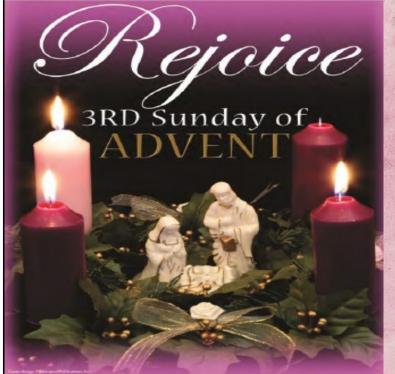


THE MESSENGER

Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday, Year C December 12, 2021

> Serving the Catholic Parishes of Sacred Heart, Villa Grove, Illinois & St. Michael's, Hume, Illinois





John answered them all, saying,

"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming.

I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals.

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

~Luke 3:16~

CHURCH CENTRAL OFFICE

206 N. Pine Street
Villa Grove, IL 61956
Phone Number: (217) 832-8352
Fax Number: (217) 832-8354
E-mail: villagrove.hume@gmail.com
Web Site: www.sacredheartandstmichael.com

Pastor: Father Aloysius Okey Ndeanaefo

PASTORAL STAFF

Secretary: Amy Walch
DRE/Youth Coordinator: Mike Stauder
Custodial Care: Jim Balmer
Maintenance: Scott & Matthew Albin & Jim Balmer

OFFICE HOURS

Monday — Friday: 8:30 am — 1:30pm (Closed on Holidays and Holy days)

MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Mass at Sacred Heart Tuesday—Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil at Sacred Heart: 4:00 p.m. In person Mass + Online Streaming Sunday Mass at St. Michael's: 8:00 a.m. Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart: 10:00 a.m.

CONFESSION

Saturday at Sacred Heart: 3:15 p.m. Or by appointment

HOLY DAY MASSES

6:30pm: Vigil Mass at St. Michael's 8am & 6:30pm Holy Day Masses at Sacred Heart.

Mass Intentions	Mass Intentions	Ministry Schedule			
Dec 11 4:00 pm	RoseMarie Marlatt by Joe Marlatt	December 18th and December 19th, 2021			
Dec 12 8:00 am 10:00 am	Harold Stone by Doris Stone & family Ruth Schweighart by Brent & Kathy Holmes	4:00 pm LECTORS: Mike Stauder			
Dec 13 8:00 am Dec 14 8:00 am Dec 15 8:00 am Dec 16 8:00 am Dec 17 8:00 am Dec 18 4:00 pm Dec 19 8:00 am 10:00 am	NO MASS John Schumacher by Sharon Wood Brigit Pegeen Kelly by Michael Madonick Ursula Calvert by Belinda Beccue Barb Legner by Tony Kramer Rolland Sprague by Amy Walch Charles & Clella Barrett by Phyllis Stone John Dee Hawkins by Steve & Martha Williams	SERVERS: JoBella Crafton 8:00 am LECTORS: Brian Smith			
Mass Intentions	Mass Intentions Requests	COLLECTION COUNTERS: Mary Burgett & Tom Schuett SERVERS: Ella Schweighart			
We pray for: Geneva Bennett, Doris Birkne Fonner, Kim Franzen	Prayer Requests Allen, Teresa Balmer, Kay Barrett, Verna er, Judy Cler, Pat Dillon, Tita Fleener, Malea a, Peter Frank, John Gilles, Faith Grave, Den- Grise, Vicki Harmon, Julie Harrison, Bob	Sacred Heart: Saturday, 4:00 p.m. & Sunday, 10:00 a.m. St. Michael's: Sunday, 8:00 a.m.			
Jones, Christina Kapı	bes, Tyler King, Debbie Koberlein, Marge Imer, Meghan Kramer, Tony Kramer, Dor-	Weekly Collection			
othea Lasley, Albert I Doris Miller, Amy Mi Ezinne Theresa C. No yen, Christopher and Raeske, Phyllis Rund Smith, James Smith, gue, Mary Tipsend, I Weatherford, and Mi	Ledford, Ann Maxwell, Sally McNamara, itsdarfer, Yair Flores Molina, Mark Mooney, deanaefo, Michael N. Ndeanaefo, Lara Ngu-Nicholas Nolte and their families, Rosemary, Mary Margaret Rund, John Rotheker, Betty Joseph Smith, Matt Smith, Rosemary Spra-Barbara Waymire, Susan Wilkey, Cathy ike Webb.	• Sacred Heart Church Weekly Collection: \$ 1493.00 Building Fund: \$ 125.00 Christmas Offering: \$20.00 Children's Home: \$ 20.00 PCT: \$			
	Scripture Readings	Online Giving: \$ 1030.00			
Dec 11: R1: SIR 48:1-4. Gospel: MT 17:9a, Dec 12: R1: ZEP 3:14-1 R2: PHIL 4:4- Gospel: LK 3:10-18 Dec 13: R1: NM 24:2-7 Gospel: MT 21:23-2 Dec 14: R1: ZEP 3:1-2,	Dec 16: R1: IS 54:1-10 Gospel: LK 7:24-30 Dec 17: R1: GN 49:2, 8-10 Gospel: MT 1:1-17 Dec 18: R1: JER 23:5-8 Gospel: MT 1:18-25	Total Deposit: \$2962.00 plus \$30.00 for Masses . St. Michael's Church Weekly Collection: \$1025.00 \$100.00 Loose Cash: \$25.00 Maintenance Fund: \$ Christmas Flowers: \$160.00 Hall Rental: \$ PCT: \$25.00 Online Giving: \$125.00 Total Deposit: \$1335.00			
Gospel: MT 21:28- Dec 15: R1: IS 45:6c-8		All collections OTHER than the Diocesan Collections may be tithed Diocesan Collections will be denoted here in a different color.			

