

# Peace Advent

December 5, 2021 † Second Sunday of Advent

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

My Dear Friends in Christ,

How are you doing? Will this new liturgical year help you to become better Catholics? Last week, I told you that I will try to help you look at this year as an opportunity for you to grow in your spiritual life. We now have 51 weeks to conquer that! In our first week, I invited you to ponder about this phrase, "I free myself from the unnecessary fear of worrying about the unknown or the future." Did you find a little more peace in your life when you thought about your future?

This week, my invitation is to think about our pride and work on it.

Advent is my favorite season in our liturgical year because I can feel how wonderful our God is, and He did not have any problem becoming one of us in order to save us. He is God and He put himself at our level to help us!

In our first reading, we found that the prophet Baruch told the people of his time these wonderful words, "Jerusalem, take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendor of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God, bear on your head the mitre that displays the glory of the eternal name." Baruch's book is about consolation and encouragement to the exiles because of their eventual return. During this time, the Hebrew people learned how to understand God's love and mercy to humanity. God knows his people and the ignorance about Him.

The second reading from Saint Paul to the Philippians gives me a lot of hope and confidence in our God. In this letter, we heard, "I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Christ Jesus." On my ordination day, I heard these words from the lips of Bishop Cooney. He looked at me and told me about these words with such confidence that I felt I did not need to be afraid because God is working with wisdom and patience in my salvation. This December 17th, will mark 16 years since I was ordained as a priest. I have had great times and not so good times during these years, but I have never doubted that God wants me to be with Him for eternity, and God works very hard for my salvation.

Today's Gospel is telling us what we need to do to find the peace and joy that God promised to us. The author of this Gospel brought the words of the prophet Isaiah, "A voice of one crying out in the desert: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low. The winding roads shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'" During Advent, we celebrate the beginning of the new Church year. What does Jesus demand of us? Repent, believe and share the good news in word and deed. This week, I invite you to look at what areas Jesus is asking you to repent and believe in Him. I think this is how we should respond, today of all days, to this phrase from the Gospel, "Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." Our response, "I am willing to repent and believe that Jesus can help me with my sins."

— Fr. Rubén Darío Muñoz Jiménez

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## Mission Statement

*"We are a welcoming spiritual home that provides community and personal growth through liturgy, evangelization, the Word of God and a call to His service."*

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**St. Joseph Catholic Church**  
8380 Fifth St · Onekama, MI 49675  
stjosephonekama.com

**St. Raphael Catholic Church**  
18440 Cadillac Hwy · Copemish, MI 49625  
straphaelcopemish.com

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Mailing address: PO Box 150, Onekama, MI 49675  
Email: StJosephOnekama@gmail.com † Phone: 231.889.4254

## Pastoral Staff

Pastor ..... Rev. Rubén D. Muñoz  
 Deacon.....Kim Eaton  
 Business Administrator ..... Nan Kamaloski  
 Organist/Music Director..... Chris Sattler  
 Maintenance.....Michael Nelson  
 Faith Formation ..... Tracy Daberkoe

## Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM..... St. Joseph

## Mass Schedule

Tuesday, Wednesday .... 11:00 AM ..... St. Raphael  
 Thursday, Friday ..... 11:00 AM ..... St. Joseph  
 Saturday .....4:00 PM ..... St. Joseph  
 Saturday .....6:30 PM ..... St. Raphael  
 Sunday ..... 9:00 AM ..... St. Raphael  
 Sunday ..... 11:00 AM ..... St. Joseph

## Sacrament of Penance

By appointment

## Sacrament of Baptism

Parents interested in having their children baptized need to contact the pastor for further information.

## Sacrament of Marriage

Those seeking this sacrament are required to contact the pastor at least six months in advance. Pre-marriage instructions are required.

## Bulletin Deadline

Wednesday at Noon - 10 days prior to publication  
 Send info to StJosephOnekama@gmail.com,  
 or drop off hard copy to the Parish Office.

## Ministry Schedule

### St. Joseph

#### Saturday, December 11, 4:00 PM

Lector Pam Stokes  
 \*Body of Christ Kathryn Nacco  
 Altar Servers Luke Bradford  
 Usher/Greeter Joel & Wanda Lyman

#### Sunday, December 12, 11:00 AM

Lector Maria Somsel  
 \*Body of Christ Deacon Kim  
 Altar Servers Landyn & Easton Kequom  
 Usher/Greeter Mike Kamaloski & Tom Greve

### St. Raphael

#### Saturday, December 11, 6:30 PM

Lector Peaches Sanovic  
 \*Body of Christ Deacon Kim  
 Altar Servers Emily Fouchey  
 Usher/Greeter **Volunteers Needed**

#### Sunday, December 12, 9:00 AM

Lector David Clous  
 \*Body of Christ Carlina Breitner  
 Altar Servers Cathy Noggle  
 Usher/Greeter **Volunteers Needed**

**\*EMsHC Note:** Deacon Kim will distribute Holy Communion when he is assisting at Mass. Thank you in advance for your flexibility.

