



**St. Dominic
St. Francis Xavier
Catholic Church**
Our Lady of Snows Shrine



December 3, 2017

1st Sunday of Advent

PASTOR

Fr. Marianand Mendem

mmendem@archkck.org

SECRETARY

Kay Ludvicek

ACCOUNTANT

Merlin Nelson

DIRECTOR REL. ED.

Barbara Berg

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SACRAMENTS

WEEKEND MASSES

5:30 pm Sat. Vigil @ St. Dominic

8:00 am Sun. @ St. Francis Xavier

10:30 am Sunday @ St. Dominic

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tue. 8am @ St. Francis Xavier

Wed. 8am @ St. Dominic

Thu. 8am @ St. Francis Xavier

Fri. 8am @ St. Dominic

No Mass Mon. or Sat.. Morning

RECONCILIATION

30 Minutes prior to

5:30 pm and 8:00 am Mass

Anytime by appointment

MARRIAGE

Contact the parish 9 months prior to preferred wedding date

BAPTISM

Contact the office after birth of the child

R E F L E C T I N G O N G O D ' S W O R D

These days I live in what had been for well over a hundred years a parish convent for the sisters who once taught in the parish's grade school. Like every old house it has creaks and clatters and clicks that ricochet about at nighttime and never seem to be heard in the daytime house. And because all of us who live here are adults, we say it's just the noises of an old house bedding down for a sleep—until one of us is home alone at night. Then, when the others return, we rush to tell them how Mother Caroline was up and around again.

The dark does crazy things to our imaginations and makes us act and think like kids.

The dark has a way of flaunting itself with fearsome noises and sowing mysterious unknowns. And when not only our bodies but also our very lives find themselves in the dark, when we don't know how best to deal with disciplining our children, or where to direct the rest of our lives, or how to manage a relationship, well, such darkness can seem unbearable. Then the dark is too much with us.

We're never quite sure what mysterious unknowns our God might raise up out of the dark. That may also be why each of us in our own crazy way tries to befriend the dark's noises. We say they're the sounds of an old house, or the day cooling down, or the furnace kicking in, or we say it's Mother Caroline. One way or another we find a way to live with the darkness, for who knows what our God, the divine potter of the reading from Isaiah, may yet do with the damp clay of our lives?

—Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis

PARISH STEWARDSHIP

November 26, 2017

St. Dominic:

Envelopes* \$ 2,275.00

Plate \$ 402.00

Total: \$ 2,677.00

Week of Nov. 19 \$ 1,910.80

Week of Nov. 12 \$ 3,000.00

Average weekly expenses for this fiscal year: \$2,719.11

St. Francis Xavier:

Envelopes* \$ 1,175.00

Plate \$ 62.00

Total: \$ 1,237.00

Week of Nov. 19 \$ 1,106.87

Week of Nov. 12 \$ 1,956.00

Average weekly expenses for this fiscal year: \$1,971.04

**Thank you for your
continued generosity**

Eucharistic Ministers for the weekend of Dec. 9-10

Homebound: Annette Schreiber

Nursing Homes: Wayne Leiker

**Ministry Schedule for the
2nd. Sunday of Advent**

St. Dominic Dec. 9th~ 5:30 pm	St. Francis Xavier Dec. 10th~ 8:00 am	St. Dominic Dec. 10th~ 10:30 am
COMMUNION Tom Heideman	COMMUNION Larry Larkin	COMMUNION Zach Lancaster
LECTOR Barb Heideman	LECTOR Meriin Nelson	LECTOR Niki Meerpohl
ACOLYTE Abigail Schlodder Elizabeth Schuster Eric Gerhardt	ACOLYTE Mary Broxterman Gavin Akins Karlie Albright	ACOLYTE Carter Meerpohl Jacob Warner Jeffrey Warner
MUSIC Cathleen Reed TBD	MUSIC Joan Hood M.L. Koch, E. Poort	MUSIC Charlene Herbers Brian Meerpohl
GREETERS / USHERS Gary Schreiber Annette Schreiber Whity Lehmkuhl Richard Arnold	GREETERS / USHERS Larry Reilly Marceta Reilly Larry Larkin Ray Zeller	GREETERS / USHERS Olivia McAsey Ralph Herbers Roger McAsey

