

December 3, 2017 | First Sunday of Advent

St. Mary

CATHOLIC CHURCH



SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:30 am & 10:30 am

DAILY MASSES

Monday 8:00 am
Tuesday 12:10 pm
Wednesday 8:00 am
Thursday 9:30 am @CC

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Or by appointment

ADORATION

Monday 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Friday 7:00 am - Noon

Welcome to St. Mary!

If you are new to our community and not yet registered, we invite you to call or stop by the Parish Office. Forms can be found on our website: www.solonstmary.org

PASTOR: Rev. Tim Sheedy

sheedyt@diodav.org

Deacon David Krob

DcnDavid@solonstmary.org

Deacon Mitch Holte

DcnMitch@solonstmary.org

Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 1:00 pm



Pictured Above (L-R): Marty Kelchen, Brandon Nitcher, and Wade Chapman.
Pictured Below (L-R): Lewis Vyrostek and Mark Roskopf.

FISHERS OF MEN PRAYER GROUP

Are your current friendships hindering or helping you on your journey to being the man God needs you to be in this world? Men face a lot of challenges and Fishers of Men offers encouragement, support and honesty in a non-judgmental and confidential environment. We get together because we know there is more... Our faith life isn't where we want it. Our prayer life isn't where we want it. We read the upcoming Sunday's Gospel; discuss what's the message Jesus wants us to take into our lives and families; and we pray for one another. Find the support you need to go and make a difference in your marriage, home, parish, workplace and community.

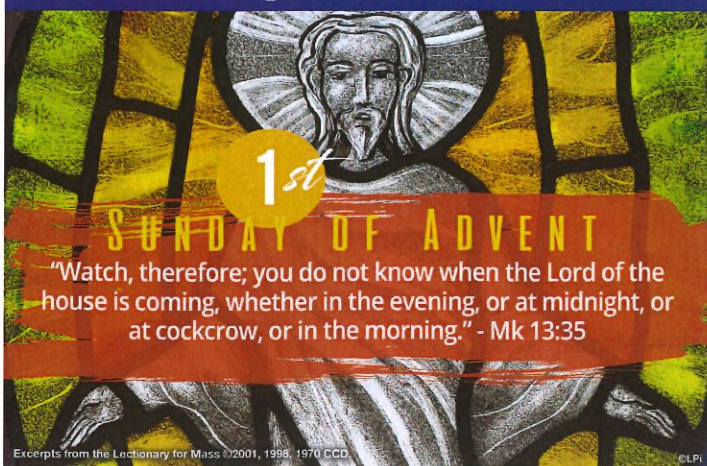
6:30 am every Saturday

7:00am every Sunday

Meet in the lower level of the parish. Open to all men who are looking to commit themselves to a deeper life following Christ.
Come when you can—come once and see if it is for you.
The only commitment is to set your alarm.



Gospel Meditation



"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." On this First Sunday of Advent, Jesus gives us a wakeup call. This is no time for slumber. Now is the time to be on our toes, alert, attentive, ready. But for what? **For the coming of "the Lord of the house."**

During Advent, the Church does her best to help us get ready for the second coming of Christ. **We don't know precisely WHEN he will return, but we know that he will.** And the fact is, even if it doesn't happen in our lifetime, each and every one of us will still have to face the Lord at an unknown hour--namely, the hour of our death.

So let us be prepared! Let us be on the watch for anything that would threaten this most important of all encounters. We want to recognize the Lord as a friend and master, so that on seeing him we don't cower in fear at his awesome power and strength. Instead, we hope to rejoice in finally being able to behold him face-to-face. This of course is the result of a healthy and holy relationship with Christ.

To nurture such a relationship this Advent season **the Church urges us to recommit to a life of prayer, worthy reception of the sacraments, and a commitment to following God's loving laws through a life of virtue.** With these priorities in order, we can wait for the second coming with joyful anticipation, just as we joyfully await the celebration of Christmas.

