

# St. Mary Help of Christians Church

24588 County Road 7, St. Augusta, MN 56301

December 24, 2017



## 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God." - Lk 1:35

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

**PARISH:** 320-252-1799  
**SCHOOL:** 320-251-3937  
**WEBSITE:** [www.SMHOC.org](http://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

February 12, 2018  
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 24, 2017 - Lk 1:26-38.

There are historical allusions in the story of the Incarnation as narrated by St. Luke. The event of the Incarnation takes place in a particular location: Nazareth (V.26); at a particular time: the days of Herod, king of Judea (Lk 1:5), Quirinius, Governor of Syria and Caesar Augustus, the Emperor (Lk 2:1-2); and to specific persons: Joseph, Mary (v.27). Thus, God reveals himself to humanity in space and time, not in a utopian or idealistic and fantasy world. We have to encounter God in the world in which we are, through the experiences, events and persons that come into our lives. We find attempts on the part of most to escape into a virtual, dreamy, fantasy and mystery world to encounter God. That is all about escaping from the presence of the God of life (Gen 3:8). The mystery of God and the mystery of the human being are to be encountered here and now: in the naked man and in the wounded world: "...as often as you did it for one of my least brothers of mine, you did it for me" (Mt 25:40). It is in the real world that we are called to encounter God and proclaim our faith in Him and the meaning of our lives. The mystery of the Incarnation has given true meaning to the world in which we are called to live. It is God who has made a choice for each of us and has given meaning to our lives. How to find that meaning which God has given to us? Our Mother Mary shows us the way through an attitude of surrender: "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word" (v. 38). Let us find meaning in the world, the events, the experiences and the persons whom we encounter in our lives with the humble and surrendering attitude of Mary to the divine will over against the pride of the first parents (Gen 3:5). Mother Mary shows us the way to follow the path of the Lord, facing the mysteries of life by trusting in the Lord of all mysteries and lives. ~Fr. Jose

**Readings for This Sunday, December 24**

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
Romans 16:25-27  
Luke 1:26-38

**Readings for Next Sunday, December 31**

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3  
Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19  
Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

 **Mass Intentions**

**25 Monday - Christmas Day**

8:00am +Vernon & +Leona Storms  
10:00am +Marie & +Mady Mehr

**26 Tuesday - No Mass**

27 Wednesday - 8:00am +Larry Reiter

28 Thursday - 8:00am +Rita Witte

29 Friday - 8:00am +Steve & +Shirley Kirchner

30 Saturday - 5:00pm +Doris Rosha

31 Sunday - 8:00am +Cyril Heid

10:00am Parishioners

**Eucharistic Ministers, This Weekend Dec. 23 & 24**

5:00pm C. Diehl, D. Holovnia, C. Zieglmeier

8:00am E. Zipp, C. Gohmann, T. Fritz

10:00am J. Stang, M. Schmidt, S. Gohmann

**Eucharistic Ministers, Christmas Eve**

6:00pm M. Kapsner, P. Kunkel, E. Annis,

K. Moran, J. Powell

**Eucharistic Ministers, Christmas Day**

8:00am A. Hiemenz, G. Gohmann, P. Gohmann

10:00am J. Dirksen, D. Dold, J. Wicker

**Eucharistic Ministers, Next Weekend Dec. 30 & 31**

5:00pm J. Powell, K. Powell, C. Diehl

8:00am N. Ohmann, G. Rosha, C. Ziegler

10:00am J. Schmidt, C. Trautz, T. Yarke

**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 23 & 24**

5:00pm Dylan Streit & Morgan Streit

8:00am Tyler Gohmann & Logan Gohmann

10:00am Nick Jenniges & Makayla Jenniges

**Servers Christmas Eve - December 24**

6:00pm - Colby Faber & Clay Faber

**Servers Christmas Day - December 25**

8:00am - Will Massmann & Jack Massmann

10:00am - Luke Ashbrook & Logan Haselkamp

**Servers Next Weekend, December 30 & 31**

5:00pm Brooke Wilson & Kendra Wilson

8:00am Trey Toenjes & Truman Toenjes

10:00am Cora Yarke & Thatcher Yarke

**Servers - New Years Day - January 1, 2018**

8:00am - Angela Witte & Matthew Witte



**The  
Week  
Ahead**

**Friday, December 29**  
5:00pm School Meat Raffle at Club Almar



**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

**Group Leaders:** We are looking for Group Leaders for Group 1 (A-D) and a co-Group Leader for Group 9 (T-L Voigt). Please contact the Parish Office if you are willing to help us out! Thank you!



**Parish Support**

Adult	\$4,924.85
Youth	14.35
Christmas	45.00
December Auto Withdrawals	3,105.66
Votive Lights	74.35
Food Shelf	655.75
Fall Collection	50.00
Religious Retirement	115.00
Organ Restoration	1.00
School Endowment	1.00

**SCRIP News:** No scrip orders will be placed Dec. 24th-31st and there will be No weekend sales during these weeks.

***Did you know*** that 70% of scrip rebates can be put towards the Parish, Christian Women, Faith Formation, SMHOC School Tuition, Hot Lunch, or Cathedral Tuition. Orders can be picked up at weekend masses or by making arrangements with Lacey.

We are looking for people to sell scrip at weekend masses on Sundays only. Please contact Lacey Solbro, 291-1455 if you are interested in helping.

**\$10,000 Raffle:** Tickets for the \$10,000 Raffle are available in the Parish Office. 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.

**Thank you ...** There were 273 people served at the Santa Breakfast this past weekend, the profit was \$1,354.80. A huge thank you to all the amazing volunteers who made this breakfast a success, your gift of time is deeply appreciated! Thank you also to those that came and enjoyed the breakfast. The next Parish breakfast will be January 21st.

***Thank you - The Breakfast Committee***

**Bishop's Annual Appeal:** As you reflect on your year-end giving, please consider a gift to the Appeal at [www.stedio.org/appeal](http://www.stedio.org/appeal), call Anna at 320-258-7654, or mail to: Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 1538, St. Cloud, MN 56302. Thank you! Blessings to you and those you love this Christmas and into the new year.

**Catholic Men's Conference – Men of Integrity:  
A Call to Responsibility - Feb. 3, 2018, 8:00am – 5:00pm - St. John's University, Collegeville, MN**  
Join men of all ages and walks of life to explore new ways to renew your faith. Register online at [www.stedio.org](http://www.stedio.org)



**Faith Formation: Jan Minke**

Merry Christmas!! I want to wish you a blessed Christmas, may Christ's joy be in your heart, His peace in your soul and His love in your life-always!! May we all continue to share His love and light our world!

**No Faith Formation classes this Wednesday night, December 27, enjoy your Christmas break!**

Thank you to all who helped with our Christmas program, you are a blessing in our lives! Confirmation students have another due date coming up! Mass with sponsor and a service project are due Jan 1<sup>st</sup>!



**Greetings from SMHOCS...**

Merry Christmas!!!! The students and staff will be on Christmas break until Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. The school office will also be closed during this time. Tuition may be dropped off at the Parish Office during Christmas break.

***Sincerely, Kelly Kirks, Principal***



Merry Christmas from the Staff of St. Mary Help of Christians Church.

**We Wish You All**

A glad and peaceful  
Christmastide

With all its memories sweet;  
May Hope, Peace, Joy and  
Love be yours,

With kindly friends to greet;  
The echo of the angel's song,  
The star's clear guiding light,

The **Christ** child in your  
heart and home,

To make this  
Christmas bright.