

A message from Father Quentin ...

Our first reading today comes from the Book of Baruch. It is one of the shorter books of the Bible and it is worth taking the time to prayerfully read through it. The book is written for an invitation and encouragement to a people in exile. It is an invitation for the people to repentance and it is an encouragement to them that God will deliver them out of exile. One of the verses describes Jerusalem looking to the east to see the gathering of her exiled children. In the previous chapter of the book of Baruch there is also a similar verse.

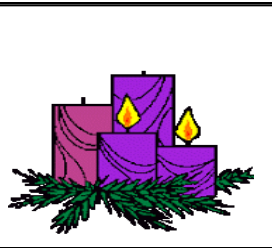
“Look to the east, Jerusalem! Behold the joy that comes to you from God.”

Both of these verses remind me of the Advent hymn *People, Look East*. There is repetition throughout the hymn inviting us to look east with excitement and joy. The final verse especially hits it home.

“People look East and sing today: Love the Lord is on the way.

I believe it is a reminder to us each and every day when the sun comes up in the east that the light of Jesus Christ has entered our world. The reading from Baruch ends in a wonderful way.

“For God is leading Israel in joy by the light of his glory, with his mercy and justice for company.”



2nd Sunday of Advent

Mass Intentions
+ Memorial SI – Special Intention

Sat Dec 8		2nd Weekend of Advent
5:00pm SP	+ Mary Fitzpatrick by Mike & Ryan Fitzpatrick	
Sun Dec 9		
8:00am SJ	+ Ralf Ferguson by John Massoth	
9:30am ST	All deceased members of the Frank & Anna Stahl family by the family	
11:00am SFX	For the people of all 4 parishes	
Mon Dec 10		No Masses today
Tues Dec 11		No Masses today
Wed Dec 12		
8:30am ST	SI of Father Daniel Schmitz	
6:00pm SJ	+Janet Lichtenauer by John Lichtenauer	
Thurs Dec 13		
8:30am ST	SI of Father Larry Bowers	
Fri Dec 14		
7:00am SFX	SI of Father Quentin Schmitz by KOC	
Sat Dec 15		3rd Weekend of Advent
5:00pm SP	+ Rita Wilpur by Karen Nichols	
Sun Dec 16		
8:00am SJ	SI of AnMarie	
9:30am ST	For the people of all 4 parishes	
11:00am SFX	SI of Ashley Mullins family by Tim & Katherine Austin	

God bless all those in need of the Lord's healing touch.....

Judy Abendroth
Paul & Sandra Austin, Sue Baldwin, Andrew Barr, Betty Bodenhamer, Penny Buffo, Dustin Calhoun, Amy Chapman, Sara Chapman, Mary Ann Collins, Rita Crouch, Pat Dennison, Jill Devena, Gary Fevurly, Mary Fraas, Poseta Galvez, Paige Grosser, Karen Hansen, Ronald & Lorraine Heinz, Linda Hopkins, Mark Hopkins, Gary Jackson, Doyle Johnson, Carter Keehn, Kennedy Keehn, Jim Mast, Ethel Matthews, Jonie McClure, Debbie McNabb, Pat Miller, Mirabelle Menard, Deb Neil, Shirley Nolan, Robert Norman, Helen Pauly, Jane Rehm, Dennis Rice, Lois Shepherd, Kenny Singleton, Caroline Spatz, Kinsley Splechter, Brianna Thomas, James Thomas, Kayla Trumbly, Elaine Weston, Gladys Young



Please pray for the following:

- + For our Holy Father, Pope Francis; Archbishop Naumann; Fr. Quentin and all religious that serve us.
- + For Deacon Nicholas Ashmore, Deacon Dan Weger, Brother Brent Stull, Joe & Isaac Wahlmeier & all young people discerning their called vocation.
- + For Noah Foster, Kyle Mares, Stephen Sazalsky, Greg Smith, Dominic Wahlmeier & all military family members.
- + For the end of abortion and for peace in our world.
- + For all our faithful departed, those that will die this day and for all the souls in purgatory.

