

WELCOME TO PAX CHRISTI WE ARE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

WEEKLY BULLETIN FOR DECEMBER 16, 2018

NEW HERE?

MASS TIMES:

Saturday ~ 5:00pm

Sunday ~ 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm

Mondays ~ 8:30am

Tuesdays ~ 8:30am with Rosary to follow

Wednesdays ~ 6:00pm

Thursdays ~ 8:30am

Fridays ~ 8:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Private) ~ Saturdays 3:30–4:30pm

Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am Mass.

Nursery provided for infants through age 4 during Sunday Mass times.

SACRAMENTS:

Baptism ~ registration and info at www.paxchristi.com/baptism

Confirmation ~ registration and info at www.paxchristi.com/ffregistration

First Eucharist ~ registration and info at www.paxchristi.com/ffregistration

First Reconciliation ~ registration/info at www.paxchristi.com/ffregistration

Marriage and Wedding Prep ~ www.paxchristi.com/marriage

Questions? Contact Andrea in the parish office, 952-405-7207

MONTHLY MAGAZINE:

The *PaxChristiNews* is mailed each month to all registered members. If you are visiting this weekend, feel free to pick up a complimentary copy from the front desk receptionist.

BECOME A REGISTERED MEMBER:

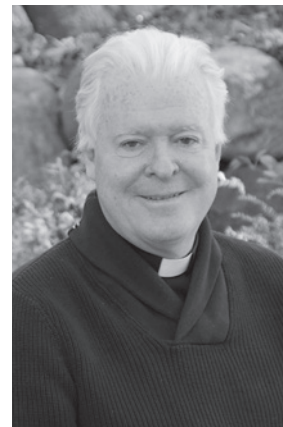
New Member registration takes place on the second Sunday of each month after every Mass or any time by visiting the parish office. Additional information at www.paxchristi.com/joinpax.

WEDDINGS AT PAX CHRISTI:

Couples wishing to get married at Pax Christi should be registered members of our parish for at least one year prior to the wedding date. This encourages a couple to practice their faith, share their gifts, and participate in the life of the community at Pax Christi before they are married. The actual marriage preparation should begin a minimum of six months before a couple's wedding date. Additional information at www.paxchristi.com/marriage.

WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM

A NOTE FROM FR MIKE BYRON



Dear Friends:

In a recent article, the theologian and scripture scholar Sandra Schneiders recalled the most compelling piece of advice she had been given by a colleague in graduate school: Never refuse an invitation. It was a summons to attend to absolutely everything that presents itself to us for contemplation, re-thinking, and response. She believes—and I completely agree—that this kind of grand openness to all that life puts before us is particularly necessary and apt for religious people, not only those who are in vowed life as she is, but for all who are serious seekers. And she noted that the long history of religions, including Catholic Christianity, has often been particularly resistant to that kind of advice, if not overtly hostile to it, because of their (our) presumptions about "certainties."

To take that bit of wisdom seriously, never refusing an invitation does not mean to become a thoughtless automaton who welcomes naively whatever person or point of view is proposed. But it is to be very attentive to the entirety of what human existence puts before us each day, especially those people and experiences that cause us to become questioning or uncertain of our own previously held "absolute" beliefs.

To mention just a couple of examples, St. Thomas Aquinas—arguably the most learned and wise of Catholic teachers—wrote extensively about everything concerning faith and philosophy. But he never broached the topic of the Jews, even though their communities were widespread and already ancient in his Medieval Europe. Their perduring existence didn't "fit" with Thomas' Christian world view, and so he declined the invitation to inquire about it in public. More recently, Fr. Karl Rahner, a pre-eminent descendent of Aquinas and arguably the greatest among twentieth century Catholic theologians, also wrote about pretty much everything, mostly in Germany during the years after World War II. He never published a word about the Holocaust. Another unsettling declined invitation.

One of my own favorite nuggets of advice in this regard came in answer to the question, Why should any Christian take serious religious interest in the Taj Mahal (the massive Muslim shrine and mausoleum and artifact of Islamic empire in Agra, India)? The response? Because it's there! A silent invitation in stone, if we would care to inquire into it.

Not refusing any invitation, of course, demands a broadness of spirit, an openness to challenge, and enough humility either to amend one's own ways of making sense of life and God or sometimes to utter those brave words, "I've been wrong up to now."

If this Advent season has any abiding theme running through its scriptures it is that of bewilderment, confusion, instability, even conflict. Think of Mary and Joseph, think of Zechariah and Elizabeth, think of King Herod. In the Incarnation God issued a cosmic invitation to the human race, and God still does that. The invitation can be declined, but it can't be ignored by people of integrity. Let's check it out.

