

St. Mary Help of Christians Church

24588 County Road 7, St. Augusta, MN 56301

December 10, 2017



2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. - Mk 1:4

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

PARISH: 320-252-1799

SCHOOL: 320-251-3937

WEBSITE: www.SMHOC.org

PRAYER LINE: 320-558-6187

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Jose Edayadiyil, *Pastor*

Kelly Kirks, *Principal*

Shelly Gohmann, *Secretary*

Jan Minke,

Faith Formation Director

Kathy Waletzko,

Music Director

Lisa Ludescher,

Youth Coordinator

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)

CEMETERY

JERRY KOLTES 320-252-1354

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.

MARRIAGE PREP

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

BAPTISM PREP CLASS

December 18, 2017

at 6:30pm. Call the
Parish Office to register.

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.*

December 10, 2017 - Mk 1: 1-8

Paving the way for the Lord: it was the mission of John the Baptist. His heart and his mission are evident in the sentence: "I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (1:7b-8)." He is a real matchmaker in the hearts of many for the Messiah. He not only introduced Jesus but also sent his own disciples to Jesus. A way of self-emptiness. It is the way of Jesus: "He emptied himself taking the form of a slave" (Phil 2:7).

The final testimony of the Baptizer is very remarkable: "He must increase, and I must decrease" (Jn 3:30). This is the true spiritual journey: a journey from the self to Him who is the source and destiny of everything. The Baptizer indeed is one who has grown totally to the call of being one with the Word/Light. His whole life, words and deeds are indicative of this truth. He is a true witness to the Light (Jn1:7). We too are called to make the way of the Lord in the hearts of many. This is possible only if we too follow the path of self-emptying. But isn't our culture, one that breeds the self? Where does that path take us? Surely not to the source of life and light, but to total destruction. Let us seek the mediation of the Baptizer to get the courage and strength to follow the path of self-emptiness to reach the true self. ~Fr. Jose

Readings for This Sunday, December 10

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
 2 Peter 3:8-14
 Mark 1:1-8

Readings for Next Sunday, December 17

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11
 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
 John 1:6-8, 19-26

Eucharistic Ministers, This Weekend Dec. 9 & 10

5:00pm M. Kapsner, K. Moran, P. Kunkel
 8:00am G. Gohmann, E. Zipp, J. Minke
 10:00am D. Meyer, G. Hopke, S. Gohmann

Eucharistic Ministers, Next Weekend Dec. 16 & 17

5:00pm K. Powell, C. Zieglmeier, J. Powell
 8:00am N. Ohmann, G. Rosha, C. Ziegler
 10:00am T. Schmidt, J. Schmidt, R. Schreifels

Ushers/Greeters - Month of December

5:00pm Joe Voigt & David Meyer
 8:00am Adrian & Judy Ethen
 10:00am Volunteers

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 9 & 10

5:00pm Madison Fruth & Kaden Fruth
 8:00am Thatcher Yarke & Cora Yarke
 10:00am Maya Walls & Zachariah Meyer

Servers Next Weekend, December 16 & 17

5:00pm Isaac Voigt & Trevor Voigt
 8:00am Colby Faber & Clay Faber
 10:00am Kate Schreifels & Jackson Pogatshnik

Parish Support

Adult	\$5,085.75
Youth	9.41
Christmas Collection	120.00
November Meat Raffle	1,000.00
Hall Rent	150.00
Fall Collection	150.00
Religious Retirement	10.00
Votive Lights	76.75
Christmas Flowers	61.00
Organ Restoration	1.00
School Endowment	1.00

Mass Intentions

- 11 Monday - No Mass
- 12 Tuesday - 6:00pm +Rob Kilian
- 13 Wednesday - 8:00am +Ella Pelzer
- 14 Thursday - 8:00am +Joe Kenning
- 15 Friday - 8:00am +Mike & +Mark Meyer
- 16 Saturday - 5:00pm +Len & +Betty Voigt
- 17 Sunday - 8:00am +Brenda Voigt
 10:00am Parishioners



Tuesday, December 12
 5:30pm-6:00pm Reconciliation
 6:00pm Mass
 6:30pm-7:30pm Reconciliation (There will be two priests)

Wednesday, December 13
 8:00am School Mass
 8:30am-9:00am Reconciliation

Thursday, December 14
 School Christmas Program at 1:00pm & 6:30pm

Sunday, December 17
 8:30am-11:30am Breakfast with Santa & Bake Sale. Group 10 (M Voigt-Z) will be in charge of the Bake Sale with Tracy Yarke & Cyndi Walls as chairs.



