

December



ALL SAINTS NATIONAL CATHOLIC CHURCH
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December



The Reason for the Season



Christmas 2020 is a whole lotta jingle and not so much Jesus.

Two new surveys find more than nine in ten celebrate Christmas - even if they're atheists, agnostics or believers in non-Christian faiths.

A closer look at Christmas activities reveals what may be the first measurement of an "alarming" gap between belief and behavior.

Surveys by USA Today Gallup indicate that while most call this a holy day that is primarily religious, their actions say otherwise. Many skip church, omit Jesus and zero in on the material aspect of the day.

A survey of 2,110 adults found 74% called Christmas "primarily religious" and another survey poll of 1,000 adults 51% say, for them, it's "strongly religious" up from 40% in previous years.

Most surveyed said they will give gifts (89%), dine with family and friends (86%), put up a Christmas tree (80%) and play Christmas music (79%).

But the percentages plummet when it comes to religious activities: ☹ 58% say they "encourage belief in Jesus Christ as Savior." ☹ 47% attend church on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. ☹ 34% watch "biblical Christmas movies."

☺ 28% read or tell the Christmas story from the bible."

"It's alarming that while nine in ten people celebrate Christmas, only six in ten encourage any belief in the source of Christmas.

People who are the believers put Christ in Christmas by how we care for others and give people chances to change their lives. "*It isn't what we do in December, it's what we do the other 11 months of the year that matters.*



† PARISH FAMILY MASS SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER †

- Sunday, December 6 at 9:00 a.m.** - +Veronica Podkulski & Kay Lynch, offered by Terri Podkulski Miller
- Sunday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m.** - +Irene Ruda, offered by Family
- Sunday, December 13 at 9:00 a.m.** -+Chester Gidzinski, offered by Terri Miller
- Sunday, December 20 at 9:00 a.m.** --+Edward & Eddie Gidzinski, offered by Mike & Debbie Cushner
- Sunday, December 20 at 9:00 a.m.** --+Ruth Campbell, Edward Jr. & Yvonne Nowakowski
- Sunday, December 20 at 9:00 a.m.** - +Jadwiga Sperska, offered by son Vincent
- Sunday, December 27 at 9:00 a.m.** - +departed members of the Gidzinski, Kalucka & Piontek families by Barry Biskup

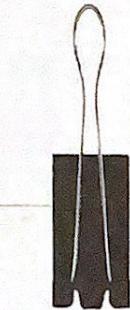
I acknowledge the following who have given of themselves in time, labor and material offerings to our parish:

- ☺ to **Debbie Gidzinski Cushner** and her family for their **donation** of a pair of free standing candelabras, candle tubes and outdoor Christmas manager scene in memory of **+Chester Gidzinski**, an offering of \$6,400.00.
- ☺ to **Peter II and Judy Dyman** for their church donation of \$476.00 for the removing of tree stumps and bushes around the parish complex.
- ☺ to **Jay and Karen Miller Konar** and daughters for their \$300.00 church offering in memory of grandfather & father **Robert Bo Miller**.
- ☺ to **Warehouse Carpet** for donating the upgrading the quality of carpet that was recently installed in the rectory.
- ☺ to **our parish family members** who have been supporting the parish financially during the pandemic through the mail or with their attendance.
- ☺ to **Robert G. Blakeslee** for going the extra mile re-installing & programing our computer system after the remodeling in the rectory.
- ☺ to **Stephen Pokrinchak & Wai Ling Lee** for donating their time and expertise setting up and serving as administrators of our parish emergency notification system.
- ☺ to **Warehouse Carpet Outlets and Ciotoli Family & Heating** for sponsoring our Christmas parish messages on Bill Flynn Polka Show on WNBF 1290 AM radio.
- ☺ to **Grace Fell** for her \$100.00 church donation.

With all of the attention on the pandemic there has not been a shortage of attention of parish projects around the church complex. I am glad to announce that the remodeling of the interior parish rectory is 99.9% completed with only some window drapes to be bought. Total cost of the bathroom remodeling, painting of the entire interior and part of the exterior of the rectory and the installation of carpeting throughout the rectory except bed rooms was \$33,00.00 Other projects around the complex done are:

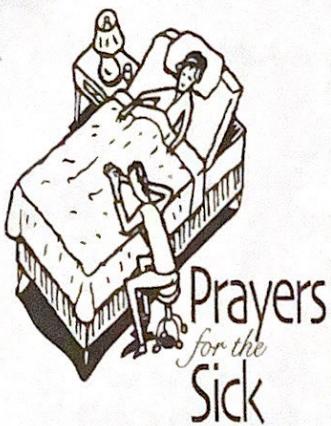
- ★ steam cleaning of the parish family center kitchen exhaust system and stoves cost of \$600.00
- ★ cleaning of rain gutters on the rectory and parish center cost of \$300.00
- ★ removal of tree stumps and bushes around the parish complex \$467.00

It is because of your concern, support and individual donations that the above projects were able to be done.



