

Mass Schedule & Intentions**Saturday (Dec. 12)**

4:00 PM Special intention for Luis Eduardo Gonzales

5:30 PM Leo Vyncke *by W & R Vyncke* - MLOP**Third Sunday of Advent (Dec 13)**7:00AM Richard Dennhardt *by the Family*8:30 AM The Strayer Brothers *by Nancy Owens & Family* - MLOP10:00AM Charles Toney *by Leo & Marie Maciolek*11:30AM Ruth Wright *by Jim DeDecker* - MLOP**Monday (Dec. 14)**

9:00 AM Special Intention of Luis Gonzales

*by Luz Helena & Jose Upegui***Tuesday (Dec. 15)**

7:45 AM Dale Jones - MLOP

Wednesday (Dec. 16)9:00 AM Harold Anderson *by Jan Anderson***Thursday (Dec. 17)**

7:45AM Deceased Schultz Family Members

by Stella Schultz Family - MLOP**Friday Dec. 18)**9:00 AM Charles Toney *by Pat Redecker*

10:30AM For the Faithful Departed at Hope Creek

Saturday (Dec. 19)4:00 PM Bill & Ethel Sweeney *by the Family*

5:30 PM Matt Andrea -MLOP

Fourth Sunday of Advent (Dec 20)7:00AM Jeanette Arnold *by the Arnold Family*8:30 AM Mary Volk *by D. & M. Phillips* - MLOP10:00AM Velma Lee Britt *by her family*11:30AM Doc Jackson *by Blondie Jackson* - MLOP
(20th Anniversary)**December 13 - 20, 2009***Sunday - Zec 2:14-17; Ps 45:11-12, 14-17; Rom 8:28-30; Lk 2:15-19**Monday - Num 24:2-7, 15-17; Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27**Tuesday - Zeph 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19, 23; Mt 21:28-32**Wednesday- Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18-23**Thursday - Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:3-4, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17**Friday - Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-24**Saturday - Jdgs 13:2-7, 24-25; Ps 71:3-4, 5-6, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25**Sunday - Mic 5:1-4; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45***Parish Office Hours****Coal Valley** 9:00 AM – 3:30 PM Monday - Friday**Orion** 9AM-2PM at 526-8422 Tuesday - Friday

Fr. Jim tries to be in SMG office on M-W-F, and at the MOLOP office on Tuesdays & Thursday

Religious Retirement Collection this weekend. Thank you in advance for helping those who have helped us over the years.

SMG COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION**TIME CHANGE**

Please note that SMG Communal Reconciliation on Monday, December 14th will be at 11:00AM!

CCD families may participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation Wednesday, December 16th at 5:00 p.m. and the evening Communal Reconciliation Service will be at Mary, Our Lady of Peace in Orion on Wednesday at 7:00PM.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

This weekend we **are collecting cake mixes, frosting and muffin mixes** for the Coal Valley Food Pantry. The food pantry will be preparing 79 Christmas baskets this year. Cake and muffin mixes are items that are included but cannot be purchased from the food bank. Each Christmas basket will include either a turkey or a ham depending on the size of the family. They will also receive fresh produce, eggs, milk, butter and things to make their Christmas meal special. If you prefer to make a cash donation, that money will be used to purchase the fresh items.

We also thank the National Wild Turkey Federation - Mississippi Valley Gobblers Chapter for their generous donation of 10 turkeys toward the Coal Valley Community Christmas Food Baskets.

GIFTS FOR CATHOLIC**CHARITIES CHILDREN**

Thank you for your generous support for Catholic Charities Christmas gifts. We were able to help many young people have a special Christmas.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS donation envelopes must be into the office by **Sunday, December 20th** in order to print names in the Christmas bulletin. Thank you

