

## Welcome!

We're here to help you begin or continue your faith journey, so you can find true peace, happiness and purpose in life. If you would like to join one of our parishes, contact any staff member and we will be honored to officially welcome you home!

## Tri-Parish Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m. at St. Joseph (1st, 3rd, 5th)  
At St. Matthew (2nd, 4th)  
Sunday 9:00 am at St. Teresa

Weekdays: Please see Inside Bulletin

Holy Days See Inside Bulletin

Eucharistic Adoration held before daily Mass

## Tri-Parish Office

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4:30pm  
Address: 104 West Silver Street  
Mapleton, Minnesota 56065  
Phone: (507) 524-3127  
Email: [sjsmst@hickorytech.net](mailto:sjsmst@hickorytech.net)  
Website: [www.sjsmst.org](http://www.sjsmst.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SJSMST](http://www.facebook.com/SJSMST)  
Mass Times: (507) 387-8806

## Tri-Parish Staff

Father Jason Kern, Pastor  
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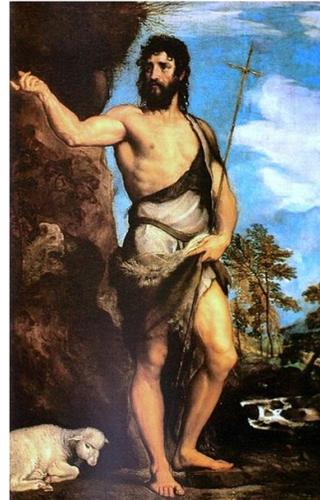
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Jonah Lippert Tri-parish Director of  
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## December 4, 2016 Second Sunday of Advent



# Repent

A voice of one crying out in the desert,  
Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight his paths.

Matthew 3:3

### The Sacrament of Baptism

Pre-Baptism preparation is required. Please contact the office at least one month before the desired date.

**The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick** Please notify the office if you or a family member is in the hospital or homebound and would like a pastoral visit.

### The Sacrament of Reconciliation

One half hour before each weekend Mass, 8a.m. Thursday at St. Teresa or by private appt. with Fr. Kern

### The Sacrament of Marriage

All Catholics need to meet with the priest or deacon at least 6 months before being married. Contact the office at least 6 months in advance of your wedding.



## From the Heart by Fr. Jason Kern

Come, let us adore Him! Next weekend we will have an hour of prayer asking the Lord for a deepening of our Catholic faith. From 11am-Noon we will have an hour of prayer including music to draw us deeper into the mystery of God's love and mercy. Next Sunday is Gaudete Sunday or Rejoice Sunday as we rejoice in the truth of our salvation drawing near. Our Savior is coming quickly and so to prepare our hearts we will have this time of prayer. I hope you might join us for this time to rejoice as a Tri-Parish in the gift of our Savior. Adoration will continue each Sunday of Advent from 10am-10pm and you are welcome to stop in at St. Teresa Church to pray anytime during the day to spend some quiet prayer with our Eucharistic Lord.

This Thursday is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and is a holy day of obligation. This wonderful feast of our Lady reminds us of our call to purity as Mary, the Mother of Jesus is conceived in the womb of St. Anne her mother without the state of original sin that we are each born into. Original sin is the state of separation from God that because of the original fall of Adam and Eve all of humanity inherits this separation or state of guilt where we must be reconciled back to God through baptism. This inherited guilt needs to be wiped away and is done so by our baptism. Mary received what is called prevenient grace which prevented her from participating in the inherited guilt. It is only because of God's saving grace that she could be free from this contracted guilt. The purpose of this is that Mary would be given so noble a task as to give birth to our Savior. She needed to be pure to give birth to the Pure One. She needed to be holy—set apart—for the Holy One. It is fitting that God would enrich her who was to give birth to Him. The Scriptures call her "full of grace" when the angel announces she will give birth to the Messiah. And so we celebrate that Mary as All-Holy and redeemed in a singular, unique, and more exalted way by the infinite merits of her Son. This means that it is Mary who was born without the fallen state but also never committed personal sin. She is truly without sin. This means that Mary alone lived life without sin with only a human will ordered to God's plan and surrendering her life. Jesus Himself had both a human will and a divine will and so conformed His human will to the Divine Will. Mary in her humility and trust gave her human will completely in confidence to God's Will.

