

St. Mary's Church of Iowa City

December 3, 2006

	SCRIPTURE		MASSES	CALENDAR
Sunday December 3	Jer 33:14-16 1 Thes 3:12—4:2 Lk 21:25-28	8:00 9:30 11:00	Special Int.– Thanksgiving +John and Mary Maxwell Special Int.– Laura and Rich Smith +Richard Kron +Michael & Joseph Schnoebelen +Rick Gerard Parishioners	5 PM Advent Vespers 6-6:45 PM Children's Pageant Rehearsal
First Sunday of Advent				
Monday December 4	Is 2:1-5 Mt 8:5-11	12:10	+Robert Hora +Greg Krotz	6:30 PM Card Club 7:30 PM Widowed/Separated/Divorced in parish hall
Advent Weekday				
Tuesday December 5	Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24	12:10	+Jim Jr. and Jim Sr. Gibbs +Betty Fisher	7 PM Liturgy Commission 7-8:30 PM "Centering Prayer" session in the parish hall
Advent Weekday				
Wednesday December 6	Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37	12:10	Special Intention +Mr. and Mrs. John Yeggy	6-6:40 Children's Choir Rehearsal 6-7 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal 6 PM Family Life Commission
Advent Weekday				
Thursday December 7	Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21-24	12:10	+Florence Glasgow +Ken Kasper St. Ambrose	
		5:10	+Ed and Florence Chaloupka The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7 PM Holy Hour for Vocations
Friday December 8	Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 LK 1:26-38	12:10 7 PM	+Dorothy Cannon +Mary E. Kern Hoagland Parishioners	12:05 PM Angelus for Life 12:50 PM Prayer at Emma Goldman Clinic 5:30 PM Legion of Mary
The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary				
Saturday December 9	Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	5:10	Parishioners	9:30 AM Baptism Class in the office 10 AM-11:30 AM Sacrament of Penance
Second Sunday of Advent				
Sunday December 10	Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Lk 3:1-6	8:00 9:30 11:00	+Dottie E. Krause +Elwood Burlingame +Tom and Bob Finnegan Special Int.– Driscoll family +John Swenka +Bernice Kron	5 PM Advent Vespers 6-6:45 PM Children's Pageant Rehearsal
Second Sunday of Advent				

FAITH FOCUS QUESTION

What stumbling blocks keep me from being ready to meet the Lord, should He return today?

REST IN PEACE

We pray for the repose of the souls of Tom Alberhasky and Ray Scheetz. *May they be welcomed into everlasting life!*

BISHOP'S INSTALLATION COLLECTION

A sincere thank you to the people of St. Mary's who donated \$2,383.50 for Bishop Amos' installation! Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU

Our Thanksgiving Dinner was a great success! We served about 160 people. Among our guests were people from France, India, and Italy. A great time was had by everyone who participated. We are grateful to so many people who made this day possible: all those who donated turkeys; members of the Peace and Justice Commission for providing the mashed potatoes; those who brought salads, vegetables and pies to share; the people of St. Patrick's for the rolls and bread; and all of those who made monetary donations. Our volunteers were excellent. Many people set-up, served the meal, and remained for clean-up. Volunteers delivered meals and Jim Leu provided music during the dinner. This annual event happens because of the efforts of many people in Iowa City. On that day we fed many people, but we also experienced a community of loving and caring people.

Advent Evening Vespers

One of the great ways to enter into the season of Advent is to join with other members of our parish community for Advent Vespers. In our hectic, busy world, we need time for silence, reflection, and prayer. Advent Vespers (Evening Prayer) provides us the opportunity to do just that. Please join us each Sunday evening in Advent at 5 PM in the church as we lift up our hearts and minds to God in preparation for the coming of the Lord.

Children's Christmas Pageant

St. Mary's will have the Children's Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 24th, at 5:10 PM. If you have any children that are interested in participating, please come to our first rehearsal on Sunday, December 3rd, at 6 PM, in the church.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Next weekend is the annual collection for the retired members of religious congregations of both men and women. The people of St. Mary's have been generous in the past. Your generosity is very much appreciated. Envelopes are in your packets.

An allegation of sexual abuse has been made against Msgr. Karl Meinberg, who was pastor here at St. Mary's from 1940-1967. If you, or someone you know, was sexually abused by Msgr. Meinberg, or anyone else, please contact Father Ken at the parish office (337-4314) or Alicia Owens at the Diocese of Davenport (563-349-5002).

Holy Hour for Vocations

St. Mary's will have a Holy Hour for Vocations this Thursday, December 7th, at 7 PM in the church.

This Friday, December 8th, we celebrate The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

This special day is a Holy Day of Obligation.

