



SACRED HEART BEAT

DECEMBER 2025

NEWSLETTER OF SACRED HEART PARISH

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Understanding the Mass as Biblical (Part 1)

In the Catholic Mass, we have everything. When people say they don't go to Mass because they don't "get anything out of it". You can't get anything more out of the Mass. The Mass is not about your entertainment. The Mass is about worship. What is important about is that it is a virtue. Religion falls under the virtue of justice. Justice is not an eye for an eye, it is giving someone their due. When we go to Mass, we give God what is due in the form of worship. Jesus established organized religion by establishing the College of Bishops, gave them the authority to forgive sin and created apostolic succession. He established the Magisterium and the Church and gave us the sacraments. The Mass from start to finish is biblical. There is more scripture in one Catholic weekday Mass than most any Protestant Sunday service.

The Mass is an encounter between God and man, but not just in prayer. It includes words, gestures, and symbols are all used to result in grace because we are not just spirits. Other worship services don't engage the body. Why do we stand? It is a sign of respect. We kneel in humility to make ourselves small because God is big. We sit in a receptive position. Genuflection is a sign of adoration. When do you genuflect? When you cross in front of the Blessed Sacrament. You only need to bow when you walk in front of the altar as a sign of reverence. You genuflect in front of a crucifix on Good Friday. Singing unites your personal prayer with the communal prayer. Did you know that Jesus sang on his way to the Passion? If God didn't give you a good voice, give it back to him. Singing unites us with the heavenly choir! Silence helps to get us prepared.

The very nature of the Mass is sacrificial. In the 1500's, the Protestants did away with the sacrificial focus of the Mass and chose to focus on prayer and song. There are 2 forms of the Mass, the Extraordinary form (Latin Mass) and the Ordinary form. The interesting fact is that people in the 1500's would not recognize our Mass today but those in the 700s would! The reason is that the Mass is going back to being both a sacrifice and a meal.

When does Mass begin? It begins in your heart – you have to open your heart to receive Jesus into your heart. The Introductory Rite is the start of Mass with song and coming forward. The priest venerates the altar because it is both a table and a cross meaning it's a table for a meal and is a cross for sacrifice. The priest crosses himself which is done because we are seeing God as the reason

we are here at Mass. When you sign yourself, you are showing that we belong to God. Holy Water reminds us of our Baptism. After the priest signs himself, we say "Amen" which means "I believe". Greeting – The traditional Jewish form of prayer is with hands up which the priest does and says "The Lord be with you" which means the Lord is here in your presence. We respond "And with your spirit" which comes from 2Tim 4:22. This is so important that it is repeated in all parts of the Mass.

Penitential Rite – When we go to Confession, we are to confess our grave sins. We do not have to confess all our venial sins as they are forgiven during the Penitential Rite. The purpose of this Rite is for us to see our need for his mercy. The Confiteor – The Priest will choose either the form "I confess to Almighty God" or the "Lord Have Mercy". Do not make a sign of the cross at the end of the Confiteor because that is a sign of absolution as a sacrament. Simply say Amen. Where does the "Lord Have Mercy" come from? Tobit 8:4. "Christ Have Mercy" Jude 1:21. "Lord Have Mercy" Matthew 20:31.

The Gloria – The angels sang this at Christ's birth! This song gives praise to the entire Trinity (Luke 2:14 addresses the beginning of the Gloria.)

The Collect – In the Collect, we collect ourselves to get ready for the Mass. The Collect is specific to that day of the liturgical year.

Liturgy of the Word consists of 4 readings on Sunday. The first reading typically is from the Old Testament, second reading is a Psalm, third reading is typically an Epistle and fourth is the Gospel. The Gospel acclamation proclaims God to the world. We rise because alleluia is a joyful word. We do not use this word during Lent because this is a time of Penance, not joy. We rise because we are now hearing the words of Jesus himself. Rising is a sign of respect. Jesus is now even more present because we are hearing his words – He is in the room! When we open the Mass, we acknowledge that Jesus is present in Spirit, now Christ is with us as the word. Soon He will be with us in actual body and blood. Why is Jesus called "The Word"? When God the Father spoke, in the beginning was The Word and word was made flesh. When the celebrant goes to read, he bows at the altar and says "Cleanse my heart and my lips oh mighty God that I may proclaim the Gospel". At the ambo, he starts with "The Lord be with you" because he is introducing our Lord in a new way. We acknowledge this by saying "Glory to you oh Lord" and then cross our forehead, lips and heart as we are asking

for the word to be present in our minds, lips and heart. When the priest bows down and kisses the book, he says "May our sins be wiped away". This is a grace poured out that we don't even know about.

