

A VOICE CRIES OUT:
IN THE DESERT PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD!
MAKE STRAIGHT IN THE WASTELAND A HIGHWAY FOR OUR GOD!
EVERY VALLEY SHALL BE FILLED IN,
EVERY MOUNTAIN AND HILL SHALL BE MADE LOW.

ISAIAH 40:3-4



SECOND SUNDAY OF **ADVENT** DECEMBER 6, 2020

© J.S. Paluch Co., Inc. - Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass © 2008, 1998, 1997, 1996, 1990, CCC. All rights reserved.
Photo: Abichal/Adobe Stock; Advent flames art: Tony Ward for J.S. Paluch Co., Inc., 2016.

In 2020, we heard plenty of voices speaking out and sharing their opinions, but many of those words were not comforting or hope-filled. Sometimes, it was hard to know which expert or “instant expert” to listen to, and it is still difficult to hope as we struggle to regain our balance as a nation and as a Church. The Word of God offers us peace this day. All our readings remind us of a faithful God who always keeps the promises made. Isaiah prophesied about the end

of Jerusalem’s time away from God, and the Psalm speaks of “seeing God’s kindness and hearing what God proclaims.” Second Peter explains that God’s timing may not be the same as ours, but good things await those who are alert. In the Gospel, John the Baptist reiterates and completes the prophecy of Isaiah by laying the groundwork and preparing the way for those who await the coming of the Messiah.

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



2nd SUNDAY
OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 6, 2020

FR. SEBASTIAN GARGOL PASTOR
Email: fr.sebastiangargol@gmail.com
Website: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org

PHONE: RECTORY 478-3440
FAX: 478-4186

Facebook: St. Patrick Church of Wilton Center

SIGN UP FOR ALL CHUCH SERVICES AT:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054FAEAE2FA3F58-stpatricks>

Mass Intentions

Saturday, December 5, 2020 – 5:45pm

+Loretta Tulley req. by Ed & Judy Phelan

Sunday, December 6, 2020 – 9:00 am

Parish Family of St. Patrick

Monday, NO MASS

Tuesday - December 8, 2020 - 5:00pm – HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

+Catherine Stromski req. by the Family

Wednesday – NO MASS

Thursday, December 10, 2020 – 9:00am

+Jim & Rita Phelan req. by Ed & Judy Phelan

Friday, December 11, 2020 - 9:00 am

NO MASS – Adoration from 9am until 10am

Saturday, December 12, 2020 – 5:45pm

Parish Family of St. Patrick

Sunday, December 13, 2020 – 9:00 am

+Francis & Loretta Long req. by Loretta Robbins & Family

DATE	USHER/GREETER	LECTOR
TUESDAY, DEC. 8 – 5pm	Horath	Jim Kreske
SATURDAY, DEC. 12 – 5:45pm	Luehrs	Cameron Luehrs
SUNDAY, DEC.13 - 9:00am	Gesell	Lisa Price

COUNTERS FOR DECEMBER 13 – Horath

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

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

Sunday, November 22.....\$1,960.00

Thank you for your support of our Parish

St. Patrick Parish depends on offertory donations for on-going expenses. Please visit our parish website to set up online giving, if you have not already done so. Our parish website can be found at: www.stpatrickwiltoncenter.org – Online Giving is simple, convenient, and secure. Thank you



*Please Participate!
Your Gift Makes a Difference!*

Parish Goal:	\$ 10,200.00
Amount Pledged:	\$ 10,837.00
Amount Paid:	\$ 10,337.00
Balance Due	\$ 500.00
2020 Rebate	\$ 96.00

Thank you for your generous response.

Second Sunday of Advent - 06 December 2020

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11. Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14. 2 Peter 3:8-14. Mark 1:1-8.

What Sort of Persons? In this Advent time of looking to the future while living in the now, Saint Peter's question is the right one: "What sort of person ought you to be?" Saint John the Baptist offers a good response and better example. He is not full of himself. He knows his minor place. He points to the One who is both with us now and is also coming.

How will my waiting on the Lord make me more humble? What full-of-myself behaviors can I change, can I let go?

Works of Mercy take the focus off me for the benefit of another.

What full-of-myself behaviors can I change, can I let go?

Works of Mercy take the focus off me for the benefit of another. What will I do?



Helping Hands Holiday Meals

Helping Hands is Peotone's Non-profit Food Pantry that currently provides food and other basic essentials twice a month to approx. 55-60 households (about 350 people per month) in the Peotone area who are in need of assistance.

It is organized by a group of volunteers from various churches and the community. It would not be possible without the support and generosity of the community and churches. For every \$1 received, Helping Hands is able to purchase \$8 of food. They spend approx. \$1450 and distribute 6 tons of food each month!

Helping Hands is purchasing 150 holiday dinners

**A \$16.00 donation will provide a
Holiday Meal for a family of four!**



Christmas: A 9-10lbs ham & all the trimmings!



Anyone wishing to make a donation can mail it to:

**Helping Hands
P.O. Box 508
Peotone, IL 60468**

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT!

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

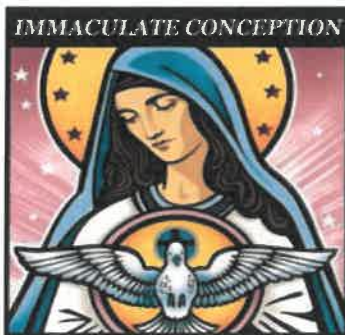
Flower offering envelopes are in your contribution packets. If you would like to honor a special person or make a donation in memory of a loved one, enter their names on the envelope and return in the collection; or put your donation in a regular envelope marked Christmas Flowers and put in with your regular donation. Their names will be published in the Christmas bulletin. Flowers will remain in church. Donations must be returned by December 13 to be included in the Christmas bulletin.



