

The Second Sunday in Advent December 8, 2024

St. Charles Borromeo Parish

707 Eagle Street, P. O. Box 130, Genoa, WI 54632

Website: www.stcharlesgenoa.org

Parish Office: 608-689-2642

Email: office@stcharlesgenoa.org

Pastor: Fr. Daniel Sedlacek

fdanielsedlacek@gmail.com

Mass Schedule & Intentions for December 9 - 15 2024

12/09/24	Monday, Immaculate Conception	5:15 PM	People of St. Charles
12/10/24	Tuesday	8:30 AM	† Janie Cina
12/11/24	Wednesday	NO MASS	
12/12/24	Thursday	8:00 AM	Bob & Sally Atwell
12/13/24	Friday	8:00 AM	† Lynn Umberger
12/14/24	Saturday	4:00 PM	People of St. Charles
12/15/24	Sunday	9:30 AM	Angie

Ministry Volunteers

Lectors

Sat. Dec. 14: 4:00 PM: Dan Kaczmarowski

Sun. Dec. 15: 9:30 AM: Chris Magnuson

Servers

Sat. Dec. 14: 4:00 PM: Volunteers

Sun. Dec. 15: 9:30 AM: Kanoa Rodgers, Easton
& Dekker Eckes

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. Dec. 15: 9:30 AM: Dorothy Stokke

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. Dec. 09: Priscilla Martin; Marian Naegle;
Linda Pedretti

Mon. Dec. 16: Conrad & Nancy Kirby, Keith
Magnuson

Ushers (December 2024)

Saturday: John Nicklay; Tim Woodhouse

Sunday: Conrad Kirby; Tom Urbanek;
Chris Stokke

Prayer Requests

Call 608-689-2642 - requests will be passed to
Father Sedlacek & the prayer chain.

Sacraments and Prayer

Church Hours

The church is open every day from 7 AM - 7 PM.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:15 PM - 3:45 PM

Sundays: 8:45 AM - 9:15 AM

2nd Thursdays: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration

1st Fridays: After the 8 AM Mass

2nd Thursdays: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Baptism

Contact parish at least 2 months prior:
608-689-2642

Marriage

Contact parish at least 6 months prior to the
wedding to schedule a date and preparation
meeting with the parish priest.

Anointing of the Sick and Homebound

Inform the parish office at (608) 689-2642 if
someone is seriously ill and needs the Sacrament
of the Anointing of the Sick.

Sacrificial Giving Nov. 30 & Dec. 01, 2024

Estimated Weekly Need \$7,032.69

Adult Envelopes \$1,736.00

Plate Offering \$ 167.00

Total **\$1,903.00**

From the Pastor's Desk

Now is the Acceptable Time

Peace to you! I am gone this weekend to help lead a Kairos retreat for 28 High School students from Aquinas and Regis high schools. Please pray for our young people, that they be open to the grace and love of God. This retreat takes an incredible amount of work and planning, and so, I must admit, I do not have much time to write anything for this weekend's bulletin. And so, I will leave you with parts of two of my favorite reflections about the season of Advent from much wiser men than I. I hope your faith is increasing this Advent!

St. Charles Borromeo, pray for us!

-Fr. Sedlacek

From a sermon by Saint Bernard: *God's Word will come to us*

We know that there are three comings of the Lord. The third lies between the other two. It is invisible, while the other two are visible. In the first coming he was seen on earth, dwelling among men; he himself testifies that they saw him and hated him. In the final coming *all flesh will see the salvation of our God, and they will look on him whom they pierced*. The intermediate coming is a hidden one; in it only the elect see the Lord within their own selves, and they are saved. In his first coming our Lord came in our flesh and in our weakness; in this middle coming he comes in spirit and in power; in the final coming he will be seen in glory and majesty.

Because this coming lies between the other two, it is like a road on which we travel from the first coming to the last. In the first, Christ was our redemption; in the last, he will appear as our life; in this middle coming, he is our rest and consolation.

In case someone should think that what we say about this middle coming is sheer invention, listen to what our Lord himself says: *If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him*. There is another passage of Scripture which reads: *He who fears God will do good*, but something further has been said about the one who loves, that is, that he will keep God's word. Where is God's word to be kept? Obviously in the heart, as the prophet says: *I have hidden your words in my heart, so that I may not sin against you*.

Keep God's word in this way. Let it enter into your very being, let it take possession of your desires and your whole way of life. Feed on goodness, and your soul will delight in its richness. Remember to eat your bread, or your heart will wither away. Fill your soul with richness and strength.

