

PAXCHRISTI NEWS

Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie December 2018

ADVENT HOPE IN TIMES OF DARKNESS

2018 Advent Schedule
of Events and Masses

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CHRISTMAS BEING SUPRISED BY GOD

Advent begins the weekend of December 1/2



PAX CHRISTI

Catholic Community

12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208
Phone: 952-941-3150 Website: www.paxchristi.com

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm
Friday 8:00am–12:00pm

Mass Schedule

Weekend Masses

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

Nursery available at all weekend Masses.
Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am.

Weekday Masses

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 (Advent)

Mission Statement: As a community of faith nourished by the Eucharist, we are committed in our discipleship with Christ to act for justice, be of generous service, and authentically welcome all to Pax Christi Catholic Community.

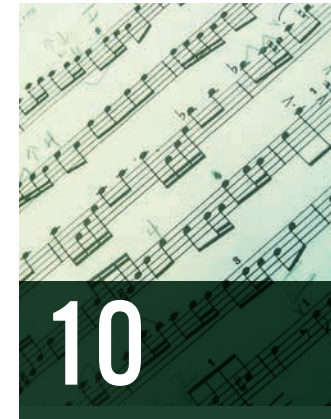
Values: God-Centered, Justice, Inclusion, Spiritual Growth, Stewardship, and Lay Leadership.

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BEFORE I FORGET...



Fr. Bill Murtaugh
Senior Associate Pastor

THIS IS HOW MUCH
GOD LOVED THE
WORLD: GOD GAVE
HIS SON, HIS ONE
AND ONLY SON. BY
BELIEVING IN THE SON,
ANYONE CAN HAVE A
WHOLE AND LASTING
LIFE. (JOHN 3:16)



THE BIBLE is constantly saying to us: Don't think God is as simple as you are. God is in places you would never expect to find God. When Moses is at the burning bush, he says to God, "Who are you?" God speaks three words to Moses: "Hayah ahser hayah." Those three Hebrew words have been mistranslated into English as, "I am who I am." But in Hebrew it means, "I will be who or how or where I will be," meaning don't think that you can predict me. I am a God who is going to surprise you.

Human beings can also surprise us. I remember when I was about nine years old, I began to drop hints around Thanksgiving on how great it would be to get a new basketball for Christmas. I was in the fourth grade and the world of athletics was becoming important for fourth grade boys.

My dad had been a good athlete, but my mother didn't know much about sports. She was the type who would ask in the middle of a football game on the television, "What inning is it?" All my brothers were great athletes, but she associated sports only with more dirty laundry on Mondays. So I knew if I would ever see a new round ball under our Christmas tree, I

would have to turn it on thick. I was committed to all nice and no naughty until December 25.

And then it happened. A few days before Christmas I happened to observe a brightly wrapped, correctly shaped box...with guess whose name on it? You guessed right, young Billy!

Christmas Day never arrived so slowly. While no one was looking, I had shaken the box enough to know that it had to contain what I had been wanting—right size, right weight. When my turn came, I lunged for it like a hungry bear. I tore at the wrapping, pulled open the top, and to my disbelieving eyes there it was. . . . a world globe! It was not what I expected. But it certainly was a surprise.

Speaking of a "God of Surprises," this is exactly what the Christmas story is about. If anyone was surprised by God, it certainly was Mary of Nazareth and her betrothed, Joseph.

Since the fourth Sunday of Advent is often very close to Christmas, many folks, for one reason or another, do not hear the Gospel reading that is always about Mary. This year in Luke's Gospel we meet up with Mary right after she

receives a visit from the angel Gabriel. We can only imagine the messy mix of emotions she must have been feeling (after all, she is a young teenager). Gabriel revealed that she would become pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit and that she would give birth to the Son of God. What an incredible honor! What an amazing blessing! But it was also a little crazy! Because Mary was betrothed but not yet married, her growing belly would certainly draw attention, questions, and talk. And it was complicated because the angel had revealed all this only to Mary, but then she had to share the news with her family and with Joseph.

So she did what any smart woman would do. She got out of town. Mary went to see her cousin Elizabeth. Christian tradition says that Elizabeth lived in the town of Einkarem, about 80 miles from Nazareth. It would have taken Mary over a week to travel across three mountain ranges to see Elizabeth. Maybe she needed a place to share her good news, this complicated good news. Maybe she needed someone to believe her—someone who had experienced a miracle of her own and would trust that Mary's good news was true. Maybe Mary just needed a

place to ask questions and find support. Maybe she just needed to be with someone in the midst of her fears and acknowledge all that was happening to her. Maybe she needed a place where she could experience community, a connection that could help her overcome a sense of isolation. Maybe she needed a place where she could experience her faith more deeply—the promise that God's love would be greater than her fears.

Mary, pregnant with Jesus, and Elizabeth, pregnant with John (the Baptizer), formed a small community. What a teaching moment for us about what it means to be a faith community. Like Mary, we need people who will believe us and trust us—people who will honor our truth and acknowledge the messiness of our lives. In the helter-skelter of modern living, we need community; we need connection that overcomes any sense of isolation. We need a place where we can experience the promises of our faith: that love can overcome fear; that joy can overcome grief; that peace can overcome our confused and disordered lives, and that hope can overcome despair.

We need our Christian community to remind us (and



our young people) of these promises, because modern culture isn't doing the job. The world we live in is broken. We need communities of faith that can meet us in places of despair and still remind us to reach for the Light.

The Good News of Advent is this: the Light of the World is coming, not because our lives are perfect. The Light of the World is coming because the promises of our faith are true.

P.S. Why not surprise a kid, an elderly person, or an entire

family living in poverty? Check out the Twelve Baskets Ministry drives here at Pax Christi. Tradition tells us that it is the poor who welcome us to heaven at the end of our earthly journey. Make time to help the poor. It is our Christian calling.

