

A Reflection...

Throughout Advent, the Catholic Church prescribes readings from the greatest of the prophets, the Prophet Isaiah, whose writings foreshadow the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

On the First Sunday of Advent, we read the beginning of the book of Isaiah, where the prophet speaks in the voice of God and calls the people of Israel to repentance, to prepare them for the coming of His Son. But the Old Testament people of Israel also represents the New Testament Church, so the call to repentance applies to us as well. Christ has already come, at the first Christmas; but He is coming again at the end of time, and we need to prepare our souls.

We need to "cease doing evil, and learn to do good," and Isaiah mentions specific acts of charity that we might take to heart this Advent season: help those who are oppressed, by poverty or injustice; relieve the orphaned; care for widows. Our works flow from our faith, and are a sign of that faith.

By Scott P. Richert <http://catholicism.about.com/bio/Scott-P-Richert-25677.htm>

Father Victor surgery update ...

Father continues to do wonderfully! No sign of rejection or infections. He gets exercise by walking around the church twice a day when he is home. He still has appointments at HCMC a couple days a week. Father Victor says "he has learned a lot about his surgery and any procedures" because he "asks many questions of his surgeon". He continues to thank all of you for the prayers, cards, and well-wishes. **'VISITORS'**. He is accepting visitors (no more than 2-3 at a time and for short visits only). IF YOU ARE ILL – PLEASE do not expose him to germs as it is very important that he remains healthy. Should you wish a visit, text Father Victor or call Tracy in the office to see if he is around and accepting visitors. St. Patrick office 507.334.6002, Tracy's Cell # 612.756.0515. **'MEALS'**. We are doing good on meal donations right now. Should we need more we will get the word out in the bulletins. Thank you to everyone who has donated. Katie & The Lodge Staff are taking great care of Father, giving him good, nutritious meals.



Facebook users -- please help us spread the work about St. Patrick events. **Here is how you can help.** Go to our Facebook page and look for the Event. Click the Share button and invite your friends. While you are there, be sure to check that you are interested. If you haven't been to our Facebook page, go to <https://www.facebook.com/spshieldsville.org> Thank you for your help! Also, our Website - <http://shieldsville.org/>



Christmas Eve Youth Mass with Youth Choir

We want ALL OUR youth to sing at St. Patrick's Christmas Eve 4:00 p.m. Family Mass. Practice is Wednesday, Dec. 14th at 6 – 7 p.m. Songs were handed out at Religion Classes, however if you child does not attend our classes, copies of the music may be picked up in the office so they can learn the words at home and be prepared for the practice. We would also like youth to participate as readers, greeters & ushers. Call the office or talk to Tracy.

We invite you to Pray for our 1st Communion & Confirmation Youth.

The tree in the narthex has a cross with the name of each student. Pick up a cross and pray for that child or send them cards of encouragement. Cards can be sent to the church and we will distribute them to the youth.

Next Baptism Class – 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7th at Most Holy Redeemer Church in Montgomery. Classes are required IF this is your first child or it has been more than 2 years since your last class. Call Montgomery to register 507.364.7981.



American Red Cross

Next Red Cross Blood Drive – Monday, Dec. 19th 1–7 p.m.

Go online to redcrossblood.org to find a time to donate. All donors receive a key chain thank you. Whole Blood and Double Reds will be collected at this drive.

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA!!

How about getting a T-Shirts or Sweatshirts as a Christmas Gift? Order forms are located on the display by the office. Shirts in the colors available are on the display. Place order form in a 'Shirt Orders' envelope with your payment and turn it into the office or weekend collection. **Shirts available now:** Green T-Shirt Size Medium, White T-shirt Size XL and a Sand Crew Sweatshirt Size Large.



Fr. Dave Barrett hosts a Pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes & Santiago de Compostela to celebrate 100th Anniversary of Apparitions in Fatima.

The trip is 11 days: September 26 – October 6, 2017. You will visit Fatima, Coimbra, Santiago de Compostela, Salamanca, Avila, Madrid, and Lourdes. Total cost is \$3,299 per person from Minneapolis (Air/land tour price is \$2,649 plus \$650 government taxes/airline surcharges.) Brochures located on the kiosk

Knights of Columbus 889 Korner



(17 Third Street NE – Ph.507.334.4918)

The K of C is not just a fraternity in name. It is a brotherhood of Catholic men who each play a part in improving the world around them, one community at a time. They stand together in faith, while lending their support and strength to parish, home and fellow Knight. Ask a Knight for more info or contact us at fariboknights@gmail.com.