THIS WEEK AT ST. MARIA GORETTI

Sunday, 12/13 - 6 & 7 grade CCD 9 AM
 Children's Liturgy of the Word &
 Children's Church during the 10 AM Mass
 Bears vs. Packers Fundraiser in Parish Hall after 11 AM
Monday, 12/14 - Communal Penance Service at 7PM
Tuesday, 12/15 - RCIA at 7 PM
Wednesday, 12/ 16 - CCD Family reconciliation 5 PM
 Religious Education classes from 5 - 6:30 PM
 Communal reconciliation at MLOP 7 PM
Saturday, 12/19 - Prayer Shawl Group 10 AM - noon
Sunday, 12/20 - Coffee & donuts after Masses

<p>Christmas Mass Schedule & Reconciliation</p> 	
<u>St. Maria Goretti</u>	<u>Mary, OLOP</u>
Communal Reconciliation	
Monday Dec. 14th at 11AM	Wednesday Dec. 16th at 7 PM
Christmas Eve	
4:00 PM 9:30 PM	4:00 PM 11:00 PM
Christmas Day	
10:00 AM	8:30 AM
New Year's Eve	
4:00 PM	5:30 PM
New Year's Day	
10 AM	8:30 AM

LOOKING AHEAD TO CHRISTMAS

We will have Masses on Christmas Eve at 4 PM & 9:30 PM, and at 10 AM Christmas Day. The 4 PM Mass is always the most popular. So if you want to sit together with your family at that Mass, please **COME TOGETHER AND COME EARLY**. The hall will be used for our overflow crowd...and the liturgy committee will work hard to help provide a positive experience for the people gathered there.

Please pray for...

*For those who are sick and in need of healing...
at Maria Goretti*

Bob Bennett, Pat Bitel, Robert Cartwright, Donald Cleary, Rose & Leroy Glaudel, Earl Greif, Bob Gunnare, Olga Jordan, Linda Masters, Ann Toney, Chuck Ulfig, Richard Verscha, Dale Witzel and George White

And at Mary, Our Lady of Peace...

Derrick Andrae, Robert Dryoel, Alice Isaacson, Robert & Mary Johnson, Barb Marchant, Keith Robinson, Stephen Sottos, Myrtle Versluys and Joan & Chet Wexell

Prayers have also been asked for ...from SMG....

Alice Bonche, Sandi Brandes, Maria Goebel, Robert Greif (brother of Earl), Brian Hall (son of Betty Hall), Doug Hollmer, Linda Johnson, Helen Mole', Lynette Marr, Tom Marshio, Sr. and Tom Mashio, Jr., Kay Murphy, Jake Peca, Sylvia Penca, Amy Lavery, Sonia Riberio, Abby Scott, Elaine Siebers, Gary & Janice Slavish, Kris Sommers, Sarah Swanson, Nick Thomm, Ann Tillman, Kathy Watson, Al VanAuwelaer and Jennifer VandeVoorde.

*from MLOP...*Jean Honeywell, Kathy Anderson, Jennifer Bergstrom, Alice Bouche, Gina Carlile, Lynn Chartier, Jeff Dahl, Ralph Dantino, Darrell DeMont, Loretta Driessens, Beverly Fransen, Loretta Gainey, and Ken Kempen, Fr. James King, Kim Kingsley, Sylvester Kouassi (Fr. Paulin's brother), Gary Larson, Matthew Lee, Phyllis & Grace Mitchell, Lillian Morrison, Gerry Moyer, Don Nelson, Jordan Palmer, Tom Peters, Carol Phillips, Emma Schnerre, Donna Schultz, Helen Sheesley, Toni Versluys, Hannah West, and Bernice Ziegenhorn.

Don't forget our Military & and their families

Sgt Mark Britton (Army-U.S), AB Corbin Carlson (USA), John Goebel (Natl. Guard-U.S.), Michael Gravitt (Marines-U.S.), Luke Heritage (Natl. Guard-U.S.), Major Andy Maguire (Natl. Guard - Iraq), Sr. Airman Jeff Topham (Air Force - Korea), PFC Aaron DePorter (Army - U.S.), E6 Amy Rogan (Navy - on ship), Major Luke Sustman (Air Force - U.S.), Shawn Taylor (Army), Cpt. Adam Underklofner (Marines - So. Africa), Cpt. Mark VanVeldhuizen (Natl. Guard - Iraq)

[Names of those sick or in need of healing will remain on our prayer list for 4 weeks unless we hear otherwise.]