The Parish Tithing amount for October collections was calculated at \$1174.00 or 10% of the monthly collection which was \$11742.00 and a check was sent to the diocese. To date the PCT payments have totaled \$3805.00

The Parish Tithing amount for October collections was calculated at \$414.00 or 10% of the monthly collection which was \$4135.00 and a check was sent to the diocese. To date the PCT payments have totaled \$1637.00.

Pastoral Reflections

Scripture Reflection (3rd, Sun in Advent. Year C)

This prophetic book began with oracles of judgment against a prideful people who chose to go their way rather than God's way. Perhaps the most recognized oracle of judgment is the famous Dies Irae of Zephaniah 1:15–16. In this final oracle, however, the prophet has a message of hope for a people who have at last made the choice to serve God's purpose in this world. All the Gospels affirm that John the Baptist engaged in preaching, one of the ways that he prepared the people for the coming of the Messiah. However, it is only in Luke's Gospel that the content of John's preaching is described. It addressed three areas: 1) the coming judgment (3:7–9); 2) ethical reform (3:10–14); and 3) the announcement of the coming of the Messiah (3:15–17).

Today's Gospel focuses especially on the second and third areas. Ethical reforms. Once John the Baptist has captured the attention of the crowds by calling them a brood of vipers and warning them about the coming wrath, they want to know how they should respond. John's very clear response focuses on ethical reforms. Clothing and food must be shared with those deprived of such essentials. Tax collectors are

to carry out their functions honestly and according to the tenets of justice. Even the soldiers are seeking instruction. John admonishes them to act justly and honestly, to be content with their pay scale. The announcement of the coming of the Messiah. Given the nature and content of John's preaching, many people were concluding that John himself was the Messiah, a misperception that John wants to clear up immediately. He clearly contrasts the Messiah with himself, for in every way John is lesser than the coming Messiah. John baptizes with water, but the Messiah will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. This probably refers to the Pentecost event of Acts 2:1-4, which included purifying and refining those who received it. John preached the Good News. The final verse in today's Gospel briefly summarizes John's preaching. In many ways John the Baptist preached what Jesus would preach, showing how John prepared the way for Jesus. Luke will compare John with Jesus in the infancy narrative. In every case, Jesus is portrayed as superior to John. Whatever John does, Jesus does it better.

