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From the Pastor

From a commentary on Isaiah by St. Eusebius of Caesarea: *The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight the paths of our God.* The prophecy makes clear that it is to be fulfilled, not in Jerusalem but in the wilderness: it is there that the glory of the Lord is to appear, and God's salvation is to be made known to all mankind. It was in the wilderness that God's saving presence was proclaimed by John the Baptist, and there that God's salvation was seen. The words of this prophecy were fulfilled when Christ and his glory were made manifest to all: after his baptism the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove rested on him, and the Father's voice was heard, bearing witness to the Son: *This is my beloved Son, listen to him.* The prophecy meant that God was to come to a deserted place, inaccessible from the beginning. None of the pagans had any knowledge of God, since his holy servants and prophets were kept from approaching them. The voice commands that a way be prepared for the Word of God: the rough and trackless ground is to be made level, so that our God may find a highway when he comes. *Prepare the way of the Lord:* the way is the preaching of the Gospel, the new message of consolation, ready to bring to all mankind the knowledge of God's saving power.

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception: Thursday is a Holy Day of Obligation. All Catholics are required to attend Mass to celebrate this Mystery of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Please see the schedule on the right side of the bulletin.

Confessions: I will be offering confessions in Oakley on the 13th, 15th and 16th from 5:30pm to 7pm or until done. I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to prepare your soul for celebrating our Lord's birth.

St. Paul News:

Please remember that on the 31st of December there will be a kickoff for the capital campaign. If your families are here visiting, please know they are more than welcome to attend, in fact, I encourage it. Next weekend I will provide additional information on what will be requested to make this event possible. Also, if you have not RSVP'd from your invite, please do so. Thank you.

If someone happens to ask if online giving will be available for the campaign, it is available now. There are links on the home page of the church website as well as on St. Paul page.

The Annual Night of Prayer for Life will be held in Angelus from 8:00 p.m. until 12:01 p.m. on December 8th and 9th, the Feasts of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception and St Juan Diego. The usual prayers will be said. The importance of praying for the sanctity of life is more important than ever, particularly in the state of Kansas.

St. Joseph News:

I would encourage all who are able to either register your family online (especially if you have children in school) or sign up for online giving. Both links are available on the parish website. This will help fill in any information gaps that might exist in our database and make them that much more accurate. We will be moving more and more towards the Our Sunday Visitor (OSV) online platform for different areas. I am still learning how to efficiently use the platform, but I do look forward to how much time it can potentially save in various areas in the office. Obviously, it will never be exclusively online, but it will allow for a more streamlined database, mode of communication, donations, and end of year stats. Thank you for taking the time to fill this out.

St. Catherine's monthly meeting for December will be in the annex on **Thursday morning, December 8th,** after the 8:30am School mass. Coffee and donuts will be served. Prior to the mass D of I sisters are asked to gather for a rosary for our youth for National Youth Day of Prayer.

Our Tithes from Last Week:

Oakley: $2215.00 Angelus: $441.00

DAILY SCHEDULE

Sat	03 –	8am – Confessions
		9am – Mass
		5pm Mass + Parishioners
		6pm – Winterblast
Sun	04 –	8am Mass (Angelus) + Leon Fellhoelter
		10:30am Mass + Joseph & Evelyn Engel
Mon	05 –	No Mass
Tues	06 –	8:30am Mass + Bob George
Wed	07 –	6:30pm Vigil Mass + Marvin Sander
		7:45pm Vigil Mass (Angelus) +Royce Fellhoelter
Thur	08 –	6:50am Mass + Lois Koster Davis
		8:30am School Mass + Donna Engel
		8pm Night of Prayer for Life in Angelus
Fri	09 –	7am Mass + Pauline Zimmerman
Sat	10 –	5pm Mass + Parishioners
Sun	11 –	8am Mass (Angelus) + Clara Zimmerman
		10:30am Mass + Chuck Anderson

Confessions 30 minutes before Weekend Masses, by appointment, or if indicated on the schedule.

ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL

Mr. Darin Munk	Mrs. Aimee Zimmerman - Vice-Chair
Mr. David Manhart	Mrs. Kerri Sheetz - Chairperson
Mr. Jim Halbleib	Mr. Ethan Schwarz
Mrs. Dana Charles	Mrs. Bridgit Bockwinkel
Mrs. Micheline Huffman	

ST. JOSEPH FINANCE COUNCIL

Mrs. Betty Hockersmith	Mrs. Delores Lockhart
Mr. Darin Munk (Par. Co. Rep.)	Mr. Mark Campbell
Mr. Chris Halbleib - Chair	Mrs. Linda Plummer - Vice-Chair

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL COUNCIL

Mrs. Katie Chrisler	Mrs. Ashley Smith
Mrs. Kim Munk	Mrs. Sarah Samuelson
Mr. Russ Kahle	Mr. Jeff Kuhlman
Mrs. Bridgit Bockwinkel (Par. Co. Rep.)	

ST. PAUL PARISH/FINANCE COUNCIL

Mr. Bernard Dickman	Ms. Diane Solomon - Vice-Chair
Mr. Bob Schwarz	Mr. Gary Ostmeyer - Chair
Mrs. Kim Robben	Mrs. Kristy Fellhoelter

Saturday, Dec 10th 5 pm	Servers	Volunteers	Sunday Dec 11th 10:30am	Servers	Carter, Shayden & Ivan
	Lectors	Cecilia Brungardt		Lectors	Kay Hughes
	Gifts	Jerry & Darlene Chaput		Gifts	Beverly Muehlenkamp & Cheri Weber
	Hospitality	Jerry & Darlene Chaput		Hospitality	Beverly Muehlenkamp & Cheri Weber

Sunday, Dec 11th 8 am	Servers	Nick Robben
	Lectors	Millie Baalman & Barney Dickman
	EMHC's	Ron Lager
	Gifts/Hosp.	Joe & Jeannie Rehmer
	Ushers	Bob Fellhoelter, Jim Fellhoelter, Jason Fellhoelter & Steve Fellhoelter