

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2009

LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, Dec. 21	8:00am	+Marian Van Natta
Tuesday, Dec. 22	8:00am	Morning Prayer
Wednesday, Dec. 23	8:00am	+Laverne (Beany) Flesch
Thursday, Dec. 24	1:30pm	Manor Care Nursing Home
Christmas Eve	5:00pm	+Joe Timmerman
Thursday, Dec. 24	9:00pm	+Gertrude Reese
Christmas Day	9:00am	+Gene Hottenstein
Friday, Dec. 25		

WEEKEND LITURGIES

Saturday, Dec. 26	4:00pm	+Clem Bardon
Sunday, Dec. 27	9:00am	+Delmer Duggan & Debbie Duggan Mann

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE -Thank you to all that have supported the project so far in so many ways through prayer, volunteering time, and financial contributions. We have a minimum goal of \$1,800,000 with a challenge goal of \$2,100,000. Through God's Will and lots of hard work from many volunteers, we have reached our minimum goal this weekend and achieved \$1,815,000 with a few more pledges still coming in. The pledge that put us over the top of the minimum goal was the \$1,200 from the "Penny Wars" organized at St. Mary's School by the children. The leadership of the church feels very confident with a few special gifts, we can reach our challenge goal of \$2,100,000. If you have not given to date, there is still time. Please fill out a pledge card sitting at the back of church and turn it in. Thank You for being a good Steward with the gifts that God has given us.

Sat., Dec. 26 4:00pm	Sun., Dec. 27 9:00am
Altar Servers	
Sign up sheet is in back of church for the weekends of December 26 and 27 And January 2 and 3.	
Lectors & Leader of Prayer	
Andy Frigo	Dennis Cooley
Nekole Frommelt	Nancy Daniels
Deacon Bill Bussan	Deacon Bill Bussan
Sacristan	
Connie Busch	Nancy Salzmann
Music Ministry	
Boddens	Open Ensemble
Greeters	
Tony & Jane Meekma	Howard & Cathy Brooks
Gary & Nancy Pothour	Jack Flogel
Brian & Marie Whisenant	Mike & Julie Tashner
	Walt Wisnewski
SCRIP	
Linda Murphy	Chris Budden

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

4th Sunday of Advent: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45
 Monday: Sg:2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a.
 Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56.
 Wednesday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Lk 1:57-66.
 Thursday: 2:Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Lk 1:67-79.
 Friday: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20.
 Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Col 3:12:21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24.
Sunday - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
 Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 21-28/Col 3:12:21 or 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

REFLECTION—*"You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel."* Micah 5:1
 We may think that the gifts we have to offer may be too small or too inconsequential to give to God. Today we are reminded that God brought forth His greatest gift to mankind, His own Son, through the humble town of Bethlehem. He can also accomplish great things through us if we generously offer our gifts to Him.

WITH SYMPATHY

We extend our sympathy to the family of Ruth Gish, mother of Sue Momot, who died this week. Eternal rest grant unto her Oh, Lord and let perpetual light shine upon her. *May she rest in peace.*

THE PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED
 Thursday, December 24 and Friday, December 25.

PRIVATE RECONCILIATION AT ST. MARY'S
 Wed., Dec. 23—8:30am until all are heard
 or by appointment

It's that time of year again, please note: During the winter months when weather is inclement and school is cancelled or running two hours late, Morning Prayer or Word & Communion, which ever is scheduled, will be cancelled also.

Let us rejoice and be merry,
 for there must be no sadness or mourning
 on the birth day of Life,
 —Pope Leo the Great

*Wishing you all the blessings of Christmas
 And the New Year!*
 From: Msgr. Charles and the
 Staff of St. Mary Parish, School and
 Child Care Center

TEC (Together Encounter Christ) will be held December 28-30, 2009 (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) here at St. Mary's. We are very fortunate to have TEC right here at home and the support of Msgr Charles. TEC is an experience in Christian living designed for young people and adults. It is a fresh, different approach to enriching your Christian, everyday life. After Christmas is the perfect time to get away from your hectic schedules, sit back, relax and let others share with you a 3-day experience you'll never forget. Several people from our parish have already made TEC. We would love to share it with you.

If you have been thinking about giving yourself some much needed time off, why not come and join us on TEC. Brochures with a registration form are on the bulletin boards in the back of church. If you have any questions, please call Jerry or Connie McCabe at 348-8336.

Attention Greeters

Greeters will be needed for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses.

A sign-up sheet is on the Greeter bulletin board. Please sign up or call 348-8336 if you plan on attending any of these Masses and can help greet.

Coats for Kids - Wow...266 coats, 76 hats & 46 pair of gloves/mittens were donated by the Platteville community to help keep kids & their parents warm this winter. Thank you for your generous hearts.

CHRISTMAS DECORATION DONATIONS - Envelopes are on the table near the center entrance of church for donations for Christmas flowers, wreaths, etc. for our church. You may donate for the cost of a specific item or any amount. The donation may also be given as a memorial to a deceased loved one. Be sure to indicate the name if it is a memorial. Thank you for your great response every year!

CHRISTMAS EVE 5PM MASS

Music will begin at 4:30. Any children wanting to process in and help decorate the children's tree, should make an ornament and plan on participating on Christmas Eve.

Questions - please call Deb Faherty @ 778-7237.



Ho, Ho, Ho!!! We are making our list and checking it twice to see who will be in Kindergarten in 2010. Mrs. Wodarz and the Kindergartners are gearing up for the new Class of 2010-2011.

We are sending out Christmas letters to the Preschoolers to introduce ourselves to them. If you have a child or know of a child who would like to be a part of the St. Mary Family, please contact the school office at 348-5806.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

Sun., Dec. 20 — Confirmation Class, 4pm at St. Augustine's.
MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARY'S

Wednesday - Private Reconciliation 8:30am until all are heard.

Rel. Ed. See below.

Friday - No Scripture Sharing.

Merry Christmas!!



ALONE FOR CHRISTMAS

The First English Lutheran Church is hosting this year's Free Ecumenical Christmas Dinner at twelve noon on Christmas Day. Both individuals and families are welcome to attend.

Several Platteville churches have joined together to serve this Free

Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings. Crafts and activities will be available for children while adults socialize after dinner. Music and caroling will make the Christmas spirit come alive. In-town transportation available for those in need. Please call First English Lutheran Church, 348-3022 to make reservations or transportation arrangements. Sign up sheet for food donations, and workers is on the table at the back of church.

Once again, Piggly Wiggly will contribute to area churches during December to the church of your choice as a Holiday Donation. Piggly Wiggly will donate 1%. To participate, you need to have your receipt stamped at the courtesy counter save all your cash register receipts for the month of December and turn them into the parish office, via mail or collection basket. Deadline to turn in your December receipts is Monday, January 4, 2010.



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NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING CLASS

at St. Clement's in Lancaster

Sundays: Jan. 10, Feb. 7, & Mar. 7; from 6 - 8 pm

To register, contact Emily at 608-821-3134

or nfp@straphael.org

Go to www.madisondiocese.org/nfp

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