

DECEMBER 4, 2005: SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

THE CALENDAR:

Monday, December 5: Second Week of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26

8:00 a.m. Mass (D): Rodney & Dorothy Martino

3:15-4:15 p.m. CCD (D) Grades 1-6

7:30 p.m. R.C.I.A. (D)

Tuesday, December 6: Second Week of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11; Matthew 18:12-14

8:00 a.m. Mass (D): Constant Brunswick

7:30 p.m. Pastoral Council Meeting (D)

Wednesday, December 7: St. Ambrose

Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30

5:00 p.m. Mass (D): John and Juanita Henry

6:50 p.m. CCD (D): Grades 7-12

7:00-8:00 p.m. CCD (HF): Grades 1-12

Thursday, December 8: Immaculate Conception (Holy Day)

Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38

6:30 a.m. Mass (D):

10:30 a.m. Mass (HF):

7:30 p.m. Mass (D):

Friday, December 9: Second Week of Advent

Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19

6:30 a.m. Communion Service (D)

8:00 a.m. Mass (D): Albert Schmittmeyer

Saturday, December 10: Second Week of Advent

Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13

8:45-1:00 Second Grade Coming Home Program

3:45-4:45 Sacrament of Penance

5:00 p.m. Mass (D): Esther Grillot

Sunday, December 11: Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1—2a, 10-11; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24; John 1:6-8, 19-28

8:00 a.m. Mass (D): Parishioners

9:30 a.m. Mass (HF): Parishioners

11:00 a.m. Mass (D): Parishioners

9:00-11:00 Flu Shots (D)

7:00 p.m. Journey Home (D)

Sunday: The spirit of the Lord anoints to bring glad tidings to the poor and imprisoned (Isaiah). Like Mary, we proclaim the greatness of the Lord (Luke 1). St Paul calls us to rejoice and give thanks in all circumstances (1 Thessalonians). John proclaims himself merely a voice, not a prophet and not the Christ (John).

WEDDINGS AND MARRIAGES

Marriage Encounter, the weekend of **January 27-29**, can enhance your marriage. Please call 1-800-547-1251 Code 00. **Retrouaille** (French for Rediscovery) can help you save your marriage. Please call 1-800-470-2230 for more information.

PROJECT RACHEL, AFTER ABORTION

The Archdiocese sponsors Project Rachel for healing after abortion. Call 937-492-4449 for more information.

BAPTISMS

Parents should attend a baptismal program before they arrange for baptism. We have scheduled the next program for January 15. We recently welcomed Allison Michelle Schwartz, daughter of Kathy Streib and Adam Schwartz into the church through baptism.

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

The D of I will meet at 7:30 p.m. on December 13 in St. Denis church basement. Christmas party: January 10 at 6:00 p.m.

LITURGICAL APPOINTMENTS December 7, 8, 10 & 11, 2005

We need volunteers for the Holyday Masses; Teenagers, please volunteer for the 6:30 a.m. Mass.

5:00 p.m. Mass (D):

Ushers: Group 4; *Lector:* Jane Pierron

Eucharist: Cheryl Huelskamp, Dave Huelskamp, Diane Martino (P) Brittany McMaken, Shirley McMaken, Katie Mestemaker, Marvin Pierron, Kim Murphy, Don Brocious, Bonnie Phlipot, Judy Pierron (C)

Servers: Eric Huelskamp, Stephanie McMaken, Joe Gehret

Gifts: Ralph & Cindy Dapore Family

8:00 a.m. Mass (D):

Ushers: Group 9; *Lector:* Robert Paulus

Eucharist: Cyndi Bey, Diane Elsas, Jerry Elsas (P) Elaine Bohman, Andrew Borchers, John Fischer, Mike McClurg, Dale Meier, Lester Monnin, Mary Pepiot (C)

Servers: Mary Prakel, Margaret Prakel, Joshua Paulus

Gifts: Bob and Michelle Dirksen

9:30 a.m. Mass (HF):

Ushers: Pat Bergman and Craig Bergman

Lector: Dena Wuebker *Eucharist:* Ken Hartke (P) Margie Heitkamp and Mary Hartke (C)

Servers: Josh and Neil Didier and Brittany Bruns

Gifts: Alan Wuebker Family

11:00 a.m. Mass (D):

Ushers: Group 11; *Lector:* Connie Schrader

Eucharist: Russ Beisner, Peggy Bernholt, Krista Harman (P) Doris Goubeaux, Maria Goubeaux, Matt Harman, Ken Moorman, Brian Griesdorn, Caitlin Liette, Brad Luthman, Marvin Luthman (C) *Servers:* Tyler Knapke, Matthew Knapke, Casey Rismiller

Gifts: Mrs. Huelskamp's Class

VOCATION VIEWS

God calls us to proclaim his Good News. Share the news with others. Pray that you can witness faithfully to God's love.

WELLNESS TIPS

Body: Exercise for a half hour or so almost every day. **Mind:** Learn how to say, "No". **Spirit:** Value spiritual things.

SECOND WEEK OF ADVENT

Advent announces the good news of repentance. We have the power to repent and welcome God back into our lives. We confess our sins, give a sign of sorrow and accept the reconciliation God offers us in Christ. Where have we let this process bog down in our lives? See below for the schedule for the Sacrament of Penance.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Thursdays, from 3:00 to 4:00, and from 7:00 to 8:00.