The season of Advent is a Marian season where we experience that desire to be like Mary—to ponder the mysteries in our heart and prepare to welcome Jesus and His grace more fully into our lives. When we welcome Mary into our hearts we welcome Jesus with her. Mary is a mother to us, an intercessor for us, and a queen to guide us toward the King. I pray that you might have a Marian Advent this year. A time of quiet trust and humility—surrendering our will to the Will of God. Mary, mother of the Church and mother of each of us, pray for me. Mary, who is conceived without sin, pray for us.

## Mass Intentions, Readings, Saints

**Monday, December 5** **Advent Weekday**  
Isaiah 35:1-10; Psalm 85:9-14; Luke 5:17-26

**Tuesday, December 6** **St. Nicholas**  
Isaiah 40:1-11; Psalm 96:1-3, 10-13; Matthew 18:12-14  
**Rosary for Vocations 8:30 a.m. at St. Joseph**

**Wednesday, December 7** **St. Ambrose**  
Isaiah 40:25-31; Psalm 103:1-4, 8, 10; Matthew 11:28-30  
**4:15 p.m. Rosary for our country at St. Teresa**

**Thursday, December 8** **The Immaculate Conception**  
Genesis 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98:1-4; Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12; Luke 1:26-38  
**7:00 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa** † *George Pluym*  
**7:00 p.m. Mass at St. Matthew**

**Friday, December 9** **St. Juan Diego**  
Isaiah 48:17-19; Psalm 1:1-4, 6; Matthew 11:16-19  
**10:30 a.m. Mass at MCH** † *Theresa Healy*

**Saturday, December 10** **Advent Weekday**  
Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Psalm 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Matthew 17:9-13  
**7:30-8:30 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction**  
**8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Teresa** † *Claire Bach*  
**5:00 p.m. Mass at St. Youth Matthew**  
*People of the tri-parish*

**Sunday, December 11** **Third Sunday in Advent**  
Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; Psalm 146:6-10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11  
**9:00 a.m. YELL Mass at St. Teresa** † *Darlene Morgan*

### Meetings and Events in the tri-parish

Wednesdays 1 p.m. Quilting at St. Teresa  
Thursday Bible Study after 7 a.m. Mass on Dec. 8



Friday, Dec. 9 is the feast of St. Juan Diego. On December 9, 1531, a native Mexican named Juan Diego rose before dawn to walk fifteen miles to daily Mass in what is now Mexico City. Juan lived a simple life as a weaver, farmer, and laborer. That morning, as Juan passed Tepeyac Hill, he heard music and saw a glowing cloud encircled by a rainbow. A woman's voice called him to the top of the hill. There he saw a beautiful young woman dressed like an Aztec princess. She said she was the Virgin Mary and asked Juan to tell the bishop to build a church on that site. She said, "I vividly desire that a church be built on this site, so that in it I can be present and give my love, compassion, help, and defense, for I am your most devoted mother . . . to hear your laments and to remedy all your miseries, pains, and sufferings."

[http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint\\_id=73](http://www.catholic.org/saints/saint.php?saint_id=73)



**God, grant healing and peace to the sick of our communities who have requested our prayers:**

Maureen Springer, Lucille Schubbe, Stanley Gartner, John Pluym, Toos Roelofs, Dennis Anderson, Alyssa Clark, Jan Samuelson, Jerry Wersal, Jim Carey, *If you or a member of your family would like our prayers, please call 524-3127 and ask to be put on this prayer list. Each name will remain on the list for eight weeks unless the office is notified to leave the name for a longer amount of time.*

**Faith Formation**

**Classes** will be held Wednesday, December 7

**First Reconciliation** will take place for our second graders on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 10 a.m. at St. Teresa Church. Please pray for these young people as they meet Jesus in the confessional and receive His limitless mercy for the first time.

