

MASS INTENTIONS—December 17th—December 25th
Saturday—5pm +Vera J. VanMieghem
 (Charlie VanMieghem & Cathy Taylor)
Sunday—8am +Gary Severt (Dan and Cheri Allen)
 10am People of St. Patrick's Parish
Monday—8am +Pat Journot (Jerry & Sylvia McKinney)
Tuesday—8am +Aggie Vanmiddlesworth
 (Charlene Stottmann)
Wednesday—8am Deceased Members of the Riggs
 & Rossillon Families (Tim & Linda McMillan)

Thursday—7am +Mary Jo Severt (Rita Horton)
Friday—7am (Latin) The Holy Souls in Purgatory
 (John and Sonja Schibi)
 Next Weekends Intentions:
Saturday—6pm +Deceased Members of John H.
 Gottschalk Family
Midnight Mass—12am People of St. Patrick's
Sunday—7:30am (Latin) Borkenhagen/Flax Families
 9am Joe Dwyer



PLEASE PRAY FOR: Joe Heppler,
 Jim Schibi, Juanita Wilkerson,
 Ramona Carnahan, Jim VanLeeuwen

Eternal Rest Grant Unto him, O Lord: **Bob Vernon**, husband of Roberta Vernon and father of Carol Ludwig and husband, Mark. **Vicki Sallee**, sister of Diane Salyers and husband, Lee. And Let Perpetual Light Shine Upon him. May he Rest in Peace. Amen.

PARISH NEWS

“IN THE BEGINNING...” (A journey through the development of a child—a parallel of Christ being formed in the womb from March 25th-December 25th). **Week 39**—Chris now weighs between 5 and 9 pounds. The average size baby is 7 pounds. It's really crowded in here and it's very hard to move. The umbilical cord doesn't have any nerve endings (this means that neither mom nor Chris will feel any pain when it is cut!) and is about 20 inches long and about 1/2 inch thick. The good news for mom is it's easier to breathe because the baby is moving down. The bad news is mom may be running to the bathroom every two minutes. *“Then God, who had specially chosen me while I was still in my mother's womb...” Gal. 1:15*

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK—“Do not be afraid to take Mary into your home.” Anyone, everyone, take Mary into your home. As Catholics everything we believe and all our devotions to the Blessed Mother just bring us closer to Jesus. God chose to come to us through Mary. So it makes sense that we go back to Him through Mary as well. Advent literally means “to come”. And there are three comings we celebrate: the anniversary of Baby Jesus' birth, preparation for His coming at the end of time, and the invitation for Christ to come into hearts right now. That invitation is fulfilled most easily with Mary's intercession, and most profoundly in the Sacraments. So during this last week of school, last week of Advent, let us all together welcome Mary into our homes so that Jesus may dwell with us. God Bless, *Smilio Aita*

CHRISTMAS DECORATING—Please, help decorate our beautiful church for Christmas today at Noon. We need muscles and an eye to decorate! Remember, the more help we have, the quicker we can get it all done! There's usually pizza involved!

ADOPT-A-MOM—We've added a few more items to the tree! And we are giving you until Wednesday, December 21st to return your wrapped items to the Rectory. Thanks for a great response so far!

SPEND ONE HOUR WITH OUR LORD!
Adorers are needed for the following hours:
Wed 3-4am, Tues 10-11am, Sat 2-3am,
Sat 5-6pm (every other weekend),
Sat 6-7pm (every other weekend),
Sat 10-11pm, Sun 12-1am, Sun 5-6am.

FIGHTING FOR YOUR MARRIAGE—For four Tuesdays beginning January 10th from 6:30-9:30 p.m. Our culture puts out many things that fight against our Sacrament of marriage today. This program helps couples figure out how to navigate their marriage journey successfully and instead fight for their marriage. Cost is \$130 which includes a couples kit with all the materials and workbooks needed for the class. Babysitting will be available, but you must call the Spiritual Life Center in advance at (316)744-0167 or email kristi@slcwichita.org

Stewarding our Gifts...

“GO IN PEACE, GLORIFYING THE LORD BY YOUR LIFE.”
Fourth Sunday in Advent

Hundreds of years before Jesus was born of Mary, Isaiah prophesied that a virgin would conceive and bear a son as a sign to the king, Ahaz. The fulfillment of the scriptural prophesy of the virgin birth helped the people of Jesus' time recognize that he was sent by God. Through the angel's message to Joseph, we come to understand the depth of God's love in sending his Son to us. Throughout Advent the readings from Isaiah encouraged us to exult in the glory of God's coming. May our celebration of Christmas open our hearts to the love and mercy generously given by our Heavenly Father.

