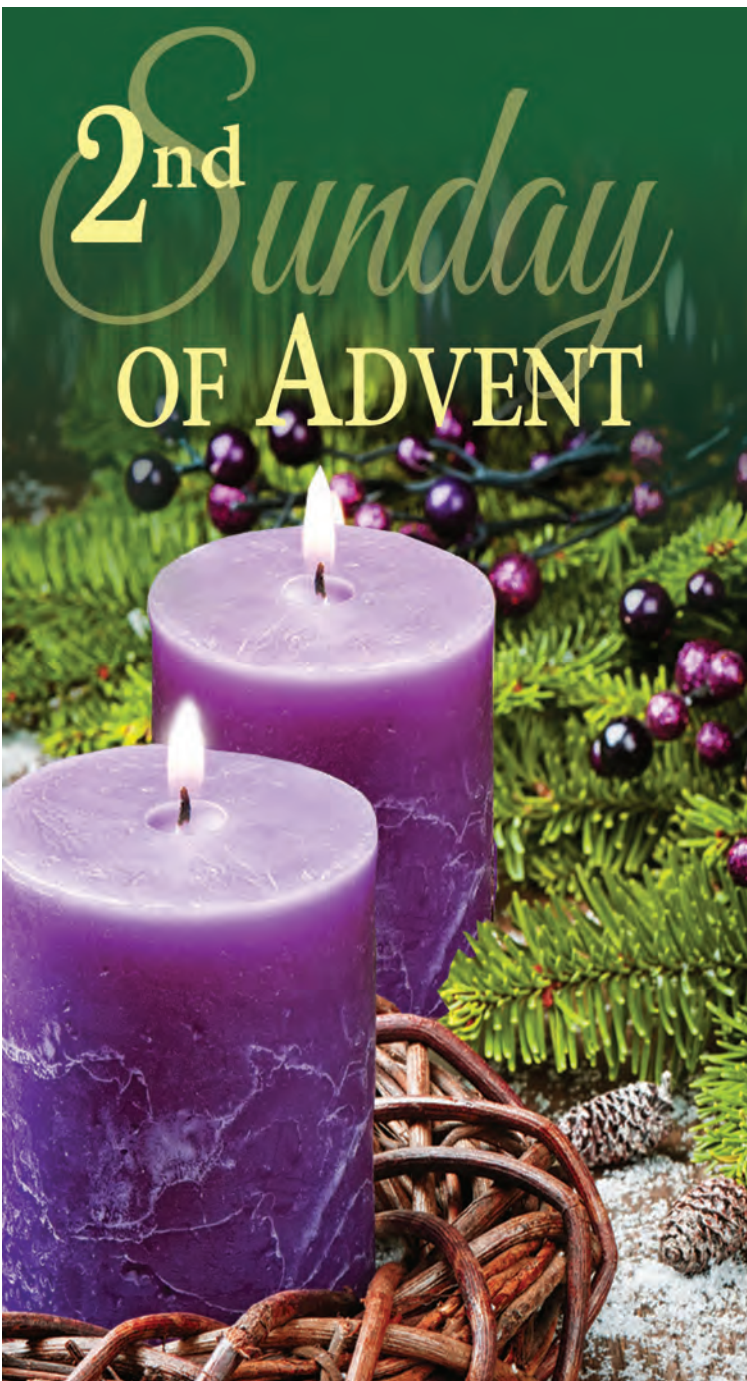


St. Mary Help of Christians Church

24588 County Road 7, St. Augusta, MN 56301

December 4, 2016



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

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Jose Edayadiyil, *Pastor*
Kelly Kirks, *Principal*
Shelly Gohmann, *Secretary*
Jan Minke,
Faith Formation Director
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

RCIA "RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS"

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

BAPTISM PREP CLASS

December 12, 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.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Call the parish office
for more information.

