

# Saints by the Lake Community

The Churches of  
*Sacred Heart, St. Bartholomew & St. John Nepomuk*

122 NW 1st Street • Glenwood, Minnesota 56334 • (320)634-3813



**DECEMBER 22, 2024**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

### Parish Office

122 NW 1st Street

Glenwood, Minnesota 56334

Phone..... (320)634-3813

Email ..... sheartchurch@gmail.com

Website .... www.sacredheartglenwood.com

Diocese Website...www.stclouddiocese.org

### Parish Staff

Pastor ..... Father Joseph Vandenberg

DRE ..... Paula Johnson (Pre-K-6)

..... Sue Heidelberger (7-12)

Music Director.....Ann Foley

Custodian.....Chris Berger (SH)

... Sarah Heidelberger (SB)

Bookkeeper .....Connie DeVault

.....Judy Radil (SJN)

Secretary.....Katherine Chevalier

Coordinator (SJN) .....Amber Green

Youth Ministry Coordinator.....

Scott Crumb

### Mass Schedule

**Sacred Heart – Glenwood/Starbuck**

Weekend .....Saturday 5:30pm

Sunday 10:30am

Weekdays as scheduled .....

**Saint Bartholomew – Villard**

Weekend (Oct.—Dec.)...Saturday 4:00pm

**St. John Nepomuk – Lowry/Lake Reno**

Weekend (Oct.—Dec.).....Sunday 8:30am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

**St. Bartholomew**.....Saturday 3:15pm

**St. John Nepomuk**.....Sunday 8:00am

**Sacred Heart**.....by appointment

Other times by appointment.

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

This week is a high point in our holiday celebrations. We waited patiently for the 25th to arrive and now we gather with family and friends to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Jesus began his life in humble surroundings. He lived a mostly quiet life, until at the age of 30, he began his earthly ministry of preaching, healing the sick and forgiving sinners. His message was simple, return to the Lord with all your hearts.

Take the time on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to attend church and pray together as a family. Consider reading a short verse of Scripture or a child's story of Christmas as you gather for a meal. Strive for a day of peace and reconciliation among family members.

Many thanks for your cards, gifts, and well wishes. I appreciate all of these.

God's peace!

*Fr. Joe*

## Deaths

Elaine Koubsky  
(12/8/2024)



Please keep Elaine, her family & friends in your prayers.



Dear Friends—With deep gratitude, the Armful of Love Committee would again like to thank you for your overwhelming hospitality. We always feel so welcome and nourished within your beautiful church and by the warm-hearted members who stop by to wish us Merry Christmas. Thank you to everyone who provided a donation of gifts and/or money.

There were 116 families and 284 children served during the week. We were blessed to experience gratitude, and smiles from parents. They each received gifts for their children, and a holiday food package at Tom's Market through your generosity.

Thank you to those who made a meal for us. We always look forward to taking time to enjoy the food and conversation as we share the joy of serving through Armful of Love.

We also give thanks to the Glacial Ridge Ambulance Cres for collecting and distributing bags filled with children's wishes. Fr. Joe, thank you for allowing the use of the church each year! We're also blessed to have Katherine Chevalier take such good care of us each year. Sending blessings this Christmas to you and your families—the *Armful of Love Committee* (Jeanne Pederson, Mary Walsh, Karen Thompson, Mary Kuhn, Marlene Altendahl, Jane Mandershied, and Patty Bond)



## Why Bethlehem?

We read about the shepherds and the caves last week. The shepherds were also responsible for making sure new born lambs did not contract defects, for only animals without spot or blemish

could be used for sacrifice. As baby lambs are very clumsy when they are born, scholars believe the shepherds would swaddle them to prevent future sacrificial lambs from injuring themselves on the jagged parts of the caves. Consequently, remember Jesus too, was swaddled.

Another key aspect of the swaddling was "salting" a newborn. After birth, Joseph would have washed and scrubbed Jesus with salt water. Practically speaking, the salt killed any bacteria, but there is a lot of spiritual symbolism in this act also.

