

St. Mary Help of Christians Church

24588 County Road 7, St. Augusta, MN 56301

December 31, 2017



THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

All things came to be through him,
and without him nothing came to be.
What came to be through him was life,
and this life was the light of the human race.

- Jn 1:3-4

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

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 31, 2017 - Lk 2: 22-40

Simeon was a pious and just man waiting in hope for the consoler of the afflicted people of Israel (Lk 2:25). Christmas is a time that reminds us of the great hope of salvation. Simeon was a man moved by the Holy Spirit (Lk 2:25-27). It was the Spirit of God that enabled him to see and praise the savior in the ordinary little child. It is the same Spirit of God that enables and moves us to see the hand of God working in the ordinary events of our lives. We miss the extraordinary in our failure to accept the ordinary. The extraordinary can never come to us except through the ordinary. God's ways of revealing are very ordinary –this is true even in the most sublime revelation of the mystery of Incarnation. Blessed is the one who sees the hand of God in the ordinariness of the day. The wise men went to the palace of Herod in search of the extraordinary, the Savior (Mt 2:1-2). But they found Him in a place where they expected Him least, in the manger. Let us pray that the Spirit of God may help us to see the extraordinary in the ordinary – the divine spark in the human. Let us be open to the promptings of the Holy Spirit that lead us to the true revealing light of God that saves us. ~Fr. Jose

Readings for This Sunday, December 31

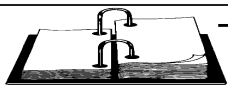
Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3
 Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19
 Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Readings for Next Sunday, January 7

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

Mass Intentions

- 1 Monday - **New Year's Day**
8:00am +Alice Anderson
- 2 Tuesday - 6:00pm +Ora Rose Healy
- 3 Wednesday - 8:00am +Tom Staller
- 4 Thursday - 8:00am +Charlie Schmidt
- 5 Friday - 8:00am +Ramona Brand
- 6 Saturday - 5:00pm +Wendy & +Ryan Kiffmeyer
- 7 Sunday - 8:00am +St. Ann's Christian Women
10:00am Parishioners



The Week Ahead

Tuesday, January 2, 2018

Quilting
 5:45pm Rosary
 6:00pm Mass
 First Eucharist Meeting for Parents of Second Graders following the 6:00pm Mass

Wednesday, January 3

8:00am School Mass assisted by Grade 5. Social in school gym following Mass for Grades 5 & 6.

Thursday, January 4

Nocturnal Adoration

Sunday, January 7

12:30pm-3:00pm Open House for Father Jose to celebrate the 45th Anniversary of his Ordination
 6:00pm-8:30pm First Year Confirmation Class

Nocturnal Adoration Breakfast: The Annual Breakfast for Nocturnal Adoration Members is Sunday, January 14, 2018, following the 8:00am Mass.

Eucharistic Ministers, This 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

Eucharistic Ministers, Next Weekend Jan. 6 & 7, 2018

5:00pm E. Annis, D. Holovnia, M. Kapsner
 8:00am C. Gohmann, T. Fritz, G. Gohmann
 10:00am J. Dirksen, D. Dold, S. Gohmann

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 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

Servers Next Weekend, January 6 & 7, 2018

5:00pm Kaden Fruth & Madison Fruth
 8:00am Logan Gohmann & Tyler Gohmann
 10:00am Luke Ashbrook & Gavin Haehn



Open House for Father Jose:

Sunday, January 7 from 12:30pm-3:00pm to celebrate the 45th Anniversary of his priestly ordination.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served.

We invite you to join us for the afternoon to congratulate Father Jose and to thank him for his devotion to the priesthood.

~SMHOC Parish Council & Parish Staff

Thank you to everyone who helped minister in any way at our Christmas celebrations. Thank you 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 those 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.



Greetings from SMHOCS...

Our first student assisted liturgy of 2018 will be on Wednesday, January 3rd at 8:00 a.m. The students in grade five will be assisting with the music and readings. There will be a social for students in grades five and six and their families following Mass in the school gym. Please come and celebrate the Eucharist with the school community.

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

5th, 25th, 40th, 50th & 60th Anniversaries:

If you are celebrating any of these anniversaries this year (2018), please call the Parish Office, 252-1799 by January 31st, 2018, to let us know so that your name can be sent to the Office of Marriage and Family. You will then be receiving an invitation for a Mass offered by Bishop Kettler on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 1:00pm.

Youth Envelopes for 2018 - Youth envelopes have been distributed at Faith Formation classes and at the school. If your child attends Cathedral, is home schooled and did not receive envelopes, and they wish to receive envelopes, please contact the parish office.

Bishop's Annual Appeal: Please consider a year-end gift to the appeal. Your gift supports our shared Mission to be Christ's heart of mercy, voice of hope, and hands of justice in the Diocese of St. Cloud. www.stcldio.org/appeal, call Anna at 320-258-7654, or mail to Bishop's Annual Appeal, PO Box 1538, St. Cloud, MN 56302.

The Coach (bus) reserved for the MARCH FOR LIFE at the State Capital on January 22, 2018 will start at Voigt's Bus in St Augusta and make stops at: St Marcus in Clear Lake, St Lawrence in Duelm, Mary of the Visitation in Becker and Big Lake, St Andrew's in Elk River and St Katharine Drexel in Ramsey. The time of the stops will be announced at a later date in January. To be sure of a seat, please reserve by calling Al Goblirsch at 763-441-1006 or e-mail at al.goblirsch@hotmail.com. There is no charge, but a free will offering will be taken on the bus.

Are you a single Catholic woman under the age of 45? Would you be interested in spending a day at Saint Benedict's Monastery? We are offering the following opportunities for this experience. All the dates are scheduled on a Saturday, January 13, February 10, March 10, and April 14, 2018. The time is from 9-3:30 pm. There is no cost for this one day experience. If you are interested, please contact Sister Lisa Rose at 320-363-7180 or email her at lrose@csbsju.edu.



Faith Formation: Jan Minke

Classes this week Wednesday, Jan. 3:
1st – 8th gr. 6:30-8:00p.m.

Happy New Year and God's blessings to you and your families throughout 2018! I hope that our eyes will be open in the new year to see Christ in our world, and rejoice in the light of His love!

Parents of 2nd graders will meet on **Tuesday, Jan 2** directly following 6:00p.m. Mass. Parents of all 2nd graders here at St. Mary Help of Christians will meet to get materials for First Eucharist preparation.

2nd year Confirmation students- your 2nd due date is here! Make sure you have everything in that is supposed to be in by now.

Classes next Sunday, Jan. 7:

Meyer/Hanisch Confirmation class 5:00p.m.

1st year Confirmation 6:00p.m.

\$10,000 Raffle: Tickets for the \$10,000 Raffle are available in the Parish Office. The social will be from 6:00pm-9:00pm on Saturday, February 10, 2018.

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!

Thank you to those who brought items and those who bought items at the December 17th Bake Sale. Our profit was \$500.00. Thank you!

Thank you to Carl Jansen and family for the use of the sleigh during our annual Breakfast with Santa.

