



Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths: all flesh shall see the salvation of God. (Luke 3:4, 6)

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

In baptism we were named for Christ. This means that every day we are called upon to look around us for the presence of Christ in the world, and to live so that others see Christ present in us. Advent is a time for reflection on our relationship with the Lord and how he has fulfilled the great promises he has made to us. Let us continue our Advent preparation in a spirit of hope and with a resolve to become more Christ-like.

Congratulations to the winners of the Raffle: Melody Taninies, Michael Barten, Martha Galecki, Charles Wadle and Maria Campbell. My thanks to all of you who participated in this annual fundraiser to support our parish. Money collected from the ticket sales totaled \$3500.

This weekend there will be a second national collection for the retired religious for the United States. This collection goes to support the elderly religious and priests who have served the Church so well in the past. Please do what you can to help.

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.

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 – 12/02/18

Total - \$17,714.87

Need - \$21,198.08

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

YTD Total rec'd - \$369,775.22

YTD Needed - \$487,555.84

REMAINING ELEVATOR DEBT: \$224,500.00



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 8 TO DECEMBER 16 TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS		
SAT 08	4:00PM	+Kay Davis
	6:00PM	Spanish Mass
SUN 09	8:30AM	Parish & Benefactors
	10:30AM	Friends/Benefactors of Franciscan Sisters FEHJ
MON 10	12:00PM	+Rachel Hanian
TUE 11	12:00PM	+Clarence Galecki
WED 12	12:00PM	+Charles Frey
THU 13	12:00PM	+Mary Jean Gouger
FRI 14	12:00PM	+Lynn O'Leary
SAT 15	9:00AM	+James D. Brien, Sr.
		(Vigil Mass)
	4:00PM	+Whipple & Gabriel Families
SUN 16	8:30AM	+Lucille Molloy
	10:30AM	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:

Last week's question: *How do the Bishops carry out their mission of teaching?*

ANSWER: Since they are authentic witnesses of the apostolic faith and are invested with the authority of Christ, the bishops in union with the Pope have the duty of proclaiming the Gospel faithfully and authoritatively to all. By means of a supernatural sense of faith, the people of God unfailingly adhere to the faith under the guidance of the living Magisterium of the Church.



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL: Advent services will be held each Monday morning at 8:15am in the school gym during the season of Advent. Families are welcome to attend as we prepare for Christmas. Christmas break is December 14 (12:00pm dismissal)--January 2. School will resume on Thursday, January 3. Please make sure you make arrangements for the 12:00pm dismissal. A.C.E.S. will be open the afternoon of December 14.



The Basilica of St. John
Second Sunday of Advent
December 9, 2018

Respect
Life



YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK
DECEMBER 10 THRU DECEMBER 16

MON 9:00AM Adoration Begins@
 10 4:00PM Organ Practice
 6:00PM 4th Degree KC Mass & Potluck###
 6:30PM RCIA**

TUE 8:45AM Organ Practice+
 11 3:00PM Seraphic's Rehearsal###
 5:00PM H.S. Humanities Class**
 5:00PM NO Organ Practice+++

WED 8:00AM Catholic School House Classes**
 12 9:00AM Adoration Begins@
 10:00 AM Bible Study+
 11:30AM Hall in use
 6:30PM Guadalupe Mass & Reception###
 6:15PM Religious Ed. **+
 7:30PM St. Jude's R.E.

THU 8:00AM Organ Practice
 13 10:00AM Catechesis Class
 10:30AM Organ Practice+++
 9:00AM Hall in use+
 7:00PM Choir Room in use+++
 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal+++
 7:30PM Catechist's Meeting**

FRI 9:00AM Adoration until 12:00 noon@
 14 9:30AM H.S. Humanities Class**
12:00PM Parish Office Closed
 4:00PM Hall in use

SAT 8:30AM Chaplet of Divine Mercy###
 15 10:00AM Secular Franciscan Meeting**
 1:00PM Reising/Martell Wedding

SUN 8:00AM Vietnamese Prayer Group+
 16 12:00PM Pastoral Council Meeting+
 7:00PM Church in use##

Daily Scripture Readings for the week of December 10, 2018:

Monday: Is 35:1-10; Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:39-47
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

LIFELINES: Some former abortion providers have seen the error of their ways and are now staunchly pro-life. Their statements are very revealing. ±"My heart got callous against the fact that I was a murderer, but that baby lying in a cold bowl educated me to what abortion really was." Dr. David Brewer M.D. ± "We were told to find the woman's weakness and work on it. The women were never given any alternatives. They were told how much trouble it was to have a baby". Debra Henry, former abortionist counselor. (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!

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: The Advent Angel Tree is in the ramp area of the church. If you take 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!

ADORERS ARE NEEDED: We are in need of faith-filled people who would like to share their time with the Lord. Adoration is held on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. If you would like to sign up to spend an hour with Our Lord, contact Jenifer at 244-3101 ext. 204.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

It's Go Time! The St. Pius X Parish annual Gala, sponsored by the St. Pius X Home & School Association, will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 at 6 p.m. in the Parish Center. Come join fellow parishioners for a night of live music, live and silent auctions, dinner, drinks, fellowship, and more! Tickets are available now, visit e.givesmart.com/events/brw to register. Tickets are \$55/each or \$480/reserved table for 8.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend: The holidays are coming! Give your spouse the perfect gift, the gift of quality time with you for an entire weekend. Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends allow couples private time to focus on their relationship and rediscover the one they fell in love with. Sign up for upcoming weekends to ensure your spot. Gift certificates are available by calling the phone number below, Upcoming dates: March 8-10 LaCrosse, WI; April 12-14 Ankeny, IA; May 3-5 Dubuque, IA. For more information visit our website at: iowa-wwme.org or call 563-608-3305 or email jljwwme08@gmail.com.

DIVORCED? *The Catholic's DIVORCE SURVIVAL Guide* 12-week group begins December 13th at St. Augustin Parish, 545 42nd St. Des Moines, IA 50312. Meetings are from 6-8 p.m. Cost of \$30 per person includes a "Personal Survival Guide" and all materials for 12 weeks. Find comfort and counsel consistent with Catholic teachings. Call Bill and Ann Moore for more information, or to register, at 515-480-3314 (Bill) 641-425-0109 (Ann) or email moorefamilysm@gmail.com. For info.: www.catholicdivorce.com.