

December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent

*"Behold, I Am the Handmaid of the Lord.
May It Be Done to Me According to Your
Word."*

December 12th is the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, the patroness of the Americas. In this week's Gospel, Mary is greeted by the angel Gabriel. She is sent a messenger, and then she too takes the task in appearing to St. Juan Diego centuries after. "May it be done to me according to your word," is the acceptance of faith. This is the fiat of Mary - the YES. We, too, are called to this obedience of faith, and although the task of responding yes to the call of God is no easy feat, we are promised that nothing is impossible for God. He provides us the grace to withstand the challenges. It is by Mary's yes, that the Savior of the World came, and it is by our yeses, that we can bring others to know him.

Prayer - *O God, who, fulfilling the promise made to our Fathers, chose the Blessed Virgin Mary to become the Mother of the Savior, grant that we may follow her example, for her humility was pleasing to you and her obedience profitable to us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

SET YOUR FAITH ON FIRE

The light of faith shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it (John 1:5). All of us deal with our doubts, despair and dead ends when darkness seems to surround us. It is at these very times when the light of Christ shines on us through God's Word and through God's people.

At these times we are called to shine out to others in their dark moments and help to set their hearts and our own "on fire."

PRAYER SERVICES

Wed., Dec. 13	7:45 AM	Morning Prayer
Fri., Dec. 15	7:45 AM	Morning Prayer

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Dec. 9	4 PM	Thomas Merkel
Sun., Dec. 10	10 AM	Ruth Gehl
Sat., Dec. 16	4 PM	Mike Fasbinder
Sun., Dec. 17	10 AM	Special Donor

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday – December 16 at 4:00 PM

Greeters: Paul and Beth Simon
Ken and Dottie Hellmich
Servers: Macey Moorman, Cloey Simon
Cantors: Joe Wagner, Sarah Wenning
Lectors: Dottie Hellmich, Jack Ferkinhoff
Euch. Ministers: Jane Pictor, Janet Wagner
Terry Harmeyer, Judy Steuri

Sunday – December 17 at 10:00 AM

Greeters: Mike and Katie Spreckelson - *back*
Matt and Leslie Hicks - *back*
Jason and Lauren Wagner - *side*
Servers: Seth Weisenbach, Brady Borgman
Cantor: Brooke Payne
Lectors: Cindy Weisenbach, Grace Truesdell
Euch. Ministers: Patty Simon, Joyce Muckerheide
Dolly Stirn, John Muckerheide

PARISH SUPPORT

Adult Envelopes	\$3515.00
Children's Envelopes	\$ 16.14
Loose Collection	<u>\$ 383.00</u>
Total Regular Collection	\$3914.14
Capital Improvement	\$100.00
Cemetery	\$50.00

The Lord Bless You in Your Giving!

We live in a society in which it seems that every space, every moment must be "filled" with initiatives, activity, sound; often there is not even time to listen and dialogue....Let us not be afraid to be silent outside and inside ourselves, so that we are able not only to perceive God's voice, but also the voice of the person next to us, the voices of others.

~ Pope Benedict XVI

STEWARDSHIP – John the Baptist's call to repentance is echoed in the U.S. bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship: "Christians must beg God for the grace of conversion: the grace to know who they are, to whom they belong, how they are to live – the grace to repent and change and grow, the grace to become good disciples and stewards."

SANCTUARY LIGHT – The sanctuary light will burn December 10 through December 17 for Marjorie White.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS – A second collection will be taken up this weekend for our retired religious. Your donation provides funding for nursing care, medications and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime!

CHRISTMAS CAROLING – It's time to bring joy into the lives of our homebound! You are invited to join our youth **this evening** as they go Christmas caroling from 4:00-6:00 PM. They will leave from St. Maurice at 4:00 PM.

UNITED CATHOLIC APPEAL – "I am the Church, the Body of Christ, One Good Person." As of today we have pledged **\$11,400** to the United Catholic Appeal, which is **99%** of our goal. We only need **\$139** to meet our goal of **\$11,539**. Let's accomplish this before Christmas? 72 households out of 204 have sent in their Intention Cards. I ask those who have not to please consider giving!

GIVING TREE – Have you taken your flame from our Giving Tree? There are also some in little baskets at the entrances of church. You will **light the fire of faith** for those women who enter the doors of the Pregnancy Care Center in Greensburg and those women and children who are temporarily at Safe Passages. Please have all gifts back under the tree by Sunday, December 17, in time for Santa to deliver them.

PENANCE SERVICE – Wednesday, December 13, 7:00 PM is the Advent Penance Service for our children Grades 3 to 5 and for any adults who wish to attend. Fr. John and Fr. Bill will be the confessors. Before we welcome Jesus into our lives this Christmas, let us approach Him asking for forgiveness and mercy.

COLLECTION ENVELOPES – 2018 Collection Envelopes are in the vestibule of Church, Calendars and Living Faith Booklets are at both entrances of Church. Please pick them up before Christmas weekend. Thank you for using these envelopes each week and for the loose collection.

Children's Envelopes: If our children need a box of envelopes they, too, are in the vestibule. May God bless you each time you walk up to place your offering in the basket!

FAITH FORMATION – Members of the Faith Formation Committee will meet on Thursday, December 14, 4:30 PM.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS – Our Liturgy Committee will decorate Church for Christmas on Monday, December 18, 6:00 PM. They would be grateful for your assistance!

CHRISTMAS DINNER – You are invited to help with the Ripley County Community Christmas Dinner - the 33rd Annual Hunter & Minta Memorial which is held at St. John Church on Christmas Day. To volunteer, call Keri Johnson at 812/689-3322 or email ripleycountycommunitychristmasdinner@hotmail.com.

RELIGIOUS ED – Classes for Preschool through Grade 5, Wednesday, December 13, 6:45 PM. A meal will be served. The children Grades 3, 4, and 5 will be attending the Penance Service at 7 PM.

Classes for Grades 6 through 11 next Sunday, December 17, 8:30 AM. A breakfast will be served for the students followed by a movie in the hall!

RESOURCE CENTER – The BATESVILLE DEANERY RESOURCE CENTER will be open on Wednesdays and Thursdays DURING ADVENT from 1-6. Stop in and pick up something for you and family to read or watch during this season and over Christmas break. We have many great titles to help you and your spiritual journey to the CHRIST CHILD. You can view our online library at batesvilledeanery.com or call 812-932- 0789.

THE LORD'S LAUGHTER – I'd like the window that says "Are you sure you want to do this? OK/Cancel" to pop up less often on my computer and more in my real life. (Aaron Fullerton)