

WELCOME TO PAX CHRISTI WE ARE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR DECEMBER 9, 2018

NEW HERE?

MASS TIMES:

Saturday ~ 5:00pm
Sunday ~ 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
Mondays ~ 8:30am
Tuesdays ~ 8:30am with Rosary to follow
Wednesdays ~ 6:00pm
Thursdays ~ 8:30am
Fridays ~ 8:30am
Sacrament of Reconciliation (Private) ~ Saturdays 3:30-4:30pm

*Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am Mass.
Nursery provided for infants through age 4 during Sunday Mass times.*

SACRAMENTS:

Baptism ~ registration and info at www.paxchristi.com/baptism
Confirmation ~ registration and info at www.paxchristi.com/ffregistration
First Eucharist ~ registration and info at www.paxchristi.com/ffregistration
First Reconciliation ~ registration/info at www.paxchristi.com/ffregistration
Marriage and Wedding Prep ~ www.paxchristi.com/marriage
Questions? Contact Andrea in the parish office, 952-405-7207

MONTHLY MAGAZINE:

The *PaxChristiNews* is mailed each month to all registered members. If you are visiting this weekend, feel free to pick up a complimentary copy from the front desk receptionist.

THIS IS NEW MEMBER SIGN UP WEEKEND:

If you would like to become a member of Pax Christi, shared ministers are here and ready to assist you in the registration process. You are also welcome to stop by the parish office anytime for a registration packet. Additional information at www.paxchristi.com/joinpax.

PRAYER BASKET:

Before and after each weekend Mass, you may write a prayer intention and drop it into the Prayer Basket located near the baptismal font. All intentions in the Prayer Basket are collectively included in the Prayers of the Faithful at each weekend Mass.

WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM

A NOTE FROM FR BILL MURTAUGH



"The addiction to our own way of thinking is probably the greatest addiction we have. We are often not aware of our own addictions."

That quotation made me stop and think! The more I think about it, the more uncomfortable I become. And the more uncomfortable I become, the more truth I see in this statement.

The quote comes from the well-known writer, Franciscan Fr. Richard Rohr. In his book about the spirituality of The Twelve Steps of AA, *Breathing Under Water*, Rohr tries to help struggling people come to terms with their own brokenness to experience healing. Rohr makes the case that the Twelve Step Program of Alcoholics Anonymous is rooted in Christian spirituality, so much so, that on a practical level, it carries the healing mission of Jesus to today's human race. The Twelve Step Program and the gospel interrelate because of the way they lead to forgiveness and healing.

Rohr believes that we are all addicts in one way or another. Individuals are addicts but so too are institutions, nations, and cultures. Each has its own form of neurosis. He believes that our contemporary Western culture focuses on greed, money, sensual desires, and the importance of being in control.

Our country is addicted to oil, war, and power. The Church hierarchy, among other things, has become addicted to its own self-importance.

Finding gospel principles in the Twelve Step Program, Rohr discovered "how helpful it is to view sin like addiction, as a disease, a very destructive disease, instead of merely something that was culpable, punishable, or that made God unhappy. If sin indeed did make God unhappy, it is because God desires nothing more than our happiness and the healing of our disease." Obviously healing was always at the center of Jesus' ministry.

Part of the spirituality of Rohr is that he is more concerned about healing in the here and now than he is about some mysterious reward in the afterlife. He accuses Christianity of concentrating on dogmas rather than on practical steps to human fulfillment. His theory is that great damage was done when Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire. It was at this point, Rohr says, "that Christianity began to place theory over practice." Christians began to ritualize worship of Jesus instead of following Jesus in practical ways.

The great insight of the Twelve Steps is the acceptance of our own powerlessness. That is a fundamental starting point. As Rohr discovers, "powerlessness is the place where Jesus touched those He met most deeply," according to the gospels.

A major problem for all who suffer blind addiction is denial. Real spirituality depends on us recognizing that we are totally dependent on God for everything and that by ourselves we are powerless. As Rohr writes, "Alcoholics have their powerlessness visible for all to see. The rest of us disguise it in different ways and overcompensate for our more hidden addictions and attachments, especially our addiction to

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UPCOMING EVENTS

IN REMEMBRANCE: FEATURED ART EXHIBIT

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF PARISHIONER BRUCE KOPRUCKI
ON DISPLAY IN THE PACEM IN TERRIS GALLERY THROUGH DECEMBER 16

CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT THE CARE CENTERS

Sunday, December 9, 2:00-4:00pm, Dietrich Bonhoeffer Room 111

CAST INTO THE DEEP: ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

Monday, December 10, beginning with a meal at 6:00pm RSV

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Advent Hope in Times of Darkness
Tuesday, December 11, 7:00pm

