

# Blessed are you among women

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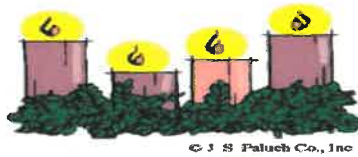


**December 23, 2018 • Fourth Sunday of Advent**

There is a spirit of audacity in our readings today. During a time of injustice and threat of invasion, the prophet Micah boldly announces that the God of insignificant Israel will raise up a leader from backwater Bethlehem, and this leader will bring justice and peace to the whole world. In the Gospel, Elizabeth and Mary, marginalized women, brazenly celebrate that their sons will be world-changing instruments of God. We further learn that this audacity is rooted

in trust in God. The author of Hebrews describes the faithful obedience of Jesus. Mary is shown as the exemplar of faithful trust in God. This is the way God often seems to work, in the ordinary and marginalized in our world. Those who seem weak have learned to trust in God's strength. These have the audacity to become instruments of God's peace and justice.

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



FOURTH SUNDAY  
OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 23, 2018

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Facebook: St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday,</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 22, 2018</b> The Parish Family of St. Patrick
<b>Sunday,</b> 9:00 am	<b>December 23, 2018</b> †Loretta Long req. by Steve & Ruth Hoehn
<b>Monday,</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 24, 2018 —CHRISTMAS EVE</b> †Frances & MaryAnn Quigley req. by Frank Quigley
<b>Tuesday,</b> 11:00 am	<b>December 25, 2018—THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (Christmas)</b> The Parish Family of St. Patrick
<b>Wednesday,</b>	<b>December 26, 2018—NO MASS</b>
<b>Thursday,</b> 9:00 am	<b>December 27, 2018</b> NO MASS
<b>Friday,</b> 9:00 am	<b>December 28, 2018</b> Adoration until 11:00 am
<b>Saturday,</b> 5:00 pm	<b>December 29, 2018</b> †Edward Cieply req. by Linda Cakora
<b>Sunday,</b> 9:00 am	<b>December 30, 2018</b> †Loretta Long req. by Mike & Pat Quigley / Parish Family of St. Patrick
<b>Monday,</b> 9:00 am	<b>December 31, 2018</b> NO MASS
<b>Tuesday,</b> 9:00 am	<b>January 1, 2019 —Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God</b> †Dot McGrath req. by Ed & Judy Phelan



*Merry Christmas*

## STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

For the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018, the weekly Sunday collection goal is \$2,584.62

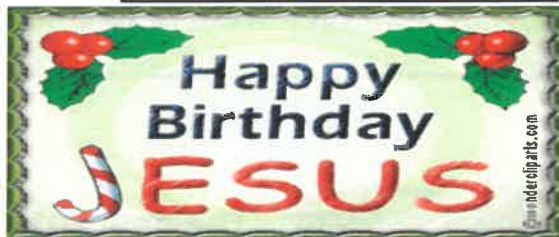
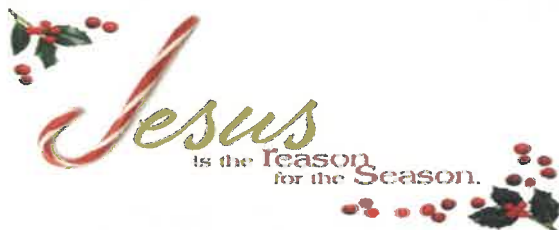
**Sunday, December 16 ..... \$1458.00**

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



Our Two Week  
Candle is burning for  
Fran & MaryAnn Quigley  
Req. by  
Frank Quigley

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(630)639-0563.