TO SAY TO SOMEONE
"I LOVE YOU"
IS TO SAY YOU
WILL LIVE FOREVER.



THE SEASON OF SILENT, HUMBLE WAITING



HE IS the first born of creation. He is the dawn from on high who will forever break into our world and remove fear. His Spirit guides us to everlasting peace and love.

As we prepare to celebrate this Advent/Christmas season, anxiously awaiting peace in our hearts and in our world, let us reflect on the themes we hear in the scriptures that bring us back to our belief in peace and faithful love.

Isaiah sees the vision of peace, of wisdom and understanding, of justice and delight. "Justice and faithfulness will rule our earth, and people will live forever in peace." Have you ever wondered what PEACE in our world would be like? Do you work for peace in your home, at school, and in your corner of the world? As you begin your day, can you spend just two or three minutes reflecting on how you can bring peace? Is it by a kind word to someone who is troubled or angry? Can it be forgiveness of someone who has inflicted hurt? Can you look at the larger community and spend some time trying to understand the views of someone who thinks differently than you? As you go about your day, remember the words of Isaiah: "I have called you by name and you are mine." You have been called, blessed, and loved beyond measure. As you reflect on Advent, focus that blessing of peace and love on those around you.

St. Paul begins this Advent season with a reminder to wake from our sleep because our salvation is closer than we might think. Part of Paul's message inviting us to wake up is that we cannot go on dreaming. We need to wake up and put our dreams into practice. There are many challenges that cannot be put off; opportunities for good abound. Paul asks us to think in "harmony and be aware of our God who provides encouragement and endurance." Thinking in harmony is not always easy. Many times it is easier to give up. We deny that others can speak the truth and can bring us to a new awareness of who we are and of our relationship with God. During this time of awakening, spend some quiet time thinking of how to bring harmony and encouragement to members of your family, persons at your work, and within your community. Get in touch with your dreams of helping others; plan something special for someone who will least expect it. As we celebrate God becoming incarnate, we are celebrating the reality that God is already here, in our world, and in those around us. Celebrate the special people in your life.

The gospel messages during this season call us again to be alert, to listen for the voice that calls us. We need to watch for the humble and the poor among us. Jesus came... and comes ...humble, quiet, and peace-filled. The simplicity of the Advent readings challenges us profoundly. We need to be alert to the poor among us, to watch for the humble who will teach us, and to pray and work for peace. "Behold, the virgin shall bear a son and they shall call him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"

Written by Bernie Cable-Prokop, Pax Christi parishioner



ADVENT HOPE IN TIMES OF DARKNESS

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE Tuesday, December 11, 7:00pm

THE SEASON OF ADVENT comes to us at the darkest time of the year when days are short and nights are long. It is a time of preparation for the Dawn of God, the Incarnation, to break through the challenges that make us less than what we are called to be as people living into our full humanity in God's design. This evening of reconciliation will aid in giving us pause and reflection, so we may understand the darkness a bit better and be people of hope looking to the Light that dwells in each of us, so that Light may be expressed more purely and profoundly. We will begin by using Taizé prayer, a type of prayer that may not be familiar to us. The prayer is based in the Taizé Community in France, founded by Brother Roger in 1940, as a community that "wants its life to be a sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and between separated peoples" (www.taize.fr). Taizé prayer uses repetitive prayers set to simple musical lines and core texts from Scripture, so that the whole assembly might enter into the message, silence, and space this prayer provides, as we seek to move from spiritual darkness into healing light. Please come early to this service to allow for time to enter into the quiet and prayer of this night.

ADVENT BEGINS DECEMBER 2 2018 SCHEDULE

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Private)	Saturdays, December 1, 8, 15, 22	3:30–4:30pm
First Sunday of Advent		December 2
Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Holy Day Morning Mass	December 8 8:30am
Second Sunday of Advent		December 9
Advent Reconciliation Service	<i>Advent Hope in Times of Darkness</i>	December 11 7:00pm
	Opportunity for individual confessions following the service.	
Third Sunday of Advent		December 16
Fourth Sunday of Advent		December 23
Christmas Eve	Stories and Songs, followed by Children's Christmas Eve Mass	December 24 1:45pm 2:00pm
	Christmas Mass	<i>Fr. Murtaugh</i> <i>Fr. Byron</i> 4:00pm
	Christmas Mass	<i>Fr. McMichael</i> 7:00pm
	Lessons and Carols, followed by Solemn Celebration of Christmas	9:30pm <i>Fr. Byron</i> 10:00pm
Christmas Day	Christmas Mass	December 25 9:00am
	Christmas Mass	<i>Fr. Byron</i> 11:00am
Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph	December 29/30 Regular Weekend Mass and Reconciliation Schedule	
Feast of Mary, Mother of God	Holy Day Mass	January 1 9:00am
Feast of the Epiphany	January 5/6 Regular Weekend Mass and Reconciliation Schedule	
Baptism of the Lord	January 12/13 Regular Weekend Mass and Reconciliation Schedule	

www.paxchristi.com/advent



CELEBRATE FAMILY THROUGH TRADITION

IN OUR Godly Play program for preschoolers and kindergarteners at Pax Christi, the children are taught that there are two great feasts we celebrate every year in the Church and in our lives: Christmas and Easter. These feasts are so huge and important that we need time to get ready for them. The preparation time for Christmas is, of course, Advent.

The founder of Godly Play, Rev. Jerome Berryman, learned that storytelling is of utmost importance in our faith and our family lives. He learned this while he worked with children and adults who had survived suicide attempts. He found that the common denominator was that the family did not share stories—of memories, vacations, traditions, anything. He built ritual, tradition, and storytelling into every session of Godly Play.

