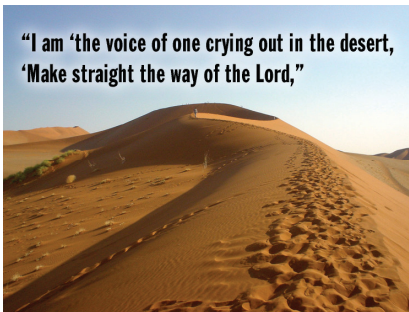


Third Sunday of Advent





MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, December 18

7:00 am Communion Service ([Holy Family](#))

Tuesday, December 19

5:00 pm Marie Ryan by Greg & Evelyn Fitzpatrick ([Holy Family](#))
[followed with Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena]

7:00 pm Advent Reconciliation Service for all four parishes. ([Holy Family](#))

Wednesday, December 20

7:00 am Fred Eckert by Jerry & Sally Cecil ([Holy Family](#))

8:30 am No Mass Today ([Holy Family](#))

Thursday, December 21-St. Peter Canisius

7:00 am Clarence "Jack" Ackerson by Crystal Tibbs ([Holy Family](#))

12 Noon Recitation of the Rosary ([Holy Family](#))

2-5:30 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament [with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament] ([Holy Family](#))

5:30 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet Meditation with Benediction following ([Holy Family](#))

Friday, December 22

7:00 am Peter Grant by Phil & Sue Gillen ([Holy Family](#))

Saturday, December 23-St. John of Kanty

4:00 pm William "Bill" Wurth by Leo & Patricia Hermes ([Holy Family](#))

4:00 pm All Souls ([St. Patrick's](#))

5:00 pm In Thanksgiving [Wedding Anniversary of Paul & Vicki Eckert] ([St. Mary's](#))

5:30 pm Duane Jarnagin by Mom ([St. Thomas Aquinas](#))

Sunday, December 24-4th Sunday of Advent - Vigil of Christmas

8:00 am Francis & Shirley Marsh by Their Children ([Holy Family](#))

Vigil Masses for Christmas (Holy Day of Obligation)

4:00 pm Jack LaMothe & Joseph Krusz by Nancy Krusz ([Holy Family](#))

4:00 pm Richard "Slip" Gleason by the Bagaglio Family ([St. Patrick's](#))

6:00 pm Living & Deceased Members of the Westerfield Family by Dorothy Westerfield ([St. Mary's](#))

7:30 pm Rosemary Trauner by the Trauner Family ([St. Thomas Aquinas](#))

9:00 pm Jason Langenbahn by Mom & Dad ([Holy Family](#))

Monday, December 25-The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

9:00 am All Souls ([Holy Family](#))

NOTE: Reconciliation at [Holy Family Church](#), Lincoln, is held each Tuesday from 4:30-4:55 pm and each Saturday from 2:45-3:30 pm.

Reconciliation at [St. Mary's Church](#), Atlanta, is held prior to the 9 am Sunday Mass.

Reconciliation at [St. Patrick's Church](#), Elkhart, is held each Saturday from 3:15-3:45 pm.

Reconciliation at [St. Thomas Aquinas Church](#), Mt. Pulaski, is held prior to the 10:30 am Sunday Mass.

Based on the availability of clergy, this schedule is subject to change. Please check the parish calendar on the website for any changes or additions.

3rd Sunday of Advent Cycle B

All of the people in today's readings — the prophet Isaiah, the Virgin Mary, St. Paul, St. John the Baptist — seemed to understand clearly and rejoice in what God was calling them to be and to do. Do I?

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

Monday, December 18

Jeremiah 23:5-8 / Psalm 72:1-2,12-13,18-19 / Matthew 1:18-25

Tuesday, December 19

Judges 13:2-7,24-25 / Psalm 71:3-6,16-17 / Luke 1:5-25

Wednesday, December 20

Isaiah 7:10-14 / Psalm 24:1-6 / Luke 1:26-38

Thursday, December 21

Song of Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah 3:14-18 / Psalm 33:2-3,11-12,20-21 / Luke 1:39-45

Friday, December 22

1 Samuel 1:24-28 / 1 Samuel 2:1,4-8 / Luke 1:46-56

Saturday, December 23

Malachi 3:1-4,23-24 / Psalm 25:4-5,8-10,14 / Luke 1:57-66

Sunday, December 24

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16 / Psalm 89:2-5,27,29 / Romans 16:25-27 / Luke 1:26-38

**NOTE: The JANUARY 1
Feast Day of the Solemnity
of Mary, The Holy Mother
of God is NOT a Holy Day of
Obligation this year.**

Offering Mass Intentions

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is our greatest prayer. If you are interested in having a Mass celebrated please call the parish office at (217) 732-4019.

