

# ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

December 12, 2021 - Third Sunday of Advent

## **St. Mary's Catholic Church**

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## **St. Mary's Catholic School**

Principal: Jason Kramer 476-2824 ext. 106

School Sec.: Gina Debes 476-2824 ext. 107

Cafeteria: Lanea Haase 476-2180 ext. 108

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## **SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR DECEMBER 11- DECEMBER 19**

### **ST. MARY'S**

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+ Mary Szydloski
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	For St. Mary's School Children and Staff
Friday	8:15 a.m.	Justice & Peace
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+ Maury McDunner
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+ Dwight & Laura Rose Severs

### **ST. AGNES**

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

### **EVENTS OF THE WEEK:**

Sunday, December 12

Monday, December 13

Tuesday, December 14

Wednesday, December 15

Thursday, December 16

Friday, December 17

Sunday, December 19

**Advent Penance Service Billings 4p.m.**

**Memorial of Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr**

**8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service**

**Advent Penance Service Verona 6:30 p.m.**

**Memorial of Saint John of the Cross, Priest and Dr. of the Church**

**8:15 a.m. Mass Bishop Rice will be here to celebrate the Mass**

**Advent Penance Service Cassville 7 p.m.**

**8:15 a.m. Mass**

**Setting up the Christmas Trees after Mass.** This is a big job, so the more that can help makes it a lot easier.

**Advent Penance Service Pierce City 4p.m.**

**8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service**

**Decorating the church for Christmas at 10:00 a.m.** Everyone is welcome to come and help

**8:15 a.m. Mass**

**Christmas Eve Masse at 6:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Day Masses: St. Mary's 12:00 a.m. Midnight St. Agnes 10:00 a.m.**

**Feast of The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

Monday, December 20

Tuesday, December 21

Wednesday, December 22

Friday, December 24

Saturday, December 25

Sunday December 26

### **OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in December:**

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 6596.62

**TUCKPOINTING PROJECT:** To date our parish has \$41,138.00 toward our \$65,000.00 goal. Thank you! If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, in unity with those who have already given by mailing or putting your pledge in the collection marked tuckpointing. We are still short \$ 23,862.00 of meeting our goal.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS** Mike Rosewicz, Kimberly Velten, Louise Bellm, Ester Miller, Charlotte Sloan, Andrea Kristek, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

**ROSARY:** The Rosary is said Tuesday-Friday every day at **11:00 a.m.** Everyone is welcome to come. Also if you are within 1 mile of the church you can listen to it on the radio station 88.1FM. Please call the parish office and let us know if there is a better time of day for you to join us in praying the Rosary.

**2022 CALENDARS** are in the back of church.

**THE PCCW LADIES** are selling pecans during part of December. We will sell after both weekend Masses. You may also contact an officer to purchase them. The price is \$12.00 a bag. We appreciate your support. Contact Bonnie Parrigon at 417-489-3866, Patty Osterloh at 417-540-4182 and Beverly Phillips at 417-737-0774. Thank you.

**DURING THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON**, the PCCW will be sending cards to those are in nursing homes, those who are shut-ins, and those who are ill. We invite you to join us in remembering these parishioners. These members include the following:

**David Baker**, 4 Lawrence 2200, Wentworth, Mo 64873

**Louise Bellm**, 813 East Walnut, Aurora, MO 65605

**Carolyn Boman**, 101 N. Gibbs, Pierce City, MO 65723

**Helen Clapper**, 420 Maple Rise Path, Chesterfield, MO 63005

**Wilma Fenske**, 402 Ford Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

**Wilbert Fenske**, 2675 Farm Road 2090, Purdy, MO 65734

**Helen Marie Mettlach**, Lacoba Villa #1, Apt, D, P.O. Box 885, Monett, MO 65708

**Imogene Kutz**, 5035 Highway JJ, Wentworth, MO 64873

**Andrea Kristek**, 738 Kristek Lane, Monett, MO 65708

**Lillian Kristek**, Lacoba Villa, Apt. 2, P.O. Box 885, Monett MO 65708

**Mary Catherine Miller**, Saint Lukes Nursing Center, 1220 E. Fairview Ave., Carthage, MO 64836

**Father Peter Morciniec**, Springfield Villa, Room 327, 1100 E. Montclair St., Springfield, MO 65807

**Nora Montgomery**, Lawrence County Manor, 915 Carl Allen Street, Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

**Verla Osterloh**, Lacoba Nursing Home, 850 U.S. HWY 60, P.O. Box 885, Monett, MO 65708

**Tina Paul**, 301 Pleasant Drive, #38, Monett, MO 65708

**Charlotte Sloan**, 21873 Lawrence 1053, Pierce City, MO 65723

**Jean Ann Stephens**, Missouri Veterans Home , 1600 S. Hickory St., Mt. Vernon, MO 65712

**John and Janice Stricklin**, 203 N. Elm St., Pierce City, MO

**James and Carolyn Witt**, 4067 Lawrence 1020, Pierce City, MO 65723

**Josephine Witt**, 409 W. Newman, Pierce City, MO 65723

**Betty Wrobleski**, Lacoba Nursing Home, 850 U.S. HWY 60, Monett, MO 65708

#### **NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:**

Thank you for participating in the Breakfast with Santa activity last Sunday. We hope you had a great time. We would especially like to thank the Knights for their role in providing the breakfast. It was truly a great event for St. Mary's.