## Mass Intentions

### Tuesday, December 7th

10:00 AM Adoration followed by 11AM Mass  
 †Ana Munoz (Fr. Ruben Munoz) ..... St. Raphael

### Wednesday, December 8th | Holy Day of Obligation

11:00 AM †William & Edith Russell (Marion Marcero) ..... St. Raphael  
 6:00 PM Mass of the Immaculate Conception ..... St. Joseph

### Thursday, December 9th

10:00 AM Adoration followed by 11AM Mass ..... St. Joseph

### Friday, December 10th

11:00 AM Mass ..... St. Joseph

### Saturday, December 11th

4:00 PM Living and Deceased Parishioners ..... St. Joseph  
 6:30 PM †Richard Smith, Sr. (Carlina Breitner) ..... St. Raphael

### Sunday, December 12th | Third Sunday of Advent

8:00 AM TV Mass for the Homebound ..... Fox 32 (Cable Channel 3)  
 9:00 AM †Dolores & Gilbert Steinman (Doug Pointer) ..... St. Raphael  
 11:00 AM †Robert Lyman (Doug Pointer) ..... St. Joseph

## Prayer Requests

Please pray for all service men and women who are serving our country.

Sgt. Gabe Caldwell, Army	Adam O'Neill, Army
SSgt Hannah Janicki Davis, USAF	Capt. Courtney Pierce, RN, Army
SSgt Kyle R. Davis, USAF	Capt. Karina Pierce, Army
Mark J. Debano, Jr., OD LT, MSC, USN	Sgt. Benjamin Pingel, Navy
2 Lt. Daniel J. Debano, Engineer, MIARNG	Adam Schuessler, Army, USAF
Sgt. Chris DeVoll, Army	Hunter Scoggins, Army
Spc. Renada DeVoll, Army	Austin Soller, Navy
2nd Lt. Connor Fitzpatrick, Army	Sgt. Dylan Somsel, Army
Olivia Fouchey, USAF	Trevor Tomkinson, Marine
Charles Fouchey V, Army, NG	Capt. Kent Turner, Army
Jay Long, Air Force	Yeoman John Tucker, CG
Mike Meyers, Air Force	Yeoman Sarah Tucker, CG
	Daniel Tanner, Navy

Please remember in your prayers all the homebound, those who are in the Medical Care, adult foster care homes, and those who are ill including:

Florence Anderson	Ken Franklin	Kelly Miller
June Bartlett	Michele Gillaspie	Olivia Miller
Gary Bentley	Don Gurn	Lisa Milliron
Janice Berben	Pat Gurn	Dale Moody
Ann Bialik	William Hogarth	Gino Nacco
Dianna Bialik	Addy Hollifield	Nielsen Family
Ed Bielat	Tammy Holmes	James Oliver
Kyleigh Borah	Bruce Howell	Becky Petersen
Ned Brown	Dennis Humphrey	Judy Pendency
Sharon Burkl	Marlene Krause	Reed Family
Anna Charlich	Nancy Kuczynski	Rich Russell
Jayme LaFleur Daley	Stephen Kuczynski	Kelli Sattler
Mark Dagnall	Joyce LaFleur	Bob Saul
Dennis Daldine	Ryan LaHaie	Chad Schualer
Karen Daldine	Tami Laurent	Paul Sedlar
Martha Dirksen	Joseph Lizon	Mary Steen
Bill Duff	Marilyn & William Lotz	Jane Sweet
Blake Elmer	George Macko	Jack Sysko
Frank English	John David Martuch	Kay Thompson
Mary Evans	Tammy May	Donna Wallace
Norma & Arnold Fraley	Julie Miller	Tom Wasco

## Upcoming Events

### Tuesday, December 7th

6:00 PM Faith Formation..... St. Joseph  
7:00 PM Tri-Saints KofC Mtg..... St. Raphael

### Wednesday, December 8th

12:30 PM SR Pastoral Council Mtg.... St. Raphael  
3:30 PM SJ Ladies Altar Guild..... St. Joseph

### Thursday, December 9th

5:30 PM SJ Finance Council ..... St. Joseph

### Celebrating Birthdays

12/06 John Schaub  
12/07 Lucas Pointer  
12/08 Cyril Kosmowski IV  
Daniel Debano  
Jerome Ray  
Michael Chandler  
12/11 George Goodrich

### Stewardship of Treasure

May Our Lord bless us through our generosity.