Salt was symbolic of friendship and loyalty in the ancient world; it was a sign of covenant, as in the phrase "a covenant of salt" (2 Chronicles 13:5, Leviticus 2:13, and Numbers 18:19). A common expression to denote friendship in Middle Eastern cultures is, "there is salt between us". A salt covenant is used to denote the eternal covenant of friendship and kingship God made with David and his heirs. "Don't you know that the Lord, the God of Israel, has given the kingship of Israel to David and his descendants forever by a covenant of salt?" (2 Chronicles 13:5) Jesus was not only born in Bethlehem, which is the city of David, but He was also the promised Son of David, the Messiah and King who came to fulfill the Davidic covenant—God's promise that one of David's descendants would live on the throne forever—and to establish the new covenant spoken of in Jeremiah.

Not only was Messiah born in the same location as the temple offering, by he was also washed in salt as part of the swaddling process, which points to His future sacrifice as the Passover lamb of God who would take away the sins of the world and inaugurate the new covenant (Jeremiah 31:31).

In those days, once priestly garments became so dirty they were no longer acceptable to wear, they continued their "priestly" service by being used as wicks in candles, another holy purpose. It is possible Mary obtained torn priestly garments to swaddle her newborn from her cousin Elizabeth, who was married to Zechariah.

So the shepherd priests, who encountered angels, went to a place where lambs used for sacrifices were born and a sacrificial Passover lamb in priestly garments, which symbolized the eternal presence and promise of God. Now it should make more sense as to why a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger would be such a significant sign to these shepherds, for it pointed to Jesus being both the Lamb of God and the Light of the World.

Excerpts from "*the Rock, the Road, and the Rabbi: My Journey into the Heart of Spiritual Faith and the Land Where It All Began.*"

by Kathie Lee Gifford and Rabbi Jason Sobel

## Religious Education Notes

### Bible Trivia



1. In the book of Jude, which archangel is said to have argued with the devil over the body of Moses?
2. What is the shortest book in the New Testament?
3. What island did John have the vision of Revelation on?

### The Directors of Religious Education

Paula Johnson and Sue Heidelberger, can be reached at 634-4828 or by e-mail. Sue: sacredh711@gmail.com  
Paula: glenwoodsacredheartrel.ed@gmail.com



**Need a last minute gift?** Check out the Fair Trade Coffee for sale at Sacred Heart. It's a deal at \$12 for a 1lb bag!

**January 1 is right around the corner!** If you are someone who gives at the end of the year... please get your gift in by Monday, December 30. The office at Sacred Heart will be open from 8am-2pm on that day.



### Mass Schedule (January—March)

Saturdays—4:00pm at St. John Nepomuk (Lake Reno)  
5:30pm at Sacred Heart (Glenwood)  
Sundays— 8:30am at St. Bartholomew (Villard)  
10:30am at Sacred Heart (Glenwood)

### Stewardship of Treasure

*Thank you for your continued sharing of your treasure with our churches!*

#### Sacred Heart Parish - Glenwood

2024/25 Weekly Collection Goal..... \$5,820.00  
Collected (12/8/24).....\$14,645.78  
Adult Envelope Holders..... 404  
Number of Adult Contributions.....87

#### St. Bartholomew Parish - Villard

2024/25 Weekly Collection Goal..... \$1,362.00  
Collected (12/8/24)..... \$1,742.75  
Adult Envelope Holders.....64  
Number of Adult Contributions.....19

#### St. John Nepomuk—Lowry/Lake Reno

2024/25 Weekly Collection Goal..... \$1,400.00  
Collected (12/8/2024).....\$1,608.55  
Adult Envelope Holders.....71  
Number of Adult Contributions.....29

*Please remember your parish with your investments, insurance policies and in your will.*



## Catholic Question and Answer

**Question:** Why do we give gifts at Christmas?

**Answer:** Great events in and of themselves are not tangible. They occur in life but leave no mark behind, nothing that someone could come across and know that something significant occurred. So we mark the event with monuments, holidays, gold watches or plaques, making a meaningful event tangible and memorable.

