

# HOLY FAMILY Catholic Parish

506 N. BEAUMONT ROAD & 710 S. WACOUTA AVENUE, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN 53821

## HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Website: [www.prairiecatholic.org](http://www.prairiecatholic.org)

Rev. James C. Weighner, Pastor

Email: [pastor@prairiecatholic.org](mailto:pastor@prairiecatholic.org)

St. John Nepomuc

710 S. Wacouta Ave.

Prairie Du Chien, WI 53821

Phone: 326-6511

**Rectory Office Hours**

8:00am to 4:00pm (Tuesday - Friday)

St. Gabriel Archangel

506 N. Beaumont Rd.

Prairie Du Chien, WI 53821

Phone: 326-2404

**Rectory Office Hours**

8:00am to 4:00pm (Monday - Friday)

**Holy Days**

Mass times to be announced.

**Baptism**

Please call St. John's Rectory office.

**Marriage**

Please contact the parish at least 6 months prior to the wedding date.

**Principal**

Wade Marlow; Ph (608) 326-8624

**Office Managers**

Lana Gratace

Email: [lgratace@prairiecatholic.org](mailto:lgratace@prairiecatholic.org)

Sandy Halverson

Email: [sgp@prairiecatholic.org](mailto:sgp@prairiecatholic.org)

**Dir. of Grade School Religious Ed.**

Pat Prochaska: [ppccd@prairiecatholic.org](mailto:ppccd@prairiecatholic.org)

**Parish Nursing Program**

Rose Bauer, Shirley Cipra (326-8553)

*December 11, 2016 - Gaudete Sunday*

REV. JAMES C. WEIGHNER

DEACON MARK GRUNWALD



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

"This is the one about whom it is written:  
*Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;  
he will prepare your way before you.*

Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." *Mt 11:10-11*



## St. Gabriel Archangel

### HOME COMMUNION MINISTERS FOR DEC. 18TH

Jeri Kluesner, Sheila Linder

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 4:00 pm Kathy Schneider, Rhonda Stubbe

Sunday 8:00 am Ann Lessard, Megan Pedretti

### SERVERS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 4:00 pm Owen & Breanna Teynor

Jon Nicholson Ryan Waller

Sunday 8:00 am Logan Kiesau & Thomas Mara

Jonah Linder & Claire Teynor

### LECTORS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 4:00 pm Mark Gilberts

Sunday 8:00 am Dan Schickert

### USHERS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 4:00 pm Richard Steiner, Bob Ziel, Cliff Stram  
& Volunteer

Sunday 8:00 am Jerry Matousek, Don Osterhaus, Dick  
Tesar & Butch Boland

### SCRIP WORKERS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 4:00 pm Volunteers

Sunday 8:00 am Colleen Teynor



## St. John Nepomuc

### HOME COMMUNION MINISTERS FOR DEC. 18TH

Chris Ingham, Mary Steiner

### EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS-DECEMBER 17-18

Saturday 7:00 pm Linda Moser

Sunday 10:00 am Peggy Gallagher, Windy Mezera &  
Doris Krogman

### SERVERS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 7:00 pm Garrett Young & Macey Banasik

Blake Thiry & Matt Rogge

Sunday 10:00 am Gabriel Munson-Fishler & John  
Titlbach

Lindsey Nolan & Dustin Nolan

### LECTORS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 7:00 pm Rita Krahn

Sunday 10:00 am Jerry Cummings

### USHERS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 7:00 pm Merle Frommelt, Bernie Mayer, Alex  
Schaefer, Tim Looney

Sunday 10:00 am Jim Gallagher, Ron Trautsch, Mark  
Mara & Dennis Mezera,

### SCRIP WORKERS-DECEMBER 17/18

Saturday 7:00 pm Aaron & Sarah Kramer

Sunday 10:00 am Sheila Eastman

WEEKEND MASSES: MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY REQUESTING THE MASS ARE ASKED TO BRING THE GIFTS OF BREAD AND WINE TO THE ALTAR. PLEASE MAKE YOURSELVES KNOWN TO THE USHERS AND SIT NEAR THE GIFTS. THANK YOU!



Tuesday, December 13	8:15 am	St. Gabriel's Church	† Parents of Dick & Verna Panka
Wednesday, December 14	8:15 am	St. John's Church	† Mary Marcella MacEachern
Thursday, December 15	8:15 am	St. Gabriel's Church	† Dr. Wm. G. Nugent
Friday, December 16	8:15 am	St. John's Church	† Leila Messerli
Saturday, December 17	4:00 pm	St. Gabriel's Church	† Herb Baures
	7:00 pm	St. John's Church	† Cathy Vondrum
Sunday, December 18	8:00 am	St. Gabriel's Church	For All Those Entrusted to Our Pastor
	10:00 am	St. John's Church	† Joseph Rod

### CONFESSIONS

St. Gabriel's 3:00 pm to 3:45 pm on Saturday

St. John's 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm on Saturday

(No scheduled confessions on days with weddings or funerals.)

