

FROM THE PASTOR

This Third Sunday of Advent is called “Gaudete Sunday,” from the Latin expression bidding us to rejoice. We have reached this weekend the half-way point of our Advent preparations for the celebration of our Savior’s birth at Christmas.

Today the rose-colored candle of the Advent wreath is lit at this mid-point, signifying that Christ, the true Light of the world, is---like the rose-colored dawn---set to appear soon and rise over the horizon of the world’s darkness.

To continue the joy of the season, please join us and our school children for our Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols this Wednesday, December 16 at 7PM in church. In addition, the candlelight Advent Vespers have been just beautiful these past two Sundays, so please consider joining us this Sunday and next Sunday at 5PM for sung Evening Prayer.

As you can see in church, our new Confessional is coming right along. We hope to have it open and operational in one more week, and completed (except for the new stained glass windows on the interior) in time for Christmas. What a gift that will keep on giving!

If you or your family would be interested in sponsoring one of the four stained glass windows in the Confessional (in memory or honor of a loved one, if you wish), please contact either me or Laurie Haverty in the Parish Office. The cost per window is \$1000.

A friend of mine, Mary Symczak at the Vocation Office, has been designing and making stained glass windows for decades and will be helping us with this project. She crafted all of the windows at Holy Family Parish’s new church in South Bend and they are truly magnificent. Hopefully she will be able to provide us some designs soon, so that work on our windows can begin in January.

On the subject of Confession, in addition to the regular Saturday time of 3:30-5PM, I’ll also be available in the Confessional on Wednesday, December 23 from 7-9PM (or as long as people are still coming) for “end-of-the-season,” “every-sin-must-go” clearance specials forgiveness. St. Vincent Parish in Elkhart will have their Penance service on Thursday, December 17 at 7PM, and St. Pius X Parish will have their Reconciliation liturgy on Tuesday, December 22 at 7PM.

Finally, as we do each year, let’s begin praying especially for all of those who will be joining our Parish family for the Christmas liturgies. Even more radically, let’s ask the Lord for the insight and courage proactively to invite those who need to find a spiritual home at Queen of Peace.

So much of the joy of the original Christmas was produced by new, unexpected connections made: Mary and Joseph had to leave home, their only earthly warmth the animals in the stable. The shepherds encountered the angels, who led them beyond the cares of their daily tasks to welcome the Christ-Child at Bethlehem.

The joy of our Parish hinges on our own openness to having the Lord Jesus change the life we have gotten used to, by introducing us to the new friendships from which Christ continues to build His Church. What a joyful privilege, to bring a long-lost friend or family member back to church this year, back to Bethlehem to meet the Savior as if for the first time.

From Blessed Mary, Christ the Lord is our Peace!
Fr. Daniel Scheidt

PARISH NEWS

REJOICE! TODAY IS GAUDETE SUNDAY - Help us spread this joyful message by decorating the Parish Tree. We are asking families to either make or donate an ornament for our tree. The tree will stand in the school commons area throughout the Advent and Christmas seasons. Feel free to visit the commons and place your ornament upon our tree.

FAMILY IN NEED - Thank you for the all of the wonderful donations of household items we have already received for this family starting over in our area. Some items that are still needed include: couch, dressers, chairs, dishes, silverware, vacuum, and linens (sheets, blankets, pillows, rugs) Please contact the parish office if you would like to donate any of these items.

OUR GIVING TREE - Help our Jubilee Society help others this holiday season by taking an ornament from our Giving Tree and purchasing the item listed for the Woman’s Care Center. Purchased items (leave unwrapped) may be place in the box under the tree until December 20. Thank you for your generosity.




MUSIC SPONSORS: Please prayerfully consider being a sponsor to fully or partially underwrite the Brass Ensemble for any of the Christmas Masses. Donors/Memorials will be recognized in the worship aid on those days. Your financial support directly provides the means by which we may help our parish praise and worship God in song. Contact Aaron Renninger for more information.

ADVENT VESPERS: Candlelight Vespers (Evening Prayer) will be prayed the Sundays of Advent at 5 PM. All are welcome to join in prayer with our parish family as we prepare together for Christmas.

