

St. Mary Help of Christians Church

24588 County Road 7, St. Augusta, MN 56301

December 27, 2015



Feast of the Holy Family



PARISH: 320-252-1799
SCHOOL: 320-251-3937
WEBSITE: www.SMHOC.org

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Jose Edayadiyil, *Pastor*
Ken Roshka, *Deacon*
Kelly Kirks, *Principal*
Shelly Gohmann, *Secretary*
Jan Minke,
Faith Formation Director
Deb Klaverkamp,
Youth Coordinator
Kathy Waletzko,
Music Director

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 am
Tuesday 6:00 pm
Wed. Thurs. Fri 8:00 am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday - 4:00-4:30pm
(New Sacristy) or by
appointment

NEW PARISHIONERS

Call the parish office for
more information.

RCIA "RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS"

Anyone interested in
becoming a member of
the Catholic Faith call
the Parish Office.

BAPTISM PREP CLASS

February 8, 2016 at
7:00pm. Call the Parish
Office to register.

MARRIAGE PREP

Arrangements must be
made at least 6 months
before wedding. Call
the Parish Office.

MISSION STATEMENT

*We, the people of St
Mary Help of
Christians Parish,
are called to love and
serve the Lord through
our lives.*

*Established in 1856, the
church is the
cornerstone around
which we have built our
community of faith.*

*We encourage all to
participate through
worship, education, and
sharing of their gifts
and talents.*

*With the strength of
our families, the
optimism of our youth,
and the wisdom of our
seniors, we strive to be
advocates of the
"Good News"
as we continue to grow
and change.*

Dec. 27, 2015 – Holy Family- 1 Samuel 1: 20-22, 24-28, 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24, Lk 2:41-52

Today we celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. The survival of human cultures and civilizations depends on families. A human being can become fully human only in company with other persons. Vat II speaks of the family as the domestic Church. The family is the first Church and without families there is no Church. The recently concluded Synod on Families underlines the fundamental role of the families in the church.

Modern cultures place such a high value on individualism that it may be hard for us to understand the role of the family in Jesus' time. In the Judaism of Jesus' time, there was a strong bond between families and individuals - everyone is depended on his or her family, and the family depended on every member – there was a mutual give and take.

Our families are very important in our lives. At times it is much easier to spend our time with our friends or with televisions and computers, or even with our work, than it is to give quality time to our families. It is in our family that largely makes us what we are. It is in family that we first learn to be human, to be caring, to appreciate and to be grateful. It is in family that we first learn to love, to give, and to serve.

A little boy greets his father as he returns from work with a question: "Daddy, how much do you make an hour?" The father is surprised and says: "Look, son, not even your mother knows. Don't bother me now, I'm tired." "But Daddy, just tell me please! How much do you make an hour?" the boy insists. The father finally gives up and replies: "Fifty dollars." "Okay, Daddy," the boy continues, "Could you loan me ten dollars?" The father yells at him: "So that was the reason you asked how much I make, right? Now, go to sleep and don't bother me anymore!" At night the father thinks over what he said and starts feeling guilty. Maybe his son needed to buy something. Finally, he goes to his son's room. "Are you asleep, son?" asks the father. "No, Daddy. Why?" replies the boy. "Here's the money you asked for earlier," the father said. "Thanks, Daddy!" replies the boy and receives the money. Then he reaches under his pillow and brings out some more money. "Now I have enough! Now I have fifty dollars!" says the boy to his father, "Daddy, could you sell me one hour of your time?"!!!! Are we so busy in our life that we ignore the basic priorities of life?

We may take things for granted. Perhaps we ignore and don't always appreciate our commitment to the family, the obligation of each one of us towards the good of the family. But what would our families be like if we didn't share the work, if we didn't listen to each other and share our life away from home, if we didn't enjoy and support each other.

Of parents it is said: *There are two gifts they have to give their children; one of them is birth, and the other is wings.* This means that the final test of parenting is teaching the off-spring to leave the nest, *giving them wings to fly*, to make the children mature. A family must give a child the vision and direction of life. Parenting is measured by how successfully the family launches the child into life. ~Fr. Jose~

Mass Intentions

- 28 Monday - No Mass
- 29 Tuesday 6:00 pm +Rita Witte
- 30 Wednesday 8:00 am +Steve & +Shirley Kirchner
- 31 Thursday 8:00 am +Jackie Ziegmeier
- Jan. 1 Friday ***Holy Day***
 - 8:00 am +Marlys Bischman
 - 6:00pm +Erwin Terwey
- 2 Saturday 5:00 pm Parishioners
- 3 Sunday 8:00 am Christian Women
 - 10:00 am +Charlie Schmidt

