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Feast of Saint Andrew, Apostle - November 30, 2022

# First Sunday of Advent | November 27, 2022

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# PARISH OFFICE:

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# PARISH OFFICE:

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# HOLY AND INNOCENT CHILDREN OF GOD,

**Opening Prayer:** Not just desiring and waiting for the Christmas day with material preparation alone, but always spiritually longing and doing our best in order to welcome our Lord Jesus Christ into our heart, minds and lives.

The Three Ways Jesus Comes into our Lives: Jesus comes into our lives in three different ways. First, as a past event, Jesus came to us in the flesh, at Christmas, when through him God took human flesh. Every year on 25th December, we commemorate this coming of Jesus as the moment when He was born and laid as an infant in a manger. This first coming of Jesus is what is popularly referred to as the Incarnation: "And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth" (John 1: 14). Second, presently Jesus Christ our Lord comes into our hearts, minds, souls and lives through prayer, His Word and Sacraments. Today and always, Jesus comes to us through his word-whenever we read or listen to his Word and through his Body and Blood in Holy Communion. Jesus comes to us in the sacrament of Reconciliation when our sins are forgiven and through the Sacrament of the anointing of the Sick when we are anointed with the Oil of the Sick. Christ visits us in a special way and comes into our lives when we marry in Christ, when we receive his new life through Baptism and when we are Ordained or consecrated to God. Third, Jesus Christ our Lord will also come for the whole world at the end of time and also when the world will end for each of us individually. During this third coming, Christ will come as Judge and His coming will also be unexpected so we are to stay awake and be ready always.

**Waiting for the Coming of Christ through Faith and Good Works:** Faith and good work play important roles with regard to the coming of Jesus at Christmas. The Christmas story calls for faith in the fact that Christ was born and not Santa Claus. For Christians, the true meaning of Christmas is the celebration of the Savior, Jesus Christ. Without the coming of Jesus we would all die for our sins. God sent his only Son to be the atonement for all our sins so that we would not be separated from God. We are not just expected to have faith in the birth of Jesus, but we are also called to perform good works as we approach the Christmas season. The Christmas story should move us to bear witness to the birth of Jesus in our lives by being generous and charitable through good works, particularly through the provision of material things to the poor or the less privileged. We make Christmas a better celebration for others by our good work or charitable giving such as picking a tag on the Christmas giving tree, filling up Box of Joy, visits to the Orphanage, visit to the prison, visit to the pregnancy center, visit to the homeless shelter and visit to the homebound. We can also consider making gifts to Nursing homes, retirement homes and food pantry. Some of these may not require even giving them items or cash but offering others our services through our time, strength or talent.

Waiting for the Coming of Christ by Casting the Works of Darkness and by Putting on the Amor of Light: As we wait for the coming of Christ at Christmas, we are personally invited to live better lives by remaining in the state of grace and maintaining a better relationship with others. St. Paul in today's Second Reading tells us that we wait and are ready to welcome Jesus by throwing off the works of darkness and putting on the armor of light. The things that St. Paul said should be cast off because they are "the works of darkness" include orgies and drunkenness, promiscuity and lust, rivalry and jealousy. These same "the works of darkness" are the same things he titles elsewhere as "desires or works of the flesh": ... immorality, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness, dissensions, factions, occasions of envy, drinking bouts, orgies, and the like." (Galatian 5: 19-21). Instead of allowing ourselves to be controlled by these works of darkness we are to "put on the armor of light" or walk in the light. When we walk in the light, we are truthful, act correctly or walk in righteousness and purity. So, children of God walk in the light by bearing "the fruit of the Spirit": "... love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law" (Galatians 5: 22-23). The Christian life is a call to always live, work and walk in the light of the Lord.