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Saint Lucy ~283-304~



St. Lucy was accused by a disappointed suitor of being a Christian. She was executed in Syracuse, Sicily, in the year 304. One can easily imagine what a young Christian woman had to contend with in pagan Sicily in the year 300. If you have trouble imagining, just glance at today's pleasure-at-all-costs world and the barriers it presents against leading a good Christian

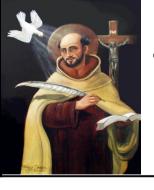
life. Her friends must have wondered aloud about this hero of Lucy's, an obscure itinerant preacher in a far-off captive nation that had been destroyed more than 200 years before. Once a carpenter, he had been crucified by the Romans after his own people turned him over to their authority. Lucy believed with her whole soul that this man had risen from the dead. Heaven had put a stamp on all he said and did. To give witness to her faith she had made a vow of virginity. What a hubbub this caused among her pagan friends! The kindlier ones just thought her a little strange. To be pure before marriage was an ancient Roman ideal, rarely found, but not to be condemned. To exclude marriage altogether, however, was too much. She must have something sinister to hide, the tongues wagged. Lucy knew of the heroism of earlier virgin martyrs. She remained faithful to their example and to the example of the carpenter, whom she knew to be the Son of God. She is the patroness of eyesight. Her feast day is observed on December 13th.

Coming Soon ~19, December, 2021~

Micah 5:1-4a. Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19. Heb 10:5-10. Lk 1:39-45. **Leaping for Joy.** Let us take our cue from the six-month gestating baby in the womb of Elizabeth leaping for joy on encountering the Lord and the one who brings him. Let us sing again and again all week the antiphon of the psalm: "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved."

- How can I keep looking for the face of Christ in those around me?
- Whom will I visit, even virtually if needed, to help in some way?
- How can I get to Christmas Day in peace?

St. John of the Cross ~June 24, 1542-Dec 14, 1591~



It is best to learn to silence the faculties and to cause them to be still, so that God may speak.

~Saint John of the Cross~ Feast Day: December 14th



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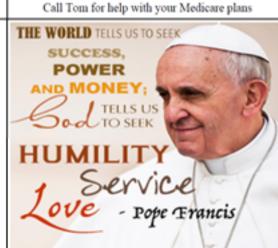
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Announcements, Events and Activities

6:30 pm in the hall

formation to follow)

prevent it's posting.

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- 12/1 Bob Jones
- 12/1 Jim Kremitzki
- 12/3 Karen Schweighart
- 12/4 Tom Cler
- 12/6 Cora Shirley
- 12/7 Kiela Martin
- 12/8 Barb Cler
- 12/9 Kathy Hettinger
- 12/11 Carson Kappes
- 12/12 Nicholas Wilkey
- 12/13 Cory Kappes 12/14 Malea Fonner
- 12/18 Brandon Mitsdarfer
- 12/18 Pat Bales
- 12/25 Nick Barrett
- 12/28 Mary Hildreth

12/30 Pam Wax

12/31 Laura Wilhelm-Barr



<u>Anniversaries</u>

- 12/3 Rusty & Kim Keske
- 12/19 Michael & Alycia Holmes
- 12/20 Marvin & Pam Cler



PSR Updates for Advent & Christmas

SH Advent Penance Service Dec 23 6:00 pm (with Adult

Don't forget to check the bulletin board in the church vestibule for flyers

about events at local area church etc. that bulletin space limitations

Reminders

SH Altar Society will meet Wednesday Jan 19th at

SM: Finance Council: Sunday January, 7:00 am

SH: Adult Faith Formation Dec 16 & 23 6:30 pm

SM Advent Penance Service Dec 22 6:30 pm

SM: Pastoral Council: Sunday, 7:00 am

SH Pastoral Council: Tuesday December 14, 6:30 pm

The Hat and Mitten tree is once again in the church vestibule for donations of both adult and child sized gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves. After

Christmas these will be donated locally to those in need.

~~ The red wagon is also set up in the church vestibule for the Annual youth group food drive. Our young parishioners are asking that donations of

nonperishable food items be placed in the little red wagon located in the vestibule of the church.



The Sacred Heart Fellowship Committee and the PSR program would like to invite all parishioners to their Parish Christmas Party next Sunday, Dec.19th, immediately following

the 10 o'clock Mass. Pizza, salad and drinks will be provided. Everyone is asked to <u>bring a favorite dessert or</u> <u>Christmas treat to be shared.</u> Joe Landeck has graciously agreed to provide some holiday music as well as, a game or two for the children. The party will conclude with an anonymous gift exchange for all who wish to participate. Gifts should not exceed more than \$3.00 dollars in value and should be wrapped. All Covid precautions will be implemented. This promises to be a lot of fun, so please join us. ****In order to determine an approximate number of those attending this party and the amount of food and drinks needed a sign up sheet is located in the vestibule of the church. If you plan to attend the party please add your name and the number in your group to this sheet. ****

