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**HOLY FAMILY PARISH**  
**St. Gabriel**  
Reinbeck  
**St. Patrick**  
Parkersburg

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**DECEMBER 6, 2015**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Cole North, Secretary  
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**Mass Intentions for**  
December 7 – December 13

Monday.....**6:00 PM @ P Holy Day**  
Tuesday.....**6:00 PM @ R Holy Day**  
Wednesday....8:00 am at Reinbeck  
Thursday..... 8:00 am at Reinbeck  
Friday.....7:30 am at Parkersburg  
Saturday.....5:30 pm at Parkersburg  
Sunday.....9:30 am at Reinbeck

**Intention for**  
Shirley Halbach  
Francis Babinat  
Mary Benson  
James Bernhardt  
Myrtle Kurtenbach  
Liane Kolecheck  
For the People

**SOMETHING MORE** We sing "I am lost in a sea of misery. My heart has turned his back on me; heartache, why won't you let me be."

This time the Babylonians have not taken over the people of God; the Romans have not occupied our cities. Other challenges confront us in new forms of hate and violence; the allure of media and consumer goods; countless misplaced, refugee and migrant people; the hungry and the ill, the homeless, the elderly. Those who are different are not accepted in society.

Queen Latifah sings, "It seems life has played a game on me, I am lost in a sea of misery. Baby, have some mercy, mercy, mercy, mercy, please."

Pope Francis challenges us with a special opportunity to receive mercy and to give mercy. We all need mercy...to make this world the place it was meant to be.

The song says, "I wait for you every single night, hoping you'll return and make things right." We are now in Advent, waiting again on a new return of the Lord. This Tuesday we begin the Year of Mercy, giving and receiving mercy in old and new ways. The heartache, misery, loneliness of this world will be transformed by the mercy of God in Christ...mercy that is received and shared by us, his disciples.

**Just Ahead**

- ❖ FF, both sites, Wed, Dec 16, 6:30 – 7:45 pm, Mass @ P
- ❖ Holy Family Circle Mtg after Mass Dec 13
- ❖ NO FF, Wednesday, Dec 23 & 30

**St. Patrick, Parkersburg location**

Confession each Saturday beginning at 4:45 pm for 30 minutes  
Faith Formation, Wed, Dec 9 6:30 – 7:45 pm  
**Holy Day Mass, Monday, Dec 7, 6:00 pm @ P**

**SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT** *Focus: Are we prepared to carry out the will of God?*

Advent is a season of patient waiting, preparation and action. John the Baptist spent time in the desert in preparation for his mission. When called upon *to proclaim a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins*, he was ready to carry out the will of God. Are we ready to do this as well?

**AND STILL MORE** The Romans were master road-builders and engineers. Before their empire collapsed, there were 50,000 miles of stone paved roads radiating out from Rome as the empire sprawled in to Europe, England, North Africa and the Middle East. They fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah: "Clear him a straight path, every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill shall be leveled." Isaiah wasn't envisioning the highways of Rome, but John's vision of a baptism of repentance and a spiritual highway of forgiveness that flows from Jesus and ultimately leads to eternal life.

**Choir** – The Choir will continue to practice for Christmas Eve after mass on the following dates: December 6, 13 and 20. All are welcome to come and sing.

**Totally Catholic Fundraiser Items** will be for sale the weekend of December 5th and 6th following mass. These items are perfect for Advent, Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers!! All proceeds benefit our youth ministry programs. Please contact Amy Dall with any questions.

**2015 Fall Festival Results** Adopt a Turkey - \$1,255.00, Dinner - \$11,895.50, Raffle Tickets - \$1,253.00. Total Expenses - \$5,613.16. Total Profit - \$8,790.34

**Income Weekend November 29, 2015**

**Adult Budget \$ 3,160.00    Needed \$ 5,154.00**  
Annual Adult Budget \$ 268,000.00

**St. Gabriel, Reinbeck location**

Confession each Sunday beginning at 8:45 am for 30 minutes  
Faith Formation, Wed, Dec 9, 6:30 – 7:45 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation  
**Holy Day Mass, Tuesday, Dec 8, 6:00 pm @ R**

## Other Announcements

**Congratulations to the infants who were cleansed in the waters of Baptism last weekend:** *Savannah Rose Thompson*, daughter of Kyle & Ashley Thompson of Parkersburg; *Kohen James Stumbo*, son of Bernie & Julie Stumbo of Dike; *Ingrid Ann Gunnarson*, daughter of Marc & Tera Gunnarson of Hudson. May they continue to grow in God's love.

**Fair Trade Coffee** Reminder that Holy Family Parish is selling Fair Trade coffee for cost to help create opportunity for small-scale farmers of underprivileged countries make a living. As followers of Christ, we are called to demonstrate special concern for the most vulnerable members of our human family. By purchasing this coffee, we are providing a chance to help other humans make a living for themselves as well as creating a safe work environment for them. You can consider buying this coffee as a donation to charity!! Chocolate and tea are two other items that will be for sale in the future. Coffee is for sale the 1st Sunday of the month but you can contact any member of the Social Justice committee to buy it any time. This coffee is also used after Mass every 1st Sunday.