Area Communal Reconciliation Services:

St. Francis Xavier	Dec 9	12:15 pm
Holy Angels, Garnett	Dec 9	5:00 pm
St. Patrick, Scranton	Dec 11	7:00 pm
Sacred Heart, Ottawa	Dec 12	7:00 pm
St. Joseph, Olpe	Dec 13	7:00 pm
St. Boniface, Scipio	Dec 16	5:00 pm
St. Teresa of Avila	Dec 19	7:30 pm
Sacred Heart, Emporia	Dec 20	7:00 pm

Mass Intentions are needed at St. Teresa of Avila

Welcome to all Visitors!

If you are new to the area and would like to join one of our four parishes or are visiting and need help or anything during your stay, please notify the office or contact Fr. Quentin directly.
God bless you all!

“Prepare the way of the Lord!”

Luke 3:1-6

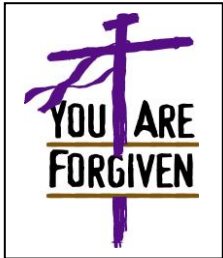
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

SJ 3 pm – 11:30 pm Wednesday
SFX 8 am – 10:00 pm Thursday
ST 9 am – 9:00 pm Thursday



Sacrament of Reconciliation

7:30 – 7:55am SJ Sundays
5:30 – 5:55pm SJ Wednesdays
7:30 – 8:00am SFX Fridays
7:00 – 7:55am SFX 1stSaturdays
3:30 – 4:00pm ST Saturdays
4:30 – 4:55pm SP Saturdays



St. Joseph Parish Announcements

Mark your calendars: St. Joseph Christmas Program will be held at 4:30pm on Dec. 8 at St. Patrick. Dinner will follow the 5pm Mass. We hope you can join us in supporting our youth and joining in community fellowship!

Dec Church Cleaners: Irene Combes, Chianti Combes
Dec Hospitality: Joe & Shirley Lichtenauer

Ministers	Sunday – Dec 16 – 8:00am
Offertory	Kevin & Denise Thimmesch
Lector	Jennifer Stukey
Eucharist	Kevin Thimmesch, Joe Lichtenauer
Servers	Rachael Stukey, Colton Stice
Ushers	Joe Arb, Kevin Thimmesch
Rosary	Catherine Williams
Ministers	Sunday – Dec 23 – 8:00am
Offertory	Marcus & Kelly Stice
Lector	Kelly Stice
Eucharist	Terry Arb & Danelle Foster
Servers	Jackson Biggs & Rylan Rasmussen
Ushers	Russ Stukey & John Lichtenauer
Rosary	Heidi Arb

St. Francis Xavier Parish Announcements

Coat Drive Donations of any new, clean, good condition coat with working front zipper will be accepted until Dec 9

The Winter White Tree items can be returned unwrapped by Dec 9 and will be given to Catholic Charities.

Christmas Adopt-A-Family: All gifts need to be wrapped, with tags attached, and returned to the church by Sunday, Dec. 9, for delivery to ECKAN. Contact the main office or Catherine Faimon for more information or help.

Dec Church Cleaners: Wanda Weldin, Debbie Birk

Ministers	Sunday – Dec 16 – 11:00am
Greeters	Paul & Robbi Herrman
Offertory	Philip & Patty Beyer
Lector	Ray Ryan
Eucharist and Cup	Nichole Louia Denise Humlicek, Diane Marshall
Sacristan	Micki Foster
Cross	Sage Reynolds
Servers	Brody Reynolds, Neveah Myers
Ushers	Chris Jones & John Massoth
Hospitality	Fran Truelove & Donna & Pat Patterson
Rosary	Ray Ryan
Ministers	Sunday – Dec 23 – 11:00am
Greeters	Cynthia & Yasmin Rogers
Offertory	Tim & Katherine Austin
Lector	Theresa Martin
Eucharist and Cup	Leslie Mahoney Kim Robrahn & John Beyer
Sacristan	Andrea Jones
Cross	Trevin Myers
Servers	Trey Faimon & Matthew Dekat
Ushers	Tim Austin & Richard Mahoney
Hospitality	None Merry Christmas
Rosary	Leslie Mahoney

