

CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A Prayer for the third week in Advent ~

I praise you, Lord,
and ask,
who am I,
A small one of the earth,
that the word of the Lord
should come to me?
Open my ears
that it may be a word
that compels me
to do what is right and just.
Open my heart
that it maybe a word of rejoicing.

O Majesty,
O Splendor
greater than the mountains and the sky!
I am a child of earth
who adores you.
I love you,
And I live
because you have desired me.
Praised be God
whose greatness has reached
to the ends of the earth.
Let me live in your presence
and give thanks through your name!
Amen.

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:

The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**.
phone: [440] 473-3560. e-mail: jbcsc@ix.netcom.com

Our Lady Chapel



Our Lady Chapel is a Roman Catholic community founded in the love of the Father, centered in Christ, and rooted in the Holy Cross tenets of building family and embracing diversity. We are united in our journey of faith through prayer and sacrament, and we seek growth through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in liturgy and outreach, while responding to the needs of humanity.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE:

On **Thursday, December 20th**, at **7:00 PM**, we will celebrate our Advent communal **Penance Service**. This service will consist of scriptural reflections by those involved in the Christmas story. There will also be songs and hymns, and a time to straighten the paths of our lives to ease the arrival of our God. Each of us needs to truly hear in our heart the message of John the Baptist: "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand." The service will last about 45 minutes. There will be an opportunity for individual reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation following the service. Please join us.

**CHRISTMAS GOSPEL PAGEANT:**

Don't forget practice this Sunday, December 18th and next Sunday, December 23rd for the Christmas Gospel Pageant which will be presented at the Children's Christmas Eve Mass at 4:45 PM in the Chapel. Any child up through 8th grade is invited to participate. If you are interested, please come to the practice **this Sunday**. If you cannot make it, then please contact **Hope Herten** at HopeLucille95@yahoo.com.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:**

There is still time to participate in our annual **Giving Tree** and **Adopt-a-Family** activities. Thus far, our community has assisted many from St. Adalbert Parish School and from the West Side Catholic Center and a local retirement Center. **All items need to be at the chapel by 6 PM on Wednesday, December 19th.**

[1] **Giving Tree.** Please take a ornament of the tree. Gifts should be wrapped and the ornament placed on the package.

[2] **Adopt a Family.** We still have **5 families remaining** to be adopted. If you and your family are interested, please contact **Linda McGraw [216-310-8001]** or **Patty at the Chapel Office [440-473-3560]** or szaniszlop@gilmour.org.

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS AND DECORATIONS:**

Again this year we will accept memorial donations to help defray the cost of flowers and decorations which we use in our chapel for the Christmas season. If you are interested in making a donation **in memory of loved ones**, please put the names of the loved ones along with your donation in an envelope, mark it "Christmas Flowers," and either give it to Father John or drop it in the offering basket. We will publish the names of the loved ones in the Bulletin as a memorial. This listing will begin with next week's Bulletin.

**YEAR OF FAITH LOGO EXPLAINED:**

The logo for our Year of Faith — both on our banner in the sanctuary, and frequently seen in the bulletin — is composed of a square, bordered field on which a boat, symbolizing the Church, is represented as sailing on a graphically minimal representation of waves. The main mast of the boat is a cross from which sails are displayed in the form of dynamic signs which compose the trigram of Christ [HIS]. The background to the sails is a sun which, associated with the trigram, refers also to the Eucharist.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Louis Kibling, who has been diagnosed with brain cancer.
- For Frank Fusaro, who is critically ill with cancer.
- For Ursula Wyras, mother of Janet Heryak, and Grandmother of Lillian ['09], Rosa ['12], and Edwin ['17], who is recovering from surgery.
- For Patrick Hurst, who is experiencing complications with blood clots following surgery.
- For Joseph Morgan, who has been diagnosed with cancer.
- For Thomas Lanese ['59], who is critically ill with cancer.
- For Susan Stager, who is preparing for Heart surgery.
- For Asa Sawain who is preparing for major kidney surgery.
- For Brother John Terlisner, C.S.C., who is recovering from brain surgery.
- For Bill Collins who suffered a major stroke.
- For Marlene Zepkin who is recovering from cancer surgery.
- For Francis Bellitto who has cancer.
- For Jonathan Cooney who has cancer.
- For Margaret Keller, sister-in-law of Brother Richard, who is hospitalized for medical testing
- For Ida Urbancic, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Evelyn Catanese, great-aunt of Alyssa Solano ['15] who is critically ill.
- For Katie Bloom ['11] who is undergoing treatment for Hodgkin's Lymphoma.
- For James Keller, nephew of Brother Richard, who is recovering from surgery.
- For Tracy Stokes who is undergoing treatment for brain cancer.
- For Betty Herten, aunt of Hope ['13] and James ['15] Herten, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.
- For Roe Teisl, wife of Director of Student Life, Tiho Teisl, mother of James ['93], Michael ['95], and Stephen ['00] Teisl, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Jenny Hammond, daughter of Librarian, Lynn Hammond, who is ill.
- For Donald Bibbo who is ill.
- For Greg Sazima ['79] who is undergoing treatment and surgery for bone cancer.
- For Frank Furlong, grandfather of Jennifer ['13], Craig ['17] and Sean ['19] who is undergoing treatment for cancer
- For Ann Raymond, grandmother of Upper School Teacher, Adam Lesko ['05] who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Mary Hovanscek, aunt of Benjamin ['24], Nathan ['26], and Evan ['27] Lindley, who has been diagnosed with colon cancer.
- For Kathy Katona, who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- For Clara Joczzyk, friend of Brother Richard, who is seriously ill.
- For Eileen Belak, sister of Maintenance Director, Dan Kohn, and aunt of Matt ['07], who is seriously ill with acute leukemia.
- For Dan Houlahan who is in rehabilitation following a brain aneurysm.
- For Nicholas Zanella, who is undergoing treatment for a rare medical condition.
- For Sister Barbara Johns, I.H.M., who is undergoing treatment for cancer.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Daniel, grandson of College Guidance associate, Kathy Lynch, who is undergoing medical testing.
- For Joe Stec , who is undergoing treatment for a debilitating muscle disease.
- For Pat Bass who is undergoing treatment following a stroke.
- For Tom Rohweder, who is critically ill intensive care
- For Courtney Jacobs Polcar ['96] who is preparing to undergo kidney transplant surgery, and for her brother Nick ['93] who is the donor.
- For Nick Merkel, husband of Math instructor, Mary, and father of Bart ['10], who injured in an accident.
- For Louise Alexander, sister of Queeny Healey, mother of Martha ['75], Mary ['75], Therese ['77], Patrick ['79] and Lee ['85], grandmother of MacKenzie ['11] and Brynn ['14] Alexander, and Genevive ['04], Colin ['05], and Mary Madeleine ['09] Ray, who is seriously ill.
- For Anthony Asher, Gilmour Trustee, father of Anthony ['84] and James ['88], grandfather of Madison ['13], Adam ['16], and Michael ['18] Asher, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- For Angela Newland, who is hospitalized with a serious illness.
- For David Black, father of Davey ['24], who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Emily Evans who is ill.
- For Edith Taft, who is critically ill following a stroke.
- For Sister Angela Plata, I.H.M., who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Dee Zechman who is undergoing treatment for bone cancer.
- For Ken Gabele, nephew of Brother Richard, who is recovering from cancer surgery.
- For Mellisa Meiers who is undergoing treatment for breast cancer.
- For Judith Moran, mother of Peter ['88] and Kelly ['90] Moran, who is seriously ill.
- For Sister Jean Hoelke, S.N.D., aunt of chapel associate, Patty Szanislo, who is recovering from eye surgery.
- For Antoinette Daquila, grandmother of Alyssa Solano ['15], who is battling cancer.
- For Tim Keller, nephew of Brother Richard, who is recovering from back surgery.
- For people who have MS.
- For Roger Schaefer who was seriously injured in a fall.
- For Margaret Carlin, former kitchen staff person, who is undergoing treatment for colon cancer.
- For Gil Lowry Sr., father of upper school instructor, Cyndi Lowry, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Peter Settlemire, brother of Bill ['79], Ted ['81], and Bob ['88] Settlemire, who is critically ill following a brain aneurism.
- For Janine Yardy, daughter of Geraldine Mockler, who is seriously ill.
- For Father Denis St. Marie, who is undergoing treatment for a heart condition and for cancer.
- For Marie Lynch Julius who is seriously ill with cancer.
- For Don Zack, maintenance associate, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Brother Richard Keller, C.S.C. who is undergoing treatment for prostate cancer.
- For Mary McMullen, wife of Tom McMullen ['52], who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For those who have emotional illnesses.

