



# December 17th, 2017

## Third Sunday of Advent *Gaudete Sunday*

*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice.*

*Indeed, the Lord is near.*

Entrance Antiphon - Philippians 4:4-5

### Gaudete!

The third Sunday of Advent is also known as “Gaudete” (Latin for rejoice) Sunday. This is in reference to the entrance antiphon for today’s Mass, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near!” (Philippians 4:4-5). It is sometimes also referred to as “Pink” Sunday because it is the Sunday that we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath.

In today’s second reading St. Paul says “Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In all circumstances give thanks, for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus.” The challenge in that statement is “in all circumstances”. I find it really easy to be thankful when things are going my way, when the tide turns against me, my thankfulness is nonexistent.

Why should we be thankful in all circumstances? Because our salvation has been assured through faith in Jesus Christ. No matter what happens to me in this life, for good or for bad, my true blessing is in the promise of eternal life.

In my eighteen years as a priest, I have seen people accept their lot in life without complaining. However, St. Paul is talking about something more than acceptance of my reality, whether good or bad. Instead he is talking about a profession of faith that acknowledges God as the source of all that is good. A profession of faith that acknowledges that our true home is in heaven and that this life is simply a moment compared to eternity.

So let us truly rejoice, no matter what our circumstance, because the Lord is near.

**Father Ken**

#### PARISH COLLECTION

Envelopes:	\$ 11, 324.00 (317 parishioners)
ACH/WeShare:	\$ 1, 670.00 (10 parishioners)
Loose:	\$ 1, 142.75
Children:	\$ 146.25
<b>Total collected last week:</b>	<b>\$ 14, 283.00</b>

#### IT'S SAFE. IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S CONVENIENT

#### AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

With the introduction of We Share online, please prayerfully consider this option for your automatic contributions. You can access this on the parish website ([www.holyfamilymitchell.com](http://www.holyfamilymitchell.com)).

**Memorial donations** for Christmas flowers and decorations are now being accepted. If you wish to make a contribution in memory or honor of your loved ones, you may use the designated envelope that is included in your church support packet. Please indicate whom the memorial is for and place in the collection basket or bring to the parish office by noon on Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> to be listed in our Christmas bulletin.

**PARISH MEMBERSHIP:** We welcome those who are new to our parish and ask them to call the parish office for registration information, or if you are moving, please also notify the parish office at 996-3639.

**BAPTISM:** Baptisms will take place after the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday or the last Mass on Sunday. Please notify the parish office (996-3639) and a Baptism Information Form will be provided.

### Parish News

Holy Family Parish extends our deepest sympathies to Jeanette Uher and Liz Delehant on the loss of their mother, Carol Kayser. Also, we offer our condolences to the family of Ron Sullivan. May all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

#### Mass Times for Sunday and Christmas Eve and Day

##### **4th Sunday of Advent**

Sat, Dec 23rd 5 pm (Vigil)

Sun, Dec 24th 8:30 am, 10 am, (no 11:30 am)

##### **The Nativity of the Lord**

Sun, Dec 24th Christmas Eve Vigil, 4 pm, 7 pm

Mon, Dec 25th Christmas Day, 12 am (midnight), 8:30 am

There are **two** Mass obligations to be fulfilled this

December 23rd-25th: the 4th Sunday of Advent, and

Christmas. Attending Mass on the 4th Sunday of Ad-

vent fulfills the regular Sunday Obligation, not the

Obligation to attend Mass on Christmas.

#### **Holy Family/Holy Spirit Communal Penance Service**

Sunday, December 17th at Holy Spirit Church, 3:00pm

#### **Holy Family Advent Confession Schedule**

Monday, Dec 18th 12:00-1:00pm

Tuesday, Dec 19th 12:00-1:00pm, 5:30-6:30pm

Wednesday, Dec 20th 12:00-1:00pm, 7:00-8:00pm

Thursday, Dec 21st 7:00-8:00pm

Friday, Dec 22nd 5:30-6:30pm

Saturday, Dec 23rd 12:00-1:00pm, 3:30-4:30pm

## Family Formation News



**Holy Family & Holy Spirit Catholic Churches**  
 K-6: Christine Lemmer – [familyformation@ffmitchell.com](mailto:familyformation@ffmitchell.com)  
 7-12: Briana Mueller – [youthdirector@ffmitchell.com](mailto:youthdirector@ffmitchell.com)

7-12 Faith Formation: December 20th: Discipleship Group Meetings. No meeting on December 27th, but will start again with our large group session on January 3rd. Calendars can be found at [www.ffmitchell.com](http://www.ffmitchell.com)

Book Sale Items Discounted 50%: We need to clear items out. All Christmas cards, holy cards, books—in the bookcase at Holy Family are discounted 50% except for The Holy Bible and Catechism of the Catholic Church. Thanks for your support of the book sale!

FORMED.org: You will find great Advent & Christmas movies, programs, etc. for your family at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org). No cost to you as each parish has a subscription. If you have not signed up, contact Christine for your parish code.

## John Paul II School News



**Robin Cahoy – Principal**  
 1510 W Elm Ave, Mitchell, SD 57301  
 (605) 996-2365 – Website: [www.johnpaul2.org](http://www.johnpaul2.org)

We had a very musical week last week with the Pre II – 2nd grade concert and again in the upcoming week with the 3 – 6 concert getting us all in the holiday spirit. Thanks to our music teacher, Mrs. Morrison, and the students for their work to entertain us.