### Altar Servers:

Monday, December 24—5:00 pm  
Emily, David & Andy Horath  
Tuesday, December 25—11:00 am  
Ian & Lily Kreske  
Saturday, December 29 - 5:00 pm  
Brent Bieschke, Emily & Andy Horath  
Sunday, December 30 - 9:00 am  
Jimmy & Nikki Quigley

### Cantor / Lector (Reader):

Monday, December 24—5:00 pm  
Sue Nugent / Jim Kreske  
Tuesday, December 25—11:00 am  
Sarah Hoehn / Steve Hoehn  
Saturday, December 29 - 5:00 pm  
Linda Cakora / Jerry Kinsella  
Sunday, December 30 - 9:00 am  
Sarah Hoehn / Steve Hoehn

### Extraordinary Minister:

Monday, December 24—5:00 pm  
Roberta Stauffenberg, Cindy Smith, -  
Sue Nugent, Jim Kreske  
Tuesday, December 25—11:00 am  
Josh Kreske, Steve Hoehn, Jacob Hoehn  
Saturday, December 29 - 5:00 pm  
Jerry & Carmen Kinsella  
Sunday, December 30 - 9:00 am  
Tracy Quigley

### Usher:

Monday, December 24—5:00 pm  
Eddie Horath, volunteer  
Tuesday, December 25—11:00 am  
Bruce & Mary Boyle  
Saturday, December 29 - 5:00 pm  
Howard Bieschke, Bill Phelan  
Sunday, December 30 - 9:00 am  
Steve Hoehn, volunteer

Music: Cathy Engler

Collection Counters : Hoehn & Nugent



*Solemn Exposition of  
the Blessed Sacrament*



## **Eucharistic Adoration**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 4  
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION WILL BEGIN  
AT 9AM UNTIL 4 PM.**

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 5 IS THE  
FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH  
MASS WILL BE CELEBRATED AT  
9:00 AM IN CHURCH**

**PLEASE SIGN UP TO SPEND 1 HOUR WITH OUR LORD  
SIGN UP SHEET IS ON THE TABLE IN THE VESTIBULE  
PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR PHONE NUMBER IS  
CORRECT IF WE NEED TO CONTACT YOU.**



**The new 2019 Calendars are in the vestibule.  
Thank you Forsythe Funeral Home for this  
lovely donation.**

### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**God came in human flesh.** Mass today tells the story: no one is too small, too insignificant to bear the presence of God. The pre-born John [the one to be the Baptist] acts first in the story of visitation by jumping for joy in the womb. At what? The assurance that God comes and will be God-with-us.

- How will I let God come to me today?
- At what can I Jump for joy?
- How will I enjoy the freedom of God's good grace by doing the mercy work: \_\_\_\_?



**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

**IN HONOR/ REMEMBRANCE OF :**

Sylvestor & Aurora Toepper  
Harold, Vince & Judy Toepper  
Martin Timm Family  
George Hnetkovsky Family  
Phelan & Gast Families  
Deceased members of  
    Tracy & Pat Quigley Family  
Jerry Robbins  
Donald W. Price  
Eleanor M. Price  
Hoehn Family  
Kennedy Family  
Frank & Mary Kowalczyk  
Hazel & Peggy Vick

Jerry & Stella Ulman  
Fred & Lillian Cakora  
Deceased members of Katherine  
    Stromski Family  
Kathleen Kinsella  
Alice Galvez  
Katherine & Edward Kreske  
Norman Glenn  
Kathleen Glenn  
Paula Glenn  
David Videtich  
Lyle Gesell  
Theresa Osburn



**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONORS :**

Jack Nugent  
Larry & Marie Wasso  
Steve & Grace Niemiec  
Alan & Roberta Stauffenberg

James Shields Family  
Mr. & Mrs. John Meyer Jr.  
Roger & Janet Keigher





Waterleaf would like to extend a heartfelt “THANK YOU” to the parishioners of St. Patrick Parish for participating in this year’s Baby Bottle for Life fundraising campaign. As of December 5, 2018, St. Patrick raised \$980.69 ! Your support ensures that we can provide the material and emotional support necessary for men and women to chose life for their babies. Sometimes, just the simple fact that our doors are open and a woman visits us, rather than an abortion provider, is the difference between life and death. We greatly appreciate your support, and ask that you keep Waterleaf in your prayers. For more information about Waterleaf and our programs and services, please contact us at 630-701-62701 or visit us on the web at [www.onechoiceonlife.org](http://www.onechoiceonlife.org).



The 2019 Collection Envelope Boxed Sets are available this weekend. If there are any changes in your address or phone number, please contact the parish office. If you are new to the parish and would like envelopes please call the office; also if you have decided to use on-line giving and do not wish the boxed sets let us know. With some families using on-line giving we have had to change a few envelope ID numbers.