A PROVERB:

18 God wants full custody — not just weekend visits.

FAITH EDUCATION:

To help you plan ahead, here are the December and January Dates from Faith Education — **December 9th and 16th and January 6th, 13th and 27th** Our Sessions go from 8:45—9:45 AM each time we meet, with the hope that our children would then **participate in our 10:00 AM Family Mass.** We have a number of families who attend the chapel regularly who have children who attend non-Catholic schools. **If you have not registered your child for Faith Education, please do so as soon as possible.** Our **Faith Education Program** will help to fulfill your on-going religious education. Our program runs from grades K-8. Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to participate in our Life Teen Program. Thank you for taking care of this important task.



SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, December 16: 3rd Week in Advent	10:00 AM
Monday, December 17:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Tuesday, December 18:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Wednesday, December 19:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Thursday, December 20:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Friday, December 21:	5:30 PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Saturday, December 22: 4th Week in Advent	5:00 PM
Sunday, December 23: 4th Week in Advent	10:00 AM

2013 CALENDARS:

Calendars for the year 2013 are available for your taking. Besides having space for you to write your family appointments, the calendar also contains information about Mass and Reconciliation times here at Our Lady Chapel. We wish to thank the Schulte-Mahon-Murphy Funeral Homes for their generous donation of these 2013 Calendars to us. Please feel free to take as many calendars as you would like. Thank you.



THANK YOU:

A big “Thank You” to **Sue and Ron Ryavec, Judy Morgan and Janet and Mike Heryak**, who joined in to organize and help with the **Birthday party for Jesus** this past weekend. Also thanks to our **EDGE members** who helped with the many crafts. Many gifts for the Children of St. Adalbert’s Parish were donated, along with many items from our giving tree were collected. It was a wonderful occasion to give thanks to God for this beautiful season of Advent.

REFLECTION ON THIS WEEK'S THEME:

It is helpful to our spiritual life to spend more than a glancing moment in our reading of Christmas Cards that we receive — with their notes of good wishes both printed and handwritten. It is good for our souls also to spend time with the pictures or drawings on those cards and notes. We look quickly at the signature. Do that first, as is natural, and then spend time quietly with the card. It will become a prayer and a preparation for the Advent Liturgy. There is much to reflect up in a card — through print and picture. And it is well to offer a pray for the one who affixed a signature.

The prophet Zephaniah brought a message of destruction to the nation, the leaders, and the people of Israel. Disasters will befall them all because of their false worship and disregard for the needs of the poor. This being said, Zephaniah's sad-bad news is replaced by the glad-news — a pledge and an announcement that this very same God of troubling vengeance has remained faithful and actually is already present to them. Fear and disheartenment has been driven away, and the victorious warrior is now singing and dancing with joy over Her return [Zephaniah 3:14-18].

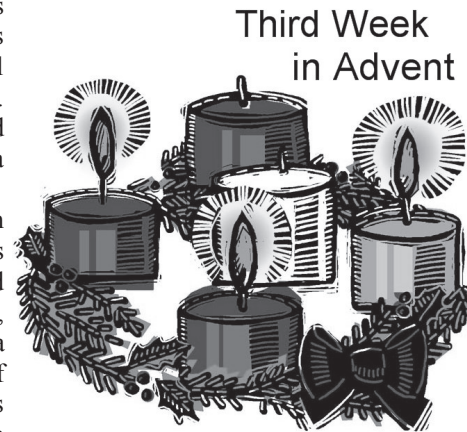
This image is celebrational in its nature — reflective of the ritual festivals of this agricultural land. Instead of a sweeping away, there is a gathering up. Rather than banishment, there is inclusion. The people are to shout for joy that what was held against them has been removed, and they are to relate gratefully with their new and loving King.

