

	SCRIPTURE		MASSES	CALENDAR
Sunday December 20	Mi 5:1-4a Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-45	8:00 9:30 11:00 2 PM	+Roberta Stiles +Cleone Fay +Caroline Simon +Rosemary and Joe Manjoine +Joe Meade Parishioners Vietnamese Mass The Fourth Sunday of Advent	5 PM Advent Vespers 6 PM Children's Pageant rehearsal (church) 6 PM Youth sting ensemble rehearsal (hall)
Monday December 21	Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45	12:10	+John G. Eckrich +Dorothy Pugh McCarty Advent Weekday	7:30 PM Widowed/Separated/Divorced
Tuesday December 22	1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56	12:10	+Living and Deceased members of the Joe Rummelhart family +Joe and Betty Chudacek Advent Weekday	
Wednesday December 23	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66	12:10	+Deceased members of the Black family +Wayne and Barb Chadima Advent Weekday	5:30-6 PM Children's Christmas Choir practice 6 PM Choir practice
Thursday December 24	Is 62:1-5 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 Mt 1:1-25 Is 9:1-6 Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14	5:10 11 PM	NO 12:10 PM MASS Parishioners (upstairs) +Howard Villhauer (downstairs) Vigil of Christmas +Vincent Harney +Anthony Eng Christmas Mass in the Night	4:50 PM Children's Christmas Pageant (upstairs) 10:30 PM Prelude music begins
Friday December 25	Is 62:11-12 Ti 3:4-7 Lk 2:15-20 Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18	8:30 10 AM 2 PM	+Charlotte K. Fisk Thompson +Paul and Mary Soukup +John and Margaret Eckrich The Nativity of the Lord— Mass in the Morning +Rex Fleming Vietnamese Mass The Nativity of the Lord— Mass During the Day	
Saturday December 26	Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:41-52	5:10 PM	Parishioners The Holy Family	NO SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
Sunday December 27	Sir 3:2-7, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:41-52	8:00 9:30 11:00	+Ralph Neppel +Ken Kasper +Joseph Eng +Deceased members of the Giblin family The Holy Family	Pantry Sunday

THE STEWARDSHIP

"GIFT T.A.G."

Thankful, Accountable, Generous



Stewardship of Time

Celebrate the Sacrament of Penance.

Stewardship of Talent

The Family Life Commission would like to thank all who helped with and participated in the Flu Shot Clinic last Sunday! We were happy that we were able to host it following the cancellation in October.

Stewardship of Treasure

December 13th, 2009

Envelopes	\$	16,996.00
Offertory (money not in envelopes)	\$	937.00
Electronic Funds Transfer	\$	1,865.00
Children's Envelopes	\$	2.00
5% for Peace & Justice allocations	\$	1,042.00
Total	\$	20,842.00
Amount needed each week:	\$	20,300.00
OVER budget:	\$	542.00
Amount needed year to date:	\$	487,200.00
Amount received to date:	\$	432,198.00
UNDER budget:	\$	-55,002.00
Stewardship of Treasure Goal: 5% OF INCOME		
GIVEN IN GRATITUDE		

Stewardship Thought

Stewardship means:
God first, others second, me third.

Christmas Caroling

The Family Life Commission invites you to join them Sunday, December 20th (TODAY!), to visit some of our homebound parishioners and entertain them with some carols.



If you can join us, please meet in St. Mary's parking lot at 2 PM. Our journey will culminate at the Knights of Columbus Family Center for hot chocolate between 4-4:30 PM. We also encourage everyone to complete the day with Advent Vespers at 5 PM at the church. Hope you can join us!

ADVENT EVENING VESPERS

One of the great ways to observe the season of Advent is to join with other members of our parish community for Advent Vespers. In our hectic, busy world, we need time for silence, reflection, and prayer. Advent Vespers (Evening Prayer) provides us the opportunity to do just that. Please join us this Sunday evening at 5 PM in the church as we lift up our hearts and minds to God in preparation for the coming of the Lord.



Children's Christmas Pageant

The final rehearsal is Sunday (TODAY), December 20th, at 6 PM, in the church. St. Mary's will present the Children's Christmas Pageant on Christmas Eve, at 4:50 PM (prior to the 5:10 PM Mass).