CHRISTMAS PRAYER— Lord, in this holy season of [prayer](#) and song and laughter, we praise you for the great wonders you have sent us: for shining star and angel's song, for infant's cry in lowly manger. We praise you for the Word made flesh in a little Child. We behold his glory, and are bathed in its radiance.

Be with us as we sing the ironies of Christmas, the incomprehensible comprehended, the poetry made hard fact, the helpless Babe who cracks the world asunder. We kneel before you shepherds, innkeepers, wisemen. Help us to rise bigger than we are.

Amen.



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marge Flint; Grace Niemiec; Cathy Engler, Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Jeanne Kuzmicz, Bonnie Hack; Ron Bzdil; Adrian Wilkerson, Michelle Schneider; Joyce Heffern, Lisa Bernhard, Jim McGrath ; Torie Jasinski; Judith Wright; Frank Wahlen; Cecelia Mundt; Don Tures; Kyle Cassidy; Derek Knauer; Norma Boyle; Judith Wright; Lorenzo Rossi; Joyce Albers; Tom Oliver; Jean Haas

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

## Intention of the Holy Father MONTH OF DECEMBER

- That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

## SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

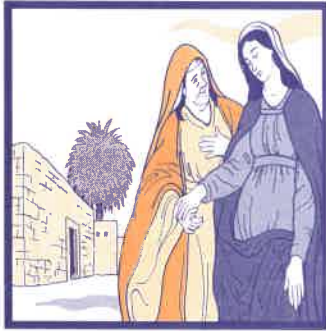
Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Monday: Vigil of Christmas  
Tuesday: The Nativity of the Lord  
(Christmas)  
Wednesday: St. Stephen  
Thursday: St. John  
Friday: The Holy Innocents  
Saturday: Fifth Day within the  
Octave of the Nativity of the Lord;  
St. Thomas Becket

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK December 23, 2018



Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16;  
Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79  
Tuesday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17,  
27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25;  
Mt 1:1-25 [18-25]  
Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-  
13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6,  
11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb  
1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]  
Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps  
31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17;  
Mt 10:17-22  
Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-  
12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b  
-8; Mt 2:13-18  
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6;  
Lk 2:22-35  
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20  
-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps  
84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-  
21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-  
24; Lk 2:41-52

Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit  
of your womb.  
-- Luke 1:42



## FROM SCANDAL TO HONOR

The meeting of Mary and Elizabeth follows a strong tradition of women in their culture, to come together to support each other during pregnancy. Mary likely carried a shadow of scandal in her pregnancy, since it began before her marriage. Elizabeth, having carried her own burden of social disapproval after many years without children, sees only cause for celebration. Elizabeth sees beyond the social shame of Mary's situation to observe how God is working, and how Mary has

accepted joining in this work.

Unlike Elizabeth's husband Zechariah, who thought it unbelievable that God could bring them a son, Mary believed the angel's message. Elizabeth honors Mary, in part, for simply being able to imagine that God could do this extraordinary thing through her. Perhaps God had been preparing Mary's heart throughout her young life, so that she could be fully receptive to God's specific call when the time was right. Mary opened herself to an uncertain future, trusting that God would accompany her in the joys and sorrows of being the mother of Jesus.

## PREGNANT WITH GOD

Advent, as a time of preparation for Christmas, echoes the pregnancy of Mary. Something is stirring within us, and we await the coming of Jesus. Although we the Church have observed Advent and Christmas many times, God is always offering something new to us. Like the angel asked Mary, God is always asking us to allow Christ to be born in and through us. Christ wishes to make himself at home within us, and increase his presence in our hearts.

Like pregnancy, at times God's activity within us can be disorienting and confusing. The story of Elizabeth and Mary reminds us that however uncertain we may be about what God is up to in our lives, we have cause to rejoice—because God is indeed good, and will truly bring blessing to us. And through letting Christ be born in us, God will bring blessing to the world.

Today's Readings: Mic 5:1–4a; Ps 80:2–3, 15–16, 18–19; Heb 10:5–10; Lk 1:39–45

12/23/2018