It is "Rejoice Sunday" — the week we light the "pink candle" on the Advent Wreath. This year, the third weekend of Advent is a mere nine days before the celebration of the liturgy of the Nativity. The sense of joyful anticipation is emphasized. Jesus, as Victorious Warrior, is drawing near. Even St. Paul, in his letter to the Church at Philippi [4:4-7] echoes strongly this spirit that Someone very good to us and for us is near, and we will be better for that Someone's arrival.

In Luke's Gospel [3:10-18], John the Baptist is still in center stage, predicting the imminent arrival of the Messiah. In response to this preaching, various groups of people line up to find out what they must do to be ready. In a sense we are back to wanting to know what's going to be expected — what will make us ready — for the event. The crowds, the tax collectors, the soldiers — and presumably other groups of influential people — stepped up to make sure they would be wearing the proper clothes and appearing just right and ready.

John tells each in turn to let go of the natural inclinations of their trade or lifestyle. Basically John is telling them to be freed from their fullness of self to receive a life that leads to the fullness of life. John the Baptist uses a familiar farm image to describe one of the missions of the One who is to come — the One who is "waited-for" will have a large fan in His hand and will separate the precious grains of wheat from the expendable chaff. The grain are those who will receive life through the Messiah and in turn give that life through their deeds. The chaff will be those who will choose other ways of receiving meaning for their lives.

Luke ends this revelation with John continuing distributing "Good News". The rejoicing is both the

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers

FOR THE DECEASED:

- For Anne Catalioto
- For Anna Marie Sepchinski [anniversary]
- For Eleanor DeMarco [anniversary]
- For Jeanine Petrella
- For Edward Hurley, grandfather of Tommy Lyons ['13].
- For Bob Antonucci.
- For Roger Hrabak .
- For Michael Crowson [anniversary]
- For Ronald Rasoletti, son of Norma [anniversary]
- For Mary Thalackan, mother of Father Roy Thalackan, C.S.C.
- For Father Matt Miceli, C.S.C.
- For Ted Hirshman, grandfather of Noah Hirshman ['09]
- For Agnes Tomazin.
- For Natasha Kazakevich.
- For William Brown, grandfather of Alexa Jackson ['14].
- For Lucille Andonian, mother-in-law of Matthew Moriarty ['74], grandmother of Connor ['12] and Ian ['16] Moriarty.
- For Brother Donald McIntyre, C.S.C.
- For Antoinette Ross, grandmother of Ellen ['06] and former Gilmour student Andrew Pohly.
- For Irene Spirko.
- For Fred Bertolini, brother of former Residence associate director, Gloria Cotton.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For those who struggle with family relationships.
- For all those looking for employment.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For a family going through a difficult time.
- For all caregivers.
- For a special intention.
- For all service men and women serving our country, and for their families.

BEING LIVING SIGNS OF LOVE:

Jesus' whole life was a witness to his Father's love, and Jesus calls his followers to carry on that witness in his Name. We, as followers of Jesus, are sent into this world to be visible signs of God's unconditional love. Thus, we are not first of all judged by what we say, but by what we live. When people say of us: "See how they love one another," they catch a glimpse of the Kingdom of God that Jesus announced and are drawn to it as by a magnet. In a world so torn apart by rivalry, anger, and hatred, we have the privileged vocation to be living signs of a love that can bridge all divisions and heal all wounds.

LIVING “REAL JOY”:

One should be careful in reading the prophet Zephaniah [3:14-18] — certainly one of the most “joyful” oracles in the entire bible. But when it’s returned to its original historical context, it isn’t everything it appears to be. Zephaniah ministers in the last part of the seventh century BCE — during the reign of Josiah, a time of Jewish reform. Chronologically, he’s a contemporary of Jeremiah.

Scripture scholars always note that during Josiah’s reforming reign, Jeremiah says practically nothing. Years ago, most commentators explained Jeremiah’s silence by reasoning that Josiah’s reform had taken away his “thunder” — the king was accomplishing what the prophet wanted accomplished. There was no reason to reinvent the wheel. But recently, scholars — like the late Carroll Stuhlmueller — attribute the prophet’s silence to a conviction that reform from the top down never works. Though Jeremiah was convinced that Josiah’s intentions were good, he was just as convinced his reform would fail. Jeremiah didn’t want to be identified with that kind of reform. He knew that unless such a movement comes from the bottom up, it’ll never last. When the king dies, the reform dies.

And that’s exactly what happened. After Josiah was killed in battle, Jeremiah again starts to prophesy — telling his people that the only thing that will re-establish authentic Judaism will be the total destruction of the institution, and the rebuilding of Jewish faith during the Babylonian Exile.

Of course, if we had our druthers, we’d opt to listen to Zephaniah instead of Jeremiah — it’s far easier to bring about God’s will by decree than it is to daily live that will in the “trenches”.

Luke’s prophetic John the Baptizer works in those trenches [Luke 3:10-18]. When asked by some in the crowd: “What should we do?”, John responds in very practical ways — “Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none. And whoever has food should do likewise. Do not practice extortion, do not falsely accuse or bully anyone.” As much as his audience is looking forward to a Messiah’s arrival — someone who will clean up the mess they’re in — the Baptizer is much more interested in how each of them can begin cleaning up that mess in his or her own life. John presumes that, even when the Messiah arrives, he’ll simply intensify and carry through on the message that he was already proclaiming.

Paul agrees — though some might overlook his agreement in his letter to the Church at Philippi [4:4-7]. The Christmas season makes it easy to misinterpret his statement — “The Lord is near!” Many who hear it — just two weeks from Christmas — will think it refers to the historical Jesus’ birth. But Paul is actually talking about the risen Jesus’ Parousia. And even though he encourages his Philippian community to pray to and petition God, he also reminds them: “Your kindness should be known to all.” The Apostle presumes our prayers will always be accompanied by concrete acts of love.

Certainly this is a joyful time of year. Yet, the reason for Christian joy doesn’t revolve around Jesus’ birth at Bethlehem — it springs from his dying and rising in Jerusalem. We can do nothing to imitate the former, but unless we imitate the latter, we’re still “in our sins”.

It’s not difficult to stand and cheer Jesus’ earthly arrival. But it’s another thing to commit ourselves to an ongoing life of dying and rising.