Readings for This Sunday, December 27

- 1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28
- 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24
- Luke 2:41-52

Readings for New Year's Day, January 1

- Numbers 6:22-27
- Galatian 4:4-7
- Luke 2:16-21

Readings for Next Sunday, January 3

- Isaiah 60:1-6
- Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
- Matthew 2:1-12

Ushers/Greeters - Month of December

- 5:00pm Joe Voigt & David Meyer
- 8:00am Adrian & Judy Ethen
- 10:00am Al Hiemenz & Kevin Voigt

Ushers/Greeters - Month of January

- 5:00pm Richard & Joan Jendro
- 8:00am Jerry & Karen Powell
- 10:00am Jim Schmidt & Bruce Braun

Servers This Weekend, Dec. 26th & 27th

- 5:00 pm Jack Mueller & Brady Kenning
- 8:00 am Nevin Bloom & Victoria Schill
- 10:00 am Maya Walls & Seth Walls

Servers New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2016

- 8:00am Julia Massmann & Jack Massmann
- 6:00pm Bryce Knapek & Julia Knapek

Servers Next Weekend, Jan. 2nd & Jan. 3rd

- 5:00 pm Brooke Wilson & Kendra Wilson
- 8:00 am Trey Toenjes & Truman Toenjes
- 10:00 am Everett Yarde & Thatcher Yarde

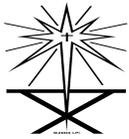


Nursery Next Sunday,
January 3rd:
Amy Spielmann & Abby





Tuesday, December 29
 Quilting
Thursday, December 31
 Nocturnal Adoration
Friday, January 1 - New Year's Day
 Mass at 8:00am & 6:00pm
Next Sunday, January 3
 9:00am - 1st Eucharist Parent Meeting



Greetings from SMHOCS...

The students and staff will be on Christmas break until Monday, January 4th. The school office will also be closed during this time. Tuition may be dropped off at the

Parish Office during Christmas break.

Our first student assisted liturgy of 2016 will be on Thurs., January 7th at 8:00 a.m. The students in grade two will be assisting with the music and readings. Please come and celebrate the Eucharist with the school community.

*New Year's Blessings to all of you –
 Kelly Kirks, Principal*



Baptism Congratulations to:

Rhett David son of Matthew & Breana Seifermann

Aiden Joseph son of Nicholas & Tammy Schmidt



Office Holiday Hours:

The Parish Office will be closed Thurs., Dec. 31; and Fri., Jan. 1, 2016.

Thank you to all the cast, crew, volunteers, and Fr. Jose for your work on our production of "Bah Humbug!" this past weekend. To borrow a phrase from the show...

"God Bless Us Everyone!"



Faith Formation: Jan Minke
No Faith Formation classes this week: Christmas break!

2nd year Confirmation students should be meeting with their sponsors and having the discussions found in the sponsor guide beginning on page 27.

Parents of 2nd year Confirmation students – The parent guides also have discussion questions for you and your child. I hope you have been keeping up with those. If not Christmas break is a great time to get caught up with them. Please talk with your child about their Spirit and Service Projects – the next due date is Jan. 1st!

Important Parent Meeting for 1st Eucharist –

The meeting for parents of all 2nd graders is scheduled for Sunday, Jan. 3rd after the 8:00 Mass in the Parish center. Please consider your 1st and 2nd choices in Mass times for celebrating your child's 1st Holy Communion. You will receive materials and information at that time.

May you and your families find joy in Christ's mercy throughout the new year!!!



Youth Group - Deb Klaverkamp

Our youth and young adults are truly a blessing and a gift to our community. Look around at mass and thank the young people you see there. Watch them as they participate and share their gifts. Encourage them to continue. Thank them for being there. The youth are not the future of our Church - they are very much our Church today just as we all are! I want to say thank you to the many youth of our parish who have shared their faith and their lives with me this past year. You guys amaze me, you challenge me, you make me smile! Thank you for who you are and living your faith!

Thank you: to everyone who helped minister in any way at our Christmas celebrations. Thank you also to the choirs, musicians, soloists and all those who provided the beautiful music at all our Christmas Masses. Special thanks to those who helped with setting up the manger scene and the Art & Environment Committee who decorated the church so beautifully for our Christmas season. May God bless all of you who are so willing to share of your time and talents with our parish community.

Youth Envelopes for 2016 - Please pick up in the entryway in the church. If your child attends Cathedral, is home schooled and did not receive envelopes, and they wish to receive envelopes, please contact the parish office.

\$10,000 Raffle: Tickets are still available in. Stop by the Parish Office and see Shelly to purchase one.

*A Blessed and Joyous New Year to All of you!
 From the Staff of
 St. Mary Help of Christians Church.*