



Shepherd of Souls Area Faith Community

“Called to be the Face of Christ”

www.shepherdofsouls.org

Bulletin for Sunday, December 6, 2020

Second Sunday of Advent



AFC Mass Times

Saturday -

4:00pm Church of Our Lady, Manannah

5:00pm St. John 's, Darwin

Sunday -

8:00am St. Philip's, Litchfield

8:30am Church of Our Lady, Manannah

10:00am St. John's, Darwin

10:30am St Philip's, Litchfield

12:00pm St. Philip's, Litchfield (Spanish)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday– 3:30 pm at Our Lady

Saturday - 4:30 pm at St. John

1st & 3rd Tuesday - 4:00 pm at St. Philip

Forest City

Church of

St Gertrude

31608 650th Avenue

Litchfield, MN 55355

Litchfield

Church of

St. Philip

821 East 5th Street

Litchfield, MN 55355

320-693-3313

Darwin

Church of

St. John

106 N. 4th Street

Darwin, MN 55324

320-693-9496

320-275-2915

Manannah

Church of

Our Lady

57482 CSAH 3

Grove City, MN 56243

320-693-8900

320-453-7526

WEEKLY SCHEDULE & MASS INTENTIONS

<i>Monday December 7</i>	8:00 am—Darwin		Word & Communion
	7:00 pm - Darwin Vigil Immaculate Conception		People of the Parish
<i>Tuesday, December 8 Immaculate Conception</i>	8:00 am-Darwin		No Mass
	12:00 pm-Litchfield	✠	Virgil Kegler
	7:00 pm - Manannah	✠	Msgr. Francis Garvey
<i>Wednesday December 9</i>	8:00 am-Forest City		People of the Parish
	5:30 pm-Manannah (Note time change)	✠	Glenn Abraham
<i>Thursday, December 10</i>	8:00 am-Darwin	✠	Jerry Schaefer
<i>Friday, December 11</i>	8:00 am –Manannah		No Mass
	9:00 am– Litchfield	✠	Doreen Korlesky
<i>Saturday, December 12</i>	4:00 pm– Manannah	✠	Colleen Hansen
	5:00 pm-Darwin	✠	Fr. Joel Kelly
<i>Sunday December 13</i>	8:00 am-Litchfield	✠	Earl & Alice Lorber
	8:30 am-Manannah	✠	Marcella Klassen
	10:00 am - Darwin	✠	Florian & Rosie Donnay
	10:30 am - Litchfield		Theresa Anderson
	12:00 pm-Litchfield (Spanish)		People of the Parish

Area Faith Community Calendar of Events For More Info go to the AFC website

Monday December 7	
Tuesday December 8	StP - 11:30 am Rosary School - 5:00 pm School Committee Meeting StP - 7:00 pm KC Meeting
Wednesday December 9	StP– No Faith Formation StJ - 6:30 pm Faith Formation Class Gr. K-7 OL - 6:45 pm Faith Formation for Gr. 3-11/ Penance Service
Thursday December 10	StP - 4:00 pm Gaming Committee Meeting OL- 7:00 pm Administrative Council meeting AFC– 7:00 pm Grief Support Group
Friday December 11	StP - 8:30 am Rosary
Saturday December 12	
Sunday December 13	OL - 9:20 am Sunday School Kind.– Gr 4 StJ - 4:00 pm Advent Reconciliation

Communion - If you are watching Mass online or on TV and would like the opportunity to receive communion you can come to the St. Philip parking lot on Sundays at 9:00 am. We can walk up for communion or stay in your vehicle

Volunteers Needed - St. Philips is looking for volunteers to help with sanitizing after the Sunday morning Masses. If interested please contact Brenda in the Parish Office 693-3313 ext 100

Please pray for those who are sick in the Parish especially...

St.P: Gretchen Condon, Todd Wheeler, Isaac Buhr, Beckie Schaefer, Dan Curran, Beverly Lindell, Fran Tintes, Louise Schutz, Jasper Kargas, Donald Putney, Theresa Chiarelli, JoAnn DeRause-Oxford, Antonio Franco, Sylvia Johnson, Robert Becker, Jon Laney, Jan Paulson, Jordan Munson, Robin, Caitlin Pitts, Karen Marsh, Shirley Buck, Ed McGraw, Eileen Muhlbauer, Sandra Paulsen, Ann Nonweiler, Dorothy Tacheney, Mary Knutson, Audrey Stoffel, Tim Kapperman, Sy Baune, Lindsey Paulsen, Kay Grams, Lou Huber, Philip Johnson, Dale Andersen, Katelyn Cruze, Debi Munson, Darlene Putney. Prayer Line phone number 593-8944.

