



Our Parish COMMUNITY

December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent (B)

Is 40:1-5, 9-11

2 Pt 3:8-14

Mk 1:1-8

Prepare the Way of the Lord

The admonition in the title of this reflection is found in the reading from Isaiah and in the Gospel passage. Isaiah describes a long line of exiles returning to Jerusalem after many hard years in Babylon. God leads them back home. In preparation for God's and the people's entry, the way is made clear: "Every valley shall be lifted up...The rugged land shall be a plain" (Isaiah 40:4). The road is repaired, just as we might do if someone important were coming to town. The Gospel writer reinterprets this passage. Instead of repairing an actual roadway, the words of John the Baptist prepare for the entrance of Jesus into his public ministry. Despite their differences, both passages

speak of the "way of the Lord," which is the way of salvation.

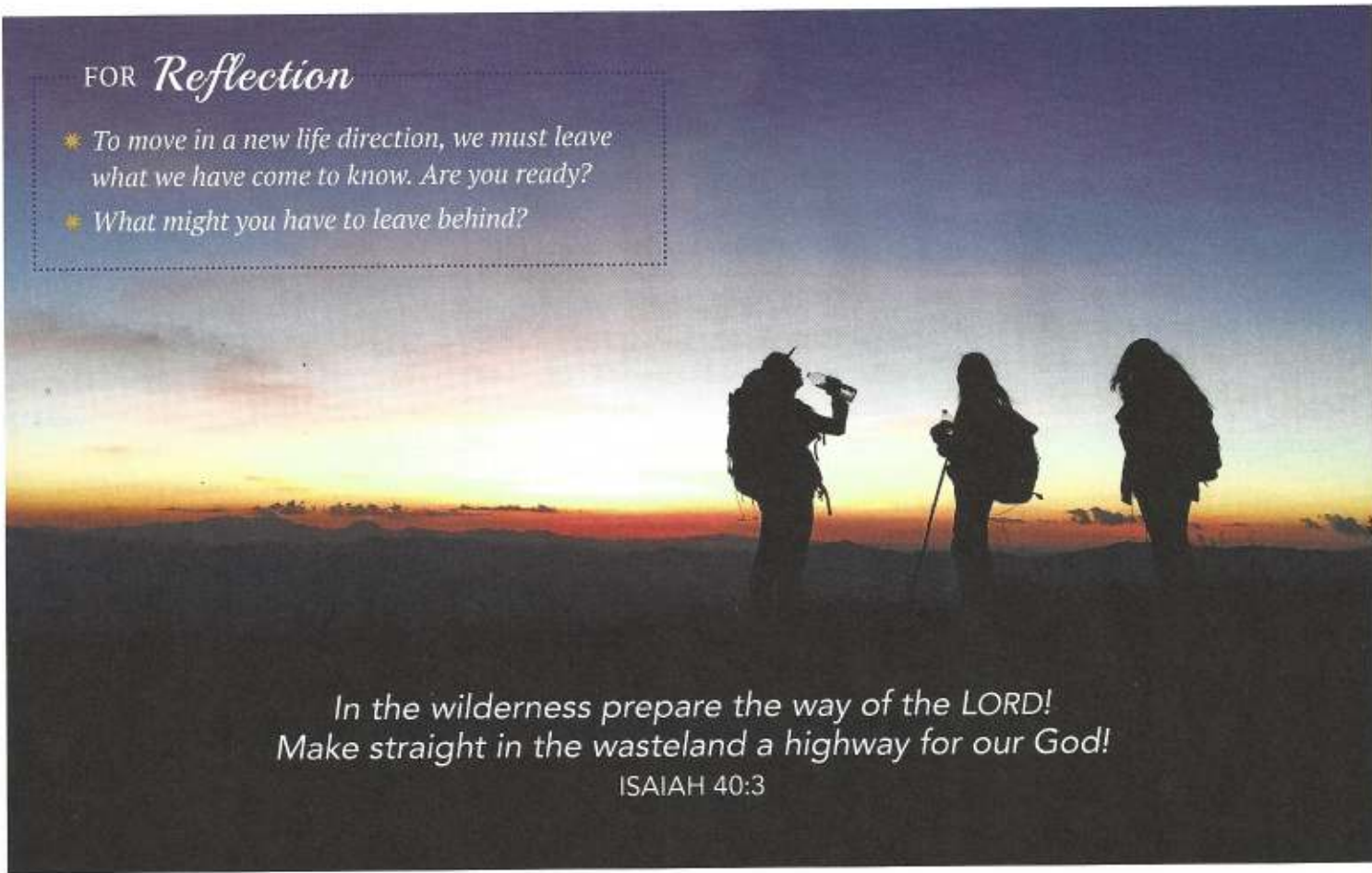
The people are told they will get a new start. In the first reading it will be after exile; in the Gospel it is the new ministry of Jesus. Even St. Peter refers to this newness. He calls it "new heavens and a new earth" (2 Peter 3:13). He goes on to explain what this means. It will be existence "in which righteousness dwells." Saint Peter further states that this will come to pass on "the day of the Lord," the day when God's promises will be fulfilled and "all should come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9-10).

