

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

St. Peter Advent Reconciliations

St. John's Communal Reconciliation will be on Tuesday the 13th, 7 pm, and Individual Reconciliation will be on Wednesday the 14th, 7 pm.

Upcoming Fellowships

Please stop in for some pre-holiday cheer!

December 11 St. Peter coffee hour

December 18 St. John coffee hour
& cookie exchange

March for Life Bake Sale

A bake sale will be held at St. Peter this weekend to raise funds for the March for Life trip to Washington, DC in February. Please take a few minutes after the 5:30 and 9:30 Masses to pick up some delicious goodies to enjoy later.

~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

Cookie Exchange on the 18th

Please sign up if you are going to participate in the Cookie Exchange at the coffee hour on the 18th at St. John (a sign-up sheet will be in place at the entrance of the church). Please make enough cookies to exchange with everyone who participates. Thanks.

Vocations Brochure

Please pick up the newest **Vocations** brochure. Inside you will meet our newest seminarians, please keep them in your prayers!

THE O ANTIPHONS

There are the seven antiphons used for the Magnificat canticle at Vespers from December 17 to 23. They are also known as the "The Greater Antiphons." In many places an additional candle is lit each night on a special seven-branch candle stand. These antiphons were considered so important in medieval monasteries that they were assigned to be intoned by the dignitaries of the monastery.

Since Vatican II these texts are used as the Alleluia verse before the Gospel at Mass beginning on the 17th:

Dec. 17: O Sapientia (O wisdom)

Dec. 18: O Adonai (O Lord)

Dec. 19: O Radix Jesse (O root of Jesse)

Dec. 20: O Clavis David (O key of David)

Dec. 21: O Oriens (O rising sun) [shortest day in n. hemisphere]

Dec. 22: O Rex gentium (O King of the nations)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (O who God is with us)

The structure of these texts starts with an invocation to the Messiah with a title inspired by the Old Testament, then the text concludes with an appeal for the Messiah to come and act on our behalf according to the title given to Him at the beginning of the antiphon. The first letter of these titles when read backwards (E-R-O-C-R-A-S), spells the Latin words "ero cras:" "tomorrow I shall be here."

The texts of the antiphons are a mosaic of biblical references that express the Old Testament hope for the promised Messiah:

1. O Sapientia is drawn from Sirach 23 and Wisdom 6 to 9.
2. O Adonai from Exodus 3, 15, and 24 and from Deuteronomy 5.
3. O Radix Jesse from Isaiah 11.
4. O Clavis David from Isaiah 22, Revelation 3, verse 7
5. O Oriens from Zechariah 3:3, 6:12, Isaiah 9:2, 60:1-3, Wisdom 7:26, Luke 1:78, and Hebrews 1:3.
6. O Rex gentium from Jeremiah 10:7, Haggai 2:3, Isaiah 28:16, Genesis 2:7, and Ephesians 2:14.
7. O Emmanuel comes from the famous prophecy to Ahaz (Isa 7:14), Isaiah 33:22; Genesis 49:10; Zechariah 9:9. and John 20:28.

A possible Advent family preparation for Christmas might be to read each of these scripture passages, pray over them, and then listen to the proper O antiphon in both Latin and then in English. Then finish each prayer session with the playing and then the singing of the hymn O come, O come Emmanuel. Columbia Kelly, OSB

Christmas Eve Masses: 4 pm at St. John
5:30 pm at St. Peter

Christmas Masses: 8 am at Holy Family
9:30 am at St. Peter
11:15 am at St. John

Christmas Gift Ideas

Have you given enough sweaters, toys, slippers, tech items, etc. to relatives and friends who have more than they need?

Consider giving peace on earth, an end to hunger, preservation of the environment, or education for a child in honor of those 'hard-to-buy-for' people in your life. Samaritan's Purse and Heifer International have gifts starting at \$5 for Gospel booklets, baby chicks for \$14, a bicycle to enable a preacher to travel further for \$100, wool-bearing animal for \$80, honeybees w/hive for \$30, \$500 for a cow, and up to \$2,200 for a child's life-saving surgery.

The best part of helping the less fortunate, Heifer International and Samaritan's Purse will mail your Christmas card for you!

heifer.org / 888.548.6437
samaritanspurse.org / 800.353.5957

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

The question put to Jesus in the Gospel is also put to us today: "Are you the one?" Are you the one who will give guidance to the children in your life or must they look to tv sitcoms, films, videos, and music lyrics for direction? Are you the one? Will you be the one?

2016 Bishop's Appeal Deficits

thebishopsappeal.org

[Pledges accepted until March of 2017]

St. John the Baptist: \$9,006

St. Peter's Church: 9,512

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

The purpose of Advent is not to shop but to learn to wait. Teaching your child to delay gratification is an important life skill. Perhaps this W.A.I.T. acronym will help:

W ~ waiting give us time to make a good decision or buy the right thing,

A ~ anticipation can enhance appreciation,

I ~ instant gratification is often fleeting,

T ~ take stock of your blessings.
What do you *already* have?

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

"Be patient, brothers and sisters ...

Do not complain about one another." James 5:7-9

Preparation for Christmas can strain even the best relationships. Be gentle and patient with each other as you do the many tasks to prepare for Christmas.

Bible Journey

Sunday, December 18, at St. John, 3 pm.

Week 15

- 1-- Deut 33:1-29; Luke 13:1-21; Ps 78:65-72; Prov 12:25
- 2-- Deut 34:1-Josh 2:24; Luke 13:22-14:6; Ps 79:1-13; Prov 12:26
- 3-- Josh 3:1-4:24; Luke 14:7-35; Ps 80:1-19; Prov 12:27-28
- 4-- Josh 5:1-7:15; Luke 15:1-32; Ps 81:1-16:1-5; Prov 13:1
- 5-- Josh 7:16-9:2; Luke 16:1-18; Ps 82:1-8; Prov 13:2-3
- 6-- Josh 9:3-10:43; Luke 16:19-17:10; Ps 83:1-18; Prov 13:4
- 7-- Josh 11:1-12:24; Luke 17:11-37; Ps 84:1-12; Prov 13:5-6

Week 16

- 1-- Josh 13:1-14:15; Luke 18:1-17; Ps 85:1-13; Prov 13:7-8
- 2-- Josh 15:1-63; Luke 18:18-43; Ps 86:1-17; Prov 13:9-10
- 3-- Josh 16:1-18:28; Luke 19:1-27; Ps 87:1-7; Prov 13:11
- 4-- Josh 19:1-20:9; Luke 19:28-48; Ps 88:1-18; Prov 13:12-14
- 5-- Josh 21:1-22:20; Luke 20:1-26; Ps 89:1-13; Prov 13:15-16
- 6-- Josh 22:21-23:16; Luke 20:27-47; Ps 89:14-37; Prov 13:17-19
- 7-- Josh 24:1-33; Luke 21:1-28; Ps 89:38-52; Prov 13:20-23