ST. MARY'S, ATLANTA

~Ministry Schedule for Saturday, December

23: Reader-Laura O'Donnell; Servers-Alexis Finchum & Zachary O'Donnell; Greeters & Gift Bearers-Tim & Laura O'Donnell

~Ministry Schedule for Sunday, December 24:

Reader-Laura O'Donnell; Servers-Andrew O'Donnell & Nicholas O'Donnell; Greeters & Gift Bearers-Gene & Cathy Cisco

~**Cleaning/Coffee & Donuts Committee** for December Pat & Ken Conlin, Sherian McGuire, Becky Schmidt, Katie & Laura Smock / January Marcia Pipp, John & Rose Hamlin and Rosalee & Gail Hamblin.

ST. PATRICK'S, ELKHART

~**Coffee & Donuts** will be held on **Sunday, December 31**, after the 8:30 am Mass.

~**Cleaning Schedule:** December 31 Karen Bender and Phil & Linda Koeberlein / January 14 Janet & Steve Allen. Please clean the week before the Sunday you are assigned.

~**Parish Christmas Party** will be held **this Sunday, December 17**. The church will be decorated after the 8:30 am Mass and our "Christmas Brunch" will immediately follow. Each family is asked to bring a breakfast dish and/or breakfast pastry. Meat and drinks will be provided.

ST. THOMAS AQUINAS, MT. PULASKI

~**Next Coffee & Donuts** will take place on **Sunday, January 7** after the 10:30 am Mass.



MAKE YOUR ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Note in the Weekly Mass schedule, there is an Advent Reconciliation scheduled for all four parishes, to take place **this Tuesday, December 19**, at 7 pm in Holy Family Church. Please find the Examination of Conscience for Adults sheet printed on the next to last page of this bulletin for your use before confession. If you are unable to attend at this time, other times are listed in the context of the "Weekly Masses for this Week" schedule on the previous page of this bulletin. If you are unable to make any of these times, please call the Parish Office at (217) 732-4019 for an appointment.

CHRISTMAS GIVING FOR OUR PRIESTS

If you wish to give a monetary Christmas donation to one or more of our priests, you must mark your donation specifically for them. If you give cash, please put your gift in a separate envelope marked with the individual priest's name on it or if you wish to give a check, make out the check for each individual priest. Any donation, unless marked specifically to go to one or more of the priests, will go into the regular collection.

IN THANKSGIVING FOR THE BLESSINGS WE HAVE RECEIVED—"GIVING BACK" IDEAS DURING THIS SPECIAL TIME OF YEAR!

*Holy Family Food Pantry

*Love Repeated

(Aid to the Rulenge-Ngara
Diocese of Tanzania, East Africa)

*Carroll Catholic School

*Carroll Catholic PIE Chart Items

*Diocesan Annual Development Appeal

*Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA

*Holy Family Capital Campaign

*Holy Family Building Fund

*St. Mary's Cemetery

*Holy Cross Cemetery

*St. Mary's Building Fund

*St. Patrick's Building Fund

*St. Thomas Aquinas Building Fund

*Dominican Sisters of Springfield, IL

*Landstuhl Hospital Care Project

(supports the wounded warriors at Landstuhl
Medical Center and in the USA)

*Phone Cards for the Troops

*Angel Tree

(placed in each of our four parish Churches)

*Rotary Foundation

*Coffee/PJ's for the Deployed Troops

Coffee/PJ's for the deployed troops can be dropped off at the parish office (316 South Logan Street, Lincoln) during regular business hours (Monday-Thursday 8 am-4 pm).

Listed above are just a few suggestions for Thanksgiving/Advent charity giving. There are many other good charitable organizations that will benefit from your donations. Whatever organization you choose to support, know that you are helping to make the world a better place. If you have any questions about any of the mentioned charities, please call the parish office (217) 732-4019.

Donations of cash or checks are accepted.

Please make your check payable to Holy Family or St. Mary's or St. Patrick's or St. Thomas Aquinas or Carroll Catholic School and indicate, in the memo line, what charity you would like your donation(s) sent.

