

Christ The King

ST. HEDWIG CHURCH

PARISH PRAYER

November 25 thru November 29, 2009

Wednesday 7:00 PM Joe VanOchten
Saturday 5:00 PM Joseph Sr. & Blanche
Wachowiak
Sunday 10:00 AM Parish Family
Worship Aid Dedication: In Celebration of Jean
Madziar's 89th Birthday

IN THE LORD'S SERVICE

Saturday, November 28, 5:00 PM Mass

Mass Server: Tim Wolter
Lector: Ron Christie
E. Ministers: Kathy Bigelow
Paul Mrozinski
Greeters: Alice Anderson
Barb Abeare

Sunday, November 29, 10:00 AM Mass

Mass Servers: Nathan Vorwerck
Lectors: Tom Schultz
Jennifer Swiecicki
E. Ministers: Paul Radlinski
George & Marsha Thomas
Renee Vorwerck
Greeters: Larry & Linda Dabrowski
Autumn & Ceil Dabrowski
Sandy Houghtaling
Shut-in- Minister: Bob Kienbaum

Last Week's Collection....\$ 3,268.00

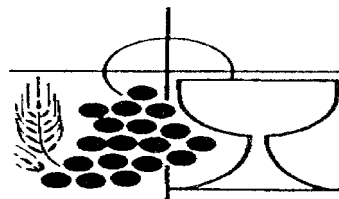
020-30% Bay Area Catholic Schools
Assessment . . . 981.00
-1% Tithing . . . 33.00
Parish Total \$ 2,254.00
Children's Collection . . 13.14
Recent Expense: Northeastern Paint \$77.98

Sponsor of the Week

Sutherland Bakery, Inc.
710 E. Midland St. (989) 892-3932
Decorated cakes for all occasions
Cookies, bread, doughnuts, rolls & cakes
Baked Fresh Daily !

Liturgies for the Week

St. Mary's -Tue. - Fri. Mass 8:00 AM, Sat. 4:00
PM Sun. 8:30 AM & 11:00AM
St. Hedwig -Wed. 7:00 PM, Sat. 5:00 PM &
Sun. 10AM
Holy Trinity -Sat. 4:30 PM, Sun. 8:30 & 10:30AM



Stewardship Thought: Today's second reading reminds us that the sacrifice of Christ frees us from sin and makes us a royal nation of priests *in the service of God*. How am I using my gifts to serve God and others?

Today's Reading

Christ the King

Daniel 7:13-14
Revelation 1:5-8
John 18:33b-37

First Sunday of Advent

Jeremiah 33: 14-16
1 Thessalonians 3:12 - 4:2
Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

Special prayers or intentions:
Rose Marie 684-1052

This Week in the Parish

Monday, Nov. 23 -Faith Formation &
Good Shepherd Class 6:15 - 7:30 PM
Choir Practice 6:30 PM
Tuesday, Nov. 24 - RCIA 5:20-6:35
Wednesday, Nov. 25 - Mass 7:00 PM
Thursday, Nov. 26-Thanksgiving Day
Friday, Nov. 27- Parish Office Closed
Advent decorating in church 4:00 PM

From Sr. Joann, Next Sunday the season of Advent and a new church year begins. Our scripture readings will be taken from Cycle "C" with the gospel of Luke prominently featured during the year. Luke sees Jesus as friend and advocate of those whom society ignores or turns from in distaste. At the time of Our Lord, none bore the brunt of ostracism more than Samaritans. The story of the "Good Samaritan" and the "Cleansing of the 10 Lepers," in which only a Samaritan returns in gratitude, appears only in Luke's gospel, not the gospels of Matthew, Mark or John. The most famous of Jesus' parables on forgiveness that of the Prodigal Son is also Luke's alone.

This Thursday our nation celebrates Thanksgiving. Anticipating the holiday, we will gather together Wednesday evening at 7PM for a Thanksgiving Mass. Come join us and together let us give thanks to God for our abundant blessings. I am especially thankful to everyone who responded to our Time & Talent Survey this weekend especially those that volunteered for a new ministry! Your willingness to invest some of your **time** to help build community here at St. Hedwig's is greatly appreciated! Thank You! For those who were unable to complete the survey additional surveys are available at the exits of church. When completed, just drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the Parish Office.

Our seventh **Annual Capital Improvement Raffle** begins this week. All proceeds from this raffle are placed in our Maintenance Fund and are used for special projects. Raffle tickets have been assigned to each envelope holder. If you were not able to pick up your tickets after mass, they will be available next weekend. Every year you have strongly supported this raffle, for which I am grateful.

Heartfelt thanks to all of my friends and family at St. Hedwig's for all of the prayers, cards and concern during my recent hospital stay. Marie Cote

The family of Eleanore Adamczyk would like to thank Sr. Joann & everyone who contributed to the service and funeral luncheon. Eleanore was a lifetime member of St. Hedwig's and loved her parish family and all of the clubs that she was a member of.

We offer our prayers and sympathy to Ron Buchalski on the death of his mother Kathryn Buchalski. May she and all the souls of the faithful departed be granted eternal life.

