



Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word. (Luke 1:38)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

These last days of Advent bring to light the faith of the glorious Virgin Mary and of St. Joseph. They trusted in the promises of the Lord, and through their cooperation with the Divine Plan brought about the Father's own plan for salvation. As we come close to the celebration of the Lord's birth, let us rejoice in the coming of Christ among us.

The parish office will be closed from noon on December 24th until December 27th for the celebration of the Lord's Nativity.

I thank you for your generosity thus far to help pull the parish out of its current debt. Please keep in mind the needs of the parish during these days. Remember to make your extra donations before December 31st.

I wish you all the joy of this most Holy Season. May the Lord's special graces and blessings be with you!

A blessed Christmas to all!

Pastor

WEEKLY INCOME from – 12/16/18

Total - \$62,346.32
Need - \$21,198.08

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

YTD Total rec'd - \$457,424.13
YTD Needed - \$529,952.00

REMAINING ELEVATOR DEBT: \$197,000.00



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 22 TO DECEMBER 30
TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS**

SAT 22 4:00PM +Maria Tran
6:00PM Spanish Mass

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

WED 26 12:00PM +Helen Homan

THU 27 12:00PM For those who have no one to pray for them

FRI 28 12:00PM +Bill Tegeler

SAT 29 9:00AM +Nancy Holland

(Vigil Mass)
4:00PM +Maria Caterina Raymond

SUN 8:30AM +Maria Nguyen Family

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:

Last week's question: * **When is the infallibility of the Magisterium exercised?***
ANSWER: Infallibility is exercised when the Roman Pontiff, in virtue of his office as the Supreme Pastor of the Church, or the College of Bishops, in union with the Pope especially when joined together in an Ecumenical Council, proclaim by a definitive act a doctrine pertaining to faith or morals. Infallibility is also exercised when the Pope and Bishops in their ordinary Magisterium are in agreement in proposing a doctrine as definitive. Every one of the faithful must adhere to such teaching with the obedience of faith.



The Basilica of St. John
Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 23, 2018

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK		
DECEMBER 24 THRU DECEMBER 30		
MON 24	Parish Office closed at noon 9:00AM NO Adoration 6:30PM NO RCIA**	
TUE 25	Merry Christmas Parish Office Closed	
WED 26	Parish Office Closed 8:00AM NO Catholic School House** 9:00AM NO Adoration	
THU 27	8:00AM Organ Practice 10:00AM NO Catechesis Class 10:30AM Organ Practice+++ 7:00PM NO Choir	
FRI 28	9:00AM Adoration Begins@ 9:30AM NO H.S. Humanities Class** 6:30PM Hispanic Baptism Class*	
SAT 29	8:30AM Chaplet of Divine Mercy##	
SUN 30	8:00AM Vietnamese Prayer Group+ St. Vincent de Paul 2nd Collection	
SIGN INDICATORS +++ = Choir Loft; ** = School; @ = Chapel; * = Rectory + = Church Hall; ## = Church; % = Conference Room; (N) = (North Hall); (S) = (South Hall)		



ALTAR & ROSARY: The Altar & Rosary Society would like to thank all of those who helped make our Bake Sale a tremendous success. From baking, to working and purchasing, we could not have done it without you. As you know, the Altar & Rosary mission is to support this beautiful church and liturgy in any way we can and your generosity will help us in our mission. Thanks again!

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Schedule changes over the holidays: NO Adoration Monday, December 24, Wednesday, December 26 or Monday December 31. *There will be Adoration on Friday, December 28. The normal schedule will resume on Wednesday, January 2, 2019. Adorers are needed on Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays. If you can spend an hour with our Lord, call Jenifer at 244-3101, ext. 204.*

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.

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

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of December 24, 2018:	
Monday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Lk 1:67-79 <i>Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25</i> <i>Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; ; Lk 2:1-14</i>
Tuesday:	Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
Wednesday:	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
Thursday:	1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday:	1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Mt 2:13-18
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Col 3:12-21; Lk 2:41-52



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: May the Joy of Christ's birth fill your thoughts with peace, your heart with joy, and your life with the love that is Christmas. A very joyful Christmas to you all from the staff and students of Holy Family School!

LIFELINES: Christmas is the Feast of the Incarnation and Christ takes on a human body precisely so as to offer the sacrifice of that body that saves the world. "A Savior is born for you." He is a savior precisely because he bears our human nature, and has a human body like we do – a body offered on the cross and in the Eucharist. As we see in readings and the Gospels, the details of His birth are carefully planned by God and foretold by his prophets. His birth is all about hope fulfilled and hope inspired. That hope outlasts his birth, and extends to us today as we work to build a world in harmony with the vision of peace, life, and love that Christmas inspires. Abortion is diametrically opposed to this vision of peace, life and love. May all believers and their clergy, take renewed strength and courage to speak out against abortion, consistent with the vision of Christmas and the proclamation of the Gospel. (pro-lifearticle.org)

VOLUNTEER NEEDED: A 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

Remember Our Smallest Clients: Catholic Charities is always in need of diapers (size 3-6) and baby wipes at the Outreach Center. Donations can be dropped off Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. at 1815 Hubbell Ave. in Des Moines. Financial gifts can be made online at CatholicCharitiesDM.org. Call 515-262-7290 if you have questions.

