

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**KNIGHTS TOOTSIE ROLL SALE**—There will be a representative from the Knights of Columbus in the gathering space at both Masses this weekend selling Tootsie Rolls and/or collecting donations for needy children. Please help them by purchasing some Tootsie Rolls.

**GIVING TREE**—The giving tree is up in the gathering space. This year we are pairing with Pantry of Hope, a charitable organization who primarily helps families who have fallen through the cracks and cannot get help from the government in any way for one reason or another. This year we have three different children; two from one single mother and one from another single mother. The Pantry only has people buy for the children but we put an ornament on the tree for a gift card for each Mom just as a surprise. Please wrap or bag your presents and tape the ornament to the outside and return to church by December 16.

**COLLECTION FOR RETIRED RELIGIOUS**—This collection to support our elderly religious brothers and sisters will be Dec. 12 & 13. Please be as generous as possible.

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**—Mass for this holy day of obligation will be December 8th at 6:30 PM.

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**—Dec. 24: 6:00 PM & 10:00 PM; Dec. 25: 9:00 AM



### FROM THE PASTOR—ADVENT

We inaugurate a whole new liturgical year today with this First Sunday of Advent. We are now counting down towards the celebration of Christmas and the birth of the Savior of the nations. The season of Advent, though penitential (hence the purple and the absence of the Gloria on Sundays), still carries a great joy within it. The events to which we are drawing near remind us that Christ the savior came into the world for us and to be with us.

The theme of “coming” pervades the season of Advent. The very word “Advent” comes from the Latin word *adventus* which means “coming” or “arrival.” There are a variety of comings which are recalled to our mind during this season.

We obviously celebrate the first coming of Christ as a human being born in a specific time and place just like us. The four weeks of Advent can remind us of the four various ages that existed before the birth of the Savior:

the creation of the universe reaching its pinnacle in humanity,

the fall of humanity from the bliss of the Garden and the first travails in the world,

the calling of Abraham to become the father of nations and becoming the first of the people of God,

finally, the tribe of the Israelite people led by God through Moses into freedom and their own kingdom.

We also recall and prepare for the final coming of Christ. Today’s liturgy very much reflects this theme of expectation of Christ to return not in history but at the end of time, in His full and terrifying majesty to bring about the Last Judgment.

Jesus warns us often to “stay awake” (see today’s Gospel) and watch for when He comes, for we do not know the day or the hour.

We also are called to remember the daily coming of Christ into our lives. The greatest means He has of doing this is through the sacraments, above all the Most Holy Eucharist. But Jesus also comes to us in our neighbor, especially the poor, which is why we are called to give as we have received.

We ought to meditate upon and consider these various ways in which Jesus comes into our lives and how we respond to these comings. We ought to prepare ourselves well by acknowledging and repenting of our sins, in particular through the reception of Confession, and striving to live in emulation of Christ and the saints in preparation for Jesus to come to us, whether in humility as a child or our neighbor, or in the terrifying majesty of the King and Judge come to fulfill His promises. Let us stay awake beginning this Advent season for Jesus to come that we may welcome Him not just with words but with the gift of a holy and virtuous life.

*Fr. Jacob Straub*



## SAINT MATTHEW CHURCH

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### MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY ANTICIPATED MASS: 5:00 PM

SUNDAY: 9:00 AM

WEEKDAYS: See schedule inside bulletin

### STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Jacob Straub (859) 445-2436

Religious Education: Roseanne Rawe (859) 635-1572

Bulletin/Prayer List: Linda Fryman (859) 240-2377

Parish History/Cemetery Info: Patty Neuspickel (859) 472-2508

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

Nov. 22	TBA
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Please do not forget to mail or drop off your weekly offerings for our collection.

