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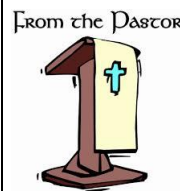
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From the Pastor

As we begin the season of Advent, it is easy to get lost in the expectation of Christmas itself. However, the first few weeks of Advent are dedicated to us entering into our own hopeful expectation of Christ's coming, the Second Coming. We must not forget this important fact of our faith. Scripture says we "know neither the day nor the hour" in which Christ will come. (Mt. 25:13) Yes, Christmas is a joyous time, and Advent takes on a different tone of preparation than Lent. However, the wisdom of the Church provides us a way not only to look to back, but to look forward in hope. Christmas was not the end of the coming of Christ, it was the beginning, and it will end with his second coming, which is our Advent.

"The Chosen": As many are aware, there was a special screening of "The Chosen" episodes 1 and 2. What you might not be aware of is that it ranked third in last week's box office behind "The Menu" and Marvel's "Black Panther: Waconda Forever", earning \$8.2 million. I personally have not seen it, but I do find it interesting that this little, privately produced show competed with the big guns of mainstream Hollywood. I think this is showing there is a deeper desire to keep true to the stories of Jesus, and not so misconstrue the history that veers into fantasy. "The Chosen" series is free to view on "The Chosen" app. So, if you are looking for something to watch, this might be a good place to start.

Advent Study: There will not be an Advent Study Series this year. With all that is going on this year, I thought it prudent to forgo it. I will offer one again during Lent.

St. Paul News:

Hopefully most of you have received the postcard for the capital campaign New Year's Kickoff. There will be another packet of information coming out in the next couple of weeks with detailed information on the project and formal pledge cards. We are still ironing out some details, but I am anxiously awaiting the time when we can officially launch this campaign. Please keep the success of our campaign in your prayers.

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.

Our Tithes from Last Week:	
Oakley: \$3297.00	Angelus: \$575.00

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.

Winterblast: In preparation for this year's Winterblast, I have been amazed at the amount and quality of items that have been donated and the buzz that seems to be going around. I'm not saying previous years were disappointing, that is definitely not the case as we netted our second highest total last year. People are practically begging to get in, which is a great problem to have. I am thoroughly looking forward to the auction next weekend and am beyond grateful for all who have put so much time and effort into this being a success. Thank you to all for the support of St. Joseph Catholic School.

Advent/Lent Confessions: I will be offering 4 evenings of confessions this year during Advent, not including the normal First Friday/First Saturday confessions. Dates and times will be in next week's bulletin. I am stealing this idea from Fr. Brian in Colby who said it was decently successful for him. If it does not work out, we will go back to a communal penance service during Lent. I have been working with the other priests of our deanery to organize a Penance Service schedule that can be sent to all parishes so that all will know where, when and who will be hearing confessions, so that we are not fighting each other. It was too late to get it organized for Advent, but it will be for Lent.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Sat	26 – 5pm Mass – Weber/Moorhous Families
Sun	27 – 8am Mass (Angelus) + Bud Lager 10:30am Mass + Parishioners
Mon	28 – No Mass
Tues	29 – 8:30am Mass + Paul Mages
Wed	30 – 7:30am Mass (Angelus) + Deceased members of the Bob Fellhoelter Family CCD at 7pm both parishes
Thur	01 – 8:30am Mass + Loretta Schoenfeld
Fri	02 – 7am Mass + Doreen Kennedy 7pm – Adoration & Confessions
Sat	03 – 8am – Confessions 9am – Mass 5pm Mass + Parishioners 6pm – Winterblast
Sun	04 – 8am Mass (Angelus) + Leon Fellhoelter 10:30am Mass + Joseph & Evelyn Engel

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

ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL

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Mr. David Manhart	Mrs. Kerri Sheetz - Chairperson
Mr. Jim Halbleib	Mr. Ethan Schwarz
Mrs. Dana Charles	Mrs. Bridgit Bockwinkel
Mrs. Micheline Huffman	

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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 3 rd 5 pm	Servers	Volunteers	Sunday Dec 4 th 10:30am	Servers	Ava, Alexa & Karsyn
	Lectors	Elaine Wycoff		Lectors	Brandon Maurath
	Gifts	Mike & Cassie Shirley		Gifts	Jerry & Marylou VanEaton
	Hospitality	Mike & Cassie Shirley		Hospitality	Kent & Faye Trompeter

Sunday, Dec 4 th 8 am	Servers	Larynn Rumbach
	Lectors	Millie Baalman & Barney Dickman
	Gifts/Hosp.	Jeff & Amanda Ostmeyer
	Ushers	Bob Fellhoelter, Jim Fellhoelter, Jason Fellhoelter & Steve Fellhoelter