The Homily is based on 2Tim 4:1-2. Truth needs to be taught. It is mandatory that a homily is given on Sunday. The difference between a sermon (Protestant) and a homily is that a sermon is based on a particular topic pulled from multiple scriptures where a homily is based on a specific reading applied to daily life.

The Creed or Profession of Faith This is a profession of the Apostles' faith and is full of biblical references. Gen 14:19 (maker of most high) Col 1:16 (visible and invisible) Luke 1:35 (son of God) Consubstantial (God and Jesus are of 1 substance) Jn 10:40 2 Tim 4:1 who is to judge the living and the dead. Rom I believe in the catholic and apostolic church.

Petitions/Universal prayer/Intercessions This comes from Philippians 1:3-4. We do this in remembrance of each other – we must pray for each other and the world. The order is important – Church, world, government, sick and suffering, specific needs and deceased.

Resource: Fr. Chris Alar with the Marians of the Immaculate Conception at Stockbridge, MA

Adult Religious Formation Commission: Mary Mitchell



Christmas Schedule

Christmas Eve Masses ~ December 24th

5:00 pm at Sacred Heart, Larned

7:00 pm at St. Bernard, Belpre

Christmas Day Mass ~ December 25th

9:00 am at Sacred Heart, Larned

11:30 am at St. Bernard, Belpre (Spanish)

Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

8:30 am – Thursday – January 1st at St. Bernard, Belpre

10:30 am – Thursday – January 1st at Sacred Heart

DECEMBER BIRTHDAY / ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS



Sunday, December 7th – 11:30 AM

Parish Center

Hosted by: Adult Religious Formation Commission



GAME MORNING

Tuesday, December 9th ~ 9:30 to 11:30 am

Sacred Heart Parish Education Center



"LUNCH WITH FRIENDS"

Tuesday, December 16th at 12:00 noon

Menu: Pigs in a Blanket / Baked Beans / Cole Slaw

RSVP to Pam at 620-285-2035 by December 12th.

DECEMBER AT A GLANCE

- Dec. 1 ~ Adult Faith Formation Group, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 2 ~ Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 2 ~ Knights of Columbus Meeting, 7:00 PM
- Dec. 3 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Dec. 3 ~ OCIA, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 4 ~ Holy Hour, 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM
- Dec. 4 ~ Benedictine Oblates Gathering, 11:00 AM
- Dec. 5 ~ Pawnee County Blood Drive, 12:00 to 6:00 PM
- Dec. 7 ~ December Birthday/Anniversary Blessings, 11:30 AM
- Dec. 7 ~ "The Chosen", Season 5 with Pot-Luck, 11:30 AM
- Dec. 8 ~ The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mass @ 12:00 PM
- Dec. 8 ~ Adult Faith Formation Group, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 9 ~ Game Morning, 9:30 to 11:30 AM
- Dec. 9 ~ Stewardship Council Meeting, 5:30 PM
- Dec. 9 ~ Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 10 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Dec. 10 ~ OCIA, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 15 ~ Adult Faith Formation Group, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 15 ~ Heart to Heart Ministry Meeting, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 16 ~ Lunch with Friends, 12:00 Noon
- Dec. 16 ~ Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 17 ~ Adoration, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Dec. 17 ~ OCIA, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 18 ~ Finance/Property Meeting, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 21 ~ Kapaun's Men Group, 8:45 AM
- Dec. 21 ~ Women's Bible Study Group, 8:45 AM
- Dec. 21 ~ Choir Practice, 2:00 PM
- Dec. 21 ~ Advent Penance Service, 4:00 PM
- Dec. 22 ~ Adult Faith Formation Group, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 23 ~ Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 24 ~ No Adoration / Christmas Break
- Dec. 24 ~ No OCIA / Christmas Break
- Dec. 29 ~ No Adult Faith Formation Group, 6:00 PM
- Dec. 30 ~ No Choir Practice, 6:30 PM
- Dec. 31 ~ No Adoration, 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Dec. 31 ~ No OCIA, 6:30 PM / Christmas Break



