

"In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar...and Herod was tetrarch of Galilee...and Lysanias was tetrarch of..." Did you need to pinch yourself awake during the first few lines of this Sunday's Gospel? John the

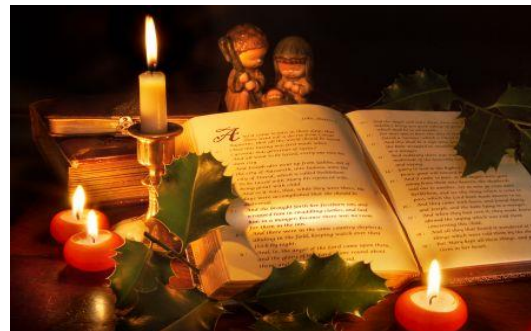
Baptist received quite a prelude

today as Luke described the religious and political leadership of the time period. Scripture is divinely inspired, and we believe that everything that made it into the Bible is there for a reason. These lines remind us of an important truth. The Christmas story isn't a fairy tale or nursery rhyme. It's not a parable we say to give meaning to the holiday. At Christmas, God's presence is made tangible in a precise moment in time. The birth of Christ is a historical event. As precursor to Jesus' preaching, the ministry of John the Baptist is also a historical event. "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." John's call to repentance and the forgiveness of sins happened in a particular time and place. But that does not mean it is limited to first century Palestine! God continues to move in our daily lives. What we hear in today's Gospel - and what we anticipate at Christmas - occurs in our daily lives. God works in concrete ways in time and space. He did that 2,000 years ago, and He continues to do so today! This Sunday, examine your own Christmas preparations. Is there anything you need to repent of before the Christmas season? Are there low points in your life, valleys to "be filled" by the love of God? Are their mountainous obstacles in your spiritual life? How can they be "made low"? Are you making decisions that have moved you away from God? This Advent season is the time for them to "be made straight and ? made smooth." Prepare the way in your heart for Christ today!



Today's Homily

Perhaps it is because St Luke travelled so much with St Paul that he speaks so much about journeys in his Gospel. His Gospel is the story of Jesus making his way to Jerusalem. From there, in his Church, Jesus travels through all the world.



Weekly Scripture Passage for Next Weekend

December 15th & December 16th, 2018

Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-18a (9C)

Psalm Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18

Scripture readings are held each **Wednesday after 8am Mass in the Rectory.** These readings help us to prepare for the upcoming Sunday's Gospel.

Prayers of the Faithful

*Judy C., Ron,
Deanne MacDonald,
"Rosebud" Bouquet*



**Altar & Rosary
CHRISTMAS Bazaar**

St. Joseph's Altar & Rosary Society would like to thank all who participated in our Christmas Bazaar. It was a great success. We could not have done it without you.

Winners

- Quilt – Sue Vanderbush
- Aldi's – Izydorczak Family
- Iron Kettle – Fr. Benjamin
- Tim Horton's – Scott Youngers
- Baking Basket – Izydorczak Family
- Holland Hotel – Kathleen Gray
- Holland Hardware – Jim Crowley
- TJ Max – Lopez Family
- Top's – Kathleen Gray
- Walmart – Sherrie Krzeminski
- Lottery Tree – Andrew Dembik



We will be celebrating our *Advent Penance Service* on Thursday, December 13th at 7:00PM. There will be 2 other priests here for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



Mass Schedule & Intentions for the Week

M – Memorial A – Anniversary L –Living

Monday, December 10th

8am Members of the Golden Treasury of Masses*

Tuesday, December 11th

8am Edward Petree
(The Uplinger Family)

Wednesday, December 12th

8am Fr. Matt and the Wendzikowski Family

Thursday, December 13th

8am Sophia Kalinowski
(Mike & Lori Kasprzyk)

Friday, December 14th

8am Ronald Kennick, Sr.
(Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Kennick)

Saturday, December 15th

5pm Sue Van Remmen – **M**
(Ed & Becky Russell)

Sunday, December 16th

8am Kathleen Dugan & Natalie Krzeminski - **M**
(Butch & Mary Major)
10:30am All Souls



goes out to the **Roth Family** for the beautiful rectory tree and to **Jeremy** for

setting it up. A humble thank you goes out to **Ray & Ann Zywickzynski** for the beautiful wreaths on the front doors of the Church.



A warm thank you goes out to the members of the **Liturgy and Altar & Rosary Committees** for preparing the Altar for this Advent Season,

as always it looks beautiful!



Dick & Ann Antholzner, Jack & Jane Kerber, Rosemary Cavaretta, Angie Howes, Debbie Simich, Deacon Mark, Ann Everts, Leesa Appleby, Theresa Kandra, Mary Major, Norm & Pam Turner, Katie McMicken and her son Noah McMicken, for doing a wonderful job of cleaning the Church and changing out the new Breaking Bread Books; our hearts are filled with the kindness of all of our parishioners.

Gift to God:

Collection Week Of: 12/02/2018

\$3741 Regular Collection,
\$60 Religious Education,

Attendance Week Of: 12/02/2018

Saturday Mass 5pm ~ 65
Sunday Mass 8am ~ 70
Sunday Mass 10:30am ~ 79
Total = 214

**Counters for December 16th– K & M
September-October**

YTD Collections \$26,490
YTD Budget \$26,827
YTD Variance (\$337)

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 15th
5pm Cameron Kehl
Sunday, December 16th
8am Help Needed
10:30am Emily Zehnder

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 15th
5pm D Bliss & R Cavaretta
Sunday, December 16th
8am D Folaron & M Kasprzyk
10:30am T Painter & P Schumacher

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 15th
5pm Sherrie Krzeminski
Sunday, December 16th
8am Bill Franczak
10:30am Sue Vanderbush

SACRISTAN SCHEDULE

Sat/Sun December 15th – December 16th
•5pm A Howes • 8am A Antholzner • 10:30am M Posluszny