

**3rd Sunday in Advent
DECEMBER 17, 2017**

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

MASSES INTENTIONS 12/18/17 – 12/24/17

Mon - 8am - Emma Martin
Tues - 8am - Adolph & Emma Hottovy
Wed - 8am - Joseph Poland
Thurs - 8am - Matt Taber
Fri - 8am - Ernie Hejl
Sat - 8am - David Mattes
5pm - Eileen Gabriel
7:30pm - all people
Sun - 8am - Coletta Wemhoff
10am (schola)- Maya Jo

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Sun - 4pm - all people
6pm - Harold Ullsperger
10pm - John Hewitt
Mon - 9am - Carrie Spatz

CAROLING: You are invited to join a group of parishioners, meeting at 1pm Dec. 17th at the church, to visit some senior parishioners and sing Christmas Carols.

CONFESSION TIMES: Dec. 20th 8:30-9am; 21st-23rd 6:15- 7:15pm; Dec. 23rd 10-11am; Dec. 24th 12noon – 1pm

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS POSTERS: These are due Dec. 17th in the narthex.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY: 12-10-17
Immaculate Conception:\$365.00; Christmas flowers: \$250.00; Priest retirement: 730.00; Tithes:\$9,852.00; Loose Plate: \$110.55; Votive:\$38.00; Masses: \$610.00;

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

NATIVITY PLAY: Thank you to all, including the altar society members who helped with decorating cupcakes, cookies & other activities.

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

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

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

PARISH THINGS: Dec. 24th 4, 6 and 10pm, Dec. 25th 9am Christmas Masses // Jan. 1st 9am Mass // Jan. 2nd 6:45-8pm reading & discussion of the Book of Revelation // Jan. 4-5th First Friday adoration // Jan. 9th Epiphany dinner // Jan. 10th CCD resumes // Jan 13th 7-8am Holy Hour.

BABY ITEMS: The altar society collects baby items in December to be given to Birthright for families in need.

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. 23/Dec. 24

5pm	8am	10am	
Clements	Shinaut	Schola	music
Clements	Kouma	Keaschall	read
Kavan	Topil	Zinnecker	acite
Griffin	Riley	Braunsroth	ushr
	Hollman	Sears	ushr
Griffin	Hollman	Ellerbee	gifts
	H Miron	A Vinton	svr
	T Miron	D Vinton	svr

7:30pm Sat., replaces the 12noon Mass -unassigned

NEARBY EVENTS: // retreats, 402-786-2705 or see www.goodcounselretreat.com, Jan. 11-13 LDCCW Winter Symposium // Dec. 18th is the last session 7-9pm for those seeking healing after a divorce, at John 23rd center, registration limited, call 473-0620 // Dec. 26th 3pm Marian mantle prayer group meets in the Flanagan Room at Madonna Hospital // Dec. 28th Holy Innocence Mass for all who have lost a baby through miscarriage, abortion, stillbirth or infant death, reading of names at 6:30pm and Mass at 7pm at John 23rd Center // Jan. 4th Intro session to deliverance prayer at St. Joseph's in Beatrice, 7-8:30pm // NFP sessions Jan. 11th & 23rd 7pm at John 23rd Cntr, go to 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 for information.

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.

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.

VOCATIONS: Please pray for these men in the seminary: 1st year theologians: Dale Alder, Wade Bakhit, Anthony Bedient, James Beran, Matthew Kovar, Daniel LeDuc, James O'Neil. College4: Joseph Allen, Lane Barnhill, Liam Creal, Loudon Redinger, Tony Schukei, Christian Schwenka, Bill Vogel, Dominic Winter

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.



THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

Children who are poor make toys out of the unlikeliest things: milk cartons, nails, bottle caps, sticks, plastic bags, corn cobs, clothespins. Folks who have plenty consider these things trash—in fact, some poor children literally make their toys out of trash. Their abject need gives them a different perspective, seeing blessing where the rich see only waste.

Material poverty is a scourge on our planet, and we must never make excuses for it. We must work tirelessly for decent conditions for every human person. As we work, we can learn from the special perspective of our brothers and sisters who do not have enough to live. We can see how depending on others for resources can transform a rich person's trash into a poor child's treasure.

SPIRITUAL POVERTY

On this “Rejoice!” Sunday in Advent, we can pray in a particular way for an end to material poverty. Today's readings assure us that the kind of poverty God desires for us is spiritual poverty, a radical knowledge that all things come from God. Where material poverty can wound the human spirit, spiritual poverty cultivates boundless joy. John the Baptist provides a startling model for us. In all sincerity, he admits that he is not worthy to touch Jesus' sandals. John says this not to charm the crowds by being coy and self-deprecating. No, John embraces the truth that God is the source of all goodness. We are utterly dependent on God for all good things. We cannot do anything to earn God's favor; God simply provides for us because we need God. This is massively good news! No one could possibly care for us like God does. At our very best, we merely reflect God's brightness into the world. God's brilliant joy is exactly what we are called to. As Saint Paul says, “The one who calls you is faithful, and he will also accomplish it.”

Today's Readings: Is 61:1–2a, 10–11; Lk 1:46–48, 49–50, 53–54; 1 Thes 5:16–24; Jn 1:6–8, 19–28

12/17/2017



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December 17, 2017 • Third Sunday of Advent

Last week our readings urged us to cast off sin and to pursue holiness eagerly. God's grace helps us do this and prepares us for limitless, everlasting glory. Today's readings confirm the great joy of this endeavor and provide specific advice on how to proceed: by becoming poor. The prophet Isaiah describes the savior who comes “to bring glad tidings to the poor.” We are the poor people in need of glad tidings. Following the example of John the Baptist, we acknowledge that

we are poor; we are “not worthy” of the Lord's attention. Even so, Jesus delights in caring for us. Recognizing how poor we are, and yet how great is God's love for us, we can only “rejoice always,” as Saint Paul advises. We continue our Advent journey, becoming poor by emptying our hearts of sin and giving thanks to God for helping us grow in holiness.

12/17/2017