St. Patrick Parish Announcements

Dec Church Cleaners: Joan Gagnon & Ann Collins

Ministers	Saturday – Dec 15 - 5:00pm
Lector	Judy Broyles
Eucharist	Alice Lickteig, Cara Engelken
Offertory	Jake & Alice Lickteig
Ministers	Saturday – Dec 22 - 5:00pm
Lector	Dusty Rubick
Eucharist	Christine Dykes & Ann Collins
Offertory	Jim & Cindy Rubick

Thank you to all who have generously given to the Faith, Family, Future Capital Campaign. Please pray for its continued success.

Faith Minute.....

Are we there yet?



If you have ever been on a road trip, you may have had a child ask, "Are we there yet?" Who can blame them? All of us desire obstacles to be removed, so we can reach our destination.

In this weekend's Gospel, the way is being "made straight" for the coming of the Messiah, meaning the obstacles in the path will be cleared so it is easier for us to reach God, our ultimate destination. For married couples, our spouse is not an obstacle to God, but rather, the means to Him. God desires to draw us into His life through our spouse. Therefore, let's:

- Bring low the mountains of our pride through humility.
- Fill in the valleys of our woundedness with forgiveness.
- Make straight the lines of communication between us.

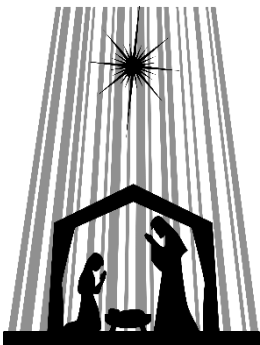
Consider the gift of a marriage retreat for Christmas, www.archkck.org/livinginlove.

Teens Encounter Christ Retreat for all students 16-21 years of age. Join us **January 19-21** at Savior Pastoral Center. TEC is a retreat hosted by the Archdiocese that guides us in applying the Paschal mystery to Our lives. Register at www.sunflowertec.org Cost is \$90, parish scholarships available.

Catholic Charities of NE KS would like to say 'Thank You' for your help this year. 2018 totals for our service area: **12,810:** times the Resource Bus provided food, shelter, utility aid, case management & financial classes **16,100:** meals served through the Summer Food Program **1,600:** volunteers helping each month. Your Christmas donation will help the less fortunate in 2019 – We thank you in advance for your generosity.

SURGE OF THE HEART 3-DAY PARISH MISSION Jan 13-15 from 7- 8:15pm at St. Joseph in Olpe. Speaker-Jon Leonetti. Jon travels around the country helping Catholics understand the story of Jesus Christ and his Church. Jon will present on 3 topics of our faith!
1: Who is God and why does that matter?
2: He will outline some of the most fascinating and holy people to ever walk the planet. 3: He will help us live an authentic relationship with Jesus in the messiness of everyday life.

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University will be offered at St. Francis Xavier, Burlington starting January 23 at 6:30 pm. This 9-week course will be led by Stan and Janet Wahlmeier and is open to everyone in the community. Cost will be around \$100 for materials. You can pre-register at: <https://fpu.com/1076234> and for more information please contact the office, or you can also contact Stan or Janet directly at 620-203-1775 or at wahljs@terraworld.net



Looking ahead, please mark your calendars with the Christmas Mass Schedule.

Christmas Eve Masses:	5:00pm	St. Francis Xavier
	7:00pm	St. Patrick
Christmas Day Masses:	8:30am	St. Teresa
	10:30am	St. Joseph

Archdiocesan Announcements

Special Needs Ministry BREATHE Respite Care Program Saturday, Dec 15 from 4 – 8pm at Holy Cross Catholic School, 8101 West 95th Street, Overland Park, KS. BREATHE Respite Care provides the gift of time away from caregiving for families who have a loved one with a disability age 5 and older. Please contact Tom Racunas, Archdiocese Lead Consultant of the Special Needs Ministry, at 913.647.3054 if you have questions or want more information. To register a loved one go to www.archkck.org/specialneeds and complete the form.

