



Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 1, 2019

First Sunday of Advent (A)

Is 2:1-5

Rom 13:11-14

Mt 24:37-44

God Is Near

[Jesus said,]
"So too, you also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come."
MATTHEW 24:44

Be prepared! But for what? Since we're entering the season of Advent, we might think that we're called to prepare for the birth of Jesus. Advent is certainly the time to prepare for Christmas, but it's much more than that, for God comes into our lives in many different ways, even today. We see evidence of that when, working together, we rebuild not only cities, as Isaiah describes in the first reading, but relationships in families, parishes, and countries.

Remarkable changes take place in our lives when, as Paul bids us, we "throw off the works of darkness," works of rivalry and jealousy (Romans 13:12). God comes to us every day with the power we need to improve ourselves and our world. God often comes quietly in ways so ordinary we might miss them. That is the point of Jesus' insistence to "stay awake" and "be prepared" (Matthew 24:42, 44).

God certainly came long ago as a human being. That was a one-time-only event. We believe that God will come again at the end. That, too, will happen only once. But God comes more often than this. God comes every day to help us be our better selves. This is what the Advent readings tell us.

What can we do? How are we to prepare for God's coming? Today's readings tell us. We must work for the peace that Isaiah describes; we must throw off the works of darkness, as Paul instructs; and we must do as Jesus tells us: stay awake and be prepared.

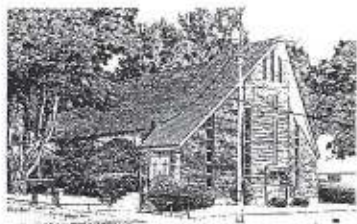
—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ★ Where do you see people's goodness that tells us God is near?
- ★ What can you do to make that goodness present to others?



Editor's note: Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA, is pleased to join you at Mass over the next three liturgical years, beginning with today's reflection. A sister of St. Agnes, Sr. Dianne earned a master's degree and a doctorate from Saint Louis University, and honorary degrees and accolades from many organizations. She is professor of biblical studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.



Holy Trinity - Cherry

St. Patrick - Arlington

St. Thomas More - Dalzell

3 Church Website: www.bureaucatholic.org

The Main Office Of Holy Trinity &
St. Patrick Catholic Church Is Located At:

212 S. Main St., PO Box 159

Cherry, IL 61317-0159

Holy Trinity Parish Church & Rectory

Office Phone: (815) 894-2006

Office Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com

Medical Emergency Phone: (815) 664-8241 ****New**

Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

9:00AM to Noon

Closed Holidays & Holy Days of Obligation

Administration

Pastor: Fr. Patrick Fixsen

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Assistant: Julie Hollinger

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St. Thomas More Church Office

302 Chestnut St.

Dalzell, IL 61320

Office Phone: (815) 663-6201

St. Thomas More Society (Ravs/Hall) - (815) 252-2215

Open Wednesdays - 9AM - Noon

Email: thomasmore32@gmail.com

Mass & Confession Schedule

Holy Trinity Catholic Parish

Weekend Masses

Sunday Vigil (Saturday) - 4:00 PM

Sunday Mass - 8:30 AM

Daily Mass (Weekdays) (Holy Days - See Schedule)

Tuesday - 12:15 PM & Thursday - 8:30 AM

Confessions

Saturday - 3:15 - 3:45PM or By Appointment

Mass Schedule

St. Patrick Catholic Parish

106 Church St.

Arlington, IL

Sunday Mass - 10:30 AM

Holy Days of Obligation Refer To Schedule

Mass Schedule

St. Thomas More Church - Dalzell, IL

Vigil Mass (Saturday) 5:30 PM

Weekday Mass (Wednesday & Friday) - 8:00 AM*

Sunday Last Chance Mass 5:30 PM

Confessions By Appointment

Holy Day of Obligation Refer To Schedule

Divine Mercy Adoration Chapel - Open 8am - 8pm (M-Sat)

Sunday - Open 8am until conclusion 5:30pm Mass

****Divine Mercy Chaplet - Every Friday at 3 PM**

Daily Mass Intentions for

Masses the Week of December 2, 2019

Offered For

Monday

St. Patrick, Arlington - 5:30pm

† No Mass

Tuesday

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 12:15pm

† Alan Hahn

Wednesday

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 8:00am

† Ron & Lynn Raef

Thursday

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 8:30am

† Lucille Pinter

Friday

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 8:00am

† Madelyn & Art Hahn

Next Weekend's Mass Intentions

Weekend of December 7-8, 2019

Saturday Vigil:

