

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

109 Angel Ave. NW • P.O. Box 548 • Watertown, MN 55388-0548



December 1, 2019

1st Sunday of Advent



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."
- Mt 24:44

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Mass Schedule

Weekend..... Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am
Weekday..... See bulletin.

Pastor

Fr. James Devorak...952-955-1200
Email.....iccfrijm@gmail.com

Parish Office

Admin. Assistant.....DeAnna Clemens
Phone 952-955-1458
Email..... iccwatertown@gmail.com
Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:30pm
Website..... www.iccwatertown.org
Phone App.....myParishapp.com

Religious Education

RE Coordinator.....Ronda Hague
Phone 952-955-1777
Email..... iccwreled@gmail.com

Music & Liturgy

Director.....Bill Windsperger
Phone.....952-381-4076
Email.....wndsprgrw@aol.com

Prayer Chain,

Jean Motzko 952-955-1179
Joan Stadlander.....952-955-2686

Communion to Homebound,
Nancy Fritzke 952-955-1560

Sacraments

Reconciliation
Saturday 4:30pm; or by appointment.
Baptism
Call the parish office to make arrangements.
Marriage
Call the parish office at least nine months in advance to make arrangements.

New Parishioners

Please call the parish office to register.

Upcoming Events

Open: KC Christmas Tree Sale
Dec. 7: Nativity Play & Potluck
Dec. 9: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass 8:00am

Dec. 15: Advent Reconciliation Service 4:00pm
Dec. 22: Private Confessions 4:00-5:00pm
Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Mass 4:00pm & 9:00pm
Dec. 25: Christmas Day Mass 9:00am

Parish Support

Stewardship Report for November 17, 2019

Endowment Fund: \$14,000

Envelopes and Plate Collections

Reg. Collected:	\$ 3,447.50	Fiscal YTD Collected:	\$ 91,665.02
Weekly Goal:	\$ (5,629.81)	Fiscal YTD Budgeted:	\$ 112,596.20
Surplus/(Loss):	\$ (2,182.31)	Surplus/(Loss):	\$ (20,931.18)
Cap Improvement	\$ 0		
Youth	\$ 141.00		

Parish Council Members

Amy Hilgers	Vicky Hoefft	Phil Maiers	Judy Younk
Gene Janikula	Terry Gallus	Carol Youmans	Barry Fritzke* (*Trustee)

NEWS & NOTES

Catholic Order of Foresters

The Catholic Order of Foresters Court 1560 annual Christmas Party will be Sunday, Dec. 1 in the St. Mary's(Waverly) Parish Center from 2:00- 5:00pm. We will be serving a pizza lunch at 3:30 pm. We will have kids games, crafts, Mrs. Claus and door prizes. All COF members and their families are welcome, as well as those who would like to learn more about COF.

Advent Day of Prayer

All women of the parish are invited to a Northwest Deanery Advent Day of Prayer at Christ the King Retreat Center in Buffalo on Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019. The day begins with registration at 9:00 am, followed by conferences, lunch, confessions and Mass, closing at 3:00 pm. The topic for the day will be "Broken, Blessed and Sent". The cost for the retreat is \$35 payable at the door. Call Nancy at the Kings House at 763-682-1394 by Mon. Dec. 2 to make reservations. We will car pool from the church parking lot at 8:30 am.

Blood Drive in Watertown

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be at the Watertown Community Center from 1 to 6 pm on Monday, Dec. 9th, 2019. To make an appointment or for info, call Diane 952-955-2847 or Joan 952-955-2686.

BE THE LIFELINE PATIENTS NEED. GIVE BLOOD.

Knights of Columbus

Christmas Trees

The lot will be open Fridays from 3:00pm-7:00pm.

Saturdays & Sundays the lot will be open 1:00pm-7:00pm until sold out.

Coats for Kids

The KCs will be collecting new and gently used coats at drop boxes at the back entrance to the church. The coats will be taken to Mary's Place and Sharing and Caring Hands. This drive will go through the winter season.

KC Meetings

The December Officer meeting has been cancelled. The next general meeting will take place Sunday 12/8/19, 9:00 am in the Parish Center.

Poster Contest

The KCs will be sponsoring the "Keeping Christ in Christmas" poster contest again this year. There are three age groups: 6-8 years old, 8-10 and 10-12.

Posters should be turned into Ronda or a Knight on or before 12/21.

There are 3 prizes for each age group: 1st-\$25, 2nd-\$15 and 3rd-\$10.