LITURGY SCHEDULE AND MASS INTENTIONS

The First Sunday of Advent

SATURDAY, December 2nd~
 St. D 5:30 PM Alisha Quigley (D)
 SUNDAY, December 3rd~
 St. F 8:00 AM For All Parishioners
 OLS 8:30 AM
 St. D 10:30 AM Dan Mehringer (D)
 TUESDAY, December 5th~
 St. F 8:00 AM Susan Nelson (D)
 WEDNESDAY, December 6th~
 St. D 8:00 AM Gloria Meerpohl (D)
 THURSDAY, December 7th~
 St. F 8:00 AM Virginia Albright
 FRIDAY, December 8th~**The Immaculate Conception**
Holy Day of Obligation
 St. F 7:30 AM Debbie Larkin (D)
 St. D 6:30 PM Gene & Maggie Schiefelbein
The Second Sunday of Advent
 SATURDAY, December 9th~
 St. D 5:30 PM Leroy Bloom (D)
 SUNDAY, December 10th~
 St. F 8:00 AM Bud Williams (D)
 OLS 1:00 PM
 St. D 10:30AM For All Parishioners

CHURCH CLEANERS:

Dec. 4-10 Bertulfo Family
 Dec. 11-17 Karen Leiker, Kay Ludvick
 Dec. 18-24 Danelle Shaw
 Dec. 25-31 Carolyn Koger, Gail Schmitz
 Jan. 1-7 Utz Family, Carolyn Kennedy

Please contact the office ahead of time and let us know when you are planning on cleaning so that the church will be unlocked and the lights can be turned on for you.

Thank you for your service to your parish. You can still volunteer by calling the office at 364-3262

Jackson County Pastoral Council

Gregg Watkins
 Elsie Beam
 Barbara Berg
 Margaret Blevins
 Marie Burdick
 Larry Larkin
 Wayne Leiker
 Karen Leiker
 Jackie McAsey
 Merlin Nelson
 Darrin Reith
 Janeil Stevens

St. Dominic Finance Council

Greg Watkins—Chair
 Carolyn Koger
 Jane Coverdale
 Pat Doyle
 Rosemary Wilkerson

St. Francis Xavier Finance Council

Elsie Beam—Chair
 Bill Haug
 Chris Everts
 Larry Larkin
 Kay Andler
 Damon Putnam

Youth Ministry

ST. DOMINIC ReEd:

- ReEd Classes PreK-HS, Wednesday, Dec. 6th, 6:30-7:45pm ~2nd Gr. First Reconciliation
- ReEd Classes PreK-HS, Wednesday, Dec. 13th, 6:30-7:45 pm, Reconciliation 3-8th Gr.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER ReEd:

- ReEd Classes PreK-8th, Sunday, Dec. 10th, 9-10:15 am, 2nd Gr. First Reconciliation
- ReEd Classes PreK-8th, Sunday, Dec. 17th 9-10:15 am

HIGH SCHOOL:

- **NO High School ReEd Classes, Wednesday, Dec. 6th**
- High School ReEd Classes, Wednesday, Dec. 13th, 6:30-7:45pm, Meet at St. Francis Xavier

RCIA~ Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Class Tuesday, December 5th from 6:30-8:00 pm meet at St. Dominic Church for a tour of the church. All are welcome.

St. Francis Xavier NCYC Appreciation Breakfast

Sunday, December 10th following Mass
 All are Welcome

Liturgy Schedule for December

Friday, December 8th, Immaculate Conception~ Holy Day of Obligation~ St. Francis Xavier 7:30 am, St. Dominic 6:30 pm

Tuesday, December 12th, Communal Penance St. Francis 6:30 pm

Wednesday, December 13th, Communal Penance, St. Dominic, 6:30 pm

Saturday, December 23rd, St. Francis Xavier 5:30 pm (NO 8:00 am Mass)

Sunday, December 24th, St. Dominic 10:30 am (regular Sunday obligation)

