

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 10, 2017

LIVING GOD'S WORD

Unlike those who were baptized by John, we were baptized "with the Holy Spirit" (Mark 1:8). If that is so, then "what sort of persons ought" we be? Like Isaiah, John, and Peter, we ought to be both heralding and "hastening the coming of the day of God" (2 Peter 3:12).

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 11, 2017

Monday, December 11, St. Damasus I
8:15AM Intention of Catholic Extension Donor
Tuesday, December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe
8:15AM Alan Stumpe by Roger & Ruth Petrowske
Wednesday, December 13, St. Lucy
10:30AM James Prost by Butch & Jeanne Jungewaelter
Thursday, December 14, St. John of the Cross
NO MASS
Friday, December 15
8:15AM Bob & Mary Friess by John
Saturday, December 16
5PM Steve Kickham by Willie
Sunday, December 17
9AM For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK DEC. 10 THRU DEC. 17

Sunday	9AM Mass PSR Class after 9AM Mass till 11:15AM 2PM Penance Service at Ruma Convent
Monday	8:15AM Mass 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Hamburger Cheese Casserole/Chicken 7PM Advent Penance Service at St. John's, Red Bud
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 5-8) 6PM SMS Student Christmas Program
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs 7PM Joint Advent Penance Service for Mary Help of Christians & Mary of the Divine Maternity at ELLIS GROVE
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off 4PM Diocesan Finance Council Meeting at Chancery, Belleville
Friday	8:15AM Mass Grade 7 & 8 Liturgy) 2:50PM Dismissal-NO BUS
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: How many towns do you suppose have a newspaper called *The Herald*? It's a good name for a newspaper because it refers to one who proclaims significant news. It also can refer to a person who comes before to announce what will follow, a forerunner like John. The angels who heralded the good news of Jesus' birth fit into a long line of heralds who proclaimed that God's promises would at last be fulfilled. This week everyone seems to be announcing good news. Isaiah and the psalmist herald and describe others heralding glad tidings. Mark proclaims "the gospel [or 'good news'] of Jesus Christ" (Mark 1:1). He also depicts John as a herald in the tradition of Isaiah. And Peter speaks eloquently of God's promise and patience. Can we bring ourselves to hearken to their words and believe them? Do we have any good news of our own to proclaim?

SERVERS SCHEDULE for Dec. 16 & 17: 5PM, Koby Jany, Isaac Jany; 9AM, Nolin Crain, Connor Wolff, Luke Miller

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Loving God, Father of all people, help sensitize us to the suffering of others so that we can overcome indifference and build up a civilization of love and solidarity.

WELCOME to Father David Delich who is visiting and will be speaking on the Food for the Poor program.

TITHE WEEK OF DECEMBER 3, 2017

Mary Help of Christians: \$7,464.00
\$487.00 Cemetery; \$130.00 Improvement Fund; \$35.00
Sister Anne; \$73.00 Child Env.; \$3.00 Votives
WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00
YTD Average Weekly Tithes: \$6,976.20
Fiscal Year Week: 23
YTD Actual Giving: \$160,452.50
YTD Budget Need: \$161,000.00
YTD Budget Difference: (\$547.50)
YTD Weekly: (\$23.81)

11TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION will be held at St. Boniface, Evansville, on Sunday, Dec. 10, from 11AM-2PM.

SMS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM will be on Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 6PM in the Gym. Please join us to witness the talents of our children.

GIVING TREE GIFTS: If you do not plan on delivering your gift to Three Springs or the Manor, please return the gift to church by Sunday, Dec. 17. Also, return your unwrapped diapers for the Food Pantry.

CHURCH DECORATING: We will be decorating the church for Christmas next Sunday after the 9AM Mass. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated.

HELP RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES: Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders.

NATIVITY SETS FROM AROUND THE WORLD will be on display at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Belleville, through Tuesday, Dec. 12. Come see over 50 nativities from Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa and here at home. Cost is FREE. Sunday, Dec. 10, 9AM-6PM; Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 11 & 12, 3-6PM.

UNTIL CHRIST RETURNS: Who shall we be and what shall we do while awaiting this Second Coming? Surely not standing around being idle. No-at work! The Bible readings early in Advent urge us to be at these works: giving comfort, straightening out pathways (both figurative and real), repenting, living without spot or blemish. St. Paul asks, "What sort of person ought I be?" How does my life point to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ? What one act of mercy will I do this week?

SOLIDARITY: "Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good of all because we are all really responsible for all." St. John Paul II Visit Catholic Relief Services, www.crs.org, to learn more about living out the call to solidarity.

IT'S TIME to place your offering for a Poinsettia & Votive Lights in Memory of Family Members.
POINSETTIA OFFERING: \$25.00
NAME: _____
BY: _____
VOTIVE OFFERING: \$5.00
NAME: _____
BY: _____