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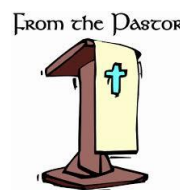
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**Secretary: Mrs. Vicky Joseph**  
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**From the Pastor**  
 Last weekend, we started the Rescue Project for the four weeks of Advent based on ACTS XXIX. The focus last week was on Creation. The Lord God created this beautiful world and each one of us. The splendor of God's creation is magnificent. St. Hildegard, a Benedictine nun, stated that "Creation is the song of God" and that "every creature is a glittering, glistening mirror of divinity." She also said that "The Earth sustains humanity. It must not be injured; it must not be destroyed." This leads to our second weekend of Advent with the focus on the bad news: we are captured by the enemy and all of us are under the powers of sin and death. Today, we are going back to the beginning to focus on the Fall and the consequences not only for Adam and Eve, but for all of us. When it comes to sin, we can ask ourselves whether we simply regret what we've done or desire to repent from our sins. There is a significant difference between feeling sorry and repenting, between regretting and repenting. Regret is feeling bad about what we've done. Repentance means to change one's direction, to change one's thinking, to turn back to God. Repentance means to see sin as it is, to own up to it, and to recognize that I have done that, and to turn to the One who created me and ask for his grace and mercy. Repentance is not only about being healed, but also wanting and following the Healer. For this week, let's ask ourselves, "What things in my life have I regretted doing but not yet have truly repented of them? What will it take to bring me to repentance? When have I truly known God's forgiveness in my life?"

**3rd ANNUAL ADVENT FAMILY CHALLENGE:** The diocese once again encourages and promotes the Family Advent Challenge. It is centered around building family life while entering the current liturgical season. Step 1 is committing to a Family Night once a week during Advent. Step 2 is to Pray the Novena for Family and Marriage from December 21 – December 28. Step 3 is to go to Mass on the Feast of the Holy Family together as a family (December 29). For more information, please visit <https://salinadiocese.org/office/family-life/advent-family-challenge/>

**Advent Penance Services:** The Advent Penance Schedule for the West Vicariate is available at the church's entrances.

**Memorial poinsettias** are available for purchase at Everythings-A-Bloomin. We have already reserved what we need, and your donation will be deducted from the final total. Please get in touch with Dana or Wendy with your parish, name, and donation. Thank you.

**ST. JOSEPH NEWS:**  
**D of I -** The December meeting of St. Catherine Circle, Oakley, will be held Thursday, December 12, at **1:00 p.m., at the parish annex.** Please plan to stay after the meeting for our annual **Christmas card party.** We will also have a **cookie exchange!** Each member is asked to bring a dozen cookies or other goodies to exchange with other members! Hostesses Carol Weiser and Linda Engel. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**Holiday volunteer sign-up sheets** are in the back of St. Joseph Church. Thank you!!

**St. Joseph School is missing 11 folding chairs.** If you borrowed them, please give the school a call at 785-671-4451. Thank you!

**ST. PAUL NEWS:**  
**The Night of Prayer for Life** will be at St Paul's beginning at 8:00pm on December 8th, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. It will continue until the Feast of St Juan Diego on December 9th. We are praying for not only the end of abortion but for people to understand why the Catholic Church has not condoned abortion and contraception. The normal format will be followed.

**The Angelus Knights of Columbus Membership Stag Steak Fry** will be held on December 28 at 5:30p.m. Please bring money for dues to help us save money on postage.

**The Angelus Knights of Columbus Stag/Stagette Steak Fry** will be held on January 11, 2025 at 5:30p.m.

**Our Tithes from Last Week**

Oakley: \$8333.00 Angelus: \$957.00

We welcome all our guests to our parishes. If you have moved here, we encourage you to register.

Follow us on St. Joseph Catholic Church and School  
 @stjosephoakley



DAILY SCHEDULE	
Sat	07 – 8am Confessions 9am Mass 5pm - Parishioners 6pm Winter Blast Auction and Dinner
Sun	08 – 8am Mass (Angelus) + Royce Fellhoelter 10:30am Mass + Mitch Ottley 6pm + Charles Anderson (Counts for Immaculate Conception Obligation) 8pm (Angelus) Night of Prayer for Life
Mon	09 6:50am + Joe Bockwinkel 12:07pm + Pauline Zimmerman 7pm (Angelus) + Danny George
Tues	10 – 8:30am Mass + Charles Anderson 9:30am Bible Study in the rectory
Wed	11 – 7:30am Mass (Angelus) + Mary Jo Rostek 6:45pm St. Joseph Awards ceremony 7pm Adoration at Angelus 7pm St. Joseph Christmas Program 7pm CCD Classes at both parishes
Thur	12 – 8:30am Mass + Todd Kuhlman 1pm D of I Christmas Party at the Annex
Fri	13 – 7am Mass + Margie Schoenfeld
Sat	14 – 5pm + Loretta Schoenfeld
Sun	15 – 8am Mass (Angelus)- Parishioners 10:30am Mass + Bill Goetz

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

- ST. JOSEPH PARISH COUNCIL**
- |                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mr. Darin Munk         | Mrs. Aimee Zimmerman - Chair   |
| Mr. David Manhart      | Mr. Mason Sheetz               |
| Mrs. Penny Pfeifer     | Mr. Ethan Schwarz              |
| Mrs. Cassie Shirley    | Mrs. Dana Charles – Vice Chair |
| Mrs. Micheline Huffman |                                |
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- |                                      |                     |
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| Mr. Bernard Dickman                  | Ms. Diane Solomon   |
| Mr. Clem Fellhoelter- Chair          | Mr. Mark Rueschhoff |
| Mrs. Kristy Fellhoelter - Vice Chair | Mrs. Kim Robben     |

Saturday Dec 14 <sup>th</sup> 5pm	Servers	Volunteers	Sunday Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> 10:30 am	Servers	Peyton K, Shayden S. & Thomas C.
	Lector	Nolin Kuhlman		Lector	Brad Joseph
	Gifts	Dennis & Jane Schwarz		Gifts	Mike & Katie Chrisler
	Hospitality	Dennis & Jane Schwarz		Hospitality	Ken & Bridgit Bockwinkel

Sunday, Dec 15 <sup>th</sup> 8 am	Servers	Natalie Bixenman
	Lectors	Millie Baalman & Barney Dickman
	Gifts	Daryl & Judy Bixenman
	Ushers	Bob Schwarz, Eugene Schwarz, Ron Bixenman & Daryl Bixenman