

## ADVENT 2020

*This year, more than at any other time in current history, we have had to lean on God for strength, mercy and understanding. What a gift we have! Let us prepare for Advent this year with true self-giving, preparing our heart for Him.*

Beginning the Church's liturgical year on Sunday, November 29, Advent is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas. Jesus is coming, and Advent is intended to be a season of preparation for His arrival. While we typically regard Advent as a joyous season, Advent is also meant to be a period of self-preparation. The purple color associated with Advent is also the color of penance. Advent is a good time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (our Penance Service is December 2, beginning at 6:30 pm at North Lake church). The Advent season is a time of preparation for our hearts and minds for the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas. Advent calendars can help us to fully enter into the season with daily activity and prayer suggestions to prepare us spiritually for the birth of Jesus Christ. Finally, Sundays during Advent, are a time for celebration because we celebrate the resurrection of Our Lord!

### ADVENT WREATH

The use of the wreath and candles during Advent is a longstanding Catholic tradition. The wreath and candles are full of symbolism tied to the Christmas season. The wreath itself, which is made of various evergreens, signifies continuous life. The circle of the wreath, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God, the immortality of the soul, and the everlasting life we find in Christ.

The candles also have their own special significance. The four candles represent the four weeks of Advent, and one candle is lit each Sunday. Three of the candles are purple because the color violet is a liturgical color that signifies a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice.

The first candle, which is purple, symbolizes **Hope**. It is

sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

The second candle, also purple, represents **Faith** and **Love**. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The third candle is pink and symbolizes **Joy**. It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.

On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the last week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's" or "Peace" candle, symbolizes peace. It also



*The outdoor manger scene at North Lake.*

reminds us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

A white candle is placed in the middle of the wreath and lit on Christmas Eve. This candle is called the "Christ Candle" and represents the life of Christ. The color white is for purity, because Christ is our sinless, pure Savior.

Celebrating Advent is an excellent way to prepare our minds and hearts for Christmas.

May we all grow closer to Christ this Advent Season!

*Deacon Allen*

## KEEP THE FAITH

Hello Friends in Christ,

The daily Gospels touched on **sinning** which creates a separation between us and God. A sin is a sin whether you say it, do it, or think it. This is the devil's one and only goal - to separate us from Christ. The only one happy about what is happening in the world today is the evil one himself. People sick and dying, those who cannot go to work, and cannot attend the House of the Lord for church are all suffering. The devil makes it easy for us to give up and throw up our hands in disgust.

In our Advent journey we do our best to keep our journey alive in our heart. Do not let what is happening today discourage you from stopping your journey. This creates that separation from God that the devil so badly wants us to experience.

Maybe a little change here or there or perhaps now is a good time to take a firm grasp of our faith, to fight back and become stronger and seek big changes! We get this strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and reconciliation. Because of this, we are able to be more **forgiving** towards others **and** ourselves, and to not be judgmental but understanding and open to others and the Holy Spirit.



Thank God for your faith that we can lean on His Son this day. Pray to Him - put all your thoughts and worries

into the palm of His hand. It is too much for us at times but never too much for Christ. **Believing** in this will bring us comfort and peace.

Jesus teaches us the Ten Commandments by narrowing them down to two: Love God and love your neighbor.

**Learning** these two simple commands will help us, guide us and lead us on our Advent journey towards Christ. Let us help each other on our journeys through encouragement, support and love. All of this is our Advent Journey, so let us all do our best with Christ to **Keep the Faith**.