## GAUDETE SUNDAY

It never fails that someone comes up after Mass on Gaudete Sunday and says 'Father you look good in pink', or they know this is the Sunday we get to light the pink candle on our Advent wreaths. Is this just to break up the two seasons of penance (Advent and Lent) from their normal colors of Violet (no, not purple). As you can well imagine, there is more, so let's take a look at what the color rose signifies. In *The Year of Grace*, Dr. Pius Parsch stated:

*'Nature's annual cycle is characterized by two phenomena, light and life. Out of the darkness comes light, out of death comes life. The translation from night to light characterizes the winter season; the transition from death to life is proper to summer-time. The holy year of the church is likewise divided into two phases which have similar characteristics.'*

Violet calls to mind the diminishing light during Advent and the silence of life in the winter preparing for a new birth in the spring. Black is not a liturgical color, because black is the absence of all color, and we are never in complete darkness. Violet is a dark and penitential color, but it is also the ancient color for royalty and wealth. Through our baptism, we are immersed in light and life, and have the dignity of being children of the King of Heaven.

In this sense, we see the significance of the color rose, a softening of violet, the promise of the light that is approaching, anticipating the birth of Christ during Advent and his resurrections during Lent. Gaudete Sunday is an anticipation and foretaste of the good things to come, things that we experience partially today and confident that we will experience them fully when Christ returns.

St Bernard of Clairvaux teaches of the three comings of the Lord: he came in the flesh and weakness of humanity, the final one, when he will come in power and majesty, and this third one that lies between these two, when he comes in spirit and power. In a sense, Advent is a waiting in expectation and joy for all three of these. Our readings place us with the prophets waiting for the coming of the Messiah, we wait in the darkness of this life for the coming of the Son of Man on the clouds of heaven, anticipating his second coming. And finally we wait for his coming into our life now, preparing for his return. St Bernard teaches this middle coming is the road from the first to the final coming of our Savior.

This coming of our Lord is even more immanent during Gaudete Sunday, *The Lord is Near*. Just as The Light approaches, his light is reflected in our liturgies; the violet of the season approaches the white of Christmas morning, and appears as rose. We rejoice not only in the future coming of Christ; we rejoice now as he is born into our hearts today. In Advent the Holy Spirit desires to open the doors to our hearts so he can enter more fully. Nothing matters more in life than we grow in the diving light of love that is Jesus Christ. That is true joy; so we can repeat with St. Paul in his letter to the Philippians: *'Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say rejoice! The Lord is near.*

## PRAYER CORNER

3

**God, grant healing and peace to the sick of our communities and those who have requested our prayers.**

**Please pray for:** Eileen Sutton, Mary Ann Heisz, Jerry Matousek, LaVern Sutton, Janet Dickman, Peg Stoeffler, Nancy Patzner, Michael Hinrich, William Blake, John & Cheyenne Messling, Earl Nye, Ethel Sebastian, Tara Pellock, Margaret Konichek, Geraldine Barr, Edith Ritchie, Scott LaBonne, Debbie Eden, Ken Fleshner, Carrie Breuer, Graham Shedivy, Mary Gillitzer, Lorna Porvaznik, John Rink, Dale LaBonne, Dallas Valley, Mary T. Shedivy, Lavon David, Diane Fernette, Joe Ludvik, Stacey Johnson, Bernie O'Connell, Frank Tiller, Carl Shedivy, Rosanna Mayer, Marilyn Rybarczyk, Pam Waller, Jackie Cherrier, Jennifer Gilman, Sara Breuer, Rose Miller, Annabelle Stubbe, Karen Carroll, Richard Ginsterblum, Letty Oehler, Howard Gillitzer, Art & Celine Boxrucker, Nora Vickerman, Dave Bohnenkamp, Cecil Olson, Mary Kann, Eugene Gillitzer, Barbara Schwant, Tyler Gillitzer, Lynette Reichmann, Janet Beinborn, Scott Plondke, Richard Gillitzer, Gerald Stram, Joe Barrette, Sally Ann White, Scott Sklenar, Shirley Ambrose, Don McFarland, Vickie Samples, Nancy Aschom, Phyllis Waller, Jack Dahl, Joan Sheckler, Sandi Herreid, Melinda Neumann, Don Ritchie, Sally White, Faye Tesar, Ronnie Schlueter, Dean Heintz, Norb Aschom, Robert McCarty, Matilda Flansburgh, Michele Gale Tiller Karr, Mary Jo Carl.

**If you have a special intention or loved one who is in need of prayers; please let us know so we can include them.**

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve, Saturday, December 24th

5:00 pm (JWalkers) at St. John's

5:30 pm (Children's Mass) at St. Gabriel's

10:00 pm Mass at St. John's

### Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25th

8:00 am Mass at St. Gabriel's

10:00 am Mass at St. John's

## PARISH SUPPORT

	This Year	Last Year
Envelopes for Dec. 4th	\$9,916.29	\$7,296.00
Plate for Dec. 4th	<u>623.20</u>	<u>520.27</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,539.49</b>	<b>\$7,816.27</b>

The second collection came to \$632.37 and will be used for Prairie Catholic School and our Religious Education Program expenses.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**Prairie Catholic Sweepstake Calendars are now on sale for the year of 2017-2018. \$20.00 per calendar or 6 for \$100. The calendars are available at both rectories or from John Fischer (326-2827). These calendars make great Christmas gifts.**

**Christmas Poinsettias for Church.....**If you would like to remember a loved one or honor someone with a poinsettia over the holidays please deposit names & donations in the collection basket or you can drop it off at St. John's Rectory. Thank you!