The events described in all three readings unfold because of God's merciful love of all. It is for such a day that we are called to prepare. Are we willing to exert the effort? Are we willing to listen to God's words?

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✧ To move in a new life direction, we must leave what we have come to know. Are you ready?
- ✧ What might you have to leave behind?



*In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!*
ISAIAH 40:3

PHOTO BY TRACHARD KULTANOM FROM PIXELS



Holy Trinity Catholic Church



St. Thomas More Catholic Church



St. Patrick Catholic Church

****Main Office****

Holy Trinity Church & Rectory

212 S. Main St.

PO Box 159

Cherry, IL 61317-0159

Phone: (815) 894-2006

Office Email: HolyTSP@gmail.com

Website: www.bureaucatholic.org

And on Facebook at

"Bureau Catholic Churches".

Mass Schedule

Weekdays - Tuesday 12:15pm and

Thursday - 8:30am

Saturday Confessions - 3:15-3:45 PM

or by appointment

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:00 PM

Sunday Mass - 8:30 AM

***Pastor of the Three Churches**

Fr. Patrick Fixsen

Email: frpat.fixsen@gmail.com

****Upcoming Events At Church****

All Events On Hold

****Emergency Phone****

For All Three Churches

815-664-8241

St. Thomas More Church

302 Chestnut St.

Dalzell, IL 61320

Phone: (815) 663-6201

Email: StTMoreDalzell32@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Weekday Mass -

Wednesday & Friday - 8:00AM

Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:30 PM

Sunday (Last Chance) Mass-

5:30 PM

Adoration Room

Open Monday-Saturday 9AM-8PM

Sunday - 9AM - 6PM

Divine Mercy Prayers

Every Friday 3:00PM

****Upcoming Events At Church****

Dec. 5 & 12 - Chicken Dinner

(Will Call and Limited Delivery)

St. Patrick Church

(Office at Holy Trinity Church)

106 Church St.

Arlington, IL 61312

Phone: (815) 894-2006

Mass Schedule

Sunday Mass - 10:30 AM

***3 Churches Pastoral Assistant**

Julie Hollinger

Email: JulieHTC@outlook.com

****Office Hours****

Holy Trinity - Tues, Thurs, & Fri.

- 9AM-12PM

St. Thomas More -

Wed - 9AM - 12PM

****Facebook: Use Link on Home**

Page - www.bureaucatholic.org

****Upcoming Events At Church****

Dec. 12 - Sausage Making

**Daily Mass Intentions for
Masses the Week of December 7, 2020**

Monday

Tuesday ** **Facebook Link - 9:00AM**STM

****Immaculate Conception **** www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - Noon**HT

SP - In-Church Only - 5:30PMSP

Wednesday

www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 5:30PMSP

Thursday

www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00AMHT

Friday

**Facebook Link - 9:00AM **STM

**Next Weekend's Mass Intentions
Weekend of December 12-13, 2020**

Saturday:

**Facebook Link - 4:00PM **STM

Sunday:

www.bureaucatholic.org/Facebook Link - 9:00 AMHT

St. Patrick, Arlington - 10:30 AM (No Streaming)