This week we began filming for our Christmas movie. Listen for updates for when we release the movie for viewing.

#### **APPOINTMENTS**

**If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement**

##### **Saturday, December 18 4:00 p.m. Mass**

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski

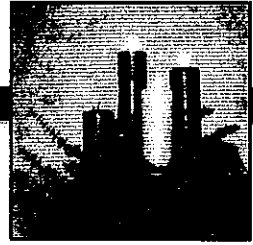
Ushers: Larry Gasser, Doug Witt

##### **Sunday, December 19 8:30 a.m. Mass**

Readers: Rachelle Brown, Jennifer Eaton

Ushers: Darren Brown, Dustin Avondet

**AFTER YOU COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS**, consider sharing them with the church. As the spirit of gratitude to God Permeates our lives at this time of year, please prayerfully consider including our parish in your giving. Your generosity helps to give others the most precious of gifts – the love of God, and the sacraments and ministries of the Church. Remember that the tax laws intentionally encourage charitable giving. By writing a check to St. Mary's by December 31, 2021, you can reduce the sting of income taxes if you itemize. Giving is, of course much more than a tax brackets and deductions. Your gifts provide the necessary support for all our parish does. Thank You!



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent, Cycle C

Zephaniah 3:14-18a  
Isaiah 12:2-6  
Philippians 4:4-7  
Luke 3:10-18

**Monday December 13**  
**St. Lucy**  
Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17a  
Ps 25:4-9  
Matthew 21:23-27

**Tuesday December 14**  
**St. John of the Cross**  
Zep 3:1-2, 9-13  
Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23  
Matthew 21:28-32

**Wednesday December 15**  
Isaiah 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25  
Ps 85:9ab-14  
Luke 7:18b-23

**Thursday December 16**  
Isaiah 54:1-10  
Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13  
Luke 7:24-30

**Friday December 17**  
Genesis 49:2, 8-10  
Ps 72:1-4, 7-8, 17  
Matthew 1:1-17

**Saturday December 18**  
Jeremiah 23:5-8  
Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19  
Matthew 1:18-25

The Third Sunday of Advent focuses our attention on the spirit of joyfulness, because this is an essential mark of true faith. All the readings are full of joy and the thrill of happy expectation.

In the Gospel reading, John the Baptizer preaches good news to the people, and they are filled with joyful anticipation for whatever God is about to do.

Do you know that joy is a ministry? It's an important way to share the faith. We all have a calling to do this ministry wherever there is misery and hopelessness.

Let's look at how John fulfilled this ministry of joy. We might think he was anything but joyful in his robe of scratchy camels hair and his fiery sermons about repenting from sin. But look closer. His ministry prepared people's hearts to receive Jesus.

Having faith means trusting God which means resting in

hope which produces joy. When you or someone you know is lacking joy, it's because Jesus has not yet been invited fully into the situation that's been stealing the joy. It might be too early in the grieving process, which is healthy and normal, or it might a lack of faith, which needs nurturing.

The ability to experience the joy of faith comes from turning to the love of God and receiving his comfort in the midst of hardships. It also arises from getting to

know the joyful side of Jesus and the joyful purposes behind all of his teachings.

Jesus preached going the extra mile, loving our enemies, and doing good to those who cause us hardships, none of which is fun. What we need to discover and then share with others is that holy living, although not always fun, is what unites us to the joyful love of Jesus and the joyful purposes of everything he preached.

Remember, even going to the cross produces joyful results.

The good news is: Jesus didn't just tell us how to be holy, he gave us the power to be holy: He gave us his Holy Spirit.

And when others see the Holy Spirit's activity in us, if they know that Jesus is the reason for our joy, they are evangelized by our faith!

### Reflect & Discuss:

1. Think of a recent sin you've committed. How did it prevent you from experiencing joy?
2. The next time, how will you rely on the Holy Spirit to help you turn temptation into joy?
3. Name some of the special joys you experience during Advent and Christmas; how do they help you grow stronger in holiness?
4. Describe a time when you helped someone else become joyful; how did Jesus reveal himself in that?