

2nd Sunday
in Advent

Faith

Bethlehem Candle
reminding us of Mary and
Joseph's journey to
Bethlehem



Second Sunday of Advent
Dec. 6, 2020

Wed.	Dec. 9 th	11:30am	St. John
Thurs.	Dec. 10 th	7:00pm	St. Columbkille
Fri.	Dec. 11 th	9:00am	St. John
Adoration following mass until 11:00am			
Sat.	Dec. 12 th	4:00pm	St. John
Sun.	Dec. 13 th	8:30am	St. Joseph
Sun.	Dec. 13 th	10:30am	St. Columbkille

Confession

Saturday 11:00am -12:00pm St. Columbkille

Readings for the Week

Monday, Dec 7th

Isaiah 35:1-10 Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday, Dec. 8th

Genesis 3:9-15, 20 Ephesians 1:3-12 Luke 1:26-38

Wednesday, Dec. 9th

Isaiah 40:25-31 Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday, Dec. 10th

Isaiah 41:13-20 Matthew 11:11-15

Friday, Dec. 11th

Isaiah 48:17-19 Matthew 11:16-19

Saturday, Dec. 12th

Zechariah 2:14-17 Luke 1:26-38

Sunday, Dec. 13th

Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28



We will be having a rosary on Wednesday's at 7:00pm
in the Parish Center.

Let Us Give Thanks!

Weekend Collection - \$3683.00

Loose - \$43.00

Building Fund - \$200.00

650 Parish Families

(300 Family envelope holders)

79 Envelopes used

Mass Intentions for Weekend of Dec. 5 & 6

Saturday St. John: + Mary Anna Longuski

Sunday St. Joseph: Good Shepherd
Parishioners

Sunday St. Columbkille: Jim Dunlap

Donations:

In loving memory of Frank Peplinski Sr. 12yr
anniversary by Pat Smith & Family

In loving memory of Lillian Peplinski 11yr anniversary by
Pat Smith & Family

In loving memory of Idge Happy Birthday by Pat Smith
& Family

In this Sunday's Reading

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his
path." -- Mark 1:3

In "preparing the way of the Lord" we are called to
live lives worthy of what God calls us to be. We are
called to be grateful for and generous with the gifts
that God has given us, and live as an example for
others. Living a life of stewardship means not only
being responsible for oneself, but for others as well.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Help our Elders. In good times and bad, senior
Catholic sisters, brothers and religious orders priests
have dedicated themselves to service and acts of
mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years
of serving for little or no pay have left their religious
communities without enough retirement savings. Your
gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide
medications, nursing care, and other necessities.

Please be generous.

Please remember your parish when planning your estate

Religious Education/Faith Formation

Please pray for all who come together for our programs. Wednesday & Sunday program includes:

Kindergarten through 6th grade

Uby 3-4:30pm Wednesday (Dec. 9)

Sheridan Corners: Wednesday (Dec. 9, 16)

Argyle: 6-7:30pm Tuesday (Dec. 8)

Youth Group

Youth Group will be meeting in Dec. scheduled to do Christmas Caroling date to follow. Please bring a mask.

Youth group is for all 7th thru 12th graders. All are welcome and there is no charge.

Christian Initiation

Christian Initiation RCIA Meetings will be held on Sunday, Dec. 6 and Sunday, Dec. 20 at 6:30 pm at the St. Columbkille Church in the gathering room.

If you have any questions, please call

Dana Irion 989-553-0585 or

Fr. Nate at 989-658-8145.

Christ's Mission Appeal 2020

Our Parish is conducting the annual Christ's Mission Appeal. Our goal for this year is \$56,548 as of this week our Parish has pledged \$33,333. Please be generous to the Christ's Mission Appeal by sharing your gifts and blessings. Your contribution to Christ's Mission Appeal is a way of serving our brothers & sisters throughout the diocese and continuing the saving work begun by Jesus.

