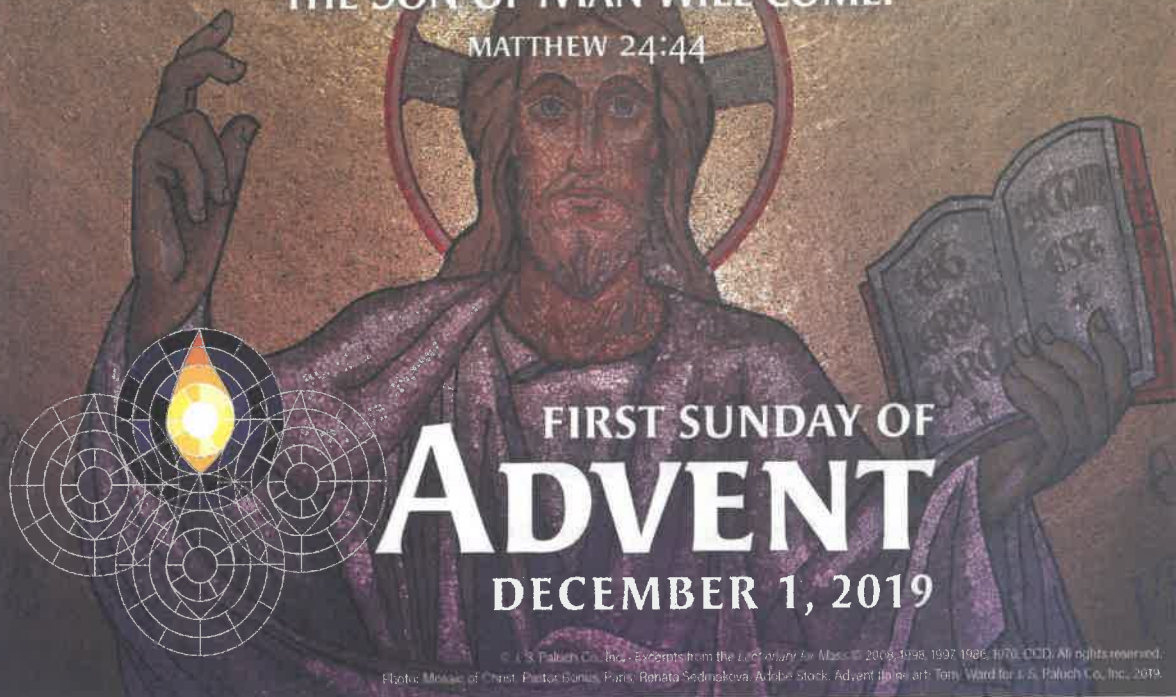


YOU MUST BE PREPARED,  
FOR AT AN HOUR YOU DO NOT EXPECT,  
THE SON OF MAN WILL COME.

MATTHEW 24:44



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Elastic Mosaic of Christ, Pastor Stanis. Paris, Renata Sedmekova, Adobe Stock. Advent (flame) art: Tom Ward for J. S. Paluch Co., Inc., 2019.

We are called to reflect the light of God's love through the ways in which we live our lives. Imagine the impact if each of us took this call to heart, every day, at home, work, or school, in our parish, in the world. "All nations shall stream toward it," toward the love that only comes from God. Yet, we must admit that much of the time we fail to be beacons of God's light. We fall asleep, compla-

cent, preferring to go the easy route, which often leads to darkness rather than the radiance of Christ's light. As we begin the season of Advent, Saint Paul admonishes us to throw off the works of darkness, to awaken to the call of light and love. In today's Gospel, Jesus too tells us to stay awake, to be prepared to greet the Lord of light as people of the light.

**SAINT PATRICK  
CHURCH**  
14936 W. PEOTONE RD.  
MANHATTAN, ILLINOIS 60442



**FIRST SUNDAY OF  
ADVENT  
DECEMBER 1, 2019**

**FR. SEBASTIAN GARGOL PASTOR**  
Email: [fr.sebastiangargol@gmail.com](mailto:fr.sebastiangargol@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org](http://www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org)

**PHONE: RECTORY 478-3440**  
**FAX: 478-4186**  
**Facebook: St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center**

**Mass Intentions**

<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>November 30, 2019</b>
<b>5:45 pm</b>	<b>+Jerry &amp; +Vicky Phelan req. by Ed &amp; Judy Phelan</b>
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>December 1, 2019</b>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Parish Family of St. Patrick</b>
<b>Monday,</b>	<b>December 2, 2019</b>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>+Marianna Kutzner</b>
<b>Tuesday,</b>	<b>December 3, 2019—NO MASS</b>
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>December 4, 2019—NO MASS</b>
<b>Thursday,</b>	<b>December 5, 2019</b>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>+Gordon Flint req. by Marge Flint</b>
<b>Friday,</b>	<b>December 6, 2019</b>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Adoration until 11am</b>
<b>Saturday,</b>	<b>December 7, 2019</b>
<b>5:45 pm</b>	<b>+Jim &amp; +Rita Phelan req. by Ed &amp; Judy Phelan</b>
<b>Sunday,</b>	<b>December 8, 2019</b>
<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Parish Family of St. Patrick</b>