Advent/Christmas is a time for families to practice traditions that will provide family stories. It is a time to pass on the faith stories of our Christian faith. It is a time to share family memories of previous years' traditions.

Advent is derived from Latin and means "arrival" or "approach." The world waited for the coming of the Messiah to restore humankind's relationship to God. Spiritually, we continue to long for a deeper relationship with Jesus. Our relationship with Him is renewed every Christmas if we emphasize the Christian aspect of the season.

Advent begins on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle, which is on November 30, and ends on December 24. Christmas begins at midnight and continues until the Sunday we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. Yes, Christmas lasts through two Sundays following Christmas day. We celebrate Epiphany, when the Three Magi arrived at Bethlehem to honor Jesus, and then we celebrate Jesus' baptism the following Sunday.

Advent celebrates the Coming of the Light in the Darkness. Notice that in *The Story of the Nutcracker*, the children are forbidden from the drawing room on Christmas Eve. Traditionally, the tree did not go up until Christmas Eve. On Christmas morning the tree appears with lights, ornaments, and gifts. The light represents the arrival of Jesus, the ornaments the joy of Christ, and the gifts the love we receive from Jesus and pass on to others. The tree stayed up for the Twelve Days of Christmas until Epiphany on January 6. The Advent season stayed dark with light from Advent candles to give hope for what was to come.

Celebrate Advent as if you are anticipating the coming of Christ. Our Church integrated Advent liturgically as a time of spiritual preparation for Christmas. The best way to experience a meaningful Christmas is to "let every heart prepare him room!" It's a spiritual journey! Listed on the following page are 10 ways to celebrate Advent while creating traditions and stories in your family.

Written by Lynn Schelitzche, Director of Faith Formation

10 POPULAR **ADVENT** TRADITIONS

ADVENT WREATH

Go to CatholicCompany.com and search "Advent Wreath Tradition and Meaning" for the meaning of color, shape, light.

The **1st Sunday of Advent** symbolizes **Hope** with the "Prophet's Candle," Isaiah, reminding us that Jesus is coming.

The **2nd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes **Faith** with the "Bethlehem Candle," reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The **3rd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes **Joy** with the "Shepherd's Candle," reminding us of the joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

The **4th Sunday of Advent** symbolizes **Peace** with the "Angel's Candle," reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward All."



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL READING

Advent prayer booklets provided at Pax Christi the first week of Advent.



ADVENT SPECIAL PRAYERS

O Antiphons, easily found on the Internet.

ADVENT CALENDARS

Counting down the days to Christmas helps children to anticipate patiently.

ADVENT MUSIC

At <http://catholic-resources.org> search "Advent Music" for a list of contemporary and traditional Advent songs.

NATIVITY SCENE

Set up stable with barn animals and an empty manger (if Jesus is detachable). Week 1; move Mary, Joseph and donkey. Week 2; bring shepherd and sheep. Week 3; add baby Jesus. Christmas Eve; bring in camels and Magi on Christmas or on the 12th Day of Christmas, Epiphany, when they arrived.



JESSE TREE

Fun biblical activity for children tracing popular stories from Jesus' ancestor, Jesse, the father of King David, to Jesus.

FAMILY SERVICE PROJECT

Area agencies: PROP, Sharing and Caring Hands, St. Vincent DePaul, Visitation Monastery in Minneapolis, Feed my Starving Children, Open Arms, and Bridging

CHRISTMAS TREE BLESSING

Go to usccb.org and search "Blessing of a Christmas Tree."





A SPECIAL INVITATION FOR SINGERS OF ALL AGES

Kids, parents, grandparents, families, and singles are all welcome to join together on special occasions to help lead our community in song during Mass. We have a vision of a diverse, intergenerational group of singers. You don't have to be a member of the Pax Christi Choir to join us! There are only two requirements: have a song in your heart and the time to join us for a one-time rehearsal of the music.

For Christmas, we are calling for singers of all ages to sing with us for the Children's Christmas Eve Mass. We begin with Stories and Songs at 1:45pm and Mass begins at 2:00pm. There is a one-time rehearsal on Saturday, December 15, from 9:00–10:30am. Contact Joan Howe-Pullis, 952-405-7247, for additional information.

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS

Children's Christmas Eve Mass: Monday, December 24
 Christmas Story at 1:45pm; Mass at 2:00pm

Our NEW tradition continues! Our Children's Christmas Eve Liturgy begins with third and fourth-grade youth telling the story of Christmas in word and song followed by Mass.

All Pax Christi third and fourth-grade students are invited to participate. An intergenerational group of singers will help lead the songs for this special Children's Christmas Mass. Anyone wishing to join the Intergenerational Singers are invited to be a part of this Christmas Eve celebration.

Participants and their parents will be required to attend the one and only dress rehearsal. In order to successfully create this special liturgy, we are in need of parent volunteers. Registration is required no later than December 2. Visit www.paxchristi.com/childrenschrismasmass for online registration or contact Joan Howe-Pullis, 952-405-7247. Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

Dress Rehearsal For All: Saturday, December 15, 9:00am–12:00noon



CHRISTMAS CAROLING TRADITION

MY HUSBAND and I just celebrated our twenty-seventh wedding anniversary. We were married in the month of November and I still remember navigating those first Christmases together. We both had fond memories of the traditions our families did each Christmas. We knew that these traditions both linked us to our past and would help create strong family ties for our new life together and into the next generation.

