

Our Lady of the Holy Cross Newsletter

VOLUME 26 No. 12

DECEMBER, 2018

A PASTOR'S REFLECTION The Gaze

Anyone familiar with the Gospel of Mark would know how often Jesus expresses human feeling. One of the most powerful moments is when a man runs up and kneels before Jesus. The man asks Jesus what he must do to attain eternal life. After the man mentioned that he has been faithful to all the religious observances expected of him, it is recorded that "Jesus looked at him and loved him (Mark 10:21)." Unfortunately, the man was not ready for the challenge of Jesus' words that were to follow. But, if anything, Jesus' gaze planted a seed of love and hope in the man's heart. This awesome gaze of Jesus, which, in some way, must have mirrored the stars, struck people to the heart and was probably repeated many times over, beginning at the Christmas scene. The eyes of Mary, Joseph, and anyone else present were probably enlarged quite a bit.

Our own experience tells us that our eyes tell the whole story in regards to how we feel or think about something. Eyes produce tears of great sadness or great joy. Eyes are the window to the soul. Our eyes connect us to other people. When people can look at each other in the eye, it expresses a level of respect that both parties have for each other. Without eye-contact, it is probably a sign that something is wrong in the relationship.

People may not look at it this way, but our eyes can actually be used as a dangerous weapon. People usually feel very uncomfortable when they are given the "stare." A stare of disgust can be terrifying for the victim. When hatred becomes acute, the stare becomes the "beam," an even more intense absence of love. The stare may be used to humiliate another person or to make the other person feel inferior. Typically, eyes intent on harm are not going to listen to others very well, in which case, people will just shut their eyelids.

The antithesis of the stare, in turn, is the "gaze." The gaze is the ultimate peace-maker. Nothing is more comfortable, effortless, and natural than a person's gaze. A gaze is really a smile in the eyes.

A gaze will inevitably happen when the eyes encounter love. The more we can love something or someone, our stiff, hard-working eyes will hopefully and slowly be transformed into an admiring, peaceful and loving gaze. The more we "see" Jesus, or perceive Jesus in others, the better for us, therefore, because our eyes become loving. And so, the gaze, as an active response -- love exchanged for love.

by Father Vince

JOURNEY OF HOPE AND JOY WITH MARY (Our Advent Novena)

December 2-10, 2018, 6:30 p.m.

All are invited to join us as we journey with Mary from a girl to the Mother of our Lord and Savior, Jesus.

As with our Pentecost Novena we will offer up prayers for your special intentions and will again offer a wooden cross with Mary and Baby Jesus. (See below if interested in sending us prayer intentions and/or receiving a wooden cross.) **THANK YOU!**

OUR LADY OF THE HOLY CROSS (OLHC)! JOURNEY OF HOPE AND JOY WITH MARY (December 2-10, 6:30 p.m.)

Please pray for my special intentions below:

Yes, please send a wooden cross with Mary & Baby Jesus.
Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____ to support the mission of OLHC.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

Please make checks payable to
Our Lady of the Holy Cross or OLHC



Credit Card



Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Verification # _____

Signature _____

REST IN THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Let us pray for all those who have died during the month of November:

Bernice Podorski - October 27
Jean Radermacher - November 8

PARISH NEWS...



ADVENT NOVENA JOURNEY OF HOPE AND JOY WITH MARY

December 2-10, 6:30 p.m.

As you may have already read in the November newsletter, we are inviting you to participate in our Journey of Hope and Joy with Mary commencing at Mass on Sunday, December 2 and continuing through Monday, December 10, at 6:30 p.m. **The speakers we have lined up are:**

- December 2 Introduction to the Season of Advent
Rev. Dr. Vincent Nyman
- December 3 Mary as a Girl
Ms. Judy Lydon
- December 4 Annunciation
Ms. Cheryl Archibald
- December 5 How Can This Be?
Margaret Mary Moore
- December 6 Visitation
Ms. Teka Childress
- December 7 Joseph
Fr. Martin Mannion
- December 8 Prepare the Way of the Lord
Joyce Jones
- December 9 Enter the Joyful Silence
Rev. Dr. Vincent Nyman
- December 10 Let Your Gentleness be Known
Carol Powell

Please invite family, friends and neighbors to join us on our journey with Mary to hope and joy this Advent Season!