****St. Thomas More, Dalzell - 6:00 PM (Last Chance Communion)**

(**Recommendation Watch Our Mass Online Or EWTN Mass Before Receiving Communion)

Offered For

† No Mass

† John Micheli

† For The Parishioners

† Helen & Floyd Williams

† Frances & Susan Flaherty

† Special Intention

† Special Intention (Sick)

Offered For

† For The Parishioners

† Joyce Gillan

† K Coughlin & McNally Fam

† No Mass (Only Holy Communion)

Latest Offering's

Holy Trinity - \$0.00
St. Patrick - \$0.00
St. Thomas More - \$0.00

Visit Venerable Fulton Sheen At Cathedral in Peoria

Monday - Friday 12pm - 2pm
Saturday 3pm - 5pm
(Re-Opened Again)

Ministry Schedule For Next Weekend

Holy Trinity

LECTOR

Saturday - 4:00PM - ?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

SERVERS

Saturday - 4:00PM -

?

Sunday - 8:30AM - ?

COUNTERS

Sunday - 8:30AM -

? & ?

Mass Intentions

We are in need of Mass Intentions for weekday Masses. The Masses on the web are a great occasion for family members not living in this area to pray with us for family members who have died. Please consider having a weekday Mass for a deceased member of your family and thank you. Mass intentions can be paid through our online giving program, mail or dropping by our office.

Recurring Special Church Events

Wednesday's - Rosary - 6PM

(On Website)

(After Wednesday HT Evening Mass)

Friday's - Divine Mercy Chaplet -

On Facebook- 3PM -

St. Thomas More Adoration Chapel

In This Month

Beginning The Advent Season

Food Events Coming Up

St. Thomas More will be having 2 Chicken & Spaghetti Dinners by calling in your order, and will call, and/or delivery for Dalzell people only. The Chicken will be fried and a limited number will be baked. Please call 815-252-4377 or 815-993-7043 to order from 4:30 to 7PM on December 5th & 12th.

Also St. Patrick's is making Nuco's sausage on December 12th from 8am until 4pm. If you would like to help, please come Saturday morning at 8am. Covid procedures for safety are implemented.

If we go back to the time of the Passover, Jews were told to put lambs blood on the door jambs to escape the angel of death. Today, we have been given Exorcised Water and Salt. All we need to do is pray the prayers for protection of homes along with using Exorcised Salt and Water in the prescribed prayers which are available in the back of the church or by the doors of the church. But the prayers need to be prayed from the heart and not just read. Our Heavenly Father wants to feel our sincere desire for our homes to be protected. And He will help us.

The Exorcised Water and Salt is available in two places: St. Patrick and St. Thomas More halls after Masses. For the water, a clean sprayer that can shoot a tight stream would be best to spray around doorways, windows or other openings (like vents) to outside the home. The salt is in little baggies which should be sufficient to use for the prayers. On the four corners of your land.

As this month is when we prepare ourselves to celebrate God sending us His Only Son, we are getting closer every day for Jesus' Second Coming. As such, more confession times will be added to refresh our souls to the grace of God!

Confessions

The next confessions will be at St. Patrick's on Thursday, December 10th from 5:15-6:00pm. Please come to chapel addition on south side of church. Please look through window to see if anyone is inside before entering.

This Week's Update

This second week of Advent we recall John the Baptist and his mission to forgive people's sins through baptism. Forgiveness of sins remains the topic during Advent and our need to always have a clean soul.

On Tuesday, December 8th, we remember the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother so she could be free of sin to conceive Our Lord Jesus Christ. Everyday we are faced with some sin of some type in the midst of the world today. We might feel we need to lie in order to cover something we can't do because of the virus. We might find our time being taken up by extra activities we have to do because of the virus and then feel we have to lie because of it. Maybe if we don't have enough money because of virus work conditions, we might feel we need to steal something. However, underneath everything God knows every step we make, everything we do, whether it be good or bad. So as our sinless Blessed Mother lived free of sin and relied on God to do what is right. We need to rely on God to do what is right, and if we fail, then go to confession. As I add more confessions during Advent, I am making a some changes. I am cancelling the confessions at Holy Trinity on Wednesday the 9th. Confessions will be as noted above on the 10th at St. Patrick's Chapel addition. Then Friday the 11th, confessions at St. Thomas More are from 3:30 - 4:30pm. And again Saturday 12th from 11 - 11:45am. All of you have a big place in my heart, so pray, be holy and stay close to Christ!

