

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2015

~ Immaculate Conception Masses ~

St. Peter: 8 am & 6 pm
St. John: 9:30 am & 7:15 pm

St. John Advent Reconciliation

St. John's Communal Reconciliation will be held this Wednesday the ninth at 7 pm, and Individual Reconciliation will be on Thursday, December 10, at 7 pm.

~ Advent Mass Schedule ~

Mondays:	7 pm ~St. John
Tuesdays:	8 am ~St. Peter 9:30 am & 7 pm ~St. John
Wednesdays:	8 am ~St. Peter 9:30 am ~St. John
Thursdays:	8 am ~St. Peter 9:30 am ~St. John

☞ Star of Bethlehem Movie ☞

The Star of Bethlehem movie will be shown at the Kopernik Observatory, 698 Underwood Road, Vestal on Friday, December 11 and 18, at 7 pm. This fascinating documentary unlocks the mystery of the Star of Bethlehem by relating scientific knowledge about astronomy & historical clues from the Bible.

Admission: \$5/adults, \$3 seniors/students with \$16 family max (if clear after movie, includes telescope viewing). Information: kopernik.org/607.748.3685.

Bishop's Appeal Totals to Date

St. John: \$12,784 ~ St. Peter: \$12,095

OFFERINGS

St. John: \$1,606
Holy Family: 231
St. Peter: 1,497

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

Too busy? "A traditional Hindu attitude toward service is for parents to pull back from doing much outside service while their children are young. When the children are raised, they jump fully back into the service area. To everything there is a season."

~Raising Kids Who Will Make a Difference

☞ Free Year of Mercy App ☞

Download the free app called **365 Days to Mercy** for your mobile device with daily reflections on mercy, Scripture reflections, etc. you will find helpful in this Year of Mercy. In just a minute or two you can read a little about mercy each day. Go to OSV.com/YOM to learn more.

☞ Walton Food Bank ☞

Your help is needed to accomplish the annual distribution of Christmas baskets. Make your check out to 'Walton Ministerial Association,' place in an envelope marked 'Christmas Baskets,' & drop in the offertory.

☞ Alpha Course in the New Year ☞

Alpha will be offered beginning Thursday, January 14, at the Red Brick Church, 58 East Street in Walton. There will be two sessions offered: lunch at 11 am and dinner at 6 pm. Come and experience the core Gospel message. Contact Charlie for more information at 865.5024.

☞ St. John Ministry Volunteers ☞

If you can assist Father at one (or more) of the Christmas and Mary, Mother of God, Masses at St. John, ministry sign-up sheets for are at the back of Church. Thank you.

Prepare the Way for the Lord

Would you join John the Baptist going around the country to speak about repentance? It is challenging to imagine: asking people to consider the wrong that they have done, express remorse, and pledge to do differently.

Yet the message is critical for our salvation. The Gospel tells that John travels and preaches just before Jesus begins His ministry, preparing the way for the Son of Man to challenge the commonly held ideas of right and wrong.

During Advent we are preparing not only for the birth of Jesus at Christmas but also for the Second Coming of Christ. It is our calling to do so in our own hearts, in our families, in our communities, & in our world.

How will you do so? Perhaps your call is not to travel and preach. Perhaps your means of preparing the way is to give of time or money, do something active, meditate and pray at daily Mass, nurture faith in your children or in the children of a local homeless shelter, change global policy, or develop a relationship with one person whose heart is need of repair.

*Happy is the man who listens to me,
watching daily at my gates,
waiting beside my doors.*

Proverb 9:34

Pope Francis' Year of Mercy Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, You taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father, and have told us that whoever sees You sees God.

Show us Your face and we will be saved. You are the visible face of the invisible God who manifests His power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be Your visible face in the world.

Send Your spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and Your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

Simon

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

Do you have a pet name for your spouse ie baby, honey, a nickname that only you use? It is not essential but often it can remind both of you of your special relationship. It is like calling God, "Abba."

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

John the Baptist and parents have similar vocations: like the Baptist, parents are asked to make "rough ways smooth" and to "prepare the way of the Lord" for their families. This Advent ask yourself: Does my life hinder or help my family to know Jesus?