FRESH CHRISTMAS TREE VOUCHERS - LAST CHANCE... The 8th grade class is selling vouchers for live Christmas trees for \$25. They will earn \$5 for every tree voucher sold with profits to benefit their class trip at the end of the school year. The deadline to order trees is **December 15**. *Vouchers can be purchased at the Parish or School Offices.*



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

December 24	5:00 PM Children’s Nativity Play	
	5:15 PM Choral Prelude	
	5:30 PM Mass <i>Children’s Choir</i>	
	11:25 PM Lesson and Carols	
	12:00 AM Mass <i>Adult Choir</i>	
December 25	9:00 & 11:00 AM Mass	<i>Christmas</i>

SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

December 31	7:00 PM (Holy Day of Obligation)
January 1	9:00 AM

EPIPHANY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

January 7 7:00 PM. Please join us as our school children present Christmas Choral music and assembly sung carols.





Our next Queen of Peace Conference meeting will take place in the commons area of the school on December 14th at 7pm. If you would like to know more about the various ministries our conference is involved with please join us. Our Queen of Peace Young Vincentians (Mini Vinnies) will be collecting food from our school and preparing Christmas food baskets this year. Please let us know of anyone who would benefit from a Christmas basket or has other need by contacting our parish office at 255-9674 or one of our St. Vincent DePaul members. All inquiries are kept confidential.

Queen of Peace Parish Youth Group: **ANTIOCH**

High School (Gr. 9-12): Join us weekly on Sundays at 6:00 PM for Antioch at Mount Alverno, the Convent across from Marian High School

8th Grade : Join us weekly on Saturdays at 6:30PM for Agape in the St. Joe-Mish school cafeteria

Grades 8 – 12: Join us weekly on Saturdays from 8:30 -9:30 PM for Adoration in the Church at St. Joe-Mish.

Save the Date!

High School Girls Retreat: "Empty & Beautiful"
February 13 – 14. More information to come.

Youth Mass with Fr. Dan Scheidt
December 20 @ 7:00pm @ St. Bavo

Leaders: Chip & Virginia Leinen
E-mail: antiochmishawaka@gmail.com **Phone:** 574-217-4671

Calendar of Events: www.weadore.com

Facebook Group: antioch-mishawaka

SCHOOL NEWS

Atomic Clocks: The school is looking to outfit the entire building with new atomic clocks – clocks that synchronize to the exact time through radio frequency. The attainment of these clocks will allow us to harmonize our schedule and to improve the efficiency in which the school day runs. Each atomic clock costs \$16.00. The school is presently seeking donations to make this a reality. If you would like to donate a clock please contact the school office for more information.

Food Collection: At the request of the St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Mini-Vinnies the school will once again be holding a food drive to collect items for needy families. Similar to our Thanksgiving food drive students will be asked to bring in certain items on Friday, December 18th so that we can create food baskets for the Christmas holiday.

Advent Lessons and Carols: As we continue our journey through the season of Advent, the school would like to invite and encourage all of our families to attend this year's Advent Lessons and Carols program that will be performed this Wednesday at 7:00 pm.

Christmas Break: Students and staff will begin their two week Christmas break following dismissal this Friday. On behalf of the entire Queen of Peace staff, we would like to wish all of our families a safe and joyous Christmas season.



Third Sunday of Advent Prayer of Preparation

Lord God,
you gave John the baptizer courage
to call people to follow your law.
Now we, too, ask: What should we do?



Open our eyes to the wonders
of your creation.
Open our ears to hear your
voice when you call.
Open our hearts to receive
your love.
Lift our voices to proclaim
your Gospel
throughout the world.
Strengthen our arms to
embrace the poor.

Show us, Lord, how to prepare for your coming,
so that, in the end, we may be filled
with the mercy and righteousness of God
and found with our faces upturned toward
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday, December 14 Saint John of the Cross

One of the Church's great mystics, Saint John of the Cross, lived in Spain from 1542 to 1591. His writings describe the soul's ascent to God and, often, the hardships and attachments that lie on that path. (The phrase "dark night of the soul" comes from the title of one of his works.) With Saint Teresa of Avila, he worked zealously to reform the Carmelite Order, for which he was punished and rejected by those who opposed the reform. But he persevered, and today the Discalced (barefoot) Carmelites continue their life of prayer and compassion throughout the world.



PLEASE JOIN US IN OUR

3rd Annual Advent Lessons and Carols

The Queen of Peace Parish Children's and Adult Choirs will be leading us in preparation for the birth of Christ in scripture readings, choral music, and assembly sung carols led by brass and organ. Join in singing the music of Advent.

**WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 16TH
7 PM**

Queen of Peace Catholic Church, Mishawaka, IN



AROUND TOWN

COME CELEBRATE THE SEASON - The Antioch Youth Group and the Marian High School Liturgical Choir presents their "Festival of Lessons & Carols", today, December 13 at 7:00 PM at St. Bavo Church, 511 W. 7th St., Mishawaka.

