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HOLY FAMILY PARISH
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DECEMBER 21, 2014
FORTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Terry Hemann, Secretary
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FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT *We need to give thanks to God for the role we play in his plan for the world.*

God has a plan for the salvation, which works out in various generations over the centuries. Throughout today's readings, we see Nathan, Paul, Elizabeth and Mary responding to God's call to them. We too, are called to participate in his plan. Let us be open to God in our lives and give him thanksgiving and praise.

Today's reading from the Second Book of Samuel tells of God's promise to David that his kingdom will endure forever. Saint Paul ends his Letter to the Romans with a doxology praising God through Jesus Christ. Saint Luke's Gospel describes the announcement of the birth of Jesus and recounts how Mary says yes to God's plan for her and the world.

SOMETHING MORE *Base jumpers stand on the top of a very high cliff or a vertical mountain wall and look down a thousand or more feet to see the patchwork of fields on the valley floor far below. Some lack the faith to make that leap and never jump. Others take a deep breath and go. These jumpers begin their free-fall inching away from the cliff face as they hurtle down. Picking up speed, they streak past the blur of the wall. As the distant valley floor rushes toward them, they pull the ripcord on their parachutes and the nylon canopy opens above them. With pounding hearts, they float gently to the ground.*

When the Angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, he came to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph. Mary was asked to take a great leap of faith. As she stood fearfully on the edge of the cliff of her decision, Gabriel reassured her, "Do not be afraid, Mary." Her trusting "yes" was her confident response to Gabriel: "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord, May it be done to me according to your word."

With that she jumped, and God lifted her all the way to heaven.

Mass Intentions for

December 23 - December 28



Tuesday.....5:15 pm at Parkersburg	<u>Intention for</u>
Wednesday.... 4:00 pm at Parkersburg	Mary Ellen Stock
Wednesday.... 6:30 pm at Reinbeck	Leo & Isabel Henrick
Thursday..... 9:00 am at Reinbeck	Hilda Kucera
Friday..... NO MASS	Lois Stephan
Saturday..... 5:30 pm at Parkersburg	For the People
Sunday..... 9:30 am at Reinbeck	Don Coleman

Christmas and New Years Eve Mass Times:

**Christmas Eve: 4:00 pm at St. Patrick
6:30 pm at St. Gabriel**
Christmas Day: 9:00 am at St. Gabriel
**New Years Eve: 4:00 pm at St. Patrick
6:30 pm at St. Gabriel**

AND STILL MORE The scene of Mary in her house in Nazareth gives special importance to reading God's word with faith. Advent is a time to ponder the promise that God is among us, that the Word is asking our consent to become flesh in our lives. Mary invites us to share in the mystery she carried and bore in her human life. The Church invites us to say yes to the same overshadowing of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost that gave birth to the church, extending the life and mission of Jesus in history. This is a momentous invitation to change our lives forever. Christmas is our time to say, "Yes. Be it done unto me according to your word."

Please have all bulletin announcements in by Tuesday morning, December 23. The office will be closed December 24, 25, and 26. Merry Christmas to all of You! The Office Staff

Income Weekend December 14, 2014

Adult Budget \$ 5,854.63 Needed \$ 4,700.00

FYI-The choir will begin singing twenty minutes before Mass at both churches on Christmas Eve. The Choir has worked very hard this year so Come early and enjoy the music!

Just Ahead

- ❖ No Faith Formation, Wednesday, December 31
- ❖ No Initiation Process, Wednesday, December 31

St. Patrick, Parkersburg location

Confession each Saturday beginning at 4:45 pm for 30 minutes
No Faith Formation, Wednesday, December 24

St. Gabriel, Reinbeck location

Confession each Sunday beginning at 8:45 am for 30 minutes
No Faith Formation, Wednesday, December 24
No Initiation Process, Wednesday, December 24

Other Announcements

LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON HER-Our deepest sympathy to the family of Jane Harrington, mother of Aimee (Mark) Wingert of Holy Family Parish. May she be granted eternal peace in God's Kingdom.

Poinsettia Time-We are doing the same with the poinsettias this year as last year. The envelopes are in the narthex at both churches. Fill out the envelope, (each plant is \$15.00) and return it to the office or put it in the offertory basket. Please have them turned in by December 21st.

Choir Rehearsal for Christmas Eve Service We will meet today after Mass for rehearsal for about an hour. Paula Steimel

LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON HER-Our deepest sympathy to the family of Mary Jane North, mother of Byron (Colleen) North of Holy Family Parish. May she be granted eternal peace in God's Kingdom.

Save the Date! We have the Center Theater reserved for us on the 26th--2:00 pm show time. Big Hero 6 in 3-D and The Family Man starring Nicolas Cage. Movies start at 2:00, doors open at 1:30. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend so we can continue having the movies every year! Hope to see you there!

