



FROM YOUR PARISH PRIESTS

Dear friends,

I think it is time for a bit of a pre-Christmas inventory:

- Have you decorated your house or tree yet?
- Christmas cards written? OK, have you at least purchased them?
- Have you started shopping?
- Have you sent RSVPs to all of your holiday party invitations?
- Travel plans complete?
- Have you spent any amount of time to prayerfully enter into the Season of Advent? Have you made that one resolution that will enable you to draw closer to Christ in the year ahead?

If the last bullet point threw you for a loop, let me add that it is not too late to enter into the spirit of this great Advent Season. I ask you to recall last Sunday's psalm response: "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." Where has God's hand been at work in your life or in the life of your loved ones? Have you acknowledged God's goodness, or are God's blessings pretty much taken for granted? In today's second reading, Saint Paul urges us to "rejoice in the Lord always!" Do

you recognize the many reasons you have to rejoice in the Lord?

Advent is all about recognizing three comings of Christ: his first coming 2000 years ago, his coming in glory at the end of human history, and his coming into our hearts here and now. If you are not sure where Christ has come into your heart recently, Advent invites you to look a bit more deeply at your life and to recognize the unfailing goodness of our God, even in the most difficult of times. If we cannot recognize the many ways that Christ enters our hearts today, how will we ever be able to recognize Christ when he comes again in glory?

Please, make these final two weeks of Advent count. Spend some time apart from the rat race of the holidays and ask that your eyes be opened to recognized God's hand at work in your life and in the world. It can make a difference in the way you celebrate Christ's first coming into the world, and it will make you all the more ready for his return in glory.

Advent blessings!

Fr. Brian

P.S. I want to thank all for the assurance of your prayers for my dad. It is through your love and concern that Christ has entered my heart and my father's heart this Advent Season. Thank you!

PARISH DIRECTORY

PARISH OFFICE

1716 N Humboldt Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202

Hours..... 8:30am-4:00pm
 Phone 271-6577 / Fax 271-7988
 Website www.threeholyywomen.org
Bulletin (Wk 03)/Insert Deadline..... Tuesday by 10:30am
 to: mbergemann@threeholyywomen.org
Announcement Deadline..... Thursday by 12 Noon
 to: mrobertson@threeholyywomen.org

PARISH STAFF

Fr. Timothy L. Kitzke, Pastor tkitzke@threeholyywomen.org
Fr. Brian G. Mason, Associate Pastor bmason@threeholyywomen.org
Rob Goodman, Deacon..... rgoodman@wi.rr.com
Mary Ann Davidowski, Sacristan 276-5107
Terri Balash, Director of Pastoral Care (Cell) 469-6173
 tbalash@threeholyywomen.org
Michele Bergemann, Director of Parish Offices
 mbergemann@threeholyywomen.org
Brenda Buchanan, Parish Nurse bbuchanan@threeholyywomen.org
Emily Kang, Director of Adult Formation and Evangelization
 ekang@threeholyywomen.org
Dan Peter, Director of Finance and Property
 dpeter@threeholyywomen.org
Daisy Rivera, Administrative Assistant..... drivera@threeholyywomen.org
Mary Robertson, Director of Music and Liturgy
 mrobertson@threeholyywomen.org
Bob Schuelke, Director of Human Concerns
 bschuelke@threeholyywomen.org
John Fellin, Director of Maintenance..... (Cell) 807-3173

TRUSTEES & PARISH COUNCIL

Rosemarie Moser, Trustee Treasurer276-1095
Patricia Suminski, Trustee Secretary271-8723
Kathy Zaffiro, Chairperson.....964-9413
Jeff Aguirre, Vice Chairperson.....719-338-8542
Andrew Musgrave, Secretary801-8780
Deacon Rob Goodman, Ex-Officio.....744-3751
Sonny Bando, Member at Large.....241-4396
Dolores Buttiitta, Member at Large963-0221
Patrick Fennelly, Member at Large704-7288
Kathy Kehm, Member at Large423-9551
Doug Luedcke, Member at Large964-0289
Michael O'Byrne, Member at Large.....351-3288

CATHOLIC EAST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2461 N Murray Ave., Milwaukee WI 53211

Phone 964-1770 / Website: www.mycatholic east.org
Julie Robinson, Principal robinsonj@archmil.org
Barbara Chmielewski, School Secretary bachmielewski@yahoo.com

