QUAD PARISHES

ST. MARY'S, SACRED HEART, VISITATION, & ST. SEBASTIAN

The Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2023



Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.

Matthew 3:3



MASSES

Mon. 8AM AlexanderTues. 5:30PM New BerlinWed. 8AM FranklinThurs. NO MASSFri. 8AM Waverly

Weekends:

Saturday:4PM VisitationSunday:8:00AM Sacred Heart

5:45PM St. Sebastian 10:00AM St. Mary's

WELCOME TO THE QUAD PARISHES!

If you are new to our parish please call the office to register. We look forward to meeting you. The office is located at **306 E. Birch St., PO Box 20, New Berlin**, IL 62670.

CONTACT US

PARISH OFFICE: 217-488-3545

HOURS: 8:30AM-3:00 PM Tues & Wed 8:30AM-12:00 PM Mon & Thur

PASTOR REVEREND ADAM ZAWADZKI fradam.quadparishes@gmail.com

> **OFFICE MANAGER** STACEY BELCHER quadparishes@gmail.com

PSR COORDITATOR-ST. MARY'S COURTNEY PETERS 217-414-2922

PSR COORDINATOR-SACRED HEART PAM BLACKORBY 217-381-7848

> ASSISTANT PSR COORDINATOR SACRED HEART KAREN WALLBAUM 217-473-5281

Pastor's Pen

This was the first week of the new Mass Schedule. When I first moved here, I had a little trouble figuring out the pattern for the Masses. It took a week or two before someone told me it was a circlecounterclockwise from Alexander. That was tremendously helpful for me to figure out which Church had Mass on which day.

There are a couple ways to see our pattern with the new weekday Mass Schedule. First, it could be pictured as a 7 and a period (7.) considering there is a break between Franklin on Wednesday and Waverly on Friday. It could be considered an equal sign (=) with the top line drawn first. It could also be a Z.

The bottom line is that this change allows me to move my day off to Thursday instead of Monday. It also allows us to have an evening Mass on Tuesday's. The idea is to give those who are working or unable to travel in the morning an opportunity to come to daily Mass.

There is certainly something that changes us when we participate in the Mass. We are changed. Perhaps we are able to be more patient with others. Maybe we can be more appreciative of others. Maybe we can notice in ourselves ways that we are changed.

Coming to Mass is more than a couple grams of bread and a tiny sip of wine. We are fed in ways that are on a deeper level than that physical nourishment. Christ enters our heart. We are spiritually different. We are reconnected with Jesus in a different way.

But something similar happens in our prayer as

Mass Intentions						
Mon.	12/11	Bob Johnson				
-	10/10	(Rosemary Miller)				
Tues.	12/12	Judy Byer				
		(Alice Moss)				
		Wayne Stapleton				
		(Patricia Kloppenburg)				
Wed.	12/12	Nancy Peters Flach				
		(Ralph Walter & Jean Moss)				
Thu.	-	NO MASS				
Fri.	12/14	Elizabeth McDevitt				
		(Alice Moss)				
12/15						
4:00 pm		William & Gertrude Critchelow				
		(Cathy Stephenson)				
5:45 pm		Tom Peters				
		(Jan & Lola Caruthers)				
Sun.	12/16					
8:00 am		Pro Populo				
10:00 am		Kelly Peters				
		(Alice Moss)				
		Dec'd Members of				
		Gansbauer Family				
		(Family)				
	of C ®	We are looking for new members who are male Catholic gentlemen, 18 years of age or older, who have an interest in enhancing their church and local com- munities. Contact Kevin Kirsch at 217.685.1819				
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Maga Intentiona

well. When we start to pray for the needs of others, we start to notice that we are not the center of the universe. We start to recognize that others are in need.

The reality is that we can revert to a kind of blindness when we get busy in our lives. We can fall into the trap of not paying attention to the needs of others that we see everyday when we are overwhelmed with the 10,000 other things that pull us from place to place.

