

Shepherd's Thoughts (December 22, 2024)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, we also celebrate the seventh day of our Novena, in preparation for the birth of Jesus, with today's theme: Recognizing God's Favor and Blessing

Gratitude is one of the languages of our hearts. It speaks of our gratefulness to the generosity of God for unselfishly giving us His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary for our salvation. Thus, as we come closer to the Season of Christmas, with gladness, we remember the goodness of God and the people He has given us to perform special roles in our lives. God continues to send His love through the people around us and through the course of history, therefore, it is only proper that we pay homage and gratitude to Him.

In the first reading the LORD says: You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah too small to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Mi 5:1-4a). Christ's coming into the world has already been in the mind of God, the Father, long time ago, taking a thousand of years before it came to fulfillment. In fact, Prophet Micah was just one among the prophets who prophesied about the coming of the Messiah. And we must be grateful to God for this wonderful plan of salvation for us.

Our prayer which is beautifully expressed in our responsorial Psalm has indeed become an answered one for God has truly fulfilled it to reality. "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved" (Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19). God has already saved us in Christ, His beloved Son. It is for this great reason why we ought to give thanks to God and continually praise Him for His wonderful deeds to us.

Meanwhile, in the second reading from the Letter to the Hebrews, it encapsulates in its entirety Christ's redemptive act by totally offering himself in obedience to the Father's will for our salvation, He Himself said, "Behold, I come to do your will" (Heb 10:5-10). The mystery of Christ's incarnation which we celebrate every Christmas is just a prelude to the fullness of our redemption through the merits of our Lord, Jesus Christ, as He suffered, died and resurrected for us. As an act of gratitude for saving us, do we also have that courage of doing the will of God for the sake of His Kingdom?

Now, in the Gospel today, Luke presents Elizabeth's proclamation, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb" (Lk 1:39-45), as a constant call to acknowledge God's manifold blessings not only to the Blessed Mother, but also with gratitude and gratefulness, to recognize the countless good deeds He has done for all of us from the moment of creation through this very moment of our existence and for a lifetime until we obtain His promise of eternal life.

(continued the next page)

December 22, 2024

4th Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions

† Deceased

Saturday, 4:00 PM Rosiere, Dec 21st, Mass

† Sharon Thayse

Saturday, 5:30 PM, Brussels, Dec 21st, Mass

Sunday, 8:30 AM, Brussels, Dec 22nd, Mass

Sunday, 10:15 AM, Lincoln, Dec 22nd, Mass

† Deceased members Jorgensen & Malcore families

Sunday, 6:30 PM, Rosiere, Dec 22nd, Novena

Monday, 6:30 PM, Rosiere, Dec 23rd, Novena

Tuesday, 4:00 PM, Rosiere, Dec 24th, Mass

† For the People

Tuesday, 8:30 PM, Brussels, Dec 24th, Mass

Wednesday, 8:00 AM, Brussels, Dec 25th, Mass

Wednesday, 10:15 AM, Lincoln, Dec 25th, Mass

† Kevin LeFevre

Thursday, 8:00 AM Lincoln, Dec 26th, NO MASS

Friday, 8:00 AM, Rosiere, Dec 27th, NO MASS

Saturday, 4:00 PM Rosiere, Dec 28th, Mass

† Phoebe Wendricks

Saturday, 5:30 PM, Brussels, Dec 28th, Mass

Sunday, 8:30 AM, Brussels, Dec 29th, Mass

Sunday, 10:15 AM, Lincoln, Dec 29th, Mass

† Ciley Cochart

Tuesday, 8:30 AM, Brussels, Dec 31st, Mass

Tuesday, 4:00 PM, Rosiere, Dec 31st, Mass

Wednesday, 8:00 AM, Brussels, Jan 1st, Mass

Wednesday, 10:15 AM, Lincoln, Jan 1st, Mass

Thursday, 8:00 AM Lincoln, Jan 2nd, Mass

† For the People

Friday, 8:00 AM, Rosiere, Jan 3rd, NO MASS

Sanctuary Light

Dec 15-21: In mem. Larry Kirchman

Dec 22-28: In mem. Alvin Jorgensen



Sacrificial Offerings

Dec 3-11, 2024: \$1905.00



St. Peter & St. Hubert Scrip

Dec 9-15 Sales: \$8935.00

Gross profit: \$403.63

FYTD profit: \$3007.07

For scrip information, call Sue Havel at 920-493-2789 or email at Havel27sm@gmail.com.

Parish Office: The parish office will be closed on Dec 24-25 & Dec 31-Jan 1.