OL: Prayer Line: Mary Kalkbrenner, Meinrad Wiechmann, Nancy Haag, George Pfeffer, Dolores Wiechmann, McKenzie Knisley Family, June Tierney, Dale Hoerchler. Prayer line phone number 693-8900.

St.J: Ednel Diedrich, Susan Hummel, Alivia Hemsworth, Amber Walker, Alec McLean, Marlys Roehl, Don Bollman, Luis Larios, Veronica Caswell, Troy Kotila, Kim (Elke) Jack, Raylan Russel, Kathy Thissen, Rosemary Paidl, Glen Worden, Jeffery Baert, Grayson Zimmermann, Patrick Ecklund, Mike Ackerman, Jacob Schmitz, Kathy Eggert, Daralyn Goldsberry. Prayer Line Phone Number 693-9496.

And all those who have asked for our prayers of healing of their friends and relatives.

A Note from Fr. Jeff Horejsi

Isaiah and John the Baptist invite us to make straight the way of the Lord on this Second Sunday of Advent. In addition to the two Saturday afternoon times for Reconciliation, we are adding three Sundays in Advent: Dec. 6, at Our Lady 4-5 pm; Dec. 13, at St. John 4-5 pm; and Dec. 20 at St. Philip 4-5 pm.

Help our elders. In good times 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. Next weekend, your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and other necessities. Please be generous.

The feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses are on Monday and Tuesday.

Our Hispanic Community invites everyone to the celebration of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Sunday, Dec. 13 at noon for the Spanish Mass.

Please note that our Christmas Mass schedule is changed for this year. With the need to social distance, we will have less seating available. We are asking our parishioners to sign up to reserve a place for in person seating at one of the Christmas Masses. You may sign up by calling your parish office.

Thank you for your generosity to the 2020 DMA. If you haven't made your pledge or given a gift, please consider making your contribution now. As has been the case the last number of years, 20% of your gift will come back to your parish for the projects identified by your Administrative Councils. The project for St. Philip is the new camera, software and wiring to better livestream Masses. The project for St. John is new upstairs carpet, three windows and a window air conditioner for the rectory. The project for Our Lady is Catholic School tuition for Our Lady students. You may make your pledge by dropping it in the collection basket, mailing it, or online at dnu.org.

We will be streaming Mass live on our website using Facebook Live every Sunday at 8:00 am. You can follow us at <https://www.facebook.com/pg/Shepherd-Of-Souls-AFC-109977054166477/videos/>. The video will remain on our website after the mass is over.

Again, I want to thank you for your continued financial gifts to your parish. Any donations can be mailed or made online at <https://www.shepherdsouls.org/donate>. Please specify the name of the parish or fund you are donating to in the comments area.

**Faith Formation ...****St. Philip - Wednesday, Dec 9**

No classes.

Sunday School - No Sunday School—We will be moving to distance learning.

St. John - Wednesday, Dec. 9

6:30 pm Faith Formation class for grades K-7 at the Ed Center

Grades 8-11 will be online, check for an email with details

Children's Liturgy - Sunday, December 20th for ages 3 to Grade 2 at the 10:00 am Mass.

Our Lady - Wednesday, Dec. 9

6:45 pm Faith Formation Penance Service

Sunday School - Sunday School for grades K to Grade 4 on Sundays at 9:20 am-10:15 am. At this time we will not have Sunday School for Preschool.

AFC Confirmation Class - Sunday, Dec 6th we will not be having class.

For more information refer to the AFC Google Calendar at www.shepherdsouls.org

ADVENT**RECONCILIATION****Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Advent is a time for all of us to open our hearts to the coming of Christ. One special way we can do this is by taking time to examine our lives and turn to God for help and assistance. Due to the Coronavirus, we will not have Communal Reconciliation services, but rather times to celebrate the sacrament individually. The following is a schedule of times when the sacrament will be offered in our parish and Area Faith Community.

Individual Reconciliation times

Sunday, December 6th at 4:00-5:00pm at Our Lady

Sunday, December 13th at 4:00-5:00pm at St. John

Sunday, December 20th at 4:00-5:00pm at St. Philip's

In addition to these times, we offer the sacrament a half an hour before the Saturday evening liturgies, and at St. Philip from 4:00—5:00 pm on Dec. 1st and 15th.



Happy St. Nicholas Day! We will be talking about St. Nick and the meaning behind this celebration at school tomorrow. Every school family will be getting a prayer card, cocoa packets and candy canes for the entire family.