DECEMBER PSR SCHEDULE

- Dec. 3 – Regular Classes / Zak's Cheese Delivered
- Dec. 5 – No CGS Session
- Dec. 10 – Regular Classes
- Dec. 12 – CGS Session
- Dec. 14 – Confirmation Retreat @ Great Bend, 10:30 AM
- Dec. 17 – Regular Classes
- Dec. 19 – CGS Session
- Dec. 24 – No Classes / Christmas Break
- Dec. 26 – No CGS Session / Christmas Break
- Dec. 31 – No Classes / Christmas Break

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| (02) Darlene Befort | (17) Shannon Fischer |
| John Hutfles | Abby Ridder |
| (04) Brandon Cenicerros | (19) Malia Schartz |
| (05) Mike Mauney | (20) Brad Bauer |
| (06) Yareli Gonzalez | Weston Jacobs |
| Stephen Heit | Felicity Newell |
| Libby Keller | (21) Joe Simmons |
| (07) Gretchen Holopirek | Richard VonFeldt |
| Samantha Jacobs | (22) Jessie Weiszbrod |
| Peyton Weiszbrod | (25) Andy Tran |
| (10) Mary Mitchell | (26) Jean Simmons |
| (11) Linda Lemuz | (27) Alec Carlson |
| (12) Amara Udaku | (28) Liz McDonald |
| Cindy Perez | (31) Marissa Smith |
| (13) Kristin Dooley | Amy Welsch |
| Natalie Stude | |
| (14) Kathy Hammeke | |
| Betty Hulsey | |
| (16) Karen Kuntz | |
| Jeremy McDonald | |
| Morris Smith III | |
| (16) Karen Kuntz | |
| Jeremy McDonald | |
| Morris Smith III | |



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- (01) Henry and Kristen Snodgrass
 (04) Mike and Connie Mauney
 (19) Doug and Jennifer McNett
 (28) Joe and Annie Garcia
 Cory and Amanda Johnson



CONGRATULATIONS!

Joe & Annie Garcia ~ Married 52 years

Remember with Prayer

Joe Simmons	Sherry Lemuz
Richard Wolf	Karla Graham
Rita O'Gwin	Leon Sanders
Bert Schartz	Ryan Shelton
Darlene Befort	Clayton Kelty
Brenda Martin	Sue Haymaker
Fr. Charles Mazouch	Trenton Welsch
Stan Durler	Kevin Simmons
Shauna Nwachukwu-Udaku	Lee Durler
Pam Theis	Denis Gilcris
Darlene Orth	Michele Collins
Tammy Orth	



All of our men and women serving in the United States Military, our homebound parishioners and those in care homes.



Reverse Advent Calendar

Looking for a way for you and your children to look beyond the "wants" of the Christmas season? Perhaps the "Reverse Advent Calendar" is your answer! You can involve the family in helping with the "needs" of those in our community and county by shopping for suggested items on the list that is included in this Sacred Heart Beat. However, don't let the list limit your generosity. The needs go beyond food and can include toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, bath products, cleaning and laundry supplies, paper products, etc.

You may leave your items at the back of the church or at the Parish Education Center during normal office hours. Delivery to the Pawnee County Food Bank will be between Christmas and New Year's Day.

The Heart to Heart Ministry has been grateful for your generosity in the past years and with your help and support, we hope once again to be able to help our neighbors as an example of the generosity Jesus has shown to us. May God richly bless you this Advent season and throughout the coming year.

NET INCOME/EXPENSES BEGINNING JULY 1, 2025

	OCTOBER	YTD
INCOME:		
Collections	13,369.00	57,450.35
Special Donations		6,615.00
Endowment		28,632.76
Interest	13.80	58.78
Farm		109.15
PSR		16,134.00
Fundraisers	331.97	676.00
Miscellaneous	<u>2,869.12</u>	<u>6,541.48</u>
TOTAL	\$16,583.89	\$116,217.52
EXPENSES:		
Stewardship	1,551.27	6,591.69
Salaries	15,264.69	57,896.76
Insurance	2,632.00	13,690.00
Utilities	3,582.68	11,526.39
Maintenance	3,533.41	6,614.68
Improvement		
Office	713.75	3,098.66
PSR	114.31	14,300.53
Farm		
Miscellaneous	<u>1,494.56</u>	<u>5,028.57</u>
TOTAL	\$28,886.67	\$118,747.28
	YTD:	(\$2,529.76)



**The Immaculate Conception of the
 Blessed Virgin Mary
 Monday - December 8th
 Mass:
 12:00 pm at Sacred Heart, Larned**