**Attention all 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders!**

The Tri-parish Youth Group is hosting a Planning meeting at St. Teresa's on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6-8 pm, (pizza & snacks provided!) to schedule its major monthly events for the coming year. Come to let us know what you desire most to know about your Catholic faith, and how you want to explore the life God has given you together with your friends!

**Pancake Breakfast December 11**

at St. Teresa Church 10 a.m.  
to support the Youth Mission Trip  
and Conferences



Pancakes, eggs, fruit, beverage Free will donation.  
Come to enjoy good food and fellowship and support the youth of the tri-parish.

Workers are needed to help with this event. A sign up sheet is available at St. Teresa Gathering Space.

**Parish News**



**St. Joseph.** Our "Advent" Loaves and Fishes Mass is Saturday, December 17th. Free will donations will go to the Maple River Food Shelf. We begin with Mass at 5 p.m., then celebrate with food and fellowship and Advent crafts for the kids. Our CCW+ Group will also host a cookie exchange.

*Joy missing this Christmas?* Come join us for **caroling and a chili and soup supper** on Sunday, Dec. 18th. **Meet in the basement of St. Teresa Church** at 2:45 pm. Please remember that there will be Adoration taking place in the church, so keep voices down as you enter. We will begin caroling at 3 p.m. and be back by 5 p.m. for supper. Chili and soup will be provided, complimentary side dishes welcomed. Carolers from all three parishes are most welcome!



Snow is coming! **St. Teresa: Snow shoveler's sign up:** It's that time of year! There are sign-up sheets at both church entrances for families to take care of the clean up after a snow fall. Your help in this task is greatly appreciated. Please be generous with your time.

Christmas Eve Choir practice will be held at St. Matthews on Wednesday December 21st at 7:00 pm. If you will be attending the 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass at St. Matthews this year and would like to join us, please feel free to come. All are welcome! Contact Lynn at 549-3010 with any questions.

**Christmas Flowers.** If you would like to donate for Christmas flowers, you may use the envelope marked for that purpose or use a plain envelope marked "Christmas Flowers". You may include a list of the names of people you would like to remember. The envelopes can be sent to the Tri-Parish office or placed in the offertory basket.



**St. Teresa:** Much work goes into making the Christmas environment in the Gathering Space beautiful each year. This year the decorations and ornaments were changed, creating additional expense. If you can give an additional donation to cover some of this expense, it would be appreciated. The other color schemes will be used again in the future.

**Special request:** If you come to Mass at St. Teresa Church please do not park on the north side of the parking lot. That side is for our neighbors at St. John Lutheran Church, and they have requested we remind people of this since the services at the churches now coincide. Thank you!



*Bernie and Dilly Langworthy are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary! Come celebrate with them on Sunday, December 11, from 3-5 p.m., at Maggie J's. The couple requests no gifts*

"Be the living expression of God's kindness; kindness in your face, kindness in your eyes, kindness in your smile, kindness in your warm greeting." ~Saint Teresa of Calcutta

**Sunday, December 11 Gaudete Sunday**  
**"Rejoice in the Lord always"**  
The third Sunday in Advent, Gaudete Sunday, provides us with encouragement to continue our spiritual preparation—especially prayer and fasting—for Christmas. It is a time of rejoicing as we near the coming of the Lord.  
**To celebrate this day we will have a special time of prayer and music and a short presentation by Fr. Kern during adoration, 11:00 a.m. to noon.**  
There is a breakfast at St. Teresa that day so you can stay for breakfast and then stay to rejoice in the Lord!

Check out the kiosk in the St. Teresa gathering space for some new additions. New books and CD's will help you prepare for Christmas and the Feast of Mary, Mother of God!

**Caregiver Support Group** This monthly support group is for anyone who provides care to a family member or friend with Dementia or other progressive illness. It is informal and meets on the first Tuesday of each month. Join us for our next session on December 6, 3-4:30 pm, at St. Teresa Catholic Church in Mapleton. Please use the north entrance near the parking lot. Topic: Improving Communication in Dementia Care; DVD and discussion. No charge to attend; pre-registration is not required. Questions? Call Sister Joyce Kolbet at VINE Faith in Action (386-5583).