One week of school is remaining in 2017. During this final week of classes, we will also have our final school wide Advent activity. We will be creating placemats for the residents of Avera Brady to put them in the holiday spirit. We are also very blessed by the amount of food that was donated to those in our community who are hungry this Christmas. We thank the families for the specified foods that were donated for our Student Council service activity this month.

The students will have their class Christmas parties on Thursday, Dec. 21. They will also receive their report card on this day. Parents please make sure to check those book bags. Christmas vacation will begin following school on Thursday, Dec. 21 and will resume on Wednesday, January 3, 2018.

From all of us at John Paul II School, “May you have the merriest Christmas and the happiest New Year!”



**Nicole Fuhrer - Planned Giving Officer**  
 1512 W Elm Ave, Mitchell, SD 57301  
 Office- 605-999-9127 Cell- 605-999-5026  
 Website: [nfuhrer@ccfesd.org](mailto:nfuhrer@ccfesd.org)

### Direct your IRA to what matters to you!

If you are 70 ½ or older, avoid taxes on IRA rollover distributions made directly to the Mitchell Catholic Foundation. This IRA rollover will count towards your required minimum distribution. Contact Nicole Fuhrer to learn more.

### HOLIDAY FRUIT BASKETS

The Stewardship Committee will again be distributing Holiday Fruit Baskets to the homebound. Monetary donations may be placed in the Sunday collection or brought to the parish office. Please label accordingly. Call Mary Timmer at 996-2419.

Our **Prayer Chain** is willing to pray for you or anyone in need of special prayers. At **Holy Family**, call Kathy Domeyer, 996-7977, Betty Puetz, 996-5067 or LaVonne Sand, 996-7162. At **Holy Spirit**, call Joan Honomichl, 996-6855 or Judi Bartscher, 996-6145 or 770-6145.

## Weekly Mass Intentions

Mon. Dec. 18th	8 am	✠	LeRoy Robinson
Tues. Sept. 19th	8 am	✠	Daryl Roetzel
Wed. Sept. 20th	8 am	✠	Members Bartscher Family
Thurs. Sept. 21st	8 am	✠	Lewis Rowe
Fri. Sept. 22nd	8 am	✠	Joseph ‘Jack’ Toman
Sat. Sept. 23rd	5 pm	✠	Virginia Tyler
Sun. Sept. 24th	8:30		Katie (Kampshoff) Royston
	10:00		Holy Family Parish

## Weekly Bulletin Board

### Lectors and Extraordinary Ministers

<b>12/23</b>	5:00 pm	L-M Pecenka; M-Deacon Graves, EM-S Moege, D Petersen (SR), K Rubendall (SR), M VanderHeiden (SR)
<b>12/24</b>	8:30 am	L-D Harrell; EM-E&R Sullivan, D Kikus, J Schroeder
	10:00 am	L-M Puetz; EM-P Essig, W Puetz, C Symes, J Thury, K Hohn
	4:00 pm	L-A Novak, EM-J Schumacher (SR), T Magnuson, J Schlinggen, R Wuertzer, K Northrup, D Young, T&S Kirby, A Deinert
	7:00 pm	L-J Schumacher, EM-F Bruna, C&L Bannwarth, S Peschong, R&C Scheich, J Hunt, T&M Day
<b>12/25</b>	12:00 am	L-C Lemmer, EM-F&M Bruna, D&R Hohn
	8:30 am	L-D Kirkus, EM-T Magnuson, V Weber, D Price, B McNeil, K Mohr

### Altar Servers

<b>12/23</b>	5:00 pm	A Fergen, C Groepper, A Kaus (SR)
<b>12/24</b>	8:30 am	C Miller, L LeBrun (SR), NF
	10:00 am	C&N McCormick, E Moody
	4:00 pm	E&M&S Novak
	7:00 pm	A&E Driscoll, J King
<b>12/25</b>	12:00am	J Herrlein, J&C Mentele
	8:30am	J Wyatt, B&B Sparks (SR)

### Ministers of Hospitality

<b>12/23</b>	5:00pm	J&J Fritzeimer, S Grosz, C Janzing, A Vermeulen
<b>12/24</b>	8:30am	J Miller, H Titze, B Young, T Zens, S Kirkus
	10:00am	L&V Boehmer, J&T Hohrman, M Miller
	4:00 pm	C&T Riddle, L VanDrongelen, T Schumacher, D Callies
	7:00 pm	J&M McMahon, B&B Puetz, K Soukup
<b>12/25</b>	12:00 am	J Grosdidier, N Zimmerman (SR), NF, NF
	8:30 am	J&N Puetz, C&J Lynde, M Novak

## Calendar of Events

<b>12/19</b>	Adoration 8:30 am-8 pm, Confessions 5:30-6:30 pm HF Finance Council 12 pm Nazareth Room Legion of Mary 7 pm Holy Spirit Parish Hall Choir Practice 7 pm Music Office JP II 3rd-6th grade Christmas Concert 7 pm
<b>12/20</b>	JP II School Mass 9 am
<b>12/21</b>	RCIA 7 pm at Holy Spirit

### CHURCH DECORATING - TODAY- SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>th</sup>

We will begin to decorate the church and gathering area for Christmas at **1:00 PM**. We will need volunteers to put trees together - a few not afraid to climb ladders. Supper will be provided.