

The Catholic Community of Saint John the Evangelist & Newman Center

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2011

Prepare the
Way of the
Lord Make
Straight his
Paths

Artist - Isaac Jordahl - grade 6

WEEKEND EUCHARIST

At Saint John's Church
Saturday, 5:30 pm
Sunday, 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 am, 7:30 pm



Almighty Father, you have sent your Spirit to build up the Church you established through your Son, Jesus Christ. Formed by your love, we form our children. Send Your Spirit upon *Saint John's Center for School and Religious Formation*.. By your grace may our work bear fruit in the hearts and lives of our children and all of your people. Form us in our faith and in our work, all for the greater glory of your name. Amen.

If you need information on Baptism, Confirmation, Reconciliation, Marriage, Sacrament of the Sick, Pastoral care, information on the Catholic Faith (RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) or would like to register, please contact the parish office at 642-6982.



If you would like to donate money towards **CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS** in "Honor of" or in "memory of someone, please fill out the information below and return with your donation to the Parish office or in the collection basket by **Monday, December 19th**

IN HONOR OF _____

IN MEMORY OF _____

GIVEN BY _____

St. John's

115 2nd Street North
Wahpeton, ND 58075-4505
(701)642-6982
www.stjohns-wahpeton.org
Fax - 701-642-2601

Newman Center

701 7th Street North
Wahpeton, ND

Mass Times

672-0898

Pastor

Rev. Dale Lagodinski
642-6982

Parochial Vicar

Rev. Terry Dodge

Deacons

Douglas Campbell
George Ethier, Retired
Gene Hoefs, Retired

Parish Offices

Betsy Sitz
Pat Keaveny
642-6982

Office Hours

8:00 am - Noon
1:00 - 5:00 pm (M - Th)
1:00 - 3:00 (F)

Saint John's School

Renee Langenwalter, Prin.
Renee Walter, Secretary
642-6116

Parish Life Coordinator

Michelle Fehr
Office: 642-6982
Home: 642-3461

Youth Ministry Team

Tammy Goerger
Matt Miller
Kathy Davis
Office - 642-6982

St. John's Day Care

Chanda Hogness, director
642-4922

Parish Lay Officers

Jim Lutz 642-6896
Laurie Straus 642-5095

Pastoral Council

Connie Brandt 642-4312
Darin Klein 642-6298
Kristi Mahrer 643-1910
Cody Miller 642-8014
Mike Jacklitch 642-1666
Marty Madsen 642-1808
Darryl Jilek 640-6609
Becky Stasko 651-0107
Rod Koch 274-8282
Nancy Reynolds 640-5978

FUNERALS: To support our parish family in its grief, regular daily Mass, whenever possible will be transferred to the hour of the funeral. + + +

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S PARISH

SAT., Dec. 3rd - Saint Francis Xavier, priest

Scripture: Is 30:19-21, 23-26 / Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

Sunday Scripture: Is 40:1-5,9-11 / 2 Pt 3:8-14 / Mk 1:1-8

5:30 pm EUCHARIST + Robert Pauly

SUN., Dec. 4th - Second Sunday of Advent

7:30 am EUCHARIST + Bernice Caspers (Rosary at 7:00 am)

9:00 am EUCHARIST People of the Parish

11:00 am EUCHARIST Int: Christine Fuka

7:30 pm EUCHARIST Int: Victims of bullying

MON., Dec. 5th - Advent Weekday

Scripture: Is 35:1-10 / Lk 5:17-26

7:00 am MORNING PRAYER

7:30 am EUCHARIST + Elroy Langenwalter

10:00 am BIBLE STUDY

6:00 pm Catholic Daughters Advent Dinner Prante's

TUES, Dec 6th - Advent Weekday / Saint Nicholas, bishop

Scripture: Is 40:1-11 / Mt 18:12-14

5:30 pm EUCHARIST + Deacon Jim Anderson

7:00 pm RCIA East Room

7:00 pm Mardi Gras Committee KC Room

7:00 pm 3rd grade parent & student meeting Mehok Center

WED, Dec. 7th - Saint Ambrose, bishop and doctor of the Church

Scripture: Is 40:25-31 / Mt 11:28-30

8:00 am - 12:00 noon CENACLE OF LIFE PRAYER

10:00 am EUCHARIST (Leach) + Mallie Breuer

7:00 pm EUCHARIST + Lorraine Earl

(Vigil mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception)

THURS, Dec. 8th - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Scripture: Gn 3:9-15, 20 / Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 / Lk 1:26-38

