



FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT/CHRISTMAS

2017

Sunday, December 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 BW Parishioners and Friends of St. Rose
- 10:30 BW Susan Castleberry from Ann Hinckley
- 12:00 BW Special Intentions of Roger Albers from Connie and Jack Reed

Christmas Eve

- 3:00 CW Kurtinitus Family
- 5:00 BW Jim O'Toole from the Family
- 7:00 DE Susan Castleberry
- 12:00 BW Gus and Barbara Juengling

Monday, December 25

Nativity of the Lord Christmas Day

- 8:30 BW Parishioners and Friends of St. Rose
- 10:30 BW Monika and Gunther Ratz from Trevor Kroeger
- 12:00 BW Diane Zuk from the Zuk Family

Tuesday, December 26

St. Stephen, The First Martyr

- 12:10 William Hobing from Margie and Peggy

Wednesday, December 27

St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

- 12:10 Poor Souls in Purgatory from the Sieber Family

Thursday, December 28

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

- 12:10 Mary Rizzo from Joan and Family

Friday, December 29

- 12:10 Don Muchmore from Joan Muchmore

Saturday, December 30

- 12:10 Stan Ober from Howard and Elaine
- 7:00 BW Paul Lindsay from Mary Rizzo and Family

Sunday, December 31

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

- 8:30 BW Parishioners and Friends of St. Rose
- 10:30 BW Dan Fleming from Carol Wessel
- 12:00 BW Nancy Hogan



Dear Friends,

I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to all our active members and benefactors here at St. Rose. Your generosity to our many collections throughout the year has allowed us to help many people and other organizations.

I would also like to thank Marianne Kurtinitis, who very generously donated our Christmas flowers again this year.

I wish you and your family a very merry Christmas and a happy, healthy New Year!

Fr. Barry

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled....And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Next Sunday's Readings

Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

Colossians 3:12-21

Luke 2:22-40

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From the Pastor's Desk

Patrick Courtney and Carly Andrus were united in the holy sacrament of Matrimony on December 16th here at St. Rose.

Here is last year's Christmas reflection from a local priest, Father Anthony Kadavil: "There isn't room in the manger for all the baggage we carry around us. There's no room for our pious pride and self-righteousness. There's no room for our human power and prestige. There's no room for the baggage of past failure and unforgiven sin. There's no room for our prejudice, bigotry and jingoistic national pride. There's no room for bitterness and greed. There is no room in the manger for anything other than the absolute reality of who and what we really are: very human, very fragile, very vulnerable human beings who desperately need the gift of love and grace which God so powerfully desires to give."

January 1st, The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God is NOT a holy day of obligation. Mass is at 12:10.

In the back of church are your envelopes and gift for 2018. If you have any corrections on the name or address or cannot find your envelopes, please call Rose Ann @871-1162

If you are celebrating your 25th, 50th or 60th wedding anniversary in 2018 please call the office.



Opening Prayer

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Reflecting on Living the Gospel

For the fourth and final Sunday of Advent we are brought back to the Gospel of Luke, and its beautiful story of the annunciation. This story is markedly different from that in Matthew, where Joseph learns of Mary's pregnancy in a dream. In Luke, the angel Gabriel (which means "God is my strength") appears to Mary. Gabriel's greeting is repeated each time we pray the Hail Mary and so we are reminded of this scene. As anyone might be, Mary is "greatly troubled." How often does an angel bear greetings? Upon hearing the news Mary wonders how this can be. In fact, many people today wonder the same. A virgin birth? How was Jesus conceived? The response given to us is the same as that given to Mary: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, / and the power of the Most High will overshadow you."

Nothing is impossible for God. This is an act of God so that the child, Jesus, will rightly be called "the Son of God." His kingdom will last forever; he will be the Son of the Most High. Many church fathers spoke of how in that moment the entire plan of God hung in the balance, awaiting Mary's "yes." Human salvation, a free gift from God, depends upon human cooperation. In other words, God's gift is not forced but available to be freely accepted. Saint Bernard of Clairvaux wrote, "The angel awaits an answer; it is time for him to return to God who sent him. We too are waiting, O Lady, for your word of compassion." We then hear Mary's "fiat," the Latin rendering of "let it be done." And again, according to the church fathers, all heaven rejoices.

Closing Prayer

O God, whose mercy is without limit and kindness is endless, bear our prayers as we eagerly await your coming into our homes and hearts in the birth of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

For Reflection:

- When have my plans been "interrupted," or has my perspective been changed by a moment of revelation?

Suggestions for group and individual use:

1. Pray aloud the opening prayer (in *The Roman Missal* called the "collect");
2. One person read aloud the gospel;
3. Each read prayerfully "Reflecting on Living the Gospel" and spend some time in personal prayer;
4. Share together responses to "For Reflection";
5. Pray the "Closing Prayer."

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Gospel Luke 1:26-38

The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

"Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you.



Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Readings for the week:

4th Sunday of Advent 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14b, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38	Monday Christmas (Mass during the day) Isa 52:7-10 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 34, 5-6 Hab 1:1-6 Jhn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14	Tuesday St. Stephen, First Martyr Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-60 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 18bc and 17 Matt 10:17-22	Wednesday St. John, Apostle and Evangelist 1 John 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Jhn 20:1a, 2-8	Thursday Holy Innocents 1 John 15:2-22 Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 Matt 2:13-18	Friday 1 John 23-11 Ps 98:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 Luke 2:22-35	Saturday 1 John 2:12-17 Ps 98:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Luke 2:36-40	Sunday Holy Family Sir 32:6, 12-14 or Can 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Luke 2:22-40 or 22:29-40
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