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.*

Second Sunday of Advent

John the Baptist appeared...saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" It was of him that the prophet Isaiah had spoken when he said:
*A voice of one crying out in the desert,
 Prepare the way of the Lord.*
 — Mt 3:1a, 2-3b



December 4, 2016

Readings for This Sunday, December 4th

Isaiah 11:1-10
 Romans 15:4-9
 Matthew 3:1-12

Readings for Thurs. Dec. 8th

Genesis 3:9-15, 20
 Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12
 Luke 1:26-38

Readings for Next Sunday, December 11th

Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
 James 5:7-10
 Matthew 11:2-11

Ushers/Greeters - Month of December

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

Ushers/Greeters - Month of January

5:00pm Richard & Joan Jendro
 8:00am Jerry & Karen Powell
 10:00am Jim Schmidt & Utley Kronenberg

Servers This Weekend, December 3 & 4

5:00pm Brooke Wilson & Kendra Wilson
 8:00am Everett Yarle & Thatcher Yarle
 10:00am Logan Haselkamp & Madison Streit

Servers Thursday, Dec. 6th - Holy Day of Obligation

5:30pm Brandon Roshia & Paul Meyer

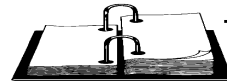
Servers Next Weekend, December 10 & 11

5:00pm Madison Fruth & Kaden Fruth
 8:00am Madison Perreault & Victoria Schill
 10:00am Alaina Thull & Elizabeth Thull



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

- 5 Monday - No Mass
- 6 Tuesday - 6:00pm +Judy Janey
- 7 Wednesday - 8:00am +Severin & +Lorraine Haus
- 8 Thursday - 8:00am +Joe Kenning
5:30pm Mass of Thanksgiving
- 9 Friday - 8:00am +Betty Trobec
- 10 Saturday - 5:00pm +Walter & +Helen Roshia
- 11 Sunday - 8:00 am Parishioners
10:00 am +Lucille Schaaf



The Week Ahead

Tuesday, December 6th

6:30pm St. Ann's Christian Women Potluck Christmas Party

Thursday, December 8th - Holy Day

Mass at 8am & 5:30pm
 6:30pm Doors open for Michael Russell O'Brien Concert
 7:00pm Michael Russell O'Brien Concert

Saturday, December 10th

St. Ann's Christian Women Craft & Bake Sale
 \$10,000 Raffle Kick-Off

Sunday, December 11th

St. Ann's Christian Women Craft & Bake Sale
 \$10,000 Raffle Kick-Off
 6:30pm-9:00pm First Year Confirmation Class

Monday, December 12th

7:00pm Baptism Class

Parish Support

Adult	\$4,751.65
Youth	23.25
Oct. & Nov. Auto Withdrawals	6,631.32
November Meat Raffle	1,000.00
Catholic Charities	75.00
Thanksgiving Day	235.02
Fall Collection	1,925.00
Christmas Flowers	65.00
Hall Rent	741.75
Votive Lights	25.00
Stole Fees	75.00
Organ Restoration	1.00
School Endowment	1.00

Reconciliation Times for Advent/Christmas

Confessions will be held in the New Sacristy.
 Tuesday, December 20 - 5:30pm-6:00pm
 Tuesday, December 20 - 6:30pm-7:30pm (There will be one extra priest)
 Thursday, December 22 - 8:30am-9:00am



Christmas Eve Masses:

Sat., Dec. 24 at 5pm & 9pm

Christmas Day Masses:

Sun., Dec. 25 at 8am & 10am

New Years Day Masses:

Sun., Jan 1, 2017 at 8am & 10am



Greetings from SMHOCS,

Many years ago, the prophets spoke of a baby who would save mankind. This was the beginning of the journey to Bethlehem. Years later, Mary and Joseph would continue this journey in preparation for the birth of our Savior. Soon after the child was born, the nearby shepherds received word of His birth and began their own journey. This was to be followed by the expedition the wise men took in their quest to see the newborn king. Our journey continues as we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ child during this Advent season.

Our school family will celebrate the Eucharist for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Thursday, December 8th at 8:00 a.m.

We are grateful to the Home and School Association for sponsoring a visit from St. Nick on December 6th.

The students really enjoy this annual visit and the special treats St. Nick brings with him. These faith-filled events are a special part of school life at SMHOC.

Many thanks to Catholic United Financial for supporting our school in an annual technology grant. We recently used these funds to purchase a new projector.