Did you know that we collect Family Fare cash register receipts? There is a basket in the narthex where you can drop them. The receipts are bundled and tallied then returned to Family Fare. They, in turn, send us a check. We are fortunate that this program continues and hope that you will support it by saving and donating your receipts. We are also blessed that Sylvia Johnson has dedicated countless hours tallying and bundling to making this program such a BIG SUCCESS!

We are celebrating Advent in our own unique ways this year.

- The word HOPE hangs from our ceiling on the lower level along with the first Advent candle.
- Up on the second floor we have a small nativity along with the 4 Advent candles.
- We have begun our collection of Birthday Bags in preparation for Christ's birth. That project will continue through December 18th.
- We also have a daily Christmas Carol rebus that the children are trying to figure out. Can you figure out the first two?



This week's Silver Donor is Back to Nature Wellness Center. We are grateful to Steven Fjerstad, Steven Fjerstad II, and Susan Fjerstad for supporting the School of St. Philip. Please thank them when you see them.

Homeopathic Alternative Medicine: Nutraceuticals & Naturopathic Medicine

Back to Nature Wellness Center



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Percy Lingen
School of St. Philip ~ Principal
320-593-4774/plingen@schoolofstphilip.org

Memorial Candles - If you had a loved one that passed away this past year and there is a Memorial Candle for them please feel free to pick it up at the Church.

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK

Something to Watch: **Guadalupe: The Miracle and the Message**

As we celebrate the patroness of the Americas this week, enjoy this film narrated by Jim Caviezal that walks us through our Mother's miraculous appearance to Juan Diego—an encounter that has converted millions.

Something to Learn: **Do we make to much of Mary?**

Throughout our Marian feast days, you might wonder why Catholics think so highly of Mary. Join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn as they discuss our Lady's esteemed place among the saints.

Something to Listen to: **Marian DogMass with Fradd & Brant Pitre**

Listen in as Matt Fradd and Dr. Brant Pitre explore the Church's understanding of Mary's role in the Church.

Listen on formed.org (AFC access code FQ9PPK)



Our Condolences to the family of Lois Filzen. May Lois rest in eternal peace. Her obituary can be found at www.johnsonhagglund.com.

Our Condolences to Cordelia Lewandoski on the passing of her brother Harlan Wegscheid. May Harlan rest in eternal peace. His obituary can be found at www.chilsonfuneralhome.com.



Baptized in Christ

Congratulations to Wayne Lopez & Erin Riebe as they baptize their daughter Francesca Mabel Lopez this weekend at the Church of St. Philip.

Volunteers needed!

AFC Christmas Ministries - If you are available to volunteer for Lector, Usher or Eucharistic Minister for the Christmas Masses in the Area Faith Community please contact Julie at the Parish Offices or at jschmitz@shepherdofsouls.org.

Litchfield Knights of Columbus PJ Casey Council 2029
invite you to

“Help the Shelf” For Christmas!

All Donations benefiting the Meeker Area Food Shelf

December 11th, 2020

12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

St. Philips Church Parking Lot

821 E 5th St

Drop off your donation from your car!

Cash Donations welcome, and greatly
appreciated!



The Pandemic has greatly increased
demand for food assistance, your help is
needed!

Knights of Columbus Coats for Kids

Boxes are available at the area churches for slightly used
coats of any size. The boxes will be up until
Thanksgiving. So help some of our local neighbors stay
warm by donating winter coats which will be distributed
locally. Thank you!

Getting through the Holidays Grief Support Group

The Grief Support Group will meet December 10th at
7:00 PM in the Conference Room at the Church of St.
Philip. This session will focus on grief during the
Holidays. Please RSVP by calling Brenda at 693-3313
ext. 100

Masks are required and we will be social distancing.

CCT (Sunday Bus) - There have been some
inquires about the bus on Sunday mornings. If you
are interested in having them provide this service
again please call them and let them know. Phone
693-7794.

Pietra Fitness—A retreat for body and soul!
Pietra Classes now taking place virtual.

for info & dates
Marsha Gorackowski
Call: 320-221-1698
Email: magorski65@gmail.com



Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Masses



Monday, Dec. 7th, 7:00 pm at St. John,
Darwin

Tuesday, Dec. 8th, 12:00 Noon at St.
Philip, Litchfield, and 7:00 pm at Our
Lady, Manannah

Consecration to the Holy Family



I encourage you to revitalize our
parishes by devoting yourselves to
the ideal model of familial love set
by Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The
word consecration literally means
“association with the sacred”, and as such it requires a
much larger commitment than simply reciting a prayer
on the feast of the Holy Family, Dec. 28 & 29.
Here are four suggested actions before praying the
Consecration prayer.

