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HOLY FAMILY PARISH
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DECEMBER 13, 2015
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Cole North, Secretary
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Mass Intentions for
December 15 – December 20

	<u>Intention for</u>
Tuesday.....5:15 pm at Parkersburg	Bob Kurtenbach
Wednesday....8:00 am at Reinbeck	Robert Kubesh
Thursday..... 8:00 am at Reinbeck	Sara Kelly
Friday.....7:30 am at Parkersburg	Berneita Neubauer
Saturday.....5:30 pm at Parkersburg	For the People
Sunday.....9:30 am at Reinbeck	Don Coleman

SOMETHING MORE – *In the Gospel this third Sunday of Advent, John the Baptist is asked by the people what they should do to prepare for the coming of the Messiah. John's response starts out with what we have come to call "corporal works of mercy." Let the person with two coats give to the person who has none. The person who has food should do the same. In other words, show mercy to those in need...without conditions.*

Still others asked John what they should do to prepare for the Messiah. John's response was that they should not take advantage of others; treat others honestly and with respect; be satisfied with what they are given. Mercy is a component of these behaviors, for in them we treat others equally and without judgment.

This Advent is the perfect time for every parish and ministry to establish its own Holy Door of Mercy for the Jubilee Year. We will pass through that door and remind ourselves of how much mercy we have received from God and others, and we will be challenged to show mercy to every person who comes across our path. Families and individuals can also designate a door of mercy in their homes. Then, with the Prophet Zephaniah, we will "shout for joy" and "exult with all our heart."

Just Ahead

- ❖ NO FF, both sites, Wed, Dec 23 & 30
- ❖ Holy Family Circle Mtg after Mass Dec 13

St. Patrick, Parkersburg location

Confession each Saturday beginning at 4:45 pm for 30 minutes
Faith Formation, Wed, Dec 16, 6:30 – 7:45 pm, Mass @ P

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT *Focus: God's love for us is self-giving and unconditional, surpassing human love.*

Jesus uses words that are analogous to human relationships to describe God's relationship to us: he calls him "Father" and us "Sons and Daughters". When Jesus uses such words and images, it is important to remember God's love surpasses all love found in human relationships. God loves us unconditionally, with total giving of self, and desires nothing more than for us to be in love with him and to love others as a sign of that love.

AND STILL MORE When people asked him questions, John the Baptist told them to share their wealth, be honest with each other, respect every person and be content with what they had. They were impressed and people began to think John was the Messiah.

Every four years, our nation seeks a new president. In the process, we ponder all the candidates. We ask a lot of questions and watch the debates. Then it comes all together, and we ultimately find the "chosen one".

Christmas Eve Mass: Dec 24, 4:00 pm @ Reinbeck; 6:30 pm @ Parkersburg.

Christmas Day Mass, Dec 25, 9:00 am @ Reinbeck.

Office closed: Thursday, December 24 & Friday, December 25.

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

Income Weekend December 6, 2015
Adult Budget \$ 4,845.00 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 16, 6:30 – 7:45 pm

Other Announcements

Congratulations to the infants who were cleansed in the waters of Baptism last weekend: *Kael Ryan Woebbeking*, son of Ryan & Cindy Woebbeking of Gladbrook; *Mailea YanHau McLean*, daughter of Tom & Kelly McLean of Morrison, May they continue to grow in God's love.

Pope Frances stated, "How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God!" Watch your bulletin for messages on mercy and go to: www.dbqarch.org/yearofmercy/. In the meantime, it is good to review our goals: **The Corporal Works of Mercy:** To feed the hungry, To give drink to the thirsty, To clothe the naked, To Shelter the Homeless, To visit the sick, To visit the imprisoned, To bury the dead. **The Spiritual Works of Mercy:** To instruct the ignorant, To counsel the doubtful, To admonish sinners, To bear wrongs patiently, To forgive offences willingly, To comfort the afflicted, To pray for the living and the dead.

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

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.

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

Recovering American Soldiers: When filling out Christmas cards this year, please take the time to send a card to this address: A Recovering American Soldier, CO Walter Reed, Army Medical Center, 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW Washington DC, 20307-5001.

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

	December 19	December 20
Accompanist	Steven	Rita Durchenwald
Cantor	Kathy	Steve Tschertner
Extraordinary	Mary Ann Bergman	Judy Jewett, Sue Messerly*, Rick Ogle
Ministers	Nancy Brannon*	Bobbi Ann Peterson, Ann Lebo*, Janelle Onnen*
Of Holy Communion	Cam Coy	Elaine Folkerts, Kathy Juel, Amy Dall
Greet	Gary & Mary Wolfe	Ben Dall, Sue Sonnenberg
Gifts	Don & Mary Ann Bergman	Greg Snider Family
Reader 1	Tamara Tingle	Joe Davis
Reader 2		Ethan DeWall
Server	Alec Oberhauser	Rachael Kauffman
Server	Gannon Oberhauser	Alayna Kollasch, Devon Kollasch
Usher	Chad & Nikki Schipper	Ron Hayek, Curt Juel, Robert Lang
Usher		Tom Lang, Denny Greiner, Justin Nicklaus
Video		David Martens
Sacristan / MC / Announcements	Angie Oberhauser	Mary Linder / Kathy Zeiner / Amy Dall
Collection Counters	Kathy Clark, Al & Patty Hoff	Robin Olson, Chris & Carrie Moorman, Darrell Folkerts