BOOMERS' ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 15, 11:00am-1:00pm RSV

WHEN THE THOUGHT OF CHRISTMAS HURTS

PRAYER SERVICE WITH FR. BILL MURTAUGH:
Thursday, December 20, 7:00-8:00pm, Thomas Merton Chapel

Maybe you are dreading Christmas this year because it will be the first Christmas without your wife/husband/son/daughter/grandchild/a good friend. Maybe as a couple you had a miscarriage or stillbirth and the loss of your baby hurts. Maybe you experienced an end of a relationship, loss of a job, or a painful diagnosis and you are feeling blue. Please join Fr. Bill for this opportunity to pray, to remember, and to acknowledge Christmas hurts.

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY: HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

January 1, 9:00am in the Sanctuary

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCIENCE

Answering the Questions, Exposing the Myths
Thursdays, 6:30-8:00pm, 5 weeks beginning January 10 RSV

SOCIAL JUSTICE SPEAKERS SERIES: ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE EQUITY

Sunday, January 20, 12:30-2:00pm RSV
Emilia Gonzalez Avalos, Executive Director, Navigate MN

PRAYER CORNER

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE LOVED ONES:

Ed, Joe, Patricia, Bill, Trisha, Katie, Barb, Ken, Eric, Jackie, Gail, Rod, Brent, Tammie, Michelle, Carol, Jim, and Pam.

Pax Christi offers, as a community, the gift of prayer. If you would like to have your name listed in this Prayer Corner during a time of need, contact Care and Support, 952-941-3150.

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our own way of thinking...we keep doing the same thing over and over again, even if it is not working for us."

I was not really surprised when Rohr wrote, "I now have more people telling me they are 'recovering Catholics' than those in recovery from addiction...perhaps we failed to give them the good news they desired, needed, and expected?"

And here is another breath-taking insight from Rohr: "Unless religion moves people to the mystical, it becomes more a problem than it is a solution." That statement is rare in modern spiritual direction. Finally, Rohr says that the paradox of both the Twelve Step Program and gospel teaching is that in surrendering one wins; in giving one keeps, and in dying one comes to life.

Do you think of God as the ONE who wants the very best for you now... and forever? What do Jesus' words, "I am vine, you are the branches" mean to you?

Fr. Bill

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, December 10

8:30am MASS
 6:00pm Cast into the Deep
 6:30pm Pack 348 Mtg
 6:30pm Book Club
 6:45pm Cana Dinner Planning Mtg.
 7:00pm Venture Crew 370

Tuesday, December 11

8:30am MASS
 9:00am Rosary Group
 9:00am Women with Spirit Bible Study
 3:00pm Chair Yoga
 6:00pm 50+ Basketball
 7:00pm Environmental Challenge Mtg.
 7:00pm Advent Reconciliation Service
 7:45pm Bell Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 12

9:30am Mom's ROCK
 11:00am Tai Chi
6:00pm MASS
 6:30pm Faith Formation
 6:30pm RCIA

Thursday, December 13

8:30am MASS
 10:00am Book Club
 6:00pm Pax Christi Basketball
 6:00pm Walking the Way Meeting
 7:00pm Alanon
 7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous
 7:30pm Music Rehearsal

Friday, December 14

8:30am MASS

Saturday, December 15

9:00am Women's AA Group
 9:00am Overeater's Anonymous
 11:00am Boomer's Holiday Party
 3:30pm Private Reconciliation
5:00pm MASS - FR. MURTAUGH

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT Sunday, December 16

HOSPITALITY FOLLOWING MORNING MASSES
9:00am MASS - FR. BYRON
 9:00am Children's Liturgy of the Word
 10:00am GIFT Bible Study
11:00am MASS - FR. BYRON
 11:00am Children's Liturgy of the Word
 3:30pm Faith Formation Sessions
 3:30pm Teen Choir
5:00pm MASS - FR. MURTAUGH
 6:00pm Sunday Evening Meal
 6:30pm Faith Formation Sessions

**ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND EVENT
 REGISTRATION AT
 WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM**

	This Year Actual	This Year Budget	Variance from Budget	Last Year Actual	Variance from Last Year
Week #22 Contributions	36,481	45,000	(8,519)	76,860	(40,379)
YTD through Week #22	1,007,138	1,098,000	(90,862)	1,136,230	(129,092)
18-19 Contributions Goal - \$2,835,000					

eCheck and credit card giving available at www.paxchristi.com.