All the stories, beliefs, rituals, and customs we talked about connected us to our extended families in fun and surprising ways, and we knew we wanted this for our children as well. So we did that delicate dance of combining our different family traditions while also creating some new traditions of our own. I discovered that many of our common traditions included music: hymns sung during worship, annual holiday concerts, and singing favorite Christmas carols around the piano. Can you even imagine Christmas without music? Some of my favorite Christmas songs still bring tears to my eyes even after a lifetime of singing them. I have found that I am not alone in these deep-seated musical memories I hold so dear. It's not uncommon to hear stories of seniors who find such connection and meaning in songs that they remember the lyrics even when they struggle to remember current events or even people's names. Music touches our soul and only needs some gentle probing to resurface. Every year I hear delightful stories like this from parishioners who gather here at Pax Christi for our annual Christmas Caroling at the Care Centers. Groups of a dozen or more travel to local care centers to share this gift of music and memories with our senior friends. The seniors sing along to their favorite Christmas tunes and yes, a tear or two has been known to occur. This Pax Christi tradition of caroling has now become a favorite family tradition for many parishioners.

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Would you like to join us in creating lasting memories with family and friends? Come join us Sunday, December 9, 2:00–4:00pm. We'll sing carols, pass out cards to residents, and receive the gift of joy in return. Additional details can be found on page 19.

By Jean Thoresen, Director of Care and Support Ministry





THE STORY OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

ON DECEMBER 12, the Catholic Church celebrates the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, marking the day when, in 1531, Mary, the Blessed Mother, appeared in Mexico to a 57-year old peasant named Juan Diego.

On Saturday, December 9, 1531, while on his way to Mass, Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin, an Indian and recent convert to Christianity, heard beautiful music coming from the top of Tepeyac Hill (a suburb of Mexico City). Suddenly, the music stopped and a woman's voice called out to him in Nahuatl (the Aztec language): "Juantzin, Juan Diegotzin." Ascending the hill, Juan Diego found himself before a beautiful native woman adorned in clothing that "shone like the sun." The woman introduced herself as "the immaculate Mother of God" and she explained the reason for her appearance. She came to request that a church be built there, and she wanted Juan Diego to take her request to the head of the Church in Mexico, Bishop Juan de Zumárraga. The task would not be easy. Like many New World missionaries, Bishop Zumárraga was suspicious of supposed visionaries, fearing it was indigenous idolatry. Skeptical of Juan Diego and the Virgin's message, the bishop sent him away, but promised to listen again another day.

Dejected, Juan Diego returned to the Virgin and begged her to send someone more esteemed than him, a native Aztec Indian. The Virgin listened tenderly but responded firmly, insisting that Juan Diego be her messenger. The following day (December 10, 1531), Juan Diego returned to the bishop and recounted the many details of the apparition. This time, the bishop requested that Juan Diego return with evidence of the miraculous appearance. To be

sure Juan Diego was being honest, the bishop sent two men to follow Juan Diego. But after trailing him for some time, the men lost sight of him, and told the bishop that Juan Diego was a fraud deserving punishment. Meanwhile, Juan Diego arrived at Tepeyac Hill and told the Virgin Mary of the bishop's request; she in turn asked Juan Diego to come back the following day, when she would give him the requested sign for the bishop.

Returning home, Juan Diego received sad news—his uncle Juan Bernardino was gravely ill. Instead of going to Tepeyac Hill, the next day (December 11th), Juan Diego found a doctor, but the doctor said nothing could be done to help his dying uncle. So, on Monday, December 12, 1531, Juan Diego put on his tilma (a cactus fiber cloak) for warmth and went to find a priest. Hoping to avoid any delays, he took a different path to avoid the Virgin Mary. But, as he neared Tepeyac, she descended from the hill, asking what was wrong. She then reassured the sorrowful Juan Diego by declaring her motherhood and promising that his uncle was already healed. Hearing this, Juan Diego asked for the sign for the bishop, and went to the hilltop as she instructed him. There, in this barren, cold wintery spot, he found a garden of sweet-smelling Castilian roses, not native to Mexico, blooming there. He picked the flowers and brought them back down to the Virgin Mary, who arranged them in his tilma. Juan Diego then set out for the bishop's house.

When Juan Diego arrived, the servants refused him entry, but eventually let him in when they could not take the flowers from his tilma. Before the bishop, Juan Diego opened his tilma and the flowers fell out, but an even greater miracle was revealed:



On the tilma's surface was the Virgin's image. The bishop and those in the room fell to their knees, admiring and praying, and the bishop asked to be shown the place for the Virgin's church. With his mission fulfilled, Juan Diego returned home to find his uncle completely healed, just as the Virgin Mary had promised. Even more, the Virgin had appeared to Juan Bernardino, too, and had told him her name: "the Perfect Virgin Holy Mary of Guadalupe." Two weeks later, the day after Christmas, 1531, her chapel was completed, and the tilma with its image was placed above the altar.

What happened next is history. The image on the tilma became the beginning of a conversion movement the likes of which has not been seen before or since.

The fact that the Virgin Mother not only spoke to Juan Diego in his native Nahuatl language, but also appeared wearing the dress of an Aztec princess, sparked nine million conversions of native Aztec Indians to the Catholic faith in just under seven years.

Many larger versions of the original chapel have been built over the last 487 years. The current basilica shrine in Mexico City, where the original tilma with our Lady of Guadalupe's image is displayed, remains the most visited Catholic pilgrimage site in the world.