Your friend in Christ,

*Deacon Allen*

## Holy Days & Christmas Masses

### December 8: Immaculate Conception

(Holy Day of Obligation)

8 am Mass, North Lake: Fr. Joe Hornacek

7 pm Mass, Monches: Fr. Ted Lawson

### December 24: Christmas Eve

3 pm Mass, North Lake: Fr. Ralph Gross

3 pm Mass, Monches: Fr. Peduru Fonseka

5 pm Mass, North Lake: Fr. Ralph Gross

5 pm Mass, Monches, Fr. Peduru Fonseka

Midnight Mass, North Lake: Fr. Peduru Fonseka

### December 25: Christmas Day

9 am Mass, North Lake: Fr. Peduru Fonseka

### Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

(Holy Day of Obligation)

December 31: 4:30 pm Vigil Mass, Monches

January 1: 9 am Mass, North Lake

## Advent Penance Services

December 7, 6:30 pm St. Paul, Genesee Depot

December 12, 10:30 am St. Charles, Hartland

December 14, 6:30 pm St. Kilian, Hartford

December 17, 6:30 pm St. John, Rubicon  
St. Charles, Hartland

St. Teresa of Calcutta offers Reconciliation 3:30-4 pm on Saturdays at North Lake.

St. Charles also offers Reconciliation on Thursdays, 5-6 pm (December 3 & 10) and Saturdays, 3:30-4:30 pm (Dec. 5, 12, 19)

Please visit the website of each parish offering a Penance Service to confirm that their schedule is still accurate.

### No Advent Penance Services offered at these churches:

- Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady, Help of Christians
- St. John Vianney, Brookfield
- St. Theresa, Eagle
- St. James, Mukwonago
- St. Mary of the Hill, Hubertus

## GETTING TO KNOW OUR PRIESTS

*Continuing our series about the priests who so beautifully celebrate Mass at St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish (we featured Fr. Peduru Fonseka in our September 6 bulletin), we present Fr. Theodore Lawson (Fr. Ted), a Redemptorist priest who lives at the retreat center in Oconomowoc. He offers here his first callings to the priesthood and to the Redemptorist order.*

When I was in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at St. Mary's School in Pewaukee, my teacher, Sister Clare, asked us to draw a picture of what we wanted to be when we grew up. I didn't have any ideas. I drew a picture of a pretty sad policeman. Looking back, I think the policeman was sad because he knew it wasn't going to happen. My best friend, Bobby, showed me the picture he drew of being a priest. The Spirit touched me. The seed was planted. As I grew up, the idea of being a priest continued to emerge on a regular basis.



Fr. Ted Lawson

I entered De Sales Preparatory High School Seminary for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. During my time there I faced the challenges most teenagers face and left there after 3 years and graduated from Pewaukee High. After that, I worked for Wisconsin Telephone Company for 5 years. The possibility of becoming a priest was always present.

A friend of mine from De Sales found the Redemptorists, and I visited him from time to time and the call I was feeling grew stronger. I attended his first Profession of Vows. I was deeply moved during the ceremony. While driving home, I realized that was the life I wanted to live. I have not regretted that decision since.

### THE CALL OF THE REDEMPTORISTS

St. Alphonsus Liguori was born in Naples at the end of the 17<sup>th</sup> century. He found there was a good number of people on the outskirts of the city and beyond who were not being served by the Church while some wealthy people in the city had a priest living in their homes. He called together other men who recognized the need and founded the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer (C.Ss.R.) - the Redemptorists - in 1732. Our mission is to preach and live our motto; *With Him there is plentiful Redemption for all* and to direct that mission *especially to the poor and most abandoned*. St. Alphonsus has been declared a Doctor of the Church and the patron saint of Confessors and Moral Theologians.

St. Alphonsus believed that no one should be marginalized in the world or in the Church. People being forgotten or swept aside is an evil that has existed in our world from its infancy. I feel compelled to confront that evil wherever I can along with my fellow Redemptorists. There are more than 6,000 Redemptorists serving throughout the world.

Another important component of our mission is the promotion of Our Mother of Perpetual Help. I would love to have a chance to share more about her inspiring Icon in the future. We certainly could use her help during these turbulent times.