Always In the Peace of the Lord
We light the Third candle, the Candle of Joy

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

We are half-way to Christmas as we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally known as or called “Gaudete Sunday”. This is from the first word found in our entrance antiphon, “Rejoice”. As an assembly we normally do not recite the entrance antiphon out loud. It is usually only prayed by the assembly when there is no gathering song. Yet, many of us may pray it to ourselves as part of our personal prayers before Mass. So today we celebrate “Rejoice Sunday”.

Why are we rejoicing. I mean, it is not Christmas yet. As Catholics we do not decorate our church home until right before Christmas. (We do take into consideration the practical nature of church decorating and people’s schedules and so we will be decorating next Sunday, immediately following the 11:30am Mass at MLOP.) We try not to do Christmas before Christmas. I mean, the twelve days of Christmas are not before December 25th, but begin with Christmas Day and end with the celebration of Little Christmas, or Epiphany Sunday (The celebration of the Magi’s presenting their gifts to the Christ child), January 3rd, which is the Sunday following New Year’s Day. (If you are counting, that is only nine days. To get to twelve we go to January 6th, which really is the day to celebrate Epiphany, but with our contemporary approach to celebrating holydays and holidays conveniently [think about all those Mondays we get off] the celebration has been transferred to Sunday, and hence it has become known as Epiphany Sunday.)

So, this weekend we light a rose colored Advent Candle, our candle of joy, to mark the half way point. It is time to get excited about the reason for the season. Rejoice!

Always, Fr. Jim

P.S. The MOLOP Youth Group is selling Christmas Wreaths for \$12.00.

P.S. Due to the inclement weather, the SMG 2nd Grade Parent’s meeting was cancelled. Without the meeting, First Reconciliation was also postponed. The Parent’s meeting is now set for Wednesday, January 6th, 5:00-6:30pm. First Reconciliation is now scheduled for Saturday, January 9th, 9:00am to 11:00am.

P.S.S. Hope to see you all at St. Maria Goretti’s FUNdraiser this Sunday starting at 11:00am.



Parish Council Football Fund Raiser

Sunday 13 December 11 AM—3PM

Chicago Bears v. Green Bay Packers

Help us raise the \$6,000 needed to pay for the Parish Office roof that was recently fixed. For a \$5 donation you get to see the Chicago Bears play the Green Bay Packers on a LCD projector screen and one free chance at the football toss game. Bring your friends or make some new ones and cheer on your favorite team. To make our event more “festive” we are asking everyone to bring their own lawn chair.

Games

Bean Bag Toss (play for fun while you watch)

Football Toss (1 ball out of 3 thru the target gets you on the 50/50 list for a big cash prize)

Football Pool (pick the correct score and you're on the 50/50 list for a big cash prize)

Food/Beverages

\$3 donation for a brat & chips

\$1 donation for a pop/lemonade

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet from 10AM-12PM on Saturday, December 19th in the Parish Hall. Even if you've never knitted before, you are welcome to join us. Yarn and needles are available. If you'd like more information about this ministry, call Lorrie Polesky at 797-1516.

2010 LIVING THE WORD

Living the Word booklets with Scripture reflections and commentaries for Sundays and Holy days for the year 2010 are available in the foyer. Cost of single copy is \$14.95 but we are offering them for \$7.50. An envelope will be provided for your offering. It can be placed in the collection basket or directed to the parish office.

Stewardship “Sharing Our Gifts”

Thank you...

- Mary Ann & Ted Lapaczonek, Camy Stone, and Mike & Marolyn Tope for lighting two Advent candles last weekend.
- Nancy Larson for preparing and serving coffee & donuts last weekend and the Graves Family for serving and cleaning up after the 10 o'clock Mass.
- For those who shoveled the sidewalks this past week.