The season of Advent reminds us to make straight God's path into our heart. We are called to prepare the home for God. Adding prayer to our routine, even simply praying in the car instead of listening to music on our way to or from work is a way to pay more attention to God. If you are able to come to one of the Daily Masses, I would encourage you to try coming to a Weekday Mass. The little blue books are also an excellent reference.

Confessions will be offered during this season. These are just simply extra confession times for the season of Advent. This coming week:

+On Monday, I will be at Visitation after the 8am Mass for about 1 hour to hear confessions.

+Tuesday, Confessions will be during Adoration in the evening at St. Mary, about 6pm.

+Wednesday, I will be at Sacred Heart for confessions after their 8am Mass for about 1 hour.

+Friday, I will be at St. Sebastian after the 8am Mass for about 1 hour.

+Next week, I will return to each parish at 6pm for about 1 hour to hear confessions.

I hope to see you all in confession.

-Fr. Adam

Parish Offering As of 12/7/2023

	Income	Budget	
St. Mary's	\$1,341.36	\$2,200.00	-\$858.64
Sacred Heart	\$1,172.00	\$1300.00	-\$128.00
Visitation	\$651.00	\$640.00	\$11.00
St. Sebastian	\$696.00	\$530.00	\$166.00

Sacred Heart Steeple Restoration

PROJECT COST	\$118,133.00		
Amount Collected	\$81,090.00		
Amount Remaining	\$37,043.00		

Important Dates

Dec. 10-Retirement Fund for the Religious
Dec. 24-Christmas Mass at 4PM in Franklin and 6PM in Alexander.
Dec. 25-Christmas Mass at 8AM in Waverly and 10AM in New Berlin.

Pray for our sick Parishioners

Janet Blankenship, Jim Eck, Sarah Simpson, Matt Kern, Louise Lenn, Sue Lowder, Kathy Gordon, Barb Johnson, Mary Lee Staley, Joe Gaston, Lisa Richardson, Mary Hemberger, Roseanne Hartley, Calyssa Richie, Dale Fitzpatrick, Mary McCray, Heather Boudreau, Sy Haber, Donna Reichart, Presley Kerber, Joyce Henn, Paul Sweet, Carol Bold, Nancy Blankenship, Jackie Hamilton, Betty Huyear Breeze, Judy McClain.

To report allegations of sexual abuse of a minor by clergy or other church personnel– even if it is in the pastindividuals are encouraged to call the Diocese's Child Abuse Reporting and Investigation number at 217-321-1155. Individuals may also contact the Department of Child and Family Services Abuse Hotline at 1-800-25-ABUSE.

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, puts us on the path to holiness and is an example for others to be holy, too. We are responsible not only for our own lives, but for the lives of others as well. How are you helping others get to Heaven?

Happenings in our Parishes and Beyond

Advent Confession Schedule

Confessions will be heard for one hour

Dec. 11 8:30AM Alexander Dec. 12 6:00PM New Berlin Dec. 13 8:30AM Franklin Dec. 15 8:30AM Waverly

Dec. 17 10:30AM New Berlin Dec. 18 6:00PM Alexander Dec. 19 6:00PM New Berlin Dec. 20 6:00PM Franklin Dec. 22 6:00PM Waverly

St. Mary's-New Berlin

St. Mary's- Have **Coffee & Donuts** with **Santa Dec. 17** after Mass at the Parish Office. The KC's will be hosting!



Food Pantry Sunday

Next Sunday, **December 17 is Food Pantry Sunday**. Items are being collected for the Blessing Micro pantry at the New Berlin Laundromat.

-Any nonperishable boxed, bagged, or canned item is welcome.

-Pasta, jarred pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, cereal and pancake mix are all great options

-Alternatively, as you shop, consider picking up duplicates of nonperishable items your own family enjoys

Sacred Heart-Franklin

Cleaning Committee for December are those on February thru July.

Sacred Heart-Franklin PSR is doing a Reverse Advent Calendar. There will be a box for donations in the back of Sacred Heart, Visitation and St. Sebastian churches from Nov. 26-Dec. 10. The week of Dec. 10 hygiene products (soap, toothpaste, deodorant etc..) and the week of Dec. 17 hats, gloves and scarves.