Faith Formation

The next family session for Reconciliation will be held on Sunday, November 22 after the 10:00 AM Mass.

The Jr. High students will meet on November 22 from 4-6 PM.

Our Family Celebration for Advent will be Monday, November 30. This evening is for all Faith Formation students and their families.

BACS Fast Fact

SCRIP is offered for more than 120 places with more than 30 being local independent merchants. Many additional certificates are available through special order.

The Rosary Altar Sodality's **Christmas Party** is December 1. Cocktails @ 5:30 and dinner at 6:00 PM. Cost is \$9.00 per person. RSVP to Jan @ 893-3245 or Kathy at 894-4719 by November 23. Bring along a lady friend if you wish. All are welcome.

Kiesel's Pearls Christmas Party will be held on Tuesday, December 15. Refreshments at 1PM and dinner will be served at 2PM. To RSVP call Virginia at 892-8193. Cost is \$8.50. All are welcome.

We are collecting non perishable food items now thru mid December to be used to fill food baskets for those in need. If you know of someone from our parish that could use a little help this year please call the parish office. All calls are confidential.

I want to be a disciple!

Good Stewardship: The Ladies of the St. Hedwig Quilt Club donated 200 Christmas stockings last week to the Armory in Bay City. These stockings will be packed in boxes to be sent to military persons serving overseas.

Thanks to the family and friends of Eleanore Adamczyk. A donation of \$100 was made to St. Hedwig's.

With Christmas fast approaching, it is time to think about our holiday bake sale. This year the date is December 19th. We need workers, bakers, and raffle prizes donated. Call the parish office to volunteer.

Cluster Corner

Thanksgiving Masses

Holy Trinity – Tues. November 24 @ 7:00 PM
St. Hedwig's – Wed. November 25 @ 7:00 PM
St. Mary's – Thurs. November 26 @ 8:00 AM

Find the peace of Advent

Many of us look forward to Christmas all year but let Advent pass unnoticed. This quiet season can't compete with the lights, the joy, the excitement, and the preparations for Christmas that can go on for months before the day.

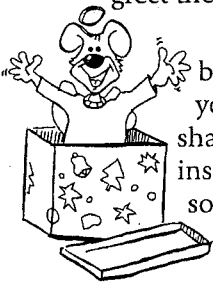
This year, why not use the whole season of Advent to prepare for Christmas? Look beyond what your eyes can see to focus on your inner preparations.

Keep watch. Jesus is coming.

We know this because we celebrate his coming every Christmas. He will also come again in glory but we don't know when that will be. Advent reminds us to always be prepared for the coming of Christ. *"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths (Matthew 3:3)."*

Give the gift of yourself. This year prepare the one gift for Jesus that he truly wants: YOU. Jesus thought each of us was worth love and his life. To him, we are a gift from the Father (John 17:24). Prepare yourself during Advent so that when he unwraps your gift on Christmas morning, it is the very best you have to offer — your love.

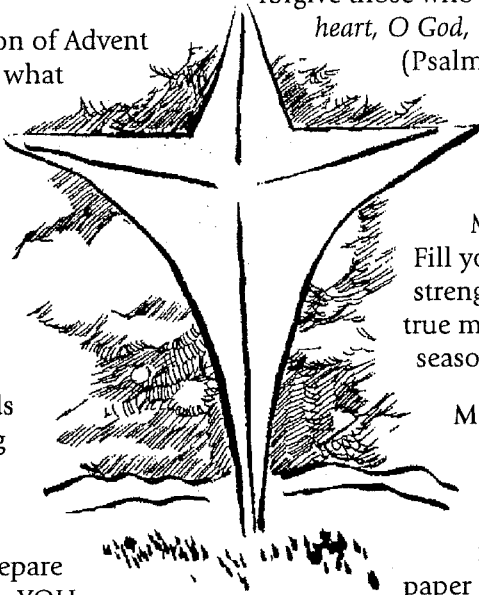
Break down barriers. Let go of anything that stands between you and your faith. Perhaps you have a bad habit or a companion who is a poor influence. Take this opportunity during Advent to make things right. Ridding yourself of opportunities for sin will help you be ready to greet the Savior when he comes.



Give gifts from the heart. Instead of buying gifts, give from your heart. If you're a good baker, make treats to share with others. If you sing or play an instrument, create CDs of your favorite songs for friends and family. Jesus showed us that the greatest of gifts come in the simplest form. Remember a gift given

with love is the best gift of all.

Clean house. Just as you would clean your home to prepare for an honored guest, clean your soul of sin through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Remember to forgive those who have hurt you, too. *"Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me" (Psalm 51:10, RSV).*



Decorate with special meaning.