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE-COMMUNITY EDUCATION - Community members are invited to join 2 new classes: Aging and the Family and Aging over the Life Span. You can audit the classes for only \$45.00 (you attend when you want and you don't take any tests!). Classes are once a week from 4—6:30 PM. Time is given for a light supper snack. To enroll or for more information— contact Pat Adams at padams@hcc-nd.edu or 574-239-8364. Flyers are also located on the bulletin board in the gathering area.

HOLY FAMILY RINGS IN THE NEW YEAR! - Celebrate the New Year at Holy Family's New Year's Eve Party on December 31. Doors open at 6:00 PM and dinner is served at 7:00 PM. Polish Style Sit-down Dinner; Open Bar; Party Favors; Continental Breakfast. Music by DJ Jack Reichert from 8:00—1:00 PM. Tickets at the Holy Family Rectory—\$30.00 per person. Limited number available; call 282-2317 for more information.

TRIVIA NIGHT AT ST. JOE - Is your head chock full of interesting facts and trivia? If so, call your friends and get together a team for St. Joseph's Trivia Night! January 8, 2010 in the St. Joe Mish Gym. Call 288-4441 (Susan) to get registered.

TRIP OF A LIFETIME - The Franciscan Communities of Michigan are looking for people to join them on a pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi from April 12 through April 24, 2010. For further information and a brochure contact Dick McCloskey, SFO at 574-272-4738 dick@aerovisionphoto.com or Sr. Agnes Marie Regan, OSF at 574-259-5427 agnesmarie_2000@yahoo.com

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, December 14 - Saint John of the Cross

8:15AM Helen & Edward Lukaszewski - *Their Children*

Tuesday, December 15 - Weekday

8:15AM Sylvester & Tessie Kaminski - *Kaminski Foundation Board*

Wednesday, December 16 - Weekday

8:15AM Irene A. Janiszewski - *Mickey & Dick Jaworski*

Thursday, December 17 - Weekday

8:15AM John M. Gulas - *The Gulas Family*

Friday, December 18 - Weekday

8:15AM In Memory of Rosemarie Buszkiewicz - *The Delahanty Family*

Saturday, December 19 - Vigil of Fourth Sunday of Advent

5:30PM Leo & Denny Scheibelhut - *Marjorie Scheibelhut*

Sunday, December 20 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30AM Parish Community

9:30AM Sue Metcalfe - *Don & Margaret Miller*

11:45AM Kevin Lehner - *The Lehner Family*

Bulletin— "Sponsor of the Week"

Please Patronize Our Sponsors...They help make this bulletin possible. Let them know you heard about them here!!

BUBB FUNERAL CHAPEL

3910 N. Main St, Mishawaka

574-255-3126

bubbfuneralchapel@yahoo.com



Offertory Collection

12/06/09

Adult (323 envelopes)	\$11,216.00
Loose	\$1,076.85
Children (38 envelopes)	\$47.00
<i>Total</i>	\$12,339.85
<i>Growing Together With Christ</i> (13 envelopes)	\$821.50
<i>Christmas Flower Fund</i> (67 envelopes)	\$872.00
<i>Tuition Assistance Fund</i> (17 envelopes)	\$283.00

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, December 14

8:15 AM Mass

2:30—3:30 PM Market Day Pick-up, Commons

7:00 PM St. Vincent de Paul, Commons

Tuesday, December 15

8:15 AM Mass

8:45 AM Prayer/Share, Parish Library

9:00 AM School Confessions

6:00 PM Cub Scout Pack Mtg., Gym

6:30 PM K of C, Rectory Basement

Wednesday, December 16

8:15 AM Mass

7:00 PM Advent Lessons & Carols, Church

Thursday, December 17

8:15 AM Mass

7:00 PM Adult Choir

7-8:30 PM RCIA Inquiry, Commons

Friday, December 18

8:15 AM All School Mass

Christmas Break - December 21 - January 1, 2010

Classes Resume on Monday, January 4

Saturday, December 19

3:30-5 PM Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions

5:30 PM Vigil Mass - *Jubilee Candy & Nut Sale*

Sunday, December 20

7:30, 9:30, 11:45 AM Mass - *Jubilee Candy & Nut Sale*

10:30 - 11:40 AM Weekly PREP, School

5:00 PM Vespers



Dec 23 - Decorate Church after 8:15 AM Mass

Dec 24 - Christmas Eve Children's Play/Mass 5:00 PM
Mass at Midnight / Lessons & Carols 11:25 PM

Dec 25 - Christmas Day Mass, 9:00 & 11:00 AM