

St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church

(Handicapped Accessible)

215 Main Street East, New Prague, MN 56071

website: <http://www.saintwenceslaus.org>



Bulletin for the Week December 6th, 2009

Second Sunday of Advent



Reflection-

A waiting person is a patient person. The word “patience” implies the willingness to stay where we are and live the situation out to the full in the belief that something hidden there will manifest itself to us. Patient living means to live actively in the present and wait there. Impatient people expect the real thing to happen somewhere else, and therefore they want to get away from the present situation and go elsewhere. For them, the moment is empty. But patient people dare to stay where they are, waiting.

O God, help us to be patient, knowing that all good gifts come from you in your own time.

Reflection for the children-

Some ads make a toy seem so cool, so amazing, that we just can't wait to have it. But when we finally get one, we soon realize the truth: it doesn't do all the things the ads promised. It isn't as much fun as we thought. What a disappointment! If we put all our hope in things, or even people, we may end up very disappointed. Things never are as good as they seem on TV. People sometimes break promises and let us down. But hope in God does not disappoint. God is ever faithful and everlasting. Place all hope in him. He's even bigger and better than we think. What hopes do you have? What does it mean to put your hope in God?

*God, I have many hopes for what I want to be, do and have.
May each of these hopes always be rooted in you. Amen*

2009 Holiday Schedule

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Tues, Dec 8th, 7pm Mass - SWS All School Mass, 8:00am

***Advent Penitential Celebration** *without sacramental absolution*

Thurs. Dec 10th, 7PM & Sat. Dec 12th, 11AM—Church

Reconciliation for Residents of Mala Strana

Thurs. Dec 17th, 11am

St. Wenceslaus School Program

Mon, Dec 21st, 6:30pm - Church

Christmas Eve Thursday, Dec 24th

4pm Mass, 6:00pm Mass, 9:30PM Mass

(Sing carols with the Adult Choir starting at 9:00pm)

Christmas Day-Friday, Dec 25th

10:30 AM Mass

Word & Communion at Mala Strana – 11am

New Year's Day-Friday Jan 1st

10:30 AM Mass

***Advent Penitential Celebration** [without sacramental absolution] invites a gathering of the people of God to foster conversion and renewal of life. The celebration announces our freedom from sin through the death and resurrection of Christ.

2nd Sunday in Advent

SECURING the PRESENT Capital Campaign Year End Gifting Opportunities

This is the time of year when many people consider offering charitable contributions to their favorite charities. We hope that you consider the Church of St. Wenceslaus as one of your favorites. Here are a few ideas to help maximize the benefits of your giving for you and our parish.

Christmas Envelopes

There is a Christmas envelope in your December packet. We hope that you will maintain your regular weekly support along with offering a special Christmas contribution. Please give generously. Our annual operating budget is based on using both envelopes.

Automatic Withdrawal – Electronic Funds Transfer

Please consider using our automatic giving program through our ACH program. Automatic deductions will be taken from your bank account on the 15th and the 30th of each month. You don't have to worry about writing a check – it's all done electronically! Forms are available in the parish office.

Stock Contributions

Appreciated stock is a great way to make a contribution AND perhaps maximize your tax benefit. You may eliminate substantial taxes on capital gains realized between the date you purchased the stock and the date of the contribution.

IRA Charitable Deduction

Tax incentives were put in place last year to stimulate charitable contributions for persons age 70.5 and older, who may wish to direct up to \$100,000 from their Individual Retirement Account to our parish. To qualify you must act before Dec. 31, 2009.

Employer Matching Funds

You may wish to consult with your employer to determine if a matching gift can double the value of your contribution to our Catholic school.

“Securing the Present” Capital Campaign

We have created a special capital campaign account separate from our regular operating fund. The fund continues to grow as new commitments are received and we proceed to invite a 48-month commitment from all remaining registered households. If you have not offered your response please complete your decision and return it to me this week.

If you need help in structuring a year-end contribution, please contact me and I will be pleased to provide the appropriate resources you may need to complete your gift. Thank you!

