



# Cathedral of the Epiphany

1000 Douglas Street, Sioux City, Iowa 51105

Volume 1 Issue 4 December 2017



Leonardo da Vinci, *The Annunciation*, 1472, oil on panel

**Very Rev. Brent Lingle, Rector**  
**Rev. Mauro Sanchez, Parochial Vicar**  
**Rev. Andrew Galles, Parochial Vicar**

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## MASS SCHEDULE

<b>Mon-Fri</b>	12:00 pm	Cathedral	<i>English</i>
	5:30 pm	Cathedral	<i>Spanish</i>
<b>Sat-Sun</b>	4:00 pm	St. Boniface	<i>English</i>
	6:00 pm	Cathedral	<i>Spanish</i>
	8:30 am	St. Boniface	<i>Latin</i>
	8:30 am	St. Joseph	<i>English</i>
	10:00 am	Cathedral	<i>English</i>
	10:30 am	St. Boniface	<i>Spanish</i>
	12:00 pm	Cathedral	<i>Spanish</i>
12:30 pm	St. Joseph	<i>Vietnamese</i>	
1:30 pm	Cathedral	<i>Spanish</i>	

## CONFESSIONS

<b>Mon-Fri</b>	4:30 - 5:15 pm	Cathedral
<b>Sat</b>	3:00 - 3:45 pm	St. Boniface
	5:00 - 5:45 pm	Cathedral

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

<b>Mon</b>	9:00 - 4:00 pm	Cathedral
<b>Tue</b>	5:30 - 6:30 pm	St. Joseph
<b>Tue</b>	6:00 - 7:00 pm	Cathedral

## HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION

12:00 pm	Cathedral	<i>English</i>
5:30 pm	St. Joseph	<i>English</i>
5:30 pm	Cathedral	<i>Spanish</i>

## Reflections of the Rector



"Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come." These words from the Gospel of Mark greet us on the first Sunday of Advent and remind us of our task during this holy season. Advent calls us to watchful prayer, expectation and preparation for the return of Christ at the end of time, and calls us to prepare to celebrate His birth at Christmas. The figure of the Blessed Virgin Mary, under the titles of the Immaculate

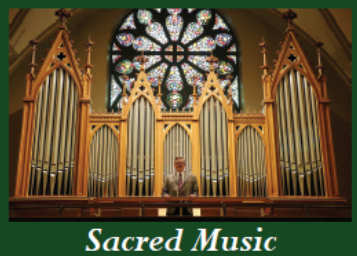
Conception, which we celebrate of December 8, and Our Lady of Guadalupe, which we celebrate on December 12, serves as a perfect model for us during this season. From the very beginning Mary was prepared to receive the Lord and with prayer and docility to God's will, she welcomed the savior when he came.

I encourage you to take time during this season to prepare for the coming of the Lord, especially by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Take the time to go to confession and receive God's forgiveness. It is the perfect way to prepare a place in your heart to receive the Lord. It is easy to get caught up in all the events of the season and miss its real purpose. Find time each day for prayer, read the daily Mass readings, or pray a rosary and contemplate the mysteries of the life of Christ. These things can help to prepare the way of the Lord.

During this season in which we celebrate the Word made flesh among us, I want us to contemplate the Eucharist. Jesus Christ comes to us in countless ways every day of our life but none more clearly and perfectly than in the Holy Eucharist. This is why our participation in Mass and our reverent reception of Holy Communion is so important. Jesus Christ is present to us! The Church reminds us that the Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life." It is with great joy that, after working closely with Bishop Nickless and the other pastors of the city, I am pleased to announce that the Cathedral parish will be beginning Perpetual Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the coming months. This will be 24 hours a day, seven days a week of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament by members of our parish and Catholics throughout Sioux City. There will be a chapel in the Epiphany Center (offices of the parish) across from the Cathedral that will serve as a place of prayer and adoration. You will be hearing more about this exciting opportunity in the coming months and about ways that you can participate. Parishes that have Perpetual Adoration have seen an increase in priestly and religious vocations as well as a renewal in parish life and faith. I am excited that as the Mother Church for the Diocese of Sioux City, the Eucharist, the Presence of Christ, will be at the heart of all that we do, having someone constantly in prayer before our Lord, praying for the needs of the parish, the diocese and the world. This is the perfect gift for our parish.

