

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 1, 2024

GIVING SEASON IS HERE

As the year draws to a close, we at St. John the Baptist, thank you for all your generous gifts to the Capital Improvement Fund. We are only \$26,373.00 from covering our expenses for the new roof on each of our buildings, as well as new and safer steps for the Church and rectory. This holiday season, we ask you to consider making a year-end donation to St. John's, to bring us even closer to covering our total expenses of \$123,000.00. Remember that your year-end donation is tax-deductible!

With great gratitude, I wish you all a very Blessed Holiday season.

Father Edward J. Golding

COFFEE HOUR

Please join us for coffee hour at *St. Peter's* on December 8th after the 9:30 am Mass. We will be gathering with Kathy and Anthony Scribani before they move to their new home parish. All are welcome.

The December coffee hour at *St. John's* will be Dec 15th in conjunction with the children's Christmas pageant at 12:00 pm, that same day. Join us for the pageant with the coffee hour to follow. All are welcome.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Dale Hart, Teri Macchio, Barbara Cocks, Rick Kean, Roberta Lacey, Will, John Meinke, Al Furrer, Alyson Bruse, Mia Morris, Peter Michael Sehen, Helen Pratti, Marilyn Olson, Anthony Contello, Ralph, Brian Conway, Jeff Fritz, Loretta O'Brien, Richard Guiles, Tom Morris, Derek, Linda Barr, Ann Chiques, Mike Hodge, William Nagel

ST. PETER'S INVITATION

Volunteers are always welcome to assist in decorating Saint Peter's Church for the Advent/Christmas season. Interested? Contact Laraine at 607 538 9569.

USCCB WORD OF LIFE

The Gospel of Life recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. Particular emphasis, however, is placed on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers' wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the 'least of these' in our world's estimation." *USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities* respectlife.org/live-the-gospel-of-life

ST. PETER'S SACRISTANS NEEDED

If you have been considering becoming a Sacristan at St. Peter's, please don't hesitate to come forward. We will train and mentor you. Contact Katherine at the parish office at 607-746-2503 stpetersdelhiny@gmail.com for more information.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS by Susan Vogt

Advent is a season of waiting, but...it may be hard to ponder *waiting* when there is so much preparation to do for Christmas. Perhaps wait patiently today for your beloved to return from work or complete a job.

ST. PETER'S LECTORS

St. Peter's new lector workbooks are in the sacristy for pick-up

MONEY MATTERS

The general collections for November 23rd & 24th: Holy Family \$368.00, St. John's \$1,564.00, St. Peter's \$1,541.00. Thank you.

PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING SOULS ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR PASSING

Dec 2 - Mike Mielnicki, Mary Tassitano
Dec 3 - Anthony Virga, Peter Peletz, Eleanor Belmont
Dec 4 - Adam Oles, Dr. Frederick Heinegg
Dec 5 - Vabina Meyers, John D. Mokay
Dec 6 - Jeffrey Benson, Frances Neve
Dec 7 - John Gleason, Betty McGorry, Lev Obolensky
Dec 8 - John Hart, Sylvester Gilsinan, Renee Covey, Ethel Baxter, Charles Proskine

THIS WEEK'S DAILY SCRIPTURES

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
St. Francis Xavier, Priest
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
St. Nicholas, Bishop
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church
Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER

A French Jesuit missionary, known as the "Apostle of the Indies" and "Apostle of Japan". While a student in Paris, he met Ignatius of Loyola, whom he eventually joined as a companion in what would become the Society of Jesus. In 1534 Xavier, Ignatius, and five other companions vowed themselves at Montmartre to the service of God.

The group eventually left Paris and when plans to work as missionaries in the Holy Land failed, they gathered in Rome to deliberate about their future. While still awaiting formal approval of their new institute (The Society of Jesus), the King of Portugal, John III, requested a Jesuit for missionary work among the Christians in the East. Xavier was given the mission when the first candidate, Bobadilla, became ill. Xavier arrived in Goa, India and there he baptized many among the lower caste of India, but he was unsuccessful at gaining a hearing among the higher caste Brahmin.

At Malacca in Malaya, Xavier met a Japanese nobleman and decided to undertake a mission to Japan. After returning to Goa for a period, Xavier left for Japan. He spent two successful years in Japan before returning to Malacca. While in Japan he learned of the influence of China on Japanese culture. While trying to arrange entry into China, Xavier fell ill and died on the island of Sancian off the coast of China. His feast day is December 3.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Thursday, from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm, Our Lord is exposed for Adoration in the Eucharistic Chapel at St. John's in Walton.

YEAR LONG BIBLE READING JOURNEY

When: next meeting is **Tuesday December 3**
We will meet every other Tuesday, 6:00 – 7:30 pm
Where: Father Willis Hall, St. John the Baptist, Walton
Presented and Facilitated by Deacon Mike Freeman
For more information call/text Deacon Freeman at 607-353-0095. *Bible Journey Readings can be found on the parish website*

FAITH FORMATION

Our next faith formation class will be December 1st at 12 noon at St John the Baptist. Contact Katherine with questions. 607-437-7474

ROSARY CORNER

Still holding the crucifix of your Rosary, recite the Apostles' Creed. (Note: Rosaries, along with all the prayers and mysteries, are available in the vestibule of each of our churches.)

KNOWING YOUR FAITH

How should we read the Bible?

We should read the Bible with the mind of the Church because it is the Church who gave us the Bible and who interprets it for us. Then the Bible will become God's Word to us today.

The Catholic Church is the official interpreter of the Bible. As the people of God – both of the Old Testament in figure and of the New Covenant in reality – the people of the Church wrote the Sacred Scriptures. As the Church of Christ, she is empowered to interpret them for us. As the Church of Christians, she has always treasured God's Holy Word. Certainly, as is done during Mass, we gain much by reading devotedly the Sacred Scriptures.

What God has revealed is taught to us by the Catholic Church. Faith is absolutely necessary for salvation because without faith no one can please God.

Some claim that it does not matter what we believe, as long as we live correctly. Such an attitude is an insult to the Lord. God sent His own divine Son into the world in order to teach us the way to heaven. But if God Himself went to such an extent to teach us what we must believe, it must have been very important to Him that we know and believe His saving truths. Clearly, without faith, without believing what God teaches, we cannot live right – not correctly in the eyes of God.

Knowing Your Faith, Rev. Raymond B. Fullam, S.J..