Written by Hermes and Cecilia Cervantes, Pax Christi parishioners



HONORING OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE PATRONESS OF THE AMERICAS AND QUEEN OF MEXICO SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 AT THE 5:00PM MASS

Please join Pax Christi's Latino community for our third annual celebration to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe. All are welcome to bring flowers—especially roses—which we will place before Our Lady in remembrance of those that miraculously appeared in December 1531 on Tepeyac Hill, and which St. Juan Diego took to Bishop Zumárraga as a sign of Our Lady's appearance. Once again, we will have Mariachis who will initially play, Las Mañanitas, typically sung for birthdays, baptisms, Mother's Day, and many other special celebrations. They will continue serenading us after Mass in Dorothy Day Hall where—by popular demand—delicious, homemade Mexican food will be served! We will also display Our Lady's images from Pax Christi members' homes at our Mesa de Honor—Table of Honor. Children will enjoy breaking a piñata as part of the festivities! We will serve Mexican breads on Saturday, as well as at Sunday hospitality. If you are interested in helping with decorating, food prep, or to serve the meal for this celebration, contact Janell, Hospitality Coordinator, at 952-405-7242, or jmcbeain@paxchristi.com. All are welcome—bienvenidos a todos!



THE BODY OF CHRIST IN ACTION

WE ARE meant to be a people of hope and joy. At the Last Supper, Jesus said to the apostles: "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete. This is my commandment: that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:11-12). Yet, this year would appear to be lacking in hope and joy. So where can it be found? If you've been listening, we've been reminded that we are the Church, the body of Christ, and at Pax Christi, that Church is very much alive, well, and active. Our faith is not a negative, a series of "do nots," but rather a positive, a call to action.

Do you remember the corporal and spiritual works of mercy? It is a good summary of what we are called to do by virtue of our baptism. There are 117 ministries here at Pax Christi with something for every talent, interest, and time available. If you have trouble getting out, volunteer for the prayer line. If you knit or crochet, make a prayer shawl (yarn and instructions provided). Enjoy meeting with people? Join the Care and Support ministry and visit the homebound or those in care centers. Participate in Loaves and Fishes or Meals on Wheels. Become a member of Twelve Baskets Ministry and help with the various drives we hold. If you have musical talent, join the choir, the musicians who provide music for worship services, or the bell choir. Enjoy working with children or young people? Faith Formation needs you to share your faith and interests. Training and materials are provided, and time required can be varied and flexible. Limited time is required to be a greeter or Eucharistic minister.

There are also opportunities to keep our building and grounds in good order. Help decorate our worship space. Care for creation is promoted by the Environmental Ministry. If you love Justice, which is a founding principle of Pax Christi, our Justice Ministry provides many opportunities. Do you have ideas on where you would like to see us move or grow? Consider discerning this spring for one of our councils. If you are not sure, just ask anyone you see volunteering, and ask them about their experience.

How does this relate to hope and joy? The Church is thriving, reaching out, and fulfilling our mission. Hope comes in being involved with others in our community and the world. Joy comes with the connection with others, serving them and God.

St. Teresa of Avila gave us a prayer which reminds us of what it means to really live our faith.

"God of Love, help us to remember that Christ has no body now on earth but ours, no hands but ours, no feet but ours. Ours are the eyes to see the needs of the world. Ours are the hands with which He is to go about doing good."

So this year, give yourself and your family the gift of hope and joy and join in the celebration of the Body of Christ in action.

Written by Mary Testin, parishioner and former member of the Lay Leadership Development Council



IN REMEMBRANCE

THE DECEMBER art exhibit, *Celebrating the Life of Parishioner: Bruce Koprucki*, will feature the art work of Pax Christi parishioner Bruce Koprucki, and his friend and fellow artist, Richard Kochenash. (Complete details on page 18.)

Bruce, who passed away in May, was an active member of the Pax Christi Art Committee and a friend of Jean Allen. When Jean was attending Bruce's funeral, she was looking at a display that held mementos of Bruce's life, including a wonderful watercolor painting of Bruce. Jean didn't realize that as she was admiring the painting, she was actually standing next to the painting's artist, Richard Kochenash. Jean, who is an Art Committee member said, "I recognized the name because I knew he was a friend of Bruce's. The name Richard Kochenash showed up in my art committee notes as a potential artist for a Pax Christi exhibit." Richard and Jean began to talk about their mutual friend, and as they say, "the rest is history." That chance meeting on a May morning was the beginning of the December Art Show.

The show is as much about friendship as it is about the art itself. Richard says this about the show and his friend: "The paintings in the gallery are visual reminders of a good friend of mine and yours, Bruce Koprucki. One of the kindest men you'd ever meet, one of the most giving. Bruce lived in a place where deeds done spoke so much louder than possessions, status, and persuasive influence sought by so many ever could. After family, he loved trains, city planning and design, and outdoor adventures." Bruce was not only a gifted artist, but he also encouraged others with creative or artistic endeavors. Richard, originally from Pennsylvania, has a degree in art education, and has taught art in the Twin Cities for over 28 years. He has a studio in Chaska and works in both oil paints and watercolor. Ric has this special invitation for everyone: "Please stop in and share in a few things that remind me of my friend who I miss—but will see again, not here, but in the world to come." "Always leave the camp ground in better shape than you found it." —Bruce Koprucki

Written by Karin Poelinger, Staff Writer and Technical Editor

YEAR-END GIVING

The tax law changes that took effect in 2018 will prevent many households from deducting charitable contributions on their tax returns, but there are still ways to get a tax break on contributions to Pax Christi.

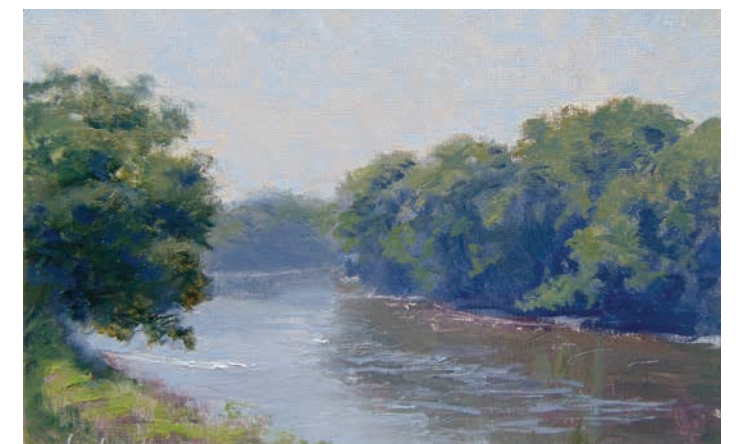
STOCK: If you donate appreciated stock or mutual funds to Pax Christi, you avoid any long-term capital gains tax on the appreciation. If you are still able to itemize your deductions, you can also take a deduction for the full market value of the stock.