CITY-WIDE MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY**Thursday, December 7th (VIGIL)**

St. Mary's	5:10 PM
Newman Center	5:15 PM
St. Wenceslaus	5:30 PM

Friday, December 8th

St. Wenceslaus	7 AM 5:30 PM
St. Patrick's	8:30 AM & 5:30 PM
St. Thomas More	9 AM & 6 PM
St. Mary's	12:10 PM & 7 PM
Newman Center	5:15 PM

St Mary's Scrip

This holiday season you can avoid parking hassles and long lines by buying scrip certificates from St. Mary's. Nearly two hundred local and national stores covering a broad spectrum of gift ideas. And now you can earn an even more for us as many vendors have increased their rebate.

Pick up an order form in the vestibule or the scrip table to see the complete list of vendors. The last day to order scrip will be December 10th (available on the 17th) There will be no scrip sales on the 24th or 31st.

REGINA HAPPENINGS

St. Nicholas Market

The 3rd Annual St. Nicholas Market is approaching fast. We need you! If you are interested in participating as an exhibitor for this wonderful event, please call Cindy at 358-2455. The event itself is Sunday, December 10th, from 8 AM to 2 PM in the new cafeteria. There will also be breakfast with Santa!

The Pension Protection Act of 2006

The Pension Protection Act of 2006, signed into law on August 17th, touches in various ways on aspects and types of retirement arrangements, including IRA's, 403(b) plans and 457 plans. One stipulation of the law makes it easier and more tax-effective for donors to use IRA's to fund lifetime charitable gifts. The Catholic Community Foundation is hosting an interactive public panel discussion on the Pension Protection Act on Sunday, December 3rd, at 2 PM at Regina in the new cafeteria. Panelists will include an attorney, an enrollment agent, and a CPA.

HAPPENINGS ELSEWHERE...

The Catholic Daughters of America Court Craigie #94 will celebrate their 98th anniversary on December 3rd, at 12:30 PM at St. Wenceslaus parish hall. There will be a potluck luncheon with entertainment to follow. All Catholic women are invited and are welcome to join this national Catholic women's organization.

Follow the bells to the market! Festive cookies, the new 1st Presbyterian Church Cookbook, alternative gifts that benefit causes locally and elsewhere—you'll find them all at the annual Cookie Walk and Mini Bazaar and Alternative Gift Market on Saturday, December 9th, from 9-11:30 AM, at the 1st Presbyterian Church on Rochester Avenue. The Alternative Gift Market will also be available on Sundays December 3rd, 10th, and 17th, from 9 AM to noon. Come do some of your holiday shopping with us.

There will be a Soup Supper, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus of the Cluster Parishes of Riverside, Richmond, and Wellman, on Friday, December 15th, during the Mid-Prairie vs. Regina Girls/Boys Basketball games. They will be serving from 5-8 PM. The cost is \$5 per person.

ST. MARY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Torie Hefel – Chairperson
 Kevin Mellen – Chairperson Elect
 Karla Peiffer – Secretary

PASTORAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Jane Doucette – Family Life
 Judy McPartland – Peace & Justice
 Marty Shafer – Liturgy
 Torie Hefel – Christian Formation
 Kevin Mellen – Property Management
 Mary Loops – Fellowship & Communications
 Megan Myers – Youth
 Jean Harney and Karla Peiffer – At-Large

ST. MARY'S FINANCE COUNCIL

Anne Hargrave (Lay Director)
 Vince Maurer
 John Maxwell (Lay Director)
 Mike Pugh

THE ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY

Anna Stranieri – President

EDUCATION**Regina Catholic Education Center:**

Ray Pechous – High School Principal, 338-5436
 Celeste Vincent – Elementary Principal, 337-5739
 Sr. Mary Frances Michalec, ND, Religious Education
 Director, 351-7638
 Alan Opheim – Regina Business Office, 337-2580
 April Rouner – Executive Director of the Catholic Community
 Foundation, 354-5866

Regina Board of Education Representatives:

John Gilroy, Rick Larew, Patrice Carroll

DIRECTOR OF EVANGELIZATION & STEWARDSHIP

Sr. Laura Goedken, OP, 338-0939

LAST WEEK'S FINANCES

November 26th, 2006

Envelopes	\$ 10,807.00
Offertory (loose cash)	\$ 1,012.00
Total	\$ 11,819.00
Amount needed each week:	\$ 16,800.00
Amount received last week:	\$ 11,819.00
UNDER budget:	\$ 4,981.00
Amount needed year to date:	\$ 369,600.00
Amount received to date:	\$ 377,005.00
OVER budget:	\$ +7,405.00
Number of envelopes used last week: 323 (out of 1700)	
Average per envelope: \$33.45	
Stewardship of Treasure Goal: 5% GIVEN IN GRATITUDE	

Choose Life Prayer – We pray when making choices involving another's life or death, we may always be aware that we will be held accountable for our choices.

Vocation View– The Lord is near! Am I able to read the signs of the times? What is God asking of me?
 (Luke 21:25-36)