

Mass Intentions

Mon., Tues., Wed., Thurs., & Sat. – NO MASS
Friday – 2:00 p.m. – The Wencil Family
Sunday – 10:30 a.m. – For Our Parishioners †

Mass for December 8th Holy Day of Obligation will be at 2:00 p.m. here at Litomysl with Fr. John Sauer.
Mass on Christmas Eve, December 24th will be at 3:00 p.m. here at Litomysl with Father Jon Moore.

Sunday – 10:30 a.m.

Lec – Tom Wencil
EM – David Miller
Cup – Bruce & Rose Ann Kubicek
Servers – Hunter Henderson & Kara Kubista
Gifts – Mary Starman & Marie Kubicek
Ushers – John Styndl & LeRoy Schroeder
Rosary – Bob Prokopec Singing - Combo

11-23-08– Adult - \$373, Offertory - \$217.75 Youth - \$1.49,
Fall Coll. - \$1,225, Decorating Fund - \$10

The Litomysl Pastoral Council and the Finance Council will not be meeting in December.

School News:

St. Isidore School Calendar Winners:
November 30 – Teresa Sisler, Litomysl

St. Isidore's School has a Giving Tree on the table in the back of church. Would you be able to take a paper bulb and purchase a gift to help enrich the education at St. Isidore's? Please wrap the gift and put the bulb on it and return it to the tree by December 14th. The staff and students would be very grateful.

St. Isidore School Board will meet on Tuesday, December 9th at 4:00 p.m. in the school library. (Note it is on Tuesday this month, due to the Christmas Program on Thursday.) Everyone is welcome.

The School Board asks that the Finance Council meet with them in January on Thursday, January 8th at 7:30 p.m. (not in December).

St. Isidore's Giving Calendars are on sale.

They sell for \$25 each and \$50 will be given away each week all year. Please ask a St. Isidore's Student or contact the school to purchase yours. Please help this fundraiser to be a great success again this year. They make excellent Christmas Gifts especially for alumni.

Mark your calendar for St. Isidore School's annual Christmas program, titled "Once Upon a Christmas Light", to be on Thursday, December 11th at **1:00 p.m.** (note time) and **7:00 p.m.** in the church.

Our 2nd graders will have their First Reconciliation on Tuesday, January 13th at 6:00 p.m.
Their First Communion will be Saturday, April 18th at the 7:00 p.m. Mass.

Everyone is invited to the Catholic Aid Council #328's annual Christmas Party at the home of Brian & Tara Jones on Sunday, December 14. Come anytime after 7:00 p.m. Please bring your favorite appetizer & your own beverage. See You There!

From The Pastor ~

The **Advent season** is one of my favorite times of the Church year. I love the music, the colors, and the images that the Church provides us as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of Christ and to prepare for his coming at the end of time. In fact, that is the double meaning of the Advent season. The General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar, published shortly after the Second Vatican Council has this to say: *Advent has a two-fold character: as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered; as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation.*

I encourage you to enter this season with joy and some focus. The hectic pace of society at this time of the year can make it difficult to focus on the true meaning of the season. Find a little time to pray and reflect. Perhaps you can join us for morning Mass as a way of remaining focused on the real reason for our celebration. Make an Advent wreath and place it in your home, lighting one candle as each week of Advent paces. Review your Christmas giving patterns. In this time of economic stress, this may be a great opportunity to give gifts of time and presence, rather than material gifts. As you write cards and do your Christmas shopping and baking, pray for those who will receive the gifts and treats. Make all of these activities a source of spiritual preparation as well. May this be a season of blessing and peace as we prepare to celebrate Christ's coming among us.

Father John Sauer

Next Sunday after Mass Father Sauer will hear Confessions in the Penance Room.

Communal Penance Services will be on Sunday, December 21st at 3:00 p.m. at St. Columbanus in Blooming Prairie and on Sunday, December 21st at 3:00 p.m. at St. Joseph's Church in Owatonna. Everyone is encouraged to receive the Sacrament before Christmas.

Thanks

Special Thanks to the Holy Trinity Catholic Aid Council #328 for once again sponsoring the Catholic Extension "Sacred Art" Calendars. Help yourself to them. They are on the tables at each entrance of the church.

Thank you for your prayers, food, visits, and cards, since my surgery. Prayers and your concerns did help.
Thanks again. ~Bob Prokopec

Beginning January 3rd Mass here at Holy Trinity will be every Saturday evening at 7:00 p.m. with Father John Sauer.

On the last Sunday of each month ONLY, in addition to the Saturday evening Mass with Father Sauer, there will be a 10:30 a.m. Mass here with Father Jon Moore.

On Sundays, December 7th and 14th everyone will be given the opportunity to sign up for the liturgical roles at either of these Masses for Combo, Song Leader, Rosary Leader, Eucharistic Minister/Hosts, Eucharistic Minister/Wine, Gift Bearer, Usher, Mass Server (4th grade and up). *Even if you have done this in the past we ask that you sign up at this time.* Everyone will also have the opportunity to sign up to become a future member of the Litomysl Pastoral Council, the Finance Council, the School Board or the Cemetery Board, or to be an Adult Education (*Bible Study*) Leader. Good Stewardship means not only being generous with your financial support of the church and community, but also being generous with your time and talents.

Beginning Saturday, January 3rd the Rosary will be said in a special place in the basement beginning at 6:40 p.m. Hopefully it will then get the reverence it deserves and many will come and honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in this way.

The Marine Corps Reserve is asking for “Toys For Tots”

Christmas is a time of joy, happiness, and good will. It is a time of giving and helping those who are less fortunate than ourselves, especially impoverished children. For over half a century, one organization- The U.S. Marine Corps – is the unchallenged leader in looking after America’s needy children at Christmas.

St. Isidore’s School students and staff and Holy Trinity Church parishioners are participating in helping the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves with this project. You may bring toys and put them in the back of church. Deadline to bring toys is Sunday, Dec. 14th.

Fall Collection – All collectors are asked to return their collection sheets filled in, along with their collections. You may put them in the collection basket so the money counters can record donations. Please have everything turned in by Dec. 1st.

If someone has not been contacted, you may put an envelope in the collection basket and mark it Fall Collection. Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has given so generously!

Food Drive

As part of our call to service, Holy Trinity is promoting a Salvation Army Food Drive during the month of November. Please donate as much as you can, and thank you in advance for supporting the Salvation Army.

Bell Ringers Needed: Saturday, December 13th. The Salvation Army is having their Annual Kettle Campaign. There’s a sign up sheet in the back of church to sign up. Contact Troy Anderson for more info at 363-1701, or e-mail him at yorte21@hotmail.com

Christmas Caroling- Sunday, December 21st, 5 to 7:00 p.m. We’ll meet at the church and carpool to Prairie Manor Nursing Home in Blooming Prairie, sing Christmas carols, and then come back for snacks/refreshments. Please bring some snacks to share afterwards. (Hot Chocolate will be provided.)

Contact Troy Anderson for more info at 363-1701, or e-mail him at yorte21@hotmail.com

Faith Formation Classes at Holy Trinity

The **5 year old through fifth grade** students meet each Wednesday from 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in St. Isidore’s School.

The **6th, 7th, and 8th grade** students meet each Wednesday from 6:15 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. in the church basement.

The **9th & 10th grade** students preparing for Confirmation meet each Wednesday from 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the church basement.

All students are encouraged to attend.