

First Sunday of Advent — November 29, 2009

NOTES FROM THE PASTOR:



We just celebrated Thanksgiving, and one of the traditions that many families share at Thanksgiving is allowing everyone to say one or two things that they are thankful for. Well, here are mine.

I am thankful to be a priest for the diocese of Salina in Kansas. I talk with several of my priest friends from various parts of the country, and they have concerns or complaints about certain things in their diocese. I tell them about what's going on in our diocese and they seem envious.

I am thankful to be a priest in Ellis County. I have been in Ellis County for ¾ of my priesthood, five years in Ellis and eight years in Hays. I have always felt right at home, welcomed, and appreciated. Again, I know some of my brother priests who are not blessed with such an experience in their priesthood at this time.

I am thankful to be a priest and pastor here at Immaculate Heart of Mary. The staff that helps me to provide ministries to the parish are dedicated. The opportunity to work with the many people involved in helping to build the new church has been incredible and has broadened my horizons. And just the week to week and day to day encounters I have with the many parishioners are almost always a blessing and joy for me. So, I am thankful in general for my priesthood. I pray that other young men will consider the great blessings that this life vocation can offer them.

Peace & Prayers: Fr. Kevin

Immaculate Heart of Mary Weekly Planner: November 30 — December 6, 2009

Date	Mass Times and Intentions	Mass Readings	Parish Events
Monday 30	6:45 a.m. + Clarence J. Werth Rosary Group Intention of the Week: For married couples to persevere in their vocation to the sacrament of Marriage	Rom 10:9-18 Mt 4:18-22	JWJ Classes: 6:30 p Parish Council Mtg: 7:30 p.m. in the Upper Room
Tuesday December 1	8:00 a.m. + Wendelin J. Suppes	Is 11:1-10 Lk 10:21-24	RCIA: 7 p in the Parish Office Money Counter Inservice: 7:30 p.m. in the Activity Center Midnight Mass Choir Practice: 7:30 p.m. in church.
Wednesday 2	6:45 a.m. L/D Jami Goetz Family 6:30 p.m. + Luis Galvan	Is 25:6-10a Mt 15:29-37	Faith Formation: 6:30-8:00 p CYO: ROC session in the Activity Center.
Thursday 3	8:00 a.m. + Leon Herrman	Is 26:1-6 Mt 7:21, 24-27	Weekly Music Practice: 6:30 p in the Little Theatre Midnight Mass Choir Practice: 7:30 p.m. in the Little Theatre.
Friday 4	6:45 a.m. + JoAnn Phillips	Is 29:17-24 Mt 9:27-31	
Saturday 5	5:00 p.m. + Elizabeth Smith	Is 30:19-21, 23-26 Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8	IHM Advent Retreat: 1:00 p.m. in the parish office
Sunday 6 Second Sunday of Advent	8:00 a.m. + Philomena Pfannenstiel 10:00 a.m. + Nicholas F. Kreutzer 12:00 p.m. People of the Parish	Bar 5:1-9 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11 Lk 3:1-6	Wee Words: During the 8 and 10 a masses. Conf. Prep II 10:00 a.m. Mass Meet at 9:30 in Little Theater

Stewardship in Our Parish: Sharing Your Time, Talent, and Treasure

<i>Liturgical Ministers</i>	December 5 Saturday 5:00 p.m.	December 6 Sunday 8:00 a.m.	December 6 Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Music Ministers	Cantor: Pending Accompanist: Pending	Cantor: Pending Accompanist: Pending	Cantor: Pending Accompanist: Pending
Altar Servers	Alyssa Bryant Angeline Bryant Nathan Romme	Elley Kaus Jordyn Manhart Jared Rack	John Drees Haley Parrott Deonna Wellbrock
Readers	Jamie Schmidt Kay Shippy	Beth Fisher Teresa Schrant	Virginia Jacobs Jim Jacobs
Gift Bearers	Robert and Janice Braun	Jay and Jana Pfeifer	Allen and Deborah Kreutzer
EMs	Karen Aufdemberge Lorena Flesher Bill Moriarity Ruth Moriarity Cindy Romme Melissa Romme Jackie Skolout	Leona Boor Gerald Braun Wilma Braun David Kisner Susan Kisner Bernie Weigel Pam Windholz	Cynthia Anschutz Lori Appelhans Chris Channell Trica Dreher Donetta Robben Lester Robben Deanna Wellbrock

