

# St. Mary's Church of Iowa City

December 9, 2007

## SCRIPTURE

## MASSES

## CALENDAR

Sunday December 9	Is 11:1-10 Rom 15:4-9 Mt 3:1-12	8:00 9:30 11:00	Parishioners +Charlotte K. Fisk Thompson +Maxine Bowman Hotka +Leon Lind +Deceased members of the Altar and Rosary Society +Mary Gannon <b>The Second Sunday of Advent</b>	5 PM Vespers and anointing of the Catechumens (church) 5:45PM Children's Pageant rehearsal (church) 5:45PM Strings rehearsal (parish hall) 7 PM Confirmation class
Monday December 10	Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26	12:10	Special Intention (anonymous) +Clementine Strabala +Wayne Chadima <b>Advent Weekday</b>	5 PM Property Management Commission 7:30 PM Widowed/Separated/Divorced
Tuesday December 11	Is 40:1-11 Mt 18:12-14	12:10	+Dave Cahill +Tom and Bob Finnegan <b>Advent Weekday</b>	6 PM Family Life Commission 6:30 PM Catholic Daughters of America meeting (hall)
Wednesday December 12	Zec 2:14-17 Lk 1:26-38	12:10	+Lyle Donohoe +Loretta O'Brien <b>Our Lady of Guadalupe</b>	6-6:40 PM Children's Choir practice 6-7 PM Choir practice 7 PM 1st Reconciliation make-up class
Thursday December 13	Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15	12:10	+Betty Fisher +Dwayne Schneider +Velma Waldschmidt <b>St. Lucy</b>	5:15 PM Catholic Ministries Commission (hall)
Friday December 14	Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19	12:10	+John Swenka +Dean and Virginia Lamansky <b>St. John of the Cross</b>	12:05 PM Angelus for Life 12:50 PM Prayer at Emma Goldman Clinic 5:00 PM Legion of Mary
Saturday December 15	Is 35:1-6a, 10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11	5:10	+Shirley Rocca +Howard Villhauer <b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b>	10 AM-11:30 AM Sacrament of Reconciliation
Sunday December 16	Is 35:1-6a, 10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11	8:00 9:30 11:00	+Cleone Fay +Frank Donchez Special Intention (anonymous) +Clementine Strabala +Holy Souls in Purgatory Purgatory <b>The Third Sunday of Advent</b>	Pantry Sunday 5 PM Vespers 5:45PM Children's Pageant rehearsal (church) 5:45PM Strings rehearsal (parish hall)

**FAITH FOCUS QUESTION**

How can I treat my friends so that they come to know Jesus better?

**REST IN PEACE**

*We pray for the repose of the soul of Carrie Lewis, mother of Erv. May she rest in peace!*

**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 of Advent at 5 PM in the church as we lift up our hearts in preparation for the coming of the Lord.

**Stewardship Gifts of Talent**

Thank you to Tony Wissink for helping with the office computers, replacing the batteries in the smoke alarms, fixing the fence in the parking lot, and completing lots of odds and ends jobs!

**THANK YOU!**

An enormous thank you to the youth and adults who helped replace the missals in the pews! A two or three hour job took only 1/2 an hour! God bless you for your good works!

**Free Lunch Thank You!**

We want to say "thank you" to Lynda Olson for coordinating the team of free lunch servers for St. Mary's every month. Her work was much appreciated. Now, we say "thank you" to Chris Lenane for saying "yes" to taking over Lynda's role in serving free lunch for St. Mary's.

**1,000 Pairs of Socks**

The Peace and Justice Commission challenges you and your family to purchase one pair of socks for every member of your family to donate to the Tutweiler Medical Clinic in Mississippi. We are hoping to collect over 1,000 pairs of socks! Donation baskets will be placed in the main vestibule of the church for your donations on each of the Sundays of Advent.

**With the cold and flu season approaching, please be respectful of those who may not want to shake or hold hands during the liturgy.**

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

As the year 2007 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 2007 should be received by December 31st, 2007. According to the IRS, any gifts received on January 1st, 2008 or later cannot be "back dated" to count for 2007. All gifts must be recorded in the calendar year received. Thank you!

**St. Mary's Scrip News**

This year, buy the present that gives twice! When you purchase certificates from the scrip program, you receive a gift card equal to the price you paid, AND St. Mary's earns cash rebates. You can get all your Christmas shopping completed with just one stop at our scrip table. We now have Wal-Mart cards available in \$25 or \$100 denominations.

