 6:30

**Thank you** to all who supported the youth by attending the soup supper or breakfast this past weekend. We truly appreciate your generosity in helping us fund our trip to Washington D.C. for the March For Life.

**SUNDAY-BY-SUNDAY** meets each Monday, 6:15-7:30 pm in the Parish Center. Join us as we meet to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday readings in an informal way!



**HERE COMES SANTA CLAUS**



The Caro Knights of Columbus will be hosting a Children's Christmas Party this Sunday, December 13 @ 1:00 pm. There will be movies, craft projects, lunch and a visit with Santa. All children 12 and under from Sacred Heart and from the K/C family are invited.

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



Practice times will be as follows:  
**Pre-sch/Kdg on Dec. 12, 9:30-10:00, Dec. 19 and 23, 9:30-10:00**  
**1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade on Dec. 12, 9:45-10:15, Dec. 19, and 23, 9:45-10:15**

Parents are needed to help with pre-school-second graders.  
**Third-Eighth Grade: Thursday, Dec. 3, 3:30-4:30, Thursday, Dec. 10, 3:30-4:30. Thursday, Dec. 17, 3:30-4:30**

**Wednesday, Dec. 23, 10:00-11:00**

Call Mary Gettel 673-8281 for info or if you can help.

**ADVENT CELEBRATION A SUCCESS**

Thank you to the many parishioners who attended the Advent Celebration. The K/C Auxiliary, High School Youth, Middle School Youth, Christian Service, and Mike & Cindy Parker with Artigiano Cheese-thank you for your support. Also, the High School youth wish to thank John & Rita Papp, Theresa Gilbert, Rick Reinelt & Carl Bednarski for their help with the breakfast. We were blessed with excellent spirit and generosity.