

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH****Sacred Heart  
Grundy Center****Queen of Heaven  
Reinbeck****St. Mary  
Dike****St. Patrick  
Parkersburg****Rev. Dennis J. Quint - Pastor  
204 G Ave. Grundy Center, IA 50638  
Office 824-3572****Parish Website: <http://www.holyfamilycatholicparish.org>**Lyndsay Petersen, CFF  
dbq095re@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us**November 25, 2007  
CHRIST THE KING**Liz Nilles, Secretary  
dbq095sec@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us**MASS INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER 27-DECEMBER 2**

Tues. 7:00 a.m. (Parkersburg)	Special Intentions VF
<b>Wed. 6:00 p.m. (Parkersburg)</b>	Rue Nicklaus
Thurs 7:00 a.m. (Reinbeck)	Duane Manderfield
Fri. 7:00 a.m. (Grundy Center)	Maureen Becker
Sat. 5:00 p.m. (Grundy Center)	Women Foresters
Sun. 8:00 a.m. (Reinbeck)	For the People
10:00 a.m. (Parkersburg)	Gary Shadlow

***Communal Penance Service  
For Advent****Sunday, December 2, 4 pm  
St. Patrick, Parkersburg  
5 priests will be present to celebrate  
God's mercy in confessions.*

Refreshments served afterward.

**From the Pastor**

The church prepares to bid farewell to another liturgical year this week. Next Sunday marks the beginning of Advent. One of the predominant themes of Advent is preparation. On the first Sunday we will hear about the end times and the return of Jesus on the last day. Our Lord urges his listeners to be prepared for that day. The second and third Sundays our gospels will focus on John the Baptist, the great prophet who prepared the way for his cousin Jesus. Finally, on the fourth Sunday of Advent we hear how the archangel Gabriel announced to the Blessed Virgin Mary that she would be the mother of the messiah. God the Father prepared the way for the coming of God the Son through the power of God the Holy Spirit.

As part of our own preparations during this season of Advent, the church calls us to celebrate God's love and mercy in the sacrament of penance and reconciliation. We will have a communal penance service at our parish next Sunday, December 2 at 4 pm at St. Patrick, Parkersburg. Five priests will be present to celebrate God's forgiveness. Going to confession is an integral part of our preparations to mark Jesus' first coming as a baby, as well as his second coming at the end of time. I know that you will make every effort to come to the service. Get rid of guilt. Commit to making amends. Receive God's grace. Be humbled. Bring your children and set a good example for them. It is painless, relieving, and renewing. We'll have a light dinner afterward in the church hall.

**Other items:**

- I return from vacation on Monday night. Please contact our secretary, Liz Nilles, at the office or at her cell 319 269-8340 if you need assistance before then. Thanks to Msgr. Steimel for celebrating our Masses here.
- Please pray for our confirmation candidates and team members as they plan to participate in a retreat next weekend.

As I mentioned last week at our Masses, Archbishop Hanus has chosen a name for our new church – St. Gabriel. He honored our first choice. The Archbishop explained that he was leaning very strongly toward the archangel, St. Gabriel, even before receiving our letter of recommendation. He wrote, "I am pleased to approve Saint Gabriel as the name and patron for your new church. May the Archangel Gabriel speak the gospel to you and your neighbors, as he did to Mary centuries ago." God's providence and Holy Spirit must have been at work for both the archbishop and our parish leaders to be guided to the choice of St. Gabriel. St. Gabriel bears connection to the former patrons of our churches (St. Mary, Queen of Heaven, Sacred Heart, Immaculate Conception [Blessing]) through the Annunciation and traditional association with his appearance to Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane. Likewise his appearance to our Blessed Mother and traditional apparition to St. Joseph provide association with the patronage of our parish – the holy family. He is found in scripture, so is easily recognizable not only to Catholics, but to the many Protestants of this area. Gabriel was the bearer of good news on many occasions and our parish likewise hopes to serve as a light to others in our area and across the diocese as we complete this amazing project. Angels could be utilized in the decoration of the church, perhaps in some of the brickwork on the exterior. Likewise, an image of the Annunciation could be depicted through stained glass or statuary.