Advent Penance Service & Adult Formation

Just a reminder that we have Advent penance services planned for each parish on Dec 22 and 23rd, both at 6:30 pm. There are also two Thursdays left of Adult formation at 7 pm at SH in the hall. The last two topics are Jesus Christ the Incarnate word of God and The church's teaching on Jesus Christ continued

Christmas and New Years Schedules

Dec 19: SH Parish/PSR Christmas Party to follow the 10 am

Dec 22 SM Advent Penance Service 6:30 pm

Dec 23 SH Advent Penance Service 6:00 pm with final adult formation class to follow

Dec 24th SH Christmas Vigil Mass 4:30 pm with carols at 4pm SM Mass at 6:30 pm

Dec 25 Christmas Day Mass SH 9 am

All Masses for Dec 25/26 will follow the regular weekend schedule

Dec 31 SM New Years Vigil Mass 6:30 pm Jan 1 SH New Years Mass 9am

All Masses for Jan 1/2 will follow the regular weekend schedule

Gaudete Sunday

This weekend we celebrate Gaudete Sunday. What is special about the Third Sunday of Advent? For much of the Church's history, this Sunday had a special name: "Gaudete" Sunday. On Gaudete Sunday, the season of Advent shifts its focus. For the first two weeks of Advent, the focus can be summed up in the phrase, "The Lord is coming." But beginning with Gaudete Sunday, the summary might be, "The Lord is near." This shift is marked by a lighter mood and a heightened sense of joyous anticipation .The word "Gaudete" is Latin for "Rejoice." In times when the focus of our anticipation is often on the negative and fearful, this celebration is a reminder that God who loves us is

still in charge and that we await his coming not with fear, but with tremendous joy.





*	Saturday	SH: Confess 3:15p Mass 4p MI: Jim & Connie Metford	SH: Confess 3:15p Mass 4p MI: Rose Marie Marlatt	18 SH Confess 3:15p Mass 4p MI: Rolland Sprague	25 Christmas Day Mass SH 9 am MI: All Parish Families Merry Christmas	HAPPY NEWYEAR
021	Friday	3 SH Mass 8a MI: Mike Pangburn	SH - Mass 8a M: Loiuse Schmidt	SH Mass 8a MI: Barbara Legner	Christmas Eve Vigil 1:30 pm SH MI: Mike Pangburn SM 6:30 pm MI: Gloria Secore	31 SH Mass 8a MI: Harry & Louise Schmidt
2	Thursday	2 SH MAss 8a MI: Brigit Pegeen	9 SH - Mass 8a MI Brigit Pegeen Kelly SH Advent Adult Formation 7 pm	16 SH Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert SH Advent Adult Formation 7 pm	SH - Mass 8a MI: Mary & Henry Kramer SH Advent Adult Formation 7 pm	30 SH - Mass 8a M: Anicia Kramer
mber	Wednesday	1 SH Mass 8a MI: Ruth Schweighart	8 SH - Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert	15 SH MAss 8a Mi: Brigit Pegeen Kelly	22 SH Mass 8a MI:Pat & Martha Carr	29 SH Mss 8a MI: Ruth Schweighart
9	Tuesday	30 SH Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert	7 SH - Mass 8a MIRuth Schweighart	14 SH Mass 8a MI: John Schumacher	21 SH - Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert	28 SH - Mass 8a Ml: Ursual Calvert
Dec	Monday	29	6 Feast of St Nicholas	13 Vesus	20	27
*	Sunday	28 First Sunday of Advent StM 8a MJodi Bosch SH 10a MI: Louise Schmidt	5 Ind Sunday of Advant StM - 8a MI John Sullivan SH - 10a MI: Bud Kappes PSR SM 8:45 - 9:30 ar SH 9 - 9:45 am	12 Third Sunday of Advent StM - 8a MI Harols Stone SH - 10a MI: Ruth schweighart PSR: SM 8:45 - 9;30	19 4th Sanday of Advised SM - 8a MI: Charles & Ciella Barrett SH - 10a MI: John Dee Hawkins PSR: SM 8:45 - 9:30a	26 Feart of the Holy Family StM - 8a MI: George Carroll SH - 10a MI:

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