

**December 3, 2017- First Sunday of Advent
Pastoral Staff**

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www.IccClaflin.com www.holyfamilyodin.com
**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat. 4:00pm Ellinwood,
Sun., 8:00am Claflin, and by appointment.**

INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. St. John Damascene (12/4)
Mass 10:15am Wdhvn [E] +Jerome Habiger

Tues. Weekday (12/5)
No Mass [C]

Wed. St. Nicholas (12/6)
Mass 8:15am [E] +Marlene Robl

Thurs. St. Ambrose (12/7)
Mass 7:00pm [C] +Pauline Oberle

Fri., Immaculate Conception (12/8)
Mass 7:00pm [E] +Bob Merritt

2nd Sunday of Advent (12/9)
Mass 5:00pm [E] +Jack & Jeanette Clair

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (12/10)
Mass 8:00am [O] +Lawrence Demel
Mass 8:30am [C] +Ann Bahr
Mass 10:30am [E] Parish Cluster

“Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time will come.” - MARK 13:33

We all take things for granted. In particular, we take time for granted. Our lives are so busy, many of us are planning our time - our days, weeks, months, even years in advance. Remember, our time on earth is a gift. None of us knows how long we will be here. Start today and begin thanking God for each and every day. Take time in silence, every day, and listen to what God is saying to you.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DEC 10
Is 63:16b; 17, 19b; 64:2-7, 1 Cor 1:3-9, Mk13:33-37

Vocation View: ‘Be watchful! Be alert!’ The call towards a vocation can come at an unexpected day and hour, prepare your heart to always say ‘yes’ to God. (Mark 13:33) If you think God is calling you to priesthood or to consecrated life, visit our website at www.dcdiocese.org/vocations.

Ministers - St. Joseph

Weekday Servers: Week of Dec. 3- Drew Heinz, Emma Nienke
Dec. 9 & 10 5:00pm Sat. 10:30am Sun.
Lector 1 Yvonne Strecker Catherine Strecker
Lector 2 Steve Billinger Heather Panning
EM Rosie Joiner Marcella Birzer
Joe Schulte LeRoy Thill
Lori Billinger Sharla Thill
Jason Schlochtermeier Mel Waite
Curtis Wolf Kirk Bressler
Accomp/Cantor
Servers Caylee Rowan Kiley Troyer
Caden Rowan Haley Troyer
Sacristan Rosemary Robl Tammy Troyer

Greeters Dec 9: Glen & Kathy Hertel, Jamie Komarek, Josh Komarek
Greeters Dec 10: Richard & Jean Doll Family, Ron & Rosemary McCrary

Ministers - Immaculate Conception

Sunday, December 10, 2017 - 8:30am
Lectors: Richard Rukan, Laura Schlessiger
EM: Joan Miller, Toby Holmes, Sheri Holmes, Barbara Musgrove, Peggy Feist
Gift Bearers: Ryan & Darah Harrison Family
Greeters: Leon & Judy Oberle
Servers: Delaney Rukan, Emma Hicckel
Sacristan: Joan Miller

Weekday Mass Schedule

12/05/2017 No Mass

Ministers - Holy Family

Sunday, December 10, 2017 - 8:00am
Lector: Virginia Debes
EM: Chrys Lamatsch, Joyce Koester, Joan Klug
Greeters: John Bogner, Mark Bogner
Gifts: Randall & Stacey Hitschmann
Servers: Kylie Lamatsch, Rachel Lamatsch

**DON'T FORGET TO PURCHASE
YOUR SCRIP.**

**REMEMBER TO REGISTER YOUR
DILLONS PLUS CARD AND
SUPPORT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL**

ST. JOSEPH CHURCH

Church Support

Weekend Collection \$6,933.25

Envelopes \$6,740.00 Offertory \$142.25

Bell Tower \$51.00

PETITION SCHEDULE, Holy Day, December 8th: Terri Huslig.
Weekend of December 10th: Melanie Zink.

MINISTERS FOR HOLY DAY - DECEMBER 8TH -

Lectors: Art Huslig, John Clayton, EM: Glenda Heinz, Angie Hammeke, Sharla Thill, Marcella Birzer, JoAnn Roth, Servers: Jonathon Mason, Drew Heinz, Sacristan: Larry Drees.

