

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

WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR DECEMBER 15, 2019

NEW HERE?

MASS TIMES:

Saturday ~ 5:00pm

Sunday ~ 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Mondays ~ 8:30am

Tuesdays ~ 8:30am

Wednesdays ~ 6:00pm

Thursdays ~ 8:30am (Word/Communion Service)

Fridays ~ 8:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Private) ~ Saturdays 4:00-4:30pm

Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am Mass.

Nursery provided for infants through age 4 during Sunday Mass times.

SACRAMENTS AND PRAYER:

Baptism ~ registration and info at www.paxchristi.com/baptism

Confirmation ~ info at www.paxchristi.com/confirmation

First Eucharist ~ registration and info at www.paxchristi.com/eucharist

First Reconciliation ~ registration/info at www.paxchristi.com/reconciliation

Marriage and Wedding Prep ~ www.paxchristi.com/marriage

Rosary ~ Rosary prayed following weekday morning Masses.

Questions? Contact Andrea in the parish office, 952-405-7207.

TOT-TIME OPEN GYM AT PAX CHRISTI:

Tot-Time Open Gym is a great opportunity for parents and children to play alongside others. This is a great activity for those long winter months or when you are looking for some interaction and companionship. Wednesday mornings from September-May opposite of Moms ROCK gatherings as schedule permits. Parents MUST stay with children. For more information: www.paxchristi.com/opengym.

ON-SITE 12-STEP SUPPORT GROUPS:

Alcoholics Anonymous, Saturday Sisters AA for Women, Al-Anon/Prairie Peace, and Overeaters Anonymous. These support groups each meet weekly to offer listening, guidance, and hope for those working to overcome a specific addiction interfering with their lives.

RESOURCES:

Written resources on prayer, grief, relationships, illness, aging, and education/support opportunities are available in the racks at the rear of the worship space and at the kiosk inside the main entrance.

A NOTE FROM FR MIKE BYRON

Dear Friends:

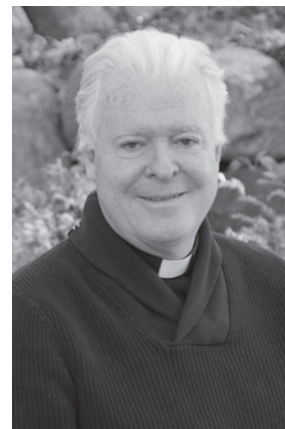
In the news this past week it was reported that Burleigh County, North Dakota, was poised to become the first county in our country officially to ban the welcoming of immigrants. That county is home to the city of Bismarck, the state capitol. The vote among county officials was brought about by a new federal rule that requires local governments to go on record either to approve or to oppose the resettling of immigrant people among their communities before they arrive. And even though it is likely that that rule came about by the most cynical of political calculations, it can actually help us to be better Advent people because it brings the question of immigration home. In fact, it brings a whole lot of justice issues home; it forces a very specific stance among citizens, especially Christian ones.

It can be an easy out to carry on with our religious convictions on some kind of theoretical level. For example, "Am I in favor of justice for the oppressed? Oh yes!" Or "Do I believe in extending a hand to those who are desperate? Surely!" At the level of an idea, those sentiments make no concrete demand of us. It's a kind of benign philosophy or a generous concept. But once we change the question to whether "those people" are going to be welcomed in to my town or my neighborhood, the commitments become very much more immediate. "Am I ready to receive homeless people in the spaces where I live?" Or, "Am I ready to assume some actual responsibility for the welfare of those who don't speak my language or share my skin color or collaborate with my politics?" That's the kind of question that the county leadership in North Dakota was confronted with this week, and contrary to expectations the answer was "Yes."

It was a close vote, I am told, but to have decided otherwise would have made it exceedingly difficult to square with the teachings of Jesus in a place that I assume is predominantly Christian. Our scriptures, especially in Advent, point us in exactly this direction.

This is not only a test of discipleship for the people in Burleigh County. This is a decision that all of us will have to make, later if not sooner, and it will force the question of just how radically we understand our commitments to justice and hospitality for those who are "foreigners." The people of North Dakota just have the misfortune of being the first to be made to go on record. Is our faith simply a nice idea? Or is it something that we are willing to change our lives in order to accommodate? Our pope has been pushing us for years now to understand that the heart of the gospel is something far more profound than just presuming to have the right answers to life's theoretical questions. He uses the word "encounter" a lot in describing what our Lord's teaching requires of us here and now. And encounter means coming face to face with the people who aren't just like us, honoring their stories and their needs, and extending genuine charity to the ones who present themselves to us when we get out of bed in the morning. Outlawing the occasion for encounter seems antithetical to the real gospel.