PLAN AHEAD SPECIAL BULLETIN DEADLINES

- 1) The announcement deadline for the December 24th bulletin will be by **6 am this Monday, December 18.**
- 2) The announcement deadline for the combined December 31, 2017 & January 7, 2018 bulletin will be by **12 Noon on Thursday, December 21.**



PARISH HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS



Monday, December 25	Office Closed
Tuesday, December 26	Office Closed
Wednesday, December 27	Open 9 am to 12 Noon
Thursday, December 28	Open 9 am to 12 Noon
Friday, December 29	Office Closed
Monday, January 1	Office Closed
Tuesday, January 2	Office Closed
Wednesday, January 3	Regular Hours 8 am-4 pm

The Parish Office is closed every Friday on a regular basis.



DONATION/TAX CREDIT OPPORTUNITY

The State of Illinois passed the Invest in Kids Act, which includes a five-year program for tax credit scholarships for parochial and

private schools. Your support of Carroll Catholic School through this program not only offers students a greater opportunity to receive a quality, Catholic education, but provides you with a 75% state tax credit for your donation. Information about the program and how you and Carroll School benefit can be found at www.carrollcatholicschool.com.

Parishioners of Holy Family, if you are not already a part of this ministry, are asked to consider becoming a greeter and/or usher at the Masses. Call the Parish Office if you are interested.



FAMILY LUNCHEON

Parishioners, and families from all four parishes are invited to come to the Family Luncheon to be held on **Thursday, January 11**, in the Carroll Catholic School cafeteria with lunch beginning at

11:45 am. No fee required, but donations will be accepted.



"Feed the Hungry . . ."

The Holy Family Food Pantry is asking that you bring with you to Mass, each Sunday, a food staple (fruit, macaroni & cheese, vegetable, soup, cereal, etc.) to help replenish the pantry shelves. For Holy Family there is a shopping cart located to the right in the main entrance, for St. Mary's a box is provided in the gathering area, St. Patrick's and St. Thomas Aquinas items may be left in the main entrance. Thank you for all your past support.



BEST ADVENT EVER is a free email program from Dynamic Catholic. It is something we can all use during this time of year to help us slow down and focus on what matters most during this busy season. It helps us experience Advent in a way we have never experienced it before - leading us to experience Christmas in a new way.

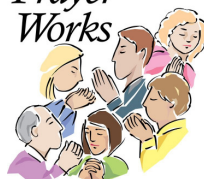
1. You can experience the Best Advent Ever program by going to this link: https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever/#sign_up_section and signing up.
2. Starting off, you will receive daily emails with short inspirational videos, practical tips to incorporate into your everyday life, and personal stories from Dynamic Catholic team members.
3. Throughout Advent, participants will discover how to slow down and find joy in preparing for Christmas.

Is Christ calling you to serve Him in others as a sister, brother or priest? Call Father Tim Hepner at (309) 671-1550 or email fr_hepner@dcop.org.



St. John Vianney, patron of priests, pray for our priests.

Prayer Works



The more people praying for an intention, the stronger the prayer becomes.

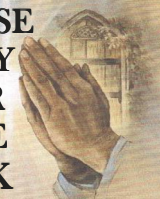
Prayer Chain

Request prayers by sending an email to lcc4-prayer-chain@googlegroups.com. If you would like to subscribe to the prayer chain, follow the "Join Prayer Chain" link located on www.logancountycatholic.org. When your web browser opens click on "Subscribe to this group" option, then follow the instructions in the pop-up box. You should receive an email within 48 hours that indicates you have been accepted as a member of the prayer chain.

Remember the following in your prayers:

Anne Lowry, Anna Beckers, Les Jarnagin, Steve Coogan, Mike Lowry, Paul Lowry, Gay (Ruble) Conder, Matthew Lowry, Elijah Cox, Harriett Richardson, Guinevere Decker, Laura Saladino, Joan Lewis, Boone O'Donoghue, Ruth Young, David Olson, Rodney Alberts, Jill Alberts, Jan Loeffelholz, Linda Wright, Ben Velasco, Steve Schmidt, Ryan Butler, Donna Burr, Paula Rutherford, James Thean, Gavin Fox, Greg Patterson, Kevin McCrary, Joe Bell, Mark VanRheeden, Rita Johnson, Diana Brown, Louise Cardoni, Nicole Bottrell, Adelyn Jones, McKayla Nye, Judy Morrow, Gavin Shuler, Phillip Brown, Christina Clementz, Mike Kavanaugh, E. J. Miley, Howard Sheley, Bud & Rosie Huber, Gene Giehl, Linda H., Mark L. and all the members of the armed forces of our country. If you would like to add a name to the list, call the Parish Office at (217) 732-4019 or email mklohrenz@logancountycatholic.org

