

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Before weekday Masses. Saturday at 4:15 p.m. at St. John

and prior to the 7:30 p.m. Mass at Nassau. Sunday Morning before Mass where time and place permits. I will be in the confessional on Christmas Eve at 1:30 p.m.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR

Sawyer Jason Henningsen, Donald Pillatzke, Daniel Brandenburger, Scott Streed, Fr. George Lyon, OSB, Paul Streich, Mike Welnitz, Cory Homan, Tom Pillatzke, Greta Botker, Ed Karels, Brian Scott, Dori Hoffman, Glen Ketchum, Larry Walsh, Elaine Koenen, Marie Volkenant. Donald Pillatzke is now a resident at Northridge.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

Brian Pillatzke, Joe Karels Jr. Joshua & Jacob Beutler.

POTPOURRI

Organists - Once again may I issue a plea for young and old alike to take Organ Lessons. I am willing to pay music lessons for anyone so inclined. All parishes are always in need.

ADORATION AT ST. JAMES NASSAU

Everyone is welcome to participate in an hour of adoration, conducted by Carol Unzen, every Thursday evening at St. James, Nassau beginning at 7:30 p.m. Private adoration & recitation of the Rosary included.

. HEARING ENHANCEMENT AIDS

We have units available for anyone needing assistance with hearing problems. They will not replace your present hearing aid...but simply improve your present system and are for Church use only. Please call the office. 839 2772. These units are only viable at St. John's Church.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

Christmas Masses, Dec. 24 St. John - 4 p.m. Hymns, 4:30 p.m. Mass. St. James - 7 p.m. Hymns, 7:30 p.m. Mass. December 25 - St. Joseph - 8:30 a.m. Hymns, 9 a.m. Mass

CALENDARS

Free calendars from the Extension Society are available in all 3 parishes. The calendars celebrate our 50th Anniversary of the Diocese & were paid for by Zahrback Funeral home in Madison, MN. Please thank them for their generosity.

ORGANISTS AND CHOIR DIRECTORS

In publishing your music schedule, I made a mistake on the New Years Mass schedule. It should read as follows: New Years Eve, Dec. 31 - 4 p.m. at St. John & 7 p.m. at Nassau. New Year's day - 9 a.m. at Rosen

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Dennis Justison and family, have once again agreed to serve a Christmas afternoon dinner, for senior citizens, those living alone, and any others who have neither the time, energy or means to cook for themselves. The dinner is free of charge but open to volunteer donations. by people and businesses of our community. Serving from 3 to 5 p.m. Volunteers to serve are always needed. If you can help Dennis & Heidi in this matter, please let us know. The general public is invited for the meal.

RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE

Will be at the City Hall of Bellingham, Fri. Dec. 28 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Ortonville Business Professionals of America (BPA) will man the registration tables, and the canteen with lunch. The BPA students are urging other young people, age 17 and over, to come forward and join in donating blood that day. Any first time donor will receive a T-shirt! Family members visiting for the weekend will also be encouraged to attend and give a gift of life (blood) to someone in need, thus sharing in the spirit of holiday gift giving. Walk-ins are welcome, but there will also be 2 double red machines available of donors with types "A" negative, or "B" negative blood. To donate double red cells, an appointment is necessary and can be done by calling Audrey Volkenant at 320 2385 or Margaret Adelman at 320 568 2426. Blood donations are critical over the holidays and you can help by donating blood, Fri. Dec. 28th from 8 am. to 1 p.m. Thank you all.

have arrived and are now available at the office. I believe 12 parishioners signed for copies at \$25.00 apiece. We do have a few extra copies for those who are interested.

DEATHS

We regret to inform you of the death of Mr. John C. Nienstedt, father of Archbishop Nienstedt, Dec. 13, 2007. He was buried on Monday, Dec. 17 at Grosse Pointed Farms, MI. Archbishop's mother is still living. Prayers are requested for the repose of his soul.