Stewardship of Treasure

Weekly Budget for 2009-2010: \$28,223.89

Adult Envelopes	23,316.00
Loose Plate	951.63
Children's Envelopes	36.86
Total Giving	24,304.49

Fiscal Year July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

Budgeted offertory as of Oct. 31, 2009	\$ 479,805.97
Actual tithing total as of Oct. 31, 2009	\$ 435,103.10
Fiscal Year Collections on Oct. 31- behind	\$ (44,702.87)

Building Fund Donations: 2nd Collection	\$ 604.51
Amount Borrowed for New Church to date:	\$ 825,000.00

Money Counters for the Upcoming Weeks

December 6th and 13th

Donald & Geraldine Larson and Richard Normandin

December 20th and 27th

Arlyn Schupman and Jeffrey & Kelly Ackerman

Bulletin Helpers for December 3rd

Carol Kaiser and Agnes Karlin

Money Counter Inservice

The make up inservice for those who signed up to serve on the money count teams will be held on December 1st at 7:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. All money counters who missed the previous session must attend before they will be scheduled to count.

Sunday Readings

First Reading: Jeremiah proclaims the fulfillment of God's promise to the house of David. This fulfillment is portrayed as the action of God, who makes His people virtuous and whole. God's fidelity is our hope of salvation.

Second Reading: This passage from 1 Thessalonians bears the structure of the theology of grace; God initiates and the Church cooperates. Paul prays that God will provide what we need to grow in love and holiness, and that in our reception of God's gifts we will make progress in the life of faith.

Gospel: Jesus prophesies a final day of liberations, when the Son of Man appears in glory and charges us to remain attentive in prayer so that we will stand fast in faith on that day. He suggests that faith is the work not of a moment, but of a relationship that is meant to be long lasting and stand the test of time.

Faith Formation

Youth Faith Formation

- ◆ **December 2nd—Conf. Prep. II (8th gr.) Parents and/or Sponsor asked to join student in class. -1st Reconciliation Students Books are due**
- ◆ **December 6th—Confirmation Prep II (8th gr.)—2nd Presentation to the Parish—Signing of the Book—10:00 a.m. Mass—Students meet in the Little Theater with Sponsor or Parent at 9:30 a.m.**
- ◆ **December 9th—Reconciliation 6A & 6B**
- ◆ **December 13th—Sunday, 1st Reconciliation at 3:00 p.m.**
- ◆ **December 16th— 7:10 p.m. in church Advent/Christmas Prayer Service—Living Nativity by 3rd grade. All are invited to join the children in Prayer.**

Question of the Week

God Comes To Us

In Advent, the liturgy frequently repeats and assures us, as if to overcome our natural diffidence, that God "comes": he comes to be with us in every situation of ours, he comes to dwell among us, to live with us and within us; he comes to fill the gaps that divide and separate us; he comes to reconcile us with him and with one another.

He comes into human history to knock at the door of every man and every woman of good will, to bring to individuals, families and peoples the gifts of brotherhood, harmony and peace.

This is why Advent is par excellence the season of hope in which believers in Christ are invited to remain in watchful and active waiting, nourished by prayer and by the effective commitment to love. May the approaching Nativity of Christ fill the hearts of all Christians with joy, serenity and peace!
—Pope Benedict XVI

Question of the week for adults:

How does God want to come into my life? Am I willing to let Him?

Question of the week for children:

What is something you can do to put God first this Advent?

IHM CYO

- Dec. 2nd-7:30 p.m.-CYO mtg. in the A.C. @ IHM!**
Dec. 9th-7:30 p.m.-ROC session in the A.C. @ IHM!
Dec. 13th-17th-9:30 p.m.-Liturgy of the Hours Night Prayer! Please join the CYO in praying Night Prayer every night this week as we prepare for the coming of our Lord Jesus! Night prayer is a great way to end the day during this sometimes hectic time of year. It is set for 9:30 because it should bring a close to the day and no activities should be done after the prayer.
Dec. 16th-6:30 p.m.-ROC session in the A.C. @ IHM!
 The 7th & 8th grade RE students will join us for an Advent Liturgy!
Dec. 20th-7:00 p.m.-Drive by Prayer Night! Meet in the Activity Center before going out on drive by prayers!
Dec. 23rd-7:30 p.m.-Activity Night in the A.C. @ IHM!
Dec. 30th-NO SESSION!
Jan. 6th-7:30 p.m.-CYO mtg. in the A.C. @ IHM!