IPDL Board Members Needed:

The Interparish Deposit and Loan program (IPDL) now belongs to the parishes and a few Catholic organizations within the Diocese. As such, diocesan CFO Debbie Bierlein would like to add a few members to the Board, so it is more representative of our parishes. She is looking for some accounting or business folks as loan officers or committee members. They meet quarterly on the second Wednesday of the month: February, May, August and November from 2:00 - 4:00pm. If any interest call Debbie (989.213.5192) or email at dbierlein@dioceseofsaginaw.org.

VOLUNTEERS SCHEDULE:

Counters:

Please remember that we are counting on Tuesday until the end of the year! Thanks

Monday Dec. 7: Geraldine Peruski, Kay Peruski, Evenly Peruski

Dec. 15: Charlotte Baker, Shirley Piontkowski, Mary Jane Zurek

Dec. 22: Barb Roggenbuck, Del Czewski, Ann Ypma

4:00pm Saturday Mass Dec. 12th St John

Lector: Michelle Stomack

EMHC: Deb Osentoski

Ushers: Charlie Briolat, Mike Briolat, Jim Osentoski

8:30am Sunday Mass Dec. 13th St Joseph

Lector: Suzanne Kroetsch

EMHC: Bill Izydorek

Ushers: Gordon Farrelly, Chuck Izydorek

10:30am Sunday Mass Dec. 13th St Columbkille

Lector: Lori Osantoski

EMHC: Jerry Sweeney

Ushers: Ray Maurer, Donald McDonald



Giving Tree

Envelopes will be at the entrances of each church. Please take an envelope, place a monetary donation in the envelope and return it to the Sunday collection basket. The total money collected will be divided up into four and donated to the Homeless Coalition in Bad Axe & Sandusky, the Womens Shelter in Bad Axe and Eva's Place in Sandusky. Thank you in advance for your generosity.



Snow Removal

Looking for someone to do snow removal for just the sidewalks at our Argyle site for the winter season. If interested call the Parish office 989-658-8824.

The Blue books are in for advent. You can pick one up at each church entrances.

Please remember your parish when planning your estate

Jesus Thirsts for You!

Will you quench His thirst?

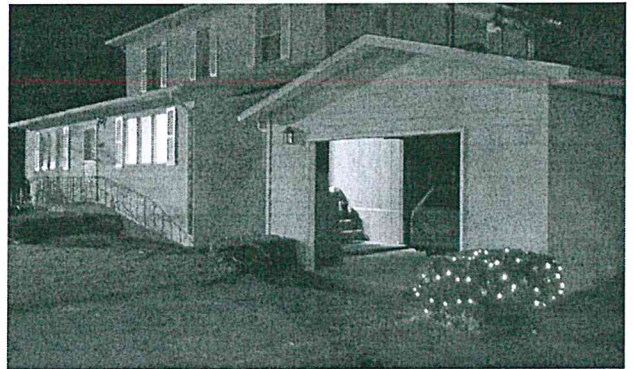
Fr. Nate's Update- December 6, 2020



(Left: all nine of my nieces and nephews, some dressed in costume for a thanksgiving play; below, first Advent "candle" lit in front of rectory)

Dear Reader, fellow **Saint-in-the-Making**, Happy Second Sunday of Advent AND St. Nicholas Day!

First, some humor: The smart-alec seminarian thought he had pulled a good one. On the final exam, which asked students to delve into the complexities of theology, he simply wrote: "Only God knows the answers to these questions!" Grading the paper, the professor wrote, "Nice proposition. If true, God gets 100. You get a 0."



ADVENT stands for: ASK Christ into your heart daily, DO the Works of Mercy, VALUE your family, EXAMINE your conscience, NOTICE God's beauty, THANK God for His gifts! See bulletin for examination of conscience guide.