**From
the
Pastor**



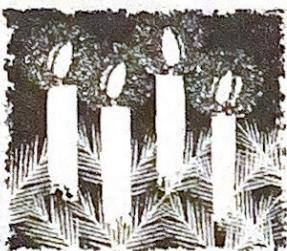


Please remember the following in your prayers, with a Christmas card or call:

Florence Ottman at Ideal Living Center	Wanda Raychel Broczkowski
Mae Raychel at St. Louise Manor	Robert Blakeslee
Edward Ambrose	Dave Plahanski
Dolores Butora Duke	Jeanette & Ed Samuelson
Dave & Pamela Kelley	Rick Machalek

Privacy laws do not allow hospitals or nursing homes to inform priests of admission. Family members must make this notification to the priest upon admission and discharge. Priests are not allowed into hospitals or nursing homes for visitations at this time due to the pandemic.

ADVENT REMINDERS



Take care of your parish membership obligations during the first two weeks of December, if possible.

Christmas wafers are available every Sunday in the parish office at \$2.00 per pack.

Donations for Christmas Poinsettias will be accepted until **Sunday, December 20**.

READERS NEEDED FOR LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH

With the beginning of the season of Advent on Sunday, November 29, we need readers for the Advent Message prior to lighting of the Advent Wreath before the start of the 9:00 a.m. mass.

This year I would like to be more family oriented with the lighting of the wreath. Example: Smith Family - one person reads the meaning, one member reads the prayer and one member lights the candle. If you would like to be a family participating, or an individual, please contact Fr. Ruda as soon as possible so that he may give you the material to prepare yourself.

Readers are needed on Sundays Dec. 6, 13 and 20.



MEN'S SOCIETY

The next scheduled meeting of our Men's Society will be on **Sunday, December 20, 2020**, following the 9:00 a.m. mass. An invitation is extended to all men of our parish family to become a member of our society. Our men's society is a **back bone organization** of our parish sponsoring **many activities** and **supporting our children and teen programs**.

THE SAINTS - St. Nicholas



St. Nicholas was born in Asia Minor. He was named **Bishop of Myra**, a poor and run down Diocese. When his wealthy parents died, he gave His wealth to the poor and devoted himself to the conversion of sinners.

Once he heard that a man who had become very poor intended to abandon his three daughters because he could not afford a dowry for them. **Nicholas**, on three occasions, threw a bag of gold into the window of the sleeping father, and his daughters were soon married. Later the father fell at his feet and said, "*Nicholas, you are my helper. You have delivered my soul and my daughters' souls from destruction.*" This and many other works of his charity led to the tradition of giving presents on his **Feast Day** and at **Christmas** in his name. St. Nicholas is regarded as the special patron of children. The name of Santa Claus evolved from the word *Sint Klaes*, by the Dutch.

Nicholas died at Myra in 350. His popularity, already great, increased when, in 1087, his relics were brought to Bari, Italy. Both the **Eastern and Western Churches** honor him. St. Nicholas is the patron Saint of Russia, Greece, Apulia, Sicily and Lorraine. **His Feast Day is December 6.**



We will do the final **flowering of the church, preparation of altars and final decorations** on the interior of the church on **Wednesday, December 23** at 9:30 a.m.

Donations for Christmas Poinsettias will be taken until **December 20**.

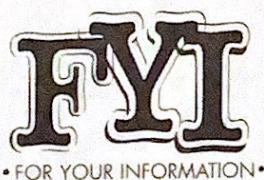
One of the interesting holy days that follows the **birth of Jesus** is the **Feast of Saint John the Apostle** on **Sunday, December 27**.

On this day scripture tells us that the **Roman Empire** wished to eliminate **St. John** because of his **Christian teachings and philosophy**.

Members of the **Roman Empire** gave him a **chalice of wine**, with enough poison to kill ten horses, to drink. As John was drinking the **chalice of wine** God purified it, causing John no harm.

At the end of mass wine will be given in individual cups to those in attendance on this Sunday.

FREE TV'S



FREE ITEMS -If anyone wants a 13 inch color tube tv with remote or a 36 inch color tube console tv with remote, it's yours free for the asking - contact FDR for more info.

Peace Love Joy Peace Love Joy



Free Parish Breakfast

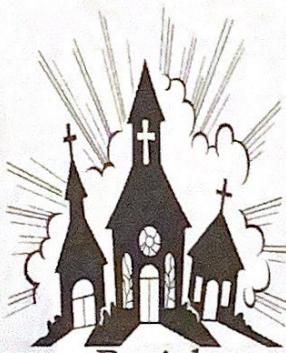
On Sunday, December 20, immediately following the end of mass, our Men's Society will treat the parish family members to a **free breakfast served in the parish family center.**

With everything that is going on, you will have the option of dining in for breakfast or taking your breakfast home. All guidelines will be followed in the family center.