The Giving Tree

Helping Those in Need



This year there will be giving trees set up at both the side entrance and in the back of church. Please stop and take as many requests as

you feel generously partaking. **THE NEED IS GREAT AND THE GIVERS ARE FEW. Thank You!!!**



Feast of the Immaculate Conception

This year, The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception (December 8) falls on a Saturday and is a holy day of obligation. The morning Mass on Saturday,

December 8, will be for the Immaculate Conception holy day only. There will be no afternoon/evening Masses that will fulfill the holy day of obligation in the Diocese.



SENIOR RESOURCE CENTER OPENED TO THE PEOPLE OF THE COMMUNITY

Our Senior Resource Center is now open on a trial basis on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Our Center provides a hot meal for those 55 years of age and older. Once we identify the needs, additional activities will be offered. If you will be joining us, please call 381-0323.



Christmas Eve - Dec. 24 4:00 p.m.
Christmas Day - Dec. 25, 10:00 a.m.
Holy Innocents - Dec. 28, 8:00 a.m.
Feast of the Holy Family - Dec. 30, 10:00 a.m.

Mary, Holy Mother of God (Holy Day) - Jan. 1, 8:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Epiphany of Our Lord - Jan 6 - 10:00 a.m.

GIVING WITNESS

"Forces that threaten to negate life must be challenged by courage, which is the power of life to affirm itself in spite of life's ambiguities. This requires the exercise of a creative will that enables us to hew out a stone of hope from a mountain of despair."

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.

". . . and the Word was made flesh and dwells among us." Peace on earth and good will to all. Joy to the world the Lord is here!

Submitted by Sr. Carlene Welker

"But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.'" (Matthew 1:20-25)

Submitted by Eddiemae Brown

ADVENT

The coming of the word made flesh, prepare the way of the Lord.

First Sunday of Advent: Take the time to "listen in the silence".

Second Sunday of Advent: In these times of sorrow and trouble we call on God as our Savior and promise of hope.

Third Sunday of Advent: We rejoice in Emmanuel, God with us, the comforter, the Prince of Peace.

Fourth Sunday: Celebrate the presence of Jesus in our midst, the union of humanity and divinity, the ultimate celebration of life.

How can I keep from singing, "Joy to the world the Lord is come".

Submitted by Sr. Carlene Welker

Parish Prayer for Stability and Growth

Heavenly Father,


We thank you for the love You constantly show us. You have bestowed us, Your children, with gifts of plenty to be placed in the loving service to others. In Jesus' name, You have charged with His mission which is to be light and encouragement to others in the ways of faith, hope, and love, especially those who live within our parish boundaries, but also beyond. Breathe into Your people the power of the Holy Spirit so that we may accomplish Your mission. Renew and fill us with gifts of courage, the capacity to listen, and a clear vision as we move forward. We entrust our parish family to the care of Mary, who stood at the foot of the Cross of her Son and who, in turn, stands by us in our crosses. May Our Lady of the Holy Cross guide us as we strive to bear witness to the Gospel and build an amazing Parish.

Amen.