**Altar Servers:**

**Saturday, December 7 - 5:45 pm**  
**David & Emily Horath**  
**Sunday, December 8 - 9:00 am**  
**Nikki Quigley / Tricia Knowles**

**Cantor / Lector (Reader) :**

**Saturday, December 7 - 5:45 pm**  
**Linda Cakora / Jim Kreske**  
**Sunday, December 8 - 9:00 am**  
**Grace Niemiec / Paul Rossi**

**Extraordinary Minister:**

**Saturday, December 7 - 5:45 pm**  
**Sue Nugent**  
**Sunday, December 8 - 9:00 am**  
**Steve Hoehn**

**Usher:**

**Saturday, December 7 - 5:45 pm**  
**Brad Phelps / Bill Phelan**  
**Sunday, December 8 - 9:00 am**  
**Steve Hoehn / volunteer**

**Music: Cathy Engler**

**Collection Counters : Bell, Mooi, Musson**

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2019, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,090.37

**Sunday, November 24 .....\$1,991.00**

**Thank you for your support of our Parish**

***Please Participate!  
Your Gift Makes a Difference!***

Parish Goal:	\$ 10,400.00
Amount Pledged:	\$ 11,845.00
Amount Paid:	\$ 10,925.00
2019 Rebate	368.00

Thank you for your generous response.

**2020 COLLECTION ENVELOPES** – We are preparing our collection envelopes for next year. If you are new to the parish and would like envelopes, please contact the office. We also need to know if you have changed your address or phone number. If you are an on-line giver and no longer wish the boxed set, please let us know. Thank you.

If you are unable to come to church because of illness, rehab, or living at a health care center please let the office know. A priest or home bound minister can come to your home. If there is an emergency and you need a priest, Fr. Sebastian can be reached at : 1(815) 478-3440 ex. 102.

Mass intentions can be requested through the office, or dropped in any weekend collection, please mark in a separate envelope. Think about having a Mass for a loved one. Weekday and weekend Masses are available. We are also accepting requests for our 2-week Sacred Heart Candle.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS



Extra Flower offering envelopes are in the back of church. If you would like to honor a special person or make a donation in memory of a loved one, enter their names on the envelope and return in the collection. The name will be published in the Christmas bulletin. Flowers will remain in church. Donations must be returned by December 15 to be included in the Christmas bulletin.

There will be a second collection this weekend for our Maintenance Fund. After 25 years the boiler in the rectory needed to be replaced. Money collected will help pay for the new boiler. Thank you for generosity.

# CHRISTIAN HELP FOUNDATION

Gift tags are on the table in the vestibule  
Please take a tag or two and bring an unwrapped gift  
back by December 8.



Here are some gift-giving guides:

- Please refrain from giving clothing, except for babies. The sizes of the children being served is unknown.
- Please no food items because of unknown food tolerances.
- Young children—building blocks, board games and art supplies.
- Teens—MP3 players, fishing gear, games and gift cards (Mar Theater, Subway, McDonalds, Burger King, Hair/Nail Salons, other local establishments).
- Hats, mittens, gloves scarves are always needed.



MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR FOR  
OUR ANNUAL  
ST. NICK NIGHT  
POT LUCK ON  
DECEMBER 7  
AFTER MASS.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME  
SIGN UP SHEET IS IN THE  
VESTIBULE

## A CATHOLIC FAMILY CHRISTMAS EVENT!

RETURN TO BRAIDWOOD!

Immaculate Conception Celebrates 150 years!

Immaculate Conception Church 110 S. School St Braidwood, IL

December 8, 2019 2:00 PM Doors open at 1:30 PM

\$10.00 To order tickets call 815-739-9767

(Soup & Sandwiches in the hall following the performance- free will offering)



MICHAEL RUSSELL O'BRIEN



Dear Friends in Christ,

Soon our parishes will hold the Retirement Fund for Religious collection, an annual appeal that benefits some 30,000 senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

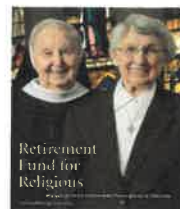
As Christians, we are called to “serve the Lord with gladness” (Ps 100:2). Our elderly religious offer a shining example of what it means to answer this call. During their days of active ministry, they worked tirelessly to build Catholic schools and hospitals, promote social justice, and embrace the neediest among us. In retirement, many continue in volunteer ministry, and all pray for the needs of our Church and world. Inspired by love, their service—past and present—is marked by joy and a deep desire to do the will of God.

As you may know, many religious communities find it increasingly difficult to provide for aging members. Most older religious worked for little or no pay. Today, their communities do not have enough retirement savings. At the same time, health-care costs continue to rise, and fewer members are able to serve in compensated ministry.

Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides vital funding for medications, nursing care, and more. It also helps religious congregations plan for future retirement needs, even as they continue to serve the People of God.

I understand you are asked to support many worthy causes. I invite you only to give what you can. Most importantly, please pray for God’s continued blessing on all our women and men religious. Rest assured, they are praying for you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "R. Dennis Carlson".



This collection will be taken up at all the Masses next weekend.



**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**  
**THERE IS A SIGN UP SHEET IN THE**  
**VESTIBULE FOR THE CHRISTMAS**  
**HOLIDAY SEASON.**

**WE NEED CANTORS, LECTORS/  
READERS, EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS,  
SERVERS AND USHERS.**

**PLEASE CONSIDER YOUR PERSONAL SCHEDULE AND SIGN UP  
WHERE YOU CAN. THANK YOU**

### **HOPEFUL EXPECTATION**

Our liturgical year begins with the season of Advent—a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of the Lord. On the First Sunday of Advent we look forward to the end of time when we will awaken to the dawn of Christ's new day.

Today we hear Isaiah speak of a day when God's power will have brought universal peace and God's Word will have instructed all people, radiating God's "light" (teachings) into all of human society. Only when humanity walks "in the light of the LORD" (Isaiah 2:5), when all people desire to be instructed "in [God's] ways" (Isaiah 2:3), will the world be set aright and our deepest longings fulfilled. The reading from Romans calls us to "awake from sleep" for this final "day is at hand" (Romans 13:11, 12). Together this Sunday's scriptures proclaim our Christian faith that Jesus is the One who will finally come to fulfill God's plan of salvation.



**RECONCILIATION**  
**ST. ROSE, Every Thursday**  
**6:00 pm– 7:00 pm**

**Out of respect for those in Prayer Please be considerate and move your conversation  
to the Vestibule before & after Mass. Thank You**



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marge Flint; Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernhard, Judith Wright; Cecelia Mundt; Lorenzo Rossi; Holly Flint-Jones; Cathy Engler; Brett Burkhalter; Michelle Schneider; Lou Crabtree; Ron Englert; Father Roger Kutzner; Doris Robbins, Mike Irle, Chuck Phelps, Jodi Mundt, Hunter Lauridsen; Fr. Jim Lennon; Gary Ulman; Jessica Lagan; EJ Lagan

**Anyone wishing to be on the prayer list, should contact the office.**

## Intention of the Holy Father MONTH OF DECEMBER

- That every country determine to take the necessary measures to make the future of the very young, especially those who suffer, a priority.

Our parish offers Online Giving, a web based electronic contribution application. We are providing this service so that you have the option to manage our contributions online or with your offering envelopes. This service is safe and secure. It is convenient for you and for our parish staff. Sign up for Online Giving by visiting our parish website at: [www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org](http://www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org) and selecting one Online Giving link.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK DECEMBER 1, 2019



Monday: Is 4:2-6; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11  
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24  
Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37  
Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27  
Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31  
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-6; Mt 9:35 – 10:1  
Sunday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Rom 15:4-9; Mt 3:1-12

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday: First Sunday of Advent;  
World AIDS Awareness Day  
Tuesday: St. Francis Xavier  
Wednesday: St. John Damascene  
Friday: St. Nicholas; First Friday  
Saturday: St. Ambrose; First Saturday;  
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

## ADVENT

Let's approach Christmas with an expectant hush,  
rather than a last-minute rush.

—Anonymous



## ICYMI

Those who use social media or read news reports online are familiar with ICYMI, which is shorthand for “in case you missed it.” We might think of today’s readings as an “in case you missed it” announcement for these early days of Advent. We often think of Advent as the season that precedes Christmas, all about waiting and longing for the coming of the Christ child, which it is. Yet in the early weeks of Advent, we focus on the return of Christ at the end of time, and how we are called to be prepared for it.

Most of us do not spend much time thinking about the end of time or the prospect of Christ’s return in glory. We may not want to admit to ourselves that our actions or attitudes are far from the ways in which we know we should conduct ourselves as Christian people. Or maybe we are uncomfortable with the whole idea of final judgment. It makes us squirm, so we adopt an attitude of “out of sight, out of mind,” and go about our daily lives without much thought or reflection on who we are called to be as disciples of our Lord.

## HIT THE RESET BUTTON

Advent is the beginning of a new liturgical year and can be a time for us to embrace the light of God’s love more deeply. If we realize that we are failing to live as we know we ought, let this season be a time to reset our commitment to living and growing as people of faith. While much of these next few weeks will be consumed by our preparations for Christmas, it is good for us to also take some time to take stock and commend our hearts and lives to Christ. Let us “stay awake” to Christ’s higher purposes, not out of a sense of dread or fear of judgment, but rather in anticipation of the advent, or coming, of our Lord.

Today’s Readings: Is 2:1–5; Ps 122:1–2, 3–4, 4–5, 6–7, 8–9; Rom 13:11–14; Mt 24:37–44

**12/1/2019**