EAST SIDE CHILD & YOUTH MINISTRY

2480 N Cramer St., Milwaukee WI 53211 (K-12 Religious Education)
 E-mail..... escym@sbcglobal.net
Ralph Stewart, Director962-3776
Marcia Szczawinski, Administrative Assistant.....962-3776
Dorothy Paczesny, SHARE Program.....294-4736

EASTSIDE SENIOR SERVICES

2618 N. Hackett Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211

Jane Raymer, Director.....961-0661



PARISH SCHEDULES

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me;
he sent me to bring good news to the poor.*



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SATURDAY, December 12
VIGIL MASS OF THE LORD'S DAY
(HR) 4:30pm †Emma Curcio

SUNDAY, December 13
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(SH) 8:45am Pro Populo
†Deceased Members of Gruenwald Family
(SR) 10:45am †Santoro Family
†Rosemary Corrao Meyer

MONDAY, December 14
ST JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR
NO MASS

TUESDAY, December 15
(HR) 9:00am †Tom Wessel

WEDNESDAY, December 16
(SH) 5:30pm †Leo Kitzke
†Edmond and Lucille Peplinski
Mother of Perpetual Help following Mass

THURSDAY, December 17
(SR) 9:00am †Joseph Balistreri

FRIDAY, December 18
(SH) 9:00am Mass Fellowship

SATURDAY, December 19
VIGIL MASS OF THE LORD'S DAY
(HR) 4:30pm †Robert K. Halliday

SUNDAY, December 20
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
(SH) 8:45am †Joan Jackson
†Lawrence and Dorothy Verkuilen
(SR) 10:45am Pro Populo
†Andrew LoMenzo

KEY TO MASS LOCATIONS
(HR)=Holy Rosary (SH)=St. Hedwig (SR)=St. Rita

FOOD ITEM OF THE WEEK

Tuna

Please be as generous as you can.

THIS WEEK

Monday, December 14

- 6:30pm **Job Seekers Prayer Group**, PODR
- 7:00pm **Eat, Drink and Be Catholic**, HRH

Tuesday, December 15

- 7:00pm **Christmas Eve Choir**, SH
- 7:00pm **RCIA**, OSM

Wednesday, December 16

- Noon **Quilters**, HRH

Thursday, December 17

- 4:30pm **Prayer Shawl Ministry**, PODR
- 6:30pm **Choir Rehearsal**, SH

Saturday, December 19

- 8:00am **Holiday Plant Delivery**, SRH
- 9:30am **SHARE Pick-up**, HRH
- 10:30am **Advent RCC Communal Reconciliation with Individual Sacrament of Reconciliation**, Our Lady of Divine Providence—St. Casimir Church, 2600 N. Bremen St.

Sunday, December 20

- 8:45am **RCIA Dismissal**, SH

KEY TO LOCATIONS

(SH) = St. Hedwig (SR) = St. Rita (SRH) = St. Rita Hall (HR) = Holy Rosary
(HRH) = Holy Rosary Hall (HRCR) = Holy Rosary Conference Room
(PODR) = Parish Office Dining Room (PORR) = Parish Office Resource Room
(SHHC) = St. Hedwig Hospitality Center (OSM) = Old Saint Mary

East Side Child & Youth Ministry

Cramer Bldg.—2480 N Cramer St.

Tues	15	Middle School and High School Programs 6:30-8:00pm
Wed	16	Christmas Program: Kindergarten through Grade 5 classes 6:15-7:30pm — SS. Peter and Paul Church

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday:		NO MASS
Tuesday:	9:00am	Holy Rosary Church
Wednesday:	5:30pm	St. Hedwig Church followed by Mother of Perpetual Help
Thursday:	9:00am	St. Rita Church
Friday:	9:00am	St. Hedwig Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday:	3:30pm	Holy Rosary Church
-----------	--------	--------------------

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

Saturday:	4:30pm	Holy Rosary Church
Sunday:	8:45am	St. Hedwig Church
Sunday:	10:45am	St. Rita Church

Job Seekers Prayer Group

Job Seekers is a prayer, support and networking group for people who have lost their jobs, those who are fearful of losing their jobs and any others who wish to offer prayer and support. We gather each Monday evening at Holy Rosary Church beginning at 6:30 PM. Please consider joining us any Monday evening for prayer and friendship.



