

**1st Sunday in Advent  
DECEMBER 3, 2017**

**CHRISTMAS CARDS:** After Sunday Masses until Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> the Knights of Columbus are selling some very nice cards to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY: 11-26-17** Tithes: \$5,197.00; Loose Plate: \$132.91; Votive: \$16.00; Mary Jane Egger memorial: \$10.00

**FORMED.ORG:** Visit this website and go to the section with a registered parish, put in the parish code *d3d398* and you will be able to enter your email address and password to access the materials, Catholicism, Symbolon, Y-disciple, and more...

**LITURGY PLANS— Dec. 9/Dec. 10**

5pm	8am	10am	
Clements	Coppersmith	Jurgens	music
Gabriel	Urbanovsky	D Shinaut	read
Aschoff	Chapman	Henkel	aclte
Griffin	Topil	Urbach	ushr
	Riley	Ashenbach	ushr
Emmert	Bartek	Kugler	gifts
Patera	Chapman	C Henkel	svrv
		S Henkel	svrv

12 noon – unassigned

**NEARBY EVENTS:** // retreats, 402-786-2705 or see [www.goodcounselretreat.com](http://www.goodcounselretreat.com), Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> Healing Mass 2pm at John 23<sup>rd</sup> Center/ Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 7pm Advents Lessons and Carols at St. Gregory the Great Seminary // Dec. 15-17 Bishop Conley & Fr. Gary Coulter Advent retreat // Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> is the 10<sup>th</sup> in 12 Monday sessions 7-9pm for those seeking healing after a divorce, at John 23<sup>rd</sup> center, registration limited, call 473-0620 // NFP intro sessions Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> & Jan. 11<sup>th</sup> 7pm at John 23<sup>rd</sup> Cntr, go to [www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp](http://www.lincolndiocese.org/nfp) // Pray the rosary at 9:30 and 1pm on Tuesdays outside the abortion clinic in Lincoln // 7 sisters weekly prayer for priests, contact [bootswailes@aol.com](mailto:bootswailes@aol.com) for information; applications for diocesan superintendent of schools position can be sent to [marsha-bartek@lincolndiocese.org](mailto:marsha-bartek@lincolndiocese.org)

**FOODNET:** Volunteers serve at Denton Comm. Center, 5pm Mondays. If you could assist preparing meals at 3:30pm, picking up food from different locations on Mondays 1-3, serving, or cleaning up later contact John Hetcko or Mary Coulter.

**PRAYER LINE:** parishioners willing to pray for your intentions. If you have requests please forward to Boots, [bootswailes@aol.com](mailto:bootswailes@aol.com) or 402-328-9730.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS:** Men interested in joining, transferring, or reactivating their membership are welcome to contact Jeff Sears or Joe Keaschall.

**WORKS OF MERCY:** *Corporal:* Feed the hungry, Give drink to the thirsty, Clothe the naked, Shelter the homeless, Visit the sick, visit those in prison, Bury the dead; *Spiritual:* Instruct the ignorant, Counsel the doubtful, Warn the sinner, Bear wrongs patiently, Forgive offenses willingly, Comfort the afflicted, Pray for the living & the dead.

**VOCATIONS:** Please pray for these men in the seminary: 4<sup>th</sup> year theologians: Deacon Douglas Daro, Deacon Luke Fleck, Allan Phan, 3<sup>rd</sup> year theologians: Anthony Bedient, Carson Kain, Andrew Schwenka, and 2<sup>nd</sup> year theologians: Robert Froeschl, Caleb Hile, Robert Johnson, Alec Sasse, Joseph Wahlmeier.

**ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH**  
7105 Cass Ave. DENTON, NE 68339  
Parish priest: Msgr. Mark Huber  
**Regular Sunday Masses: Sat. Vigil: 5:00 pm**  
**8am, 10am, 12 noon**

◆ **Daily Mass: 8:00 am**  
**Confession: ½ hour before weekend Masses**  
**or anytime upon request**

Phone: 797-2105 ◆ Cell: 416-1943  
Web: <http://www.dentonstmarys.com>  
E-mail: [stmarys@windstream.net](mailto:stmarys@windstream.net)

**MASSES INTENTIONS 12/04/17 – 12/10/17**

Mon - 8am - Louise Wailes  
Tues - 8am - Eileen Gabriel  
Wed - 8am - Ernie Hejl  
Thurs - 8am - Stella Oxley  
- 6pm - Bill Sullivan  
Fri - 8am - Isabel Soucie  
- 7pm - Louis Coppersmith  
Sat - 8am - Bill Schnase  
5pm - Theoda Marie Gottula  
Sun - 8am - Ronda Dix  
10am - Harold Ullsperger  
12 noon - all people

**HOLY DAY:** Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 6pm & Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> 8am and 7pm for the Immaculate Conception.

**ADVENT GIVING TREE:** Residents of Crete manor appreciate being remembered at Christmas. The altar society sponsors this and will have a tree with tags on it. If you get a gift please wrap it and place the tag on it so it can get to the correct person. Thank you

**PARISH THINGS:** // Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 7-8am Holy Hour // Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> Habitat for Humanity project to hang cabinets, trim & doors, contact Greg Shinaut // Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 6pm Nativity play & cookies, activities afterward // Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 4, 6 and 10pm, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> 9am Christmas Masses // Keep Christ in Christmas posters will be made available for children week- due by Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> // Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 9am Mass // Jan. 5<sup>th</sup> First Friday adoration // .

**CHURCH CLEANING:** Dec: Carmen Hesser, Janyce Ostrander, Paige Mongeon, Beth Coufal, Jodee Gabel, Dayana Patera, Audine Oehm, Judy Gant, Kate Pulec;

**FOOD DRIVE:** Will be held through November.

**FAMILY LIFE OFFICE:** Type in "diocese of lincoln"; for events/ opportunities. For study from home go to "Education", under religious education there are good materials.

**LECTORS & ACOLYTES TO BE:** If there are men interested in serving the parish in this capacity please contact Msgr. Huber. If there are ladies interested in reading you can also contact Msgr. Huber.

**POPE'S INTENTIONS:** That Christians in Asia, bearing witness to the Gospel, may promote dialogue, peace, and mutual understanding, especially with those of other religions.