Our faith does not rest in a theory of kindness. It rests in a summons to conversion.



UPCOMING EVENTS

PARISHIONER ART EXHIBIT IN PACEM IN TERRIS GALLERY

EXHIBIT RUNS THROUGH December 15

SIMBANG GABI

FILIPINO CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Monday, December 16, 7:00pm-8:30pm, Thomas Merton Chapel **RSVP**

SOULCOLLAGE®

Wednesday, December 18, 6:00-8:30pm **RSVP**

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

January 1, 9:00am in the Sanctuary

THE BIBLE: GOD'S STORY, OUR STORY

A Parish-Wide Faith Formation Event

January 5, 6:30-7:45pm OR January 8, 6:00-7:15pm

JUSTMATTERS: FAITH AND RACIAL EQUITY

OPENING RETREAT: Saturday, January 4, 8:30am-5:00pm **RSVP**

CHOOSE A SESSION: Wednesdays, January 8-February 26, 1:00pm OR

THURSDAYS, January 9-February 27, 6:00pm

BOOMERS AND BEYOND EVENT

HOLIDAY PARTY FOR THE New Year

Saturday, January 11, 10:00am

MEN AND CHURCH FEATURING FR MIKE BYRON

An Evening for the Men of Pax Christi

Tuesday, January 14, 6:30-8:00pm, Room 212

SWGc WINTER GRIEF SERIES

THURSDAYS, January 16-February 27, 5:30pm-7:30pm, St. Hubert's

SENIOR HIGH WINTER RETREAT

January 17-19, Episcopal House of Prayer, \$25

SHARED MINISTRY APPRECIATION

Saturday, January 25, 2020 6:00pm

LABYRINTH WALK

Tuesday, January 27, 6:30-8:30pm **RSVP**

ANNUAL CANA DINNER – SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, April 25, 6:00-9:30pm

PRAYER CORNER

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE LOVED ONES:

Juli, Mike, Maureen, Liz, Wayne, Kris, Greg, Amanda, Sherry, Ira, Steve, Calvin, Carmen, Martin, Alann, Ana Marie, Kathryn, Mark, Steve, Mary Jane, Bob, Joyce, and the R Family.

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.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, December 16

8:30am MASS

3:00pm Chair Yoga

6:30pm Pack 348 Mtg.

6:30pm Troop 370 Mtg.

7:00pm Simbang Gabi Mass

Tuesday, December 17

8:30am MASS

9:00am Women w/Spirit Bible Study

6:00pm 50+ Basketball

6:30pm Leadership Meetings

7:00pm Handbell Rehearsal

Wednesday, December 18

9:30am Tot-Time Open Gym

11:00am Tai Chi

5:15pm Faith Formation Sessions

6:00pm Faith Formation Sessions

6:00pm MASS

6:00pm SoulCollage® Workshop

Thursday, December 19

8:30am Word/Communion Service

9:00am Quilters Ministry

3:00pm Compassionate Care Circle

7:00pm Al-Anon

7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous

7:30pm Music Ministry

Friday, December 20

8:30am MASS

Saturday, December 21

9:00am Women's AA Group

9:00am Overeater's Anonymous

4:00pm Private Reconciliation

5:00pm MASS - FR. BYRON

Sunday, December 22

HOSPITALITY FOLLOWING MORNING MASSES

9:00am MASS - FR. McMICHAEL

11:00am MASS - FR. BYRON

5:00pm MASS - FR. BYRON

Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am Mass.
Nursery provided during Sunday Mass times.
Rosary prayed following weekday morning Masses.

2019 CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

December 24

Children's Christmas Eve Mass

Fr. McMichael 2:00pm

Christmas Mass

Fr. Byron 4:00pm

Christmas Mass

Fr. McMichael 7:00pm

Lessons and Carols, followed by

9:30pm

Solemn Celebration of Christmas

Fr. Byron 10:00pm

Christmas Day

December 25

Christmas Mass

Fr. Byron 9:00am

Christmas Mass

Fr. Byron 11:00am

www.paxchristi.com/advent

REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for your generosity!

Week of December 1:

Basket Collection \$17,808

Online Giving 39,347

Other 19,953

Total Week #20 77,108

Budget 80,000

Variance -2,892

YTD Actual 1,073,424

YTD Budget 1,048,000

YTD Variance 25,424

Other contribution methods include grants from donor-advised funds, stock donations, IRA distributions, payroll deductions, and online bill payments.

Donate online at www.paxchristi.com/ donations or text to give at 952-234-6729.