ST. JOHN PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The Council convened Dec. 3, 2007, 7 p.m. in the library, with the following members present. Joe Eustice, Richard Strei, Jason Henrich, Tom Hrdlicka, Renee Shelstad and Fr. Bob. Carol Knoll was excused. The agenda was approved. // Fr. Bob reviewed the end of the year report. // A diaper changing station for both men's and women's bath rooms was discussed & will be looked into. // Stained Glass windows are on order & sufficient funds are available.// The alley sidewalks with wheel chair ramps will need to be widened. // Resignation by Dennis Justison was accepted. We wish him well in his new employment at Milbank. Renee Shelstad has graciously accepted to complete Dennis' term. // Dinner prices for next year's Fall dinner have been set at \$7.00 - adults, \$4.00 - Children ages 6 to 12. \$1.00 for children ages 3 to 5. // Christmas Dinner for 2007, supervised by Dennis & Heidi Justison is planned for Dec. 25, from 3 to 5 p.m. // Mr. Justison also proposed a plan or outreach, for those in need of a parish visits. He suggested the hiring of a part time parish worker, on a very flexible part time basis. It was decided to table the matter for the time being awaiting more discussion on the subject. // Confirmation plans for April 5, 2008, were discussed. Abbot Thomas from Blue Cloud Abbey has agreed to administer the sacrament to 28 students. The Mass time still pending. // A \$10,000.00 down payment for a new organ was accepted. The installation is planned for early next year. Funding for the organ is from a private donor and not from parish funds.// Next meeting will be at the discretion of Fr. Bob. Meeting was closed with a prayer. Minutes are humbly submitted by Richard Strei.

PARISHIONER OF THE WEEK

This week we choose, Hilda McCormick, resident at Northridge. A mass will be offered for her intentions this coming Wed. Dec. 26. 9:30 a.m. You are invited to pray for Hilda, write a note, give her a call or send her a flower. Hilda...one of St. John's very own.

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS

May the meaning of Christmas be deeper. It's friendships stronger and its hopes brighter as it comes to you this year. Have a blessed Christmas. Fr. Bob & Staff.

TRUSTEE APPOINTMENTS

St. John trustees - Vincent Kvidera & Patrick Greuel.

St. Joseph trustees - Michael V. Spors & Edward J Rader-

macher.

St. James trustees - Ted Trojahn & Dorothy Stooick.

PASTOR: Fr. Robert Goblirsch

Offices: 421 Madison Avenue
Ortonville, MN 56278

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St. John's Fax ~ 320-839-2873

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Web-site: www.BorderMissionChain.com

• **St. John's Director Religious Ed.**

Beth Erickson ~ **Phone ~ Office ~ 320-839-2873**

dre.stjohns@midconetwork.com

• **St. Joseph's Director Religious Ed.**

Madonna Adelman ~ **Phone ~ Office ~ 320-568-2428**

drestjoseph@farmerstel.net

MASS SCHEDULE - ST. JOHN'S - ORTONVILLE

Monday - December 24 - Vigil of Christmas

4:00 p.m. - Christmas Music Prelude.

4:30 p.m. Mass - (d) Gordon Dawald

Reader: Paul Treinen

Communion: Diane Kvidera, Pat Sester, JeanetteMinahan

Servers: Tracy Martig, Hannah Mathes, Joseph Mathes.

Ushers: Roger Johnson, Steve Stern, Vince Kvidera, Roman Karels.

Wednesday - December 26 - Stephen

9:30 a.m. Mass - NR - Hilda McCormick

Friday - December 28 - Holy Innocents

7:30 a.m. - Rosary

8:00 a.m. Mass - Scott Streed

Saturday- December 29- Vigil: Holy Family

5:00 p.m. Mass - (d) Charles Jones

Reader: Tena Strei

Communion: Jeanette Minahan, Pat Sester, Diane Dinnel.

Servers: Caryssa Mielitz, Jessica Mielitz, Kayla Mielitz.

Ushers: Roger Johnson, Steve Stern, Vince Kvidera.

Sunday - December 30 - Holy Family

10:30 a.m. Mass - (d) Louis Brackenbury

Reader: Jane Streed.