Sunday, December 24th Christmas Eve Services: St. Francis Xavier 6:00 pm, St. Dominic 10:00 pm (Christmas obligation)

Monday, December 24th, Christmas Day, St. Dominic 10:30 am

Saturday, December 30th, St. Francis Xavier 5:30 pm (no 8:00 am Mass~

Sunday, December 31st, St. Dominic 10:30 am Mass (regular Sunday obligation)

Sunday, December 31st, New Year's Eve, St. Francis Xavier 5:30 pm Mass, New Year's Eve Dinner following Mass at St. Francis

Monday, January 1st. St. Dominic 10:30 am Mass

St. Francis Xavier Choir Practice for Christmas Vigil Mass Wednesday, December 6th, 13th and 20th at 5:00 pm. Please note time for practice. All are welcome.

ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION Sunday, December 31st following mass at St. Francis. Proceeds support Fr. Marianand's Immaculate Heart Foundation. Volunteers needed, contact Larry Larkin at 785-554-7542

PARISH PRAYER CONCERNS

Kent Askren (nephew of Cletemae Brown); Carol Barton (Friend of Dean & Ramona Robinson); Sonya Bergman; Cindy (Sands) Berry; George Bolz; Angela Brewer; Estelle Danner; Deb Davies; Dick DeVader (Brother of Ramona Robinson); Sharon DeVader; Steve Devlin; Kathy Estabrook (sister of Terry Ludvick); Sheila Fernkopf; Brad Fiedler; Todd Fiedler; Janie Garza (Friend of Vickie Barr); Sam Gerry; Ann Glassman (Mother of Mary Wahlmeier); Vivian Gonzalas; Carly Grant (great granddaughter of Joan Hood); Jared Harris (grandson of Mary Harris); Mary Harris; Pat Hasenkamp; Ernest Haug (Brother of Bill Haug); Jerry Huftles (father of Jackie McAsey); Frank Hulsing (Father of Shannon Henry); Charles Kennedy; Adrian Koch; Rheva Korte; Shari Lott (sister-in-law of Russell Schuetz); Rita Martin; Mary Morford; Don Morris; Colette McAfee (sister of St. Dominic parishioners); Lynne Mulroy; Luisa Munoz (sister of Anna Alvarez); Erin Norwood and daughter Bailey (Larkin Family Members); Kristina Oates (granddaughter of Gene Schiefelbein); Gean O'Toole (Mother of Jim O'Toole); Calvin Page; J.R. Pickett; Carolyn Reicherter; Cameron Renfro; Mary Riniker (Sister of Regina Butts); Ronna Rowe (Family Member of Hilda Hrenchir); Shelly Russell (daughter of Karen McClaskey; Virginia Ryan (Grandmother of Scott Bond); Peggy Sanderson (friend of Mary Morford); Lonnie & Helen Sands (brother and sister-in-law of Joan Hood); Bill Schiffbaur (brother of parishioners); Chris Schiefelbein (brother of Gene Schiefelbein); Linda Schiffbauer (sister-in-law of parishioners); Laura (daughter of Gene Schiefelbein); Emma Schirmer; Easton Shelton (son of Eric and Stephanie Shelton); Cliff Spelts (brother-in-law of Terry Ludvick); Special Intentions of Sheila Springer; Nancy Versch Stereit; Evelyn Sullivan; Janie Teetzal; Rose Toledo; Margaret Waggoner (sister of Kay Ludvick); Laveda Wahweotten (mother of Tina Wahweotten); Gregg Watkins; Max Wichman (Son of Jeanette Wichman)

We pray for those among us who are ill, their families and for their care-giver; those experiencing a hardship or difficulty; and for those in the Armed Forces protecting our freedom.

Scripture Insights~

The readings on this First Sunday of Advent express well the meaning of the season. The Latin word *adventus* means “a coming” or “an arrival.” Theologians use its Greek equivalent, *parousia*, to refer to the Second Coming of Christ. The season of the liturgical year is not only about getting ready to celebrate Jesus’ birth, but also about anticipating the arrival of God’s Kingdom in fullness at the end time.