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 4:00 PM

† Connie Lauer

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30 PM

† Julie Taliani

Sunday:

Holy Trinity, Cherry - 8:30 AM

† For The Parishioners

St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM

† Raymond Newell

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30 PM

† James Lusietto

Ministry Schedule For Next Weekend

Holy Trinity

LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - Tina Dominy

Sunday - 8:30AM - Jeff Pinter

SERVERS

Saturday - 4:00PM -

?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

COUNTERS

Sunday - 8:30AM -

Nancy Lowry & Lisa Clinton

St. Patrick

LECTOR

Sunday - 10:30AM - Bernice Keutzer

SERVERS

Sunday - 10:30AM -

? & ?

St. Thomas More

ROSARY

Sat 5:30PM - TBD

LECTOR

Sat 5:30PM - TBD

SERVERS

Sat 5:30PM - ?

Visit Venerable Fulton Sheen At Cathedral in Peoria

Monday - Friday 12pm - 2pm

Saturday 3pm - 6pm

Sunday 9am - 2pm

UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

December 4 - Rosary Against Evil - St. Thomas More (Dalzell) - 6PM

December 5 - St. Patrick Christmas Choir Practice - SP Church - 6PM

December 5 - St. Thomas More Society Meeting - 6PM - STM Hall

December 7 - St. Patrick Sausage Making - 8am into Afternoon - Hall (Order forms in back of each church)

December 11 - Rosary Against Evil - St. Thomas More (Dalzell) - 6PM

Last Sunday's Offering

Holy Trinity - \$2177.00

St. Patrick - \$673.00

St. Thomas More - \$719.00

St. Patrick's Events

Christmas Choir & A&R Dinner

There will be practices for the Christmas Choir before the Christmas Eve Mass at 9:30PM. The practices will be at St. Pats Church starting at 6PM on Thursday, Dec. 5, Dec. 12 & Dec. 19. All voices are welcome!

Also the Altar & Rosary Christmas Party will be on December 4, 2019 at 6PM at the Coal Company in Cherry. There is a sign-up sheet in back of church.

The Rosary Against Evil

The rosary that we continue to pray on Wednesday nights at 6PM will be prayed at St. Thomas More Church during the month of December in Dalzell. The weeks where Mass and Rosary is prayed together on Monday there is no Wednesday rosary. It is our time to show God, Jesus, Mary how much we need their help to fight the evil around us. Praying as a community has great strength to get God's attention for our needs and His help. And the rosary is and always has been our greatest weapon against evil! So please come and join us! St. Patrick's

Weather Warning Notice

With the winter's unpredictable snowfall, it is always hard to plan or prepare for, so just be cautious. Please stay home if you have health or physical difficulties dealing with the extreme weather. If the roads are too icy or not plowed because of fresh snow, the immediate Mass to be celebrated could be cancelled and my parishioners will be dispensed. But please put into the collection the following week what you would have put in for the cancelled Mass. Unfortunately, the bills still keep coming in! A good rule is if the weather is good enough to go the store, sports event, or otherwise, you should go to Mass. Check with WLPO (1220AM), WZOE (1490AM) and BCR Alerts for cancellations. If you aren't signed up for BCR alerts, check with Julie in the office.

Vincentian Parish Mission

An area favorite, Rev. Robert Gielow, CM will be returning for a parish mission at St. Patrick Church in LaSalle on December 2-4 each night at 7PM.

The subject is an important one about making more time for Jesus Christ in our lives. And stop being busy with the

Special Event In Area

December 17 - Christmas Pie & Coffee - Noon-3PM - Holy Trinity Hall

For The Week

On the First Sunday of Advent, we all have a lot to think about such as where to celebrate Christmas, who to invite, what gifts to get people, and then usually, when will I go to Christmas Mass. But this year we have a need to keep ourselves closer to Jesus Christ than we have ever before. Jesus Christ is about to separate those who have great faith from those who don't. And all we need to do is make this holy time, a time of rebirth in our faith in Christ.