You are a HERO for Life! Team St. Patrick-Wilton Center raised \$397.03 in the Waterleaf Virtual Baby Bottles for Life Team Challenge. Because of your support, Waterleaf can continue to in their mission to support and educate pregnant women facing crisis or unintended pregnancies through the Waterleaf Medical Clinic and their Aspire Education and Resource Center located in Aurora. Thank you for being a hero for life!



Waterleaf provides practical help; pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, STD testing and treatment as well as continuing education and support for women in our community who would otherwise be at risk for choosing abortion. Last year Waterleaf served 870 patients, performed 580 pregnancy tests, 742 ultrasounds and welcome over 190 babies. For more information call Waterleaf at 630-701-6270 or visit them on the web at www.onechoiceonelife.org.



The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Is Tuesday, December 8
And is a Holy Day of Obligation
Mass will be offered at 5:00 pm
Please register at:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904054FAEAE2FA3F58-stpatricks>
If you wish to attend. Thank You



Help our elders. In good time and bad, senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests have dedicated themselves to service and acts of mercy. Today, they pray for an aching world. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left their religious communities without enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities, Please be generous. Your donation can be made next weekend along with your regular weekly contribution. Thank You!

OUR CARING CLOSET & CHRISTIAN HELP ASSOCIATION ANNUAL WINTER COAT DRIVE



NOV 15—DEC. 12, 2020

Help us give the gift of warmth this holiday season.

We are collecting new or like new winter coats, snow pants, gloves, mittens, scarves, hats and boots for children and adults. Items should be clean, free of stains, no holes or snags, with working buttons, snaps and zippers, **CHILDREN COATS ARE A PRIORITY!**

Drop Off Locations: Our Caring Closet, First United Methodist Church, First Presbyterian Church, St. Rose Catholic Church, Island City Baptist Church, Abundant Life Fellowship, Tuffy's, Longest Realty, Riverfront Lanes, Normington's, Athletico, Wilmington Park District, Crafter's Gallery and Wilmington VFW

We have a few gift tags left from the Christian Help Association in Wilmington this year. Tags are in the vestibule along with monetary donation envelopes. Put tag on unwrapped gift and bring back to church by December 13. If you would rather give a gift on-line, please visit <https://www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood/2A38BFD6-EDF3-4B7F-99F7-A23728875A19> to purchase items online. Gifts can be returned to any CHA tree in the community.





PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Marge Flint; Nancee Long, Shay Phelan, Lisa Bernhard, Cecelia Mundt; Fr. Jim Lennon; Gary Ulman; Nicole Flint; Brett Burkhalter ; Cathy Engler; Grace Niemiec; Russ McClellon; Bob Johnson ; Noreen McAndrew; Mary Jo Moran; Jan Sharp; Lana Wynne

PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE PUT ON THE PRAYER LIST.

Intention of the Holy Father MONTH DECEMBER

- We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ may be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

If you or a loved one would like to be put on the prayer list because of illness, rehab, or living at a health care center please let the office know. If there is an emergency and you need a priest, Fr. Sebastian will be available and can be reached at : 1 (815) 478-3440 ex. 102 or 815-476-7491 and then press 1.



Our Two Week Candle is burning for Celia Mundt
Req. by
Grace & Steve Niemiec

READINGS FOR THE WEEK December 6, 2020



Monday: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-13ab; Mt 11:11-15

Friday: Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCE

Sunday: Second Sunday of Advent

Monday: St. Ambrose;
Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Tuesday: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Wednesday: St. Juan Diego

Thursday: International Human Rights Day

Friday: St. Damasus I

Saturday: Our Lady of Guadalupe



THE BEGINNING

With COVID-19, much time is spent wondering “where did it start?” or “who passed it on to whom?” Though science can tell us much there are many unanswered questions. Today’s Gospel is about as concrete as sacred scripture gets. We know this is the beginning of the Gospel of Mark, which was the first Gospel to be written down in about 70 AD. Unlike Luke and John, Mark does not begin with an infancy narrative of Jesus. He starts by proclaiming the prophecy of Isaiah. This section was written six hundred years before Christ, in another time of great upheaval, as the Israelites were displaced from their homeland during the Babylonian Exile. The first words of Isaiah 40 are “Comfort, comfort, my people.” John the Baptist starts by explaining he is the go-between, sent to “Prepare the way.”

DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER

While proclaiming the coming Christ is a thing of joy, John’s words are also harsh, reminding us to repent and prepare. People were threatened by them two thousand years ago, and some still are today. People can hear them and be turned off by “fire and brimstone,” and none of us like to be told what to do. But think about it. This year, we have all engaged in social distancing and endured hardships to protect our families and others.

Similarly, when you have company coming, you do house cleaning, meal prep, and lots of things to make the place ready for the arrival of your guests—necessary preparation. So we as individuals must make ourselves ready for the coming Christ to reside in us. This may mean repenting for sins, seeking the sacrament of penance, or taking time with a spiritual director. Perhaps it means carving out more times and places for Christ to be born in our hearts or taking on another spiritual practice. Maybe it means simply doing what the psalm asked and using our eyes and ears and mind and heart to seek Christ.

Today’s Readings: Is 40:1–5, 9–11; Ps 85:9–10, 11–12, 13–14; 2 Pt 3:8–14; Mk 1:1–8

12/6/2020