During these weeks as we prepare our homes for the festive holiday season, may we also set aside some time and effort to prepare our hearts. Then, not only will we appreciate the yuletide wonders around us, but we can also look forward to the eternal wonders that lie in store.

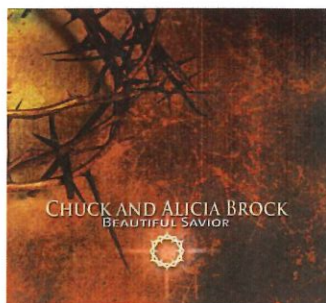


Annual Diocesan Appeal

Thank you so much for responding to Bishop Zinkula and myself, in making a pledge to the ADA. **We are now at 79% of our goal of \$71,273.00. We need only \$14,898.00 to meet our goal. You will find envelopes on the table in the church gathering space.** The ADA gives us the opportunity to act together as a family of faith and support the programs and services no single individual or parish can offer by themselves. Your gift is important. **Every gift, no matter the size, is vital to the success of the Appeal.** Thank you! *-Fr. Tim*

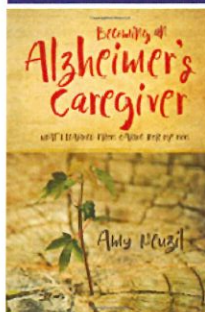
New Album - Beautiful Savior

Have you started your Christmas shopping yet? Are you looking for a good, Christian gift?



The new album, **Beautiful Savior, by Chuck and Alicia Brock** is now available in the office. **Cost is \$15. Proceeds will benefit the St. Mary's Music Ministry program** and their upcoming trip to sing at St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican.

New Book - Alzheimer's Caregiver



The new book **"Becoming an Alzheimer's Caregiver...What I Learned From Caring For My Mom"** by Amy Neuzil is now available on Amazon or by calling Fran Neuzil 624-3756. **Cost is \$10.** The book is a guide for Alzheimer's caregivers: *"In addition to a reliable guide and source of information, we need the insights of those who have walked the path before us."*

Communal Penance Schedule

| | | |
|------------|------------|----------------------|
| 12-13-2017 | 6:30 p.m. | St. Mary - Solon |
| 12-16-2017 | 10:00 a.m. | St. Mary - Iowa City |
| 12-17-2017 | 2:00 p.m. | St. Patrick |
| 12-18-2017 | 7:00 p.m. | St. Thomas Moore |
| 12-19-2017 | 7:00 p.m. | St. Wenceslaus |



SOLON CARE CENTER GIVING TREE Thank you for taking a tag from the Giving Tree. Please, return your wrapped gift by **Sun, Dec 10.** These gifts are greatly appreciated by the residents.

HELPING HANDS SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS St. Mary's Helping Hands is pleased to announce our 2017-2018 scholarship recipients: Olivia Erenberger (\$500), Lauren Geistkemper (\$500), and Jenna Roskop (\$500). **Congratulations Olivia, Lauren, and Jenna!**

Marriage on Tap

Grab your spouse and join us for DATE NIGHT:

Saturday, December 9th 6-8:30 pm

Marriage on Tap is a monthly date night designed to bring a healthy dose of fun, fellowship and enrichment to your marriage and to our parish family at large. **ALL** married couples are invited to attend (newly married, those with children any age, and empty nesters) and lap babies are welcome. Childcare will be provided.

Our society is obsessed with sex, yet confused about its purpose. God created our bodies with an intricate design that includes our sexuality. Pope St. John Paul II gave a beautiful gift to the Church in his Theology of the Body, explaining God's design for human sexuality. Discover it in this talk by Matt Selby from the Dubuque Diocese as he presents *Theology of the Body: Discovering God's Design for Sexuality*.

Dinner will be provided. Please register online at www.solonstmary.org if you are able to attend by Friday, December 8th. Questions? Contact Lindsey Carey at Lindsey@solonstmary.org.

Come to Adoration this Advent

HOPE, MERCY, PEACE...