**PLEASE
PRAY
FOR
THE
SICK**



Need a Christmas gift idea? St. Thomas Aquinas Cookbooks are available for \$15 each and loaded with recipes collected from all of our Logan County Parishes. Cookbooks can be purchased at the Logan County Parish Office or by contacting Jennifer at 871-5302 or Jeanie at 792-5966.

The sanctuary candle on the altar at . . .

Holy Family Church is lit this week

In Memory of Christina Schmidt Godby
requested by Dad & Clare.

**The blue candle at the foot of the
Blessed Virgin Mary statue at . . .**

Holy Family Church is lit this week

In Memory of Katherine Gehrke
requested by Todd & Georgia Lowman.



Dynamic Catholic Parish Program Gift for
December: New Testament Bible, Revised Standard
Version – Catholic Edition (Paperback)

Do you want to get to know Jesus? Do you wish
you could hear the voice of God and find some peace
in your busy life? Read the New Testament! Spending
even just a few minutes a day with the Word of God
can make a big difference. And it's even more
powerful when you use a version that reads like an
engaging novel—like the New Testament Bible from
Dynamic Catholic. With a single-column format and no
distracting notes in the margins, this Bible is easy to
read and hard to put down.

**HURRY, YOUR TIME
IS ALMOST UP!!!**

Check~In Travel

**Certified Caribbean
& Disney Specialist**

My name is Britta Langley. I work full time for an insurance
company and I am an independent travel agent out of my
home. I grew up in Lincoln attending Carroll School (Go
Crusaders!) and Lincoln High School (Go Railers!). My
husband and I now live in Hartsburg. I have three
daughters, two of whom attend Hartem High (Go Stags!),
and the other is a teachers' aide and assistant coach there.
I am very proud to say I have been a member of Holy
Family Church my entire life, and my husband and I were
married there. In thinking of how to give back to my church
family, here's what I'd like to do: for all of 2017 [your time is
almost up], for every trip you book with me, I am going to
give 10% of my travel commission (which comes from my
vendors, not my clients) to the church. You will request
which church and project/fund you would like this donation
to be applied. With your help, my goal is to assist the
church with as many projects as possible. I can help you
with your travel needs. I book ALL types of travel. I'll make
the plans, you make the memories!!! Contact me at
checkinwithbritta@gmail.com or

ADA (Annual Diocesan Appeal Update as of October 31, 2017)

Church Goal	Goal	Pledged	Received	Pledges Needed to Reach
St. Patrick	\$15,896	\$21,944.31	\$20,897.86	\$0.00
Holy Family	\$58,382	\$50,604.00	\$49,146.00	\$7,778.00
St. Mary	\$11,229	\$ 9,645.00	\$8,205.00	\$1,584.00
St. Thomas Aquinas	\$13,532	\$11,901.20	\$9,941.20	\$1,630.80

December 9/10, 2017 Weekly Offering Versus Budget

Parish	Budget Requirement	Weekly Offering	Weekly Online Giving	Weekly Budget Surplus/ (Shortfall)
Holy Family	\$7,200.00	\$6,022.63	\$875.00	(\$302.37)
St. Mary's	\$1,200.00	\$1,034.50	\$0.00	(\$165.50)
St. Patrick's	\$1,395.00	\$1,252.50	\$0.00	(\$142.50)
St. Thomas Aquinas	\$1,045.00	\$665.00	\$125.00	(\$255.00)

**Totals do not include donations for: Easter, Memorials, Food Pantry,
Diocesan Collections, Estates, Utilities, Missionary Collections,
Building Funds, Capital Campaigns and Miscellaneous Donations.**

ATTENTION ST. MARY'S PARISHIONERS

- ◇ If you would like to make a donation to the Christmas
flowers, please enclose money in an envelope and put
it in the Sunday collection. If you would like your
donation to be in memory of someone special, please
include the information in the envelope. Thank you.
- ◇ The Christmas Buffet has been moved to after the
holidays. Please watch bulletin for a new date.
- ◇ Do you have a family member or friend who is in the
military stateside or overseas? We are teaming up with
the Atlanta Christian Church to send Valentine's Day
gifts to them. Please text Jennifer Craig at (217) 871-
9820 with the soldier's name and address no later than
February 6th. Monetary donations to help purchase
items/shipping will be collected in the near future. A
special thank you to the American Legion for covering
the overseas shipment fees. Packing dates will be
February 9th and February 10th, times will be
announced soon.