REQUIRED MINIMUM DISTRIBUTIONS: If you are at least 70.5 years old and taking required minimum distributions (RMD) from your traditional IRA, you can take advantage of a Qualified Charitable Distribution by making a direct transfer from your IRA to Pax Christi. Your contribution is counted as part of your RMD. But, because the money doesn't go to you, it won't increase your adjusted gross income.

BUNCH YOUR DONATIONS: Time your contributions to shift more contributions into a single tax year or consider a donor-advised fund, which allows you to bunch and still make annual contributions.



Consult with your tax advisor for more details about the option that is best for you or contact Sue Fier in the parish office at 952-405-7202.



Artwork top left by Bruce Koprucki, artwork above by Richard Kochenash.



MINISTRIES OF PRESENCE:

CARE CENTER VISITORS

Throughout each week, lives of Catholic residents in area care centers are blessed by the presence of regular visitors from Pax Christi. Some shared ministers bring communion and pray one-to-one, and others lead communion services for small groups at various care centers. Monthly celebration of Mass at three area care centers is also supported by Pax Christi care center visitors.

COMPANION MINISTERS

Pax Christi has women and men who are specially trained to provide one-on-one confidential listening support to those who are experiencing a difficult time in life. Companion Ministers offer to accompany others on their faith journeys. Please notify us if you would like to learn more about having a Companion Minister journey with you.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know is homebound and unable to attend Sunday Mass, we have trained shared ministers who can bring communion and offer prayers of support.

PAX PETS MINISTRY

Pax Pets ministers are a group of animal lovers who know and appreciate the ability of pets to demonstrate God's unconditional love. Certified pet teams visit area care centers and make hospice visits. Pet teams meet periodically to gain knowledge and build community with one another.

Training specific to each ministry is provided; ongoing monthly enrichment/education opportunities for shared ministers are offered.

For additional information visit
www.paxchristi.com/careandsupportministry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION SNOW BIRDS AND OTHER "MOVERS"

How would you like to help Pax Christi save money by a simple email or phone call?

If you plan on being out of town and notify the post office to forward your mail, also contact Maria Miller in the parish office, 952-405-7217, or mmiller@paxchristi.com, and she can do a temporary address change for the magazine, the PaxChristiNews. Or, you can have the magazine stopped until you are back in town. You always have the option to view it each month online on our "NEWS" page. Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

MEALS ON WHEELS SEEKING DRIVERS

Meals on Wheels Ministry is requesting drivers to deliver prepared noontime meals to Eden Prairie residents. You are not required to live or know Eden Prairie. We have drivers from many cities delivering. You will be provided with specific written directions and phone numbers during scheduled service. No one has ever been lost delivering meals! Questions or complete details, contact Mary Ann McGuire, mam4mow@aol.com, or 952-934-5821.



Sign-up at www.paxchristi.com/boomers

to receive info on upcoming events.

Upcoming events include:

- December 7:** First Friday Coffee and Conversation
- December 15:** Christmas Party

PARISHIONER NEWS

OCTOBER BAPTISMS

Tucker Allan Brooks	10/14/2018
Samuel Joseph Herzog	10/14/2018
Isaiah Aaron Bergeron	10/20/2018
Adam Martin Iselin	10/21/2018
Camille Marie Reesor	10/21/2018
Enzo David Carcamo	10/28/2018
Jay Angelo Ndahibeshe	10/28/2018
Kenji Noah Ndahibeshe	10/28/2018

OCTOBER WEDDINGS

Anna Conzemius & Joseph Connelly	10/13/18
----------------------------------	----------

OCTOBER FUNERALS

Thomas Furst	10/1/2018
William (Bill) Barrett	10/24/2018
JoAnn (Suhon) Foss	10/25/2018
Joe Michels	10/31/2018

OCTOBER NEW MEMBERS

- Martha Byron
- Emily Czech
- Aloysius Jegan Eugin and Subashiny Aloysius Jegan
- Steven and Tamara Iselin
- Colleen Johnson
- Mari O'Meara
- Andrew Reiner and Allison Garlinghouse
- John and Elizabeth Retterath
- Craig and Barbara Truempi
- Hideki Yamada and Janell Schilman



READINGS FOR DECEMBER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 2, 2018

Monday:	Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
Saturday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Sunday:	Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 9, 2018

Monday:	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
Thursday:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13ab; Mt 11:11-15
Friday:	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80: 2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday:	Zep 3:14-18a; Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 16, 2018

Monday:	Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday:	Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25
Thursday:	Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
Friday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Saturday:	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Sunday:	Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 23, 2018

Monday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Tuesday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]
Night:	Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14
Dawn:	Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Day:	Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Wednesday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Thursday:	1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday:	1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Lk 2:41-52

READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 30, 2018

Monday:	1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday:	Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Wednesday:	1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Thursday:	1 Jn 2:29 -- 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34
Friday:	1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Saturday:	1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-5; Jn 1:43-51
Sunday:	Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12



DECEMBER

HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Saturday, December 1, 9:00am–3:00pm

Start your holidays in style at our annual boutique and bake sale! This shopping extravaganza is for the whole family. It will feature a variety of handcrafted items from over 50 quality crafters and artisans, a bake sale, and luncheon. Come and shop for the perfect holiday gift for everyone on your list. This event is free, and there is plenty of parking available. Don't miss out on this annual holiday tradition!