We long for them in our lives; God desires they be born again in our hearts. Join Deacon Mitch Holte and Julie Agne at 7pm as they share how God's hope, mercy and peace have touched their lives, and then join them in Eucharistic Adoration at 7:30pm with prayers to help quiet your heart and be open and ready to receive:

Monday, Dec. 4 7pm God's gift of HOPE
Monday, Dec. 11 7pm God's gift of MERCY
Monday, Dec. 18 7pm God's gift of PEACE



"Where God is born, hope is born, peace is born, mercy flourishes."

Let us open our hearts to receive the grace of Christmas day, which is Christ himself. With the shepherds, let us bow down before the Lamb, let us worship God's goodness made flesh."

-Pope Francis

Weekly Collections

Help Support
St. Mary via
We Share Online!



November 25-26, 2017

| | |
|---------------------|------------|
| Offertory | \$4,792.68 |
| Building Fund | \$ 25.00 |
| Retired Religious | \$ 25.00 |
| Catholic Human Dev. | \$ 35.00 |

Money Counters:

12/04 - Donna, Rosemary, Margaret, Cheryl
12/11 - Kathy, Kay, Donna, Kevin H.

How Our Parish Prays



Brandon & Emily Nitcher Family

Praying together was awkward at first. Neither of us grew up in homes that routinely prayed together, unless a response to something bad such as a natural disaster, serious illness, or death of a loved one. This was not how we wanted our family to be so we fought through the awkwardness, and it became easier each time. Now we are intentional about praying together and we don't hesitate to spontaneously stop, hold hands, and pray in times of need or thanksgiving.

During a Marriage on Tap evening at our parish, we learned how to write a simple prayer using the formula: A.C.T.S: Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication. We put our responses together into one prayer which we pray together in the morning:

Dear God, You are our strength and our way. Please forgive us for not placing all of our trust in You and for doubting your divine providence. We thank You for everything You have blessed us with and we thank you especially for your protection and peace. We ask that You fill our hearts and our minds with Your peace and that You guide us to serve You in accordance with Your will. Amen.

Before leaving home, the kids are blessed with holy water and in the car I pray aloud: "Thank you God for this beautiful, new day you have given us. Please help us to have good days today. Keep us healthy and strong. Help us to be good friends and have good listening ears. Send down Your Holy Spirit upon us and fill us with the fruits of Your spirit. Amen." I said this one morning after several weeks of behavioral problems at school. Once it became clear this was our new routine, I tried to revise the prayer to sound more graceful, but they refused anything but the original verbiage and point out if I miss anything.

We say grace before meals – whether at home, someone else's house or a restaurant. It's important to us to teach them to give thanks no matter where we might be and to never be ashamed of their Catholic faith. By praying with our kids, even at their young ages, I know they have an idea that there is someone greater out there who loves them and who they can rely on. We want them to know how to talk with God. They will occasionally pray for things on their own. They are often silly or trivial requests (we are doubtful Zeke's regular petition for 'dinosaurs' is making much impact!) but I love knowing they can turn to God with these things.

Recently, we began praying a decade of the Rosary together in bed. By attending the monthly prayer services at Saint Mary's in honor of the 100th anniversary of Mary's appearances in Fatima, we developed a strong admiration and love for Mary. We turn to her and her Rosary for help with our children and family and as a source of compassion and strength.

There is vulnerability in praying out loud with another person and doing so has developed a deep trust and strength in our marriage. Praying together also helps us to focus on God and our family instead of the world around us.

Parish Information

Baptism: Parents must be registered members of the parish. Baptism classes are required, ideally before the child is born. Call the parish office to register for classes and to schedule a Baptism 624-2228. No Baptisms are scheduled during Lent.

Marriage: Preparations must be made at least 6 months in advance of the marriage date. No Weddings are scheduled during Lent.

Homebound Communion: Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to the sick and elderly of the parish. Call the parish office if you would like Communion brought to your home.

Holy Anointing: Do not hesitate to call the parish office in case of serious illness/injury.

Prayer Line: If you want to be part of the prayer line or need prayers, please call the parish office or email solonstmary@diodav.org

Mom's Book Club/Play Group: Meets every other Wed.