#### St. Joseph (W/E 11/21/21)

Envelope Offertory .....	\$3,376.00
Loose Offertory.....	\$497.00
Spanish Mass Offertory.....	\$126.00
Stipend.....	35.00
Vigil Candles .....	\$18.00
Building Fund .....	\$345.00
Total.....	\$4,397.00

Food Pantry.....	\$1,240.41
Tri-Saints Fundraising Donation.....	\$500.00
Christmas Flowers.....	\$65.00

#### St. Joseph (W/E 11/28/21)

Envelope Offertory .....	\$913.00
Loose Offertory.....	\$159.00
Spanish Mass Offertory.....	\$98.00
Vigil Candles .....	\$12.00
Stipend.....	\$50.00
Total.....	\$1,232.00

Food Pantry.....	\$50.00
Christmas Flowers.....	\$370.00

#### St. Raphael (W/E 11/21/21)

Envelope Offertory .....	\$835.00
Loose Offertory.....	\$1448.00
Stipend.....	\$20.00
Building Fund .....	\$65.00
Total.....	\$2368.00

Christmas Flowers.....	\$10.00
Tri-Saints Fundraising Donation.....	\$500.00

#### St. Raphael (W/E 11/28/21)

Envelope Offertory .....	\$920.00
Loose Offertory.....	\$327.25
Coffee .....	\$41.00
Vigil Candles .....	\$87.00
Building Fund .....	\$20.00
Total.....	\$1395.25

Christmas Flowers.....	\$100.00
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### Stewardship By the Book

Good stewards believe that God, who has begun His good work in them, will carry it through to completion. In words and deeds, they can sing with the psalmist, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy!"

#### Vocation View

Who, today, is willing to make ready the way of the Lord, to clear him a straight path? Good, O prayed you would.

#### Stewardship Reflections

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." (Philippians 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

### This Just In...

If anyone would like to donate to a little 4 year-old boy, a pair of winter boots, (size 10-10.5), plus a pair of snow pants, (size 4-5), it would be greatly appreciated. I know a family in need. Please contact Maria Saul, 231.878.5021. Love in Christ.

### Ministers Scheduling Change Coming

As you may or may not know, scheduling ministers for St. Joseph Parish is close to rocket science when trying to keep track of each minister's personal absences, and calendars. Sooooo, with the suggestion from many of you who so graciously minister during the celebration of our Masses, I am going to try a new procedure to help in the scheduling of the liturgical ministries. There will be a sign-up sheet in the vestibule where I ask each of you to please fill in the "blanks" for the month. We will begin with scheduling for January 2022 immediately. We have been historically short on volunteers, especially during the winter months, so I ask that those who are able, to please participate in this process as otherwise it will undoubtedly fail. If you would like to join our group of ministers, please call the church office and I will arrange for instructions and/or training in the area in which you are interested. You are welcome to call the office if you would like me to fill in the dates you are available. I am truly grateful for your cooperation in helping me with this new procedure. If on the day of Mass, you happen to notice a "blank", please humbly accept the ministry for the day. May God bless you! — Nan

### Give in Gratitude

A donor to the Retirement Fund for Religious writes, "I still remember the lessons the sisters gave us and how they instilled in us the love of our faith." Show your thanks for the prayerful service of elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. Your gift to next week's second collection helps provide care, medicine, and more. Please be generous.

### CCW Christmas Luncheon

The CCW Christmas luncheon will be held at Noon, on Monday, Dec. 6th, at Geno's Restaurant in Thompsonville. We will have a minimum \$10 gift exchange. Ladies, make sure your pockets are full of quarters, as Vicki has a game for us. Also, ladies dress in your finest Christmas attire as there will be a prize given to the best dressed. Sound like fun? Please RSVP before Nov 29th, to Viva Kastl, at 885-2295.

### A Christmas Concert

The historic Guardian Angels Church will be performing a Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 19, 2021, at 4:00PM. Tower Bells will begin inviting you in at 3:45PM. All of your holiday favorites will be performed and featured using the tower bells, in vogue brass, the 110 year-old pipe organ, and a grand piano! Join us at 371 Fifth Street in Manistee, or simply follow the sound of the tower bells!



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# DIOCESE *of* GAYLORD

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December 2021

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Pope Francis often highlights the role older adults play in conveying faith from one generation to the next. Recently, he noted that “there is no retirement age from the work of proclaiming the Gospel.”<sup>1</sup> As we approach the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection — an appeal that benefits some 26,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests — I am reminded that senior religious never retire from their vows.

Instead, the prayer and ministry of older religious are an ongoing witness to the Gospel. In their younger years, they laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and works of mercy. Today, many serve in volunteer ministry. Others are frail and need assistance. Yet all remain wholly committed to their vocations, accepting the limitations of aging and embracing the opportunity to spend more time praying for our Church and world.

Most senior religious worked for little pay, and now their religious communities do not have enough retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious offers support that helps religious communities provide loving care for older members while ensuring younger ones can continue the good works of their elders.

I recognize you may be experiencing your own financial difficulties. I ask only that you give what you can. Most importantly, please join me in praying for God’s continued blessing on our nation’s elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Walter A. Hurley  
Apostolic Administrator

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<sup>1</sup>Pope Francis, *Message of His Holiness Pope Francis for the First World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly*, July 25, 2021 (<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/nonni/documents/20210531-messaggio-nonni-anziani.html>).