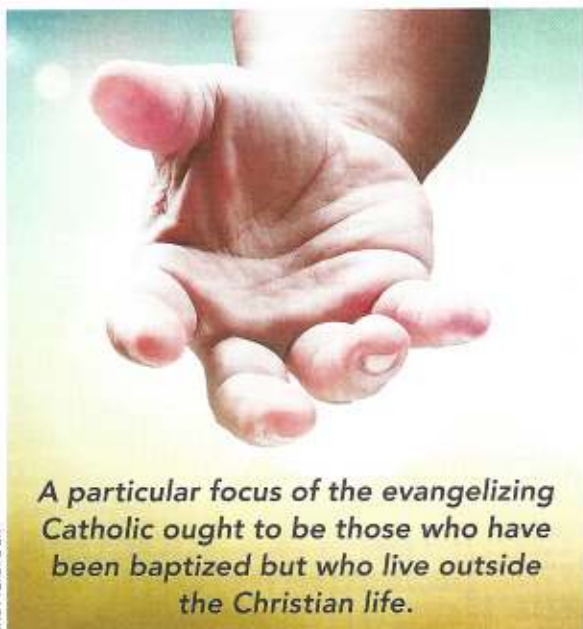
Fr. Pat Fixsen

Dear Padre,

Do we need to evangelize, or spread the gospel, to fellow Catholics?

Yes! Evangelization is beneficial to Catholics who already practice the faith. As St. Paul VI pointed out, "The Church...seeks to deepen, consolidate, nourish and make ever more mature the faith of those who are already called the faithful or believers, in order that they may be so still more" (On Evangelization in the Modern World [*Evangelii Nuntiandi*], 54).

What about nonpracticing Catholics? Yes, again! A particular focus of



A particular focus of the evangelizing Catholic ought to be those who have been baptized but who live outside the Christian life.

the evangelizing Catholic ought to be those who have been baptized but who live outside the Christian life. We already know that a large number of the baptized have not formally repudiated their baptism but do not live in accordance with it. They resist the idea of evangelization out of indifference or a hostility based on the belief that he or she is one of the family, but is "in the know" and no longer believes.

Christ wishes God's love to be proclaimed and

reproclaimed to all Catholics—practicing and nonpracticing. This is the essential mission that Christ gives to his Church—to invite everyone to experience the full impact of God's love in Jesus.

—Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

How beautiful it is to think of ourselves as proclaimers of the resurrection of Jesus, not only in words, but also in our conduct and testimony of life! Jesus does not want disciples who are merely able to repeat memorized formulas. He wants witnesses: people who spread hope with their way of welcoming, smiling, and loving.

—GENERAL AUDIENCE, OCTOBER 4, 2017

Calendar

Monday

DECEMBER 7

St. Ambrose,
Bishop and Doctor
of the Church

Is 35:1–10

Lk 5:17–26

Tuesday

DECEMBER 8

Immaculate Conception
of the Blessed
Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9–15, 20

Eph 1:3–6, 11–12

Lk 1:26–38

Wednesday

DECEMBER 9

Advent Weekday

Is 40:25–31

Mt 11:28–30

Thursday

DECEMBER 10

Advent Weekday

Is 41:13–20

Mt 11:11–15

Friday

DECEMBER 11

Advent Weekday

Is 48:17–19

Mt 11:16–19

Saturday

DECEMBER 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Zec 2:14–17 or

Rv 11:19a; 12:1–6a, 10ab

Lk 1:26–38 or 1:39–47

Sunday

DECEMBER 13

Third Sunday
of Advent

Is 61:1–2a, 10–11

1 Thes 5:16–24

Jn 1:6–8, 19–28