

First Sunday of Advent

November 29, 2015

1st Sunday in Advent

"The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon the likes of which we have never seen before... . What is possible is to not see it, to miss it, to turn just as it brushes past you. And you begin to grasp what it was you missed, like Moses in the cleft of the rock, watching GOD's (back) fade in the distance. So stay. Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder. There will be time enough for running. For rushing. For worrying. For pushing. For now, stay. Wait. Something is on the horizon." --Jan L. Richardson

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION



Every Tuesday from 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM



Congratulations to our Sophomore Confirmandi from Holy Family and Holy Spirit Parishes!

Holy Family: Lucie Anderson, Alexander Bergeson, Dylan Chmela, Kyla Crago, Jordan Dirkes, Jilian Ebert, MaKayla Grissom, Jacob Jarding, Shannen Koch, Rebecca Koupal, Tate Larson, Madisyn Louder, Jared Mauer, Christopher Mentele, Jacob Ridgway, Brittany Robinson, Tia Schmidt, Shelby Schulz, Courteney Sprinkel, Jarod Uher, Patricia Weins, Erik Wyatt, Sarah Zimmerman and Nathaniel Zirpel.

Holy Spirit: Lauren Alexander, Michael Baus, Devin Blindauer, Natalie Buckley, Carter Cavanaugh, Kailey Feiner, Alexis Fredericksen, Briggs Havlik, Isaiah Jacobsen, Baley Miller, Hannah Miller, Micah Osterloo, Miles Rolle, Nicole Sanderson and Kaylie Zens.

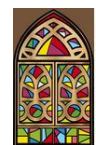
May this Sacrament you receive strengthen you to boldly and joyfully live your Catholic Faith!



We Welcome through the Living Waters of Baptism: LIAM HOWARD, son of Stanley Sherwood and Jenifer Polreis. May God shower you with an abundance of His grace and blessings.



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 one(s), you may use the designated envelope that is included in your church support packet. Just indicate whom the memorial is for and place it in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office by noon on Monday, **December 21st** to be listed in our Christmas bulletin.



As you have probably noticed, the stained glass in the choir loft windows has been removed and is currently being restored. We are accepting donors for these four windows. What a great way to honor or memorialize your family. Contact the parish office if interested or want more information.

PARISH COLLECTION



Envelopes: \$10,628.00 (280 parishioners)
Loose: \$ 1,097.00
Children: \$ 89.19

Total collected last week: \$11,814.19 Thank You!

An average of \$13,000 in weekly contributions is needed to offset the cost of living increase for parish expenses, etc. Thank you!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: (Restoration/Development)

Our Goal: \$1,300,000
Collected thus far: \$1,101,177 (84%)
Parishioner response: 268 (26%)

C.F.S.A. : THANK YOU to those who participated in the Catholic Family Sharing Appeal 2015. We had a 38% parishioner response with a total of \$74,144 collected. Our goal was \$106,500 which leaves us with a deficit of \$32,356. Donations will still be accepted to make up the difference.

AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS (ACH):

If you would like to have your church contributions automatically deducted from your bank account each month, call the parish office at 996-3639. Forms can also be found on our website at www.holyfamilymitchell.com (under FORMS) that you can fill out and return to the parish office.

NEW TO THE AREA? MOVING? Please contact the parish office at 996-3639.



School News from John Paul II

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

Welcome to the beginning of Advent! Our theme this year is "The Wise Still Seek Him". There will be many activities for the students and teachers in the month of December as they share in the Advent season with their John Paul II family. As you walk through the hallways you will see the decorated classroom doors and the hallway Christmas trees that have been adorned for the season also.

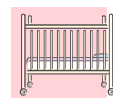
As a reminder, the K – 2nd grade Christmas concert will be performed at the Mitchell High School on Monday, December 7th at 7:00 PM. The 3rd – 6th grade Christmas concert will be on Tuesday, December 15th also at the Mitchell High School at 7:00 PM. Our P3 Preschool classes will have their own concert at Holy Spirit Church on December 14th at 5:30 PM. We hope to see you there!

I would like to remind all who plan on purchasing SCRIP for part of their holiday gift giving – **please plan early! Our last SCRIP order is planned for the morning of December 14.** Call the school office to pre-order or let us know what gift cards you would like so we can be sure to have them on hand for you.

Finally, please remember as 2015 comes to a close that all gifts donated to the John Paul II Adopt-A-Student fund are not only tax deductible, but also help many families attend our Catholic School who might otherwise not be able due to financial restraints. Please call the school for more information.



The **Annual National Night of Prayer for Life** will be observed at Holy Family Church from 9:00 PM until midnight on **Tuesday, December 8th**. Come and pray for an end to abortion!



