



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**DECEMBER 20, 2020**

**DECEMBER 20**    **DECEMBER 27**  
**2 SAM 7:1-5,8-16**    **GEN 15:1-6;21:1-3**  
**ROM 16:25-27**    **HEB 11:8,11-19**  
**LUKE 1:26-38**    **LUKE 2:22-40**

**PASTOR:** Fr. Alex Gabriel, 573-796-4842; [Algabri567@gmail.com](mailto:Algabri567@gmail.com)

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**PARISH OFFICE:** 573-796-4842 or [annunciati@socket.net](mailto:annunciati@socket.net), Hall: 796-3568

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

**MASSES @ ANNUNCIATION:** SATURDAY @ 4:00 PM; SUNDAY @ 10:00AM

**SPANISH MASS/COMMUNION SERVICE:** Sunday 12 - NOON

**MASSES @ 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 19	4:00 PM	Annunciation Parish
Sunday	December 20	10:00 AM	Tony, Dick & Dorothy Scheidt
Tuesday	December 22	8:00 AM	Margaret Scheidt
Thursday	December 24	3:00 PM	Ketterlin Family
		5:00 PM	Leon Deraps Mark Imhoff
Friday	December 25	10:00 AM	Rudroff Family
Saturday	December 26	4:00 PM	Parish
Sunday	December 27	10:00 AM	Dustin Struempf

**ANNUNCIATION PARISH**

[www.annunciationcatholicchurch.org](http://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

**Safeguards:** As Christmas is fast approaching, I would like to remind everyone to abide by the norms given by the Diocese as below when you come to any of the Christmas Masses.

'Abiding by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommendations, the use of face masks upon entering the church, during the celebration of Mass except when in place in the pew, during the Communion procession, and upon leaving the church is required. **If social distancing cannot be maintained in the pew, then the wearing of face masks is obligatory even in the pew.** For more resources, visit <https://diojeffcity.org/public-health/>.

We all want to be safe and healthy during and after Christmas. There is a great deal of apprehension that after holidays, the COVID 19 cases are likely to spike up as people will be visiting families and friends. When social distancing and wearing masks are followed, the chances are much less. Therefore, I would like everyone to celebrate the feast of Christmas and New year following the prescribed norms and thus help one another to be safe and healthy. Finally, I would request you all to **leave the panic button in the hands of God** and move forward freely and normally. Over anxieties can cause undue stress while in the church and outside which will not allow us to be joyful. Now on, let us recite three 'Hail Marys' in honor of Blessed Mother to keep us all under her protective mantle. Reciting three 'Hail Marys' is a popular devotion followed in India to obtain special graces from above.

**Christmas Masses:** So as to spread the Mass attendees, we have scheduled Masses on Christmas Vigil at 3 pm, and 5 pm and on the 25<sup>th</sup> at 10 am and at 12 pm in Spanish. I would not like that people get crowded in one Mass which would cause a great deal of inconvenience. Therefore, I suggest that we allow the elderly if they wish to come to attend the 3 pm Mass and others to choose one of the other Masses. All those who are interested may join the 11 pm Mass on Vigil night offered at Tipton.

**Christmas Book:** With the support of an anonymous Donor from St. Andrew Parish, Tipton, a book titled '**Do something beautiful for God**' by Dynamic Catholic will be handed out at the end of all Masses as Christmas gifts to all families with a letter from the Pastor. I request the Pastoral Council President to organize the handing out with the help of volunteers. On behalf of the Parish, I extend my sincere thanks to the generous donor for getting us the books. It is also available in Spanish. I would like that every family in the Parish gets a book. It is a collection of inspirational thoughts from the life of St. Mother Theresa given for each day of the month during the year.

**Many thanks:** I would like to express my sincere thanks to the members of Altar Sodality for sending Christmas Cards to the families that have been prayed for during Advent at all Masses. I also thank all those who participated in our Advent Family Prayer Drive. May this good effort of our Parish be rewarded immensely

I express my special thanks to Fr. James for hearing the confession of PSR and confirmation children and offering the 10 am Mass last Sunday.