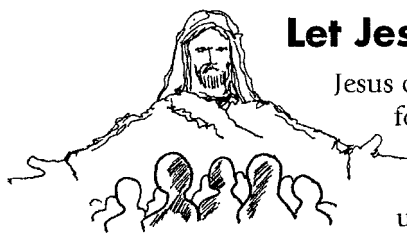
Make every decoration count this year. Fill your home with religious items that will strengthen your faith and remind you of the true meaning of the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Make your own. Look for sacred images of the season that touch your heart and turn them into decorations. One likely source is religious Christmas cards you receive. Even mounting one on colored paper and taping it on your desk or a wall can be a cheerful way to call Christ to mind.

Shine the Light. When you string lights or light Advent candles, let them be a reminder to you throughout the Advent and Christmas season to share the light of your faith with others through your words and actions.

Keep Life Evergreen. In his Angelus (Dec. 19, 2004), Pope John Paul II said that the evergreen fir is a symbol of undying life. *"The message of the Christmas tree is consequently that life stays 'evergreen' if we make a gift of it: not so much of material things but of life itself: in friendship and sincere affection, in fraternal help and forgiveness, in time shared and reciprocal listening."* Give the gift of friendship this season.

Bring your Nativity to life. Place the pieces in your scene at different times. Anticipate the coming of Jesus by keeping his bed empty until Christmas morning. Let the Magi arrive at the Epiphany and follow the Star by looking for signs of the Savior every day throughout the year.



Let Jesus find you.

Jesus came into the world for us. His birth, his death and his rising were meant to save us. He never left us and is looking for each of us. Make sure he can find you.

"Rejoice with me because I have found my lost sheep (Luke 15:6)."

Invite him in. This is the time to let God occupy a bigger place in your life but he is a gentleman and waits for an invitation. The problem is that we are often too preoccupied by everyday worries to invite him in. Start by ridding yourself of negative thoughts or worries that may take up too much mental energy and keep you from feeling God's love.

Seek him out. Jesus came to us humbly. Look at those in your community who have been humbled due to hardship and reach out with a smile or comforting word. God is in all of us and by showing our love to others, we show our love for God.

Visit him. Try to attend a weekday Mass. Don't miss Mass on the weekend. Spend time at a Perpetual Adoration Chapel or in the presence of our Lord outside of Mass. Take a pilgrimage to different churches to admire their nativity scenes.

Listen for him. Mother Teresa said, "In the silence of the heart God speaks. If you face God in prayer and silence, God will speak to you. Souls of prayer are souls of great silence." Look for ways to practice silence during Advent.

Make room in your "Inn."

When Mary and Joseph reached the inn, there was no room, not even for the King. During Advent, look for ways to make more room for our Savior in your life.

Make room in your prayers. Consider giving fewer gifts and offering spiritual bouquets instead. Use the time you save shopping and wrapping in prayer for the people on your list.

Make room in your mind. God is always with us but it is easier to find him during quiet times. Cut back on social engagements and entertaining. Limit activities other than work or volunteering. Schedule extra prayer time during the season and protect it on your calendar. Don't let anything come between you and God.

Make room in your heart. When they arrived in Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph had to rely on the kindness of strangers to provide them even the barest place to stay.

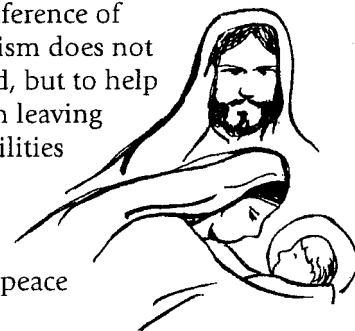
Imagine what it would be like to have no home at all this year. In honor of the Holy Family, seek out a homeless shelter in your area. Find out what the residents may need to help celebrate the coming of the Savior.

Or, call your parish rectory and find out if there is anyone in your parish who is struggling and in need of special attention during the holiday season. Do what you can to make someone else feel welcome at the "Inn."

Make room in your day. Instead of spending time watching television or on the computer, use the time to enrich your soul. Read scripture. Pray the Rosary. Pick up a good book.

Make room in your home. The holidays can be a lonely time without family or close friends. Look for someone at work or in your neighborhood who may not be connected and invite her to Mass, or to join in your Christmas celebration.

According to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, "Catholicism does not call us to abandon the world, but to help shape it. This does not mean leaving worldly tasks and responsibilities but transforming them." During Advent this year, try transforming your tasks to acts of prayer, penance, and peace to honor the coming Savior.



O Antiphons

On the last days of Advent, you can add these "O Antiphons" to your evening or bedtime prayers. Each one highlights a title for the Messiah and refers to the prophecy of Isaiah of the coming of the Messiah.

December 17

O Sapientia — O Wisdom of our God Most High, guiding creation with power and love: come to teach us the path of knowledge!

December 18

O Adonai — O Leader of the House of Israel, giver of the Law to Moses on Sinai: come to rescue us with your mighty power!

December 19

O Radix Jesse — O Root of Jesse's stem, sign of God's love for all his people: come to save us without delay!

December 20

O Clavis David — O Key of David, opening the gates of God's eternal Kingdom: come and free the prisoners of darkness!

December 21

O Oriens — O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come and shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22

O Rex Gentium — O King of all nations and keystone of the Church: come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!

December 23

O Emmanuel — O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!