Hy-Vee shoppers—please remember to have plenty of Hy-Vee coupon books on hand. In addition to the a five dollar coupon redeemable with a \$50 purchase, there are 60 other coupons worth over \$80. These coupons can be used at any local Hy-Vee and are good through June 2008. St. Mary's makes \$4 for every book sold!

**Catholic Daughters of America**

The Catholic Daughters will meet on December 11th, at St. Mary's parish hall for their monthly meeting and potluck at 6:30 PM A rosary will be recited at 6:15 PM. All Catholic women over the age of 18 are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**First Reconciliation Make-Up Class**

If you missed the last class for First Reconciliation preparation, you may make-up that class on Wednesday, December 12th, at 7 PM in the hall.

**Cookie Baking for the Homebound!**

**Saturday, December 22nd, 8 AM to noon  
St. Mary's Parish Hall**

All youth are invited to bring cookie cutters as well as decorations for the cookies! Sr. High Youth as well as adults: We are in need of drivers to deliver our cookies to our homebound parishioners. If you are able to help, please let Patti know beforehand at 337-4314 and be at St. Mary's parish hall around 11 AM on December 22nd. Thank you!

## **HAPPENINGS ELSEWHERE**

### **The Crisis Center Food Bank Needs Your Help!**

Due to increased demands on Food Bank resources, it has been challenging to address the rising need for basic essentials like food and diapers. At the current rate, the Food Bank will run out of diapers before the end of the year and the food shelves are nearly bare. The Food Bank regularly distributes to over 700 households per week with 80% of the food donated by local individuals, groups, and businesses. The Crisis Center hopes that while shopping for holiday groceries, you will purchase extra food items and diapers for those less fortunate and drop them off at the Crisis Center. Community members are also encouraged to make a monetary donation to the Crisis Center, to assist in providing the most basic items to families in need.

The Crisis Center has been helping residents of Johnson County over 37 years! It continues to respond immediately, effectively, and compassionately to those in need of assistance. We depend on the generosity of area individuals and businesses to continue its efforts in providing services to those who need it most. The Crisis Center is located at 1121 Gilbert Court in Iowa City. Donations can be taken from 8 AM-5 PM, Monday through Friday. For more information, please contact Dayna at 351-2726.

### **Shop to a Different Drummer**

Instead of heeding the call of the mall for all your holiday shopping this season, come shop at the Alternative Gift Market at the First Presbyterian Church on Rochester Avenue in Iowa City. Donate to local and international projects as gifts to family and friends! Market hours are from 9:30 AM to noon on Sunday, December 9th and 16th.

### **St. Bridget's Bridge Band Monday, December 10th, at 11:30 AM Elks Club**

Bridge players of all ages and skill levels are welcome join us!

**ST. MARY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL**

Kevin Mellen – Chairperson  
 Marty Shafer – Chairperson Elect  
 Karla Peiffer – Secretary

**PASTORAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES**

Jane Doucette – Family Life  
 Ann Elsbecker – Peace & Justice  
 Marty Shafer – Liturgy  
 Randy Hefel – Christian Formation  
 Kevin Mellen – Property Management  
 Mary Loops – Fellowship & Communications  
 Cathy Sharp - Evangelization & Stewardship  
 Megan Myers – Youth

**ST. MARY'S FINANCE COUNCIL**

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

**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:**

Rick Larew, Patrice Carroll, and Greg Williams

**DIRECTOR OF EVANGELIZATION & STEWARDSHIP**

Sr. Laura Goedken, OP, 338-0939

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

December 2nd, 2007

Envelopes	\$ 11,897.00
Offertory (loose cash)	\$ 878.00
Electronic Funds Transfer	\$ .00
Children's Envelopes	\$ 14.00
Total	\$ 12,789.00
Amount needed each week:	\$ 18,500.00
Amount received last week:	\$ 12,789.00
<b>UNDER</b> budget:	\$ 5,711.00
Amount needed year to date:	\$425,500.00
Amount received to date:	\$417,086.00
<b>UNDER</b> budget:	\$ 8,414.00

Stewardship of Treasure Goal: 5% GIVEN IN  
 GRATITUDE

**Thoughts on Stewardship**

Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or do you spend your time, talent, and treasure acquiring more toys, clutter, and junk? Now might be a good time to evaluate what gifts we give to God.

**Choose Life Prayer** – We pray that we may recognize humanity of each person, especially those whose age and fragile condition leave them vulnerable to euthanasia.

**Vocation View** – Who will herald Christ in our world? Consider becoming a priest, brother, or sister.