Contact Lindsey if interested at Lindsey@solonstmary.org

Meals for Moms - Expecting a new arrival?: Please call the parish office when your baby arrives, so we can arrange for meals to be delivered.

St. Mary Cemetery: Parishioners and family members seeking information about burial plots can call Mark Haight at 319-521-2544.

Parish Hall Rental / Event Scheduling: Please call JoEllen Ritchie, Hall Manager, at 319-624-2407 or email joellen@solonstmary.org to schedule your event.

Liturgical Ministry Schedule

Saturday, December 9, 5:00 p.m. Mass

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Cantor / Musician | S. Moore / M. Hennes |
| Servers | A. Burden, M. DeValk, E. Suchomel |
| Lectors | L. Manary-1, J. Kaefting-2 |
| Eucharistic Ministers | A. Haluska, M. Miltner, B. Miltner |
| Greeters | R. Meehan, D. Zimmerman |
| Ushers | J. Coady, A. Kaefting, D. Krob |
| Sacristan | M. Milder |

Sunday, December 10, 8:30 a.m. Mass

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Cantor / Musician | Small Group / C. Brock |
| Servers | R. Helle, G. Helle, M. Hickman |
| Lectors | R. Upmeyer-1, J. Wilkinson-2 |
| Eucharistic Ministers | J. Burnhardt, N. Upmeyer, T. Zeller |
| Greeters | M. Haight, Z. Hickman |
| Ushers | L. Brecht, D. Burnhardt, T. Stout |
| Sacristan | J. Shulista |
| HBC | Linda, Nick |

Sunday, December 10, 10:30 a.m. Mass

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Cantor/Musician | A. Holubar / C. Brock |
| Servers | E., S., and G. Havlicek |
| Lectors | D. Bruene-1, C. Reyhons-2 |
| Eucharistic Ministers | T. Mitchell, R. Myers, D. Wilkinson |
| Greeters | L. Havlicek, D. Myers |
| Ushers | J. Bruene, D. Naughton, K. Stahle |
| Sacristan | T. Brown |

Mass Intentions

| | | | |
|--------|----|----------|--------------------------|
| Mon. | 04 | 8:00 am | Megan Connelly |
| Tues. | 05 | 12:10 pm | Melvin Henneberry |
| Wed. | 06 | 8:00 am | Mary Jean Fabritz |
| Thurs. | 07 | 9:30 am | Evelyn Blum @Care Center |
| Fri. | 08 | 8:00 am | Mary Ruth Krob |
| | 08 | 6:30 pm | Delores Steinbrech |
| Sat. | 09 | 5:00 pm | Leo Beuter |
| Sun. | 10 | 8:30 am | Melvin Carron |
| Sun | 10 | 10:30 am | For the Parish |

Parish Calendar

Monday, December 4

8:00 am Mass
9:30 am Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible Study
6:00 pm - 10:00 pm Adoration

Tuesday, December 5

11:00 am Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible Study
12:10 pm Mass, potluck lunch to follow
6:30 pm RCIA
7:00 pm Choral Practice

Wednesday, December 6

8:00 am Mass
8:45 am LIFT - Senior Exercise Group
6:30 pm Youth / Adult-Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

Thursday, December 7

9:00 am Mass at Solon Care Center
1:00 pm LIFT - Needle Craft
7:00 pm GriefShare
7:00 pm 2nd Grade 1st Communion Meeting

Friday, December 8 - Feast of the Immaculate Conception

8:00 am Mass
6:30 pm Mass

Saturday, December 9

6:30 am Fishers of Men
4:00 pm Confessions
5:00 pm Mass (Baptism - during Mass)
6:00 pm Marriage on Tap

Sunday, December 10

7:00 am Fishers of Men
8:30 am Mass
9:30 am K-4 Gathering
10:30 am Mass (Baptism - during Mass)
11:30 am K-4 Gathering

Bulletin

The bulletin submission deadline will be Monday at noon prior to the next weekend's publication. Submit articles to solonstmary@diodav.org

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