Michael Byron



UPCOMING EVENTS

WHEN THE THOUGHT OF CHRISTMAS HURTS

Prayer Service with Fr. Bill Murtaugh:

Thursday, December 20, 7:00–8:00pm, Thomas Merton Chapel

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY: HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

January 1, 9:00am in the Sanctuary

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, January 4, beginning with Mass at 8:30am

CAST INTO THE DEEP: BLESSED JOHN HENRY NEWMAN

Monday, January 7, beginning with a meal at 6:00pm RSVP

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCIENCE

Answering the Questions, Exposing the Myths

Thursdays, 6:30–8:00pm, 5 weeks beginning January 10 RSVP

COMPASSIONATE CARE LISTENING CIRCLE

Thursday, January 17, 3:00–4:30pm RSVP

SOCIAL JUSTICE SPEAKERS SERIES: ON IMMIGRATION RIGHTS

Sunday, January 20, 12:30–2:00pm RSVP

Emilia Gonzalez Avalos, Executive Director, Navigate MN

SOULCOLLAGE® – OPEN CARD MAKING SESSION

Tuesday, January 22, 6:00–8:00pm, Room 212 RSVP

THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF WORD AND WITNESS

The Life and Legacy of St. Oscar Romero

Tuesday, February 5, 6:30–7:30pm, Thomas Merton Chapel

ANNUAL CANA DINNER: EARLY LOVEBIRD RATE!

Saturday, February 23, 2019, 6:00–10:00pm; \$70 per couple RSVP

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP 2019

Week of July 15–19, register online now! RSVP

PRAYER CORNER

PLEASE PRAY FOR THESE LOVED ONES:

Ed, Joe, Patricia, Bill, Trisha, Katie, Barb, Ken, Eric, Jackie, Gail, Rod, Brent, Tammie, Michelle, Carol, Jim, and Pam.

Pax Christi offers, as a community, the gift of prayer. If you would like to have your name listed in this Prayer Corner during a time of need, contact Care and Support, 952-941-3150.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, December 17

8:30am MASS
6:30pm Pack 348 Mtg
7:00pm Venture Crew 370

Tuesday, December 18

8:30am MASS
9:00am Rosary Group
9:00am Women with Spirit Bible Study
6:30pm Leadership Meetings

Wednesday, December 19

11:00am Tai Chi
6:00pm MASS
6:30pm Faith Formation
6:30pm RCIA

Thursday, December 20

8:30am MASS
10:00am Book Club
6:00pm Pax Christi Basketball
7:00pm Alanon
7:00pm Alcoholics Anonymous
7:30pm Music Rehearsal

Friday, December 21

8:30am MASS

Saturday, December 22

9:00am Women's AA Group
9:00am Overeater's Anonymous
3:30pm Private Reconciliation
5:00pm MASS - FR. BYRON

The Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday, December 23

HOSPITALITY FOLLOWING MORNING MASSES
9:00am MASS - FR. MURTAUGH
11:00am MASS - FR. MURTAUGH
3:30pm Teen Choir
5:00pm MASS - FR. BYRON

ADDITIONAL DETAILS AND EVENT
REGISTRATION AT
WWW.PAXCHRISTI.COM

2019 CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

PLEASE NOTE NEW CHRISTMAS EVE MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve	December 24
Stories and Songs, followed by	1:45pm
Children's Christmas Eve Mass	Fr. Murtaugh 2:00pm
Christmas Mass	Fr. Byron 4:00pm
Christmas Mass	Fr. McMichael 7:00pm
Lessons and Carols, followed by	9:30pm
Solemn Celebration of Christmas	Fr. Byron 10:00pm

Christmas Day	December 25
Christmas Mass	Fr. Murtaugh 9:00am
Christmas Mass	Fr. Byron 11:00am

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph December 29/30
Regular Weekend Mass and Reconciliation Schedule

Feast of Mary, Mother of God January 1
Holy Day of Obligation Mass 9:00am

Feast of the Epiphany January 5/6
Regular Weekend Mass and Reconciliation Schedule

Baptism of the Lord January 12/13
Regular Weekend Mass and Reconciliation Schedule

www.paxchristi.com/advent

	This Year Actual	This Year Budget	Variance from Budget	Last Year Actual	Variance from Last Year
Week #23 Contributions	83,353	85,000	(1,647)	81,057	2,296
YTD through Week #23	1,090,491	1,183,000	(92,509)	1,217,287	(126,796)
18–19 Contributions Goal – \$2,835,000					

eCheck and credit card giving available at www.paxchristi.com.