The First Reading, from Isaiah, is part of a long lament that began at Isaiah 63 and extends to the middle of Isaiah 66. As the Judeans returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they found their Temple destroyed and felt that God had abandoned them. Here the prophet prays that God will come to them in a more wondrous way than he did at Sinai. Despite his sadness over the past and the recognition that God has a right to punish the people for their failure to keep covenant, the prophet ends on a note of hope for the future: “We are all the work of your hands!” (Isaiah 64:7).

Today’s Gospel comes from a passage sometimes called Mark’s “Little Apocalypse,” a teaching about preparing for the Second Coming of Christ. These lines were written shortly before the Second Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed in AD 70 and before a time of persecution began. The parable that Jesus uses to demonstrate our need to be watchful is compelling! It suggests that we are not in charge of the comings and goings of the Lord of the house. Instead, we are the gatekeepers, waiting to welcome the coming Kingdom of God. Will you be ready?

- Do a careful reading of today’s Gospel. What question is Jesus addressing with the parable of the gate keeper? What does that image mean for you?
- Select a phrase from today’s Responsorial Psalm and reflect on how it speaks to you about the compassion and generosity that accompanies God’s coming.
- When have you felt yourself being shaped like clay in God’s hands? Did you or do you now experience it as a time of hope for the future?



Be watchful! Be alert!
You do not know when the time
will come.
— Mark 13:33

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Advent calendars appear now in many homes, and newfangled formats are even available on line. Children have fun opening the doors and windows keyed to the days counting down to Christmas. Behind each door is a picture related to the Christmas mystery, perhaps a scripture verse or saying, but more and more these days something totally unconnected to religious life, like a small toy or a chocolate treat, appears instead. The Advent calendar is not very old as traditions go. We can trace it back to German-speaking Christians, both Protestant and Catholic. Lutherans might have originated the custom by placing chalk marks on doors starting December 1, lighting candles every day, or placing a new religious picture on the wall each day during Advent. The oldest known hand-made calendar goes back to 1851, and the first printed ones appeared in 1908 in Germany with Bible verses behind the doors. By far the most interesting calendar is a building, the town hall (*Rathaus*) of Gengenbach in Germany’s Black Forest. Every year the townspeople invite an illustrator of children’s books to create twenty-four paintings or motifs for each of the twenty-four main windows of the building. Every night the people gather to see a new window opened and illuminated.

Very few commercial Advent calendars pay much attention to the core values of our liturgical calendar: the pivotal place of Sunday, the importance of Advent feasts like Saint Lucy and Saint Nicholas, and the clear shift in tone on December 17 from Advent longing and preparation toward imminent hope in Christ’s coming. That kind of creativity is left up to you!

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, Dec. 5th		Wednesday, Dec. 6th		Thursday, Dec. 7th		Friday, Dec. 8th	
St. Dominic	Eucharistic Adoration 2-6:00 pm RCIA~6:00-8:00 pm Meet at the Church	8:00 am Mass RelEd Classes 6:30 pm~ 2nd Gr. First Reconciliation~ NO HS Class				Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation 6:30 pm Mass	
St. Francis Xavier	8:00 am Mass			8:00 am Mass Eucharistic Adoration 2-4:00 pm		7:30 am Mass	
Saturday, Dec. 9th		Sunday, Dec. 10th		Monday, Dec. 11th		Tuesday, Dec. 12th	
St. Dominic	5:30 pm Vigil Mass	10:30 am Mass		Altar Society Meeting~ 6:00 pm		Eucharistic Adoration 2-6:00 pm RCIA ~6:30-8:00 pm	
St. Francis Xavier		8:00 am Mass NCYC Appreciation Breakfast following Mass RelEd Classes 9:00 am 1:00 pm OLS Mass				Communal Penance 6:30 pm	
Wednesday, Dec. 13th		Thursday, Dec. 14th		Friday, Dec. 15th		Saturday, Dec. 16th	
St. Dominic	8:00 am Mass RelEd Classes 6:30 pm HS Meets at St. Francis Communal Penance 6:30 pm			8:00 am Mass		5:30 pm Vigil Mass	
St. Francis Xavier		8:00 am Mass Eucharistic Adoration 2-4:00 pm					

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