**Waiting for the Coming of Christ by Staying Awake and being Ready for Jesus:** Today's Gospel uses two images to make the point that the coming of Jesus will be unexpected. One is the flood which overtook the unprepared people of Noah's time. The other is the analogy of a thief in the night, who always comes unannounced. The Lord's coming, the end of the world and our individual end will occur unannounced. We are therefore urged to be watchful and ready by being more assiduous and faithful to our duties as responsible children of the world and God. To be watchful and ready is not all about listening and getting excited over the end-of-time prophecies and visions that have multiplied in our day or that we preoccupy ourselves with the material preparations of Christmas. As long as we are ready and do our best to live as sons and daughters of God we really don't have anything to fear. When we stay awake and are ready we cannot allow ourselves to go to sleep physically or spiritually, but we must remain spiritually alive and faithful to our duties such as bearing the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Cf. Galatians 5: 22), trusting God, being attentive to the Word of God, and by putting our gifts to good use.

**Closing Prayer:** May our waiting for the coming of Christ be accompanied by faith, good works, faithfulness in our duties and peace with God and each other.

### ~ FR. JOHN WILLIAM

#### PARISH STEWARDSHIP

*Everything I have is yours.*" *Luke 15:31* Our Heavenly Father gives us everything, including the chance to share in His eternal kingdom. Yet, like the Prodigal Son, we are often lured away by the materialism of our society. Do you really want to turn your back on all that God offers in exchange for material wealth that has no lasting value? God wants us to be happy on earth as well. But, that requires us to freely accept His gift of faith; putting Him first in all things and detaching from our own self-sufficiency.

	<u>St. Anne</u>	<u>St. Catherine</u>	<u>St. Raphael</u>	<u>St. Gabriel</u>
Needed Each Week:	\$2,467.41	\$2,807.70	\$815.76	\$533.66
Needed Year-to-Date:	53,966.69	58,961.78	17,130.96	10,673.46
Actual Year-to-Date:	52,684.44	54,332.34	15,434.69	11,477.80
Date: Nov. 20, 2022:	1,466.00	1,494.60	387.00	213.50
Other Collections:	457.00	60.00	218.00	0

## THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

#### ~FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT~

## <u>Saturday, November 26, 2022</u>

3:30pm Reconciliation at St. Raphael
4:00pm Rosary at St. Raphael
4:30pm Mass at St. Raphael

(For the Parishioners of St. Anne,

St. Catherine, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael)
6:00pm Rosary at St. Gabriel
6:00pm Reconciliation at St. Gabriel
6:30pm Mass at St. Gabriel

(Helen Anstead)

## Sunday, November 27, 2022

9:00am Mass at St. Catherine (William Kramer)11:00am Mass at St. Anne (Nancy, Lorraine & Sy Goebel)

## Monday, November 28, 2022

9:00am Mass at St. Anne (For our Parish)

#### Tuesday, November 29, 2022 NO MASS TODAY

#### Wednesday, November 30, 2022

9:00am Mass at St. Catherine (For a faith filled Advent)
5:00pm-6:00pm Adoration & Reconciliation at St. Catherine
6:30pm Holy Hour with the Lord at St. Anne

## Thursday, December 1, 2022

9:00am Mass at St. Catherine (For all parents)9:30am-10:30 Adoration at St. Catherine

Friday, December 2, 2022 NO MASS TODAY

#### Saturday, December 3, 2022

3:30pm Reconciliation at St. Raphael
4:00pm Rosary at St. Raphael
4:30pm Mass at St. Raphael

(For the Parishioners of St. Anne,

St. Catherine, St. Gabriel and St. Raphael)
6:00pm Rosary at St. Gabriel
6:00pm Reconciliation at St. Gabriel
6:30pm Mass at St. Gabriel

(Oliver DeRocher)

## Sunday, December 4, 2022

9:00am Mass at St. Catherine (Al Sharp)
11:00am Mass at St. Anne (Sharon O'Callaghan)
1:00-3:00pm St. Raphael Sodality Annual Ecumenical Christmas Celebration

> PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK: Carolyn Lenhard, Joan Youngblood, Beverly Aube, Betty Keen, Charles Carriveau, Karl Miltz Sr., Carol Antkowiak, Carl Skwirsk, Mary Fitzgerald, Mary Gruba

# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **St. Anne:** We will be taking down the table for our deceased loved ones after Mass on Monday, Nov. 28, 2022. Please pick up you loved one's pictures from the table in church this weekend.
- **St. Anne:** The Giving Tree and the Prayer Tree are both up in the Gathering Space. Please take a name from the Prayer Tree and pray for that person or family all year. More details on the back page of the bulletin.
- **St. Catherine:** Lectors and Eucharistic Minister schedules for Jan March 2023 are in the works, if there are any weekends you are not available please contact the parish office by Dec. 19th. Any Eucharistic Minister that would like to be on the schedule this quarter, please call the parish office as well.
- ATTENTION ST CATHERINE AND ST GABRIEL PARISHIONERS: The Ossineke Council of Knights of Columbus #6851 have placed kiosks in the main entrance of St. Catherine and St. Gabriel churches. The kiosks contain fifteen different booklets focusing on Building the Domestic Church. A variety of interesting and informational topics are covered. Stop by the kiosks and have a look at what is available. Booklets are yours to keep and are free.
- COFFEE & DONUTS ~ A GREAT WAY TO ENJOY SOCIAL TIME WITH FELLOW PARISHIONERS! St. Catherine: The next Coffee & Donuts will be Sunday, December 4th following mass. St. Anne: Coffee & Donuts will be after mass on Sundays! St. Raphael: Refreshments will be after mass on Saturdays!
- Volunteer Cleaners needed for January December 2023 for St. Anne Church.
- MASKS AND HAND SANITIZER IS AVAILABLE

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

For The Week (Year C)

**SUNDAY:** IS 2:1-5, ROM 13:11-14, MT 24:37-44

> MONDAY: IS 4:2-6, MT 8:5-11

<u>TUESDAY:</u> IS 11:1-10, LK 10:21-24

WEDNESDAY: ROM 10:9-18, MT 4:18-22

THURSDAY: IS 26:1-6, MT 7:21, 24-27

**FRIDAY:** IS 29:17-24, MT 9:27-31

**<u>SATURDAY:</u>** IS 30:19-21, 23-26, MT 9:35-10:1, 5A, 6-8

## PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS

Sunday: Rev. Richard Kropf

Monday: Rev. John Ladd

Tuesday: Rev. Scott Lawler

Wednesday: Rev. Basil Lek

Thursday: Rev. T. Patrick

**Friday**: Rev. Benjamin Martin

> **Saturday**: Pope Francis

## **STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**

- St. Anne/St. Raphael ~ 989-724-6713
  - Secretary Kathy Hopkins stanne@resurrectionacgr.org
  - Bookkeeper Barb Bruske barb@resurrectionacgr.org
  - Maintenance/Grounds Gary Wodowski stanne@resurrectionacgr.org
  - Music Coordinator Sue Maturen stanne@resurrectionacgr.org
- St. Catherine/St. Gabriel ~ 989-471-5121
  - Secretary/Bookkeeper Shelby Failla stcatherine@resurrectionacgr.org
  - Maintenance/Grounds Joe LaBell stcatherine@resurrectionacgr.org
  - Religious Ed Director Cathy Macfalda cathy@resurrectionacgr.org
  - Music Coordinator, Jan Malenfant 989-471-2616
  - Parish Communications Kayla Adams kadams@resurrectionacgr.org

#### CATHOLIC SERVICE APPEAL 2022: AS OF NOV. 14, 2022:

St. Anne has reached in one-time gifts and pledges, \$18,880 which is 80.7% of our goal. We need an additional \$4,512. To date, 47 parishioners have contributed or pledged to the CSA. This represents 28.7% of our members. St. Catherine has reached in onetime gifts and pledges, \$27,045.00 which is 96% of our goal. We need an additional \$1,059.00. To date 65 parishioners have contributed or pledged to the CSA. This represents 65% of our members. St. Gabriel & St. Raphael have both reached there CSA goal in contributions but not in participation. If you have not already contributed or pledged, please do so soon! It is imperative that we reach our goal. Thank you to all who have responded so far!