It is probably very true to say that Jeremiah would say very little during this “joyful” time of the year. His biting oracles would only kick in after the Christmas season is finally over.

—taken from the writings of Father Roger Karban, which appear on the internet

**HOW TRUE:**

God is not necessarily looking for ability, He is looking for availability.

giving and the receiving of the News of the coming of the presence of the Good. This is a partial reason for the giving of gifts during this Advent and Christmas season — gifts are meant to express something about the giver, the receiver, and something about the relationship between both.

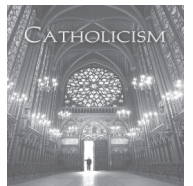
The seven sacraments within the Catholic Church say the same kind of things as gifts of God. What would be wonderful for all of us would be if we — in the spirit of Advent and Christmas — give, not “presents”, but “sacraments”. These big and little things are gestures expressive of the giver, the receiver, and the relationship between both. God does this in the sending of the Good News in Christ. The things we give must have accompanying notes verbally expressing or making explicit what is being said by the gift. We are saying something about our feelings, our reverence for the receiver, and something explicit about our union or love. The gift says something of the good news about our relationship, and the words complete it and make it all a Christmas “Presence” and Christmas sacrament within the present we are sharing.

John was preparing to present Jesus, and made it explicit by his preaching. In giving and receiving Christmas sacraments we are symbolizing in our little spiritual way — exactly what God is doing every time we gather at the Eucharist, and every time we live out God’s Grace.

—taken from the writings of Father Larry Gillick, S.J., which appear on the internet

CATHOLICISM — A JOURNEY DEEP INTO FAITH:

Catholicism is a series of presentations/videos that has received rave reviews by all who have seen them. **Our series will meet next on Wednesday, January 9th, at 6:30 PM** when we will discuss the **mystical union of Christ and the Church**. We will continue to view various parts of the series on a monthly basis. **Each video will be followed by a group discussion and question period.** *Catholicism* presents a strong ecclesial dimension of the Catholic Faith — God’s revelation through Jesus Christ and His Church. **You do not have to see previous parts in order to join in this experience — each presentation is unique onto itself.** The series has been put together by Father Robert Barron, a priest in the archdiocese of Chicago. Each presentation centers on what Catholics believe and why, so all Catholics can come to a deeper understanding of the Catholic Faith. Not a video lecture, Church history or scripture study, this engaging and interesting formational program uses the art, architecture, literature, music and all the treasures of the Catholic tradition to illuminate the timeless teachings of the Church. *Catholicism* has received rave reviews by all who have seen it. **Light refreshments will be served at each of our sessions.** Please plan on joining us. Contact the chapel office if you have any questions.

**HOW MANY PLACES HAVE YOU BEEN IN?**

I have been in many places throughout my travels. But I’ve never been in Cahoots. Apparently, you can’t go alone. You have to be in Cahoots with someone. I’ve never been in Cognito. I hear that no one recognizes you there. I have, however, been in Sane. They don’t have an airport; you have to be driven there. I have made several trips there, thanks to my friends, family, and work. I live close, so it’s a short drive. I would like to go to Conclusions, but you have to jump, and I’m not too much on physical activity anymore. I have also been in Dout. That is a sad place to go, and I try not to visit there too often. I’ve been in Flexible, but only when it was very important to stand firm. Sometimes, I’m in Capable, and I go there more often as I’m getting older. One of my favorite places to be is in Suspense. It really gets the adrenaline flowing and pumps up the old heart. People keep telling me I’m in Denial, but I’m positive that I have never been there before.

GETTING READY FOR CHRISTMAS IS A “MESSY” JOB:

An elderly person in Kansas City went each day to the newspaper box on the corner. She placed her money in the slot, opened the door, and took as many newspapers as were there. Finally she was caught. The charge was that she was selling the papers. She was acquitted. In fact, she was taking them back to her home to use as fuel. She wanted to remember what warmth felt like for a few moments each day.

Did you know that one third of our fellow citizens in the United States are either badly fed, or living in sub-standard housing, or wearing rags? Sometimes they suffer from all three afflictions. The situation deteriorates daily. Our privately funded Soup Kitchens are sometimes literally running out of soup. Incidentally, contrary to popular prejudice, the majority of our poor are white — and they are children. We Americans have the capability to watch a comet strike Jupiter, or a rover to land on and explore Mars, but we have failed to give an old woman in Kansas City fuel for her house.

Why should this tale of woe excite us as we share in this third week in Advent? After all, we can already see beautifully wrapped gifts and bright Christmas trees. The answer is to be found in Luke’s Gospel [3:10-18] — it grabs us rudely by the throat, and reminds us that ours is a social Gospel. It is not merely a question of God and me, but rather God, me, and the other person. This is so especially when the other person is going down for the third time.

Many Catholics charge that the Church, priests, and religious are oftentimes “off the mark”. People get particularly unhappy whenever the Church speaks or acts on the nitty-gritty matters of economic questions — or other similar type topics. The Church, many parishioners say, should confine itself to the enunciation of general moral principles and guidelines.

Unhappily for these critics, no one bothered to share their program with John the Baptizer — or John the Disturber, as James Tahaney calls him. What can be more explicit about moral questions than the three answers given by John to questions put to him?



One section of his audience asked him: “What must we do then?” In answer, John said: “If anyone has two overcoats, he must share with the man who has none; and the one with an extra loaf of bread must do the same.” John the Disturber is not telling his audience to give away all they have. Rather, he is advising them to give out of their surplus.

Then it’s the tax collectors’ turn: “Master, what must we do?” John’s answer was swift: “Do not rob taxpayers blind.” Finally the military. “What about us?” John continues on a roll: “Don’t bully people — hold no kangaroo court-martials. Do not shake anyone down.”

This advice from this Jewish holy man can hardly be called the general principles of morality. Rather, the Disturber is crossing the “t’s” and dotting the “I’s”.

A spiritual director at a seminary was admirably nicknamed John the Baptist by the students. He not only lived like the Baptizer, but also he spoke like him to them. Would anyone be tempted to give us such a nickname? I fear not.

In his letter to the Church at Philippi [4:4-7], St. Paul endorses the advice of the Disturber. Philippi is a small Christian colony in Greece. It had been founded by Philip, the father of Alexander the Great, and so its name. Paul writes: “Let your generosity be manifest to all.” As a matter of fact, this advice to

Small wonder we often trudge home with a hangover, emptier, more tired, more alone. A hangover is an infallible sign that somewhere we missed a signpost.