**Joint Santa Workshop:** It was held at Annunciation Parish, California on December 12 from 9 to 11 am. There were 50 children from the families of Angel Tree program showed up and picked up items for their households. I thank and appreciate Letitia Sangster for her able leadership in organizing a wonderful program first time in our Parish with help of a group of volunteers. I thank the donors of both from California and Tipton who supported us generously with things and money. I also thank all the volunteers of both the parishes, the elves, and others who helped out in different ways in running the program smoothly. It was really a wonderful event by which we shared our joy with those children who turned up on that day. For more details, a brief write-up is given by Letitia in the bulletin insert with some pictures.



**Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe:** It was celebrated by our Hispanic people with a lot of enthusiasm on December 12 at 6 pm Mass. The singing led by Carmen Villagomez and her team was full of life with guitar music. The Mass attendance was quite encouraging.

Although the Mass was in English, Deacon Edwin Pacheco from Kirksville was called in to give a homily in Spanish as Deacon Enrique was on quarantine. Truly it was a lively celebration. I extend my thanks to all those who made the celebration grand with beautiful decorations. I also thank Deacon Edwin for his services and Emilio Juarez for his leadership.

**A Big Thank You:** I express 'a big thank you' to an anonymous Donor who donated \$4500.00 to support the education of our children in Catholic Schools and another donor who donated \$1000.00 to the parish. I pray that the Lord may bless them and their families immensely for being so generous.

I take this occasion to thank **Fr. Kendall Ketterlin** of the Diocese of Kansas City – St. Joseph for coming over to offer the 3 pm Mass on Christmas vigil. As he being from our Parish, it is indeed a joy to have him with us. I wish him all the best and happy stay with his family.

**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	13,295.00
Received	9,240.00
Diocese Goal	\$2,450,000.00
Pledged	\$1,932,836.43
Cash Received	1,416,579.43

We will be decorating **the church for Christmas** on **Tuesday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>** after 8:00 AM mass. Everyone is welcome to come and pitch in and help.



*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.*

<i>Leon Deraps</i>	<i>Doerhoff Family</i>
<i>Rose &amp; Clem &amp; Arlene Distler</i>	<i>Dorge Family</i>
<i>Bernie &amp; Elva Dunn</i>	<i>Lenard Elliott</i>
<i>Denis &amp; Edna Mae Hagedorn</i>	<i>Frank Haller Family</i>
<i>John &amp; Rosalie Hentges</i>	<i>Knaebel Family</i>
<i>Teresa Kirchhoff</i>	<i>Paul Naros</i>
<i>Herman &amp; Sylvia Loehnig</i>	<i>David Schepers</i>
<i>Mildred &amp; Elliott McPherson</i>	<i>Pringer Family</i>
<i>Earl &amp; Margaret Scheidt</i>	<i>Special Intention</i>
<i>Tony, Dorothy &amp; Dick Scheidt</i>	
<i>Margaret Strickfaden</i>	
<i>Leon &amp; Rita Vanderfeltz</i>	

## WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

1<sup>st</sup> week: \$ 5,129.18      2<sup>nd</sup> week: \$ 2,968.09

Mustard Seed: \$ 20.00      Spanish: \$ 95.00

Cedron Reimbursement: \$ 750.00

Christmas Flowers: \$ 165.00

### MINISTRY LIST – DEC 26-27

#### Saturday, December 26

Lector: Kristy Gump  
 Servers: Volunteer Needed  
 Song Leader: Ted Munsterman  
 Organist: Jo Pummill  
 Rosary: Russ Anderson

#### Sunday, December 27

Lector: Eric Schroeter  
 Servers: Nicki Frank  
 Song Leader: JoAnn Bestgen  
 Organist: Jo Pummill  
 Rosary: Charlie Roll



**Thank You** to Annunciation's Parishioners for participating in this year's Angel Tree program. Words can not express our gratitude for your generosity to this program. Without you, the Angel Tree program would not

be successful. This year, we adopted approximately 127 children and 49 local families. On Christmas morning, imagine the smile your kindness brought to those children and families. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity. Merry Christmas!!

### Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve 3:00 PM      Annunciation Parish  
 Christmas Eve 5:00 PM      Annunciation Parish  
 Christmas Day 10:00 AM      Annunciation Parish  
 Christmas Day 12:00 noon Hispanic      Annunciation  
 We hope to be able to live stream the mass to the basement of the church hall for any overflow. If we cannot social distance – masks will be required at all times.

