



Dear Parishioners,

As we begin Advent this weekend, it is important that we do especially two things in preparation for Christmas.

First, we need to find time for quiet prayer, whether we do this at home or stop by the Church. From before morning Mass each day until at least 9:00 PM the church is open, so I encourage stopping by once a week during Advent for some quiet prayer time in the presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. If you cannot do this, you might consider praying what is traditionally called the "St. Andrew Novena," which is prayed fifteen times a day from the feast day of St. Andrew until Christmas Day. The prayer is the following:

*Hail and blessed be the hour and moment  
In which the Son of God was born  
Of the most pure Virgin Mary,  
at midnight, in Bethlehem,  
in the piercing cold.  
In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee,  
O my God,  
to hear my prayer and grant my desires,  
[hear mention your request]  
through the merits of Our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and of His Blessed Mother. Amen.*

Second, the best preparation for Christmas is to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation, i.e., go to confession. As you will see in the insert in this week's bulletin, in addition to the regular confession time on Saturdays (4:00 to 4:45 PM), there will be an Advent Penance Service on Monday, December 16 at 7:00 PM and on the weekdays and weekend just before Christmas I have scheduled extra times for confessions.

Have a wonderful and grace-filled week.

God bless you, Fr. Gutowski

## Mass Intentions for the Week

### DEC. 2 THRU DEC. 8

Monday	Dave & Linda Christensen
Tuesday	Jesse Quagliana
Wednesday	Agnes Kleinschmidt
Thursday	Fr. Richard Swolek
Friday	Elsie Grubaugh
Saturday	Virginia Graniewski
Sunday	People of St. Joseph

### HOLY FAMILY SHRINE CONCERTS

On Dec. 8, at 5 p.m. Matthew and Kathy Mayer with Phil and Jeanne Rulhman will present wonderful spiritual music. The Shrine has been blessed with the appearance of these gifted singers and musicians in the past. Please plan to celebrate the Season of Christmas with the surroundings of the Shrine mixed with music from these talented Christian singers.

On Dec. 29 at 4:30 p.m. Jim Nailon and some guests from St. Thomas Moore will make a repeat performance at the Shrine. The Shrine has been blessed to have Jim perform for many people, many times in the setting of the Chapel. Please come and enjoy songs written and performed by Jim. You'll enhance your life with the peace of the Chapel and a voice like no other.

All concerts will be followed by a reception. All donations go to the support of the Shrine.

To get to the Shrine take I-80 to exit 432 and go south 1 mile on Hwy. 31 to Pflug Road, turn right on Pflug Road and go 1 mile west. Call the Shrine at 402-332-4565 with questions.

### K of C CHRISTMAS CARDS

The Knights of Columbus will be selling Christmas cards after each weekend Mass beginning Sunday, December 10th. They are on display in the Social Hall.