December 15 (Thursday) and 20 (Tuesday) we shall have a Penance Service with several priests giving absolution.

During the CCD year:

On the first and fourth Wednesdays: St Denis, 8:00 p.m.

On the third Wednesdays: Holy Family 6:30-7:00 p.m. in the hall; 8:00 p.m. in the church itself.

All parishioners may use these times, no matter the place.

TOYS FOR TOTS

Our local FFA will again collect Toys for Tots and use our church buildings for drop-off points. Bring good and usable toys from now until December 14 to the drums inside of church.

FATHER DAVE

Some ask why we do not have more time for silence at Mass and others ask why I pause before the Opening Prayer, between the readings and after the homily and communion.

I suspect some long for the days when the priest said Mass to himself and the people attended silently. Those days ended long ago as the Church has urged all to participate actively instead of like spectators. The directives for Mass, however, insist on silence. We should have silence before Mass starts so that we can prepare to celebrate. We have silence during the penitential rite to call to mind our sins. We use silence before the Opening Prayer to make our own intentions for Mass. We use silence after the readings to let the word proclaimed sink into our hearts. We use silence after the homily so that we can finish the homily by applying it to ourselves. We use silence after communion so that we can focus in concert on praising God. We may even have silence during the preparation of the altar. We need silence and we need to allow silence by pausing. I hope this answers both questions.

DECORATIONS FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

Giving for our decorating for Advent and Christmas will help defray the expense. You can use the special envelopes in the pews.

PICTURES ON THE WALL (D)

We have moved the paintings from the back wall of the sanctuary. We have done it for two reasons. We wanted to use the space for advent banners and we have consulted an expert on period pieces who said that we should not have put them on the back wall in the first place. After consultation with the donor and an art expert we have decided to put the larger one over the penance room where it originally hung and the smaller on the back wall where people leaving church can see it. We think we have a better location for these valuable works of art.

CCD NEWS

Thanks to our youth who traveled to Cologne to represent us at World Youth Day. We appreciate their work and the program they presented to our students this past week.

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES BREAKFAST

The Versailles K of C and the Versailles Lions Club will sponsor a Benefit Breakfast for the Council of Churches' Food Pantry today from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the K of C Hall on Route 47.

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS BOOKS

Pick up an Advent and Christmas book from the back of church. We ask a small donation.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

We do need to plan for the future when we shall have fewer priests and the few we have will serve as pastor for three or four parishes. The Archbishop relies on us to come up with the plan or he will do what he thinks best without us. Please call the office at 526-4945 or contact Cindy Dapore at 526-3317 to volunteer to serve on this committee.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Almost 33,000 women religious and more than 5,500 men religious are past age 70. Though they have withdrawn from compensated, full time ministry, they continue to visit the sick, tutor children and volunteer in parishes and among refugee populations. Your donation helps alleviate the spiraling costs of health care. Please be generous at the special collection to be taken up for them next weekend, December 10-11.

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, December 6, 7:30 p.m., St. Denis Church basement.



COLLECTIONS Nov. 27, 2005

Holy Family:

Sunday: \$ 747.30

St Denis:

Sunday: \$ 4040.22

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Thank You

YOUTH MINISTRY

Kentucky Christmas Trip: We will go down to Kentucky December 17 to unload the truck, distribute the new gift items, make the gift baskets and distribute them and bring Christ's love to those in need. Any high school youth who would like to go should contact Mike for information sheets and parental consent forms. Any adults who would like to help out should volunteer by contacting Mike.

Kentucky Giving Tree: There are still some ornaments on the tree. Please take some if you haven't yet had a chance to get any. Thanks to all who have already taken ornaments!

Kentucky Clothing Drive and Food Drive: There will be two days to drop off clothing items. They are Thursday, December 15, and Friday, December 16. We will load on Friday night, December 16. Please bring large items to load directly onto the truck between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. December 16.

Kentucky Food Drive: Please take a food items list in the back of church. Purchase the food items and return them to the Baptistery sometime before Wednesday, December 14. We shall use the items for holiday meal gift baskets for poor families in Appalachia.

Versailles Area Giving Tree: We have received the family numbers for the Versailles giving tree. Please select an ornament off of the tree in the front of church and follow the directions on the tag.

CANDY AND CRAFT SALE THIS WEEKEND

Stop down after Mass this evening or today and shop for crafts and candy in our first annual Youth Ministry Candy and Craft Sale.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

There will be blood pressure screening after all the Masses today. Please come to the church rectory at Holy Family or to the church basement at St. Denis. Know your numbers.

FLU SHOTS

Flu shots will be available from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in St. Denis Church basement next Sunday, December 11. It cost \$20.00 and will be available only for people aged eighteen and over.

JOURNEY HOME

Come, join us in song and praise to God next Sunday evening at St Denis at 7:00 p.m.

JEAN'S CORNER

How to pray for other Christians according to Colossians:
Thank God for their faith and changed lives (1:3);
Ask him to let them know what he wants them to do (1:9);
Ask him to give them deep spiritual understanding (1:9);
Ask him to make them live for him (1:9);
Ask him to give them more knowledge of himself (1:10);
Ask him to give them strength for endurance (1:11);
Ask him to fill them with joy, strength and thankfulness (1:11).