## COMMERCIAL BREAK CLIFFHANGERS

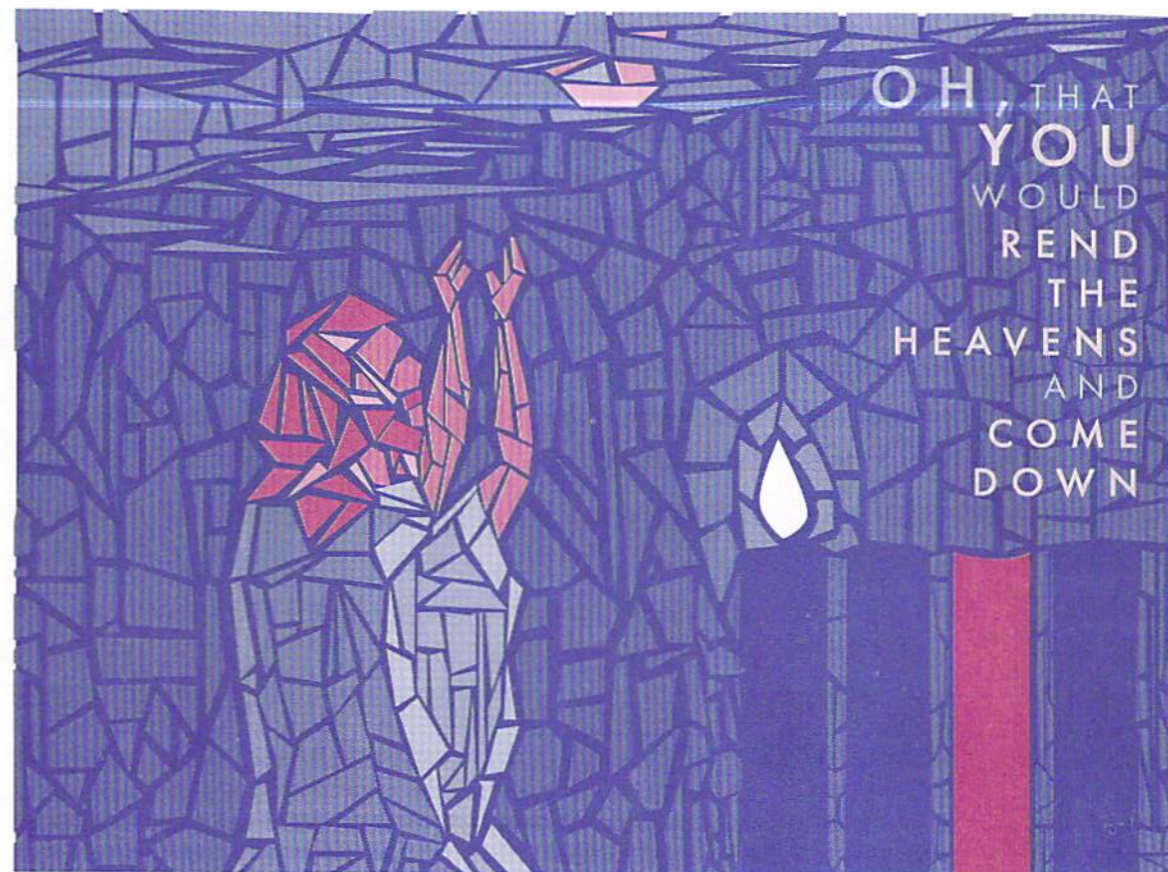
Anyone who has ever turned on a TV is familiar with the cliffhanger strategy. Just before the climactic ending, a show is interrupted for a long series of advertisements. Dramas withhold their shocking endings, reality television makes us wait to see a makeover's big "reveal" or to learn who gets kicked off the show, and the intense battle of the last "two minutes" of Thanksgiving football games seems to take longer than the turkey in the oven. Though cliffhangers may irritate us, they almost guarantee we will watch the commercials in order to enjoy the resolution we long for. In a way, we are living in a commercial break. Forty days after rising from the dead, Jesus ascended into heaven. The disciples stood gaping until angels snapped them out of it: "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven" (Acts 1:11). Jesus' ascension is the cliffhanger; our daily life is what fills the time until Jesus comes back.

## CAUGHT DOING GOOD

Thankfully, our daily life means so much more than any commercial break. We are not just marking time, because God treasures our daily thoughts, works, joys, and sufferings. Nothing escapes the loving attention of the Lord. Nothing is irrelevant to God. In fact, we are God's beloved servants, "each with [our] own work," as Jesus says in the Gospel. God knows intimately our challenges and wants to accompany us in all we do. A line from today's reading from Isaiah can help us connect our daily work with God's love: "Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways!" During Advent, we can offer that prayer each morning, inviting the Lord to guide us as we live and wait.

Today's Readings: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;  
1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

12/3/2017



December 3, 2017 • First Sunday of Advent

As we enter into a new Advent season, our readings urge us to watch eagerly for our redeemer. Isaiah cries out to the Lord with feeling, "Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down"! Thanks be to God, we know the Lord has come down to us. God is, in fact, still present among us in the Eucharist and in every created thing. Yet, like Saint Paul, we know Jesus promises to come again; we await that mysterious, final revelation in fellowship with Jesus and one another.

Even in the best of Christian communities, however, waiting can be dreary and difficult. Mark's Gospel gets our adrenaline flowing: "Be watchful! Be alert!" Although we have the enormous consolation of knowing Jesus already saved the world by his death and resurrection, we must ask the Spirit to rouse us to prayer and service as together we watch for Jesus.