INFANT BAPTISMS

Parents are asked to attend a baptism preparation session
before the baptism of their child. Please call the parish
office to register.

MARRIGES

Please call the parish office at least six months prior to the
desired wedding date.

Parish Office, 316 South Logan Street, Lincoln, IL
62656 - (217) 732-4019

www.logancountyCatholic.org

Rev. Jeffrey G. Laible, Pastor ~ Rev. Simon Taabu,

In Residence ~ Rev. John Pham, Parochial Vicar

Sister Mary Lou Owens, Spiritual Life Coordinator

Kathy Buse, Religious Education Coordinator

Deacon Wendell Lowry, Business Manager

Pam Coogan, Bookkeeper

Alicia Baker & Mary Kay Lohrenz, Secretaries

Ruth Freesmeier, Director of Music

Carroll Catholic School (217) 732-7518 -

David Welch, Principal ~ Jennifer Craig, Secretary

Holy Cross & St. Mary Cemeteries (217) 737-5946 -

Tom Larson, Sexton



The "O Antiphons" Of Advent

The Roman Church has been singing the "O" Antiphons since at least the eighth century. They are the antiphons that accompany the *Magnificat* canticle of Evening Prayer from December 17-23. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. Their repeated use of the imperative "Come!" embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

December 17

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

December 18

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

December 20

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

December 21

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

December 23

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

Examination of Conscience for Adults

For Your Reflection and Consideration

If I am a Husband or Wife:

- Am I faithful to my spouse? Do I take him/her for granted?
- Do I neglect my spouse? Do I fulfill my spouse's needs? Do I communicate with my spouse?

If I am a Parent:

- Do I give my children what they need from me according to their level of maturity: love, attention, time, listening, encouragement, discipline with love, careful practice of my faith?
- Or am I "too busy"?
- Do I discipline only when I'm angry? Do I criticize and never praise?

If I am a Working Person or a Professional Person:

- Do I fulfill my contractual obligations? Do I give a "day's work for a day's pay"?
- Do I respect the property of my work place? Steal things from work? Do I abide by the code of ethics of my profession?

If I am a Catholic Layman or Woman:

- Am I "up front" with my religion? Or do I act in such a manner that most people would never even guess that I am Catholic?
- Do I support my parish "according to my means"?
- Am I too materialistic?
- Do I give young people good example by living my faith?

If I am a Practicing Catholic:

- Do I go to Mass regularly?
- Do I give good example to others by the way I attend Mass?
- Do I habitually leave Mass before it is over?
- Is my religion sincerely held or just a "Sunday thing"?

If I am a Neighbor or a Friend:

- Do I give my time to those in need?
- Am I a "good neighbor"? Do I speak well of others?
- Do I avoid spreading gossip about others?
- As a friend — am I loyal?
- Do I lend and borrow as a Christian should?



Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy.

Since I am a Citizen:

- Do I carry out my responsibilities regarding the law?
- Do I show respect for the Law in the presence of younger people, especially my children?
- Do I "run down" the political process or overly criticize the government?

Sins of Commission:

- For pretending that we are self-made, self-ruled, and self-saved persons.
- For closing our hearts to God's spirit.
- For prejudging the motives of our fellow

human beings.

- For ridiculing those who act according to their convictions.
- For the times that we have been the cause of ill-feelings between others.
- For having revealed secret things about others.
- For praying mechanically and without conviction.

Sins of Omission

- For lack of trust and confidence in God..
- For neglecting the use of the Sacraments.
- For our apathy.

Penance Service Schedule is listed in the bulletin.

Peter came up and asked Jesus, "Lord, when my brother wrongs me, how often must I forgive him? Seven times?" "No," Jesus replied, "not seven times; I say, seventy times seven times." Matthew 18: 21-22