IHM JR. CYO

Dec. 19th-6:30-9:30p.m.-Drive by prayers and service activity! Jr. CYO will meet in the Little Theatre before going out to various locations in Hays to pray for people in need. Following the prayers we will return to the Little Theatre for hot chocolate and to make Christmas cards for the homebound of our parish. If you know someone in need of prayers please call the youth office with their name, address, and prayer needs. Prayers can be to ask God for comfort for those suffering from illness, stressful situations, loss of loved ones, and also to thank God for joyous things such as new life, upcoming weddings, etc.

“Answering the Call”

Do you want justice? If asked this question, I am guessing many of you would answer the same as I did when asked, “Of course I do”. The people who get to the top through hard work and determination and show kindness and charitable hearts along the way should be rewarded instead of people who cheat and deceive. People that commit crimes should get caught and pay their penalties and those who have done wrong should be punished. But then I began to think about the justice I would receive from God when I come knocking at the gates of heaven. What would that justice look like? Instead of wanting justice perhaps all of us should want mercy since none of us are without sin. God’s compassion and mercy is our ticket to heaven . So if we know that we need mercy and compassion should we also then be merciful and compassionate to others? I think I will try harder to do just that! Michelle Harris, PR

Parish and Community Announcements

Midnight Mass Seasonal Choir Practice Schedule:

Tuesday, December 1st
Thursday, December 3rd (L.T.)
Thursday, December 10th (L.T.)
Thursday, December 17th
Tuesday, December 22nd



- All at 7:30 p.m. in church unless otherwise noted (use south door)
- Each practice will last from 1- 1&1/2 hours
- Open to all ages and anyone interested
- Vocalists and Instrumentalists Needed!

Advent Retreat



“In a world that is often too noisy, that encourages neither recollection nor listening to God's voice, we are in such deep need of [silence]. During this season of preparation for Christmas, let us cultivate inner recollection in order to welcome and cherish Jesus in our own lives.”
—Pope Benedict XVI

Immaculate Heart of Mary will be hosting an **Advent Retreat on Saturday, December 5th. We will begin at 1 p.m. and end with 5 p.m. Mass.** Join us as we prepare our hearts and minds to receive our Lord anew in the coming Christmas season.

Anointing of the Sick

The communal **Rite of the Anointing of the Sick** will be celebrated the weekend of December 19/20 immediately following all masses. All are invited.



National Catholic Youth Conference!

78 youth and adult chaperones return from NCYC today after spending 3 days celebrating being Catholic with nearly 25,000 other Catholics from around the United States. All will have many stories to share. Please take time to seek out some of the young adults that attended and ask them about their experience. Ask more than one as they will each be moved in different ways by the many inspirational speakers, musicians, etc. The highlight of the event will be the Celebration of the Eucharist on Saturday evening. Be sure and ask what it was like to celebrate Mass with dozens of Bishops and hundreds of Priests, not to mention 25,000 other teenagers and sponsors!

Please call Sr. Mary at the Parish office if you or a loved one are homebound or hospitalized and wish to receive the Eucharist. Under restrictive HIPPA laws, this information is not available to us.

Missing Wheelchair

Whoever used the wheelchair please return it or let the parish office know that you borrowed it. Thank you.

20th Annual National Night of Prayer for Life



Tuesday, December 8/9, 2009
9:00 P.M. Tuesday to 1:00 A.M. Wednesday
At Immaculate Heart of Mary Church

Please, come pray with us for 1 hour or all 4 hours. Your prayers will be appreciated!

First Friday Respect Life Mass, December 4th

Please join us for our monthly First Friday Heartland Parishes Respect Life Mass. This is a wonderful opportunity to pray for life, our nation, and that all within our nation and the world would respect life from conception to natural death. Mass begins at 5:30 P.M. at St. Joseph Parish, is preceded by the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 4:55, then a Rosary at 5:00

Marriage Vows: ...to have and to hold, from this day forward, for better or worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and health until death do us part. You are



invited to join us for the Rosary each morning at 7:15 a.m. (after 6:45 Mass) at Immaculate Heart of Mary.

