# **Prayers for the Sick**

Please help us keep the list of the sick updated. If you would like to be on the email prayer chain or want to submit a prayer request of any kind please email joanconlon59@yahoo.com:

Carol Sebastian Cody Jacobsen William Kelley Ernie Schantz Blake Kuntz Ashley Braem Harper Wetzel Paul Wehri Lee Ann Hoff Jesse and Bud Woeste Jenny Funk Peter Remboldt Lane William Joshua Rick Wiege Terry Schantz Marty Kettering Mike Hosman Sharon Ornelas John Wanner Zach Dittus Aaron Morman Jim Wanner Ann Kitzan Julie Petersen Katie Goetz

# Joan Geiger Mass Intentions

Brady Thompson
Ty Gietzen

Raliegh Miller

Dec 9 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	+ Jean Wanner by Levi & Vanessa Hoff
Dec 10 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 AM	For the People of the Parish
Dec 12 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM	+Marie Hauser by Amy Olson
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 AM	Special Intentions for Jenny & Brian Funk Family
Dec 16 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	+Mary Schantz by Tom & Joan Conlon
Dec 17 <sup>th</sup>	8:30 AM	For the People of the Parish

#### \*\* Confessions Half an Hour before Mass\*\*

# **Ministers**

### <u>December 9th - Saturday- 6:30 PM:</u>

Lector: Nicole Vogle

Ushers: Kerry & Brenda Richardson

Servers: Jovie & Levi Rosary: Volunteer

#### December 10th - Sunday- 8:30 AM:

Lector: Kirk Peterson Ushers: Volunteer Servers: Elena Rosary: Ken Duppong

#### Sacrament of Penance- December 10th

2:00 PM TO 4:30 PM- Sacred Heart 7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM- St. Anns

December 12th - Tuesday - 9:00 AM

December 15th- Friday-Mass at 9:00 AM Adoration 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM

# December 16th- Saturday- 6:30 PM:

Lector: David Wanner Ushers: David & Cheryl Wanner Servers: Cambri & Brynlee Rosary: Volunteer

# December 17th- Sunday- 8:30 AM:

Lector: Kevin Staiger Ushers: Kevin & Toni Staiger Servers: Scarlet, Felix, Hattie Rosary: Ken Duppong

If you are unable to fulfill your ministry, including Altar Servers, PLEASE FIND SOMEONE TO FILL IN FOR YOU.

St. Ann's is going to start a 7 Sisters group in the Parish. We will need 7 women to commit to praying for our parish Priest for one hour a week. Each woman would pick a day to pray so the week is covered. You can do it in church or you can do it anywhere as long as it's the same time each week. The commitment is for one year. You can look it up online for more information. If you are interest contact Connie Tibor, 701-290-1532. Thank you!

#### **RELIGIOUS CLASS SCHEDULES:**

CCD K-6<sup>TH</sup>: 3:30 PM TO 5PM EVERY WEDNESDAY

CYO 7TH & 8TH: 7PM TO 8PM EVERY WEDNESDAY

**POST CONFIRMATION**- EVERY 1<sup>ST</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup> &5<sup>TH</sup> WEDNESDAY- 7PM TO 8 PM

## Mass Schedule – Central Time Masses at St. Ann's

Saturday 6:30 PM Sunday 8:30 AM

Tuesday & Friday 9:00 AM

### **Masses at Sacred Heart:**

Saturday 9:00 AM & 4:00 PM Sunday 10:30 AM Thursday 9:00 AM

Parish Office Hours are 10 AM TO 1PM
Tuedays and Fridays

# Stewardship of Treasure

Adult: \$ 906 Loose: \$ 38 Kids: \$5

Poinsettias: \$ 90

Retirement Fund for Religious: \$300 Thank you for your donations! FIRST, THIRD AND FIFTH WEDNESDAYS THERE WILL BE EUCHARTISTIC ADORATION FROM 5 TO 6 FOLLOWED BY MASS.

# **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- \* Angle Tree- This year we will be giving back to our community in Hebron for those in need. If you wish to donate, please pick an ornament of your choice off of the tree and purchase the certificate that is on the ornament. Please return the certificates back to church by Dec. 17th. Thank you!
- \* Christian Mothers Christmas Raffle- Tickets are available for purchase! If you would like to donate any items for the raffle please bring them to the gathering space by noon on December 14th. The drawing will be on December 14th at the Christian Mothers meeting. Thank you!
- \* **Poinsettias-** if you would like to donate money to help with the purchase of our poinsettias for Christmas, please donate in honor of a loved one. We will list the names in the Christmas Bulletin, Thank you!
- \* **Bookstore-** There are Christmas and Advent items in the Bookstore for purchase!
- \* Bible Study- Wednesday nights at 7 pm
- \* Men's group- Sundays at 6:30 PM in the resource room at Sacred Heart.
- \* Facebook- There is a new facebook page for our parish- please search for Church of St. Anns- this will be another way to keep up to date on activities going on within the church!