D of I will have a Corporate Communion on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Friday, Dec. 8th at 10:30am in the Convent Chapel. There will be a group lunch following the Mass for D of I ladies who are interested – destination To Be Announced.

D of I CHRISTMAS PARTY will be Sunday, Dec 10th at 2:30pm in the St. Patrick Parish Center. Hostesses are the Officers. A Potato Bar will be served, along with other snack items. Business meeting will precede the party. Dues of \$20.00 may be paid, yearbooks and raffle tickets will be available. Prayer Partners will be revealed, members may bring a gift valued at \$10-\$15. New Prayer Partners will be chosen. Come and join us for some fun!!!

THE FINANCE COUNCIL met on Nov 20th. We hope that work to finish the repair of the limestones underneath the church steps will begin soon.

Plans are being made to renovate the restrooms in the school this coming summer. They are very little changed from when the school opened in the 1920s and are a bit of an eyesore, especially when showing prospective parents the school. Much of the money needed has been raised by the school itself. The carpet in the school hallways has arrived, or soon will, at its lifespan. This depends upon how much wear we can tolerate before it becomes a safety hazard. As we approach the end of the year, please consider if you can help with these repairs. Any donation marked "repair fund" will be used only for these projects.

The council also discussed the overall financial situation of the parish, gratefully noting that, although donations have increased since the financial report was issued in July, we are still on track for yet another year of deficit spending. The council decided that an oral report will be made to the parish at the beginning of the new year. They also reviewed ongoing efforts to cut discretionary spending.

THE BEAUTIFUL NEW TABERNACLE VEIL is the handwork of Linda Sobba. Tabernacles aren't required to be veiled, although they often are, because the Hebrew word means "tent."

Yes, the beautiful veil covers the equally beautiful brass work beneath it, but our liturgical life is richer when we don't feel compelled to display everything, all of the time. Sometimes small

glimpses do more to encourage a sense of reverence and devotion. Thank you Linda, for all that you do for our parish!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Jimmy Dale Wornkey who passed away and was buried from here. May he rest in peace! May his family find consolation.

If you are planning a year-end donation for tax purposes, please consider the St. Joseph Living Legacy Fund and St. Joseph Endowment Fund.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE, Monday, December 4th, 12:30pm to 6:30pm at St. Joseph Parish Center. Please call 1-800-733-2767 or visit redcrossblood.org and enter: Ellinwood to schedule an appointment.

FOOD BANK NEEDS - Vegetable Oil, Mustard, Syrup, Cake Mix, Lasagna Noodles, Deodorant, Cereal, Sweet Potatoes, Baked Beans, and Toothbrushes.

PARISH CLUSTER NOTES

CONFESSIONS, which were scheduled on Dec 6th from 7-8pm in Ellinwood, will be heard from 6-7pm instead because of a conflict with the school Christmas program.

WE WILL AGAIN BE OFFERING extra times for the sacrament of confession during the Advent season on Wednesday evenings. This is a wonderful way to welcome the new light of the season into your hearts. Here are the places, times, and details.

December 6th: Ellinwood parish confessions from 6:00-7:00pm.

December 13th: Claflin parish confessions from 6:00 - 7:00pm, Claflin PSR confessions from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. A second confessor will be available for both.

December 20th: Ellinwood parish confessions from 7:00 - 8:00 pm. A second confessor will be available.

THERE WILL BE NO THEOLOGY ON TAP during December. The Wolf Hotel is quite reserved during the holiday season for parties. We will resume in January.

REDISCOVER THE JOY OF THE SEASON with Best Advent Ever, a free email program that will help you prepare for Christmas in a way that will allow you to have a Christmas as memorable and joyful as when you were a child. Sign up at dynamiccatholic.com/advent and get ready for the best Christmas of your life!

IF YOU ARE ON FACEBOOK, check out our Facebook pages. Each parish in the cluster now has their own Facebook page. You receive daily updates of what is happening in our parishes and our Catholic school.

LOTTO ST. JOE winner of the \$50 weekly drawing for December 1 is Jennifer Klepper. All tickets are re-entered, so one can win multiple times. All proceeds go directly to the support of St. Joseph School. December is the last month for our Lotto St. Joe 2017 – if you haven't

purchased a ticket for Lotto St. Joe 2018 there is still time!

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING MADE EASY! Several options to consider. You can purchase a \$25 Amazon Gift card at the St. Joseph Parish and School office as well as before and after weekend masses. They make great Christmas presents, as do our Walmart Cards.

