

DECEMBER 6, 2009

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, December 8, Holy Day

Immaculate Conception

6:30 pm- Joe & Olga Targac

Sunday, December 13

9:15 am- Rudolph & Henrietta Pesek

Sunday, December 20

9:15 am- Wence & Jonathon Shimek

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve

12:00 am (Midnight)- Blasé Konvicka, Sr.

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

9:15 am- Living & deceased members of
Theo Hermes Family

Sunday, December 27

9:15 am- Leon D. Sitka

Friday, January 1, New Year's Day

9:15 am- Joe & Olga Targac

Sunday, January 3

9:15 am- blasé Konvicka, Sr.

ROSARY LEADERS

Dec. 8 – Sandy Konvicka

Dec. 13 – Ruth Rouse

Dec. 20 – Dorothy Schneider

Dec. 24 – Janie Fikac

Dec. 25 – Sandy Konvicka

Dec. 27 – Lucille Klekar

Jan. 1 – Angela Hermes

Jan. 3 – Janie Fikac

CANTORS

Dec. 8 – Richard Rouse

Dec. 13 – Ruth Rouse

Dec. 20 – Emily Schimcek

Dec. 24 – Ruth Rouse

Dec. 25 – John Hemmi

Dec. 27 – Richard Rouse

Jan. 1 – Ruth Rouse

Jan. 3 – Lucille Klekar

LECTORS

Dec. 8 – Dedie Dobbs

Dec. 13 – Garrett Henke

Dec. 20 – Maria Hermes

Dec. 24 – Daniel J. Matula

Dec. 25 – Anthony Matula

Dec. 27 – Dorothy Schneider

Jan. 1 – Dedie Dobbs

Jan. 3 – Maria Hermes



ALTAR SERVERS

Dec. 8 – Shelly & Shawn Rainosek, Joshua Bludau,
Kelly Janak

Dec. 13 – Kasey Hairell, Adam Hermes, Jacob Janak

Dec. 20 – Erin Svetlik, Michael Perdizak, Luke
Scherer, Kelton Koehne

Dec. 24 – Eric Klekar, Kasey Hairell, Kyle & Kaitlyn
Rother

Dec. 25 – Mikayla, John & Derek Konvicka, Alexius
Mizera

Dec. 27 – Samuel & Simon Machicek, Hunter &
Kolby Janak

Jan. 1 – Ross & Clay Rother, Adam Hermes, Joshua
Bludau

Jan. 3 – Mikayla, John & Derek Konvicka, Alexius
Mizera

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Dec. 13 – Vivian Mozisek, Mary Urbish, Scott
Sommerlatte

Dec. 20 – Edward & Sandra Pustka, Trina
Sommerlatte

Dec. 24 – Janice Rother, Nancy & Leon Etzler

Dec. 25 – Dedie Dobbs, Tony & Joyce Bludau

Dec. 27 – Evelyn Konvicka, Bev & Billy Hrcncir

Jan. 3 – Patrick Pesek, Mary Urbish, Richard
Sommerlatte

CHURCH USHERS

Dec. 8 – Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar,
Sidney Jasek

Dec. 13 – Eugene Gillar, Robert Sciba, Alois
Bujnoch, Richard Sommerlatte

Dec. 20 – Bubba Kocian, Scott Blaschke, Gilbert
Mozisek, Marvin Bujnoch

Dec. 24 – Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Charles
Grafe, Gilbert Urbish

Dec. 25 – Leon Matula, Al Svetlik, Francis Klekar,
Sidney Jasek



CHURCH USHERS (Continued)

Dec. 27 – Roman Henke, Robert Pustka, Charles Grafe, Gilbert Urbish
Jan. 1 – Eugene Gillar, Robert Sciba, Alois Bujnoch, Richard Sommerlatte
Jan. 3 – Bubba Kocian, Scott Blaschke, Gilbert Mozisek, Marvin Bujnoch

OFFERTORY GIFT BEARERS

Dec. 8 – Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Janak & Family
Dec. 13 – Mr. & Mrs. Larry Janak & Family
Dec. 20 – Wence Shimek Family
Dec. 24 – Sharon Janak
Dec. 25 – Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Jasek
Dec. 27 – Mr. & Mrs. Ludwig Janak
Jan. 1 – Mr. & Mrs. Victor Kahanek
Jan. 3 – Mr. & Mrs. Steven Koehne & Family

