

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

December 20th 2020 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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St. Mary's Catholic School

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR DECEMBER 19- DECEMBER 27

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Maury McDunner
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Dwight & Laura Rose Severs
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Rosary & Communion Service
Wednesday	NO MASS	
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Friday	12:00 a.m. (Midnight)	St. Mary's Parish Family
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	+Louie Fenske

ST. AGNES

Tues.	No Mass
Thurs.	No Mass
Fri.	10:00 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Monday, December 21

Rosary & Communion Service 8:15 a.m.

Decorate Church for Christmas at 9:45 a.m. anyone is welcome to come and help we just ask that you wear a mask if helping.

No Mass

No PSR/CCD Classes during Christmas break. Classes will resume on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at 6:15 p.m.

Christmas Eve Mass at 6:00 p.m. (Choir will only be at this Mass)

Christmas Day Masses: St. Mary's 12:00 a.m. (No Choir) St. Agnes 10:00 a.m.

Feast of Saint Stephen, The First Martyr

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Wednesday, December 23

Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Rosary & Communion Service 8:15 a.m.

8:15 a.m. Mass

No St. Mary's School Board Meeting

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God- Holy Day of Obligation- Vigil Mass at St. Mary's 6:00p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God- Holy Day of Obligation- Mass at St. Agnes 10:30 a.m.

Thursday, December 24

Friday, December 25

Saturday, December 26

Sunday, December 27

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, December 28

Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs

Rosary & Communion Service 8:15 a.m.

8:15 a.m. Mass

No St. Mary's School Board Meeting

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God- Holy Day of Obligation- Vigil Mass at St. Mary's 6:00p.m.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God- Holy Day of Obligation- Mass at St. Agnes 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 30

Thursday, December 31

Friday, January 1

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

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 5828.50

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Fr. Peter J. Morciniec, Peggy Heidlage, Jerry Gasser, Charlotte Sloan, Louise Bellm and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

This week, our 7th and 8th grade students gifted us with a presentation over the Jesse Tree. Each classroom put together a video as a mini Christmas program. Check out the school Facebook page to view the videos of the projects. As we have gone through the Advent Season the students have been working hard on these activities to learn and prepare for the birth of Jesus.

Please, allow me to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! School will reopen to get back to business on Tuesday, January 5th. Until then, be safe and healthy.

DECEMBER APPOINTMENTS

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

Saturday, Dec. 26th 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski

Ushers: Larry Carver, Leonard Fenske

Sunday, Dec. 27th 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Joe Crowell, Denise Crowell

Ushers: Jim Barchak, Ian Brottlund

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

4th Sunday of Advent, Cycle B

2 Sm 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

Monday December 21

Song of Songs 2:8-14
or Zephania 3:14-18a
Ps 33:2-3,11-12,20-21
Luke 1:39-45

Tuesday December 22

1 Samuel 1:24-28
1 Sm 2:1,4-8
Luke 1:46-56

Wednesday December 23

Malachi 3:1-4,23-24
Ps 25:4-5ab,8-10,14
Luke 1:57-66

Thursday December 24

2 Samuel 7:1-5,8b-12,14a,16
Ps 89:2-5,27,29
Luke 1:67-79

Friday December 25

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10
Ps 98:1-6
Hebrews 1:1-6
John 1:1-18

Saturday December 26

Saint Stephen

Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59
Ps 31:3cd-4,6,8ab,16bc,17
Matthew 10:17-22

Today's Gospel shows us how the mission of Christ affected the Virgin Mary even before Jesus became human through her.

However, that is not when his salvation plan began. Jesus is God; he has always existed. His salvation plan impacted Mary in the moment of her own conception.

In the Nicene Creed we say that God "came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man." In other words, his Spirit bathed Mary in his pure, holy presence. Even though she could not understand how the Messiah could possibly be conceived within her, by the grace of God's Spirit she could know that God was the one who was asking for it and God was the one who was doing it.

All of us are called by God to carry the presence of Christ and birth him more fully into the world. What are you doing about it? How much are you fulfilling your divine destiny? Remember, he always empowers us to accomplish whatever he asks us to do. God knows what he's doing when he calls us to continue what Mary began, and he is always trustworthy and dependable. There is nothing to fear, no reason to hold back from fulfilling our true destiny.



Everything that God does is always good, even when his plan for our mission requires a journey through the cross. If we follow Christ, sooner or later we hang with him on the cross, persecuted for our faith.

With this in mind, when he asks us to do something for his kingdom, of course our answer is yes, right?

Why wouldn't it be? Of course we want to cooperate with his plan. Mary shows us that we can yes

to his plan even when we don't understand it nor see how God could possibly do what he says he'll do.

It's normal to feel inadequate, like he cannot fulfill his plan *through us*, because we know we are weak, sinful, and unqualified. Don't trust your feelings about it; trust God!

Reflect & Discuss:

1. When was the last time you said to God, "But how can this be? You want me to do WHAT? I don't understand why!" What were you afraid of?
2. How strong was your trust in God?
3. When God chooses you for a task or responsibility, what helps you move from uncertainty or confusion or reluctance into saying "yes"?
4. When the plans of God don't make sense or they seem unpleasant, how do you overcome your reluctance?