One final note – if anyone reading this feels a stirring of the Spirit to learn more about the Redemptorists, I would love to talk with you. —Fr. Ted

### SEND CHRISTMAS GREETINGS TO OUR FORMER PRIESTS:

#### **Fr. Bill Stanfield (Birthday December 16)**

9405 W. Howard Avenue Apt. 371  
Greenfield, WI 53228

#### **Fr. Tony McCarty (Birthday January 9)**

7350 South Lovers Ln. Apt. 438  
Franklin, WI 53132

#### **Fr. Dennis Klemme**

W267N2517 Carmelite Rd  
Pewaukee, WI 53072

If you wish to send any greetings to our present help-out priests, please send it to the office mailbox (**P. O. Box 68, North Lake, WI 53064**) and we will make sure it gets to them.



## A NOTE FROM YOUR CHRISTIAN CONCERNS COMMITTEE

Our committee has had quite the year; we have responded to many increased needs throughout our communities.

We have reached out to help St. Ben's (homeless shelter) with funds, then the Hebron House (with the rise of abuse) needed extra help, and the Seed of Hope Pregnancy Center (in West Bend) had help from all of you through monetary and baby item donations.

**Without all of you, we could not help these  
brothers and sisters in Christ.  
Thank you so much!**

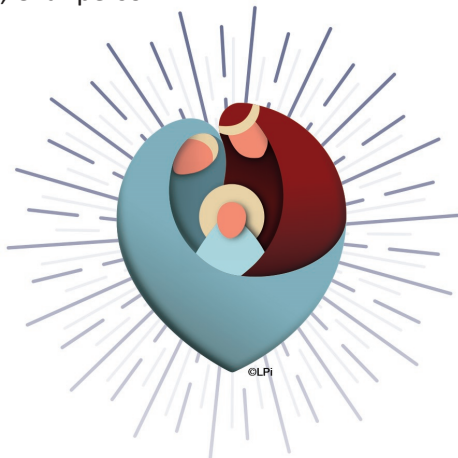
However, we have some sad news to share about our planned trip to the Pine Ridge reservation. The Ogalala Sioux Tribal Ordinance (which sets out safety guidelines for the tribe during the pandemic) will not be lifted anytime soon due to a positivity rate reaching 33 percent on the reservation.

That means that no donations are allowed to be delivered to the reservation. Our Christmas Mission trip to Pine Ridge, which would have been our 20th, has been canceled. Fr. Peter is praying for good health of us all.

Please do not buy any items to donate to the reservation. If you have already made purchases, you may still drop them off; we'll store them until it is once again safe for the Lakota people to have outside contact. A delivery in early 2021 may still be possible.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with this special mission both last year and in years past. This has come to mean a beautiful way for us to reflect the service that St. Teresa of Calcutta so often spoke about: "Prayer in action is love, love in action is service." And our profound gratitude to our Blessed Mother for her continued protection and guidance.

Jacyntha Shaw, Chairperson



## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS

Please consider donating toward our Christmas flowers and decorations in honor or in memory of a person or cause dear to your heart.

You may send in a check made out to St. Teresa (please write Christmas Flowers on the memo line), along with information indicating your intention - In Honor Of... or In Memory Of... Checks must be received by the Parish Office by **Monday, December 14** in order for names to be listed in the bulletin stuffer. A \$20 donation is suggested for each listing.

Checks or money can be deposited in the donation baskets or checks may be mailed to our Parish Office.



## A BEAUTIFUL DONATION

Just before Thanksgiving, a beautiful statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary was donated by an anonymous parishioner and installed at the north entrance of the North Lake church.

What a wonderful addition—complimenting our St. Teresa of Calcutta statue. And how appropriate as St. Teresa had immeasurable love for Our Lady!



## NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS

BY STEPH HAIZEL

**Summit** is our new small group for high school seniors where they can grow deeper in their faith, ask questions and talk about hot topics. Discussions could focus on the Mass and the Eucharist as the source and summit of our faith. This group will also encourage each other to go to Mass and discuss the common themes in the readings. It is a lectionary-based discipleship group that will meet on Sundays once a month for now. High school seniors also have an opportunity to be student leaders and help with the other Christian Formation classes. This group will build community and help one gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for Scripture, the Mass and the Church.

**Unleashed** is a college program we are kicking off at the beginning of 2021. This group is for college students who are looking to stay connected, go deeper in their faith and to form community. The topics are interesting and will help young adults learn to know and defend their Catholic faith. We cover a variety of topics; all are welcome, from other parishes as well. The schedule will be flexible and meet about once a month beginning in January. This is mainly a virtual group to include all who want to participate from afar.

We have in the works a **Young Adult program coming in Fall 2021**. This program will offer a variety of events for young adults including speakers, social nights, service opportunities and EXALT! nights. This group is for young adults in their 20s and 30s. Stay tuned for a name for this group.

If there is interest in a Young Adult Small group - now virtually or in-person - please let Steph Haizel know; we will get that going after the holidays.

All are welcome to these groups. Spread the word and invite others to go deeply into the needs in our community at this time.

Contact Steph Haizel ([step@stteresaofcalcutta.org](mailto:step@stteresaofcalcutta.org) or 262/966-2191, ext. 129) if interested or have any questions.

### Arise Worship Night

**December 4, 7-9 pm** at St. Jerome, Oconomowoc. Adoration led by Fr. Enrique Hernandez, worship led by Nick Scanlan. Join us as we wait in joyful hope for the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Intimate prayer, adoration, confessions. [www.arisemke.org](http://www.arisemke.org)



BY KAY MOEN

**"....As we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ."**

We hear these words in every Liturgical celebration. During the season of Advent, in particular, these words take on the meaning of hopeful anticipation of the Nativity of Jesus when "the Word became flesh and dwelt among us" (John 1:14).

And so we are hopeful and excited for Christmas. Well, at least some of us are. Others are suffering great need or great loss. So just as this season is a joyful time, it can also be a time for us to think about repentance - a time to remember the words from the Confiteor that we recite at Mass - and reflect on our sorrowful repentance "for what we have failed to do."

Then, we can reflect on Jesus' own words and imitate him. "The Spirit of the Lord has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the Poor" (Luke 4:18).

## YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS

**Contributions** are deductible in the year they are made. Donations charged to a credit card before the end of 2020 count for that year (access WeShare from our website: [stteresaofcalcutta.org](http://stteresaofcalcutta.org)).

Or your donation must be **postmarked in 2020**, or received in person at the Parish Office by **NOON on Thursday, December 31, 2020**. Thank you so much for understanding and honoring these guidelines.

Our mailing address:

St. Teresa of Calcutta Parish  
P. O. Box 68, North Lake, WI 53064

## CHRISTMAS ROSARY RALLY

You are invited to join other parishioners and friends to pray the rosary on December 12, beginning at noon in the North Lake church. We will be praying to keep Christ in Christmas. Coordinated through America Needs Fatima.



## GIFT IDEA FOR CHRISTMAS: ST. TERESA OF CALCUTTA MASKS!

We currently have masks available, sizes Medium and L/XL, and both sizes come in blue or black. **Wouldn't these masks make great Christmas gifts?** To purchase yours, mail a check in to the Parish Office, deposit a check in the donation basket with "Masks" written in the memo line, or drop off your payment (cash or check) at the Parish Office, open 8:30 am to 3 pm Monday through Thursday.

**We'll get them to you in time for Christmas!**

A portion of each sale goes to support Christian Formation.

Parish Director: Deacon Allen Olson

[www.stteresaofcalcutta.org](http://www.stteresaofcalcutta.org)

262/966-2191 Parish Office  
262/966-7010 Christian Formation

PO Box 68  
North Lake WI 53064



Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 2  
North Lake, WI