



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 13, 2020
DECEMBER 13 DECEMBER 20
ISA 61:1-2,10-11 2 SAM 7:1-5,8-16
1 THES 5:16-24 ROM 16:25-27
JOHN 1:6-8,19-28 LUKE 1:26-38

PASTOR: Fr. Alex Gabriel, 573-796-4842; Algabri567@gmail.com

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Open Mondays 8 AM to 1 PM - Tuesdays 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM - Thursdays 8:30-12:00PM

BAPTISMS: By appointment. Please call for Parental Sacrament Preparation

WEDDINGS: Please contact at least 4 months in advance

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call any time or by appointment

RECONCILIATION: Saturday 3:15 - 3:45 and by appointment

MASSSES @ ANNUNCIATION: SATURDAY @ 4:00 PM; SUNDAY @ 10:00AM

SPANISH MASS/COMMUNION SERVICE: Sunday 12 - NOON

MASSSES @ ST. ANDREW: TIPTON SATURDAY @ 5:30 PM; SUNDAY @ 8:00AM

BISHOP MCKNIGHT'S DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION

For the sons and daughters of the Church: that we may be the light of God's love for the world by our sacrificial gifts for those in need, especially the children of our world.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	December 12	4:00 PM	Munsterman Family
Sunday	December 13	10:00 AM	Paul Hoellering
Tuesday	December 15	8:00 AM	Randy/Dianna Effner
Thursday	December 17	8:00 AM	Teresa Kirchhoff
Saturday	December 19	4:00 PM	Annunciation Parish
Sunday	December 20	10:00 AM	Tony, Dick & Dorothy Scheidt

ANNUNCIATION PARISH

www.annunciationcatholicchurch.org

310 Mill St, California MO 65018

OUR MOTTO: JOY

JESUS FIRST

OTHERS SECOND

YOURSELF LAST

Mission Statement

We, the family of Annunciation Parish desire to build a community of love and service to our community and those in need as we bear witness to the teaching of Jesus Christ.

FROM THE PASTOR

Spiritual Preparation: We are encouraged to prepare spiritually for the feast of Christmas and the second coming of Jesus Christ. Making confession, with proper preparation, by reviewing one's own life from the last confession till the present one will be one of the best and effective ways of preparing for it which will bring immense joy. When parents, teachers, and elders make confession, it lays down a good example for our children to follow. We do have confessions open here on Saturdays from 3:15 to 3:45 pm and on Sundays from 7:15 to 7:45 am at Tipton. There is also one coming up at Sedalia on December 20 starting at 7 pm. Please check on the protocol with the parish there.

Children's Confession: Last Sunday, December 6, the PSR and Confirmation children had their confession with some preparation from 8:45 to 9:30 am. It was done in a prayerful atmosphere with the exposition of Blessed Sacrament. Their teachers and some parents were also present. I thank them so much for encouraging and helping their children to receive the sacrament of confession. I also thank Fr. James in a very special way for hearing their confession and offering the Sunday Mass.

From Monday Morning Memo: As suggested by Bishop Shawn, I am sharing the following resources on COVID-19 vaccines to clarify some of the misconception people may have. Governor's Office, USCCB, Missouri Bishops provide information on COVID-19 vaccines for the faith communities.

The State of Missouri has updated the [COVID-19 website](#) to help answer questions you may hear from your congregation concerning the COVID-19 vaccines, such as, "Does the vaccine contain aluminum or fetal tissue?" or "How safe is the vaccine?" Those questions can be found under "Safety" on [this link](#). There is also a "Rumor" section that you might find helpful as well.

The [US Conference of Catholic Bishops](#) and the [Missouri Catholic Conference](#) have also issued statements to address ethical concerns about vaccines and the use of aborted fetal stem cells in vaccine research. Please consider distributing these resources to your parishioners, too.

Election to Pastoral Council: After screening the proposed list of nominations, Evelyn Jobe, Jill Moreland, Randy Cain, Josh Frank, Shawna Bax and Lance Johnston were selected to be the candidates for the election to the Pastoral Council. Before this list was finalized, they were contacted individually and they happily gave their consent to be on the election process. Now, the election proper will be held on next weekend, December 19 & 20 at both the Masses. In order to help you make a right selection, we have given individual pictures with brief synopsis of each candidate in a bulletin insert. On the next weekend, once again, the same insert will be made available but be placed on the pews. Then, you will be invited to **circle three names** of those whom you think will be able to give their time and talent for the growth and progress of our parish. Finally, I request you to pray over and make your selection next weekend. Please remember there is neither campaigning nor contacting candidates done on this process as it will be a spiritual exercise.