7:00 am EUCHARIST ++ Harold and Mary Formanek

1:00 pm EUCHARIST Spec Int: Father Dale Lagodinski

5:30 pm EUCHARIST People of the Parish

6:30 - 9:00 pm ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

FRI., Dec. 9th - Advent Weekday / Saint Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

Scripture: Is 48:17-19 . T 11:16-19

7:00 am MORNING PRAYER

7:30 am EUCHARIST + Joseph Kreller

8:00 - 9:00 am - ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

9:45 am EUCHARIST (SCLC) Int: Lydia Zwilling

7:00 pm BAPTISM PREPARATION East Room

SAT., Dec. 10th - Advent Weekday

Scripture: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 / Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sunday Scripture: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 / 1 Thes 5:16-24 / Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

4:00 pm RECONCILIATION

5:30 pm EUCHARIST+ Mallie Breuer

SUN, Dec. 11th - Third Sunday of Advent

7:30 am EUCHARIST Int: Christian Mothers (Rosary at 7:00 am)

9:00 am EUCHARIST + Mark P Miesen

11:00 am EUCHARIST People of the Parish

4:00 pm and 6:30 pm RECONCILIATION

7:30 pm EUCHARIST + Tillie Binstock

Retirement Fund for the Religious The extra envelope next week benefits elderly women and men religious. More than 19,000 have less than 20 percent of the amount needed for projected costs of living and healthcare. Share in the care.

At Home with the Word available in the parish office for \$8.00

**PROCLAIMERS, SERVERS
AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
PLEASE PICK UP YOUR NEW SCHEDULES IN THE
GATHERING SPACE**

SATURDAY, Dec. 10th

5:30 pm Proclaimers: Catherine Muehler

Servers: Jesse Kruse, Christopher Weber and Carson Zarak

Euch Min: Mark and Missy Zarak, Mary Ann Weiand, Cathy and Harlan Muehler, Brett Graves

Greeters: Vicky and Travis Schafer, Lynette and Darin Klein

Ushers: N Braun, T Resler, D Klein, H Muehler, J Klostreich, D Grosz

SUNDAY, Dec. 11th

7:30 am Proclaimers: Marian Braun

Servers: Chase and Leslie Hibl

Euch Min: Vicki and Rick Kielb, Daryl Knutson, Joe Pellman, Audrey Kurowski, Alex Roll

Greeters: Vicki and Rick Kielb

Ushers: R Kielb, P Dimmer, D Langenwalter, A Roll

9:00 am Proclaimers: Ann Trebesch and Joan Brunkhorst

Servers: Taylor Appell, Robin Tedrow and Jordan Mahrer

Euch Min: Michael Jacklitch, Clarence McKinnon, Penny Leinen, Steve and Patti Lies, Larry Brunkhorst

Greeters: Sherry Koch, Darlene Arth, Neal and Sharon Bladow

Ushers: M Matejcek, D Langenwalter, B Mangalaw, D Resler, R & J Pope

11:00 am Proclaimers: Marty Madsen and Darryl Jilek

Servers: Grace Osmundson, Nicole Mohs, Morgan Jilek

Euch Min: Jody Schuler, Brian and Karen Rice, Marty Madsen, Laurie and Bill Straus

Greeters: Dori Dufault, Denise Jelinek, Germaine Jelinek, Carol Crissler

Ushers: M Madsen, M Priebe, D Calderon, B Straus, D Ehrens, J Lepp

PARISH COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION

Sunday, December 11th

4:00 pm and 6:30 pm

Several Priests will be available

Congratulations to Aly Zach who will be celebrating his 85th birthday on December 6th. Happy Birthday Aly!

SCRIP - New businesses have been added just in time for Christmas shopping! Just added are: Buffalo Wild Wings, Cenex, Harry and David, Jiffy Lube, L.L. Bean, Papa Murphy's Pizza, Starbucks and Taco Bell. Bring your order form into the parish office and get a head start on that shopping.

All-Faith Service of Remembrance - Saturday, December 10th, 3 pm Vertin-Munson Funeral Home; 503 3rd Ave N, Wahpeton, ND

THE NEW ROMAN MISSAL As established by Pope Benedict, the Catholic Church began use of the new English translation of the Order of the Eucharistic celebration now contained in the Roman Missal on the First Sunday of Advent, November 27, 2011. The new responses may be found in the cards which we have been using for the past weeks. All of the new texts are now in the latest TODAY'S MISSAL. The musical settings of the Mass parts which we have been practicing are located in the TODAY'S MISSAL MUSIC ISSUE (# 917- #926) "Mass of Christ the Savior" by Dan Schutte.

BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS will be held Friday, Dec. 9th at 7 pm in the East Room. Please call the parish office to register.

Abortions continue to be performed every Wednesday in Fargo at the Red River Women's Clinic on 1st Avenue. We ask you to please join us in prayer here at the church on Wednesdays during the hours of 8 am - 12 noon for an end to abortion, and all crimes against life. **THANK YOU AND MAY GOD REWARD YOU.** Cenacle of Life Prayer Group

PARISH SUPPORT - A TIME TO SHARE

Our Tithes to the Lord (Fiscal Year July 1-June 30)

"No one, in fact, is so poor that they have nothing to give." John Paul II

Amount Needed Weekly	\$ 11,120.00
Envelope "Our Return to the Lord"	\$ 22,034.35
196 Contributors	
Children / Youth	\$ 14.75
Building Fund	\$ 2,107.00
Plate	\$ 871.61
Year-to-Date Collection thru 11-27	\$ 250,852.42
Budgeted Amount Needed thru 11-27	\$ 244,640.00

Thanks be to God for our regular contributors. What honors God is not who gives the most, what honors God is all of us doing what we can.



The 9 am choir will practice at 6 pm on Wednesday and then sing for the 7 pm Mass. The 11 am choir (Jubilate Deo) will practice 1/2 hour before Mass. **NEW VOICES WELCOME!**

We are in need of volunteers to wash chair covers. Please contact the parish office if you are able to help.

ADVERTISERS OF THE WEEK St Johns thanks **The Pampered Chef / Lori Randall** for their support of our weekly bulletin.

Family members of our local Guard unit need our help. The Family Group Coordinator says it would be helpful to compile a resource listing for the National Guard families of community members willing to donate a little of their time & talents. We are not being asked to provide professional services but willingness to be a resource for them for similar things we might do at our own homes: car/mechanical diagnostics(i.e. "Could you come look at my car. It won't start."), snow removal, baby sitting/childcare..... If you would be willing to offer some help, please call their coordinator Dollie at 642-6687 or Michelle at the parish.

PLEASE TAKE NAMES FROM OUR JESSE TREE! The great tree which greets us at the baptistry is covered with the names of Saint John's parishioners, some of whom we may know well and others we may not know at all. The Jesse Tree tradition is a celebration of the pathways through Salvation History - Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Isaiah on down to John the Baptist - through whom our God has announced the coming of the savior among us. Now the Savior is among us and seeks to dwell in our hearts. Each year during Advent we invite you to take a tag or two from our tree and do something kind for the person or family whose name you've picked...become the hopeful pathway of God's Good News to a fellow parishioner! You can simply send a card (some may be provided at the tree), make a telephone call, send a kind e-mail, drop off some goodies or a small Kris Kringle gift. You may even invite them for dinner or a cup of coffee. Remember, please be careful of each tag because it bears the name of someone loved by God. If that tag is lost, no "visit" will be made!

DEEPEST SYMPATHY is extended **Roger Tedrow and Debbi Berg and families** on the death of their mother, **Mary Gunderson**.
May she rest in Eternal Peace!

We are in need of volunteers to be part of planning Mardi Gras 2012. The Mardi Gras committee will be meeting on Tuesday, December 6 at 7 pm in the KC room to begin planning for Mardi Gras 2012. We welcome any new members and new ideas. If you are willing to be part of the committee but are unable to attend the meeting, please contact the parish office and let them know you are willing to help.

YOUTH NEWS

Dec. 6th - 3rd grade parent and student meeting for Confirmation and First Eucharist - 7 pm in the Mehok Center

Dec. 7th - Reg class for grades 1-5, grades 6 - 12 attend the Vigil Mass for Immaculate Conception

Parents & Students gr 8-12 - Summer service trip opportunities were included in the newsletter. For more info on Steubenville, go to: http://partnershipforyouth.org/events_steubenville.html. For more on Catholic Heart Workcamp, visit with Eric or go to: <http://www.heartworkcamp.com/>. Both events are the last week of July 2012. Initial commitments are needed by December 5th.

New, uplifting books & CD's are available on the table towards the Mehok Center. They are great gift ideas for Christmas.



Our parish will take part in the 22nd annual NATIONAL NIGHT of PRAYER on Thursday, December 8th following the 5:30 pm Mass until 9 pm. The NATIONAL NIGHT of PRAYER is a pro-life prayer service consisting of exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 20 decades of the Rosary, silent prayer, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Prayer to St. Michael, and Benediction.