The Prophet Isaiah reminds us, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." May the light of the newborn Christ child fill you with peace, joy, and love. I wish you a very blessed Advent season and a Merry Christmas.

In Christ,  
Fr. Lingle



## Sacred Music

No doubt you are aware Christmas is around the corner...the stores have been reminding us of this since before Halloween. Sioux City has many musical opportunities to get us in the Christmas spirit. Almost since before Thanksgiving you will find the Orpheum theater booked with a multitude of Christmas themed concerts. All of our local high schools present a madrigal dinner (which if you've never attended one I highly recommend doing so - the food is good and the choirs provide wonderful music and entertainment). Children watch with eager anticipation for presents to appear under the tree with about as much excitement as the rest of us waiting for the I-29 corridor to be completed. It is a time to plan and prepare.

The Church spends 4 weeks preparing for Christ's birth (and his return) during the season of Advent. We say "goodbye" to the Glory to God during this brief period so as to renew this song of the angels at Christ's birth. There is an abundance of hymnody devoted to the season of Advent. One of my personal favorites is the German chorale *Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*. Here are a couple of verses:

*Savior of the nations, come;  
Virgin's Son, make here thy home.  
Marvel now, both heav'n and earth,  
That the Lord chose such a birth.*

*Brightly does thy manger shine;  
Glorious is thy light divine.  
Let not sin o'er-cloud this light;  
Ever be our faith thus bright.*

May you have a blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas.

Matthew Geerlings  
Director of Sacred Music

October Parish Stewardship: \$100,843

## New Evangelization & Catechesis with Karmen Darwin



Advent is a time of waiting, conversation, and hope that helps us prepare for the celebration of the Incarnation at Christmas. Advent also stirs up within us the desire and expectation for Christ's glorious second coming. As individuals and families, we can all enter into the Advent season in many enriching ways.

- Go to Mass every Saturday evening or Sunday morning as a family. Read and reflect on the Gospel as a family beforehand.
- Attend Mass as a family on December 8, a holy day of obligation, to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.
- Take time as a family to go to Confession.
- Have an Advent wreath in your home to incorporate into family prayer times. The progressive lighting of the candles recalls the stages of salvation history through which God was preparing the world for Christ's coming. The increasing amount of light from each additional candle is a reminder of the coming light of the world who will overcome all darkness.
- Advent is a time to reflect on God's gift of His Son, Jesus, to humanity. Commit to generously giving to those in need as a way of practicing charity towards others.
- Pray the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary.
- Participate in the tradition of posadas as a way of entering more deeply into the mystery of Christ's birth.
- Reflect on the ways in which God prepared his people and the world for the birth of Jesus. A helpful tool for this is the Jesse Tree. The Jesse Tree is one custom where a family reflects on a piece of salvation history every day beginning with Creation and focusing on the individuals who make up Jesus' genealogy. Every day has a symbol or an ornament that is placed on the tree as a reminder of each particular moment or individual in salvation history.
- Beginning on December 17, use the "O Antiphons" of Advent that are based on the Old Testament prophecies about the coming Messiah. Each antiphon addresses Christ with one of the Messianic titles from the Old Testament.

*Suggestions are based on the Congregation for Divine Worship's Directory on Popular Piety and the Liturgy.*

## January Epiphany Festival

Our parish will celebrate its feast day on January 7, 2018, with the Epiphany of the Lord. This liturgical celebration marks the Magi's visit to the child Jesus and His manifestation as the light to all nations and the Savior of the world. In their worship and homage of Jesus, the Magi, who were Gentiles, represented the universality of Christ's kingship. After receiving the good news of salvation, the Magi proceeded to spend their lives proclaiming the Gospel to the world. As parishioners of the Cathedral of the Epiphany, this great feast inspires us to turn our hearts more profoundly in worship toward the Lord and invigorate us in our mission to evangelize.