Fr. Kevin

BIBLE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Dec 07: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26

Dec 08: Gen 3:-15,20; Lk 1:26-38

Dec 09: Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30

Dec 10: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Dec 11: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Dec 12: Zech 2:14-17; Lk 1:26-38

From the Desk of Deacon Bob

We encounter for the first time in this new liturgical year, the person of John the Baptist. John is a pivotal person in salvation history. His mighty voice echoes over time and space to our current day, and his call to repent is as pertinent and urgent as it was 2000 years ago.

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Did you notice, there was no tone of gloom and doom in the timbre of his message? His call for repentance is laced with excitement in anticipation for an event so extraordinary, so joyous that the mere thought of what is going to happen leaves all dumbfounded. It is so humanity will be able to fully embrace the wonder of Christ's imminent arrival, that John calls us to transform our lives today if not even sooner.

If we have not already begun this joyous task of life transformation, let us begin today. As we open another door in our home Advent calendar, let us open our hearts, our spirits, our minds to the transforming love of our God. Light another candle on your Advent wreaths at home. Jesus is getting nearer and nearer.

Deacon Bob

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Baptism Preparation class will be held on Monday, December 14th at 7 pm in Pius X room, church basement. If you are first time parents you will need to attend this quick preparation class. Please call Deacon Bob if you have any questions at 758-0463.

Word/Communion ministers. Every weekend, women and men from our parish celebrate the presence of Christ with seniors and others who are confined to their homes and apartment complexes. These Word/Communion services are a vital way to bring Christ to others who find it increasingly difficult to get to church. We are in need of more men and women to help lead this prayer. All that is required is a reverence for the Eucharist and the Word of God, and the desire to share the same with others. Training will be provided. If you are interested, please call Deacon Bob at 952-758-0463

Advent Vespers. Throughout Advent, Vespers (also known as Evening Prayer) is being celebrated on Friday evenings at 7 pm at the churches of St. Thomas and St. Scholastica. On Friday, December 11th, Vespers will be prayed at St. Scholastica in Heidelberg. On Friday, December 18th, Vespers will be prayed at St. Thomas, St. Thomas. We invite you to come and make this prayer part of your Advent preparation for Christmas.

Hospital/Rehab Pastoral Visits. HIPPA laws prevent hospitals, nursing homes, and short-term care facilities from automatically informing pastors and parishes when parishioners are ill or recuperating in their facilities. If you or your loved ones are in the hospital or undergoing rehab in short-term care facilities and would like a pastoral visit, please call Deacon Bob at 952-758-0463

PARISH NEWS

Our Act of Faith Weekly Financial Gifts

Actual for the week 11/29.....	\$ 16,331
Over Budget.....	+ \$ 1,874
Actual YTD.....	\$ 333,280
Budgeted for Next Week.....	\$ 14,457

*Please remember St. Wenceslaus Endowment Fund
in your wills and other estate planning.*

2009 CALENDAR CORNER

*Thank you Ruhland Landscape & Design for being this week's calendar sponsor. **Congratulations to the following winners:***

11/30 #3527 Kelly Vandervoort	12/1 #3662 Ann Marie Witt
12/2 #2927 Tanya Sabol	12/3 #2421 Deb Meyer
12/4 #1104 Mary Jo Becker	12/5 #2756 John Pavek
12/6 #1325 Martha Carr	

2nd Sunday in Advent

Dad's Belgian Waffles are coming to St. Wenceslaus on Sunday, Dec. 13th. Serving from 8-noon in the Church Basement. All you can eat waffles, sausages, juice, beverages. Tickets will be available at the door. The cost of the tickets are, \$6.50 adults, \$5.00 youth 6-12 and Confirmation youth, children 5 & under free.



Thank you to all of you that have dropped of paper and cardboard with us during our paper drive. We filled the first trailer in only five Saturdays! We want to extend another Huge Thank You to the following volunteers- Kevin Siegle, Joe Wondra, Dean & Emma Blenker,

Jeremy & Alice Schmid, Elaine Harty, Michelle & Max Redfern, Gail Hunt, Dave Bruzek, Scot and Amy Pexa, John Reyant, Tim & Gloria Flicek, John Berg, and a very special thank you to Jack Lapeska who walks from Mala Strana every Sat morning to help us out! You are all a constant reminder to us that God is truly present. Thank You So Very Much! The trailer is open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 9:00 – 10:30 am.