BAKE SALE: BAKED GOODS NEEDED

Saturday, December 1, 9:00am–3:00pm

Bake your favorite cookies, breads, or pies, and bring them to the bake sale. Proceeds benefit our youth! Baked goods can be dropped off at the church in Dietrich Bonhoeffer, room 111, in the lower level, on Friday, November 30, 4:00–8:00pm, and Saturday, December 1, 7:30–8:45am.

TWELVE BASKETS SHARE THE JOY

FINAL WEEKEND: December 1/2

The Twelve Baskets Ministry invites you once again to "Share the Joy" this holiday season! Here at Pax Christi we have many wonderful opportunities for giving—St. Stephen's Mens' Shelter, Blessed Kateri's Faith Formation Children, Little Earth Seniors, and Risen Christ School are returning again. Sign-up displays will be in Dorothy Day Social Hall after each Mass on December 1 and 2. Please stop by to chat with a Twelve Baskets Minister and to see the many creative opportunities to participate. We look forward to another wonderful season of "Sharing the Joy!"

IN REMEMBRANCE: FEATURED ART EXHIBIT

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF PARISHIONER BRUCE KOPRUCKI
RECEPTION: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 FOLLOWING MORNING MASSES

Complete details on page 15.

SOULCOLLAGE® – OPEN CARD MAKING SESSION

Tuesday, December 4, 6:00–8:00pm, Room 212 RSVP

Come enjoy a relaxing and fun art collage session with others. We make 5"x8" cards that reflect aspects of our inner selves, our soul's purpose, and the divine. Once finished with each card, you journal with it by using the journal sheets with three guided questions. Find out what that card is all about. You may also want to make cards for your deck that honor others, so feel free to bring photos of loved ones, loved places, loved pets, and anyone in the world or heaven who has inspired you. There is a suggested \$5 materials fee.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

Holy Day Mass, Saturday, December 8, 8:30am

The Church acknowledges Mary as the ultimate example of faithfulness and discipleship. She is God's handmaid, a model of faith for all Christians to follow.

HONORING OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

Patroness of the Americas and Queen of Mexico
Saturday, December 8 at the 5:00pm Mass

Please join Pax Christi's Latino community for our third annual celebration to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe. Complete details on pages 12–13.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING AT THE CARE CENTERS

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

Come and join us for this fun annual event as we brighten the day of our senior friends and neighbors at local care centers. You provide your own transportation for this event, but all care centers are close by and you will be grouped with other joyful singers. Creative holiday attire is encouraged! Meet at 2:00pm in Room 111 (park in the lower level parking lot by door 6). We'll return to Pax Christi for hot chocolate, cookie decorating, and an opportunity for a family photo. It's important to RSVP online by December 6 so we can plan for an adequate number of care centers to visit. Questions? Contact Jean Thoresen, 952-405-7211, or jthoresen@paxchristi.com, or Renee Dignan, 952-405-7212, or rdignan@paxchristi.com. Additional details on page 11.



CAST INTO THE DEEP: ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA

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

Mystic, wonderworker, and confidant to popes and kings, St. Catherine of Siena exemplified the power of a life lived in relationship with Jesus. Her example of faith changed her culture and left an enduring legacy that the Church still resources today. In this third episode of the series *Catholicism: The Pivotal Players*, Bishop Robert Barron and his team travel to Rome, Siena, Avignon, and all of the locations that played a significant role in the formation and vocation of St. Catherine of Siena. The series is non-linear, so it's not a problem if you miss a session or join any time. The series will take place in the Hall of Martyrs. There will be an optional meal served at 6:00pm and an introduction followed by DVD viewing at 6:30pm. There will be table and large group discussion from 7:45–8:15pm. Prayer/Eucharist: adoration will be 8:15–8:30pm in the Thomas Merton Chapel. The nursery will be available with minimum 10-day notice.

BOOMERS' ANNUAL CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

Saturday, December 15, 11:00am–1:00pm RSVP

"It's that most wonderful time of the year" when we get together and celebrate the birth of Christ with family and friends. The Boomers of Pax Christi are inviting all parishioners 55 and older to gather for good food, music, and friendship in the Hall of Martyrs. The menu includes an appetizer, ham, cheese potatoes, vegetables, rolls, coffee, or tea. The entertainment will be provided by Mr. Tim Patrick of the Blue Eyes Band, so come prepared to sing along to the music that made the 50s, 60s, and 70s—the music of our lifetime—as well as Christmas favorites. In addition, there will be a drawing for door prizes after the entertainment. Check-in starts at 10:30am with lunch in the Hall of Martyrs at 11:00am. Registration of \$15.00 for Boomers and non-Boomers must be received by December 7. Register by calling the RSVP line at 952-405-7251, or register online with credit card.

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.

MAKE PLANS NOW

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY

January 1, 9:00am in the Sanctuary

The Solemnity of Mary acknowledges and celebrates Mary's role as the mother of Jesus Christ. It is a holy day of obligation.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SPEAKERS SERIES: ON CRIMINAL JUSTICE EQUITY

Sunday, January 20, 12:30–2:00pm RSVP

Emilia Gonzalez Avalos, Executive Director, Navigate MN

Emilia is Executive Director of Navigate, a leadership development program for immigrant young adults in Minnesota. She is a Mexican immigrant. Born in Mexico City, raised in Irapuato and Minnesota, she joined her father in Minnesota years after he left their town looking for better job opportunities and a better future for his family. Family separation, border consciousness, and a transnational economy shaped her to become an immigration activist, feminist, and advocate for human rights. Emilia's awards include Mano Amiga from the Latino Economic Development Center, Advocate of the Year by the Bush Foundation and CLUES, the 2017 Outfront Innovator Award, and Governor Dayton's 2016 MLK Distinguished Service Award. Emilia is an alumna of the Hubert H. Humphrey Public Policy Fellows Program, the Roy Wilkins Community Fellows, and an Emerging Leader Fellow with America Votes.

