

From the Pastor's Desk:

Dear Friends:

We are in the season of Advent, a time of waiting for the Lord who is coming to us. As much as we are waiting for him and place our hope in him, we can imagine how much more God is waiting and hoping for each of us personally to come to him. It is the time when God comes to earth as a human person and chooses to live among us. It is the time when God shares his love with us as we should share our love with Him and among ourselves. Advent prepares us to welcome the arrival of the God who became man and who by his example showed how we should share his love with our neighbors.

On this second Sunday of Advent we continue our preparations for the coming of Jesus. That is, we are preparing to celebrate his coming among us as a new-born baby in Bethlehem. Therefore, it is a special time for us to remember with deep gratitude God's great love for us. The Word of God reminds us that God so loved the world that he sent his only Son for our sake that we may have life through him. Again, he is the Word that was made flesh and came to live among us. The coming of the Lord does not fill his friends with fear and anxiety but rather with a kind of joyful anticipation of one friend to another. The fruit of everyday living the Way of Jesus is a real interior peace that makes us ready to meet him at any time. He invites us to reflect and examine our conscience to see the place of God in our life. The advent is a time for preparation, to straighten the path and fill the valleys and make full preparation for the one who is going to come into our lives. Our God is a waiting God and he is eagerly waiting for our invitation in order to enter into our lives. He is a God of patience and is ready to wait in love. Let us reflect then at this time on what changes we should make in our own lives, not just now but in the year to come, to be the kind of persons, God would like us to be.

God Bless You!

Fr. Madanu Lourdu Raju

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CCD - Catholic Christian Disciples

The Gospel of today tells us how John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus. What did John do to prepare the way for Jesus? He preached repentance and baptized people as a sign of forgiveness of sins. What might we do this Advent to prepare the way for Jesus? We can repent and be sorry for our sins by praying the Act of Contrition each night before we go to bed. We change our lives to be a better person by remembering to pray, by helping others, by being a friend to someone, by sharing.

+ **Today - December 10th**, ALL adults and children of the community are invited to the movie *The Fourth Wise Man* at **2:00 p.m.** in the Church Hall. Popcorn will be provided by the Gallet's and entrance is FREE. There may be a free will offering to cover expenses of the religious education program.

- + Classes **Wednesday, December 13th**
- Gilman: Grades K - 5 : 3:40 - 5:00 p.m.
- Grades 6 - 11: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.
- Sheldon: Grades K - 11: 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

+ **Christmas Program preparations continue in Gilman and Sheldon.** The Program will take place during Mass on **Sunday, December 17th.**

+ **Parents with the last names from A - N** are to provide two dozen cookies for the refreshments after the program on December 17th.

Thank you!

Blessings & Peace this Advent ~ Sr. Marianna

OUR WEEKLY GIVING

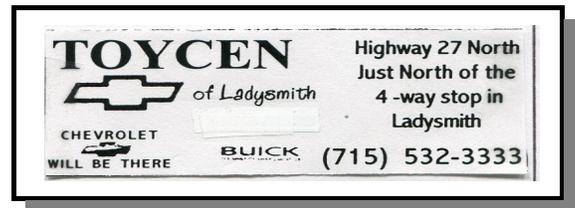
Ss. Peter & Paul	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,113.00
Loose	2 16.00
Total	1 ,329.00
Total from December 4, 2016	1,245.00
Building Fund	6 64.00
Christmas Flowers	195.00
St. Stanislaus	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 585.00
Loose	1 00.00
Total	6 85.00
Total from December 4, 2016	5 42.25
Building Fund	433.00
Energy	100.00
Christmas Flowers	5 7.00
St. John	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 1,303.00
Loose	6 8.55
Total	1 ,371.55
Total from December 4, 2016	5 44.95
Building Fund	706.00
Immaculate Conception	5.00
Christmas Flowers	120.00
St. Michael	
Adult Envelopes	\$ 395.00
Loose	6 .00
Total	4 01.00
Total from December 4, 2016	2 28.00
Building Fund	150.00
Christmas Flowers	45.00

(Totals include only the basic collection)

2017/2018 Catholic Services Appeal

	Assessment	Received	Amount Due
Ss. Peter & Paul	\$ 11,179.00	\$ 3,420.00	\$ 7,759.00
St. John	\$ 8,721.00	\$ 1,790.00	\$ 6,931.00
St. Stanislaus	\$ 5,249.00	\$ 2,315.00	\$ 2,934.00
St. Michael	\$ 2,509.00	\$ 1,970.00	\$ 539.00

OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK



The **NEW Ministry schedules for December and January** are available online at our cluster website **OR** pick-up a copy in the entrance to church.