RESPECT LIFE ADVENT SHOWER

The Holy Family Respect Life Committee invites you to participate in the **Annual Advent Shower**, now through Advent. * PLEASE NOTE* This year we are only requesting the following items: **Diapers (all sizes), baby wipes, receiving blankets and lap blankets for nursing home residents.** Items can be placed in the designated area in the Gathering Space...crib for infants/rocking chair for elderly. Donations will be distributed in the Mitchell area.





Faith Formation News

Christine Lemmer, Faith Formation Director
996-3842 or email: clemmer@ffmitchell.com
Website: www.ffmitchell.com



Congratulations to the sophomores from Holy Family and Holy Spirit parishes who receive the Sacrament of Confirmation this Sunday, November 29th.

Faith Formation News: Gr. K-12 FF classes as usual this Wednesday, December 2nd.



Special Advent Children's Program

All children in Gr. K-5 from Holy Family and Holy Spirit Parishes are invited to participate in a special Advent program to be held in Holy Family Church. We will meet from 4:00-5:00 PM on the following dates: Thursdays, December 3 and 10; and, Mondays, December 14 and 21.

RCIA NEWS: Class as usual this week, Dec. 3 at 7:00 pm in the Holy Family Conference Room.



Special Advent Program for Adults

All parishioners are invited to a special Advent program "Footprints of God-Mary" next Sunday afternoon, December 6th from 2:00-3:30 pm in the Holy Family Church Nazareth Room. We will watch the DVD and have discussion & refreshments. Please use south entrance.



Mitchell Foundation for Catholic Education

Nicole Fuhrer

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www.mitchellfce.com
"Like" us on facebook!

As a wife and mother of four children, I know how stressful and "un-joyful" this time of year can be if we do not focus on its true meaning. On top of the already hectic schedules we have, added to it: gift shopping, baking, wrapping gifts, Christmas concerts, church services, caroling, writing Christmas cards, and all the things we are supposed to do "joyfully" to prepare for the Lord's coming!

Congratulations to the students who are receiving the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend! May the Holy Spirit continue to bless you and guide you in your holy lives!

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FOOD PANTRY CHRISTMAS BASKETS:

Holy Family has been assigned canned YAMS for this year's Christmas Food Baskets. The Mitchell Food Pantry plans to make up about 500 baskets for the needy in the surrounding area. Donations are needed by December 11th. They can be placed in the RED container in the Gathering Area entrance. Thank you!

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HOLIDAY FRUIT BASKETS

The Stewardship Committee will again be distributing Holiday Fruit Baskets to the homebound. A local grocery store will put the baskets together which will include fruit, nuts & sweets. We are accepting monetary donations to help with the expense which may be placed in the Sunday collection or brought to the parish office. Please label accordingly. Questions? Call Mary Timmer at 996-2419. Thank you!

Mass Intentions

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, Intention. Includes entries for 12/01 through 12/06 with various names and family members.

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Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, Name. Lists lectors and eucharistic ministers for 12/05 and 12/06.

Mass Servers

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, Name. Lists mass servers for 12/05 and 12/06.

Ministers of Hospitality

Table with 3 columns: Date, Time, Name. Lists ministers of hospitality for 12/05 and 12/06.

BULLETIN BOARD

- 11/29 First Sunday of Advent Confirmation - 1:30pm - Holy Family Church
12/01 Adoration - 8:30am to 8:00pm
Confessions - 7:00pm
12/02 Faith Formation Classes - ES 5:15pm/ LS 6:45pm - JP II School
Confessions - 7:00pm
12/03 RCIA - 7pm - Conference Rm
Confessions - 7:00pm
12/04 JP II School Mass - 9am - Holy Spirit Church
Confessions - 7:00pm
12/05 Confessions - 3:30pm
12/06 Second Sunday of Advent



The KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will be having a Fifth Sunday Rosary TODAY (Sunday, Nov. 29) at 4:30 PM in the Church. All are welcome to come and pray.

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St. Joseph's Guild - Men's Father/Son Group meets the first Wednesday of each month from 5:15 to 6:30 PM in the Holy Spirit Parish Hall. Next meeting will be on December 2nd. Come hungry. We will have supper and then feed the soul.

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Christmas at Dakota Wesleyan

The Ron and Sheilah Gates Department of Music at Dakota Wesleyan will present the Christmas concert, "Bethlehem: City of Wonder," at 7:00 PM, Saturday, Dec. 5, and 4:00 PM, Sunday, Dec. 6, at the Sherman Center. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased online at www.dwu.edu. The Wesleyan Choir, Wesleyan Band, LyricWood strings ensemble, and the Mitchell Area Children's Choir will perform

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'An Advent Service of Lessons and Carols' set

The Ron and Sheilah Gates Department of Music at Dakota Wesleyan will present "An Advent Service of Lessons and Carols" at 7:00 PM, on Saturday, Dec. 12, at the First United Methodist Church. This concert is free and open to the public. The concert will feature DWU Highlanders, the Singing Scotchmen, DWU's Women's Chamber Choir and the Wesleyan Bells, as well as nine community members to be readers for the service.