If you keep the word of God in this way, it will also keep you. The Son with the Father will come to you. The great Prophet who will build the new Jerusalem will come, the one who makes all things new. This coming will fulfill what is written: *As we have borne the likeness of the earthly man, we shall also bear the likeness of the heavenly man*. Just as Adam's sin spread through all mankind and took hold of all, so Christ, who created and redeemed all, will glorify all, once he takes possession of all.

From a pastoral letter by Saint Charles Borromeo, bishop

Beloved, now is the acceptable time spoken of by the Spirit, the day of salvation, peace and reconciliation: the great season of Advent. This is the time eagerly awaited by the patriarchs and prophets, the time that holy Simeon rejoiced at last to see. This is the season that the Church has always celebrated with special solemnity. We too should always observe it with faith and love, offering praise and thanksgiving to the Father for the mercy and love he has shown us in this mystery. In his infinite love for us, though we were sinners, he sent his only Son to free us from the tyranny of Satan, to summon us to heaven, to welcome us into its innermost recesses, to show us truth itself, to train us in right conduct, to plant within us the seeds of virtue, to enrich us with the treasures of his grace, and to make us children of God and heirs of eternal life.

Each year, as the Church recalls this mystery, she urges us to renew the memory of the great love God has shown us. This holy season teaches us that Christ's coming was not only for the benefit of his contemporaries; his power has still to be communicated to us all. We shall share his power, if, through holy faith and the sacraments, we willingly accept the grace Christ earned for us, and live by that grace and in obedience to Christ.

The Church asks us to understand that Christ, who came once in the flesh, is prepared to come again. When we remove all obstacles to his presence he will come, at any hour and moment, to dwell spiritually in our hearts, bringing with him the riches of his grace... She shows us how grateful we should be for so great a blessing, and how to gain its benefit: our hearts should be as much prepared for the coming of Christ as if he were still to come into this world.

St. Charles Parish News

Advent Parish Mission: *Walking with Jesus*

Please join us on Sunday, December 22nd after the 9:30 AM Mass for a time of reflection and prayer. Dominic Carstens will give a talk after Mass and there will be a time for prayer. Dominic Carstens, from Soldiers Grove, WI, was a perpetual pilgrim this past summer on one of the four routes of the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage. His team journeyed with the Eucharist from New Haven, Connecticut to the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.

Opportunities to Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Advent

There will be all day confessions at the Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman (530 Main Street, La Crosse) on Monday, December 16th from 9 am - 6 pm. There will be four to five priests available to hear confessions at any given time.

Confession Times at St. Charles

Every Saturday from 3:15-3:45 pm

Every Sunday from 8:45-9:15 am.

Thurs. Dec. 12th from 6-7 pm.

Monday, Dec. 9th – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

It is a long and complicated explanation, but the end result is that Monday, Dec. 9th is when we celebrate the Immaculate Conception (of Mary) this year. It is usually a holy day of obligation, but Bishop Battersby has dispensed the obligation for this year. However, he wants the people to be able to observe the holy day and have the opportunity to attend Mass. And so, Mass will be offered at St. Charles that day at 5:15 PM.

St. Charles Christmas Concert – Dec. 17th

The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear! That is what the St. Charles School children intend to do! Please come and enjoy some holiday spirit as we sing tunes from Christmas movies and TV specials. We hope "yule" love it! Our Christmas Concert and Art Show will be on Tuesday, December 17 at 7:00 p.m. Please come and join us!

2025 Offertory Envelopes

Our new offering envelopes have arrived. If you did not yet pick up your box of envelopes for 2025, they are located in the back of church. The more we have parishioners pick them up themselves, the more the parish saves on postage. Thank you!

“Behold: Prayer of the Saints” Young Adult Retreat | Jan. 25, 2025

This retreat is for young adults aged 18-35 and will be held on January 25, 2025, from 9 am-5 pm at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in La Crosse. Hear inspiring talks about the prayer of the Saints, foster a deeper Catholic community with other young adults, and participate in the life of God via Mass, Confession, and personal prayer. There are also optional evening socials on Friday, January 24 at 7 pm at 608 Brewing Co. and Saturday, January 25 at 6 pm at Pizzeria Dolorosa. The cost is \$25 per person and includes a warm meal. Register at tinyurl.com/ beholdprayer.