- Christmas Eve Mass:**
 Sunday, December 24 at 6:00pm
- Christmas Day Mass:**
 Monday, December 25 at 8:00am & 10:00am
- New Years Day Mass:**
 Monday, January 1, 2018 at 8:00am

Advent Giving Tree: We again have our Advent Giving Tree with tags for you to take for Anna Marie's Shelter, Birthline, and Quiet Oaks Hospice House. Please return all items unwrapped to the giving tree by Monday, December 18. Thank you for helping make Christmas a happier time for those in need.

A heartfelt thank you to all of the folks...cooks, servers, singers, actors, crafters, sewers, quilters, staff and audience...that helped make this year's production of "The Quiltmaker's Gift" a success. Your willingness to share your gift with this Faith Community is extraordinary!! Thank you!

Thank You

- To the volunteers who came on Friday, Nov. 17th and removed the felt from the bottom of the pews and put on new bumpers instead.
- To the volunteers who came and changed the light bulbs to LED bulbs in the church.
- to the family for the donation of the Memorial to the Unborn

\$10,000 Raffle Kick Off: This weekend is the kick-off for the \$10,000 Raffle. The \$100.00 tickets will be sold before and after the 5:00pm Mass on Sat. Dec. 9th and from 7:30am-11:30am on Sunday, Dec. 10th. Due to rising costs and expenses going up, there are a few changes to the \$10,000 Raffle this year:

- No Early Bird Drawing
 - Tickets are \$100.00 and **DOES NOT** include admission to the social
 - Admission to the social is \$10.00 per person
 - Incentive - For every 10 tickets sold, you will receive one (1) admission ticket to the social
 - Every 50th ticket drawn will receive their \$100.00 back
 - Time of event will be from 6:00pm-9:00pm
- The social and drawing will be on Sat., Feb. 10, 2018.

In Sympathy

Condolences to *Eleanor Winkelman* on the death of her husband, to *Diane Koenig and family; Doug Winkelman and family* on the death of their father, and to the *family and friends* of Delbert Winkelman.

to *Patty Funk and family* on the death of her mother, Eileen Hartung;

to *Lu Meemken and family* on the death of her mother, Elsie Mergen

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and may the perpetual light shine upon them

Next Sunday, December 17th is Breakfast with Santa. Breakfast will be served from 8:30am-11:30am. If you can help with the breakfast, please sign up on the parish website or call Greg Hopke. Group 10 (M Voigt - Z) will be in charge of the Bake Sale.

The Jewelry Stand for the Parish Festival is looking for new or gently used jewelry. If you have any items to donate, please put them in the box marked "Jewelry" in the coat room. Thank you!



Baptism: Congratulations to
Lucas Robert son of
Adam and Amanda Stelten

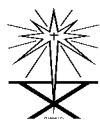


Greetings for SMHOCS...

Please join us as we celebrate Eucharist as a school family on December 13th. We will have a special blessing for all students and staff celebrating birthdays in December and June. The students in first grade will be assisting with the liturgy.

We are excited to announce the SMHOCS annual Christmas program will be presented on Thursday, December 14th at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. All are invited to come and enjoy the students' musical performance.

The students will begin Christmas break on December 21st and will resume classes on Tuesday, January 2nd. The school office will also be closed during this time. *Sincerely, Kelly Kirks, Principal*



Faith Formation: Jan Minke

Classes today Sunday, Dec. 10:

1st year Confirmation class 6:00-8:30p.m.
Meyer/Hanisch Confirmation class 6:00-8:30p.m.

Hopke/Rosha Confirmation class 6:30-9:00p.m.

Classes this week, Wed. Dec. 13:

1st-8th gr. 6:30-8:00p.m.

Next Wednesday, Dec. 20th is our

Advent Event: The First Noel

Songs sheets have been sent home with the students. There are 4 songs that they should be learning all of the verses to. A note went home last week telling how each class should dress for the program. Please check that note and call me if you have any questions. Students need to arrive at 6:00p.m. on the 20th so that we can practice. Parents, siblings, grandparents, friends etc. will be seated at approximately 7:00p.m.

I hope that during this hectic time of year you are able to take time to help your children to "prepare the way of the Lord" in their hearts and in their lives. I pray for peace and quiet for you, as you tend the candle of love in your homes and outward!

