

1st Sunday of Advent - December 2nd & 3rd
 "I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own and my own know me." John 10.14



You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God." 2 Corinthians 9:8-11

Number of Parishioners Contributing to Sharing God's Gifts	Percentage of Parishioners Contributing to Sharing God's Gifts	Sharing God's Gifts Target
125/345	36%	\$ 18,910.00
Target Amount	Collected As of November 26th	Year to Date + / -
\$ 18,910.00	\$ 22,720.93	+ \$ 3,810.93

Collection November 25 & 26	Collections Required Per Week	Weekly Collection + / -	Year to Date Collections + / -
\$ 3,493.00	\$ 3,465.00	+ \$ 28.00	- \$ 315.44



SHARING GOD'S GIFTS - will be the second collection on **December 2nd & 3rd**.

DECEMBER

3	Children's Liturgy	during Mass
5	Advent Reconciliation	7:00 pm
7	Douglas Campbell Mass	2:00 pm
9	Welcome House Christmas Celebration	2:00 pm
10	Shut-in Trays	after Mass
12	Lions Prairie Manor Mass	2:00 pm
12	Catholic Women's League Advent Supper	5:30pm
	@ McKenzie United Church	
14	Knights of Columbus Meeting	7:30 pm
17	Anointing of the Sick	7:00 pm
20	M.D.C. Mass	10:00 am
20	Service of Remembrance & Hope	7:30 pm
	@ McKenzie United Church	

2017 CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

December 24	5:00 pm - Good Shepherd Parish 7:30 pm - Good Shepherd Parish 9:30 pm - St. Ambrose Parish
December 25	10:30 am - Good Shepherd Parish
January 1	10:30 am - Good Shepherd Parish

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Tuesday, Dec. 5th at 7:00 PM - Good Shepherd Parish
 Wednesday, Dec. 6th at 7:00 PM - St. Mary's Cathedral
 Thursday, Dec. 7th at 7:00 PM - St. Charles's Parish
 Friday, Dec. 8th at 6:30 PM - St. Edward's Parish
 Tuesday, Dec. 12th at 7:00 PM - St. Eustache Parish
 Wednesday, Dec. 13th at 10:00 AM - St. John XXXIII
 Wednesday, Dec. 13th at 7:00 PM - St. Patrick's Parish
 Thursday, Dec. 14th at 7:00 PM - St. Paul the Apostle Parish
 Friday, Dec. 15th at 7:00 PM - St. Anthony of Padua Parish

Prairie Welcome House Christmas Celebration:

Saturday December 9th (2:00- 4:00 pm.) - We would appreciate if you could bring a gift bag containing your unwrapped gifts no later than **December 3rd** or drop them by PWH. Yummy deserts, salads or juices, drinks are very appreciated. Please do not forget to sign on the sheet name food supply in the gathering area. Thank-you in advance. Joe and Michel

New Schedules will be ready next weekend for pick up.



2018 MISSALS AND COLLECTION ENVELOPES will be ready **this weekend** for pick up. Price is \$ 4.00 **Please try to have the correct change. Calendars will be available later.**

WORD AMONG US REFLECTION BOOKLETS

for the month of **December** booklets are available in the gathering area. If you choose to pick up a booklet for yourself, the cost of these books are \$2.50 each. Please give as it help to cover our costs.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS - anyone wanting to donate money towards this years Advent flowers please mark an envelope "Flowers" which can be placed in the collection basket. All donation will receive a tax receipt.



CHRISTMAS TRAYS - each year the Catholic Women's League put together trays of dainties for the shut-ins of our Parish. We would like your help. If you are willing to assist us by doing some baking. It can be brought to the kitchen on **December 9th & 10th**. We will be putting the trays together after **Mass on December 10th**. We put together about 65 trays. We also need help with delivering these trays. If you know of anyone in our Parish community who is a shut in and would like a holiday treat let me know. Contact Bernadette at the Parish office. Thank-you.