Gifts at Christmas do the same thing. They mark the occasion of the birth of Jesus, communicating a bit of the joy of the day by allowing us to be both giver and receiver. Gift-giving sets aside the day as special and different. The special foods, customs, decorations, and gifts all help focus our attention on the importance and meaning of the day and at the same time allow us to share personally in its joy and happiness.


In giving gifts, though, we can share in the meaning of Christmas in a significant way. We imitate God in sharing with others. We give a bit of ourselves to others in the gifts we give, just as God gives us the gift of his Son. No wonder we often say that the best gifts are those that come from the heart. Given in love, these presents are wrapped in the best covering of all. ©LPI



## Mass Intentions

**Mon. 12/23**  
**Tues. 12/24** 3:00pm (LR) † Keith Hvezda  
 5:00pm (G) † Dave Foley  
**Weds. 12/25** 8:30am (V) † Mike Rajdl  
 10:30am (G) - for the Parish  
**Thurs. 12/26** NO Mass  
**Fri. 12/27** NO Mass  
**Sat. 12/28** 4:00pm (V) - for the Parish  
 5:30pm (G) † Michelle Kliber  
**Sun. 12/29** 8:30am (LR) - healing for Fr. Kirchner  
 10:30am (G) † Bill & Janice Wisniewski

### Readings for the week of December 22, 2024

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-19  
 Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45  
 Monday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10  
 and 14/Lk 1:57-66  
 Tuesday: *Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16  
 Ps 89:2-5, 27 and 29/Lk 1:67-79  
 Wednesday: *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29  
 Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25  
 *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-3, 11-13  
 Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14  
*Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12  
 Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20  
*Day:* Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Ps 98:1-6  
 Jn 1:1-18  
 Thursday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4,  
 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17/Mt 10:17-22  
 Friday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97: 1-2, 5-6, 11-12  
 Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-5-8/Mt 2:13-18  
 Next Sunday: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-10  
 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

## Welcome!

We extend our hands and hearts in Christian fellowship to you, celebrating with us, whether long-time residents or newly arrived in the parish. We thank God you are with us. If you are not registered, please fill out the form below and place in the collection basket or mail to the parish office at:

**122 NW 1st St. • Glenwood, MN 56334**

Sacred Heart •  St. Bartholomew •  St. John Nepomuk

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

- New Parishioner •  New Address/Phone  
 Summer Resident  
 Moving, please remove from mailing list.



**Prayer Chain Requests**—To start a request, please contact to Barb. Or if you would like to become part of the prayer chain, Barb Kramber can be reached at 320-634-4788.



**Eucharist for the homebound**—If you are homebound and wish to receive Communion at home, call the church office at 634-3813.

**Hospital Visits**—If you find yourself or a loved one in the hospital, and would like a visit from a priest, please call the church office directly and leave the patient's name, room number, and name of hospital. Due to privacy laws, hospitals are not allowed to give out patient's names, making it challenging to know who would like a visit.



**Anointing of the Sick** is available on request. If you or a family member wish to be anointed before surgery, when in the hospital, or for any sickness, please contact Fr. Joe. He can be reached by calling the parish office at 634-3813, and if necessary, by leaving a message on Extension 20.

The Anointing of the Sick is offered at regular intervals in the parish and at area nursing homes.

**Baptism Classes**—Baptism class is required before a first Baptism. Parents expecting their first child should attend. For questions contact the church office.



**The Wedding Policy of the Diocese of St. Cloud** requires that you contact the parish at least 6 months prior to your wedding. This is necessary so that all the required steps can be completed in a timely manner. For second marriages, more time may be required. To begin your marriage preparation or for questions about the marriage preparation policy, contact Father Joe (634-3813).

**The First Instruction class** in the Billings Ovulation Method is the most effective, modern method of Natural Family Planning. To locate an instructor, visit: <http://omf.stcdio.org/natural-family-planning/nfp-class-locations-and-instructors/>  
 \*Note: Most insurances now cover the cost.