The Perpetual Adoration Chapel has the following holy hours to be filled: **Wednesdays at 1:00 a.m. & 3:00 a.m.** If you can fill one of these hours, call Lil at 625-7474 or Bob Feauto at 628-1429.

If you would like to donate to the Immaculate Heart of Mary's poinsettia fund, place your contribution in a regular envelope marked for this purpose and drop it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office. If you want to make this donation in memory of someone, kindly do so by **Wednesday, December 16th.** Thank you for helping to beautify our worship space this Christmas season.



Vocations

“He is able for all time to save those who approach God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.” Are you being called to help others approach the mercy of God as a priest, deacon or in the consecrated life? Call Father Jarett Konrade (785) 827-8746, or write: vocations@salinadiocese.org

If you or your loved ones need prayers, call Pat at 628-1138 or Lil at 625-7474.

Parish and Community Announcements

Cup a Joe

- **Tuesday, December 1** – Join us in **Cup a Joe** for the first session of **Praying in Color** from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. This is a three week course during the first three Tuesdays of Advent and looks at three traditional prayer forms: Intercessory Prayer, Praying with Scripture, and Contemplation. . Cost will be \$15.00. **Contact Martha Brungardt at 625-7356.**
- **Tuesday, December 8** – **Cup a Joe** will **not** be open from 7:00 – 9:00 a.m. due to the Holy Day. ***It will be open from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. for Praying in Color.***



The Russell Council of Catholic Women will have their annual Christmas Cookie Sale on Saturday, December 5th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at St. Mary's hall, 28 NO. KS. St., Russell.

Help Moms and Babies

St. Mary's Knights of Columbus will be sponsoring a Christmas Tree located in the IHM gathering space with ornaments asking for needed items that will benefit the Mary Elizabeth Maternity Home and Birthright. You are invited to choose an ornament and as you are conducting your Christmas shopping, you can help a mother and/or her baby by buying the item. Gifts do not need to be wrapped. However, please put the ornament on the item so that it can be distributed to the proper agency. This is a wonderful way to honor the Baby Jesus and His mother, Mary, during this month preparing for Christmas. May the peace of the Baby Jesus be within the depths of all hearts.



Coffee and Conversation: Healthy Lifestyles

On Thursday, December 3rd, 2009 from 5:30—6:45 p.m., the Hays Medical Center is sponsoring a presentation about living healthy lifestyles for those who have had open heart surgery, stents, congestive heart failure, or a heart attack. Admission is free. Please RSVP to Debbie McLaren at (785) 623-5500 by November 30th.

Beginning Experience is a weekend retreat designed for the widowed or divorced to make a new beginning in life. Topics covered during the weekend include trust in self, guilt, anger, trust in God, and symptoms of spiritual death. The next retreat will be held **December 4-6, 2009, at the Magnificat Retreat Center on the Sisters of St. Joseph Campus, in Wichita, Kansas.** For further information or to register, please call Beverly Pieplow at (316)264-4876, or Judy Demuth at (620) 430-0339 or email jdemuth@ksde.org.

-All American Breakfast- Hays Hospice

Sunday, December 6, 2009 from 7:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

All you can eat! Menu includes: pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, hash browns, biscuits, gravy, toast, coffee and juice. Tickets: Adults-\$6.25, At the Door-\$6.50, Children Under 12-\$3.00, Under 5-Free
Santa Claus is Coming! Treats for kids.

Catholic School News

HOLY FAMILY

Dec. 3rd-7:00 p.m.-Kindergarten thru 3rd grade Advent Liturgy at IHM.

Dec. 8th-No School! Feast of Immaculate Conception!

Dec. 10th-December Birthday Mass and Dinner.

Dec. 21st-Jan. 4th-Christmas Vacation!

Jan. 5th-School resumes!

HFE BUCKS PROGRAM!

While shopping for Christmas gifts, consider supporting Holy Family Elementary by purchasing gift cards through the HFE Bucks Program! New to the program is a VISA prepaid card. Wonderful for shopping and gift giving. Stop by the school office to get your HFE Bucks!



TMP-MARIAN

Nov. 30th-School resumes

Dec. 17th-TMP-Marian Christmas Concert

Dec. 21st-Jan. 5th-Christmas Break

Jan. 6th-School resumes

Catholic Schools Week!