"Couples of Faith" The Christmas season officially ends on January 11th so join us for our next date night - "The Gift of Marriage" - on Sunday January 11th from 5 - 7pm. Please bring an appetizer to share and 1 gift per couple to exchange of a value up to \$10. We plan to even put you in the manger with our Nativity photo booth! Spread the word and come enjoy food, fellowship and FAITH!! Couples please RSVP for yourselves and daycare by calling, texting or emailing cnorth3412@gmail.com or 319-215-6118. Hope to see you there! Your COF Team

Save the Date! April 18, 2015! Women's Reflection-We are very excited to have as our guest speaker Sister Marie Hesed. Sister Marie Hesed was born in Quebec, Canada. When she was 8 years old she had her calling to a religious life at her confirmation. She met Mother Teresa in May 24, 1976. She was the first Candidate when Mother Teresa founded the Missionaries of Charity Contemplatives in South Bronx, NY. She assisted at the foundation in Washington DC, Brooklyn, NY and Chicago, IL. She was the Superior who founded the first Contemplative house outside the US, in Tijuana, Mexico. As well as, the first Contemplative houses in Santiago Cuba and Nairobi Kenya at the end of the Great Rwanda Genocide-which killed 800,000 people. In 2003, she came to the Society of Our Lady of the most Holy Trinity (SOLT). Served there rebuilding the original founding mission in Homan, New Mexico which was abandoned for nearly 40 years. Sister Marie Hesed is here in Iowa building a retreat center called Domus Trinitatis, meaning home of the trinity. It is a retreat center for everyone to go and center themselves in Christ. Make sure to mark your calendars so you don't miss this one!

NCYC 2015 If you would like to attend NCYC in 2015, I will need your name and a \$50 non-refundable deposit by Sunday, December 28th which will guarantee your spot for the trip. The dates for NCYC are Thursday, November 19, 2015 thru Sunday, November 22, 2015. If you would like to attend but are financially unable to pay the \$50 deposit, please contact me ASAP. We have some generous parishioners who have offered to help with the deposit for those who voice a need. The total cost of the trip is estimated at \$510. (meals, spending money, trade items and hats are not figured into this cost) We will meet on January 4th after mass at St. Gabriel to brainstorm and discuss fundraising options. The current estimated attendance from our Archdiocese is at 1,700!! Please submit your name via e-mail to Amy Dall if you plan to attend NCYC 2015 (even if you have previously told me...don't want to miss anyone!).

Knights of Columbus Ultrasound Thanks to the generosity of our parishioners, the project was a huge success. Collections totaled \$965, Holy Family Circle donated \$200; so with the KC pledge of \$1,000 a total amount of \$2,165 was donated to this very worthwhile Pro Life project. The local and state KC as well as the benefiting sites thank you for your support.

Rides Needed We have a parishioner from Grundy Center that is in need of rides to and from Mass on Sundays. If you are willing to help please call the office at 319-345-2006. Thank you.

New Year's Eve Retreat Join us, December 31-January 1 at the American Martyrs Retreat House to celebrate New Year's Eve in a sacred way. Deacon Dan and Nancy Rigel will present "**Our Lady Untier of Knots.**" "Mary...is the Mother who patiently and lovingly brings us to God, so that he can untangle the knots of our soul..." -Pope Francis Cost of Retreat is \$65.00/person. To register or for questions, email or call AMRH at one of the following: email dbqamrhsec@dbqarch.org Phone: 319-266-3543

All Liturgy Members-Please check your schedules to see if you are on to serve during Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses. If you cannot be there please and try to get someone to fill in. Thank you for all your service this past year!

	December 27	December 28
Accompanist	Lyndsay Petersen	Rita Duchenwald
Cantor	Clara / Marty	Steve Tschert
Extraordinary	John Schwennen(D)	John Schwennen(D), John Schreck, Julie Frischmeyer*
Ministers	Arnold Lievens	Wanda Christensen, Rick Ogle, Rita Amling
Of Holy	Becky Lievens*	Ron Hayek, Joe Becker, Leon Christensen, Tawana Wienkes
Communion		Dave Hemann, Bill & Shirley Rogers**, Max & Rosanne Girres**
Greet	Chris May Family	Dean Eslinger Family, Judy Kershaw, John & Rose Kramer
Gifts	Ger & Dorothy Luebbers	John & Rose Kramer
Reader 1	Cam Coy	Julie Grunklee
Reader 2	Cam Coy	Julie Merfeld
Server	Alec Oberhauser	Katie Glick, Colton Glick
Server	Gannon Oberhauser	Drew Sonnenberg
Usher	Gary & Mary Wolfe	Rick Delagardelle, Darrin Folkerts, Ryan Folkerts
Usher		Chris Frischmeyer, Max Girres, Rosanne Girres
Video		Mike Rickert
Sacristan / MC /Announcements	Mary Schwennen	Connie Becker / Diane Stephan / Diane Stephan
Collection Counters	Kathy Clark / Al & Patty Hoff	Robin Olson, Chris & Carrie Moorman, Darrell Folkerts