You must be at mass on that Sunday in order to be a part of this breakfast.

A **reservation sheet** will be in the **vestibule in December** so the Men's Society will know how much to prepare. Please **sign the sheet** with your **reservation of dining in or takeout.**

FINANCIAL NEWS FOR DECEMBER



Parish Membership

With the beginning of December, the Parish Council would like to **remind** those who have not fulfilled their **membership obligations for 2020** to please consider doing so soon. **Membership for a married unit is \$175.00 and membership for single unit is \$100.00.**

These **obligations** may be paid in the **parish office** on Sundays either before or after mass.

Finally, the financial officers request that you please do not wait until the last weeks of December if possible. Also request a receipt book if you do not have one.



CHRISTMAS EVE

Looking ahead to **Christmas Eve** and **Christmas Day**, the following **masses** have been **scheduled**:

The **evening of Tuesday, December 24**, Mass of the Shepherds will be celebrated at 9:00 p.m. with organ music. The Christmas Day mass will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. also with organ music.



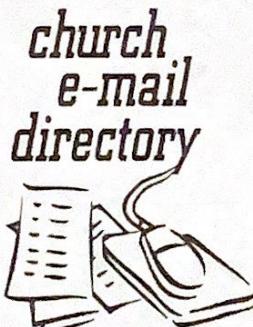
**Christmas
Day
Service**

We would like to finalize the parish's emergency notification system by the **end of this month** to **contact parish family members in case of mass cancellation, change of time, or any sudden irregularity concerning the parish schedule.**

We will need your name, e-mail or text number plus your phone company carrier.

Thank you to Stephen Pokrinchak and Wai Ling Lee for being the administrators of this system.

You may place your information in the collection basket with your Sunday offering or leave it on the desk in the parish office.





2021 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES

Your 2021 offering envelope packet will be available on Sunday, December 13. Please do not use any left over envelopes from last year or previous years because most envelope assignment numbers change from year to year.

To review our parish offering envelope format - **Current Expenses:** Day to day operation expenses, insurance, utilities, salaries etc. **Parish Center Expenses:** Goes exclusively to pay utilities, insurance plus upkeep of the parish family center **Mission Fund:** Helps with the mission work of the National Catholic Church and our mission endeavors on a local scene.

CHURCH
Leadership



As we rapidly approach the end of the year 2020, I as pastor would like to publicly acknowledge the fine work of our Parish Council and Directors, especially those of the Executive Branch, who take care of the financial books, recording of the offering envelopes, and meeting minutes, setting and tracking the church budget.

These good people take their work home and spend countless hours during the year on book work and record keeping.

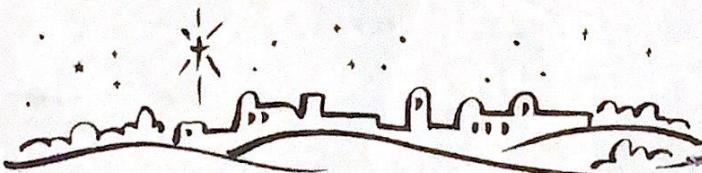
A tip of the hat goes out to: our Treasurer Terri Miller, our Financial Secretary Deb Cushner, our Offering Envelope Secretary Betty Ruda, our recording secretary Tracy Cooper, Parish Center/Cemetery Treasurer Judy Dyman, Vice-Chairman Kelley Yeomans, Council Chairman Kevin Cushner. God Bless

FDR



A HISTORY OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Evergreen trees and wreaths have been used as symbols of eternal life since the ancient times of Egyptians, Chinese, and Hebrews. After the coming of Christianity, evergreens took on a more spiritual significance and were thought to scare away the evil spirits. In the Middle Ages, the Christmas tree, decorated with candles and wafers (symbols of Christ) became popular, as did gaily decorated wooden Christmas pyramids. By the sixteenth century, the two objects merged into what is now known as the Christmas tree. By the nineteenth century, the Christmas tree was popular across Europe and the United States.



Peace



*O Come
Let Us
Adore Him*

December 2020

Events at All Saints



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 9:00 AM Holy Mass Advent 2 St. Nicholas Day 	7 DECEMBER PEARL HARBOR Remembrance Day 	8 Conception of the BVM 	9	10	11	12
13 9:00 AM Holy Mass 10:00 AM Parish Council Mtg Advent 3	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 9:00 AM Holy Mass Advent 4 Free Advent breakfast after mass. Dine in or take out - parish members only.	21	22	23 9:30am 	24 9:00 PM 	25 10:00 AM Christmas Day Mass 	26
27 9:00 AM Mass with blessing & distribution of wine 	28	29	30	31 		