Parts of McGivern Special Filmed at Your Parish School: Catholic East Elementary

Did you know....? John McGivern – Milwaukee performer and alumnus of one of Catholic East’s legacy schools, SSPP, will share endearing tales of childhood angst and hilarity in a Public Television offering, *The Early Stories of John McGivern*. Filmed on location at Catholic East and in the surrounding neighborhood where McGivern grew up on Bartlett Avenue. Visit the Milwaukee Public Television channel 10 web page for future airing dates.

Free Fitness for Tots this Friday!

Friday Fitness for Tots will be held **this Friday, Dec. 18**, in the gym of Catholic East Elementary, at the corner of Murray and Greenwich adjacent to SS. Peter and Paul. As it cools off outside, join other parents and children ages 2-5 for a fun, free morning class geared toward developing your child’s gross motor skills. Classes, which are taught by school physical education teacher Tonia Wallner, are open to everyone and no registration is necessary. Invite a friend! Please watch the bulletin for the class schedule after the holidays.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR’S MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24, 2009

4:30 PM, **St. Hedwig Church (Brady & Humboldt)**

12:00 Midnight, **St. Hedwig Church (Brady & Humboldt)**

(preceded by choral prelude at 11:30 PM)

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25, 2009

8:45 AM, **Holy Rosary Church (Oakland & Lafayette)**

10:45 AM, **St. Rita Church (Cass & Pleasant)**

New Year’s Eve, Thursday, December 31, 2009

4:30 PM, **Holy Rosary Church (Oakland & Lafayette)**

followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at **St. Rita Church (Cass & Pleasant)** from 6:00 PM with Benediction at 12:00 Midnight

New Year’s Day, Friday, January 1, 2010

10:00 AM, **St. Hedwig Church (Brady & Humboldt)**



RCC Advent Communal Reconciliation Service with individual Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, December 19, 2009

10:30 AM **Our Lady of Divine Providence - St. Casimir (2600 N. Bremen St.)**

SHARE Program Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed on **Saturday December 19**, from 9-12pm to help with the SHARE Program at Holy Rosary Hall. The SHARE program is a non-profit food cooperative that promotes affordable, reduced-price food and volunteer service. Volunteers are needed to unload, count, and package food into orders and deliver orders to the homebound. This is a wonderful opportunity to work with diverse members of our local community! To volunteer and/or order food with SHARE, contact Dorothy at (414) 294-4736.

Adult Confirmation Preparation Begins Soon!

Are you an adult Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Communion, but who never received the Sacrament of Confirmation? You’re invited to join us!

For those already joined to Christ in Baptism and the Eucharist, the Sacrament of Confirmation deepens and strengthens our relationship with Christ through the Holy Spirit. This Sacrament imparts many spiritual gifts that help us live our Christian lives and be witnesses to Christ in the world. Preparation sessions to receive Confirmation as an adult begin on Wednesday, January 13 at the Old Saint Mary Parish Center. We meet approximately two Wednesday evenings per month, and Confirmation is celebrated on Ascension Sunday, May 16, at the Cathedral.

For more information and to sign up, contact Emily Kang, Director of Adult Formation and Evangelization, at the parish office, 414-271-6577, or ekang@threeholyywomen.org.

You are invited to join us to...

Eat, Drink and Be Catholic

A free speaker and discussion series for young adults in their 20’s and 30’s

Monday, December 14, “God’s There to be Found: A Simple, Profound Way of Daily Prayer

By Fr. Phil Hurley, S.J.

We all have hungry hearts: hungry for authentic peace, truth, justice, and love.

Yet even as people of faith we can so often live our lives on the surface of things, and can’t always find God in the daily grind. The Apostleship of Prayer offers a simple yet profound way of connecting faith and daily life that helps us to dig deeper, to get to the heart of the matter, to encounter the Heart of Jesus Christ. Join us and Jesuit Fr. Phil Hurley as we explore finding Christ, in his Heart, in the midst of it all.

Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Speaker begins at 7 p.m. Holy Rosary Church Hall 2011 N. Oakland Ave.

Have any Questions? Contact Emily Kang at 414-271-6577 or ekang@threeholyywomen.org.



ADVENT TRADITIONS

Advent is a time to establish some family traditions. No matter what age we are, a tradition can help keep us focused during this most busy time of the year. Here is one example - perhaps you will think of your own traditions. Check out our parish website (www.threeholyywomen.org) for other ideas.

