



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. (Isaiah 61:1)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, is "Gaudete" Sunday, the Sunday of rejoicing because the Solemnity of the Lord's Incarnation is so near. The readings today call us to joy as we expectantly await for the Lord's arrival.

By now you should have received my Christmas appeal which outlines our financial standing at the present time. Please do what you can to support the areas where we need some extra help during this holy season. Keep in mind that the Lord is never outdone in generosity. He will reward us greatly for our sacrifices. The Basilica is in need of a steady flow of income to meet its obligations and to function smoothly, just like any family. Please watch the amounts each week in the bulletin which keep you up-to-date on our present status.

The schedule for Christmas and the New Year is in the bulletin and posted on the board. Please note the Mass times for your convenience.

Let us continue our journey towards the heavenly kingdom, trusting in the Lord's mercy and help. May he bless you in every way!

Devotedly in the Lord,

Agustin M. Nichols

Pastor

WEEKLY INCOME from – 12/09/18


Total - \$25,302.59
Need - \$21,198.08


Year to Date (YTD) – Fiscal Year July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019

YTD Total rec'd - \$395,077.81
YTD Needed - \$508,753.92

REMAINING ELEVATOR DEBT: \$216,000.00

THANK YOU: To the Basilica of St. John Family for well-wishes and prayers during my recovery. God's blessings, Constance Davitt

 **BAPTISM CLASS:** Are you planning to have your child baptized at the Basilica? The Diocese of Des Moines requires parents or legal guardians to attend a pre-baptismal class. On Sunday, December 16th from 12:30 to 3:00 there will be a class held in the school for registered parishioners who have not previously attended a pre-baptismal class. To sign-up please contact Deacon Mark at campbell.markh@yahoo.com

 **BASILICA CHOIR NEWS:** How do you plan to celebrate Christmas this year? The Basilica Music Program performs an hour-long concert prior to Midnight Mass. The Christmas Concert of Sacred Music begins at 11:00pm on December 24th. Sit with our Lord in the beauty of our inspirational Basilica and absorb the sacred music honoring His salvific birth on this Holy Night!

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE
DECEMBER 15 TO DECEMBER 25
TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS**

SAT 15 4:00PM +Whipple & Gabriel Families
6:00PM Spanish Mass

SUN 16 8:30AM +Lucille Molloy
10:30AM Parish & Benefactors

MON 17 12:00PM +Maria Dan Tran

TUE 18 12:00PM +Joseph Dien Nguyen

WED 19 12:00PM +Corrine Graziano

THU 20 12:00PM +Jane Dal Corso

FRI 21 12:00PM +Cody Henritz

SAT 22 9:00AM +Dung Nguyen

(Vigil Mass)
4:00PM +Maria Tran

SUN 23 8:30AM +Kathryn Mauro
10:30AM Parish & Benefactors

Christmas Schedule:

MON 24 12:00PM **Last Advent Mass:** +Ron Wells
4:00PM **Children's Mass:** +Leland Harris
11:00PM **Basilica Choir Concert**
12:00AM **Midnight Mass:** +Sheila Gallop

TUE 25 10:30AM **Christmas Mass:** +Parish & Benefactors

THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:
www.BasilicaofStJohn.org and click on the link...
..... "LIVE TELECAST" tab

PRAYER CHAIN: Do you know someone who is in need of prayer? The Basilica Prayer Chain can help. To request prayers email Deacon Luke Tieskoetter at tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com or Terri at 321-2743 or sinc2@aol.com.

CATECHISM CORNER:

Question: When is the infallibility of the Magisterium exercised?