*Where there is charity and wisdom,
 there is neither fear nor ignorance.
 Francis of Assisi*

"From the Eucharist, this sacrament of love, flows every authentic journey of faith, of communion, and of witness." (Pope Francis)

DAWN MASSES SET TO START FOR CHRISTMAS

Beginning on Saturday, December, 16th, we will be begin our novena of masses leading up to Christmas. While the tradition in the Philippines, Mexico, and Spain is to celebrate the mass early in the morning, prior to dawn, we will celebrate these 9 days of masses in the **evening**. To accommodate those who work, the masses are also celebrated in the evening in preparation for Christmas. Last year was the first time the novena of masses was celebrated here. Please take note of the schedule. Most evenings the mass is scheduled for 7:00 pm. We averaged close to 30 people last year for the masses. Know that the masses are for the whole community here at Good Shepherd. In the midst of the busy-ness of the season, let us take time to prepare ourselves to celebrate the coming of Emmanuel: God with us!

December 16th - 7:00 pm

December 17th - 7:00 pm

December 18th - 7:00 pm

December 19th - 7:00 pm

December 20th - 6:00 pm

December 21st - 7:00 pm

December 22nd - 7:00 pm

December 23rd - 7:00 pm

December 24th - 7:30 pm



All are welcome to this Novena of masses in preparation for Christmas.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MASS - Dawn Lernowicz will be organizing the children's parts of the Christmas Mass (5:00 pm). If you wish to have your child participate, there will be sign up on **December 3rd & December 10th** after mass in the storage room. There will be a practice on **December, 17th after mass**, will take about an hour. We are always looking for helpers, if you are able please come and see me in the storage room. Mary Hordeski will be helping this year. You can contact Dawn at 204-872-2897 if you have any questions.



KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS - we are inviting all children in the parish to enter the "Keep Christ in Christmas" contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. **Information and contest rules are available at the back of the church in the gathering area.** Entries must be handed in by **December 10th**, and winners will be announced at the Community Breakfast on **December 17th**. For more information call Armand at 204-871-2901.



EVERGREEN TREE - in the gathering area you will see a large evergreen tree, free of all decorations. In our journey to Christmas we are asking you, each week-end leading up to our Lord's birthday to bring a small decoration to place on the tree. Please attach a small name tag on the back. On December 24th, the final decoration will be placed on at the children's Mass, a mysterious top will appear. Let all the decorations be from your heart, your hands and culture. Try very hard to find non-commercialized items Parishioners are asked to contribute. Hooks are available by the Baptismal font.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK - **Sunday, December 17th at 7:00 pm** - At this time of year as we approach Christmas many people experience stress, depression and anxiety. Our celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick can bring comfort and peace to many. All parishioners, whether one desires anointing or not are invited to come and pray as a community for those receiving this Sacrament.



SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & HOPE - on Wednesday, **December, 20th at 7:30 pm**, at **McKenzie United Church**. This ecumenical service is for all who have lost a loved one, family member, or friend as we gather to remember and honor them at this time of the year. Everyone is welcome, even if you haven't lost a loved one. We are a community of faith who support and love one another at this time of Christmas.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER - standard items for the Salvation Army Christmas Hampers are stuffing, cranberry sauce, beverages, Kraft Dinner, hot & cold cereals, rice, canned items such as fruit, pasts, meats, soup, pasta & sauce, dry soup mixes, cake mixes, and jelly puddings, or Jello. Please do not forget to donate toys for the children. They are planning to make over **550 hampers** this year. If you can help out with any of these items it would be greatly appreciated. Donated items can be placed in the baskets in the gathering area. **We are still in need of volunteers to fill some of the spots for the Christmas Kettles.** Please let me know as soon as possible if you can help. Thank-you for supporting this specific project. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Rose at 204 856-7004.



