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HOLY FAMILY PARISH
St. Gabriel
Reinbeck

St. Patrick
Parkersburg

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DECEMBER 3, 2017
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Cole North, Sec/Bookkeeper
dbq169sec@dbqarch.org



Mass Intentions for
Dec 5 – Dec 10

Tuesday.....5:15 pm at Parkersburg
Wednesday.....8:00 am at Reinbeck
Thursday.....6:00 pm at Reinbeck
Friday.....7:30 am at Parkersburg
Saturday.....5:30 pm at Parkersburg
Sunday.....9:30 am at Reinbeck

Intention for
Don & Lois Stephan
Dale McIntyre
Bill Davis
Donna Schneider
For the People
Charles F. Murphy

Something more..... Pierre Teilhard de Chardin, a 20th century Jesuit priest, scientist and mystic, beautifully articulated the connection between the human condition and the spiritual life. In *The Phenomenon of Man*, he affirmed: "We are not human beings having a spiritual experience; we are spiritual beings having a human experience." We all have days when it's hard to feel like a spiritual being. We are bombarded with so many earthly distractions, especially during this season. World catastrophes, political unrest, technological distractions, illness, family/work stressors, violence and addictions are just a few things that clutter our minds and hearts and keep us from living fully as spiritual beings. In today's Gospel, Mark emphatically tells us what we must do: Watch! We are neither to watch nor judge what others are doing, but rather to watch and be alert to what we are thinking, doing, feeling, giving and taking. We can examine our actions and interactions to see if they align with those of Jesus. Do our thoughts, words and actions reflect a spiritual existence or a human existence? Jesus' greatest gift while he walked among us was his loving, healing presence. Who would benefit most this season from the gift of your loving presence? If we truly lived our earthly lives as the spiritual beings we were created to be and lived as Jesus lived, what would we have to change? Advent challenges us to be alert to the ways we turn our minds and hearts away from God and others. Take this time to clear out any earthly distractions. Unplug! Simplify! Unleash those spiritual gifts! Share them and thus bring Jesus more fully into our lives and our world. Only then will there be space for God's grace to enter. Only then will we be ready for a spiritual awakening like never before.

Poinsettia Envelopes are available on the table in the narthex if you are interested in purchasing one for Christmas for a loved one. \$15 each. Please send to the office or place in collection basket.

Choir Practice St. Gabriel choir will be meeting every Tuesday at 7 pm in Reinbeck until Christmas. All are welcome!

Please have bulletin announcements into the office by Thursday at 3:00 pm

Just Ahead
Holy Family Circle Mtg after Mass, Sun, Dec 17

St. Patrick, Parkersburg location
Confessions: 1st & 3rd Saturday at 4:45 pm or by Appt.
Faith Formation, Wed, Dec 6, 6:30 – 7:45

Holy Day – Immaculate Conception
Thursday Dec 7, 6:00 pm Mass at St. Gabriel, No am Mass
Friday, Dec 8, 7:30 am Mass at St. Patrick

FOCUS: Stay awake and watch for the Lord.
The ancient spiritual tradition of *memento mori* is one of calling to mind our own eventual death in order to focus on eternity and live a better life. How easy it is to be lulled into the sleep of the world and to forget that there is a limit to our earthly time. Advent is a time to prepare ourselves for Christ's return in glory. When the Lord comes, will he find us awake?

Congratulations to Ruth Marie Jacobi, daughter of Curt & Patty Jacobi of Reinbeck, who was cleansed in the waters of baptism on Sun, Nov 26, at St. Gabriel Church in Reinbeck.

Congratulations to Jameson Paul & Miles Dean Klaus, children of Paul & Jessika (Folkerts) Klaus and great grandchildren of Darrell & Elaine Folkerts, who were cleansed in the waters of baptism on Sun, Nov 26, at St. Gabriel in Reinbeck.

Share Your Talents!! St. Gabriel is looking for anyone willing to be a Cantor, Pianist or Organist. If you are able to do this in Jan, Feb or March, we will need to know by Dec 18th so we can add your name to the 1st quarter liturgy schedule. If you are able to help in the coming year, please call Sue Halbach with any questions or to tell her "YES, I will share my Talents"! 319-269-4331

Reinbeck Community Blood Drive Thurs, December 7, from 1-6 pm at the Memorial Building, Room, 208 Broad St. in Reinbeck.

December Couples of Faith Date Night, Sunday, December 10th. Doors open at 4:45 pm and we will finish by 7 pm. A Holiday Ham meal and child care are all provided at no cost. Please bring one (no more than \$15) gift per couple for our crazy, anything goes, gift exchange. Please RSVP to Deacon Greg by Sat, December 9th (if possible) [319-240-0840](tel:319-240-0840) or greg.hfp@gmail.com. It's sure to be a night of fun and laughter-hope to see you there!