Most Holy Redeemer Catholic School

(Pre-K - 8th Grade)

205 Vine Ave West, Montgomery
(507)364-7383 (mosthrs.org)



November 22 was the feast day for St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music. As a longtime music educator and currently a church choir director, I, of course, have always liked knowing about St. Cecilia. Music is associated with the Divine in her story and most of us recognize that certain music

has the power to bring us closer to God as well. Beautiful music can give us a different perspective. It can inspire us to be better people and move us to count our blessings -- not a bad thing to do as we approach the coming holiday. Have a good week and very happy Thanksgiving.

“I will sing to the LORD all my life; I will sing praise to my God while I live.”
-Psalm 104:33

Coat Drive Report

On Friday, November 18, Francis Rynda, Amy Bulger and the 7/8 grade class delivered 225 coats to the St. Vincent DePaul Center in Faribault. Thank you to all who donated.

Change in Mass Schedule

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mass will be held on Thursday, December 8, at 8:15 a.m. at Most Holy Redeemer.

Eye & Ear Screening

Testing of students' eyes and ears will be Wednesday, November 30, at HRS. Students need to bring their eyeglasses with them to the screening.

Holiday Social - Next Chapter Winery

Friday, Dec. 16, 7:30 - 10 p.m., \$35/person

What better way to celebrate the holiday season with your loved ones than with a holiday social at the Next Chapter Winery sampling local cider, wine, and food?

Starting at 7:30 p.m. come enter into the chandelier-lit Barrel Room, where six different stations will be set up, laden with small plates from Pizzeria 201, a local restaurant and catering company located in downtown Montgomery. At each station,

there also will be a carefully selected wine from the Next Chapter Winery or a cider crafted by the Montgomery Apple Orchard which will pair with and enhance the flavors of the hors d'oeuvre. After sampling from each station, please feel free to stay, relax, sip and enjoy the evening. This event includes 6 hors d'oeuvres, 3 different wines and 3 different ciders. A portion of the night's proceeds will go to Holy Redeemer School.

Friday, December 16, 7:30 - 10 p.m., \$35/person.

MNSAA - 'Wish list'

In the next several months you will be hearing about MNSAA and the school's accreditation process. MNSAA stands for Minnesota Nonpublic School Accrediting Association and the process enhances the quality of education through a process of self-evaluation and ongoing improvement. As part of the procedure, the HRS Advisory Board is comprising a "wish list," a list of possible improvements for the school to improve the quality of education and increase enrollment. If you have any suggestions for the group, please contact the Advisory Board or the school office.

Santa Anonymous Collection Nov. 18 - Dec. 9

HRS again is a collection site for the Le Sueur County Santa Anonymous program. Please help Santa Anonymous provide a Merry Christmas for less fortunate children in the county. Some of the items needed are: toys of good value, educational, long-lasting and non-violent (no guns), new socks, hats, mittens, bedding, books and items for teenagers. Please leave gifts unwrapped with prices on. Mrs. Picha is the Montgomery coordinator

As always, please feel free to email or call me with any thoughts or concerns. George Vondracek

Coming Up In The Area ...

- **Light Up A Life** Outdoor Tree Lighting, Monday, December 5, 7:00 p.m. at District One Hospital Surgery Center. A \$5 gift will light up a bulb on the Hospice Memory Tree in honor of a loved one or friend. Donation forms are available on the kiosk, by the display case or in the office.

- **Pallium Mass for Archbishop Hebda**
Sunday, December 18, 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Paul, St. Paul. All people of the Archdiocese are invited to the Pallium Mass for Archbishop Bernard Hebda. The Apostolic Nuncio will confer the Pallium – which was blessed at Saint Peter's Basilica by Pope Francis on the feast of Saints Peter and Paul on June 29 – on Archbishop Hebda at the special Mass.

Natural Family Planning Classes The Couple to Couple League offers NFP classes in Faribault. Each class consists of 3 monthly meetings. Start dates are as follows: December, 3, and December 15. To register go to ccli.org, click on Search/Register for Classes. For info about local classes call 507.330-4559, 507.210-4805 or 507.412-0250