St. Andrew School News:

Christmas Play: Friday, December 4, 2020, was marked in the annals of St. Andrew School when our children performed a wonderful Christmas play named 'A Pirate Christmas'. They had three shows to allow school parents and well-wishers to come at different times with limited capacity at each show. I witnessed the great performance at the 6 pm show along with Fr. James. It was fabulous and brought home a wonderful message – Christmas is a Time of Giving with the blend of modern and traditional music. It is worth watching while available on the School Facebook page. I extend my sincere appreciation and congratulations to the children who participated with a lot of life and enthusiasm. My heartiest congratulations go to Susan Meier who planned and directed the play with the cooperation of faculty members. My very special appreciation goes to Julie Mitchem, the Principal, for her outstanding leadership. A word of appreciation and thanks go to the Parents for encouraging our children and providing them the necessary costumes to suit the occasion. In the midst of all restrictions, we have done well. Truly we are really blessed to have wonderful children and teachers in our school to raise our children in an all-round education.

Reminders

Parish Family Drive: On November 28 & 29 weekend, we started our Family Prayer Drive. I was glad to learn that people who attended that weekend Masses took more than one name to pray for the families during the Advent Season. Now the left-over names are placed at the foot of the altar and are being prayed for at every Mass. After this weekend, I would like to have volunteers, either from the Pastoral Council or from the Parish, to come forward with Christmas cards and stamps to send them to the families that have been prayed for. I would also like to request all others who have been praying for individual families, to send cards to the families they have prayed for. Finally, I thank everyone for participating in our Advent Parish Spiritual Program.

Catholic Stewardship Appeal 2021 Update:

I would like to give you an update on our contribution towards CSA. Our given parish goal is \$17,000.00 and as of today we have done only \$12,895.00. We are steadily progressing. However, I request all those who have not turned in anything to come forward to help our Parish meet the given goal and thus get a rebate from the Diocese and be in good standing with the Diocese.

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

1st week: \$ 5,129.18

Mustard Seed: \$ 370.00 Spanish: \$ 83.00
 Human Dev: \$ 60.00 Dioc Reim-Rent: \$ 500.00
 Seminary: \$ 90.00 Stipends: \$ 140.00
 Bldg. Fund: \$ 50.00 Christmas Flowers: \$ 140.00

The Catholic Stewardship Appeal -- We thank all you that have given generously to the annual Catholic Stewardship Appeal. As we look at our lives and the many blessings God has given us, let us give a portion to the CSA as a way of saying thank you to the Lord. Through the CSA, we make known the Kingdom of God by helping each other to live our faith and share our Gospel belief. Our gifts to the CSA and its ministries are our grateful offerings to God.

Parish Goal:	\$17,000.00
Pledged	12,895.00
Received	8,765.00
Diocese Goal	\$2,450,000.00
Pledged	\$1,856,171.43
Cash Received	1,330,914.83

MINISTRY LIST – DEC 19-20

Saturday, December 19

Lector: Pauline Forck
 Servers: Volunteer Needed
 Song Leader: Larry Dahler
 Organist: Betty Pringer
 Rosary: Joyce Ziehmer

Sunday, December 20

Lector: J. Gattermeir
 Servers: Brody Schuster/Jaxon Scrivner/Boden Wasser
 Song Leader: Bev Kleffner
 Organist: Betty Pringer



Donations can be made in memory of your loved ones for flowers for Christmas. Drop in envelope marked Christmas flowers at the Church office or collection basket.
 Knaebel Family Dorge Family
 Doerhoff Family Pringer Family
 Bernie & Elva Dunn
 Leon & Rita Vanderfelt
 Earl & Margaret Scheidt
 Rose & Clem and Arlene Distler

Project Share, the resale clothing store which benefits less fortunate people in our county, is in need of people willing to volunteer once a month. California staffs the store on Thursdays and Saturdays. Shifts are about two to three hours long. Volunteering at Project Share is a rewarding way to “feed the hungry” or “clothe the naked”. Proceeds from Project Share help to fund the Food Pantry. Please contact Ruth Ann Jobe (rjobe82782@aol.com) or 573-230-6625 for more information or to sign up for a shift once a month. We are in dire need of workers!! Ask a friend if they would be willing to share a shift with you.

Calendars for 2021 are in the back of church.

Prayer of blessing upon the images of baby Jesus

God, our Father, you so loved humankind that you sent us your only Son Jesus, born of the Virgin Mary, to save us and lead us back to you.

We pray that with your blessing these images of Jesus, who is about to come among us, may be a sign of your presence and love in our homes.

Good Father, give your blessing to us too, to our parents, our children, our families, our friends, the poor, the homeless, the sick and suffering.

Open our hearts, so that we may be able to receive Jesus in Joy, always do what he asks and see him in all those who are in need of our love. We ask you this in the name of Jesus, your beloved son who comes to give the world peace. He lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.



Our prayers go out the family of Sally Schepers on the death of her husband, David, on December 4th. May his soul be granted eternal rest and the Lord grant the family strength and peace.



Prayer List

Please Pray for these and all who are in need of prayer. Call the office to add someone or take someone off.

