

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
P.O. BOX 428
PIERZ, MN 56364
Phone: 320-468-6033
E-mail: stjoes@midco.net

The First Sunday of the Season of Advent

December 2nd, 2018

To you, O Lord, I lift my soul!

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH
P.O. BOX 638
BUCKMAN, MN 56317
Phone: 320-468-2316
E-mail: stjoes@midco.net or
st.michaelsbuckman@yahoo.com

<http://www.stjosephspierz.org>
**Secretary office hrs: Mon,
Wed & Thurs, 9a.m.-4p.m.**

FR. KENNETH POPP - PASTOR
Fr. Popp's office hours are Wed. from 1-3 p.m.
MICHAEL PEKAR - PASTORAL ASSOCIATE
Michael's office hours are Thurs, Buckman 2-4p.m.

<http://www.stmichaelsbuckman.org>

MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday	Dec. 3	Villa	9:30 a.m.	Word/Communion Service
Tuesday	Dec. 4	Pierz	8:00 a.m.	+Millie Sage
		Villa	9:30 a.m.	Word/Communion Service
Wednesday	Dec. 5	Buckman	8:00 a.m.	+James Andres
		Villa	9:30 a.m.	+Stanley & Mary Zemotel
		Pierz	7:30 p.m.	Knights of Columbus Mass
Thursday	Dec. 6	Buckman	8:00 a.m.	+Ann M. Poser
		Villa	9:30 a.m.	Word/Communion Service
Friday	Dec. 7	Pierz	8:30 a.m.	+Tom LaMarca
		Buckman	8:30 a.m.	Word/Communion Service
		Villa	9:30 a.m.	+Members of Henry & Helen Otremba Family
		Buckman	7:30 p.m.	+Paul Solinger
Saturday	Dec. 8	Pierz	9:00 a.m.	+Members of John & Betty Gast Family
(The Immaculate Conception of	Villa	10:00 a.m.		+Raymond Bayer
The Blessed Virgin Mary)	Pierz	4:30 p.m.		+Members of Leo & Elizabeth Voigt Family (Adult Choir)
Sunday	Dec. 9	Pierz	8:00 a.m.	+Richard Virnig (Folk Group)
		Buckman	10:00 a.m.	For the People of the Parishes

Confessions: Buckman - Thursday - 7:30 a.m., Pierz - Saturday - 3:30 p.m. or by appt.

Adoration at the Pierz Villa Chapel on Thursdays from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m.

FROM THE PASTOR:

"FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Watch for the Lord "You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near" (James 5:8). Today we begin our Advent journey, which will culminate in Christmas. Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes near to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ's return to us in the celebration of Christmas. We remember his historic coming in the humility of the human condition. But he enters our heart each time we are willing to receive him and he will come again at the end of time to "judge the living and the dead." Therefore, we must always be vigilant and await the Lord with the hope of encountering him. In today's Gospel Jesus exhorts us to be vigilant, so as to be ready to welcome him at the moment of his return. The person who takes heed does not let himself or herself be overwhelmed by distraction or superficiality amid the worldly din, but lives in a full and conscious way, with concern first and foremost for others. The watchful person is the one who accepts the invitation to keep watch, that is, not to be overpowered by the listlessness of discouragement, by the lack of hope, by disappointment, and at the same time to ward off the allure of the many vanities with which the world is brimming and for which, now and then, time and personal and familial peace is sacrificed. ~ Pope Francis"

I am wishing everyone a very blessed week. My Advent letter will be coming out this week. ~ Fr. Ken Popp

AREA EVENTS:

***Holy Trinity PTO hosting St Nick Night Boutique** on Wed., Dec. 5th from 3:30-7:30p.m. in the school gym. Over 45 vendors and crafters and food booth on site.

***Immaculate Conception Church** - Rice, Annual Cookie, Candy and Gift Sale Sat. Dec 8th from 9a.m. - 6:30p.m. You fill the provided container with your assortment of cookies and candy for \$7/pound. Browse for special gifts from the vendors.

***Coffee & Donuts, St. Joseph's Church - Pierz**, Sunday, Dec. 9th. We again look forward to seeing you at Donut Sunday, after the 8am Mass. Hosted by the Holy Trinity Staff.

SEVEN SORROWS OF MARY ROSARY on Sunday,

Social Concerns Committee meeting on Wed. Dec. 5th 7-8p.m. in the Parish Office Meeting Room in Pierz.

December 9th @ 4 p.m. in the chapel of the Pierz Villa. We will pray for our country. Questions, call Patty 468-2487.

LOOKING AHEAD:

***4 Parish Mission** - Sun. Jan. 13 - Wed. Jan. 16th. Our four area parishes will be hosting a time of renewal, one evening in each parish. Please pray that the Lord will bless our speaker, Glen Gauer, as well as each of us.