But we must continue to try. Christ came and declared a wedding — a feast, a celebration — at the heart of life. He shocked people as much by the way He enjoyed His life as by the way He gave it up. In the end, He was rejected as much for His message of enjoyment as for His message of asceticism. That is still true today. We tend to read the gospels selectively so as to ignore Jesus’ positive challenge to enjoy without guilt.

And in that lies our problem. Because we are never challenged religiously and in the name of Jesus, to enjoy — deeply and without guilt — the very human pleasures of our lives, our healthy, God-given, need for pleasure and enjoyment tends to go underground. We still seek pleasure and enjoyment, but now we split them off from what is religious and holy, and “steal them from God”, rather than enjoy them simply and religiously. That is one of the main reasons why we substitute excess for enjoyment, and an obliterated consciousness for heightened awareness.

God has given us permission to enjoy life and its pleasures. That truth, too, needs to be a central part of our religious teaching. Pleasure is God’s gift — not the forbidden fruit.

—taken from the writings of Father Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I., which appear on the internet

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: Genesis 49:2-10, Matthew 1:1-17

Tuesday: Jeremiah 23:5-8, Matthew 1:18-25

Wednesday: Judges 13:2-25, Luke 1:5-25

Thursday: Isaiah 7:10-14, Luke 1:26-38

Friday: Song of Songs 2:8-14, Luke 1:39-45

Saturday: 1 Samuel 1:24-28, Luke 1:46-56

4th Week in Advent: Micah 5:1-4, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-45

ALTAR SERVERS and LECTORS:

We continue to be in need of servers and lectors. **Any student who is in the 3rd [and up] grade is invited to become an altar server; any student who is in the 5th [and up] grade is invited to become a lector.** These are both wonderful ministries — a great way to serve God and the faith community. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, **please give your name to Father John.** You do not have to attend Gilmour to be an altar server, lector, or to be involved in any other ministry at Our Lady Chapel. **Please call the chapel office [440-473-3560].**

**STAGES OF LIFE:**

Every stage of life has something to teach us that enables us to live the next one with hope and courage. Think of the stages of your own life. What did you learn in each of them that is now part of your energy, your strength, and without which this one would not be possible?

OUR STRUGGLE TO CELEBRATE:

It's hard to celebrate properly. We want to, but we don't know how. Mostly we celebrate badly because our idea of celebration is to overdo things. We try to celebrate by taking ordinary things — eating, drinking, singing, telling stories, playing — to excess. Celebration for many of us means over-eating, over-drinking, loud socializing, drunken singing, and staying at parties into the wee hours of the morning — all in the hope that somehow in all that excess, we will achieve celebration — whatever that means. But, for all our frenzied effort, there is precious little genuine enjoyment.

Occasionally, we do succeed and genuinely celebrate. At those times, we feel ourselves more deeply joined to others, widened, made larger, made more aware, made more playful, and sense more deeply the love and joy that lie at the heart of life. But that rarely happens, and it never happens when we are in frenzy. Too often our celebrations are followed by a hangover — of one kind or another. Why?

The reasons for this are complex, deep, and mostly hidden from us.

Perhaps the primary reason why we find it so difficult to genuinely celebrate is that we seem to lack the capacity to simply enjoy things — to take life, pleasure, love, and enjoyment as a gift from God, pure and simple. It's not that we lack the capacity to do this; it's more that this capacity in us is generally buried under a mound of guilt. What this means is that often we cannot enjoy legitimate pleasure because somehow — however unconsciously — we sense what is articulated in the ancient myths — namely, that in enjoying pleasure, we are somehow stealing something from God.

We tend to blame religion for this, but this neurosis is universal — as much outside of religious circles as inside them. Somehow, in the name of the divine, most everyone feels guilt in pleasure.

And because of this, we tend to alternate between rebellious enjoyment — “pleasure we steal from God” — and joyless duty — a dutiful life, but without genuine pleasure and enjoyment. We never seem to be able to genuinely celebrate. I say genuinely because, paradoxically, our incapacity to enjoy is the very thing that pushes us into pseudo-celebration, hedonism, and an unhealthy pursuit of pleasure.

Simply put, because we struggle to enjoy ourselves simply, we pursue enjoyment too much, and substitute excess for enjoyment.

And this often leads to a dangerous confusion wherein we substitute pleasure for enjoyment, excess for ecstasy, and the obliteration of consciousness for heightened awareness. The champagne-soaked athletes celebrating a major victory, and the mindless frenzy of a Madi Gras give us all the video footage we need to understand this. But excess isn't enjoyment, nor is obliterated consciousness heightened awareness. They are weak, unsatisfying substitutes.

The very purpose of celebration is to heighten and intensify the meaning of something — a birthday, a wedding, a major achievement, a victory, a graduation, the birth of a child, the beginning or ending of a year. These events demand to be shared, heightened, widened, and trumpeted. We have a congenital need to celebrate, and this is very healthy.

What does it mean to celebrate something? To celebrate an occasion is to heighten it, share it, savor it, and enlarge it. We also celebrate in order to link ourselves more fully to others, to be playful, to intensify a feeling, to bring ourselves to ecstasy, and, more commonly, just to rest and unwind. But because of our incapacity to enjoy something simply, we often try to create that enjoyment through excess, and seek the ecstasy of heightened self-awareness in the obliteration of our consciousness.



be generous with a five dollar bill is a broken record in the letters of Paul [see Romans, Galatians, Hebrews, and both letters to the Corinthians]. Paul did not confine himself to enunciating the general principles of ethical conduct.

Rather, he was taking direct aim at the checkbooks of his followers. No doubt they were making as many moans about Paul of Tarsus as we do when people ask us for the poor. The human condition is the human condition — no matter what the century.

But do keep in mind that Advent is designed to give a serious electrical shock to one's spiritual nervous system. It is true that Jesus cannot be born again — but, as Tahaney notes, we can! And that really is what Advent is all about. It is unabashedly demanding that we give birth to our best selves.