Virtual Advent Parish Mission! Join us for 20 minutes for 3 Nights for a Virtual Advent Parish Mission! Good Shepherd Advent Parish Mission with Richard Lane, son of Dick "Night Train" Lane of the Detroit Lions hall of fame! See flyer in bulletin and parish Facebook for Zoom link and password.

(Or if you are reading this online: Password 503676; Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83197500656?pwd=TXBROUR5TmY3YWN3RGFqeE1YMFdxQT09>

Praying with a Nativity Scene for Advent: Some time this Advent, when you see a Nativity Scene, take a moment to pray with it. Reflect on baby Jesus. Think about how He was born for you and for your salvation. Thank Him. Ask Him to come into your heart every day, and in a new way at Christmas. Reflect on Mary and Joseph and all the trials they endured to care for their divine Son. Thank them. They will fill you with hope in your trials!

Advent Works of Mercy: For the Jubilee Year of Mercy, 2016, Pope Francis wrote, "It is my burning desire..." Wow! Again, he said, it is my BURNING DESIRE "that, during this Jubilee, the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty... Jesus introduces us to these works of mercy in his

preaching so that we can know whether or not we are living as his disciples." Besides the corporal works of mercy we just heard today, the Pope says, when we are judged by the Lord, *"we will be asked if we have helped others to escape the doubt that causes them to fall into despair... if we have been close to the lonely and afflicted; if we have forgiven those who have offended us and have rejected all forms of anger and hate that lead to violence; if we have had the kind of patience God shows, who is so patient with us; and if we have commended our brothers and sisters to the Lord in prayer. In each of these "little ones," Christ himself is present..."*

Advent Media Detox: I urge you to consider a "media detox" this Advent as a way to prepare for Christ coming into your heart in a new way this Christmas, and in your daily life. It's an appropriate time to turn off (or reduce) the media/news/facebook and spend more heart to heart time with Jesus in prayer and Scripture meditation. This quality time with the Lord, laying our heads on His Heart like St. John, brings true peace.

I Confess (Confiteor): We will use the "I Confess" option for the "penitential act" at the beginning of Mass during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent: *I confess to almighty God, and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, [strike breast] through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous [pronounced "gree-vis"] fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.*

VACCINES FOR COVID-19: From the US Bishops' Committees on Doctrine and Pro-life Activities: "Neither the Pfizer nor the Moderna vaccine involved the use of cell lines that originated in fetal tissue taken from the body of an aborted baby at any level of design, development, or production. They are not completely free from any connection to abortion, however, as both Pfizer and Moderna made use of a tainted cell line for one of the confirmatory lab tests of their products. There is thus a connection, but it is relatively remote. Some are asserting that if a vaccine is connected in any way with tainted cell lines then it is immoral to be vaccinated with them. This is an inaccurate portrayal of Catholic moral teaching..." From the Catholic Health Association of the USA: "...using the guidelines released by the Vatican's Pontifical Academy for Life in 2005 and 2017 on the origin of vaccines, CHA ethicists, in collaboration with other Catholic bioethicists, find nothing morally prohibitive with the vaccines developed by Pfizer and BioNTech and Moderna. CHA encourages Catholic health organizations to distribute the vaccines developed by these companies."

Pray for Those with Covid: I have been hearing of more and more parishioners getting Covid lately. For confidentiality I can't name them. Keep them in your prayers, especially those in the hospital.

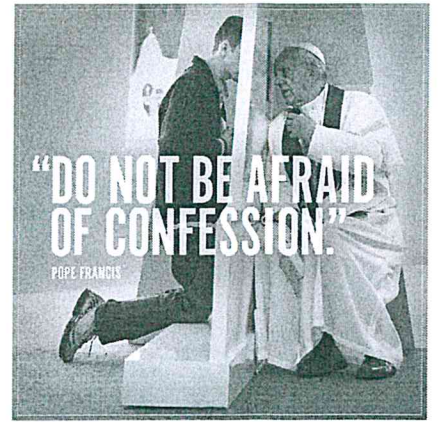
Livestream Masses: Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday evening Masses will be streamed on our parish Facebook page. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be live streamed at 10:50am Fridays.