1. Discuss the importance of the consecration as a
family and why you are doing it.
2. Each member of your family is strongly encouraged
to receive the sacrament of reconciliation.
3. As a family, intentionally choose something to fast
from, something that you would normally do or
consume, for at least a week. Fasting helps to
discipline our minds and hearts to refrain from secular
activities and be more focused on God.
4. Prepare for the commitment you are making. You
and your family are consciously choosing to be a
beacon of light of God’s love through his Church.
Please talk about this with your family.

Thank you, Fr. Jeff

40 Days for Life Christmas Caroling—Dec. 13, 11:00 am at
Planned Parenthood, St. Cloud. Park in St. Augustine Church
parking lot. For more information contact Judy Haag 453-7592.

St. Philips has lots of free furniture to give away in the
garage, chair, dressers, end table, TV office chairs and
bed. If anyone is in need or knows of anyone in need they
should contact Dave at 320.221.1045.

Senior Dining - This is an opportunity for diners 60+ to
get a hot meal. Please call (320)693-6318 before 11:30 am
at least one day in advance to order meals. No one will
answer the phone, so please leave a message. Include your
name and the dates you want to order meals. Menu is
available in the Narthex

Scrip Program at the School of St. Philip - It is holiday shopping time, so I thought I would share with a couple of programs that would help out the school while you take care of your shopping needs.

Scrip - Like many Catholic schools, the School of St. Philip takes part in the Scrip program. For those who may be unfamiliar with this program... It allows people to purchase gift cards from local and national retailers that can be used in the same way as a gift card. They are purchased at face value with a small percentage donated to our school by the participating retailers. You will find gift cards for restaurants, department stores (i.e. Walmart), gas, and even online retailers like Amazon. We have a supply on hand, but if you know that you will be making major purchases in the near future, you can plan ahead and place an order. It has also gotten much easier for you to just go online and place an order so the cards or codes can be emailed directly to you for immediate use. Our school website has tutorial videos to show you how to take part as well as all the links you'll need. Just visit schoolofstphilip.org/scrip.

Amazon Smile: - We have also begun using the Amazon Smile program for those who frequent Amazon. Here is a step-by-step guide to get signed up.

1. Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> and login to your Amazon account.
2. Search zip code 55355
3. Select The Church of St. Philip (the legal name of the organization). All proceeds will be directed to the School.
4. Click the checkbox that states you understand you must always start at <https://smile.amazon.com/>. You cannot use the Amazon App to use Amazon Smile. However, if you use the app and put things in your cart, they are carried over when you go to use the Amazon Smile website.
5. Start shopping as you normally would and 0.5% of your purchase will be directed to our school.



End-of-Year Tax Savings Offered by the 2020 Cares Act

Your charitable giving has been so important to our parish during this year when we have been affected by social distancing and restrictions on worship and other gatherings.

In addition to the spiritual rewards your faithfulness in stewardship, some recent legislation can also have a positive impact how much you can give at this time and the ways you can give.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Securities Act (CARES Act) was signed into law in March and is the largest economic stimulus package in our nation's history. It was designed to provide economic relief for businesses and individuals. Four key provisions in the CARES Act may provide tax incentives when you donate to your favorite charities.

1. Temporary Universal Charitable Deductions

You can now deduct your charitable gifts even if you take the standard deduction on your federal tax return. The CARES Act allows for up to \$300 per taxpayer (\$600 for a married couple) in an above-the-line deduction for charitable gifts made in 2020.

2. 100% Charitable Deduction for Cash Gifts

The CARES Act legislation allows you to deduct cash gifts of up to 100% of your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), effectively eliminating your federal tax liability in 2020.

If you itemize deductions on your taxes, there are new charitable deduction limits. The CARES Act increases the existing cap on cash gifts for those who itemize. In a typical year, individuals can only take a charitable tax deduction of 60% of their AGI, no matter how much they give. But in 2020 there is no limit, making cash contributions fully deductible to 100% of AGI.

Thanks to this provision, if you are facing a heavy tax burden this year, a large cash gift to charity could significantly reduce (or possibly eliminate) your federal tax liability.

3. Incentives for Corporate Giving

The CARES Act increases the cap on how much corporations may deduct for charitable gifts – from 10% of charitable contributions to 25%. In addition, the limitation on deductions for food donations by corporations increases from 15% to 25% in 2020. This provision is worth considering if you own a business or make financial decisions for your employer.