—taken from the writings of Father James Gilhooly which appear on the internet

ENVELOPES:

- When you need a **new supply** of envelopes, please feel free to take a supply of them from the table in the vestibule, or call Father John at the Campus Ministry Office [473-3560].
- When you **use** your envelope, please make sure that **your number** is on it. If you need to know your number, please call the Campus Ministry Office. Thanks.

ATTENDANCE:

If you attend Mass regularly here at Our Lady Chapel, it would be helpful if you filled out a form [name, address, phone number, children, etc.] indicating this fact, if you have not already done so. Such information not only helps us to know who is attending Our Lady Chapel; it also is of great assistance to us in record keeping [for our friend, the IRS] of any contributions which you may make.

WEEKLY OFFERING:

Baskets will be passed during the “Preparation Rite” and will be brought to the altar as part of the Offerings to help offset chapel daily operating expenses. When you choose to use the envelopes, your donations to Our Lady Chapel will be acknowledged so that you have a record for the IRS.

Total Offerings: Friday [12/7/12]	_____	\$ 296.00
Total Offerings: Saturday [12/8/12]	-----	\$ 1,306.00
Total Offerings: Sunday [12/9/12]	-----	\$ 992.00

CLEAN OUT THOSE CLOSETS AND SERVE OTHERS:

Winter is here. It is another time to once again clean out the closets. Clothing that no longer fits, or which was replaced by new items, becomes great items for others. Always remember the words of Jesus: “The poor you shall always have with you” [Matthew 26:11]. Please continue to bring your **gently used** men's, women's and children's clothing to the Lennon Board Room, or place it in the cedar chest which is located in the chapel narthex of the Chapel [just press the key button to open the chest]. We partner with Fatima Center to help provide clothing for general use. Also, **business work clothing for this season is especially needed. The Fatima Center helps men and women prepare for job interviews.** If you have some of these items, this would be a good time to send them along. Clothing for all seasons is accepted, but please try to keep in mind that storage facilities are limited at Fatima — so it would help if you could focus on winter items at this time. You may pick up a tax form when you drop off the clothing here at Our Lady Chapel — there are forms in the cedar chest. Clothing may be brought on the weekend, or during the week. Thank you. **If you have any questions, please contact Patty in the chapel office [440-473-3560].**



WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

Today, in Luke's Gospel [3:10-18] different groups of people ask John the Baptist: "What should we do?" As a priest, I certainly am not John the Baptist, yet people have asked me a similar question — "Father, is there any way I can help? Just tell me what you need. I would be glad to help any way that I can." Certainly the generosity is appreciated — there are many times when priests have very specific needs. But this time, I want to respond in a way that I think John the Baptist would respond — with something that would apply very specifically to each person. So "what should we do?" I have 3 requests:

The first request will come as no surprise — **I want you to pray.** How many of us give at least 20 minutes a day to prayer? Twenty minutes — preferably at the beginning of your day. Find a quiet spot with your Bible, prayer book, a crucifix, or a sacred image. Speak your gratitude to God, and ask for help and guidance. The 20 minutes might grow into 30 or an hour. Most of us have no trouble finding that amount of time if there is a good program on TV. Perhaps the prayer will lead to daily Mass. Whatever happens, it will affect the rest of the day.

The discipline of daily prayer leads to the second request — **I want you to build a family.** In two weeks we will see that Jesus spent 90% of his earthly life with his extended family — Joseph and Mary and all the "brothers and sisters" — what Hispanics people call: *Primos hermanos* — brother cousins.

If you follow Jesus' example and take up this challenge to build a family, you will find yourself in the front lines of a war. The great spiritual battle of our age centers on the family. Satan has launched an all-out assault on marriage and family. To engage this battle, you must put on the armor of God. When we clothe ourselves in the armor of God, our most essential weapon is prayer. But there also has to be study — especially of the Bible — and the virtues of humility, patience, forgiveness, chastity, and endurance.

One day we will each stand individually before God's judgment seat, but we do not come to God alone — we come to Him as part of a family. Sometimes young couples will say that they are unsure about baptizing their children — they are unsure of their faith. And while it is important for them to be honest, it is also true that they are not alone — they are part of a bigger family that wants to support them. Those young families are precious to the Church, and every parish. They have the most important job in our society and in our Church.

And that leads to the third request. Our basic work here below is to build families — that is the great spiritual battle. That war will not be won in a day or even a year, but there is something we each need to do today — **I want you to take a step.** Take a step in your parish which is a family of families. You do have something to give. Each of us is charged with Stewardship — not just "giving money", but being a part of a parish ministry or service.

Take a step today. When you pray, thank God for the time, abilities, and resources that he placed in your hands. And ask him what way you can use them right here at Our Lady Chapel — or whatever parish you belong to. So much is happening in these last ten days before Christmas — music, liturgies, help for the needy, plans for the new year. This is not asking you to add one more thing to your packed schedule, but rather to reflect on your priorities — ask God where you can best use the precious gifts he has given you.



Nothing — no one — can take the Peace of Christ from us. But we can surrender it. We can trade it for the turmoil that is sin. We can give up our union with God so that we can show disrespect to another person, or group of people. Or we can take a step away from God into the oblivion that the world says is "normal behavior" for a person our age — no matter what our age may be. For example, some people will celebrate Christmas — the birth of the Prince of Peace — by getting drunk and giving up their union with God — giving up their peace. They give up their core for the sake of that which is on the fringe of their lives. And for them, Christmas — the celebration of the Prince of Peace — turns into turmoil — a celebration of the prince of the world, the devil.

That phrase — "The peace of God that surpasses all understanding" — reminds us that no one can understand what union to God is other than those who are united to Him. It is beyond the understanding of the world. A few years ago, a young Greek Orthodox priest stationed in Tarpon Springs was assaulted in Tampa. He didn't understand English well, and he had asked for directions. The man he asked beat him with a tire iron. The priest forgave his attacker. Many could not understand how he could forgive the person who attacked him. Those who are united to God understood. The one united to God would say: "My assailant hurt my body, I am not going to let him destroy my soul."