MCJC of ICC ministries will once again be coordinating our local food shelf's Christmas giving program. This year, they expect to serve 60 families on December 16, and are hoping to gift each household with a Gas Card or Grocery Gift Certificate. They need donations of: \$20 Gift Card from Speedway gas station (preferred); \$20 Gift Certificate to Marketplace Foods in Watertown (will be given to those who do not drive or don't have a car). You can purchase your own certificates and place them in the collection basket or write checks to ICC and indicate it is for this project. MCJC members will then purchase the certificates. We don't have a lot of time for this project as donations need to get to the food shelf by Dec. 13. Thanks for helping. ICC has been one of the greatest contributors of this project. Call Jane Burns with questions: 612-483-5520

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, December 3

8:00am +Willard Baumann

Wednesday, December 4

8:00am +Ben & Bernice Moonen

Thursday, December 5

8:00am +L. Marvin Gallus

Friday, December 6

8:00am +Phil & Carol Maiers

Saturday, December 7

5:00pm +Jeff Rademacher

Sunday, December 8

8:00am People of Immaculate
Conception Church

10:30am +Emmett & Lorraine
Lynch

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week
for: Hospice and Caregivers

PARISH CALENDAR

Monday, December 2

7:00pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

Tuesday, December 3

8:00am Mass

Wednesday, December 4

8:00am Mass

6:00pm Youth Choir Rehearsal

7:00pm Religious Education

Thursday, December 5

8:00am Mass

1:00pm Rosary Makers

Friday, December 6

8:00am Mass

3:00pm Holy Hour

Saturday, December 7

9:00am Children's Choir Rehearsal

5:00pm Mass

Nativity Play & Potluck

Sunday, December 8

8:00am Mass

9:00am KC General Meeting-PC

10:30am Mass

LITURGICAL ROLES

December
Saturday 7 & Sunday 8

Lectors

5:00pm Steve Washburn
8:00am Ronda Hague
10:30am Peter Campbell

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00pm Judy Younk/Theresa Washburn/Jeremy Barnhart/Annette Barnhart
8:00am Charlie Poppler/Nancy Adickes/Susann Hoese/Steve Boerner
10:30am Katie Brandenburg/(needed)/Larry Brandenburg/Theresa Sullivan

Altar Servers

5:00pm Jason Washburn/Megan Barnhart
8:00am Colin Blair/Kaleb Hague
10:30am Mallory Czinano/Maggie Czinano

Ushers

5:00pm Jim Younk/Phil Maiers
8:00am Matt Blair/Pat Lynch
10:30am Mark Brandenburg/Tom Foley

Sacristans

5:00pm Judy Younk
8:00am Ronda Hague
10:30am Lori Foley

Communion to the Homebound
December 3rd
Pat Schuler and Ronda Hague

Next week's second collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. Please give generously.

Thanks to your warm generosity, ICC Ministries was able to deliver 46 coats to Sharing and Caring Hands and over 150 hats and pairs of mittens to the Friends for Life Food Shelf.

1st Sunday of Advent

MY GOOD PEOPLE,

In my homilies and writings, I've tried to invite people beyond a sentimental understanding of Christmas as "waiting for the baby Jesus" to an adult and social appreciation of the message of the Incarnation of God in Christ. I have appreciated St. Francis for years and from him I've learned the Incarnation was already the Redemption, because in Jesus's birth God was already saying that it is good to be human, and God is our side.

The need for adult Christianity and the actual message of Jesus is so urgent that we cannot allow the great feast of Christmas, and its preparation in Advent, to be watered down in any way. Jesus identified his own message with what he called the coming of the "reign of God" or the "kingdom of God." Unfortunately, we often settle for the sweet coming of a baby who asks little of us in terms of surrender, encounter, corroboration or any studying of the Scriptures or the actual teaching of Jesus. Sentimentality and over-romanticizing, and trumped-up emotions, can help us avoid and actually be a substitute for an authentic relationship with Jesus.

We Catholics must admit that we are constantly tempted to avoid delving into the lectionary (the Scriptures proclaimed at Mass) and the Word of God. Our private prayers and pious devotions usually have little power to actually change us or call our ego assumptions into question. The Word of God, however, confronts, converts and consoles us - in that order. The suffering, injustice and devastation on this planet are too great to settle for any infantile gospel or any infantile Jesus.

"Jesus is Lord!" of all creation! This was the rallying cry of the early church (Philippians 2:11; Acts 2:36; Romans 1:4). It is to this adult and cosmic Christ that we are saying, "Come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20), which are the final words of the Bible. This makes our entire lives, and the life of the church, one huge "advent." Remember, Advent is always-until the end of days.

~Fr. Jim

RELIGIOUS ED., YOUTH & FELLOWSHIP

Thank you to the confirmation students that helped fill care packages for our college freshmen. I am sure they will enjoy receiving them!

Reminder: The Nativity Play is on December 7th at 4:15 pm. If you are interested please contact Ronda at 952-955-1777.

ICC Ministries Annual Potluck

Join us for good food and fellowship at the annual potluck on Saturday December 7, 2019 after 5 PM mass. The children's Nativity program will take place before mass at 4:15. Please bring a dish to share. All are welcome!

December 1, 2019