INCENSE NOTICE:

Incense will be used at the following Masses: *Christmas Eve Mass in the Night (11 PM), Christmas morning (8:30 AM and 10 AM), and the Solemnity of the Epiphany.*

Youth String Ensemble

The final rehearsal will be Sunday (TODAY), December 20th at 6 PM in the hall.



Seating for Christmas Masses

People attending the 5:10 PM Christmas Eve Mass and the 11 PM Christmas Mass During the Night sometimes arrive early and reserve pews for family members and friends. Other people, who come later, are then told that they cannot sit in the reserved pews. Obviously, this creates some tension! ☺ The Liturgy Commission has decided that seats may be reserved until 30 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass. At 4:40 PM and 10:30 PM, an announcement will be made that open seating is now available. What this means is: If you are planning to reserve a seat for someone else, they must arrive 30 minutes before Mass begins.

Charitable Donations Cut-Off Date

IRS code specifies that the cut-off for claiming a charitable income tax deduction for 2009 taxes is December 31st, 2009. If a donor wants a deduction for calendar year 2009, the gift must be received by hand delivery or envelope postmarked by December 31st. Gifts received (or postmarked) January 1st or later cannot be "back dated" to count for 2009. All gifts must be recorded in the calendar year received.

Pantry Sunday

(December 27th, 2009)

Please bring your donations to the parish hall. Thank you for your kindness, particularly during this difficult season of need and financial hardship for many in our community!

Most Needed Items

- Diapers
- Hearty soups and stews
- Canned meat & canned fruit
- Peanut butter & jelly (or jam)
- Rice and pasta
- Toilet paper

The Food Bank also needs recycled paper and plastic grocery bags, and recycled plastic and glass containers in sizes up to a quart to distribute food.

YOUTH NEWS

Catholic Connections Youth Group

Sunday, December 20th (TODAY), at 6:30 PM

St. Patrick's Youth Room (lower level)

TOPIC: Christmas as a Catholic

There will also be a \$5 gift exchange. Call Dave or Cathy Sharp with any questions (512-0324).

Catholic Connections Overnight Lock-In

Monday, December 28th, 8 PM-8 AM

at St. Patrick's

Contact Chuck Brock (337-2856) for more information.

OTHER HAPPENINGS

REVISED Christmas Mass Schedule for St. Wenceslaus, Iowa City

Christmas Eve: 4 PM— Mass in church and hall
Midnight—Mass in church

Christmas Day: 10 AM—English Mass in church
Noon—Latin Mass in church

Choose Life Prayer

We pray that as we prepare to celebrate the birth of God's Son, we may also reach out to welcome each of His unborn children into our world.

Vocation View

Mary set out in haste, carrying the good news of God's great love. Wherever you go today, take God with you.

Would you like to join our parish? We'd love to have you as part of our St. Mary's family! Please stop by or call the parish office at 337-4314.

ST. MARY'S PASTORAL COUNCIL

Marty Shafer – Chairperson
Mary Loops – Chairperson Elect
Karla Peiffer – Secretary

PASTORAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Jane Doucette – Family Life
Susan Manuel – Peace & Justice
Marty Shafer – Liturgy
Randy Hefel – Christian Formation
John Hale – Property Management
Mary Loops – Fellowship & Communications
Cathy Sharp - Evangelization & Stewardship

ST. MARY'S FINANCE COUNCIL

Anne Hargrave (Lay Director)
Vince Maurer
John Maxwell (Lay Director)
Mike Pugh
Bob Squires

EDUCATION

Regina Catholic Education Center:

Carol Trueg—President, 351-1415. ext. 153
David Krummel – High School Principal, 338-5436
Celeste Vincent – Elementary Principal, 337-5739
Sr. Mary Frances Michalec, ND, - Religious Education Director, 351-7638
Alan Opheim – Regina Business Office, 337-2580
April Rouner – Executive Director of the Catholic Community Foundation, 354-5866

Regina Board of Education Representatives:

Greg Williams, Frank Wagner, and Melinda Shetler