We have all been assaulted at various times in our lives. It is normal to be under attack. We live in a world that rejects God. Of course we will be attacked — evil always attacks good. Those who do not have the courage to choose God are always going to attack those who do choose Him. It is diabolical jealousy — jealousy of another person's determination to live a spiritual life. Even if others don't mean to attack a particular person, their choice of evil will result in good people suffering. Ask any victim of an accident caused by a drunk driver. The driver didn't mean to hurt or kill someone, but he or she did mean to lose his or her rationality and then drive. Ask any family living in turmoil due to the infidelity of one of the parents. The person did not want to hurt his or her children, but he or she did choose to be immoral. When we suffer in ways similar to these, we need to remind ourselves that we cannot allow anyone or any situation in life to destroy our union with God. Jesus spoke about this when He said: "Do not be afraid of the one who can destroy the body, but not destroy the soul" [Matthew 10: 28].

Perhaps all this might not seem to be related to "Rejoice" weekend. But our union with Jesus Christ is the source of our joy. We would not have this union had He not come among us as one of us — our celebration of Christmas. We would not have His Peace if He did not accept the results of our turmoil on the cross and then conquer death giving us His Life — our celebration of Easter.

We have the greatest of all gifts — we possess Jesus Christ. Nothing else matters in this life, and nothing else of value will exist in the next life. We don't know what the future will bring. But we are not afraid of the unknown. We are not anxious because we have the gift that surpasses the understanding of the world — we have the Lord.

"Peace I give you," the Lord said. He is the Prince of Peace.

Rejoice!

—taken from the writings for Father Joseph Pellegrino, which appear on the internet.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

We are beginning to discern a new group of Eucharistic Ministers who would undergo training soon. If you feel that the Lord is calling you to this ministry, we would be delighted to include you in that ministry here at Our Lady Chapel. Both adults and teens [must be going into Senior year of High School] are welcome to participate in this very special ministry. We are need of ministers for both our Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. **Contact Father John or the chapel office [440-473-3560] if you feel called to this ministry.**



THE PEACE THAT SURPASSES ALL UNDERSTANDING:

“The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all, but in everything — by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving — make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” [Philippians 4:4-7]. When Paul wrote this fledgling Christian community, it was facing persecution. “What will tomorrow bring?” they asked. They were anxious. Anxiety is the fear of the unknown. Paul tells them that their future is not a mystery — it is not unknown. Whatever happens, God will care for them. They needed to remember that God is in control. The Lord is near. They needed to pray to Him, and then trust in Him. Then, instead of anxiety, they will have peace — a peace that surpasses all understanding.

This is “Gaudete” or Rejoice Weekend in the Advent season. We reflect on the Peace of Christ. In John’s gospel, Jesus says: “Peace I bequeath to you, my own peace I give you, a peace which the world cannot give, this is my gift to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid” [John 14:27]. The peace of the Lord is quite different than the mere cessation of hostility between warring countries — or relatives. The peace of the Lord refers to union with God.

Think about it. We have peace when we are united to God; we have turmoil when we are at odds with our Creator. We lose our peace when we allow sin into our lives. Sin itself is the opposite of God — it is chaos. But when we throw sin out, usually through a good confession and a determination to live for the Lord, we feel this overwhelming comfort, this warmth, this presence of God — this peace. Difficult situations will still crop up in our lives; hard choices will still have to be made. But united to God, we can make these choices in peace.

The martyrs in dungeons waiting to be tortured and/or killed, waiting to die, waited in peace. And St. Maximilian Kolbe, the saint of Auschwitz, who asked that he be killed instead of Franciszek Gajownachek, a young father whom the Nazis had picked for execution, sat in peace in the starvation cell united to God, waiting to die. St. Margaret Ward also showed the courage of her conviction, and the peace that union with Christ brings regardless of what was happening around her or to her. You probably never heard of her. I think it is important that we be aware of the heroic women of our Church as well as the heroic men. Margaret Ward was an English Catholic during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I. St. Margaret refused to tell the whereabouts of a priest she helped escape from prison. She was arrested and tortured. Then her captors pretended to be merciful, and told her that this all would all end if she renounced her faith. With all these horrible things happening to her, she still remained at peace until they finally killed her. Her persecutors simply could not take the peace of Christ from her. And they tried with the viciousness of the devils they were.

Nor can anyone, or anything, take the peace of Christ from us. I have met — and perhaps you have met — dying people who knew their physical lives were coming to an end, but also remained peaceful because they looked forward to full union with the Lord. I have met people who are overwhelmed with grief at the loss of a loved one — particularly a child — but who still clung to the Peace of Christ in the core of their being. About thirteen years ago, one of the greatest American bishops of the last century — Cardinal Joseph Bernardine of Chicago — wrote a little book telling about a false accusation made against him, and about his dealing with terminal cancer. He entitled the book: *The Gift of Peace*. You need to get it and read it if you have not already done so.



So, what should we do? Pray, build a family, take a step. Maybe you thought I was going to invite you to some exotic place. But you know what? You will find in these exotic places the same challenges that you face every day.

You will notice that when the people asked John: “What should we do?”, he did not give exotic advice. He mentioned ordinary things — share what you have, tell the truth, be consistent — live by the same rules that you expect others to follow. Be grateful for what you’ve got — stop comparing yourself to others. These are very ordinary words of advice. You can find them in all the great teachers. The problem is living them. That’s why we need the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.

What, then, should we do? Don’t wait for the New Year. Start today — twenty minutes of prayer at least, build a family, and take a step. If you do this, God will lift that anxiety for your heart, and give you what St. Paul describes as “the peace of God that surpasses all understanding” [Philippians 4:4-7].

—taken from the writings of Father Phil Bloom, which appear on the internet.

SUPPORT OUR LIFETEEN PROJECT — JANUARY 19-20:

Because of the Christmas season, when everyone “overwhelms” pantries with donations, we are going to have our next collection in January. Our Teens have undertaken a project to keep the pantry filled with wholesome foods at the Ronald McDonald House. As you know, the Ronald McDonald House is the residential facility in University Circle for families with children in the hospital, or who reside at Ronald McDonald House while their child is receiving outpatient treatment. Very often, a family can miss meals because of the hospital schedule. We will keep the pantry filled with foods that will enable them to “have a meal on the run” when they return. **Every 3rd Weekend of the month, we will collect food items for the pantry, which our teens will then take down to Ronald McDonald House and place in their pantry.** Here is what we need: **Cereal, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, Mayonnaise, Canned tuna and chicken, Paper Plates [no Styrofoam, please], and Paper Bowls.** **We do not need commercial size products — just the regular sizes that you buy for your family.** Just place the items in the narthex of the chapel — right by the “registration table”, and we will take them from there. We hope you will join us in this wonderful outreach to families who are going through tough times.