If my people...humble themselves and pray, and seek my presence and turn from their evil ways, I will hear them from heaven and pardon their sins and REVIVE THEIR LAND 2 Chronicles 7:12 **COME PRAY WITH US FOR A WHILE!!** St. John's Pro-Life Team

Sacraments for the Homebound Between now and Christmas our priests will visit homes to celebrate sacraments of Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and Eucharist for anyone who requests. Please call the parish office if you know someone who would like to be visited.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE ILL AND FOR THOSE WHO HAVE ASKED FOR PRAYERS. Please pray for: Wanda Hought, Sr. Therese Merrick, Mary Gette, Norma Poppe, Tammy Meyer, Alice Morris, Barb Hagstrom, Jackson Doll, Wyatt Doll, Mary Ruddy, Amelia Zimmerman, Donna Olson, Gregory Waite, Traci Fink-VanOeteghem, Ed Straus, Gerald Braun, Richard Myers, Jane Nold, David Goroski, Pat Goerger, Diane Shorma, Miles Bosch, Sue Braun, Debbie Flanders, Marietta Webster, Stan Barton, Lowell Barton, Lola Freitag, Donald Freitag, Robert Schmitt, Ellie Rezabek-Turner, Mark Schmitt, Cindy Packard, Sophia Geray, John Miesen, Ila Leinen, Ardel Kressin, Kathy Mauch, Tim Lietz, Richard Kurowski, Theresa Thompson, Agnes Railing, Bob Hanson, Francis Schuster, Doug Wanzek, Delores Westphal, Patricia Geditz, Lucylle Schmitt, Mary Ratzlaff, Marilyn Basore, Elarine Pelzl, Connor Terfehr, Mary Busta, James Parow, Audrey Peplinski, Harley Trinkka, Deborah Landphere, Hayden Asche, Mary Ann Siemieniewski, Dawson Wienbar, Virgil Woytassek, Maria Borikova, Shawn Wieser and Matthew Wieser. Praying for our sick is a Corporal Work of Mercy for us all. Please notify our office if a name needs to be listed in our bulletin and please also let us know when a name can be removed.

Ecumenical "Blue" Christmas Worship Service Sunday, December 18th at 3 pm at Bethel Lutheran Church. Come, bring a friend, and enjoy the hope of Christmas.

Do you have an extra bedroom you would like to rent out? A young man who is interning at a local business will be in the Wahpeton area from January to August. He would like to stay with a Catholic family and will pay room and board. Call the parish for more details.

SOON TO BE MARRIED

Please pray for the following couple who is preparing for marriage within the next few weeks.

Katherine King and Travis Campbell - December 31, 2011

The Word of God This Week

Set time aside each day this week with other members of your household, with other members of your parish or alone to listen to and reflect on the living Word of God. Use these passages from the Lectionary that are assigned for Liturgy this week. Reflect on how the Lord is inviting you to a deeper union with him.

TODAY

Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11
2 Peter 3:8–14
Mark 1:1–8

MONDAY

Luke 5:17–26

"... your sins are forgiven you."

TUESDAY

Matthew 18:12–14

"... it is not the will of your Father... that one of these... should be lost."

WEDNESDAY

Matthew 11:28–30
"Come to me, all you that are weary..."

THURSDAY*

Luke 1:26–38
"The Lord is with you."

FRIDAY

Matthew 11:16–19
"... wisdom is vindicated..."

SATURDAY

Matthew 17:9A, 10–13
"... I tell you that Elijah has already come..."

**The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

Advent Hope and Responsibility

Today's word of God abounds with a message of hope. The focus of that hope, of course, is the promise of God's action to save his people.

The prophet Isaiah speaks to people who have lived in exile in Babylon, people who have endured the hardship of separation from their homeland and familiar surroundings. To dispirited exiles, Isaiah proclaims a message of hope that God's power will work for their restoration.

To people anxious for the glorious second coming of the Lord Jesus and the full arrival of the Kingdom of God, the second letter of Peter speaks a word of hope. On the day of the Lord by God's power, fire will dissolve the old world and make way for new heavens and a new earth.

Finally, John the Baptist stirs the hope of people in his time, a hope centered on the coming of the Messiah-Savior. God's promises, John says, will find fulfillment in the one who will baptize not only in water but who will pour out his Holy Spirit.

