

November 30, 2014

1st Sunday of Advent



STAY AWAKE: "The Lord is coming, but you know not the day or the hour." This season makes us all aware of time's movement and our place in its fragile duration. Now is the time to sort things out, look around and get ready, for at the Lord's presence the mountains melt. Advent means: He's coming soon! Heads up! Keep your own eyes open. Don't expect someone else to alert you. Be ready!

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Pastor's Note(s):

Welcome to Advent! Between Thanksgiving and Christmas there is the Season of Advent. With the first Sunday of Advent this year, we begin Cycle B of the Lectionary, which focuses our attention on the Gospel of Mark. Both this week and next week, the readings from Mark's Gospel will present two important Advent themes: the Lord's return at the end of time and John the Baptist's preparation for Jesus.

So also the season of Advent should mark a time of spiritual preparation, or at the very least a deepening awareness of the implications of the Savior's birth for each of us. According to one Scripture scholar, Advent is a new beginning in an ongoing journey into a deeper reality. It is a recognition that the entry of God into our lives, while historically accomplished, is still spiritually unfinished.

For sure, the purchase of gifts for loved ones and friends is important. But even more so is our preparation to make a fuller acceptance of the gift of salvation as we begin a new year of grace. Because of God's infinite love in the birth of his Son, that gift is always there and at a minimal, if any, cost to us!

With every blessing! *Fr. Michael*

Parish Events Planning: Please join us after mass on Sunday, December 7, in the parish hall as we continue to brain-storm, plan and finalize our parish community activities and events for 2015. We had an enthusiastic group for our first meeting which generated many great ideas. It is time to implement those ideas and we can use your help! Be the first to know what your parish community has planned for the new year. If you need more incentive, coffee and Christmas Cookies will be served. Call Laura Lien at 834-9549 if you have questions or can't attend.

Parish Envelopes: Your assigned packet of envelopes is available at the back of Church for the coming year. Envelope usage is very important as it helps support intentional stewardship by everyone. I urge you to use your envelopes, it makes our record keeping much easier when you do. If you need envelopes, please let us know.

Calendars for 2015 are available for you to take home. The liturgical calendars help you to know when the Church is celebrating a special day such as a Holy Day of Obligation or the memorial of a Saint. Thank you again to our sponsors. Their names and phone numbers are on the bottom of the calendar. These are the people who provide this calendar to us.

Little Blue Books: The Advent Season Little Blue Books will be available, in the back of Church, starting the first Sat/Sun of Advent. Please take one for your spiritual enrichment, to prepare for the Holy Christmas Season. In addition to the books, we will be having a Blue Book Discussion Group. We will meet, downstairs, after Mass on Friday mornings to discuss the reflections of the week from the Little Blue Books. Breakfast and coffee provided. Come and enjoy, feeding your mind and body. See you there, starting Friday, 12/5, after Mass. All are welcome!!

Men's Group: This advent see what we are all about. Our one hour meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. on December 4th and on December 8th. We talk about our faith as it relates to our families or work place or any other faith based question or concern that comes up. We end our meeting with something men do not do together enough...that is pray. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Holy Spirit Catholic Church

— 227 Third Street, Two Harbors, MN 55616

Parish Office Located in the Basement of the Church

Office 834-4659 Rectory 834-4313

Church Hall 834-4659

Parish E-Mail hspirit@mchsi.com

Parish Web Site www.holyspiritwoharbors.org

Youth Ministry 834-4433

Prayer Intentions 834-4659

Birth Rite 1-800-550-4900

Fr. Michael's E-Mail mjlyons@mchsi.com

Deacon Tim Egan 349-9175

Saturday	SAINT CECILIA	11/29/14
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass—Intention † Steve Cavallin Reader: Nadine Uremovich Chalice: Beth Egan & Liz Scheidt Servers: Mary Uremovich & to be assigned	
Sunday	1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	11/30/14
9:30 a.m.	Mass —Intention for All Parishioners	
11:00 a.m.	Reader: Louis Button Plate: Joanne Button Chalice: Laura Lien & to be assigned Servers: Nathan Campbell & Kaitlyn Underdale	
Monday	WEEKDAY DURING ADVENT	12/01/14
Tuesday	WEEKDAY DURING ADVENT	12/02/14
5:45 p.m.	Choir Practice	
Wednesday	SAINT FRANCIS XAVIER	12/03/14
8:15 a.m.	Mass—Intention † Jim Buske	
6:45 p.m.	Religious Education, grades 5-11	
Thursday	SAINT JOHN DAMASCENE	12/04/14
8:15 a.m.	Mass at St. Mary's	
Friday	FIRST FRIDAY	12/05/14
8:15 a.m.	Mass—Intention † Duane Cable	
Saturday	SAINT NICHOLAS	12/06/14
3:30 p.m.	Reconciliation	
4:30 p.m.	Mass—Intention † Helen & William Burke Reader: Paulette Moreland Chalice: Shawn & Kathy McMahon Servers: Duke Gilbert & Spencer Ross	
Sunday	2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	12/07/14
9:30 a.m.	Religious Education, Grades Pre, K-4	
11:00 a.m.	Mass —Intention for All Parishioners Reader: Mike Hoffman Plate: Chris Lemke Chalice: Gina Lemke & Nancy Olsen Servers: Nathan Campbell & Hayden Johnson	

Christmas Poinsettias: Parishioners wanting to donate Christmas flowers should bring them to the church no later than December 23rd. Thank you for your help in providing Christmas flowers.

United Catholic Appeal	
Total to date	
79%	
\$19,987.07 of \$25,172.74	
\$5,185.67 still owed	



† **PARISHIONERS:** Please pray for Arthur Barthman, Patty Broadbent, Pat Harrison, Toni Johnson, Joanne Ostendorf and Ron Kor.

† **FRIENDS & RELATIVES:** Please pray for Lily Brown, Bill Carlson, Patty Harrison-Isakson and Ray Weeks.

† **MILITARY PERSONNEL:** Please pray for Garrett Aho, Nate Berger, Keith Dahl, James Mickle, Craig Moe, Ryan Ray and Christopher Uremovich.

Please call the church office if you'd like to submit a prayer request; these requests will run for 3 weeks. If continued prayers are needed after that time, prayer requests can always be renewed – just call the church office to let us know that you would like to renew the request.

Youth Happenings

Check out our Youth Bulletin Board
'Like' us on Facebook: Holy Spirit Youth Group

Thank you to all who purchased pies and/or donated winter clothing for our local N2N fundraiser. Through your generosity, we were able to donate several bags of winter clothing and raise about \$400.00 to help give our local youth warm winter clothing.

Christmas Cookie Bake: Please join us on Saturday, December 20th @ 2:00 noon to bake Christmas cookies for our local Food Shelf. All ages are welcome to join in the fun! Bring your favorite Christmas cookie dough and bake it here at the Church. For more information call Connie at 834-4433.

Youth Christmas Program: Sunday, December 21st. @ 1:30. Students please arrive by 1:00 to prepare.

Heavenly Scent Cookbooks: We still have cookbooks available for purchase. Look for them before and after Mass. Great gift idea!

Last Week's Contributions	
Weekend Collection	\$2,632.75
Bldg. Fund	\$220.00
UCA	\$222.00
CCHD	\$292.00