



# Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 23, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent (C)

Mi 5:1-4a

Heb 10:5-10

Lk 1:39-45

## True Love Means Sacrifice

God is often present in the little, hidden things of life. Take for example the small town of Bethlehem. This place barely appeared on the maps of the time. Yet in this dull town, overlooked by all, God wished to be born. God isn't into bling.

Look at the ray of light in the painting that shines from the upper left window directly down onto Mary's womb. She carries in her the Light of the World, but it happened in a way unknown to anyone. He is the Light of the World, shining to catch our attention, but he does so in silence, humility, and intimacy.

There is a second aspect of the Incarnation to learn here. Christmas was about a real sacrifice. Mary and Jesus offered their very selves. Hebrews says it wasn't an animal or a wheat offering but Jesus' very body and blood. The same for Mary, as it was her life, her virginity, her very intimacy, that she was opening to God when she agreed to be the mother of the Lord. It's easy to be generous when it doesn't touch too close to home.

So try not to look for glitz and externals this Christmas but for God's hidden presence. And imitate Jesus and Mary by giving of your very self. It's not about a fast, a donation, or extra prayers—as good as

those Advent practices are. But all of this prepares us to give our very selves to him in trust through the hidden acts of love of every day.

— Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Piece: *Annunciation*, 1427  
Artist: Gentile da Fabriano  
Location: Vatican Museums



### For Reflection

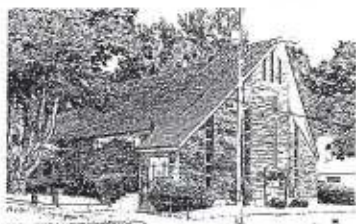
What hidden acts of love can you offer during this upcoming Christmas?

Are there ways you can point out to your children God's presence in the little things?

*We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.*

*Hebrews 10:10*





Holy Trinity - Cherry

St. Patrick - Arlington

St. Thomas More - Dalzell

3 Church Website: [www.bureaucatholic.org](http://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](mailto: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

Email: [frpat.fixsen@gmail.com](mailto:frpat.fixsen@gmail.com)

Assistant: Julie Hollinger

Email: [JulieHTC@outlook.com](mailto:JulieHTC@outlook.com)

St. Thomas More Church Office

302 Chestnut St.

Dalzell, IL 61320

Office Phone: (815) 663-6201

Open Wednesdays - 9AM - Noon

Email: [thomasmore32@gmail.com](mailto: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

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 Every 2nd & 4th Sunday - 4:45-5:15pm

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 24, 2018

Offered For

Christmas Eve (Mon) Holy Trinity, Cherry - 4:00pm

St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:00pm (9:30pm Christmas Music)

† For The Parishioners

Christmas (Tuesday) St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 10:00am

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30pm

† For The Parishioners

† For The Parishioners

† For The Parishioners

Wednesday St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 8:00am

† No Mass

Thursday Holy Trinity, Cherry - 8:30am

† No Mass

Friday St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 8:00am

† Purgatorial Society

**\*\* Divine Mercy - Every Friday at 3PM (St. Thomas More Adoration Chapel)**

Next Weekend's Mass Intentions

Weekend of December 29-30, 2018

Saturday Vigil: Holy Trinity, Cherry - 4:00 PM

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30 PM

† Harry Volant

† For The Parishioners

Sunday: Holy Trinity, Cherry - 8:30 AM

St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM

† Alan Hahn

† William & Florence McDonald

St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 5:30 PM

† Peter Ceresa



## Ministry Schedule For Next Weekend

### Holy Trinity

#### LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - Tina Dominy

Sunday - 8:30AM - Mary Jane Marincic

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Saturday - 4:00PM - David Bernabei

Sunday - 8:30AM - Mary Jo Brust

Saturday - 4:00PM -

Tanner Dominy

Sunday - 8:30AM -

?

### St. Patrick

#### LECTOR

Sunday - 10:30AM - Bruce Galloway

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Sunday - 10:30AM - Ann Kapraun

#### SERVERS

Sunday - 10:30AM -

Claire & Brooke Lovgren

### St. Thomas More

#### ROSARY

Sat 5:30PM - TBD

#### LECTOR

Sat 5:30PM - Mary Ann Schoening

#### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

Sat 5:30PM - Judy Szymowicz

#### SERVERS

Sat 5:30PM - ?

## UPCOMING CHURCH EVENTS

December 26 - Rosary Against Evil -  
Please Pray At Home This Week - 6PM

January 2 - Rosary Against Evil - St.  
Thomas More (Dalzell) - 6PM

January 19 - Trivia Night - HT Hall

January 21 - Mass Reparation Sins/  
Rosary - St. Thomas More (Dalzell) -  
5:30pm

St. Thomas More made 2932 lbs. of  
ravs and 379 lbs. of tortlasch in 2018!

### Last Sunday's Offering

Holy Trinity - \$2372.00

Needed Weekly - \$1700 (-\$16000.00)

St. Patrick - \$644.00

Needed Weekly - \$700 (-\$4949.00)

St. Thomas More - \$1458.00

Needed Weekly - \$900 (\$5447.00)

\*\* (Parentheses) = Overage/Deficit of  
Collection

## Holy Trinity Trivia Night

We are planning a Trivia Night  
for Saturday, January 19th for some fun in  
winter. Snacks and beverages (of all  
kinds) will be available. And we can use  
some help so we all can have loads of fun!  
So please mark it on your calendar.