### **Holy Family Parish Family Life Committee**

is inviting adult and high school student parishioners to volunteer to being a **prayer partner** to those preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is a very important time in their faith lives and a great opportunity for parishioners to show their support in prayer & friendship. After all Masses this weekend volunteers can sign up in the vestibule of the churches or by calling Verna Panka 326-2196 or Jeri Kluesner 326-2535 (leave a message) by December 14th. You may also choose someone you know in the Confirmation preparation classes by doing so when you sign up.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED TO THE DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL.** We will be listing the names of all who responded. We will begin with around 50 parishioners and run them for a few weeks and list 50 or more, so if you don't see your name it will appear in following bulletins.

Richard & Shirley Ambrose, Rose Bauer, Dorothy Baures, Robert & Nancy Becker, Florence Becwar, Doris Bohnenkamp, Bernard & Bonnie Boland, Ronald & Darlene Bunders, Darrell & Rae Ann Cooley, Gerald & Eldora Coorough, LeAnn Craig, Jerry & Joanne Cummings, Larry & Sharon Dahman, Donald & Joan Draka, Irving & Carol DuCharme, Thomas & Jean Farrell, Scott & Frances Geisler, Roger & Marlene Grunow, Deacon Mark & Ann Grunwald, Robert Heilmann, Terry & Kathleen Igou, Ronald & Mary Alice Jones, Geraldine Kluesner, Doris Krogman, Donald & Norma Lochner, Paul J. Lochner, Paul & Nora Moris, Debra Morovits, Janet Nelson, Joyce Novey, Paul & Lorna Porvaznik, Terry & Clara Powers, Jan Rutter, Betty Standorf, Catherine Steger, Cecilia Steinberg, Michael & Donna Steiner, Richard & Jeanette Steiner, Agnes Tesar, Phyllis Tichenor, Brian & Shelly Trautsch, James & Barbara Welsch, James White, Ronald & Karen White, Arlene Willms, and Phyllis Yeomans.

## **THIS WEEK AT THE PARISH**

4b

**Sunday, December 11**

JWalkers meet at St. Johns School after the 10:00 am Mass at St. John's to go Christmas Caroling; after Caroling we will have a Christmas party at Leisure Time Sports

**Monday, December 12**

**Tuesday, December 13**

3:30 pm Mass at Prairie Maison

**Wednesday, December 14**

6:30 pm Prairie Catholic School Christmas Program at St. Gabriel' Church

6:45 pm CCD Classes at St. John's School

**Thursday, December 15**

Adoration after the 8:15 am Mass at St. Gabriel's  
Benediction at 1:00 pm

5:00 pm Parish Council meeting in the Fellowship Hall

**Friday, December 16**

**Saturday, December 17**

### **Holy Name Raffle Winners for December 2016:**

**\$10.00:** Kati Forsythe, Doug Rickleff, Dorothy Degenhardt, John Forst, & Sue Tiller

**25.00:** Aliyah Fox, Watertown, WI, and John Forst

**\$100.00:** Arlene Willms

### **Lottery Calendar Sweepstake Winners:**

**\$100.00:** Lynda Welter, PdC; Linda Kramer, PdC; Ellie Betzle, East Moline, IL; Bob Kazda, PdC; Gregg Steinhauer, Waunakee

**\$50.00:** Mary Mezera, Monroe, Lindsey Krachey, PdC; Capital Campaign, PdC; Tom Novey, PdC; Janice Duve, PdC

**\$25.00:** Bill Konichek, Portland, OR; Mike & Sarah Ott, Baraboo; Rose Wright, PdC; Mary Tiller Jonas, Cedarburg; June Looney, PdC; Steve Pellock, PdC; Judy Rybarczyk, Sparta; Kelsey Kleven, Milwaukee; Brylee Brewer, PdC; Don Knapp, PdC; Melvin Novey, Dixon, IL; Andrew Steger, PdC; Krissy Kussmaul, Thomson, IL; Jim Hutchison, PdC; Colton Knutson, Eastman; Geri Kozelka, PdC; Molly Halpin, PdC; Rebecca Bjurquist, Eastman; Doug Kowalski, Mt. Horeb; Pete & Mary Neisius, PdC

**SCHOOL NOTES.....**The Pre-K students have entered the Christmas Season creating decorations, sensory crafts, and most importantly "The Christmas Story." They are caroling and practicing Holiday songs for a special "present" to their parents at our annual Elementary Christmas Program. We love the excitement and cheer this season brings to children this age. Wishing everyone a safe and joyous Holiday Season. *-Mrs. Janet Steiner*