Catholic Community Schools continues to take shape, looking forward to its inaugural school year beginning in July, 2017. These news briefs will keep you abreast of recent developments and responses to inquiries.

Did you know that the schools in Catholic Community Schools already collaborate on...

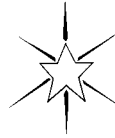
- Service projects (Saints in Service, food drives, etc.)
- Extracurricular programming (PAA, band, orchestra)
- Marketing (billboards, radio ads, participation in local parades)
- Staff Development (Top 20 training, Standards based workshops)

We are excited to announce the SMHOCS annual Christmas program will be presented on Thursday, December 15th at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. All are invited to come and enjoy the students' musical performance.

May you be blessed during this time of hopeful waiting.
Kelly Kirks, Principal

\$10,000 Raffle Kick Off: December 10th & 11th, will be the kick-off for the \$10,000 Raffle. The \$100 tickets will be sold before and after the 5:00 Mass on Sat., Dec. 10th and from 7:30am-11:30am on Sunday, Dec. 11th. If you purchase a ticket on one of these two days, you will be entered in the "Early Bird" drawing. The "Early Bird" drawing will be held on Sunday, Dec. 11th at 11:30. The winner of the Early Bird drawing will receive two (2) free tickets to be entered for the \$10,000 Grand Prize. There are also incentives for selling tickets. The drawing will be on Saturday, February 25, 2017 in the Parish Center.

Thank you to the family of Betty Voigt for the donation made to the choir in memory of Betty. It is greatly appreciated.



"Anticipating the Coming of the Light"

Faith Formation: Jan Minke

Classes this week, Wed. Dec. 7:

1st-6th gr. 6:15-7:20p.m.

7th-8th gr. 7:25-8:30p.m.

Schmidt/Kronenberg Confirmation class 6:00-8:30p.m.

Confirmation Retreat for 10th graders is on

Jan. 29, 2017. Be sure to get it on your calendars!!

"Prepare the way of the Lord!" We are busy preparing, our homes, trees, gifts, goodies, but John's instruction to prepare the way of the Lord is a bit more challenging.

How good would it be to model for our children the importance of preparing our hearts and lives for the coming of our Savior! Maybe in teaching them to slow down and truly contemplate the coming of our King we ourselves can do the same. Let's take some time back from all the things that pull us away, to be still and wait with joyful anticipation. Love, the Lord is on the way.

Classes next Sunday, Dec. 11:

Schreifels/Laudenbach Confirmation class 6:00-8:30pm

1st year Confirmation class: 6:30p.m.

A special thank you to Father Jose for his spiritual guidance, to Kathy for the beautiful music, to the cooks for the delicious food and most importantly, for your prayers and support. It is truly appreciated!

~The family of Dean Hinkemeyer~

Religious Retirement: Next weekend, Dec. 10 & 11, is the annual collection in which we are asked to express our gratitude for the religious men and women who have served our country with the collection for Religious Retirement.

Breakfast with Santa & Bake Sale: Mark your calendars. Breakfast with Santa will be on Sunday, Dec. 18th. Serving from 8:00am-11:30am. We will also have our Bake Sale with Group 3 (He-J) with Sheri Jansen and Mary Jenniges as chairs.

Ushers Needed: We are working on the 2017 Usher schedule. We are in need of ushers for the **5pm Mass for July; and 8am Mass for May**. Please contact the Parish Office if you are willing to commit to one of these mass times and months. Thank you!

Advent Giving Tree: In the entry way we have our Advent Giving Tree with tags for you to take. The items will be donated to: Anna Marie's Shelter, Birthline, & Catholic Charities. Please return items unwrapped, to the tree with the tag by Monday, December 19th. Thank you for helping make Christmas a happier time for those in need.

The Youth Director position is open for our parish. If you are interested in the position, please contact Fr. Jose.

3rd Annual S.A.N.T.A. (St Augusta Night together at):

St. Augusta Auto Body and Sales, 24965 Co Rd 7, St. Augusta, MN 56301 on Friday, Dec. 9th, from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Lots of fun activities for the family, remember to bring your camera. (See insert for more info.)