# **OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

#### **BIBLE IN A YEAR WITH FR. MIKE SCHMIDT**

Beginning January, 1 2023, Fr. Mike Schmidt from Ascension Presents is beginning a podcast called Catechism in a Year. Fr. Mike does a wonderful job reading the content out loud, and then breaking the information down in a way that we can all understand and apply to our lives. https://ascensionpress.com/pages/catechisminayear

#### WORLD YOUTH DAY ~ A PILGRIMAGE TO PORTUGAL

The Diocese of Gaylord is leading a pilgrimage for young adults ages 18 to 35. Celebrate World Youth Day in Lisbon, Portugal from July 30 until August 7, 2023. Join Pope Francis and Bishop Walsh for a memorable pilgrimage with days of catechesis, festival, prayer and the Sacraments. Pilgrims will end the pilgrimage with a 24-hour prayer vigil and Mass with the Holy Father. Cost is \$2,999 plus airfare.

### Must register by November 30, 2022.

For more information contact: Ami Peterson at 231-340-1743 or apeterson@dioceseofgaylord.org

# ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR PARISHES OF THE RESURRECTION:



## **HOLY HOUR WITH THE LORD**

#### Day: Wednesday's (Beg: 11/16) | Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm Where: St. Anne Church

"Again, I say to you, If two of you agree on Earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father." (Matthew 18:19)

Brought to you by: St. Anne's Catholic Women

# **UPDATE: DATE AND TIME CHANGE!!**

#### FRIDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY WITH STEVEN ADAMS AND JOHN MACMASTER

Day: Friday's (Beginning 12/2) Time: 6:30-7:30pm Where: Maria Hall at St. Anne Church Join Steven and John this Advent with a scripture study series on Friday nights. Soup and bread will be provided.



**ST. ANNE GIVING TREE:** St. Anne's Women's Group is sponsoring the giving tree for our local nursing home and adult care home residents. Gift ideas are written on each card. <u>Please bring the gifts back to the church by noon on sunday, December 18th wrapped with the card attached to the gift. Gifts will be delivered the night of <u>December 18th so it is very important that they are returned on time.</u> This is often the only gift that these residents will receive. If you take a tag and find that you are unable to purchase a gift please contact Janette Stover at 989-736-6919.</u>



**ST. CATHERINE GIVING TREE:** St. Catherine council of St. Vincent de Paul is again sponsoring a giving tree for needy families in our area. Tags with names on them will be on the tree, in the gathering area of the church. Please take as many tags as you feel comfortable with and <u>return the gifts with the tags attached, no later than Dec.</u> **10th.** Thank you so much for your time and generosity.

**ANNUAL ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION: 12/4** St. Raphael Sodality Invites Women of the Community To join!

When: December 4th from 1-3 pm | Where: St. Raphael Catholic Church, gathering space (corner of F-30 & F-41, Mikado) LUNCHEON, 50/50 RAFFLE, DOOR PRIZES & MUSIC

Cost:\$10.00 per person. Call Peggy Youngblood at 586-899-3477 for tickets. Please R.S.V.P. by Nov. 25th. In lieu of the gift exchange, please bring a non-perishable food item for the Alcona SVdP Food Pantry. Invite Your Friends, Come and Enjoy Fun and Fellowship!



**CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS:** We are now accepting Christmas Flower Donations, please print the name of your loved ones that you would like to honor or in memory of on your parish envelope in your box. There are envelopes available if you need them in the back of the church.

**ST. GABRIEL ALTAR SOCIETY LUNCHEON AND MEETING:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022 | 12:30 pm Luncheon; 2:00 pm Meeting



**DIFIBRILLATOR TRAINING SESSIONS:** Training sessions to use the New AEDs (defibrillators) that are in St. Anne & St. Raphael will be held as follows: St. Raphael – after 4:30 pm mass on Saturday, Dec. 10 St. Anne – after 11:00 am mass on Sunday, Dec. 11 All are welcome to attend these training sessions.