Rita Jeanne Miller; Kim Haisemeyer; Ron Frank; Roger Borgmeyer; David Schepers; Tim & Carol Baker; Norbert Kolb (Kristy Gump's father); Don & Loretta George; Kurt Oidtman (brother of Sherrie Walter); Thomas Imhoff (son of Jim and Lita Imhoff); Hazel Boss (mother of Pauline Forck); Frankie Bolinger; (mother of Jake Bolinger) Diane Munsterman; Guy Newkirk; Sandy Crawford; Keith Connell; Fr. Mike Coleman; Fr. Aubuchon; Loretta Brauner; Misty Distler; Cody Schmidt; Amanda Imhoff; Diane Offerman; Connie Sack; David Schubert; Jeff Johnson; Gary Fleischmann; John & Barbara Reichl (parents of Bill Reichl); Parker Wood (grandson of Tim & Pauline Forck); Terry Carlson; Melissa Cox; Bob Winkler; Gary Rackers (Margaret Reynolds son-in-law); Raymond Bieri; Special Intention; Rachael Frank; Abe Baepler; Andrea Tilbury; Delores Bardwell; Carol Rackers; Carol Baker; for all those affected by the Corona Virus.

THIS WEEK AT ANNUNCIATION

Saturday , Dec. 12	<i>Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>
☪Mass 4:00 PM	Munsterman Family
☪Mass 6:00 PM	Bilingual Mass
Sunday , Dec. 13	<i>Third Sunday of Advent</i>
☪Mass 10:00 AM	Paul Hoellering
☪ 8:45-9:45AM	Rel. Ed/Confirmation
	<i>Gaudete Sunday</i>
Monday , Dec. 14	<i>Saint John of the Cross</i>
☪ 5:45-6 PM	Prayer of the Holy Rosary
☪ 8:00 PM	AA-ALNON
Tuesday , Dec. 15	
☪Mass 8:00 AM	Randy/Dianna Effner
Wednesday , Dec. 16	
☪ 8:15 PM	Mustard Seed
Thursday , Dec. 17	
☪Mass 8:00 AM	Teresa Kirchhoff
Friday , Dec. 18	
Saturday , Dec. 19	
☪Mass 4:00 PM	Annunciation Parish
☪ 6:00 PM	Posada Celebration Rosary (by Hispanic Community)
Sunday , Dec. 20	<i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i>
☪Mass 10:00 AM	Tony, Dick & Dorothy Scheidt

The Third Sunday of Advent, December 13, 2020.

The third Sunday of Advent is called "*Gaudete Sunday*" because the Mass for today (in its original Latin text), begins with the opening antiphon: "*Gaudete in Domino semper*" – "*Rejoice in the Lord always.*" To remind ourselves that we are preparing for the very joyful occasion of the birth of Jesus, we light the rose candle in the Advent wreath, and the priest may wear rose vestments. The common theme of the day's Scripture readings is one of joy and encouragement. The readings urge us to make the preparations required of us as we await the rebirth of Jesus in our hearts and lives. Holy Scripture reminds us that the coming of Jesus, past, present, and future, is the reason for our rejoicing.

Scripture lessons: The Prophet Isaiah, in the first reading, encourages the Jewish exiles returning from Babylon to rejoice because their God, Yahweh, is their strong Guide, Provider and Protector. In today's Responsorial Psalm (Luke 1:46 ff.) Mary rejoices in the great blessing given to her, exclaiming: "*My soul glorifies the Lord; my spirit finds joy in God my Savior.*"

St. Paul, in the second reading, advises the Thessalonian Christians to "*rejoice always*" by leading blameless, holy and thankful lives guided by the Holy Spirit, because Christ's second coming is near, and he is faithful in his promise to reward them.

Today's Gospel tells us that John the Baptist came to bear witness to Jesus as the Light of the world. The Baptizer wants all the Jews to rejoice because the long-expected Messiah, as the light of the world, will remove the darkness of sin from the world. We rejoice at the humility of John the Baptizer, who tells the Sanhedrin members challenging him that he is unworthy even to become the slave of Jesus the Messiah. We also rejoice in the sincerity and commitment of John who spent himself completely in preparing people for the long-awaited Messiah. We have an additional reason to rejoice because, like John the Baptizer, we, too, are chosen to bear witness to Christ Jesus, the Light of the world.

Life message: 1) We need to bear witness to Christ the Light. Our mission, as brothers and sisters of Christ and members of his Church, is to reflect Christ's Light to others, just as the moon reflects the light of the sun. It is especially important during the Advent season that we reflect Christ's sharing love and his unconditional forgiveness through our lives. There are too many people who live in darkness and poverty, and who lack real freedom because of their evil addictions and bad choices. There are others who are deafened and blinded by the cheap attractions of the world. Many others feel lonely, unwanted, rejected, and marginalized. Let us bring the true Light of Christ to illumine the lives of all these brothers and sisters during this Advent season through our sharing love, overflowing mercy, unconditional forgiveness, and humble service. We will be able to accomplish this witnessing mission of radiating Christ's Light only by repenting of our sins, asking God's pardon every day, and by renewing our lives through our daily prayers, by frequenting the Sacrament of Reconciliation, by attending and taking part in the Eucharistic celebration, by reading the Bible daily in meditative, prayerful fashion, and by performing the corporal and spiritual works of mercy where we see these are needed. (Fr. Anthony Kadavil)