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E-mail: stanns@westriv.com
DRE: Kylie Schaaf
kylieschaaf@gmail.com
Business Manager/ Secretary:
Eve Mollman- (701)-690-7200

Fr Gary Benz Contact Cell Phone: (701) 509-9504 E-mail: frgarybenz@yahoo.com

"John the Baptist appeared in the desert, proclaiming a baptism of repentance from sin." Microphones make the softest voice louder than the world's loudest voice. Cars make the slowest person faster than the world's fastest runner. Likewise, even the lowliest person can be called to do great things for Jesus. A perfect example of this: Saint John the Baptist from today's Gospel. In the eyes of the world, he was an odd figure: poorly clad (camel's hair); not much into culinary delights (he ate locusts); and he lived like a caveman . . . literally, as his home was a cave. But, he was privileged to be the forerunner of the Messiah, Jesus Christ, and Jesus said of him, "There is no man born of woman greater than John the Baptist." Try topping that compliment! We might ask: "Despite my sins and limitations, why can't God use me to do great things for Him"? If we truly believed in the power of God's grace, the world (at least my part of the world) would be set on fire for Jesus Christ.

Saint of the Week: Saint Lucy (284-303)

Feast day: December 13th

<u>Patroness</u>: the blind; martyrs; salesmen; throat infections; writers; saddlers; and stained-glass workers

Saint Lucy was born of rich and noble parents in Rome in the year 284. Her father died when she was just five years old, leaving Lucy and her mother, Eutychia, in a state of great sorrow. The young Saint Lucy found solace in her Christian faith and when she approached the age of marriage, she informed her mother that she wanted to forego marriage so that she could offer her virginity to God and remain as a chaste bride of Jesus Christ. But her mother ignored her request and arranged her marriage to a pagan man of the noble class. It seemed that there was nothing Saint Lucy could do to change her situation in life, but God had other plans.

Eutychia developed a bleeding disorder and Saint Lucy encouraged her mother to go to the shrine of the martyr, Saint Agatha, which attracted many pilgrims, because many miracles were reported to have happened through her intercession. Her mother was cured and Saint Lucy took this opportunity to persuade her mother to allow her to cancel her upcoming marriage and give her dowry to the poor. Her mother consented and Saint Lucy rejoiced that she could remain as a bride of Christ, offering her life in prayer and sacrifice to Him.

But her betrothed was not happy about being rejected in marriage. He publicly denounced Saint Lucy as a Christian and she was turned over to the governor of Syracuse, Paschasius, who ordered her to deny her Christian faith by burning a sacrifice to the image of the emperor, who called himself a god. Saint Lucy refused and thus she was ordered to be defiled in a brothel. But when the guards came to take her away, they could not lift or move her body, even when they hitched her to a team of oxen. Bundles of wood were then heaped around her and set on fire, but they would not burn. Paschasius was so enraged that he had her eyes gouged out, but Saint Lucy gently taunted him by stating that she did not need her eyes anyways, because she saw vividly through the eyes of faith. Finally, she met her death by the sword, thrust into her throat.

Pious Christians prepared her body for burial in the family mausoleum and it was discovered that her eyes had been miraculously restored. Saint Lucy is thus invoked by all who have ailments of the eyes, but she can be invoked by all Christians who seek to see the Lord through the eyes of faith. As Jesus reminds us, "Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God."

#### **Admit You Need a Savior**

In the readings, prayers, and songs of the Holy Mass at Christmas, a common message is that Jesus came into our world at Bethlehem as our Savior. It speaks of the obvious: Jesus came as Savior from sin. This message of healing from sin is for people of all ages, ours included. How does Jesus continue to heal from the weight and tragic effects of sin today? He does so in the Sacrament of Penance. This **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, Fr. Bruce Krebs** and I will serve as the instruments of Jesus' healing grace by offering you the opportunity to make a devout confession before Christmas. The Sacrament of Penance will be offered from 2:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church and from 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at Saint Ann's **Church**. Come to be freed of the burden of sin so that your soul, in a state of grace, can welcome Jesus with joy at Christmas. Christmas loses its meaning, the birth of our Savior, when we lose a sense of the awfulness of sin.

#### **Rest in God's Peace**

We offer our prayers and condolences to Michael Geck, whose parents, *Bonnie (Emter) & Tim Geck*, were buried this past week at Sacred Heart Cemetery. To lose one

parent is so difficult, but to lose both parents within a matter of months is so tragic. Please keep Michael in your prayers and keep his parents, Bonnie & Tim, in your prayers as well. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. Amen.

#### An Opportunity to Bring Joy to the World This Christmas

At Sacred Heart Parish, please note the Giving Tree in the entry way of the church, which will be supporting the young mothers and their children of Saint Gianna & Pietro Molla Maternity Home in Warsaw, North Dakota. Please note the item on the bulb, purchase it, and place it under the Giving Tree . . . no wrapping necessary. These items will then be delivered to the maternity home in the Christmas season. At Saint Ann's Parish, we will be supporting needy families right here in our own community. Please take a bulb from the Giving Tree, note the needed gift card/certificate from local businesses, purchase that gift card/certificate, and then place it in an envelope and drop it into the collection basket at Mass or bring it to the parish office. These will then be offered to needy families before the Christmas season. Thank you to everyone who participates in the Giving Tree efforts of our parishes. Jesus brought great joy to our world at Bethlehem; thank you for bringing joy as well to individuals and families this Christmas. May God bless you for being servants of the joy of our Lord and Savior.

<u>Christian Point to Ponder</u>: "It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open the doors of hope." [Pope Benedict XVI]