<b>MASS SCHEDULE</b>		
<i>THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>		
Sat. Nov. 28	5:00 PM	Rose Laughlin
Sun. Nov. 29	9:00 AM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Mon. Nov. 30		No Public Mass
Tue. Dec. 1	XXXXX	No Public Mass THIS WEEK ONLY
Wed Dec. 2	6:30 PM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Thur Dec. 3	8:30 AM	For Raymond Klump
Fri Dec. 4		No Public Mass
<i>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>		
Sat. Dec. 5	5:00 PM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Sun. Dec. 6	9:00 AM	For Patricia Groeschen

**Prayer List**—Jerry Ehlman, Eileen Ehlman, Sherri Moffett, Kenny Neuspickel, Kathy Barth, Charles Taylor, Ed Gripshover, Joy Sowder, Kathy Proctor, Steve Elmlinger, Sarah Hoffman, Mary Louise Cross, Ken Steffen, Cotton Teegarden, Mike Newcomb, Fr. Mario Tizziani, Jeffery Huffman, Ed Grant, Don Bornhorst, Tom Geiman, John Hofstetter, Vernon Dixon, Bill Schneider, Chris Rauf, Katie Davis, Barry Bergman, Andrew Lauck, Bradley Franzen, and everyone who has been touched by the Corona virus.

**BIRTHDAYS** – Dec. 2- Andrea Huffman, Dec. 24-Patty Neuspickel, Dec. 26-Imogene Fisk, Dec. 29-Megan Oldiges, Dec. 30-Michael Ryan, Jan. 1-Mary Cross

**ANNIVERSARIES** – Dec. 7 - Howard and Penny Kluesener, Dec. 13 -Rosanne and Bernie Rawe, Dec. 13 – Jason and Julie Feinauer



*St. Andrew the Apostle*

Feast: November 30

Brother of Saint Peter and fisherman; one of the first disciples of Jesus; preached the Gospel in modern Iran and Caucasus mountain regions; martyred by crucifixion on X-shaped cross

**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**READINGS & HYMNS**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear,  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel!

**FIRST READING** (Isaiah 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7)

You, Lord, are our father, our redeemer you are named forever. Why do you let us wander, O Lord, from your ways, and harden our hearts so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down, with the mountains quaking before you, while you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for, such as they had not heard of from of old. No ear has even heard, no eye ever seen, any God but you doing such deeds for those who wait for him. Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways! Behold, you are angry, and we are sinful, all of us have become like unclean people, all our good deeds are like polluted rags; we have all withered like leaves, and our guilt carries us away like the wind. There is none who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to cling to you; for you have hidden your face from us and have delivered us up to our guilt. Yet, O Lord, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** (80)

R: Lord, make us turn to you: let us see your face and we shall be saved.  
O shepherd of Israel, hearken, from your throne upon the cherubim, shine forth. Rouse your power, and come to save us.

R: Lord, make us turn to you: let us see your face and we shall be saved.  
Once again, O Lord of hosts, look down from heaven, and see: take care of this vine, and protect what your right hand has planted, the son of man whom you yourself made strong.

R: Lord, make us turn to you: let us see your face and we shall be saved.  
May your help be with the man of your right hand, with the son of man whom you yourself made strong. Then we will no more withdraw from you; give us new life, and we will call upon your name.

R: Lord, make us turn to you: let us see your face and we shall be saved.

**SECOND READING** (1 Cor 1:3-9)

Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus, that in him you were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge, as the testimony to Christ was confirmed among you, so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will keep you firm to the end, irreproachable on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, and by him you were called to fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia. Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

**GOSPEL** (Mark 13:33-37)

Jesus said to his disciples: “Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come. It is like a man traveling, abroad. He leaves home and places

his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch. Watch, therefore; you do not know when the lord of the house is coming, whether in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockscrow, or in the morning. May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping. What I say to you, I say to all: ‘Watch!’

**HYMN OF COMMUNION**

*There is a Longing*  
*Refrain:* There is a longing in our hearts, O Lord, for you to reveal yourself to us. There is a longing in our hearts for love we only find in you, our God. For justice, for freedom, for mercy; hear our prayer In sorrow, in grief; be near, hear our prayer, O God.

*Refrain*  
For wisdom, for courage, for comfort; hear our prayer. In weakness, in fear; be near, hear our prayer, O God.  
*Refrain*  
For healing, for wholeness, for new life: hear our prayer, In sickness, in death; be near, hear our prayer, O God.  
*Refrain*

**CONCLUDING HYMN**

People, look East. The time is near  
Of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able.  
Trim the hearth and set the table.  
People look East, and sing today;  
Love, the Guest is on the way.

Angels, announce on this great feast;  
Him who cometh from the East.  
Set ev’ry peak and valley humming  
With the word, the Lord is coming.  
People look East and sing today;  
Love the Lord is on the way.