Communion: Julie Treinen, Dorothy Gmitterko, Kristi Delage.

Servers: Alisha Ross, Hannah Strei, Sean Watkins.

Ushers: Rob Radermacher, Patrick Fonder, Pete Karels.

Offering: adult- 3420.00, student- 6.00, loose plate- 91.55, Christmas flowers. - 65.00, Imm.Concept- 33.00, Christmas- 165.00, Religious Retirment- 18.00, bldg. & imprvmnt.- 20.00, energy- 20.00, energy- 20.00, Solemnity.of Mary- 10.00.

MASS SCHEDULE - ST. JOSEPH'S - ROSEN

Tuesday - December 25 - Christmas

8:30 a.m. - Christmas Music Prelude.

9:00 a.m. Mass - (d) Jerome Spors

Readers: Fran Karels, Mary Lou Croatt.

Communion: Mary Karels, Fran Karels.

Servers: Philip Adelman, Isaac Adelman.

Ushers: December Ushers.

Thursday - December 27 - John

8:00 a.m. - Rosary

8:30 a.m. Mass - (d) Alvin Hackert

Sunday - December 30 - Holy Family

8:30 a.m. Mass - L/D of Catholic Aid

Rolls and coffee served by the Youth Group

Readers: Tom Pillatzki, Sue Karels.

Communion: Linda Sis, Tom Pillatzki.

Servers: Seth Henrich, Adam Henrich.

Ushers: (Dec.) Lester Millerbernd, Bernard Pillatzki, Tom Pillatzki, John Plathe.

Offering: Adult- 860.00, student- 25.50, loose plate- 85.00, Christmas flowers- 66.00, Immaculate Conception- 5.00.

MASS SCHEDULE - ST. JAMES - NASSAU

Monday - December 24 - Vigil: Christmas

7:00 p.m. - Christmas Music Prelude.

7:30 p.m. Mass - For the Parish

Readers: Dennis Stoick, Dorothy Stoick.

Communion: Cindy Schuelke, Tom Schuelke.

Servers: Megan Harstad.

Ushers: Ray Beutler, Alan Roggenbuck.

Saturday - December 29 - Vigil: Holy Family

7:30 p.m. Mass - For the Parish

Readers: Julie Trojahn, Ted Trojahn.

Communion: Dennis Stoick, Dorothy Stoick.

Server: Julie Drobny.

Ushers: Tom Schuelke, Alan Roggenbuck.

Offering: Adult- 495.00, loose plate- 15.10, Christmas- 100.00.

CHURCH COMMUNITY EVENTS

FROM THE DESK OF ST. JOHN'S DRE

Religious Education Schedule:

NO classes - Christmas Break . . . Dec. 23rd - Dec. 30th.

RE Classes will resume Jan. 2nd and 6th, 2008.

Upcoming Events:

* **Nativity Gospel Participants** and helpers need to be at church by 4:00 p.m. for costumes and preparation for Mass.

* **Lock-in "Faith Connection"** Dec. 27th, 10:00 pm - 6:00 a.m. Details have been mailed.

* **Kings Wanted:** We need gentlemen to participate in our tradition of dressing as Magi for Epiphany Masses, Jan. 5th and 6th. For details or if interested in helping out, please contact Beth

* **Steubenville Conference:** First weekend in August. Details have been mailed. Permission forms due Jan. 4th. Financial assistance is available. Chaperones are needed.

CONFIRMATION

~ **TEC** -The next TEC is January 19 - 21.

~ **SEARCH** - The next one is January 18 - 20.

~ **Service Hours** - Contact either DRE for opportunities. Christmas dinner on Dec. 25th at 3:00 p.m., good for community hours.

FROM THE DESK OF ST. JOSEPH'S DRE

Religious Education Schedule:

NO classes Dec.22 ,Dec.26, or Dec. 30. Merry Christmas.

RE Classes will resume Jan. 2nd, 2008.

Upcoming Events:

~ **NO Bible Time Line study until after Christmas.**