## Stewardship of Treasure

God's generosity will never be  
outdone by our own.



<b>St. Teresa</b> (November 27)	
Weekly collection	\$2027.75
Amount collected year to date	\$77,749.70
Amount budgeted year to date	\$71,720.00

<b>St. Matthew</b> (November 26)	
Weekly collection	\$639.00
Amount collected year to date	\$12,995.56
Amount budgeted year to date	\$28,600.00

<b>St. Joseph</b> (November 19)	
Weekly collection	\$2873.00
Amount collected year to date	\$16,536.96
Amount budgeted year to date	\$23,457.00



## Ministry Roles

**December 10 St. Matthew 5:00 p.m.**

**Reader:** Youth

**Minister of Communion:** Dave Weir,  
Wendy Bennett

**Hospitality:** Youth

**Servers:** Henry Cooling, Thomas Cooling

**Money Counters:** Neil Majeski, Char Schuch

**December 11 St. Teresa 9:00 a.m.**

**Reader:** Youth

**Minister of Communion:** Shellie Holt,  
Ted Landsteiner

**Hospitality:** Youth

**Gifts:** Youth

**Servers:** Dylan Passmore, Dalton Schmidt,  
Dillon Schmidt, Dustyn Schmidt

**Money Counters:** Judy Bach, Tammy Schmidt

**Ministry schedules are available on the web-  
site: [sjsmst.org](http://sjsmst.org)**

Let us understand that God is a physician, and that suffering  
is a medicine for salvation, not a punishment for damnation.

---St. Augustine of Hippo

## Our Catholic World



	# of donors	Amount	Goal	% of goal
<b>St. Joseph:</b>	9	\$2025	\$4,860	42
<b>St. Matthew:</b>	10	\$1835	\$4,890	38
<b>St. Teresa:</b>	45	\$6830	\$14,310	48

Results so far for the  
2016 Diocesan Catholic Ministries Appeal

Please prayerfully consider making a year-end gift to support the annual Diocesan Catholic Ministries Appeal. If we do not make our goal by the end of the 2016 calendar year, the Bishop requires that the remaining amount be paid in full from parish funds. Envelopes for the Catholic Ministries Appeal are available at the entrances of each Church; please return your gift by December 31, 2016. You can mail your contribution directly to the diocese, or put your envelope in the collection basket during any weekend Mass. Thank you for your generosity in helping with the needs of the our Diocesan Church.



**Contribution envelopes for 2017** are available. If you wish to receive envelopes and have not in the past please call the office. Also, if you have received envelopes in past years but do not wish to receive/use please let us know and we will not get them for you next year.. If you would like to start or change having your contributions automatically transferred, authorization forms are available. Thank you for your continued generosity.

*Let us prayerfully watch for the  
coming of the Lord*



**Each Sunday of Advent at 10 a.m. at St. Teresa Church, Fr Kern will expose the Eucharist on the Altar and begin the time of Adoration. Adoration will then continue until 10 p.m.**



Since we can never leave Our Lord alone, there will be sign up sheets available to make sure someone will always be present from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. each Sunday. Please consider if you will be able to make that commitment and promise to Jesus to stay with Him awhile. Of course, anyone can come at any time during the day to pray without having signed up. Don't worry about how to spend this time in prayer-- books and aids for prayer are available for your use.

This is a great opportunity to take some quiet time amidst all the busyness and noise to truly focus on the true meaning of Christmas.

**Ministry roles for The Feast of the Immaculate Conception:**

**St. Teresa 7 a.m.**

**Reader:** Jason Klein

**Ministers of Communion:** Butch Bach, Judy Bach

**Hospitality:** volunteer

**St. Matthew 7 p.m.**

**Reader:** Brad Lanoue

**Ministers of Communion:** Darla Graf, Brad Lanoue

**Hospitality:** Jay Kienholz family

**Servers:** Lilly Majeski, Julianna Majeski