**Advent
 Penance
 Service**



**Sunday
 December 21st
 4:00 PM**

Sacred Heart Church



December 2025 ~ MINISTRIES
Saturday @ 5:00 PM

Saturday, Dec. 6 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Lector – Regis Lopata

Eucharistic Ministers

Toni Novotny (major) / Richard Wolf (minor)

Servers – Eli Ramsey / Ryan Ramsey

Ushers – Jim Damm / Larry Skelton

Gifts – Larry & Janet Skelton

Musicians – Alvin Hutfles / Maurice Schaller

Sacristan – Amy Froetschner

Sanctuary Cleaning – Cindy Perez

Saturday, Dec. 13 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Lector – Kathy Kazmaier

Eucharistic Ministers

Cindy Perez (major) / Steve Ehrlich (minor)

Servers – Harleigh Ehrlich / Camille Steffen

Ushers – Dennis Theis / Mike Schartz

Gifts – Matt & Kathy Stucker

Musicians – Alvin Hutfles / Karen McAllister

Sacristan – Jim & Judy Damm

Sanctuary Cleaning – Doug & Mary Smith

Saturday, Dec. 20 – 4th Sunday of Advent

Lector – Cheryl Skalsky

Eucharistic Ministers

Kathy Kazmaier (major) / Amy Froetschner (minor)

Servers – Eli Ramsey / Ryan Ramsey

Ushers – Norman Dreiling / Paul Skalsky

Gifts – Dennis & Pam Theis

Musicians – Alvin Hutfles / Maurice Schaller

Sacristan – Cindy Perez

Sanctuary Cleaning – Kathy Hammeke

Saturday, Dec. 27 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Lector – Ben Ramsey

Eucharistic Ministers

Norman Dreiling (major) / Becky Martin (minor)

Servers – Harleigh Ehrlich / Camille Steffen

Ushers – Steve Ehrlich / Roger Myers

Gifts – John & Jacque Wasinger

Musicians – Alvin Hutfles / Karen McAllister

Sacristan – Kathy Kazmaier

Sanctuary Cleaning – Shauna Nwachukwu-Udaku

Sign-up sheets are in the Church vestibule for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Solemnity of Mary Masses

December 2025 ~ MINISTRIES
Sunday @ 10:30 AM

Sunday, Dec. 7 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Lectors – Sr. Rebecca Otter / Karl Grover

Eucharistic Ministers

Kristy Hagerman (major) / Amy Simmons (minor)

Servers – Gabe Mull / Maddy Mull / William Hammeke

Ushers – Craig Schartz / Mike Tanner

Gifts – Shane Sundahl Family

Musicians – Choir

Sacristan – Emily Dreiling

Collection Counters: Ray Colglazier / Norman Dreiling

Sanctuary Cleaning – Cindy Perez

Sunday, Dec. 14 – 3rd Sunday of Advent

Lectors – Amy Simmons / John Kelty

Eucharistic Ministers

David O'Gwin (major) / Mary Mitchell (minor)

Servers – Brooke / Anna / Ben Simmons

Ushers – Tony Lemuz / Daniel Kelty

Gifts – Dale & Berny Unruh

Musicians – Choir

Sacristan – Sharon McGinness

Collection Counters: Kayla Lang / Craig Schartz

Sanctuary Cleaning – Doug & Mary Smith

Sunday, Dec. 21 – 4th Sunday of Advent

Lectors – Sharon McGinness / Cathy Grover

Eucharistic Ministers

John Kelty (major) / Kathy Couchman (minor)

Servers – Wade Jacobs / Waco Jacobs / Amara Udaku

Ushers – David Hammeke / Bruce Kozlowski

Gifts – Amanda Clark / Vicki Perez

Musicians – Choir

Sacristan – Kristy Hagerman

Collection Counters: Kristy Hagerman / David O'Gwin

Sanctuary Cleaning – Kathy Hammeke

Sunday, Dec. 28 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Lectors – Okey Nwachukwu-Udaku / Mary Mitchell

Eucharistic Ministers

Sharon McGinness (major) / Berny Unruh (minor)

Servers – Slade Sundahl / Darby Sundahl / Emerson Sullivan

Ushers – Shane Sundahl / Clayton Kelty

Gifts – Kathy / Cason / Levi Couchman

Musicians – Choir

Sacristan – David O'Gwin

Collection Counters: Kathy Couchman / Debbie Steinert

Sanctuary Cleaning – Shauna Nwachukwu-Udaku