**First Reconciliation Families** First Penance will be at 6:30 pm December 4 at Sacred Heart, Grundy Center.**Social Concerns Committee** will meet 7 pm Monday, Nov 26, Grundy Center Church Hall. All are welcome.**Book of Remembrance** has been placed at each of our churches. Please write the names of deceased loved ones in these books as we pray for them in a special way throughout this month of November.**MS Youth Rally** Sign up forms were sent home at faith formation. There will be a band, breakout sessions, and a dance. If you need a form, please contact Lyndsay at the office. The deadline to register is November 28.**Scriptural Rosary** will be Monday, Nov 26, 6 pm at St Patrick, Parkersburg, before Adult Catechism class. All are welcome.**Faith Formation Students** In response to an accident at one of our sites the board of education decided to implement a new drop off and pick up procedure for faith formation students. In Parkersburg you will need to walk your children in grades K-6 to the CCD center when dropping them off and you will need to pick them up in the CCD center at the end of the session. In Grundy Center you will need to walk you children in grades K-8 into the church and you will need to pick them up in the basement social hall area at the end of the session. Due to many safety concerns we will not allow children to leave the CCD center or social hall until a parent or older sibling is there to pick them up.**Poinsettias** If you would like to donate a poinsettia to decorate our churches for Christmas please fill out Christmas Poinsettia/Plant form (found in the back of each church) with the names of the loved ones you would like to remember and place \$10 per plant in the envelope. Place the envelope in the collection basket. These individuals will be prayed for at the Christmas Masses.

**Knights of Columbus** meet on Thursday, Nov 29 at 7 pm in Parkersburg.

**RCIA** does not meet this week.

**Bible Study** will meet at 6 pm Sunday, December 2, St. Patrick, Parkersburg to discuss Lesson 8.

**"Why do Catholics do that?"** is a question you may have been asked, or asked yourself. Refresh your knowledge by attending Adult Catechism. At this time, we plan to meet every other Monday for one hour. Our next meeting on Monday, Nov. 26 from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM at St. Patrick, Parkersburg. Our next topic is "Receiving the Holy Spirit" taken from Chapter 8 of United States Catholic Catechism for Adults. Every session is unique. Come to as many sessions as you like, whenever you like. If you would like to participate, but find Mondays are inconvenient, please let us know. We will also discuss a schedule at this meeting. For questions or comments, call/e-mail Becky & Greg Lievens at 319-347-2497 email: lievensfamily@hotmail.com.

**Church Chat** Beginning on Wednesday, November 28 our parish will offer another opportunity for adult faith enrichment. A video presentation will begin after the opening prayer of Faith Formation (at 6:30 pm). After watching the video, participants will offer comments informally and conclude by 7:45pm, when Faith Formation for students is completed. Videos will be viewed in the church sacristy at Grundy Center and in the church at Parkersburg. All adults are welcome any time. Mardel Brockett will be the coordinator at Grundy Center. Al & Pat Burrage will coordinate at Parkersburg.

**Confirmation Retreat** will be December 1 & 2, 8 pm Sat night to 5 pm Sunday afternoon at St. Patrick, Parkersburg. Please call Lyndsay at the office with any questions.

**Holy Day** Saturday, December 8 is the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, a holy day of obligation. This is the patronal feast for our nation, so it remains a day of obligation even though it falls on Saturday. Masses will be offered Fri, Dec 7 at 7 pm in Parkersburg and Sat, Dec 8 at 8 am in Grundy Center.

**HS Youth Night** will be 7 pm on Dec 5 at Dike High School. Carpools will leave from Sacred Heart, Queen of Heaven and St. Patrick at 6:30 pm.

**Communal Penance Services** scheduled in our area: St. Paul, Traer—Dec 5, 6:30 pm; St. Stephen the Witness Student Center, Cedar Falls—Dec 5, 9 pm; Sacred Heart, Waterloo—Dec 9, 2 pm; Blessed Sacrament, W'loo/Cedar Falls—Dec 16, 4 pm.

