

# St. Mary's Church of Iowa City

December 17, 2006

	SCRIPTURE	MASSES	CALENDAR
Sunday December 17	Zep 3:14-18a Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18	8:00 +Caroline Simon +Ralph Neppel +Lavina Miller 9:30 +Louise Miller McMullen +Shirley Rocca 11:00 +Deceased members of the Altar and Rosary Society <b>Third Sunday of Advent</b>	Pantry Sunday 2 PM Vietnamese Mass 2 PM Communal Penance at St. Patrick's 5 PM Advent Vespers 5:45-6:30 PM Children's Pageant Rehearsal
Monday December 18	Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25	12:10 +Betty Fisher +Cyril Osweiler +Joe and Betty Chudacek <b>Advent Weekday</b>	7 PM Communal Penance at St. Thomas More 7:30 PM Widowed/Separated/Divorced
Tuesday December 19	Jgs 13:2-7, 34-25a Lk 1:5-25	12:10 +Cindy Cash +Regina Aschenbrenner <b>Advent Weekday</b>	7 PM Communal Penance at St. Wenceslaus
Wednesday December 20	Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38	12:10 +Maxine Lipsius +Robert Hora <b>Advent Weekday</b>	6 PM Family Life 6-6:40 Children's Choir Rehearsal 6-7 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal
Thursday December 21	Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45	12:10 Special Intention-anonymous Special Int.- Kayla Scherrer <b>Advent Weekday</b>	
Friday December 22	1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56	12:10 +John O'Neill +Abby Hoffman <b>Advent Weekday</b>	12:05 PM Angelus for Life 12:50 PM Prayer at Emma Goldman Clinic 5:30 PM Legion of Mary
Saturday December 23	Mic 5:1-4a Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-45	5:10 Parishioners <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b>	10-11:30 AM Sacrament of Penance
Sunday December 24	Mic 5:1-4a Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-45  Lk 2:1-14  Is 9:1-6 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14	8:00 +Frank Donchez 9:30 +Mary Soukup +Stella Kuebrich 11:00 +Maymie Schmidt <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> 5:10 PM +David Roskup (church) +Dottie Krause (church) Parishioners (parish hall) 11:00 PM +Vincent Harney +Loyle Mueller <b>Christmas Eve</b>	
Monday December 25	Is 62:11-12 Ti 3:4-7 Lk 2:15-20  Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18	8:30 +Rex Fleming 10:00 +Charlotte K. Fisk Thompson +Dick Miller 2 PM Vietnamese Mass <b>Christmas Day</b>	10-11:30 AM Sacrament of Penance

**FAITH FOCUS QUESTION**

How can I be welcoming and friendly to another person who might be considered different or shy this week?

**REST IN PEACE**

We pray for the repose of the soul of Lyle Donohoe.  
*May he be welcomed into everlasting life!*

**Advent Evening Vespers**

Please join us this 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.

**REMINDER TO LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

It's not too late to sign-up to receive your liturgical ministers schedule by email! If you are interested, please call the parish office (337-4314) or email us at [icstmary@icstmary.org](mailto:icstmary@icstmary.org).

**Year End Gifts to St. Mary's Parish**

As the year 2006 comes to an end, so does the opportunity to take advantage of charitable deductions for the calendar year. Donating cash, stocks or other securities to St. Mary's Parish may help reduce your capital gains tax or provide a tax deduction. All charitable gifts for 2006 should be received by December 31st, 2006. According to the IRS, any gifts received on January 1st, 2007 or later cannot be "back dated" to count for 2006. All gifts must be recorded in the calendar year received. Thank you!

**SEATING FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES**

People attending the 5:10 PM Christmas Eve Mass and the 11 PM Christmas Mass in the Night sometimes arrive early and reserve pews for family members and friends. Other people, who come later, are then told that they cannot sit in the "reserved" pews. Obviously, this creates some tension! ☺ The Liturgy Commission has decided that seats may be reserved until 30 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass. At 4:40 PM and 10:30 PM an announcement will be made that open seating is now available. What this means is: If you are planning to reserve a seat for someone else, they must arrive 30 minutes before Mass begins. Hopefully, this will alleviate any seating problems in the future.