A custom we have in our family is called "Kris Kringle". At the beginning of Advent, everyone picks a name of another family member from a hat. All during Advent (or you can change it week by week if you want), you secretly do special things for that person i.e. make their bed or leave them a special note or set their breakfast out for them so they don't have to make it, etc. At the end of Advent, everyone tries to guess who their special person is and gets a little present for them. This could also be adapted to people who are living alone – make up names of people you want to do something special for each day or week of Advent. At the end of the season, invite them over for a cup of hot chocolate or Christmas tea. We have also made up little slips of paper for every day of Advent that have something we could do. We attach them to little clips and every day we do what's on the note... pray for my mom and dad; Read my little blue book; call my neighbor, etc.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



Please join us for our next Prayer Shawl gathering on **Thursday, December 17th**. We meet in the Parish Office [1716 N. Humboldt Ave.] from 4:30 - 6pm. If you do not know how to knit or crochet and would like to learn, please join us. Bring your extra yarn and needles to share. The prayer shawls will be blessed and given to Terri Balash, our Director of Pastoral Care to share with those who are in special need of prayer and support from our community.

Holiday Plant Delivery—TO THE HOMEBOUND AND NURSING HOMES

“Christ the Savior Is Born.”

A few years back my life was inspired by a little boy who loved Christmas, and while battling cancer he rejoiced under a Christmas tree. On one of my hospital visits, I encountered this young boy, with his feet sticking-out from underneath the Christmas tree singing in his little boy voice, “Oh Come, Oh Come Emmanuel”. I had to stop and investigate. This little boy encouraged three grown adults to experience Christmas in a new way by lying underneath this simple tree to admire the beauty of the lights, we shared prayer, and focused our attention on the angel who sat so beautifully on the top. Perfect strangers coming together, joined in faith, and found the true meaning of Christmas. We remembered how God, sent His son Jesus, a babe, to change the world in sharing the Good News—all through the eyes of a little boy whose faith was wiser than his years?

Let's keep Jesus' message alive and share that Good News with our parishioners who cannot be with us at Mass.

It's that time of year again when we are delivering Holiday Plants to the parishioners who are homebound or living in health facilities. If you are interested please join us on **Saturday, December 19**. We will deliver plants to and visit with our **100** parishioners who continue to be a vital part of our parish community. **MANY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!!** Volunteers will meet for instructions in **St. Rita Hall at 8:45am**.

With the plants we are asking volunteers to also bring the Eucharist to the parishioners who are homebound and living in health facilities. If you have never done this before—do not fear!!! A short Formational Training and Prayer Service will be done before you depart for your visits. Pyx cases and prayer cards will also be provided for you. To volunteer and/or verify that a nursing home or homebound parishioner is on the delivery list, please call Terri Balash at 414-469-6173 or email me at tbalash@threeholyywomen.org. Please join us in sharing the gift of Christ love.

Looking to Volunteer in 2010?

On Tuesday, January 5th, a group from the Christian Women of Three Holy Women Parish plan to attend Mass at 1:15pm at Notre Dame Middle School. The celebrant will be our pastor, Fr. Tim, who presides at the school's weekly Masses. Notre Dame Middle School, located at 1420 West Scott Street, is a Catholic school for Hispanic girls in fifth through eighth grades. Started in 1996 by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, the first class of middle school students graduated from college in May, 2007. The school's mission is to prepare students for admittance to a college preparatory high school, in an environment that fosters responsibility, regalo (“gift” in Spanish) and respect. After mass, Mary McIntosh, the school's president, will give us a tour of the school and discuss how we can volunteer at NDMS. If you are interested in attending, please contact Anne Janty Hallett (414-453-7125) or email her at kvhjih@wi.rr.com. Let me know if you are interested in carpooling.

Advent Giving Tree Reminder



Did you forget to bring your gift for the Advent Giving Tree? If you did, it's not too late. You can drop off your gifts at the Parish Office until noon on Wednesday, December 16th.

Thank You!

Thanks to all who donated gifts for the Advent Giving Tree. The response has been overwhelming and shows that our parish is indeed fulfilling its mission to be the “welcoming voice and the serving hands of Jesus, spreading His love within the East Side community, in union with the Church throughout the world!”