Stewardship of Treasure

YOUR GIFTS TO GOD AND PARISH:

December 10th-December 11th

NEEDED: \$17,081.46 RECEIVED: \$8,604.00

FYI—Listen to Sunday homilies on the parish website. Both are now accessible from the Home page—www.stpatricksparsons.org

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. PATRICK'S THIS WEEK:

Sun Dec 18	*RCIA Class—The Eucharist/The Mass 9:15am-12pm	
	*Church Decorating!!!	12pm
	—All are invited to come help—“Many hands make light work.”	
Mon Dec 19	*Rosary in the Church	7:30am
	*Confessions	12-1pm
	*Confessions	6-7pm
Tue Dec 20	*Rosary in the Church	7:30am
	*Confessions	12-1pm
	*Cursillo Group Meets	5:30pm
	*Confessions	6-7pm
	*Parish Library Work Day	6:30pm
	—Parish Hall	
	*Frassati Rehearsal for Christmas	7pm
Wed Dec 21	*Return Adopt-a-Mom/Family Gifts	
	*Rosary in the Church	7:30am
	*Confessions	12-1pm
	*Cursillo Group Meets	5:15pm
	*Confessions	6-7pm
Thur Dec 22	*Rosary in the Church	6:30am
	*Confessions	12-1pm
	*Confessions	6-7pm
	*Theology on Tap—Kitchen Pass	6:30pm
Fri Dec 23	*Day of Penance: abstinence from meat, prayer and works of mercy, reading of Sacred Scripture for an outpouring of God's mercy and the Holy Spirit's gifts of holiness and strength upon the Church	
	*Rosary in the Church	6:30am
	*Confessions	12-1pm
	*Confessions	6-7pm
Sat Dec 24	*Rosary	6:30am
	*Latin Mass	7am
	*Cursillo Group Meets	7:40am
	*Confessions	3:30pm
	*Christmas Vigil Mass	6pm
	*Midnight Mass	12am
Sun Dec 25	*Merry Christmas!!!	
	*No RCIA Class	



ANOTHER SMART USE OF YOUR IRA—Last year, Congress made the IRA charitable rollover permanent. This allows taxpayers who are required to withdraw money from their IRAs to give directly to their parish. While you won't receive an income tax deduction for this, you also won't pay any income tax on the transfer.

Requirements for making an IRA rollover:

- You must be age 70 1/2 or older.
- You must transfer money directly from your IRA to your parish.
- You can give up to \$100,000 annually from your IRA.

Altar Servers:

Dec 24—6pm **All Frassati Servers**
 Dec 25—12am **All Frassati Servers**
 9am **All Frassati Servers**

Extraordinary Ministers:

Dec 24—6pm Bill Wheat
 Dec 25—12am No one is needed
 9am Harry Heppler

Lector:

Dec 24—6pm Steve Ramsey
 Dec 25—12am Seminarian James Schibi
 9am Joanna Wilson

Offertory Gifts:

Dec 24—6pm Ray and Lori Nolting
 Dec 25—12am Whoever is available, please
 9am Terry and LeeAnn Hunter

Ushers:

Dec 24—6pm T & B Westhoff / C VanMeighem
 Dec 25—12am Whoever is available, please
 9am M & S Martin/Heppler/Schibi/Alexander

Money Counters:

Dec 24 & 25—Ray and Becky Jacquinet
 Gary and Judy Harris

The Catholic Side

Praised Be Jesus Christ!

This past week we upgraded some of the parts of our sound system. We transferred the pulpit (where the readings are done) microphone from battery operated to direct line of electricity. We replaced the microphone I wear on my vestments. And we also now have a new offering for those of you who might have hearing difficulties; we have six machines that have ear pieces to amplify the sound directly into your ear. These will be available beginning Christmas Eve. If you would like one, please approach the ushers and ask for one and they will give you one to use for that Holy Mass. Please, please, please make sure to return them to the ushers. As you might imagine, they are not cheap. Hopefully this will help everyone to be able to hear better (especially the homily :) . Also, I won't have to worry about the batteries dying at the ambo when Fr. McElwee is here, and you'll be able to hear him, too. Sounds like a win, win situation (bad pun intended).

I have thoroughly loved having the full Advent calendar this year. It seems like I am able to get some things done that I normally either give up on, or have to rush to finish at the last minute. It also makes it so easy to have extra Confession times. If you haven't polished up your soul for Christmas, yet, make sure to take advantage of the extra 10 hours of Confessions we have this week. Please note that there are no Confessions on Saturday, December 24th at the normal time.

Speaking of normal times, I want to draw your attention to the schedule of Holy Masses for Christmas and New Year's.

IT IS NOT THE SAME AS A WEEKEND SCHEDULE:

Christmas Eve:

6:00pm—Music by the Children's Choir

Christmas Day:

Midnight—Music by St. Pat's Grand Choir

7:30 am Latin Low Mass

9:00am English Mass—Music by

Anne Brewer and Luke and Bridget Gilmore

New Year's Eve: 4:00pm

(Confessions from 3:00 - 3:30pm)

New Year's Day: 9:00am

10:00am

Beginning around noon on Sunday the 18th, we will decorate the church for Christmas. It is a big job, so if you have some time, please show up and help out with preparing our church for the Christmas season.

Finally, I want to encourage you all to take some time each day this week to have some silence in preparation for the great mystery of Christmas. Take a few moments for private reflection, read the Advent *Magnificat*, pray the *O Antiphons* (they are printed on the Advent and Christmas schedule), so that your hearts as well as your homes are ready for this joyful season!

May our holy patron, St. Patrick, intercede for us. St. Joseph, Protector of the Holy Family and Patron of the Universal Church, pray for us. Our Lady, Mother of God, pray for us.

Peace in Jesus and Mary,

Fr. Borkenhagen

JUST A REMINDER—Please drop your Stewardship packets in the collection plate at your earliest convenience! Thanks so much!