2019 IGNITE Youth Rally in Topeka, January 22 at the Topeka Performing Arts Center. The event begins at 9am with keynote, David Scotten from “I Lived on Parker Avenue”. His story is one of adoption, forgiveness and hope. Mass will be held at 11:15am concelebrated by Archbishop Naumann and Bishop Brungardt and then the March to KS Capital Steps and Kansans for Life Rally following Mass. Wichita Adore Ministries will be providing worship music. Call the Pro-Life Office at 913-647-3059 with questions or register at: www.archkck.org/ignite

Mark Your Calendars now for a Marriage Get-A-Way!! The next World Wide Marriage Encounter Weekend will be held March 1-3, 2019 in Kansas City. As a married couple, you deserve the best and your children need to see you are reaching for it. Two parents very much in love and close to Jesus is truly the greatest gift you can give your children and each other! For more information or to apply, please visit our website: www.wwme4youandme.org or call Tony & Barb Zimmerman, 816-741-4066 or email tonybarbz@prodigy.net

NOTIFICATION: The Archdiocese remains committed to investigating any allegation of abuse of a minor made against any member of the clergy or any church employee or volunteer — no matter the age of the incident or the current age of the victim. Individuals are encouraged to call the confidential report line at (913) 647-3051 (or visit archkck.org/reportabuse) to make a report to Jan Saylor, archdiocesan report investigator, and to call law enforcement directly. If a child or vulnerable adult is in immediate danger, call 911.

St. Teresa Parish Announcements

December: Laundry: Irene Tastove Cleaning: Donna Mader, Erin Splechter, Mika Mader, Holly Ellington

Thank you is extended to Margie Tastove and Jean Wood for serving as officers this past year for the Altar Society. Their offerings of time and talent are very much appreciated. Mary Ann Morgan and Rachel Rockers are the newly elected officers for the Altar Society. They will join Donna Mader and Monica Rolf for the 2019 year.

Best Choice Labels, Box Tops for Education and Campbell's Soup labels are needed. Please have them turned in before the end of this month. There is a container you may leave them in at the entry of church.

December 19 at 4:00pm there will be a parish church cleaning for Christmas. All help is appreciated.

A Toy Drive and Food Drive will be held in conjunction with the Community Christmas. Items will be distributed within our community. Drop Boxes are located at Patriots Bank and at St. Teresa Church.

The Children Christmas is December 16 and the Knights of Columbus will serve their Christmas breakfast after the play in the basement. All are welcome to attend!

Knights of Columbus will be taking free will donations at the Christmas breakfast on December 16 for the ultrasound van of Lifecare Center in Ottawa. All help and any donations are appreciated.

Bad Weather Call List: Any families that need to be added to the call list for bad weather please contact Sarah Mader.

There will be no religious education classes during Christmas Break, December 23rd and December 30th

Sunday	Sunday – Dec. 16 – 9:30am	Sunday – Dec. 23 – 9:30am
Servers	Emily Rolf, Lily Blaufuss, Preston Blaufuss	Gunner Ellington, Alana Mader, Ella Ervin
Lector	Paul Falke	Alice Nolan
Cantor	Gessica Tastove	Evelyn Ervin
Offertory	Terry Schillig	Mike & Erin Spletcher
Eucharist and cup	Larry Dieker Ron Ohl, Mary Ann Morgan	Margie Tastove, Robert Tastove, Alton Ludolph
Ushers	Mick Blaufuss, Frank Tastove	Terry Schillig, Crystal Moore

December 25th Christmas Morning Mass 8:30am

Servers: Guy Young, John Henry Rolf, Huck Young

Lector: Jeff True **Cantor:** Gessica Tastove **Offertory:** Robert & Margie Tastove

Eucharist: Irene Tastove, Dave Pracht, Marilyn Brooks **Ushers:** Frank Tastove, Sarah Mader