(Shepherd's Thoughts – continued from previous page)

As the Jubilee Year of Hope comes closer, how can we better recognize and thank God for His blessings? Let us begin by allowing ourselves to be beacons of hope recognizing the gifts and blessings in others, encouraging one another to fulfill their own calling and re-affirming their goodness and worth. Let us become living examples of gratitude by treating our neighbors with compassion and kindness.

Like Elizabeth in the Gospel today, let us also leap for joy recognizing God's favor and blessing for giving us His only begotten Son through the Blessed Virgin and won for us the promise of eternal salvation.

Fr. Antonio Rex M. Palaya
Administrator

Liturgical Ministers:

December 21st, 4:00 pm Rosiere

Lector: Mark Bader

Communion Distributors: Matt Thayse, Volunteer

Servers: Dylan & Gretchen Barta

December 22nd, 10:15 am Lincoln

Lector: Sue Havel

Comm Distributors: Julie Pinchart, Jessica Pinchart

Servers: Vivian & Dominic Barta

December 24th, 4:00 pm Rosiere

Lector: Char Everard

Communion Distributors: Volunteer

Servers: Dylan & Gretchen Barta

December 25th, 10:15 am Lincoln

Lector: Mary Beaurain

Comm Distributors: Mary & Jim Beaurain

Servers: Volunteers

December 28th, 4:00 pm Rosiere

Lector: Chris Vincent

Communion Distributors: Chris Vincent, Volunteer

Servers: Dylan & Gretchen Barta

December 29th, 10:15 am Lincoln

Lector: Tammy Barta

Comm Distributors: Tammy & Jerry Barta

Servers: Danny Ducat & Kai Jimenez

Parish News

Adult Book Study: on **Monday, Dec. 23** at 1:30 pm and also 5:30 pm led by Dale Massey at Rosiere's rectory. Beautiful Eucharist by Matthew Kelly will be discussed. Join one or all sessions!

Retirement Collection: Thank you to all who gave generously last weekend through the Retirement Collection. If you still wish to donate, you may use the

envelopes in church or the parish office to Share in the Care of our retired sisters, brothers, and religious order priests, as well as our own diocesan priests. On behalf of them, thank you for your generous care!

Interested in Sharing your Talents: We currently have an opening for a pianist/organist at our Lincoln site. This is a paid position. Please contact the parish office with any questions 920-837-2852.

Cemetery Maintenance – Trimming/Weed

Eating: We have an opening for Trimming/Weed eating at our Lincoln site starting in Spring. This is a paid position. Please contact the parish office with any questions 920-837-2852.

One By One Campaign: Your One-by-One donations have gone toward Lincoln entrance LVP flooring, Rosiere entrance pitched roof, interior plastering and painting, Lincoln entrance ramp and extended parking near the garage, and Rosiere's portable microphone for Father. The total for all these projects was \$39,375.76.

RE Classes: K-11: Next class is January 8, 2025.

Confirmation: Next class is Jan. 8, 2025.

Confirmation is **Sunday, Jan 19**, 4:00 pm at St Mary Church, Luxemburg.

Simbang Gabi 2024: We will be having Nine-day Novena Masses Dec 15-23. The Masses are a spiritual preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ on Christmas. (There will **not** be 8:00am masses on December 26-27.)

Brussels Novena Masses: Brussels' Nine-day Novena Masses will be Dec 16-21 at 6:00 am, Sunday, Dec 22 at 8:30 am, and Dec 23 & 24 at 6:00 am.

BINGO, BINGO, BINGO!!!: Future Bingo dates are: Jan. 5 & 26, Feb. 16, March 2 and April 13. Hope to see you there!

Parish Contacts

Office Manager: Julie Engebose 837-2852

Finance Council Chair: Char Everard 536-0033

Pastoral Council Chair: Vicki Schmelzer 680-5210

Trustee Secretary: Mark Bader 680-2936

Trustee Treasurer: Kelly Pinchart

Gospel Readings for Week of December 22, 2024

Monday, Dec 23: Luke 1: 57-66 (St. John of Kanty, Priest)

Tuesday, Dec 24: Luke 1: 67-79

Wednesday, Dec 25: John 1: 1-18 (The Nativity of the Lord)

Thursday, Dec 26: Matthew 10: 17-22 (St. Stephen, The First Martyr)

Friday, Dec 27: John 20: 1a & 2-8 (St. John, Apostle & Evangelist)

Saturday, Dec 28: Matthew 2: 13-18 (The Holy Innocents, Martyrs)