**New Year's Eve Retreat:** Join us, December 31-January 1 at the AMRH to celebrate New Year's Eve in a sacred way. People of all ages, single, dating and couples are invited. **Title:** "Images of Christ in Scripture: How They Help Us Grow" will be our theme for the New Year's Eve Retreat. Bring your bible and we will start with the infancy narrative, Jesus in the Temple, on to his miracles and crucifix and resurrection. When we think of Jesus what images, thoughts, ideas do we think of? Perhaps these 24 hours will allow us to reconnect to the past, ponder the present and renew us for what 2016 has in store! **Director: Fr. Ken Glaser** Fr. Ken is a priest of the Archdiocese of Dubuque. He was ordained in 2000 and has served in a number of parishes throughout the Archdiocese. He currently serves as the Sacramental Priest and Director of Campus Ministry at St. Stephen the Witness Catholic Student Center at the University of Northern Iowa. The fee for the retreat is \$65.00 per person. As a "thank you" to the DREAMERS, they may deduct \$5.00 if they worked on the DREAM weekend! Arrival is at 5:00 p.m. New Year's Eve and departure at 11:00 a.m. on New Year's Day. To register or with further questions, contact the American Martyrs Retreat House #319-266-3543 or email DBQAMRHsec@DBQArch.org

**Couples of Faith** Join us for our **Marriage Panel Date Night** on Sunday Dec 6 from 5 – 7 pm. We will be enjoying a fabulous Ham dinner with baked potato, salad and dessert! All married and engaged couples of ALL AGES AND FAITHS are welcome as we enjoy food, fun, fellowship and a door prize!! Please RSVP for couples and childcare by Dec 5 if possible. Call, text or email Cole North: 319-215-6118 or cnorth3412@gmail.com

**Christmas in Grundy County** There are still volunteer opportunities still available for Christmas in Grundy County on December 12, from 9 – 11am. Volunteers needed for: Personal Shoppers, to help assist families while they shop; Kid Zone, hang out with kids & play, serve snacks and help them pick out gifts for their parents (must be 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up); Cook Breakfast. Please go to [www.christmasingrundy.org](http://www.christmasingrundy.org) to sign up.

**Christmas Mass Times:** Christmas Eve, Dec 24, 4:00 pm @ Parkersburg; 6:30 pm @ Reinbeck. Christmas Day, Dec 25, 9:00 am @ Reinbeck. Office closed Thursday, December 24 & Friday, December 25.

**December 31, Mary, Mother of God Holy Day of Obligation Vigil Masses:** 4:00 PM @ St. Patrick; 6:30 PM @ St. Gabriel. Celebrate the start of your new year putting faith first with Mass! There is a sign-up sheet for ministerial duties for the 4:00 PM Mass in the narthex at St. Patrick. Please volunteer for these tasks if you will be with us at this Mass.

**Operation Threshold** is in need of cleaning supplies - dishwashing soap, laundry detergent, disinfectant wipes, paper towels, etc.

	December 8	December 12	December 13
Accompanist	Susan Holbach	Sarah	Susan Halbach
Cantor		Clara & Marty	Larry & Connie Rohach
Extraordinary	Brenda Davis	John Schwennen*	John Schwennen(D), Tina Lyon*, Julie Grunklee
Ministers	Mary Linder	Jeff Badger	Ron Hayek, Cheryl Osterhaus*, Gene Brandt
Of Holy	Judy Jewett	Ann Badger	Kathy Mauer*, Gary Mauer, Wanda Christensen
Communion			John Schreck, Ann O'Connor
Greet		Chris & Terry Thome	Brian Corwin Family, Al & Denise Bovy Family, Ben Dall Family
Gifts		Marty & Kate Petersen	Al & Denise Bovy Family
Reader 1	Kathy Zeiner	Mary Sullivan	Amy Dall
Reader 2	Wanda Christensen		Diane Stephan
Server	Olivia Woodley	Sam Badger	Ben Freese
Server	Connor Luhring	Halie Petersen	Bryce Dall, Nolan Dall
Usher	Brian Corwin	Bob & Peg Neavins	Ethan DeWall, Roger Dostal, Darrin Fokerts
Usher	Joe Davis		Ryan Folkerts, Chris Frischmeyer, Dave Martens
Video			Brenda Davis
Sacristan / MC /Announcements	Rose Kramer/Mary Linder	Mary Schwennen	Rose Kramer / Diane Stephan / Janine Stewart
Collection Counters		Kathy Clark, Al & Patty Hoff	Greg & Brenda Snider, Helen O'Connor, Larry Krebsbach