**REACHING OUT:**

Ed Boulware continues his project to help collect **USO Care Packages** for our troops across the world and their families. **One of the greatest needs** that the troops have during this time is their families — many of the families of our troops suffer greatly because of the lack of income when the “breadwinner” is overseas. **Thus, the USO has begun collecting packages for the families of the troops.** The items needed are common household non-perishables and paper products. **Letters, cards of encouragement, and children’s drawings for our troops will continue to be sent to them. Food supplies will be distributed to their families.** Ed and his wife, Marie, continue to take all donations to the “drop off area in Chagrin Falls. **Drop off donations in the office at Our Lady Chapel.** If you have any questions, please call **Ed Boulware** at **440-564-9345**.

**KNOW THIS:**

Never be ashamed of the scars that life has left you with. A scar means the hurt is over, the wound is closed, you endured the pain, and God has healed you.

DO YOU HAVE ROOM? — SILENCE, PRAYER, & ADVENT:

In case you haven't seen a calendar, looked at people's front yards, or watched enough of those ridiculous cars-with-huge-ribbons-on-them commercials — because most people we know regularly get a new car for Christmas — Christmas is coming soon. The Church celebrates Advent — a time of preparation — for the four weeks leading up to Christmas. I never really used to get into Advent; it seemed like an unnecessary reminder when we already have radio stations playing Christmas music, Christmas episodes of our favorite TV shows, and those red Starbucks cups to let us know that Jesus' birth is just around the corner. I knew that I was supposed to get ready for Christmas, but what does that even mean? Doesn't God know how many things I already have going on? Why would He want to add to my stress?

A few years ago, someone told me that Advent is like a mini-Lent. These two liturgical seasons are both supposed to be times of preparation, prayer, and fasting. That year I decided to try something different. Instead of adding something to my life, I was going to subtract. I can't make time for God when there's no room left in my schedule. I needed to get rid of something to give Him some space in my day.

I decided to give up listening to music in my car. I spend a lot of time in the car every day, so I thought it might be a good idea to have some quiet time. I had no idea how tough it would be. I spent the first few days singing at the top of my lungs to fill the void left by the silence — fortunately Advent is scheduled for the cold part of the year, so my windows were up and other drivers didn't seem to notice.

Whenever things are quiet, I'm always surprised by how loud it is inside my head — I'm always thinking about a million different things. The idea of having silence sounded good, but I realized pretty quickly that there was still so much distraction. Maybe that's part of the reason why I always want to have some music on — because it helps drown out the noise.

After a while, I began to pray in my car. I simply told God about every thought, hope, and fear that went through my head. I also learned to listen for His voice — to hear Him speak in silence, and remind me of His love for me, and His plan to provide for every need.

I've taken the same approach to Advent this year, and God's slowly teaching me how to pray again — when I'm not belting out songs I don't even like.

As we prepare for Christmas this year, rather than trying to add more to our lives, let's try to subtract something. When it was time for Jesus to be born, Joseph and Mary weren't looking for the busiest place in town — they just needed somewhere that had a space available.

What can you subtract from your life to make room for Jesus?

What if you gave up listening to music? Or video games, or Facebook or Twitter — even if it's only one or two days a week? What if you committed to spending 10-15 minutes in prayer each day? Or turned your phone off for a while to be more present to your family?

Even if your life seems crazy, and it's hard to believe that God would want to make His home in you, remember that Jesus was born in a stable and laid in feeding trough for animals. All He needs is space — “While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn” [Luke 2:7].

—taken from the writings of Brian Kissinger, an associate of the Bible Geek

*Be still and know
that I am God.*

LIFE TEEN:

Life Teen Youth Group meets **EVERY SUNDAY at 11:30 AM**. All who are in grades 9--12 are invited to join us and get to know what the Life Teen is all about. The meetings will take place in the **Lennon Board Room** following the **10:00 AM Mass**. [Of course, we stop to get our donuts first]. Life Teen is open to all **high school aged young people**. Come and try us out. We have a great deal of fun together and we grow in our faith at the same time. **Come even if you are unable to make the Mass**. Please continue to remember all our teens and young people in your prayers.

**MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP — THE EDGE:**

Our Middle School Youth Group — THE EDGE — meets next on **Sunday, January 6th from 11:30 AM — 1:00 PM**. There is always **food, friendship, and fun**. All who are in grades 6-8 are invited to join us. Come and find out what the **EDGE** is all about. If you have not joined us before, that's OK. **Just call the office and let us know that you are going to be coming**. We ask you to do this because there will be food involved. Our **EDGE** Youth Group has a Faith-Service-Social component, and we need your help. Join in on an exciting happening. **Call the Chapel Office at 440-473-3560**. Come to learn what the **EDGE** is all about. Join us for a fun filled faith experience. All are welcome. If you cannot make our meeting on December 2nd, plan on joining us on Sunday, January 27th when we will meet again.

**SCHEDULE OF ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SERVICES:**

- **Thursday, December 20 — Communal Penance Service at 7:00 PM**
- **December 22-23 — regular weekend schedule**
- **Monday, December 24 —**
 - 4:45 PM — Children's Christmas Eve Mass**
 - 10:00 PM — Traditional Christmas Eve Mass**
- **Tuesday, December 25 — Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 AM**
- **December 29-30 — regular weekend schedule**
- **Monday, December 31 — New Year's Eve Mass at 5:30 PM**
- **January 5-6 — Regular weekend schedule.**

XLT AT CENTER FOR PASTORAL LEADERSHIP:

The next XLT will be held at the Center for Pastoral Leadership — where the FEST occurred — on **Tuesday, January 15th at 7:00 PM**. Join with many teens and families from across the diocese for this special evening of Prayer, Praise, and Adoration. If you have never been to XLT before, you are in for a marvelous spiritual experience. Spend a renewing evening with Jesus. Make plans to attend.

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Father John will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you on **every Saturday** between **3:30 – 4:00 PM**. Confessions are also available “by appointment.” The Reconciliation Room is located in the small chapel directly across from Father John's Office.