PRAY WITH ME...

(Pope's DECEMBER Intention): We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer (Lord, hear our prayer!)

God loves you, I love you, I pray for you, please pray for me! -Fr. Nate Harburg

I Must Confess, Confession Makes Me Nervous!



I must confess. I sometimes get a bit nervous about going to confession, even though I'm striving to monthly. It's always humbling! Scripture tells us, "*humble yourself in the sight of the Lord*"! Jesus' first sermon was "Repent and believe in the Gospel", and eventually gave His life to win forgiveness for us. Jesus had you, and me, specifically in mind when he instituted this sacrament.

God wants everyone to experience the JOY of being forgiven by God in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus says to you and to me, "*If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love.... These things I have spoken to you, that my JOY may be in you, and that your JOY may be full.*" (Jn. 15:10-11). Here are some truths we must accept to experience the JOY of the Sacrament of Confession:

- God loves us, thirsts for our love in return, and desires our eternal happiness
- We will experience true happiness only if we do God's will and follow God's laws
- "Sin is an utterance, a deed, or a desire contrary to the eternal law." (Catechism 1871)
- The evil one wants us to avoid or neglect Confession and lose our "sense of sin"
- It gives Jesus JOY and consolation to forgive us through His priests in the sacrament of Confession

"I can't get to Confession because of Covid": If you can't get to Confession, e.g. you have discerned in your relationship with Jesus that it wouldn't be prudent to go to Confession or Mass because you are immunocompromised, elderly, etc., the Catechism has comforting words: Contrition is "sorrow of the soul and detestation for the sin committed, together with the resolution not to sin again." "When it arises from a love by which God is loved above all else, contrition is called "perfect"... Such contrition remits venial sins; it also obtains forgiveness of mortal sins if it includes the firm resolution to have recourse to sacramental confession as soon as possible." (CCC 1451-52). Pray for perfect contrition; confess your sins each day to prepare for when you can go to Confession!

"I haven't gone to Confession for 10... 25... 50+ years" or "I've never gone" or "Confession isn't for me": Jesus says, "*Do not be afraid; just have faith*" (Mark 5:36). "Christ instituted the sacrament of Penance for all sinful members of his Church: above all for those who, since Baptism, have fallen into grave sin..." (CCC 1446).

"Why confess to a priest? Can't I just confess in my heart?" This is the first step, but it DOESN'T provide:

1. absolution (which removes the guilt and penalty due to sin) and the JOY of hearing, "your sins are forgiven"
2. complete reconciliation with God and the Church (represented by the priest)
3. a customized penance, allowing you to make atonement
4. the healing and freeing experience of confessing aloud
5. encouragement from the priest

"A priest was harsh with me one time": Most priests strive to reflect God's mercy in the confessional. Psalm 103:13 says, "*As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on the faithful*" and priests are supposed to reveal the Father's compassion to us! If a priest has ever been harsh to you, I apologize on their behalf.

"How do I prepare for confession?"

1. ASK the Holy Spirit to reveal your sins to you, and to give you true sorrow for your sins
2. EXAMINE your conscience
3. SCHEDULE a date/time/location in your calendar (be aware: it's likely something will come up; if so, reschedule)

"What is mortal sin and venial sin?": Simply put, mortal sin destroys our friendship with God, while venial sin damages it. Picture a jar filled to the brim with water. Imagine dropping a rock into the jar. If we drop in a rock (a venial sin), we lose a bit of water (sanctifying grace). If we dump out the jar (commit a mortal sin), we need to get it refilled as soon as possible, or we are in serious danger of permanently turning away from God. In Confession, Jesus refills our jar with the water of "sanctifying grace." "*All who thirst, let him come to me and drink*" (Jn 7:37)

Examination of Conscience

First, pray: "Holy Spirit, please show me my sins. Give me true sorrow for them, and deeper love for God!"