Advent is the time for us to prepare for Jesus' coming in the world as He did over 2000 years ago but also for us His second coming! Are we living the lives of faith that would please God and Jesus Christ? Or have we been selfish with our time and forgotten about the need for Jesus Christ in our lives? Whatever it is for us, Jesus always wants us. If we have been away from Him, going to confession will bring us back in His good grace. If we have stayed close to Him, the love of God means much more to us as we celebrate Jesus' birth. May God always bless us with His Real Presence!

ADA Goals 2019-20

Holy Trinity - \$17589.00

Pledges To Date \$4210.00 (24%)

St. Patrick - \$9902.00

Pledges To Date \$5289.00 (53%)

St. Thomas More - \$12554.00

Pledges To Date \$1265.00 (10%)

Sacramental Preparation

Baptisms: Preparation is required for the first child in the family. Baptisms are scheduled on Sundays at noon or by special arrangement. Please contact Father to setup an appointment.

Marriages: Preparations need to be started one year before the Wedding date. Please contact Father for more information.

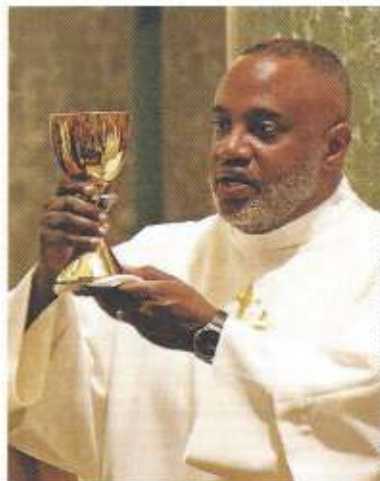
Rite of Christian Initiation: Per Canon Law of the Catholic Church, anyone over the age of seven years old is to observe the requirements of the RCIA, unless there is a danger of death. If anyone has not received all of the sacraments; baptism, First Communion or Confirmation, please talk to Father.

Dear Padre,

A eucharistic minister at a parish we were visiting refused my eight-year-old granddaughter Communion from the cup. Her father asked if this was parish policy, and the minister replied, "No, I refuse!" My grandchild receives both species in our home parish. Can a eucharistic minister refuse the Blood of Christ to anyone?

According to the United States Conference of Catholic bishops, "It is the choice of the communicant, not the minister, to receive from the chalice. Children are encouraged to receive Communion under both kinds, provided they are properly instructed and that they are old enough to receive from the chalice" (*Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds*, 46–47). Children who have reached the age of reason—normally about age seven—are usually advised on this matter of reception by their parents or guardians before they step up to the chalice at Mass. In addition, first-Communion instructions provide adequate preparation on the proper and reverent reception of holy Eucharist.

Essentially, children eligible to receive this sacrament are entitled to participate in the same manner as other members of the ecclesial community. "Sacred ministers cannot deny the sacraments to those who seek them at appropriate times, are properly disposed, and are not prohibited by law from receiving them" (*Code of Canon Law*, 843). While this canon specifically pertains to ordained ministers, it's applicable for all ministers at the service of the faithful who have a right to receive holy Communion by reason of their baptism.



—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We can ask ourselves: Is this sacrament fulfilled in me? More concretely: Do I just like to be served at the Lord's table or do I get up to serve like the Lord?...And as a Church let us ask ourselves: After receiving Communion many times, have we become people of communion?

—EUCCHARISTIC CONCELEBRATION, APRIL 20, 2018

Calendar

Monday

DECEMBER 2
Advent Weekday
Is 4:2–6
Mt 8:5–11

Tuesday

DECEMBER 3
St. Francis Xavier,
Priest
Is 11:1–10
Lk 10:21–24

Wednesday

DECEMBER 4
Advent Weekday
Is 25:6–10a
Mt 15:29–37

Thursday

DECEMBER 5
Advent Weekday
Is 26:1–6
Mt 7:21, 24–27

Friday

DECEMBER 6
Advent Weekday
Is 29:17–24
Mt 9:27–31

Saturday

DECEMBER 7
St. Ambrose,
Bishop and
Doctor of the Church
Is 30:19–21, 23–26
Mt 9:35–10:1, 5a, 6–8

Sunday

DECEMBER 8
Second Sunday
of Advent
Is 11:1–10
Rom 15:4–9
Mt 3:1–12