CHURCH CLEANERS

Dec. 5 – Susan Janak, Betty Bujnoch, Lucille Bujnoch
Dec. 12 – Bernice Schulte, Gerda Janak
Dec. 19 – Barbara Matula, Monica Matula
Dec. 26 – Katherine Kahanek, Angela Hermes
Jan. 2 – Rosalie Tobola, Glenda Tobola, Angeline Ulcak

OUR GIFT TO GOD

	<u>Loose</u>	<u>Envelope</u>
Nov. 1	\$191.00	\$528.00
Nov. 8	\$172.00	\$552.00
Nov. 15	\$164.75	\$528.00
Nov. 22	\$131.00	\$445.00
Nov. 29	\$119.00	\$384.00

Children's Collection: \$87.32

Building Repair Fund: \$743.00

MASS ATTENDANCE

Nov. 1 – 300	Nov. 8 – 305
Nov. 15 – 310	Nov. 22 – 315
Nov. 29 – 325	

From the Desk of Father John

This weekend we celebrate the Second Sunday of Advent. We also celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas.

According to the old folk tale, St. Nicholas "Svatý Mikuláš" comes from heaven every year on the night of December 5th. He visits the houses of all the children accompanied by an angel "andel" & a devil "cert."

The visits were different in each locality. In the poorest areas, children hung socks on the windows or doors at night & the next morning, they found the gifts for their behavior.

On the other hand, in the richer areas, St. Nicholas visited children personally. St. Nicholas received great respect, the angel represented calmness & peace, & the devil wanted to know if the children had been good or bad all year. St. Nicholas asked the parents about the behavior of the children. If he was satisfied with their answer he gifted the children with apples, nuts & sweets. The non-behaving children received unbaked potatoes & coals instead of candy or other treats until they learned to behave better!

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of Patara. At the time, the area was Greek & is now on the southern coast of Turkey. His wealthy parents, who raised him to be a devout Christian, died in an epidemic while Nicholas was still young. Obeying Jesus' words to "sell what you own & give the money to the poor," Nicholas used his whole inheritance to assist the needy, the sick, & the suffering. He dedicated his life to serving God & was made Bishop of Myra while still a young man. Bishop Nicholas became known throughout the land for his generosity to those in need, his love for children, & his concern for sailors and ships. Under the Roman Emperor Diocletian, who ruthlessly persecuted Christians, Bishop Nicholas suffered for his faith, was exiled & imprisoned. He was released later & he died Dec. 6, AD 343 in Myra & was buried in his cathedral church. The anniversary of his death became a day of celebration, St. Nicholas Day. St. Nicholas is patron of sailors & protector of children & ferrymen.

Tuesday, Dec. 8 is our Parish Feast Day. We will have Mass at 6:30 p.m. followed by soup & sandwiches in the Parish Hall. You may bring a desert if you wish. Please come & join us.



MESSAGES & ANNOUNCEMENTS



Bulletin Sponsor: In memory of Jimmie V. Smolik & Elizabeth Alice Kleiber

Donation to St. Mary’s Altar Society in memory of Beatrice Melnar by Melvin & Joyce Janak - \$10.00

Donation to St. Mary’s CCD Fund in memory of Mary Kutach by Gilbert & Evelyn Mozisek - \$10.00

There was a misprint in last month’s bulletin – Viola Konvicka gave \$15.00 instead of \$50 in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Herman Sciba’s 72nd anniversary.

CCD News:

- Dec. 9 – CCD students penance service
- Dec. 16, 23, 30 – No CCD; Christmas Holidays
- Jan. 6 – CCD resumes

PASTORAL INSTITUTE PROGRAM

The Pastoral Institute is continuing the three year Extended Program with the six-week Scripture course Trinity. This course will be taught by Ron Friedel at the Chancery in Victoria and via distance learning to Hostyn on Tuesday from 9:15 – 11:30 a.m. and from 7:00 – 9:15 p.m. For more information or to register, please call 573-0828, email bparkan@victoriadiocese.org, or go to www.victoriadiocese.org.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Anyone wishing to donate money towards the purchase of the Christmas Flowers that beautifies our church during the Christmas Season may call the rectory @ 798-2128 or put the money in an envelope and place it in the collection basket. The donation may be made in memory of a loved one.