EXTRA CONFESSIONS DURING ADVENT: Tue. Dec. 4 at Pierz, 4:30-5p.m. and Thurs. Dec. 6 at Buckman, 4:30-5p.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS & ACTIVITIES:

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Masses, Sat. Dec. 8 at Pierz, 9a.m. and the Villa, 10a.m.

ST. MICHAEL'S WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

Adult	\$2038.00
High School	\$ 9.00
Elementary	\$ 13.65
Plate	\$ 301.00
	\$2361.65

Thank you for your generosity!

MASS ATTENDANCE:

<u>St. Joseph's:</u>
Thanksgiving Day - 115
Sat. 4:30 p.m. - 273
Sun. 8:00 a.m. - 295
<u>St. Michael's:</u>
Sun. 10:00 a.m. - 271

ST. JOSEPH'S WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:

Adult	\$5628.00
High School	\$ 34.00
Elementary	\$ 24.75
Plate	\$ 348.35
	\$6035.10

Thank you for your generosity!

****FRIDAY - Dec. 7th @ 7:30 p.m.:**

Servers - Nick Scholl & Eli Kasella

SUNDAY - Dec. 9th @ 10:00 a.m.:

Lector - Janice Janson

Communion Ministers - Debbie Hall, Leo Pohlkamp, Connie

Kieffer, Kay Pappenfus, MaryKay Zilka

Servers - Emily Virnig & David Gottwalt

December Ushers - Grant Stangl, Nathan Gruber and Shane Zilka

CHOIR PRACTICE: Tuesday, Dec. 4th @ 7:30 p.m. Choir will sing on Friday, Dec. 7th for the Immaculate Conception Mass @ 7:30 pm and also on Sunday, Dec. 9th.

THANK YOU: to funeral group 4, and all the extra help for Ann Poser's funeral. A job well done!

CHRISTMAS WREATHS: For sale after 10 a.m. mass.

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST: Blake Thomas, son of Preston & Kelsey Loidolt was baptized Nov. 18th. Coleston Patrick, son of Patrick & Kelly Stangl was baptized Nov., 17th. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

CHRIST CHILD BABY SHOWER: Baby items and money donations are needed for families in need. Sponsored by Buckman CW/M. Questions call Cindy at 468-6070.

ST. NICHOLAS WILL BE HERE this Sunday after the 10a.m. Mass. Cookies and refreshments will be served.

PAINTING PROJECT: Most of the pledges have been sent out. There is still time to send them in, we would like to have them back by Christmas. *Thank you!*

HOLY TRINITY SCHOOL: 468-6446

*The annual Giving Tree project is up, and tags are available. Please bring your gift to school.

*Raffle Calendars are on sale in the HTCS office. \$25/calendar. Last day for purchase is December 18th.

*December faith formation activities include weekly Advent prayer services and a visit from St. Nicholas.

*Holy Trinity will be selling gourmet coffee grown in Guatemala as a world mission project and to support Holy Trinity. Fr. Mark Innocenti is the coordinator and will be at the Pierz and Buckman liturgies on Dec. 15th and 16th.

*Annual Christmas program, Wed, Dec 12th at 1pm and 7pm.

*The classrooms are preparing the quilt squares to be made into quilts to be raffled off at the March Carnival. There are four quilts that need to be sewn together. If you are available, please call the office 468-6446 or contact Beth Fischer.

ST. JOSEPH'S NEWS AND ACTIVITIES:

Schoenstatt Youth program: "Mary was a happy woman, and this is because she replied generously to God and opened her heart to God's plan for her. Come join and learn more about Mary and her virtuous being *Saturday, Dec 8 @ 2:00* in St. James church, Randall. Fun, food and friendship.

****Sat. Dec. 8th @ 9:00 a.m. (Immaculate Conception)**

Servers - Leo Voigt & Maraya Boser

Sat. Dec. 8th @ 4:30 p.m. & Sun. 9th @ 8:00 a.m.:

Servers: Sat.- Courtney Kroll & Rachel Kasper

Sun.- Ashley & Cody Kimman

Weekday Lector: Hilde Flicker

COMMUNION MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER:

Sat.- Barb Zajac, Kristie Kroll, Sara Stumpf

Choir- Kerri Kasper *Sun.*- Tracy Voigt, Ryan Stangl, Marilyn Virnig

LECTORS FOR DECEMBER: *Sat.*- Al Pekarek

Sun.- Keith Marshik

USHERS FOR DECEMBER:

Sat.- John Kurtz, Neal Kimman, Jeremy Virnig, & Allan Kroll

Sun.- Neil Korf, Floyd Mathiowetz, Larry Etzel,

& Jason Sadlovsky

****CHOIR PRACTICE:** Thurs. Dec., 6th @ 10a.m.

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST: Amelia Morlene, daughter of Scott & Trista Watercott was baptized Nov. 18th. Bly Jude, daughter of Matt & Tera Melgard was baptized Nov. 17th. Congratulations and welcome to our community of faith!