ANNUAL CANA DINNER: EARLY LOVEBIRD RATE!

Saturday, February 23, 2019, 6:00–10:00pm

Complete details on back cover.



A NOTE ABOUT EVENTS AT PAX CHRISTI

If an event indicates **RSVP**,
you may register/RSVP online at
www.paxchrisi.com/eventregistration.
Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

TEAR HERE

DECEMBER

See pages 18-19 for details or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						HOLIDAY TEA HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE AND BAKE SALE FIRST WEEKEND OF ADVENT SHARE-THE-JOY FINAL WEEKEND
ART EXHIBIT OPENING RECEPTION SHARE-THE-JOY FINAL WEEKEND FAITH FORMATION	LABYRINTH WALK	BAPTISM CLASS SOULCOLLAGE®	MOM AND KIDS OPEN GYM FAITH FORMATION			FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION NEW MEMBER SIGN-UP WEEKEND CONFIRMATION RETREAT
OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION NEW MEMBER SIGN-UP WEEKEND CAROLING EVENT FAITH FORMATION	CAST INTO THE DEEP	ADVENT RECONCILIATION	MOMS ROCK FAITH FORMATION	COMPASSIONATE CARE LISTENING CIRCLE		BOOMERS AND BEYOND: CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON
HIGH SCHOOL UGLY SWEATER PARTY FAITH FORMATION	LEADERSHIP MEETINGS		WHEN THE THOUGHT OF CHRISTMAS HURTS			
CHRISTMAS EVE	CHRISTMAS DAY					
MARY, MOTHER OF GOD						

Let heaven and nature sing....



PAX CHRISTI CONTACTS

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <p>PASTOR
Fr. Michael Byron 952-405-7219</p> <p>SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR
Fr. Bill Murtaugh 952-405-7245</p> <p>DEACONS
Al Schroeder 952-405-7205
Terry Beer 952-405-7231
Charles Bobertz 952-405-7239</p> <p>PARISH DIRECTOR
Jane Schmitz 952-405-7238</p> <p>PARISH FINANCIAL MANAGER
Sue Fier 952-405-7202</p> <p>ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT
Maria Miller 952-405-7217
Andrea Ward 952-405-7207
Sally Bergum 952-405-7229</p> <p>COMMUNICATION ARTS
Melissa Nault 952-405-7221</p> | <p>CARE AND SUPPORT MINISTRY
Director: Jean Thoresen 952-405-7211
Care Ministry Specialist: Mary Ann Callahan 952-405-7227
Care Ministry Coordinator: Reneé Reardon 952-405-7200</p> <p>FAITH FORMATION
Director (Adult Faith, RCIA, Preschool): Lynn Schelitzche 952-405-7230
Grades 1 through 5, CLOW: Reneé Dignan 952-405-7212
Grades 6 through 8: Evan Bierer 952-405-7217
Grades 9 through 12: Jessie Johnson 952-405-7210</p> <p>JUSTICE
Director: Joan Howe-Pullis 952-405-7247</p> <p>OPERATIONS
Director: Ken Reineccius 952-405-7250
Building Services: Terry Lee 952-405-7233
Building Services: Todd Nelson 952-405-7233</p> <p>STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT
Community Life Coordinator: Lisa Cox 952-405-7204
Nursery and Hospitality Coord.: Janell McBeain 952-405-7242</p> <p>WORSHIP AND MUSIC
Director: Donna Kasbohm 952-405-7240
Liturgy and Funeral Coord.: Joan Howe-Pullis 952-405-7247
Teen Choir: Angie O'Brien 952-405-7243</p> | <p>COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Fr. Michael Byron, Pastor
Jane Schmitz, Parish Director
Alyson Armstrong
Fred Baumer
Sara Byerley
Bob Martinka
Peg Musegades
Dale Nelson
Jodi Ramirez
Sandra Towey
Danielle Trovato
Phil Trovato
Dave Wagner, Chair</p> <p>PARISH TRUSTEES
Shari Steffen
Bruce Koehn</p> <p>FINANCE COUNCIL
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THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT TO GIVE!

TICKETS TO THE ANNUAL CANA DINNER
Saturday, February 23, 2019, 6:00-10:00pm

We are "Finding New Roads!" on "A Bicycle Built for Two: Oh the Roads We've Traveled," this year's Cana Dinner theme, but you won't need to bike to the event as all couples, of all ages (and abilities) are welcome! The evening begins with a hosted wine reception, followed by a catered dinner. After dinner, enjoy coffee, wine, and dessert while you are entertained. Entertainment details are currently under wraps but it will be, well, entertaining! A couple's photo op will be offered during the evening, so be sure to dress as you would for a cocktail/dinner party. Tickets are available at an early lovebird price of \$70.00 per couple. The rate goes up to \$80 per couple after January 21, 2019. The ticket price includes loving childcare. Consider what a wonderful Christmas gift a pair of Cana Dinner tickets would make for that special couple in your life. Register online now! If you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far GO TOGETHER!

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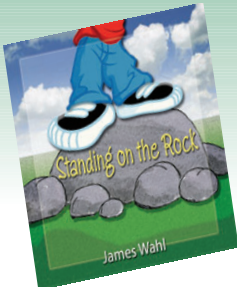

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