Income Weekend November 26, 2017
Weekly Collection \$ 2,640.00 Needed \$ 5,000.00
Income YTD as of November 30, 2017
Total Collections \$ 102,620.11 Total Budgeted \$105,300.00
Annual Adult Budget Needed \$275,000.00

HFP Prayer Chain Contacts:
By Email: Greg Lievens, dbq169D@dbqarch.org
By Phone: Judy Martens, 641-751-1452

St. Gabriel, Reinbeck location
Confessions: 1st & 3rd Sunday at 8:45 am or by Appt.
Faith Formation, Wed, Dec 6, 6:30 – 7:45
Adoration 7:30 am, Wed, Dec 6 @ R

Other Announcements

Help care for elders "Thanks to support from the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are now in a much better position to care for our elders," writes a religious sister. Your donation helps her religious community and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plan for long-term needs. Please give to next week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

HOLIDAY COOKIE & CANDY WALK AND BAZAAR Our HOLIDAY WALK is on **December 9, from 9:00-11:00**. Last year was an awesome turn out and we hope to do better this year. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!...** by making 7 dozen cookies or candies. Help with set up or clean up. If you cannot bake, please help by sending a \$20.00 donation so others can do the baking for you. Bake for others. Sign up to help in the kitchen, at the craft table, or plateing cookies. You can also spend the morning eating cinnamon rolls, shopping our many awesome vendors and taking a box or two of cookies home. Or please consider donating an item to our craft table. This is Holy Family Circles one major fundraiser for the year. We appreciate your support throughout the year in the many projects we are involved in...Happy Baking!!! Contact: Elaine Folkerts 404-3706, Karen Benson 464-2286, Agnes Biersner 989-2560.

CHRISTMAS IN GRUNDY COUNTY Several organizations throughout Grundy County are partnering with Operation Threshold to help families, who may be struggling financially this holiday season, provide Christmas with dignity for their children. The Christmas Store offers parents an opportunity to shop for quality gifts for their own children at a discounted cost of 75-80% off. While parents are shopping, childcare will be provided at the Kids Christmas Zone. Kids will also have an opportunity to pick out a gift for their parents & participate in activities that help them learn about the true meaning of the Christmas season. There are many ways to support this event! Bring new & unwrapped toys to our church, make a financial donation, purchase a Christmas storybook or sign up to volunteer. Gift collection will end on December 3rd. For more information or sign up to volunteer visit our website: www.christmasingrundy.org or contact : Barb Melloy, tbmelloy@gmail.com or 319-360-1163; Rosanne Girres, mrgirres@gcmuni.net or 319-824-6420.

Piano "Recital/Concert": The piano 'recital/concert' will be immediately following Mass on Sunday, Dec. 10. Coffee & donuts will be served following for those who would like to stay. Please let the office know if you are willing to play something. It doesn't have to be anything spectacular! We are just wanting to give you a chance to try out the new piano. Please contact Kathy Zeiner ([319-825-6518](tel:319-825-6518) or kzeiner02@gmail.com) by Monday, Dec. 4 if you would like be part of the "recital/concert". Arrangements can be made to try out the piano before the "recital/concert". Thank you.

Reminder please remember our veterans this holiday season. Send a card to a soldier and keep all veterans near and far in your prayers.

Send A Christmas Card to Retired Priests & Sisters: The retired priests & sisters of the Archdiocese of Dubuque would love to receive Christmas cards from you. Maybe you know some of them, or maybe you don't, it doesn't matter, they would still appreciate a card. There are sheets on the credenza in the Narthex with all the names & addresses. For the retired nuns you can send a card to the retirement community to be shared with all of them. Feel free to take a sheet home with you and include some of them in your Christmas card list.

	Dec 7 6:00 pm @ R	Dec 8 7:30 am @ P	Dec 9	Dec 10
Accompanist	Susan Halbach		Lyndsay	Susan Halbach
Cantor			Kyle	
Extraordinary	Ann O'Connor	Mary Ann Bergmann	Greg Lievens	Greg Lievens (D), Julie Frischmeyer*
Ministers	Gary Mauer	Mary Schwennen	Mary Schwennen	Ron Hayek, Judy Jewett, Barb Melloy*
Of Holy	Kathy Mauer	Becky Lievens*	Julie Dunn*	Tim Melloy, John Schreck, Sue Sonnenberg
Communion				Janine Stewart, Linda Williams, Mike Williams
Greet		Don & Kathy Hosch	Larry & Vi Kisner	Glen & JoAnn Witt Richard & Nancy Woodley Leon Aalderks Family
Gifts		Kelly Etjen & Chuck Etjen	Jeremiah Hook Family	Richard & Nancy Woodley
Reader 1	Amy Dall	Cam Coy	Ashlee Tott	Don Davidson
Reader 2	Bryce Dall			Joe Davis
Server	Lucy Lebo, Drew Sonnenberg		Riley Oberhauser	Colton Glick, Andrew Hommel
Server	Olivia Woodley		Creighton Eberhart	Daniel Hommel
Usher	Denny Greiner	Larry & Vi Kisner	Roger & Angie Oberhauser	Chad Vandenberg, Mike Williams
Usher				Kenny Ackerman, Michael Bennett
Video				Susie Billerbeck
Sacristan / MC /Announcements	Mary Linder / Kathy Zeiner / Julie Grunklee	Becky Lievens	Greg Lievens	Connie Becker / Rita Amling / Janelle Onnen
Collection Counters		Kathy Clark	Kathy Clark	Margie Glick, John Kramer, Bill & Shirley Rogers