Clear your calendars now for the many activities during ***Catholic Schools Week January 24th-30th, 2010.*** Watch upcoming bulletins or go to the TMP-Marian website to see the schedule of events and activities.

Eucharistic Adoration

Thomas More Prep-Marian High School would like to invite you to participate in Eucharistic Adoration at our newly updated Marian Chapel. We will have adoration on the first Friday of the month from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. If you are interested in signing up, you can contact Barb Wagoner or Stacie Rupp at 625-6577 or stop by anytime to say hello to Jesus. **The next day of adoration will be December 4th, 2009.**



2009 Advent/Christmas Schedule

Our Lady Help of Christians - Antonino
St. Anthony - Schoenchen
St. Catherine - Catharine

St. Joseph - Hays
Immaculate Heart of Mary - Hays
St. Nicholas of Myra - Hays

St. Francis of Assisi - Munjor
Comeau Catholic Campus Center

November 29, 2009 - First Sunday of Advent

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service 5:30 p.m.

December 5, 2009 - Saturday

IHM - Advent Retreat - All Day

December 6, 2009 - Second Sunday of Advent

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service 5:30 p.m.

December 7, 2009 - Monday - Immaculate Conception

(Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil Masses)

IHM - 7:00 p.m.

Munjor - 5:30 p.m.

Schoenchen - 7:00 p.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - 7:00 p.m.

December 8, 2009 - Tuesday - Immaculate Conception

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Catherine - 7:00 p.m.

IHM - 6:45 a.m., 8:00 a.m., and 6:30 p.m. (Spanish)

IHM National Night of Prayer - 9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.

St. Joseph - 6:30 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 5:30 p.m. (No Vigil Mass)

St. Nicholas of Myra - 7:00 a.m.

December 12, 2009 - Saturday - Our Lady of Guadalupe

IHM - Mananitas - 5:00 a.m. Mass immediately following

December 13, 2009 - Third Sunday of Advent

IHM - Communal Penance Service - 3:00 p.m.

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service 5:30 p.m.

December 14, 2009 - Monday

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

December 15, 2009 - Tuesday

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

December 16, 2009 - Wednesday

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.

IHM - Faith Formation Advent Program - 7:00 p.m.

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

Munjor - Communal Penance Service - 7:00 p.m.

December 17, 2009 - Thursday

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.

IHM - Liturgy of the Hours - 9:30 p.m.

December 18 (Friday) - December 23 (Wednesday), 2009

IHM - Posada Prayers in the Activity Center - 7:00 p.m.

December 20, 2009 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

St. Joseph - Advent Vespers/Benediction Service 5:30 p.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - Communal Penance - 3:00 p.m.

December 21, 2009 - Monday

St. Joseph - Communal Penance Service 7:00 p.m.

December 24, 2009 - (Thursday) Christmas Eve

Catherine - 12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

Comeau Catholic Campus Center - 10:00 p.m.

IHM - Masses in the Church & Little Theater - 5:00 p.m.

IHM - 7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass; 12:00 a.m. Midnight Mass

Munjor - 9:00 p.m.

Schoenchen - 5:30 p.m.

St. Joseph - 5:00 p.m. (Children's Mass),

11:30 p.m. Choir & Bell Choir, 12:00 a.m. Mass

St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00 p.m. (Family Mass); 11:00 p.m.

December 25, 2009 - (Friday) Christmas Day

Antonino - 9:00 a.m.

Comeau Catholic Campus Center - **NO MASSES TODAY**

IHM - 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Munjor - 10:30 a.m.

St. Joseph - 7:30 a.m., 10:00 a.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:00 a.m.

December 31, 2009 - (Thursday) Mary Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation - Vigil Masses)

Antonino - 5:00 p.m.

IHM - 5:00 p.m. (English) & 7:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Munjor - 7:00 p.m.

St. Joseph - 5:00 p.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - 5:00 p.m.

January 1, 2010 - (Friday) Mary, Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation)

Catherine - 9:00 a.m.

IHM - 8:00 a.m.

St. Joseph - 9:00 a.m.

St. Nicholas of Myra - 9:00 a.m.

***All Weekend Masses are as usual unless otherwise noted**