4. No Required Minimum Distributions in 2020

The CARES Act waives all Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) for individuals over the age of 70 ½ who own specified retirement accounts until next year. However, you can still choose to make a qualified charitable distribution and potentially lower your AGI thereby decreasing your tax liability.

Please check with your accountant or financial advisor to determine how these tax advantages may benefit you.

Thank you again for your continued support throughout this last year!

SUNDAY CONTRIBUTIONS and OFFERINGS FROM THE WEEKEND OF:

November 29, 2020

OFFERINGS	St. John	Our Lady	St. Philip
Youth & Children Envelope		\$14.00	
Adult Envelope	\$1,300.00	\$4025.00	\$3,600.00
ACH (Auto payment)	\$150.00		\$835.00
Loose Plate Collection	\$20.00	\$127.00	\$246.00
TOTAL SUNDAY OFFERING	\$1,470.00	\$4,166.00	\$4,681.00
Weekly Amount needed for budget	\$3,235.30	\$2,042.00	\$7,943.69
This Week's Difference	(\$1,765.30)	\$2,124.00	(\$3,262.69)
YEAR TO DATE SUNDAY OFFERING	\$56,483.44	\$44,311.91	\$144,269.14
Year to Date Budget Needs	\$71,176.60	\$44,924.00	\$174,761.18
YEAR TO DATE DIFFERENCE	(\$14,693.16)	(\$612.09)	(\$30,492.04)

Every Parishioner is a Gift to the Parish and the Church. Your Financial Contributions and the Gift of your time and talents in serving the needs of our Parish and Area Faith Community is a Blessing!

SHEPHERD OF SOULS AREA FAITH COMMUNITY

Fr. Jeff Horejsi, Pastor AFC,	693-3313, ext. 101 Office 320-221-4120 Cell Phone	frjeff@shepherdofsouls.org
Fr. Brian Mandel, Senior Associate Pastor AFC,	693-3313, ext 108 Office 320-905-6529 Cell Phone	frbrian@shepherdofsouls.org
Brent Sundve, Pastoral Associate Deacon Roger Osborne Deacon John Hansen	693-3313 Ext. 106 320-453-5894 320-221-4987	bsundve@shepherdofsouls.org osborneroger@msn.com dcnjohn@shepherdofsouls.org

PARISH STAFF ST. PHILIP'S

Brenda Grates, Parish Administrator	693-3313 Ext. 100	bgrates@shepherdofsouls.org
Percy Lingen, School Principal	593-4774	plingen@schoolofstphilip.org
Mary Roers, School Secretary	693-6283	mroers@schoolofstphilip.org
Karen Kulzer, DRE: Preschool - Grade 5	693-3313 Ext. 104	kkulzer@shepherdofsouls.org
Nathan Stewart, Grades 6-11, AFC Confirmation & Family of Faith	693-3313 Ext 109	nstewart@shepherdofsouls.org
Dave Eischens, Maintenance	320-221-1045	deischens@shepherdofsouls.org
Church Kitchen	693-3313 Ext. 102	

PARISH STAFF ST. JOHN'S

Julie Schmitz Secretary	693-9496/275-2915	jschmitz@shepherdofsouls.org
Karin Colberg, Bookkeeper	320-221-0267	kcoulberg2@gmail.com
Deacon John Hansen, Religious Ed Coordinator	320-221-4987	dcnjohnhansen@gmail.com
St. John's Education Center	320-286-2800	

PARISH STAFF CHURCH OF OUR LADY

Julie Schmitz, Parish Secretary	693-8900 or 453-7526	jschmitz@shepherdofsouls.org
Shirley Knisley, DRE	693-8900 or 453-7526	sknisley@shepherdofsouls.org
Jerry Moudry, Custodian/Maintenance	693-8900 or 453-7526	

Do you have a loved one that you would like to have a Mass Intention memorial said or perhaps a special prayer intention you would like to have said? Call your parish office to schedule your Mass Intention or call Brenda at 320-693-3313 or Julie at 320-693-8900 or 320-693-9496.

Diocesan Catholic Charities:

1-866-670-5163



Bulletin Announcements: Please have your bulletin announcements to Julie at jschmitz@shepherdofsouls.org. By noon on Tuesday. Thank you!

If you, a family member, or someone you are caring for is in need of a visit or communion because you or they cannot be at Mass, or if someone is in the hospital, please contact your parish office, or Fr. Jeff, so we can make arrangements for a visit.

Report Suspected abuse of Minors to Civil and Church Authorities: Diocese of New Ulm Safe Environment 507-233-5301, Meeker County Sheriff Dept. 320-693-5400, National Child Abuse Hotline: 1-800-422-4453

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