Looking for persons to care for the Altar plants for Jan, Feb, and March. Even 1 or 2 weeks would help. Call Cathy Vossen if you can help at 758-5017.

Today is Commitment Sunday for our first year Confirmation youth. They are pledging to take an active part in their formation for Confirmation by participating in Sunday morning classes, attending parish liturgies, working with their sponsors and doing parish service. Please pray for them. If you are willing to become a prayer partner for a youth, pick up an envelope from the back of church and fill out and return the attached form. Thank you very much.

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Assn. Branch W001 will hold their quarterly meeting on Tues., December 8 at 7PM at The Classic Grille.

Holiday Community Concert



Join us here in church on Sunday evening at 7pm for a night of Holiday worship as different vocal groups perform an assortment of holiday classics as well as some fresh, new selections. The program is free and everyone is welcome!

WINTER WONDERLAND



Attention All parish families of preschool-aged children. Working together on character building crafts is a great way to increase a child's understanding of their faith and create lasting memories of these precious early childhood years! Advance registration is required to ensure adequate supplies are available. A parent must also accompany preschool children. Our Christmas craft will take place on Wednesday, December 16th, at 6:30 pm in the preschool classroom. Please call 758-3133 to register.

ADOPT-A-FAMILY FOR CHRISTMAS



Please consider helping to make Christmas brighter for a family. Family request slips may be obtained by calling Kathy McNamara, at 758-6239.

If you would rather donate cash, groups of shoppers from our YAC group will shop for you. Please make checks payable to Adopt-A-Family. Thank you!

TARGET FIELD TRAINING will be held here at St. Wenceslaus on Thursday, Dec. 10th at 5pm. For more information and to sign up for training contact Gail Hunt at 758-

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3133 or 758-3961 or Lu Tupy at 758-4097. What a great way to volunteer!



Youth from our parish will be going on a Guatemalan Mission trip this summer to work at an orphanage. They will be offering some wonderful Fair Trade coffee and food items after all the masses December 5 & 6. Items will be available to order and receive in time for Christmas entertaining. Please consider helping out our youth by stopping to check out what they are offering.

MEETINGS & EVENTS

Monday, Dec. 07:

Fatima Prayer Cell after am service, Chapel

Tuesday, Dec. 08:

Fatima Prayer Cell after AM service, Chapel

Wednesday, Dec 09:

Early AM scripture study, 6:45-7:50 am, Pius X Room

Fatima Prayer Cell after am service, Chapel

Faith Formation Classes

Thursday, Dec 10:

B-Day Club, after am Mass, Church Basement

Target Field Training, 7pm, Church Basement

Friday, Dec 11:

Adoration, 9 pm-11 pm, Chapel

Saturday Dec 12:

Fr. Kevin's Bible Study ,9:30-11:00am Pius X Room,

Dorothy Day Meal Prep

Sunday Dec 13:

Waffle Breakfast

Confirmation Classes

Sunday School 10:30-11:30am

RCIA Meets, Parish House Dining Room

Private Party, 11:30-2:30, PAC

PARISH LITURGY

M-F Rosary 7:30 AM Sat. at 8:00 AM

Monday, December 7

8 AMWord & Communion Service

Tuesday, December 8 **Immaculate Conception**

8 AM.....School Mass planned by 6th Grade

7 PM.....Mass

Wednesday, December 9

8 AM.....Judy & Anna Ruzicka, Billy Tupy

Thursday, December 10

8:00 AM.....Emil & Elsie Novak

7 PM.....Advent Penitential Service

Friday, December 11

8 AM.....Jake Kartak

Saturday, December 12 **Our Lady of Guadalupe**

11 AM.....Advent Penitential Service

4 PM.....Joe & Marg Shea & Ernie Wermerskirshen

.....Jim Syltie, Ben & Lorraine Antony

Sunday, December 13 *Third Sunday of Advent*

8:30AM.....Emmanuel & Julia Schoenbauer, Evelyn Lang

.....Bohumil Pavek, All Franek & Schoenbauer Families

10:30 AM.....John Oniskin