**The sign-up sheet for all church Christmas ministries is in the back of church.**

**Calendars for 2021 are in the back of church.**



## 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; Linda Clevinger; Kim Haisemeyer; Ron Frank; Roger Borgmeyer; 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; 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. 19**

T̄Mass 4:00 PM	Annunciation Parish
T̄ 6:00 PM	Posada Celebration by Hisp Comm Rosary for Posada Celebration

**Sunday, Dec. 20**

T̄Mass 10:00 AM	Tony, Dick & Dorothy Scheidt
<b>Monday, Dec. 21</b>	Saint Peter Canisius

T̄ 5:45-6 PM	Prayer of the Holy Rosary
T̄ 8:00 PM	AA-ALNON

**Tuesday, Dec. 22**

T̄Mass 8:00 AM	Margaret Scheidt
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**Wednesday, Dec. 23** Saint John of Kanty

T̄ 8:15 PM	Mustard Seed
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**Thursday, Dec. 24** Eve of the Nativity of the Lord

T̄Mass 3:00 PM	Ketterlin Family
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T̄Mass 5:00 PM	Leon Deraps/ Mark Imhoff
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**Friday, Dec. 25** The Nativity of the Lord

10:00 AM	Rudroff Family
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12 Noon	Spanish Mass
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**Saturday, Dec. 26** Saint Stephen, the First Martyr

T̄Mass 4:00 PM	Parish
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**Sunday, Dec. 27** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary And Joseph

T̄Mass 10:00 AM	Dustin Struempf
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### Fourth Sunday of Advent Readings Reflections

Today's readings focus on the circumstances leading up to the first coming of Jesus, the event which sets the pattern for his coming to us now and at the end of time. The Gospel stresses the key role of Mary in the work of our salvation. In addition, today's Scripture texts describe God's promise to David and its fulfillment in Jesus, the Son of David. They also tell us that God's preparation for the coming of Jesus was full of surprises.

**Scripture lessons:** The unfolding of God's plan of salvation though history has contained many surprises. The first reading surprises us by telling of God's promise to David that he would have a long line of royal descendants culminating in a final King, Jesus Christ. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 89), the Psalmist recalls all of God's promises and surprises us, describing God's promise to David and his descendants in terms of a Covenant. The second reading surprises us with Paul's explanation of the unveiling of God's plan for human salvation through Jesus. In today's Gospel, the Angel Gabriel surprises Mary with seven announcements. i) Even as a virgin betrothed to Joseph, she will become a mother. ii) She will become a mother through "*the Holy Spirit [Who] will come upon you, and the Power of the Most High will overshadow you.*" iii) The angel continues, "Therefore, the Child to be born will be called Holy, the Son of God." iv) She is to "*name the child Jesus,*" which means Savior. v) God will make Him a King and, as a descendant in the line of David, vi) "*He will rule over the House of Jacob forever, and of His Kingdom there will be no end.*"vii) As a Divine sign, Elizabeth, Mary's aged barren cousin is six months pregnant, "*for,*" says Gabriel, "*nothing shall be impossible with God!*"The Gospel narrative also surprises us by reminding us that God's promise is best fulfilled not in buildings, or even in great kings like Solomon, but rather in humble souls like Mary who trusted in God's promise.

**Life messages:** 1) We need to say a courageous and generous "yes" to God: True obedience comes from a free choice made in the light of what is true and good. Such a self-surrender often requires a great deal of courage because it can involve going against the tide of social expectations. True obedience also aims at putting oneself at the service of something/Someone that is greater than oneself, accepting what God clearly wants us to do or what He wants to do through us. It is by saying, with Jesus and Mary, a wholehearted and totally unconditional "*Yes*" – "*Fiat! May it be done in me,*" to Jesus that he will be re-born in each of us, or maybe even born in me for the first time. By my saying "*Yes,*" Jesus will be born or re-born in others, too. 2) We need to try to learn God's plan for our lives: The Good News in today's Scripture message is not only that God is making provision for the salvation of His people, but also that He has a plan for each individual person. In many cases, our work for God seems rather ordinary, but each ordinary task which we carry out fits into God's plan in ways that we cannot yet understand. God desires not only the skill of our hands and talents but the love of our hearts. The Babe in the Manger reminds us of what God has done and is still doing for us. What are we doing for Him in return? Let us show our gratitude to God by living as true followers of Christ: "Behold, here I am, Lord! I come to do Your will."(Fr. Anthony Kadavil)