To celebrate, we will be hosting an Epiphany Festival on Sunday, January 7th, from 11a to 3:30p. The day will begin with the celebration of a Solemn Mass of the Epiphany at 10 am at the Cathedral, followed by food and fellowship. This will be more than a typical parish dinner, and will include story time for pre-k children, as well as games and activities for elementary, middle, and high school students. After our final parish weekend Mass ends at 2:30, tours of our historic building, the Mother Church of the Diocese of Sioux City, will be offered. To close out this special feast day, Choral Compline will be sung that evening at 7 pm.

The dinner will consist of traditional Hispanic cuisine including birria (stewed beef) and tamales, among other favorites. A bake sale and to-go option will also be offered. Families will be asked to bring baked goods and desserts for this occasion. This is a great opportunity for our parish to come together along with our neighbors in the city to commemorate our patronal feast. If you are available to assist with the festival, please contact the office for more information.

The proceeds of this festival will benefit the establishment of the perpetual adoration chapel in the Epiphany Center. The chapel is intended for Catholics throughout the diocese and city, so please encourage your friends from other parishes to support our festival and enjoy fantastic Hispanic cuisine. Tickets will be offered before and after select Masses in December, as well as during normal office hours in the Epiphany Center.

## December 8 Mass Times Holy Day of Obligation

12:00 pm Cathedral (English)  
5:30 pm Cathedral (Spanish)  
5:30 pm St. Joseph (English)

## Christmas Mass Times

**Christmas Eve, December 24th**  
4:00 pm Cathedral (English)  
with Bishop Nickless  
6:00 pm St. Boniface (English)  
6:00 pm Cathedral (Spanish)  
8:00 pm St. Joseph (English)

**Christmas Day, December 25th**  
8:30 am Cathedral (Latin)  
10:00 am Cathedral (English)  
10:30 am St. Boniface (Spanish)  
12:00 pm Cathedral (Spanish)  
12:30 pm St. Joseph (Vietnamese)

January 1, 2018 is not a Holy Day of Obligation this year. Mass times will be as usual that day.



# Religious Education and Formation

During this Fall semester, the religious education program and youth groups at Cathedral have been busy with formation across all age groups. The students in their second year of preparing for First Communion will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the month of December. The Confirmation students completed their Fall Session in November and began the Winter Session, which offers a variety of classes. The Winter Session touches on topics such as the Sacraments, the New Testament, Prayer, Mary and the Bible, Reading the Old Testament in the New: The Gospel of St. Matthew, and Theology of the Body. Aside from our religious education program, Our Middle School and High School Youth Groups have also been busy this Fall. During Vocations Awareness Week in early November, Fr. Sanchez spoke to the Middle School Youth Group about vocational discernment and the priesthood. High School students from the Cathedral parish attended their Fall Retreat in mid-November, which was focused on discerning the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The night was filled with socializing, food, and games, as well as Eucharistic Adoration, Confession, and prayer. Lastly, Adult Faith Formation has also been successful at the Cathedral, with several adults participating in the study entitled "Eucharist: Discovering the Mass in the Bible." This has given our parishioners the opportunity to be exposed to the richness of the Holy Mass based on Sacred Scripture and Church teaching. The adult study will conclude this month.



## Quinceañera Policy Update

If your daughter is planning a Quinceañera for 2018, please contact the office to schedule an appointment with our Sacramental Coordinator. The parish is offering four dates for 2018 Quinceañeras: May 5, June 23, July 28, and August 11. Each date can accommodate more than one Quinceañera and her damas and chambelanes and reservations will be made on a first come, first served basis. The great benefit for offering these pre-scheduled dates is that the Quinceañeras will now occur during the celebration of the Holy Mass, instead of a Liturgy of the Word service alone. The young women of the parish will continue to have the option of receiving a Quinceañera blessing during regular Cathedral Masses. Please contact the Sacramental Coordinator with any questions or to begin the Quinceañera preparation process.

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