**INCENSE NOTICE**

Incense will be used at the following Masses:

- Christmas Mass in the Night (11 PM)
- Christmas morning (8:30 AM and 10 AM)
- Solemnity of the Epiphany

**St. Anthony's Bread**

Reach Touch Care Share

St. Anthony's Bread assisted more than 500 separate families and individuals in 2006. We are humbled by the great need in our community, and by the greater generosity of the St. Mary's Church family and others. In November, 32 households received rent or utility assistance. We paid a month's storage fee for a woman at DVIP, made partial payments for eyeglasses, gently used beds, and car repairs. In December, we will also collaborate with the Crisis Center, VNA, and Salvation Army to provide support for Project Holiday. Your compassionate concern inspires us and we are very grateful. Thank you. May the blessings of this Holy Season and St. Anthony be with you and your family.

*Be a Friend to the Poor*

**Office Hours**

St. Mary's Parish Office will have limited hours the week of December 25th-January 1st.

**REGINA HAPPENINGS**

**Regina Elementary School's AM/PM Program is accepting applications** for an after school child care aide beginning in January. Application forms may be obtained from the school office. The work schedule is from 3 PM until 5:30 PM on school day afternoons, except Thursdays which is from 2 PM to 5:30 PM. Call 337-5739 for more information.

**Thank you for collecting Campbell's, Tyson Chicken, and Box Top labels for Regina!** Please clip and turn in UPCs off Campbell's products. A complete listing of products included in the Campbell's Labels for Education Program can be found at [www.labelsforeducation.com](http://www.labelsforeducation.com), or you can give Vicki a call at 354-5954.

## **HAPPENINGS ELSEWHERE...**

**The Free Lunch Program will once again serve a special holiday meal** at noon on Christmas Day. We would appreciate donations of baked hams and turkeys. Also, 20 people are needed to help in the kitchen in 1-1/2 hour shifts from 9:30 AM to 2 PM. Having 2-3 people provide some holiday music would be nice, too! If you would like to help, please contact Mary Palmberg (palmberg@avalon.net or 337-7917) by December 15th. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

**Faith Formation Workshop:** Please read the bulletin insert this week about the Faith Formation Workshop to be held on Sunday, January 7th, from 4:30-6:45 PM, at Regina. The theme is tying Scripture and Tradition together. It will be given by a dynamic speaker, Sr. Tina Geiger, RSM, from Renew International. There is no cost. Registration by December 20th is needed.

### **14th Annual Iowa Institute for Social Action January 14th-15th, 2007 Our Lady's Immaculate Heart in Ankeny**

This is a social action conference sponsored by The Iowa Catholic Conference and all of the dioceses in Iowa. St. Mary's Peace and Justice Commission is offering to reimburse part of the expenses for up to six parishioners to attend. More information on the conference and registration materials are available at [www.iowasocialaction.org](http://www.iowasocialaction.org). Contact Kathy Maxwell from our Peace and Justice Commission about reimbursement: [squirt5@mchsi.com](mailto:squirt5@mchsi.com). Please include "Peace and Justice Commission" in the subject line.

**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**

December 10th, 2006

Envelopes	\$	16,935.00
Offertory (loose cash)	\$	920.00
Electronic Funds Transfer	\$	3,701.00
Total	\$	21,556.00
Amount needed each week:	\$	16,800.00
Amount received last week:	\$	21,556.00
<b>OVER</b> budget:	\$	4,756.00
Amount needed year to date:	\$	403,200.00
Amount received to date:	\$	427,532.00
<b>OVER</b> budget:	\$	+25,332.00
Number of envelopes used last week: 413 (out of 1700)		
Average per envelope: \$49.96		
Stewardship of Treasure Goal: 5% GIVEN IN GRATITUDE		

**Thoughts on Stewardship**

John the Baptist was called to herald the Lord's coming. What is God calling us to do, and are we answering that call?

**Choose Life Prayer** – We pray that we may not let the cares and anxieties of everyday cloud our vision of right and wrong.

**Vocation View**– Doing ordinary things extraordinarily well is a step toward welcoming Jesus.