I. I am the Lord your God; you shall not have false gods before me.

- Have I loved God with my whole heart, mind, and strength?
- Have I sought money, power, sexuality, or any other lesser good as if it were the supreme good?
- Have I rejected God's revelation as it comes to me through Scriptures and Church teaching?
- Have I despaired of God's help? Have I taken for granted God's mercy?
- Have I placed faith in superstition, including any form of the occult: horoscopes, tarot, ouija board, etc.?

II. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

- Have I disrespected God's Name in speech, or disrespected things or persons dedicated to God?
- Have I lied under oath or failed to keep vows made in God's sight?

III. You shall keep holy the Sabbath day.

- Have I failed, through my own fault, to worship God by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation? (see above note re: Covid)
- Have I kept Sunday holy by using it as a day for recreation, charitable activity, extra prayer, family time?
- Have I rested sufficiently to renew me for the work that awaits in the coming week?

IV. You shall honor your father and your mother.

- Have I fulfilled my obligations toward my parents, especially in their advancing years?
- Have I been respectfully obedient to just laws and spoken respectfully about authorities?

V. You shall not kill.

- Have I knowingly contributed to, or permitted in any way, the taking of human life through murder, abortion, abortifacient forms of birth control (devices, pills, etc.), or euthanasia? (see note about "Natural Family Planning" below)
- Have I done damage to another's health or well-being in any way?
- Have I risked my own wellbeing through the use of alcohol, drugs, or other self-destructive behavior?
- Have I allowed my anger to lead me to uncharitable thoughts or deeds?
- Have I wished ill fate to befall someone?
- Have I been a bad example to others or possibly led them to sin?

VI. and IX. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse.

- Have I engaged in voluntary sexual intercourse outside of marriage?
- Within marriage, have I engaged in sexual activity without regard for showing love to my spouse, or without openness to the possibility of conception? ("Natural Family Planning", if used for serious and unselfish reasons, can be practiced to postpone pregnancy temporarily or indefinitely)
- Have I been sexually impure with myself or others? Used pornography? (for help, see catholicinrecovery.com)
- Was my marriage celebrated in the Catholic Church, or if not, with proper permission?

VII and X. You shall not steal. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

- Have I taken the goods of another or done willful damage to them?
- Have I taken the intellectual property of others by taking their ideas without giving proper credit?
- Have I failed to give my employer an honest day's work for an honest day's pay?
- Have I failed to be generous to the poor, realizing that my money is God's money?
- Have I been ungrateful for my own blessings from God and envied those of my neighbor?

VIII. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

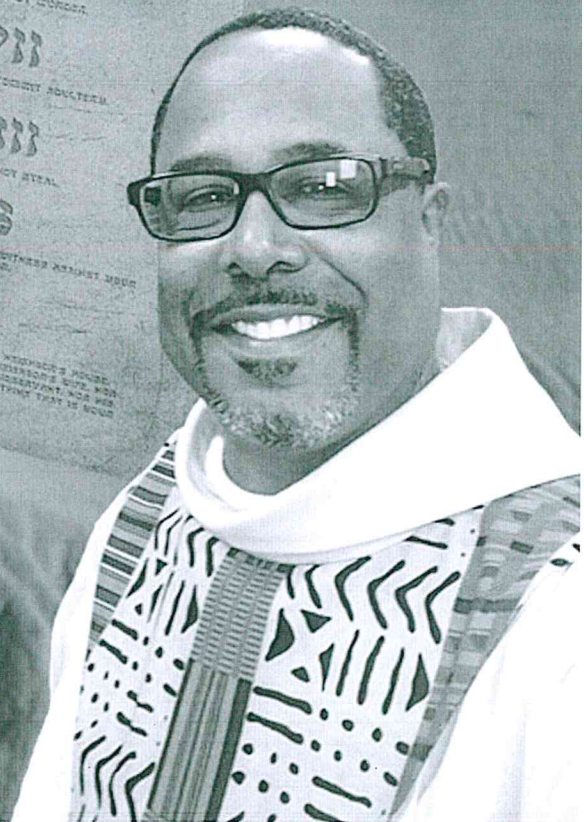
- Have I told lies? Have I gossiped, even if what I shared was true? Disclosed the faults of another without serious reason for doing so? Willfully and maliciously damaged another's reputation?