Stewardship of Treasure

From the week of December 6, 20099

	[Last week]	[Fiscal YTD]
Building Fund	\$ 542.00	\$ 4,612.00
Budgeted Amount		<u>6,612.90</u>
Net Over <Under>		\$< 2,000.90>
Regular Collection	\$ 3,517.00	\$ 80,133.03
Budgeted Amount		<u>78,914.00</u>
Net Over <Under>		\$ 1,219.03

Wanted Boxtop & Campbell Soup Labels

There are containers in the foyer for Campbell Soup labels and Boxtop labels that are being collected for Jordan & Seton Catholic Grade Schools. Just place your labels in the container for the school you'd like to support. Thank you.

Taize Prayer Offered This Advent Season

Taize prayer is a quiet simple way of prayer designed for people of all Christian traditions. These meditative candle-lit services include simple chants sung repeatedly, rich silence and prayer of praise & intercession. This Advent, St. Pius X is united with St. John Vianney, Bettendorf and Our Lady of the River, LeClaire to present 3 Taize prayer services

Thurs, Dec. 17, 7PM at Our Lady of the River, LeClaire

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Plan on joining together in prayer to ask for God's healing and forgiveness at our Advent Reconciliation Services. To come together as a parish family and to pray together about our faults and sinfulness and to seek together God's blessings — God's forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, is an awesome experience and truly an uplifting moment of prayer.

Please mark the dates below and try to fit one into your busy schedule.

SMG - Monday, December 14th at 11:00 AM

MLOP - Wednesday, December 16 at 7:00 PM (Both children & parents and all parishioners.)

SMG - Wednesday, December 16 from 5:00 - 6:30 PM (Religious Education children and their parents)

LITURGICAL MNISTERS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you are a Liturgical Minister and plan to attend Mass with us during Christmas please volunteer to help at one of the Masses. We need altar servers, cross bearers, lector & readers, ushers & greeters and communion ministers. Sign up sheets are in the foyer. Thank you!

JOHN LANCASTER SPALDING

SCHOLARSHIP FUND GRANTS

Tuition assistance scholarship grants from the endowment fund established as a result of the Diocese of Peoria ROOTED IN FAITH Campaign and named in honor of Archbishop Spalding, the first Bishop of Peoria, will be available for the 2010 –2011 school year for students enrolled in or intending to enroll in grades kindergarten through we in any Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria whose families are members of a Catholic parish in the diocese. All grants will be based on financial need objectively assessed. Information about the grants and application materials may be obtained from any Catholic elementary or secondary school in the Diocese of Peoria or on the Diocesan website [www@cdop.org](http://www.cdop.org)

Click on EDUCATION; then on OFFICE OF CATATHOLIC SCHOOLS; and then on SPALDING SCHOLARSHIPS. Families of students currently receiving grants are reminded that all grants are for one year only, and anyone seeking to renew a grant for 2010-2011 must reapply. The application deadline is February 15, 2010. Notification of grant awards will be made by mid-April.

An Ecumenical Advent Prayer Service will be celebrated Advent at Sacred Heart Parish, Moline, Illinois, 1307 17th Avenue. The following guests will give a reflection on the Sunday Gospel.

On Sunday, Dec. 13th, Rev. David Greene, Pastor of 15th Avenue Christian Church, will give the Reflection.

Advent Vespers celebrates this holy season with traditional and contemporary hymns, anthems, and carols. Readings, psalms, and prayers will focus on waiting for the Light. This annual series provides a prayerful moment in the Advent season. All are welcome

Advantages of donating electronically to your parish family

Electronic giving replaces 52 decisions to give weekly. 38% of Catholics decide what they will give on the basis of what is in their checkbook on a given Sunday. Stewardship giving is thoughtful, planned, proportionate and sacrificial. Donating electronically automatically makes you a thoughtful giver.

More important than frequency is faithfulness. You are 100% faithful when you give with your weekly envelope or electronically make an offering. You also provide a more steady flow of income for your parish.

Giving is a public expression of faith. Dropping an envelope into the basket at offertory time shows your participation in your parish. You may write "I give electronically" on your envelope. Your gift still comes from your heart.[as found in Catholic Messenger, Sept. 17]

Contact the parish office about giving electronically.

At SMG contact Nancy & at MLOP contact Kay.