## Three Church

### BCR Alert System

As Father mentioned last week,  
we are implementing an alert system for  
Mass cancellations or Church Event  
changes. It can either be by phone text or  
email alert. Go to bcrnews.com and click  
on bcrbriefs. Then sign up and scroll to  
Community Cancellations/Notices and  
click on HTSPSTM Parishes. And if you  
need help please let us know. Thank you!

## Weather Warning Notice

With the winter's unpredictable  
snowfall, which is hard to plan on or  
prepare for, please 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 will be  
cancelled and my parishioners will be  
dispensed. But please us by putting 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) for  
cancellations.

## \*\*New Mass Intention Policy For 2019\*\*

One of the big problems is fitting  
in Saturday evening and Sunday Mass  
intentions for everybody. Also per Canon  
Law, Father has to offer one Mass a  
weekend for "The People", also known as  
a "Pro Populo" Mass, which we rotate  
between Holy Trinity and St. Thomas  
More. Starting January 1st, 2019, for all  
Masses scheduled after that date, we  
can only accept three (3) Masses per  
family for Sundays. If we have an  
opening on a Sunday, we will be  
keeping a special list to fill spots. All  
other Masses will have to be for  
weekday Masses.

### Special Event In Area

None Scheduled

## For The Week

This last weekend of Advent  
before celebrating Jesus' birth is one  
we should all be praying for His peace  
to reign in our hearts. We should be  
praying for Jesus to be the focal point  
of our families. We should pray for the  
love that brought Jesus into the world  
will be the same love to sustain us in  
this world today.

We may not remember or  
realize this but when Jesus comes  
again the world will be at war, and  
much more turmoil will be going on,  
while our communication system we  
have been used to will be down. So  
this Christmas, in a very special way,  
is one where our faith is our best and  
longest lasting gift we will have. And  
we need to treasure it and nurture it  
as such. So however we spend this  
Christmas, with or without family,  
Jesus in our heart, mind and soul is  
the love we need the most in our lives  
and our "surest peace". Have a Blessed  
and Merry Christmas!

## ADA Goals 2018-19

Holy Trinity - \$16,421.00

Pledges To Date \$5255 (32%)

St. Patrick - \$11,340.00

Pledges To Date \$5570 (49%)

St. Thomas More - \$10,917.00

Pledges To Date \$4520 (41%)

## 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.



## Calendar

### Monday

DECEMBER 24  
Advent Weekday  
2 Sm 7:1-5,  
8b-12, 14a, 16  
Lk 1:67-79

### Tuesday

DECEMBER 25  
Christmas  
Is 52:7-10  
Heb 1:1-6  
Jn 1:1-18 or  
Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

### Wednesday

DECEMBER 26  
St. Stephen,  
The First Martyr  
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59  
Mt 10:17-22

### Thursday

DECEMBER 27  
St. John, Apostle  
and Evangelist  
1 Jn 1:1-4  
Jn 20:1a and 2-8

### Friday

DECEMBER 28  
The Holy Innocents,  
Martyrs  
1 Jn 1:5-2:2  
Mt 2:13-18

### Saturday

DECEMBER 29  
Fifth Day in the  
Octave of Christmas  
1 Jn 2:3-11  
Lk 2:22-35

### Sunday

DECEMBER 30  
The Holy Family of  
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph  
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or  
1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28  
Col 3:12-21 or  
Col 3:12-17 or  
1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24  
Lk 2:41-52

# Dear Padre,

**Our parish is big into nighttime services. We have the Advent vespers and, of course, Midnight Mass. Is there a reason for doing these services at night?**

Both Advent vespers and Midnight Mass center on our expectation of Jesus coming into our midst as the Light of the World. The vespers prayer is usually celebrated at dusk, as day is turning into night. The service proclaims that the darkness of night will not conquer the Light of Jesus. Christian tradition holds that the ecclesiastical day begins at sunset, in accord with Genesis 1:5: "Evening came, and morning followed—the first day." Vespers, or the Office of Evening, is the first hour of the new Church day.

Both the vespers and the Mass at midnight call us to embrace a new beginning, which is Jesus the Light. This imagery is especially appropriate considering the arrival of the winter solstice. In the beginning of Advent, the nights grow progressively longer. Then, right before Christmas, the winter solstice marks the light's reclaiming of the world.

In the early centuries of Christianity, people from the countryside would gather on Christmas Eve in the warmth of the great monastery church. They would go to confession, be forgiven, sing of the newborn Savior, and participate in the Eucharist. After Eucharist, they would join in a great feast that lasted until sunrise. When you celebrate at Midnight Mass this year, recall that you are proclaiming that Jesus the Light has conquered the darkness again—this year and forever.

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR  
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



CMS PHOTO/VICTOR ALBMAN



## A Word From Pope Francis

*Jesus keeps knocking on our doors, the doors of our lives. He doesn't do this by magic, with special effects, with flashing lights and fireworks. Jesus keeps knocking on our door in the faces of our brothers and sisters, in the faces of our neighbors, in the faces of those at our side.*

—Meeting the homeless, Washington, DC, September 24, 2015