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church. (Look for the answer in next weeks bulletin)

Annual Diocesan Appeal-Current balance due: \$50,639.00



The Basilica of St. John
Third Sunday of Advent
December 16, 2018

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK DECEMBER 17 THRU DECEMBER 23		
MON 17	9:00AM 4:00PM 6:00PM 6:30PM	Adoration Begins@ Organ Practice Folk Group Practice## RCIA**
TUE 18	8:45AM 1:00PM 3:00PM 5:00PM 5:00PM	Organ Practice+ Parish Office Closed Seraphic's Rehearsal## H.S. Humanities Class** Organ Practice+++
WED 19	8:00AM 9:00AM 10:00 AM 6:00PM 6:15PM 7:30PM	Catholic School House Classes** Adoration Begins@ Bible Study+ Parish Hall in use+ NO Religious Ed. **+ NO St. Jude's R.E.
THU 20	8:00AM 10:00AM 10:30AM 7:00PM 7:00PM	Organ Practice Catechesis Class Organ Practice+++ Choir Room in use+++ Choir Rehearsal+++
FRI 21	9:00AM 9:30AM	Adoration until 12:00 noon@ NO H.S. Humanities Class**
SAT 22	8:30AM 10:00AM 9:00AM 10:00AM 7:00PM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy## Secular Franciscan Meeting** Angel Tree Gift Distribution+ Church Decorating for Christmas Hispanic Reception+
SUN 23	8:00AM	Vietnamese Prayer Group+

SIGN INDICATORS

+++ = Choir Loft; ** = School; @ = Chapel; * = Rectory
 + = Church Hall; ## = Church; % = Conference Room;

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of December 17, 2018:

Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17
 Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25
 Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25
 Thursday: Is 7:10-14; k 1:26-38
 Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45
 Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56
 Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

LIFELINES: "Just because something happens to be legal does not make it moral, ethical or right. Abortion is perhaps one of the most dramatic examples of a situation where something is legal, but is very much a sin against God." *A.L. Barry, The Lutheran Church, President of The Missouri Synod.* (pro-lifearticle.org)



POINSETTIAS: Would you be able to donate a poinsettia to the Basilica to help decorate the church for Christmas? If so, we ask that they be delivered to the church starting next week, December 17 thru December 21st. If possible, please have them wrapped in gold foil. You may attach a card with a loved one's name to the poinsettia, in their memory. An insert will be placed in the bulletin after Christmas acknowledging the memory of your loved one.



CHURCH DECORATING: We will begin decorating the church for Christmas on Saturday, December 22, after the 9:00am Mass. *We need lots of volunteers* to help carry up the boxes of Christmas trees, poinsettias and decorations and also to help decorate! Please consider helping with this fun event! All are welcome!

BENEDICTINE OBLATES: Would you like to learn more about Benedictine spirituality? Oblates of Conception Abbey meet monthly in Des Moines to study the Rule of St. Benedict as a means of fostering their own spiritual growth. Oblates are men and women who affiliate with a monastery to pray with the monks and attempt to live the Rule in our world. We are inviting anyone interested to join us for our January meeting, when Fr. Daniel Petsche, OSB (our Oblate Director) will be presenting the Oblate program. We will meet from 2:30-5:00 p.m. on January 27 in the parish hall. We will have a potluck meal, discussion, and close with Vespers. Come join us. Please bring a dish to share. The well of wisdom in the Rule is very deep, and you may discover it adds a wonderful dimension to your spiritual life. If you have questions about this meeting, please call Pamela or David Meis at 515-285-7703, or email: MeisIsMe@live.com



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: CHRISTMAS BREAK-
December 17 - January 2. School will resume on Thursday, January 3.

FOR SALE: Basilica owned, Cub Cadet snow thrower 5Z6 SWF, 8hp, two-stage. Runs great, needs a new auger gear box. \$300. Call the parish office (515-244-3101, ext. 0) for contact information.



ADVENT ANGEL TREE: If you took an Angel from the tree, please purchase the gift, wrap it and **return it to the parish hall by Wednesday, December 19** so the items can be distributed to the families on Saturday, December 22. If you have questions, please call Jenifer at 515-681-9368. Thank you!

VOLUNTEER NEEDED: An disabled parishioner is in need of some help with snow removal this winter. If you are able to help, please call Christina at 515-250-4240.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Bishop's Discernment Retreat: Bishop Pates is offering a unique opportunity to think about and pray about whether God is calling young men to the priesthood. The discernment retreat is December 21-23 and for men who are high school age or older. Email Father Ross Parker if you are interested,