Virtual Parish Mission With Richard Lane

Exodus

2020

Join us for 20 minutes!
Three nights of
Prayer - Praise and
Purpose for Advent.
Let's emerge from the
darkness and embrace
the LIGHT coming into
the world.



GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH - UBLY, MICHIGAN

MON-WED-FRI, DEC. 7-9-11, 7:00PM EST

Find Zoom Link At:

[Fb.me/goodshepherdubly](https://fb.me/goodshepherdubly)



RichardLaneMinistries.com

Advent/Christmas 2020: Schedule of Holy Day Masses and Individual Confessions

(Note: no Communal Reconciliation Services this year)

- Tues. December 8th - (Holy Day) Immaculate Conception Mass 11am - St Columbkille
Tues. December 8th - (Holy Day) Immaculate Conception Mass 7pm - St John, Ugly
Every Saturday (except Dec. 26 & Jan. 16) Individual Confessions 11am-12pm - St Columbkille
Tues. December 15th - Individual Confessions 7-8pm - St Joseph, Argyle
Wed. Dec. 16th - Individual Confessions 5:30-6:15pm - St John, Ugly
Thurs. Dec. 17th - Individual Confessions WITH VISITING PRIEST 5-6:30pm - St John, Ugly
Thurs. Dec. 17th - Individual Confessions 7:45-8:30pm - St Columbkille, Sheridan
Tues. Dec. 22nd - Individual Confessions WITH VISITING PRIEST 7-8pm - St Joseph, Argyle
Wed. December 23rd - Individual Confessions 5:30-6:15pm - St John, Ugly
Thurs. December 24th - Christmas Eve Mass 4pm St John, Ugly (overflow in gym with livestream; livestream on Facebook)
Thurs. December 24th - Christmas Eve Mass 6pm St Columbkille, Sheridan (NO OVERFLOW; call office to confirm if seating available 658-8824; please consider Christmas DAY Mass INSTEAD at St. Columbkille, or another Mass)
Thurs. December 24th - Christmas Eve Mass 8pm St Joseph, Argyle (overflow in gym with livestream; livestream on Facebook)
Fri. December 25th - Christmas Day Mass 9am - St Ignatius, Freiburg
Fri., December 25th - Christmas Day Mass 10:30am - St Columbkille, Sheridan (Due to spacing limits, please consider this Mass INSTEAD of Christmas Eve Mass)
Thurs. December 31st - (Holy Day) Mary, Mother of God Mass 4pm - St. John, Ugly
Fri. January 1st - (Holy Day) Mary, Mother of God Mass 9:30am - St. Ignatius, Freiburg



We are proud to introduce ourselves as the Holy Land Carvings group from the Holy Land. We have come to the United States representing the Christian wood carvers of Bethlehem that rely on the tourism to support their families.

Due to the bad situation and the interruption of the tourist trade, thousands of families in the Holy Land are in danger of having to leave their homes in search of work. Our mission is to bring and sell the Olive wood Carvings to the Catholic Churches in the United State to help the Christian families remain in their homes and support their families. These Christians who make their livelihood through the selling of their hand carved Olive Wood religious items are depending on us to bring these beautiful carvings, such as Nativity Scenes, Crucifixes, Rosaries, Statues, Picture of the Last Supper, and several other religious items to you.

Please look over these carvings that are available to you at the weekend of December 19 & 20 and help support this self-help project that enables to keep the Christians present in the Holy Land.

Your help and understanding in this crucial matter are greatly appreciated. Thank you