**Music Ministry** If you would like to assist with music ministry at the 4 pm Christmas Eve Mass at Parkersburg, please come to an organizational meeting on Sun, Nov 25 after the 10 am Mass. Practices will take place the following Sundays. Youth are encouraged to participate as well - vocal or instrumental. Hopefully we can pull together a choir. Contact Kathy Hosch for more details.

**Rides** If you need a ride to Mass, please contact the parish office or one of the following: Dale/Mary McIntyre 788-2827; Max/Rosanne Girres 824-6420; Joe/Connie Becker 989-2405. We will coordinate such transportation to the new church as well when it is completed. If you would like to provide rides to Mass, let us know at the parish office.

**IRA** Remember that seniors over age 70 ½ in 2007 can offer contributions directly from their IRA to a charitable organization like our parish. If completed properly, the donor does not recognize income from the withdrawal or record a contribution on his/her personal tax return. Contact the parish office for more information. Many parishioners have used this format for making contributions.

**School Delays or Cancellations** When school is delayed or canceled at the church having daily Mass/prayer service, the Mass/prayer service will be canceled. Likewise, when any of the schools in our parish has an early dismissal or cancellation, on a Wednesday, due to inclement weather there will be no FF/CCD classes at all sites (including parish youth groups). Watch KWWL channel 7 for other information regarding cancellations during inclement weather, especially on the weekend.

**Concert** The various churches of Parkersburg are sponsoring another Candlelight Christmas Carol Sing for Sunday, December 2 at 6:30 pm. Anyone interested in being part of a choir to sing 2 or 3 familiar numbers should contact Fr. Quint. In addition, if you are interested in providing a musical number (either playing an instrument and/or singing a piece) for the concert, please let Fr. Quint know. We need to have a representative from our parish. Students would be welcome too!

**Christmas Choir** practice for the 9 am Mass at Reinbeck, Christmas day will be held after the 8 am Mass on Dec 2. Future rehearsals will likely take place after the 8 am Sunday Mass as well throughout the month. Everyone welcome to join.

**"A Time To Remember" Holiday Service** dedicated to the memory of loved ones who have died this past year. The service will take place Sunday, December 2, 2007, at 1:30 P.M. at Engelkes-Abels Funeral Home in Grundy Center. Serving refreshments after the service.

	<b>December 1 5 pm @ SH</b>	<b>December 2 8 am @ QH</b>	<b>December 2 10 am @ SP</b>	<b>December 7, 7 pm @ SP Immaculate Conception</b>
Music	Rita Forker	Jean Stephan	Katelyn & Brittany	Lyndsay Petersen
Cantor	Patrick Taylor	Rita Amling	Katelyn & Brittany	Alex McDaniel
Extraordinary	Gary Mauer	Sue Messerly	Patty Hoff	Karen Benson
Ministers	Kathy Mauer	Ron Hayek	Martha Andersen	Tamara Tingle
of	Kathy Zeiner	Paula Gorres	Mike Brannon	Becky Lievens
Holy	Cheryl Osterhaus	Rory Corwin	Bob Sullivan	
Communion	Kelley Sents	Jodi Corwin	Arnold Schwers	
Greet	Charles Haman Family	Dean & Donna Larsen	McDaniel Family	Jo Thrasher
Gifts	Charles Haman Family	Dean & Donna Larsen	Larry & Mary Gaffey Family	Gary Flanigan Family
Lector 1	Kelley Sents	Jon Steimel	Becky Lievens	DeWayne Purdy Family
Lector 2	George Centeio	-----	Sue Sonnenberg	Beth Anne McDaniel
Server	Nick Mauer	Shawn McCarthy	Seth Christensen	Jack Flanigan
Server	Dan Eisenman	Shelby Seekins	Lita McDaniel	Curry Hoff
Usher	Randy Sevcik	Randy Gorres	Chad Schipper Family	Jeff Badger
Usher	Al Brandl	Jeff Billerbeck	Chad Schipper Family	Ann Badger
Advent Wreath	Charles Haman Family	Kevin & Dawn Boyle Family	Larry & Mary Gaffey Family	
Sacristan	Pam Delagardelle	Video: Mary Seekins	Bev Tuve	Martha Andersen