And how about buying a friend or family member a Lotto St. Joe ticket? At \$25, that's a gift that keeps on giving throughout the year.

ANYONE, SHOPPING AT DILLONS OR KROGER, can register their shoppers card at www.dillons.com/community-rewards. Select St. Joseph School by name or by number: 11102. The school receives 1% of each dollar spent when you use your Dillons Card. Please encourage all your friends and relatives, especially St. Joseph School alumni, to do this.

IN THE WEEKS AHEAD, our parish cluster representative from Solutio, Inc., will be setting up the advertising for our website for the year. Please consider participating in this effort since the revenue from the ads is what makes the website possible at **no cost** to the parishes. It's a great way to get your name in front of the families in the parish. Advertisements may be purchased for a business, family memorial, or you can sponsor an ad supporting Catholic Charities, Knights of Columbus, Vocations, etc. Please give these ideas some thought. We need and appreciate your help! If you are curious about pricing, then please contact 620-603-0327 or email: sponsorship@solutiosoftware.com.

TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENT - Everyone 21 and over is invited to compete in a Texas Hold'Em Poker Tournament to raise funds for area charities. The tournament will be at 7:30pm on Sunday, December 10th at the Hoisington Knights of Columbus Hall.

ADOPT A GRANDPARENT FOR CHRISTMAS! Pick a snowman, between now and December 15, from the tree at Woodhaven Care Center and purchase a gift to brighten a residents Christmas.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH

<p>Church Support Weekend Collection: \$1,832.00 Envelopes \$1,695.00 Offertory \$137.00 Candles \$36.00</p>
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FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT - John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the US bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live – the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION, Wednesday, December 6th at 7:00pm.

ADORATION will be held Thursday, December 7th from 9am to 7pm.

BECAUSE OF THE CALENDAR, our beginning of the month Eucharistic adoration on Thursdays conflicts with the celebration of Masses for the Immaculate Conception, on Thursday and Friday nights. We will still have adoration on Thursday, Dec 7th. It will simply not begin with benediction and it will end at 6:30pm, a half hour before the Holy Day Mass begins.

MINISTERS FOR HOLY DAY VIGIL MASS - DECEMBER 7 -
Lectors: Kathy Krier, Don Zink, EM: Doris Feist, Jim Oberle, Servers: Brett Liebl, Devin Ryan, Gift Bearers: Richard Rugan Family, Greeters: Rick & Dawnya Hickel, Sacristan: Judy Oberle.

DO BLESSINGS AND BURDENS COME IN BUNDLES?
Evidently, for our parish finances, they do. Parr Sound has been scheduled for some time to come and install upgrades needed for us to have any sound system at all in the parish hall. This past week, the equalizer of the church sound system died. A new one had to be ordered. We also need to replace the parish copier machine. The good news here is that we have gotten nine years of service out of a machine only designed to provide five. All of this is against the backdrop of our parish perhaps needing to draw on its reserves because replacement costs are higher than our donations. As we approach the end of the year, please consider if you can help with these repairs. Any donation marked "repair fund" will be used only for these projects.

THE BIRTHRIGHT GIVING TREE will remain at church until December 25th. Donations can be placed in the box under the tree. If you have questions or wish to donate maternity or baby clothing, call Sandi Oberle at 620-587-9913. THANK YOU to those who have already donated.....your generosity is deeply appreciated!

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

<p>Church Support Weekend Collection: \$1,711.00 Envelopes \$1,461.00 Offertory \$250.00 Votives \$162.80</p>

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION, Wednesday, December 6th, 7:00pm. Classes are held at Immaculate Conception Church and Parish Center.

THE BISHOP HAS SENT US A DIRECTIVE regarding church property security. All churches must now be locked at night, to prevent potential theft or vandalism. Therefore, we need a volunteer who will agree to lock the church each night and unlock the church each morning. As far as this task, it does not have to be just one person. It could easily be split between two people, with one person unlocking the church each morning, and another person locking the church each evening. We need to put this into place as soon as possible, so please contact Steve if you can perform this valuable service to the church.

WE STILL NEED MINISTERS for the Holy Day Vigil Mass on December 7 at 7pm. The sign-up sheet is in the vestibule on a clipboard.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS Matilda Penka who passed away and was buried from here. May she rest in peace! May her family find consolation.