The steady beat of hope that marks the words of Isaiah, Peter, and John the Baptist is accompanied by another rhythm. These readings speak not only of hope, they also call people to responsibility. Isaiah says that the people to whom hope has been proclaimed must also "prepare a way" for the Lord's coming. John the Baptist echoes this imperative. The letter of Peter summons people to repentance and a purification of mind and heart that will leave them without spot or blemish, so they can fully embrace God's promise. Are you ready?



The Faith of the Church

The Church identifies two kinds of sins against hope. The first is despair, which gives up on the mercy of God. The second is presumption, that is, assuming that we can bring about our own fulfillment of hope or assuming that God will "just do it" for us apart from our conversion of heart. Real hope trusts God and takes responsibility to respond to God's promise. (Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 2091).



Questions of the Week

Real hope, in contrast to wishful thinking, means taking God's word of promise seriously. It also means that we do whatever we need to do to respond and to cooperate with that word of promise.

Adults

Throughout my life, how have I really tried to be attuned to God's hope and listen to his promise?

Children

How do I know that I can trust what God promises me?

Visit us at www.FaithFirst.com (click on "Gospel Reflections") and share today's Gospel reading as a family.

Responding to God's Word . . .

God's hope comes to us as a gift. This Advent season is a very appropriate time to review and renew our hope, to re-claim this great gift.

Genuine hope is not something of our own making. When we make up our own idea of hope, we are simply indulging in wishful thinking. And wishful thinking can only lead us to become disillusioned and disappointed, because it is our construct of how we want life to be, how we think it should unfold.

There are certain things we can do to ensure that we do not delude ourselves with false hopes. The first thing is to listen carefully to God's

promise, especially as it is proclaimed in his word. If we are attentive more to what God says than to what we spin out in our own imaginations, we will be more likely to hear God's promise, not just our own thoughts.

The second thing we can do is to purify our desires. In other words, we learn to want more and more of what God wants for us and less of what we think we should have. Our hearts gravitate to short-term and passing things. Purification means setting our hearts on the things of God that last forever. In this way, we approach true hope.

SUGGESTIONS

Use one of these suggestions or one of your own to respond to God's Word this week.

In the home. Include a short prayer at mealtime for a renewal of the gift of hope. Ask God to help your family live according to his promise.

In the workplace or in school. Encourage co-workers or fellow students to take a look at hopeless situations in today's world. Invite them to consider ways to bring hope to others.

In the community. Look for ways to encourage others in difficult circumstances, for example, those in hospitals, nursing homes, or jail.



Meditation Moment

Charlie Rumbaugh grew up in reform schools, jails, and mental hospitals. At the age of 17, he escaped from a manic-depressive ward, found a gun, and killed someone in a scuffle during a robbery attempt. A Texas jury sentenced him to death. Awaiting execution, he asked a friend to pray that God would give him the grace to forgive the people he had grown to hate. Seconds before his execution, he said to the people present, "You may not forgive me for what I did, but I forgive everyone who has ever done anything against me."

For reflection . . .

How fully do I forgive—or pay to be able to forgive—those who have hurt me in some way?

WE ARE LIKE BEASTS WHEN WE KILL. WE ARE LIKE HUMAN BEINGS WHEN WE JUDGE. WE ARE LIKE GOD WHEN WE FORGIVE.

ANONYMOUS

FROM *MISSION* BY MARK LINK, SJ

As Days Darken, Hope Unfolds

God, most
merciful and kind,
in this Advent time,
the shadows of night fall early,
and the days darken quickly.
Help us to keep vigil
for the coming of your Son.
In our waiting, let hope unfold,
as we receive sustenance
from your word.
Amen.

Carry this thought in your heart as a guide for your faith journey this week.

For God alone my soul
waits in silence,
for my hope is from him.

Psalm 62:5

Profile in Faith

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin

Cardinal Joseph Bernardin (died 1996) was the archbishop of Chicago. In his last years, he faced two significant crises—a false accusation of misconduct and pancreatic cancer. He exemplified Christian hope in facing these crises, and he helped others by sharing his experience in his book *The Gift of Peace*.

Nihil Obstat
Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Coerver, Censor Librorum

IMPRIMATUR

† Most Reverend Kevin J. Farrell, DD, Bishop of Dallas
September 29, 2011

The Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur are official declarations that the material reviewed is free of doctrinal or moral error. No implication is contained therein that those granting the Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur agree with the contents, opinions, or statements expressed.

Author: Louis J. Cameli

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Front: iStockphoto

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