FINANCIAL REPORT – OCTOBER, 2009

<u>Income</u>	
Sunday Collections	\$ 2,371.87
Children’s Collections	43.56
Special Collections – World	
Mission Sunday	183.00
Bulletin Sponsor	40.00
Hall Rental & Deposits	1,325.00
Votive Stand	142.00
Donations (Viola Konvicka – M/M Herman Sciba)	<u>15.00</u>
Total Income	<u>\$ 4,120.43</u>

<u>Expenses</u>	
Utilities	\$ 1,081.40
Health Insurance	705.85
Church Expenses	158.03
Hall Expenses	180.00
Cathedral Envelope Co. – 2010 church envelopes	364.56
Priest Pension Plan	451.00
Salaries	675.00
Special Collections – World	
Mission Sunday	183.00
Repair & Maintenance	<u>780.83</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$ 4,579.67</u>

Balance from September	\$ 3,649.72
October Income	4,120.43
Less October Expenses	<u>- 4,579.67</u>
Operating Balance	<u>\$ 3,190.48</u>



Merry
Christmas &
Happy New
Year!



The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." — L.K. 2:10-12

Adapted from the Lectionary for Food 09/01, 1996, ©1992 CCZ.

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

December 2009

One Minute Meditations

Mary's faith

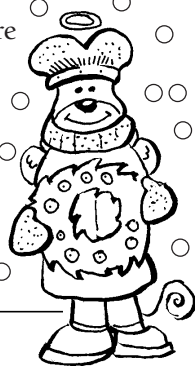
Like us, Mary got confused by God's instructions. When the angel appeared and told her of her role in God's plan, she was "greatly troubled" and confused enough to ask, "How can this be ...?" (Luke 1:29, 34). Even the full explanation was too enormous for her to completely understand. It was Mary's great faith in God that caused her to say, "Yes," to whatever he asked.

The Advent wait

We spend Advent waiting for something wonderful to happen. Yet in our impatience to get to that something wonderful, we can forget that the wait can be wonderful, too. Try taking it one week at a time and wait, hope, prepare, and rejoice at the miracle of Christ's birth.

A Catholic difference

As Catholics, we are never alone in our efforts. We are members of the Church, the body of Christ, and together we make a real difference.



Celebrate Christmas like the first one

Celebrating Christmas can be anything but peaceful. Between the extra spending, shopping, and holiday activities leading up to Christmas, we may be more stressed at this time than at any other time of year.

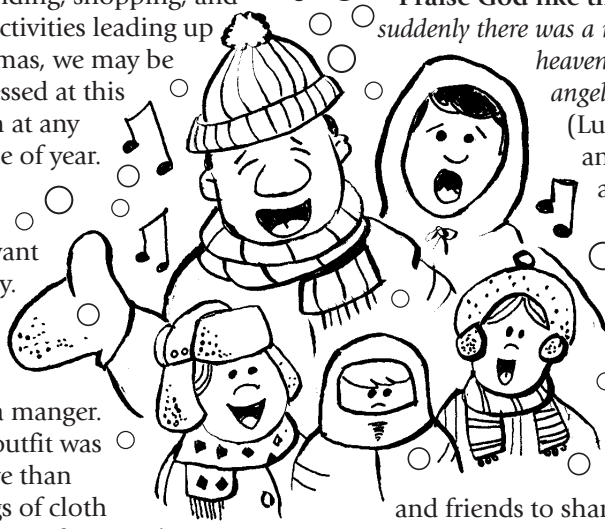
Yet Jesus certainly doesn't want it that way. He spent his first day on Earth in a manger. His first outfit was little more than wrappings of cloth and his first gifts weren't entertaining. Why not learn from the first Christmas how to truly celebrate his birth?

Surround yourself with family. Jesus spent that first night in the company of his parents. Their gifts to him were simple: love and attention. Celebrate Christ's birth with family or invite

others who would otherwise celebrate alone.

Praise God like the angels. "And suddenly there was a multitude of the heavenly host with the angel, praising God" (Luke 2:13). There is an abundance of amazing Christmas hymns and carols to sing out praise. Renew the tradition of caroling in your neighborhood or host a caroling party by inviting family and friends to share their joy through song.