Giving Hope Today

The rosary is recited before every Saturday evening mass starting at 6:20 pm

1st Sunday of Advent Saturday, December 2nd Sunday, December 3rd	7:00 pm 10:30 am 1:00 pm	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd St. Ambrose	†John Overwater by Gerard Verwey Family Tony Bouchard & Family by Sally Martin †Frank & †Elmira Ricard by Pat & Alphonse Ducharme
Wednesday, December 6th	9:00 am	Good Shepherd	Culture of Life, End to Abortion & Euthanasia
Thursday, December 7th	2:00 pm	Douglas Campbell Lodge	†Fran Parynuick by Chris & Grey Paulson
Friday, December 8th	9:00 am	Good Shepherd	†Emily Ferguson by the Bullock Family
2nd Sunday of Advent Saturday, December 9th Sunday, December 10th	7:00 pm 10:30 am	Good Shepherd Good Shepherd	†Dal Bilkoski by Edie & Rosie Bilkoski †Juanita & †Geronimo Rodriguez by the Family

Friendly Reminders

Saturday, December 9th

Greeters - Ron & Shirley O'Neil
Ushers - John & Doris Nichol,
 Paul Seguin, Bob Dionne
Gift Bearers - Henri & Gertrude Lambert
Lectors - Helena Kot, Rick Ryzner
Eucharist Ministers - Luc & Donna Gamache,
 Denise Payment, Jo-ann Voesenek,
 Bernadette Gnanapragasam

Friendly Reminders

Sunday, December 10th

Greeters - Liz Kelly, Pauline Calder
Ushers - Sharon Murkin, Suzanne Borisenko,
 Paulyne Appah, Brenda Franke
Gift Bearers - Liz Kelly, Pauline Calder
Lectors - Ruth Deegan, Gary van der Zweep
Eucharist Ministers - Elaine Harder, Mickey Cuthbert,
 Gary & Dawn Lernowicz, Joe & Marie Wermie,
 Stan Lambert

DEAR PADRE: Why do we have Advent? - Advent as we know it today developed many centuries after Jesus' life on earth. Because of the number of persons being baptized in the early Church, a practice developed of having another time for baptism in addition to the Easter Vigil. Christmas was chosen as another baptismal season. Since Lent served as a time of preparation for the baptisms at the Easter Vigil, the weeks leading up to Christmas became a time of penance and preparation. Combined with this penitential practice, of course, was the preparation for Christmas. The Sunday and weekday Scriptures during Advent recall the centuries of longing for the coming of the Messiah, the conception of John the Baptist, and the family history of Mary & Joseph. Today the writings of the prophet Isaiah are featured during Advent because they so eloquently speak of Israel's longing for salvation. Among the special signs and symbols that the Church uses to recall and enter into these central parts of our Christian heritage are the Advent wreath, vespers, reconciliation services, the O Antiphons, Scripture readings, the Jesse tree, the giving tree, the Christmas tree, the crèche, gift-giving, and of course, Midnight Mass. Hopefully, these symbols of the season will remind you of your own birth in baptism and your own commitment to living a life filled with peace and love. Fr. Thomas Santa CSSR



1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Hachiko might be the most faithful dog in the world. Every day he was on hand to see his owner go off to work. Every afternoon at 4:00 p.m. when the train pulled into Japan's Shibuya Station, Hachiko was there to greet his owner. After some pats and a warm hug, they would walk home together. One day, Hachiko's owner didn't get off the train. He had died at work and never returned. But Hachiko still waited in fervent hope. The next day at 4:00 p.m., the dog returned to the train station to await his master's return. For the next ten years, Hachiko never gave up hope. He continued to live with his owner's family and went to the train station every day. When Hachiko died the local townsfolk erected a bronze statue of him and put it at the spot where he always waited. Since the beginning, the early prophets foretold the coming of a messiah. Just like Hachiko, we still wait for the return of Jesus. Today's Gospel calls us to be vigilant and faithful, like Hachiko. We are warned: "Stay awake." **Deacon Dick Folger**