December 2018



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
<p>December 8 Saturday - Mass at 8:00 a.m. Feast of the Immaculate Conception December 24 Monday – Mass at 4:00 p.m. Nativity of the Lord (Vigil) Celebration</p>						
<p>Schedule of Services for the 2018 Season December 25 Tuesday – Mass at 10:00 a.m. Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord December 30 Sunday – Mass at 10:00 a.m. Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph</p>						
<p>January 1 Tuesday – Mass at 8:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. Feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God January 6 Sunday – Mass at 10:00 a.m. Celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord</p>						
<p>2 First Sunday of Advent 10:00 a.m. Mass Coffee & Donuts following Mass</p>	<p>3 St. Francis Xavier SPEND TIME WITH THE LORD!</p>	<p>4 St. John Damascene 9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration until 3:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m. Hospitality Tuesday 3:00 p.m. Perpetual Help Devotions and Benediction</p>	<p>5 8:00 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Scripture Study 1:00 p.m. St. Monica's Sodality Christmas Party - 180 Grille & Bar</p>	<p>6 St. Nicholas PRAY THE ROSARY</p>	<p>7 St. Ambrose 4:00 p.m. Mass</p>	<p>1 8:00 a.m. Mass</p>
<p>9 Second Sunday of Advent 10:00 a.m. Mass followed by Jonah Ministries</p>	<p>10 6:00 a.m. Revitalization of Baden Association Meeting</p>	<p>11 St. Damasus I 9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration until 3:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m. Hospitality Tuesday 3:00 p.m. Perpetual Help Devotions and Benediction 7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Society</p>	<p>12 Our Lady of Guadalupe 8:00 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Scripture Study 10:30 a.m. Liturgy Committee Mtg 6:00 p.m. Sip and Serve</p>	<p>13 St. Lucy ATTEND DAILY MASS</p>	<p>14 St. John of the Cross 4:00 p.m. Mass</p>	<p>15 8:00 a.m. Mass 10:00 a.m. Ward 2 Mtg.</p>
<p>16 Third Sunday of Advent 10:00 a.m. Mass followed by "Circle Sharing"</p>	<p>17 6:00 p.m. Joint Parish Council-Finance Council Meeting</p>	<p>18 9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration until 3:00 p.m. 11:30 a.m. Hospitality Tuesday 3:00 p.m. Perpetual Help Devotions and Benediction 7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Society</p>	<p>19 8:00 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Scripture Study 1:30 p.m. OLHC Senior Christmas Gathering</p>	<p>20 CALL A SHUT-IN</p>	<p>21 St. Peter Canisius 4:00 p.m. Mass</p>	<p>22 8:00 a.m. Mass</p>
<p>23 Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:00 a.m. Mass</p>	<p>24 Nativity of the Lord (Vigil Mass) 4:00 p.m. Mass</p>	<p>25 Solemnity of the Lord Nativity of the Lord 10:00 a.m. Mass</p>	<p>26 St. Stephen 8:00 a.m. Mass 9:00 a.m. Scripture Study 10:30 a.m. Social Justice Mtg.</p>	<p>27 St. John SPEND TIME WITH THE LORD!</p>	<p>28 The Holy Innocents 8:00 a.m. Mass</p>	<p>29 St. Thomas Becket 8:00 a.m. Mass</p>
<p>30 Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph 10:00 a.m. Mass</p>	<p>31 St. Sylvester I ATTEND DAILY MASS</p>	<p>1 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God 8:00 a.m. Mass 6:30 p.m. Mass</p>	<p>ADVENT NOVENA, JOURNEY OF HOPE AND JOY WITH MARY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 and 9, 10:00 a.m. MASS MONDAY, DECEMBER 3 - SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8, and MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 6:30 p.m. IN CHURCH, 8115 CHURCH ROAD</p>			

Our Lady of the Holy Cross Parish

8115 Church Road
St. Louis, Mo. 63147

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

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*ADVENT NOVENA
JOURNEY OF
HOPE and JOY
WITH MARY*



*December 2-10,
6:30 p.m. at
OUR LADY OF
THE HOLY
CROSS*

25/25 Club Fund Winners September, 2018

Sept. 1	Pat Scott	5605868	Sept. 16	Eric Robert James	5605844
Sept. 2	Robert J. Yanics	5605512	Sept. 17	Terry & Barbara Rossell	5605766
Sept. 3	Fran & Steve Anderson	5605848	Sept. 18	Frances Studt	5605978
Sept. 4	Jerry Baumann	5606433	Sept. 19	Cathy Unnerstall	5606123
Sept. 5	Larry Unnerstall	5606066	Sept. 20	Eddiemae Brown	5606159
Sept. 6	Mary Lou Becker	5606046	Sept. 21	Jim & Annie Blum	5605980
Sept. 7	Betty Bruck	5605534	Sept. 22	Shannon Vogel	5606219
Sept. 8	Stan & Rose Busken	5605915	Sept. 23	Jim Yates	5606026
Sept. 9	Kathryn K. Pezold	5606437	Sept. 24	Elizabeth Dungan	5606342
Sept. 10	Jim & Kathy Simon	5605600	Sept. 25	Ronald Brendel	5605995
Sept. 11	Joan Baldi	5605708	Sept. 26	Stan & Rose Busken	5606352
Sept. 12	Fr. Don Buhr	5606405	Sept. 27	Mark West	5605966
Sept. 13	Charla Johannes	5606054	Sept. 28	Angie Beach	5606398
Sept. 14	Stan & Rose Busken	5605921	Sept. 29	Joan Lehmkuhl	5605891
Sept. 15	Carl Unnerstall	5606127			

\$\$\$ SEPTEMBER 30 - LOUIS COFFMAN (5606131) - \$100.00 \$\$\$