Give gifts from the heart. The Magi "opened their treasures and offered him gifts" (Matt. 2:11). What gifts can you offer from your treasure of talents? Remember, gifts from the heart are more valuable than anything you can find in a store.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics believe Mary was born without Original Sin?

The *Catechism* teaches that God gave Mary all the gifts necessary for her to become mother of our Savior. In fact, when the angel Gabriel addressed Mary as "full of grace" in Luke 1:28, he meant that Mary had the special divine



help necessary for the task ahead.

While we are cleansed of original sin at Baptism, Pope Pius IX infallibly affirmed that Mary's role in Jesus' work was so crucial that it kept her from original sin at the outset.

Give gifts of love this Christmas

Jesus came to us out of love. He suffered and died on the Cross out of love. During Advent and Christmas, why not find ways to share Jesus' gift of love with others? "This is my commandment: love one another as I love you" (John 15:12).

Look for the lonely. Christmas can be a sad time for those who are alone. Gifts of love can be as simple as baking Christmas cookies, sending a card with a personal note, or offering to share a Christmas meal.



Reach out to the suffering. Many people are struggling financially this year. Even if you are one of them, consider calling your parish office or Catholic Charities (800-919-9338) to find out how you can help someone who is worse off. That's a great gift of love.

Offer time. This is one of the most precious ways to show you care. Spending time with someone else - even when you may not have it to spare - is a gift of love that will not be forgotten.

from Scripture **Luke 2:41-52, Living in the world**

In this reading, the Holy Family went to Jerusalem during the year Jesus was twelve. In those days, a Hebrew boy became a man around the age of twelve and was recognized in a ceremony we know as a Bar Mitzvah. At this point a Jewish boy would begin formal education in the Torah and Hebrew Scriptures.

This was an important time in Jesus' life. This reading said that Jesus stayed behind to talk with the scholars and teachers, and told his parents he was



doing his Father's work. He had become aware of his duties to his Father in Heaven, yet he remained mindful of his responsibilities to his parents on Earth and obediently left with them.

Christians live in the world, in neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces. Jesus demonstrated his respect for his ties to his family, yet he continued to pursue his place in God's plan of salvation.

The lesson for us is that we don't have to retire from the world to be holy. Instead, we have to find ways to live a holy life in the world.

Q & A What are the origins of some of the carols we sing?

Some of the most popular Christmas hymns date back two hundred years or more.

Silent Night – Written as a poem in 1816 by Austrian priest Joseph Mohr,



it came in handy two years later when his church organ broke. Mohr gave the poem to his friend Franz Xavier Gruber who wrote the melody in time to be played on a guitar for Midnight Mass.

O Little Town of Bethlehem – Rector Phillips Brooks of Philadelphia wrote it in the late 1800s after he had visited the Holy Land. He was inspired by the view of Bethlehem from the hills of Palestine.

O Holy Night – The words were written by Placide Cappeau de Roquemaure, a wine seller, in 1847 when the parish priest asked him to write a poem for Christmas.

O Come All Ye Faithful – Englishman John Wade is credited with writing this hymn in Latin in 1744. One hundred years later, it was translated into English by an Anglican minister, Frederick Oakeley. Since then, it has been translated into 76 languages.

Feasts & Celebrations

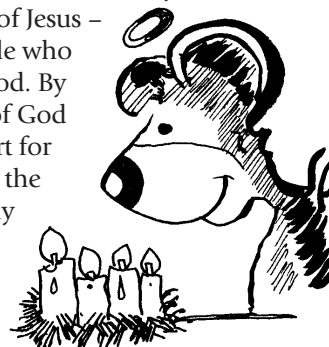
December 8 – Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is the day we celebrate that Mary was conceived in St. Anne's womb without original sin.

December 12th - Our Lady of Guadalupe (1531). The Blessed Mother appeared to St. Juan Diego in Mexico. She asked him to tell the bishop to build a chapel for her, and had him carry roses in his tilma (cape) as a sign. When he emptied his tilma before the bishop, it retained the image of the Blessed Mother.

December 26 – St. Stephen (1st

century). A deacon of the early Church, St. Stephen angered the Jewish authorities by preaching that the Israelites consistently rejected God's chosen messengers. He was stoned to death and became the first martyr.

Dec. 27 – The Holy Family (1st century). On this feast day, we celebrate the family of Jesus – three people who lived for God. By their love of God and support for each other, the Holy Family is a model for all Christian families.



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