CHRIST CHILD BABY SHOWER: During Advent, a basket for babies and young children items will be by the front side altar. Donations of diapers, blankets, clothes, money, etc. are needed. Items will be given to Pierz Food Shelf and families in need. Sponsored by Pierz Christian Women. Questions, call 468-6070.

THANK YOU to Leroy Swanson for your help on putting out the new missalettes and music books.

FPSR: Youth Masses and presentation of Confirmation Candidates in all 4 parishes on Sunday, December, 2nd. TOY BINGO @ FPSR on Sunday, December 2nd 1pm-3pm! St. Nick's Night Bonfire and S'mores on Wednesday, December 5th from 4:30pm-7:30pm @ FPSR! St. Nick's Night 3:30pm-7:30pm come shop at FPSR for a gift for mom and a gift for dad for \$1 each. Volunteers will help wrap the gifts and enjoy some hot chocolate and s'mores made by the high school students.

****HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR WINNERS****

Nov. 26th- Marilyn Shreiner, Nov. 27th- Pat Dehler, Nov. 28th- Theresa Aschenbrenner, Nov. 29th- Alexander Gruber, Nov. 30th- Russ & Cindy Marshik, Dec. 1st- Gareth Nouis (\$35 winners) Dec. 2nd- Leo Wehseler (\$75 Winner)

ST JOSEPH'S

PRAYER LINE: If you are in need of prayers, please call Karen 468-6818. Thank you!

HELP! We are looking for a volunteer that would be interested in doing the Lector & Communion Ministers scheduling for masses. If anyone is interested, please contact the parish office at 468-6033. *Thank you!*

Upcoming Faith in Action Events:

Wed. Dec 19th, 11:30a.m. to 1p.m.- Info on Veterans Benefits Presentation given by Kathy Marshik, Morrison County Veterans Service Officer. For more info, contact Kristine Hoheisel, Senior Resources Director Horizon Health, 468-6451 Fax: 320-468-6463.

Caregiver Support Group: Join us on the 3rd Wed. of every month at 2pm at First United Church in Little Falls in the Fireside Room. For more info, call Angie at 468-6451.

SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE: Do you have 1hr a week to spend in prayer? Please consider joining the Seven Sisters Apostolate. We have an active group at St. Josephs/St Michaels praying for Fr. Popp and the diocese is starting a group of 21 women to pray specifically for Bishop Kettler. You would commit for a 1yr term, praying for 1hr any day of the week you choose. Call Pam Evans @ 320-492-0289.

PRAYER BLANKETS: Available at parish office. Giving a prayer blanket can give comfort to the sick & suffering. This ministry is committed to pray for the recipients, they are also blessed by our Pastor. Questions, call Kathy Etzel, 468-2105

Hands of Hope Resource Center: Volunteers are needed to work with victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and general crime on our 24-hour hotline. There will be a free volunteer advocate training starting in October. For more information, call Amanda at 320-632-1657

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH FESTIVAL ITEMS: We are already looking for new items or completed baskets. You can drop it off at the parish office. *Seasonal items make great baskets!

HEARING ASSISTANCE: If you are having difficulty hearing and understanding the spoken word during Mass ask an usher for help connecting to our loop system. This is compatible with most modern hearing aids, simply set your hearing aid to "T coil". Don't have hearing aids? We have handheld units you may use. Hear what you've been missing!

Worldwide Marriage Encounter: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;" Listen with your spouse for God's message of love by exploring a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME)** weekend. The next weekends are: Apr 5-7, 2019 in Baxter, MN and Sep 20-22, 2019 in Alexandria, MN. Early sign up is recommended. For more information visit our website at: northmnwwme.org or contact us at applications@northmnwwme.org or 888-455-3496

Upcoming Faith in Action Events:

December 19th: Dine & Discover 11:30 to 1- Information on Veterans Benefits Presentation given By: Kathy Marshik, Morrison County Veterans Service Officer. We will be focusing on health care, burial benefits, caregiver programs, nursing home, home care services, financial assistance, and adaptive equipment. The Veterans service office works with family members currently serving military personnel and veterans of all back-grounds, ages and era's.

Caregiver Support Group: Join us on the 3rd Wednesday of Every Month at 2pm at First United Church in Little Falls in the Fireside Room. We will be enjoying each other's company and supporting one another, as we face difficult tasks and decisions, while being a dedicated caregiver. For more information call Angie Athman at 468-6451

We have added a second monthly Caregiver Support Group! Join us on the 1st Wednesday of every month at Horizon Health in Pierz! For more information call Angie Athman at 468-6451

Kristine Hoheisel Senior Resources Director Horizon Health, Inc. Pierz 56364 320-468-6451 Fax: 320-468-6463

ARE YOU GOING TO THE HOSPITAL IN ST. CLOUD? If you would like a visit from Father Popp or Michael Pekar, please call the office at 468-6033 and leave us a message of when you are going to be admitted. Thank you!