Diocese of La Crosse Guidelines for Reporting Instances of Child Abuse

The Diocese of La Crosse, through its [policies and procedures](#), seeks to provide a prompt, appropriate and compassionate response to reporters of sexual abuse of a child by any diocesan agent (bishop, priest, deacon, employee, religious, vendor or volunteer). Anyone wishing to make a report of an allegation of sexual abuse should send that report to Mrs. Teresa Brown, Complaint Intake Agent, at the Diocese of La Crosse, P.O. Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602-4004. Alternatively, you can contact Mrs. Brown at 608.791.0179 or intakeagent@diolc.org. The reporting form is available through the Diocese of La Crosse Office of Safe

Environment or on the diocesan website at: diolc.org/safe-environment/reporting. Individuals are also encouraged to take their reports directly to civil authorities. Copies of the diocesan policy are available through your local Parish and on the diocesan website. If you have any questions about the Diocese of La Crosse and the implementation of the *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*, please contact Teresa Brown, Diocese of La Crosse, at 608.791.2679 or tbrown@diolc.org.

St. Charles School News

Santa Sale – Donations requested by Dec 9th

If anyone is getting ready for the holiday visitors by cleaning out closets and cupboards, keep in mind saving items for our Santa Sale on **December 13th**. We could use like-new or gently used coffee cups, candles and holders, other knick-knacks, and items for men's gifts. We do have enough books, videos, and picture frames. Thank you! The kids purchase items for family members' gifts. Please drop off items labeled "Santa Sale" at the school by December 9th.

Gift Card Orders for Christmas to Support our School!

The holidays are fast approaching! From finding the perfect gift to taking a break from the hustle and bustle of the holidays, there's a gift card for every need. Earn money back for St. Charles School by purchasing gift cards. There are updated order forms for physical gift cards in the vestibule of the church. **Orders are due back to the Parish Office by December 13th**. The cards will arrive before Christmas. There is also an option to purchase and use electronic gift cards by using the RaiseRight app. Contact Megan Olson with any questions. Mjtrussoni@gmail.com or 608-385-7815.

News from the Diocese and our Community

Stuff the Pack N Play – Nov 29-Dec 14

Mayo La Crosse Auxiliary and Aquinas Impact are collecting diapers, baby wipes, infant clothing, and other baby essentials from November 29th-December 14th. Please drop off your donations at Moka on West Avenue in La Crosse, Mayo Clinic La Crosse Cafeteria entrance or the lobby in the Mayo La Crosse Hospital. All donations will be distributed to local families through Catholic Charities in La Crosse.

Cookie Walk and Craft Sale – Dec. 14

Mary, Mother of the Church Parish will be holding their Cookie Walk & Craft Sale on Saturday, December 14, in the parish hall located at 2006 Weston Street, La Crosse, from 7:30 AM - 1:00 PM. Homemade cookies, candies, breads, pies, Scandinavian sweets, handcrafted items, Scrip gift cards and raffles are available for sale. Serving breakfast (featuring egg bakes and cinnamon rolls) and lunch (homemade soup and chili). Door Prizes every half hour.

Holy Trinity Cookie Walk - Sat, Dec. 14, 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Large assortment of Christmas Cookies. Basket raffle drawing at 11 (need not be present to win). ATTENTION CRAFTERS - there are still some tables available for crafters to rent during the Holy Trinity Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 14th. Email us at htstannes@gmail.com for information!!

Advent Evening Prayer

Your friends at St. Patrick's Parish, 1031 Main Street, Onalaska, invite you to join us for the *Advent Evening Prayer*, where we will gather in anticipation and reflection for the Advent Season. *Advent Evening Prayer* includes psalms, scripture reading, a brief reflection, along with beautiful music to prepare you for a meaningful Christmas. Join Deacon Frank Abnet for this devotion, which will take place from 6:00 pm to 6:30 pm on Mondays throughout the Advent season, December 9, 16, and 23.

Parish Events Calendar

Thu. Dec. 12: Eucharistic Adoration for our Parish 6:00-7:00 PM. Reconciliation available throughout.

Sat. Dec. 14: Mass at St. Mary's hermitage. 9:00 AM

Tue. Dec. 17: St. Charles School Christmas Concert. 7:00 PM

Sun. Dec. 22: Advent Parish Mission. After 9:30 AM Mass

Tue. Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Mass. 4:00 PM

Wed. Dec. 25: Christmas Day Mass. 9:30 AM

Wed. Jan 01: Holy Day of Obligation: Mary, Mother of God. Mass at 8:30 AM and 7 PM