



St. Christopher Catholic Church
Marysville, MI
364-4100

December 3, 2006

First Sunday of Advent

ADVENT - Dare to Hope

by Fr. Art Baranowski

Our children and grandchildren do something very important for us. They keep us hoping.

Look at the world: politicians telling us what will get votes, the endless war in Iraq, the plunging Michigan economy, global warming and the destruction of our planet. How discouraging! Then, look at the children you love and are part of your life. Because of the children we love, our dreams never die.

Why do children give us hope? The world still is the same and the world's problems continue as before. Nothing has changed. But, the children we love keep the flame of hope alive. They keep us from becoming totally cynical or totally sour because children express something that has not yet died in ourselves—our own child.

My brother Ron is the oldest and most serious sibling I have. My brother Ron now has a two-year-old grandson, Ethan. Ethan gets my serious older brother to come on his hands and knees into Ethan's pretend house underneath the kitchen table to find out where Ethan is hiding.

When I see my brother acting like a child with his grandson, it dawns on me that there still is a child left in my brother. And, that child in my brother still has dreams and hopes, even though life's hurts and disappointments have made my brother guarded and hard at times.

Children and the child in each of us help us to stay hopeful in life.

Advent is the great season of hope. Advent is about a child that came to the human race and that Christ Child is God himself. Because God was willing to be born into our world—the way our crazy world is—we have hope.

If God hadn't become a child for us, would we ever have discovered the child in each of us? If God had not been born into our world, we certainly would have lost the ability to hope.

Don't get into Christmas, yet. The stores and the shopping, the office and family parties, the busyness of Christmas misses Advent. Take time to be quiet. Try to become aware of the child in you.

(Continued on page 2)

This Sunday's Gospel

Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

Luke wants his Church community and ours to wait with expectation and hope. This gospel begins with God's message not to be afraid. At the predictions of the end of the world, Jesus again encourages people not to be afraid. The Son of Man will come to transform the world.

- Who or what gave you courage to go on when things seemed to be falling apart?
- Describe a fruitful time of waiting in your life? What made it good?
- Where do you need more hope in your life?

Next Sunday's Readings

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Luke 3: 1-6

Advent Communal Penance 2006

St. Stephen, Port Huron

Wed. Dec. 6, 6:30 p.m.

St. Mary, St. Clair

Sat. Dec. 9, 11:00 a.m.

St. Joseph, Port Huron

Thurs. Dec. 14, 6:30 p.m.

St. Christopher, Marysville

Thurs. Dec. 14, 7:00 p.m.

St. Mary, Port Huron

Sat. Dec. 16, 3:00 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 20, 7:00 p.m.

WEEKLY CALENDAR**Sunday, December 3, 2006***Advent Wreath Sale After All Masses*9:30 a.m. Baby/Toddler Sitting
10 months –3 yrs.9:30 a.m. Children's Church
3 yrs. –Kindergarten

10:45 a.m. Rel. Ed. 1st-8th Grades

10:45 a.m. RCIA

9th Grade Almont Retreat Returns

6:00 p.m. Youth Ministers

7:00 p.m. Quest

Tuesday, December 5, 20066:00 p.m. Rosary Altar Society
Advent Buffet Dinner/ Social Hall**Wednesday, December 6, 2006**

4:00 p.m. Rel. Ed. Grades 1st-6th

5:30 p.m. Rel. Ed. Grades 7th & 8th

6:30 p.m. CRHP Women's Team

Thursday, December 7, 2006

6:00 p.m. Pastoral Musicians

7:00 p.m. CRHP Men's Team

Friday, December 8, 2006*Immaculate Conception- Holy Day*

9:00 a.m. Mass

6:00 p.m. Mass

7:00 p.m. Divorced/Widowed
Coping Group / Quest Room7:00 p.m. Lector/ Eucharistic
Minister Advent Dinner/ Social Hall**Saturday, December 9, 2006**

4:00 p.m. Reconciliation

6:00 p.m. Hospitality Ministers

Advent Dinner/ Social Hall

Sunday, December 10, 20069:30 a.m. Baby/Toddler Sitting
10 months –3 yrs.9:30 a.m. Children's Church
3 yrs. –Kindergarten

10:45 a.m. Rel. Ed. 1st-8th Grades

10:45 a.m. RCIA

1-5 p.m.. D.R. Retreat

6:00 p.m. Youth Ministers

7:00 p.m. Quest

**BURIED IN
CHRIST**

The members of St. Christopher's extend their prayers and sympathy to the families of Lillian "Mae" Ward and Ralph Ceglarek.

(Continued from page 1)

Recall the dreams you once had and recover something realistic for today from those dreams.

Most of all, take time with the emptiness of life. Don't fill emptiness with constant activity and noise and media. Just be quiet. Listen to God's desire to be born into our world, your world. Dare to hope!

Away On Retreat

I will be away this Monday to Friday on retreat. A retreat is a time to get out of the regular routine and to devote one's whole time to listening to God. Fr. Britz and I have gone to the same retreat place for years—in Guelph, Ontario. Each day is spent in total silence, except for the 50 minute meeting with a director each of the days.

Mostly, one listens. The more a person learns to listen, the more the person hears God. I am amazed how smells, sounds, and tastes are noticed. The simple regular meals become events. And, one hears the same Scripture passages in a new way.

There is, of course, room for you at this retreat house. Just make the time. Please pray for me this week, especially.



It's that time of year again for the Giving Tree. Please take a tag from the tree in the Social Hall and shop for a gift. **When you return the gift, please make sure that tag is attached to the present.** We will be distributing the packages Sunday, Dec. 10, so please have your gift under the tree by then. Thank you in advance for your overwhelming generosity!
The Giving Tree Committee

Remember to Keep in Your Prayers

Cathy Duncan, Linda Hall, Sharon Lycett, Maxine Smith, Bill Robinson, J.B. Robinson, Jimmy Hale, Connie Green, Ron Graham, Jim Youngblood, Lisa Edgar, Rita Mozal, Mary Winkel, Jean Brockdorff, Jerry Hurley, Debbie Robb, Marian Dunn, Mary Toth, Amy Lynn Hess, Arthur Rogulski, Raymond Hulbert, Lorraine Rubbel, David Renshaw, Michael Healey, Jose Ramirez, Jeremy Grzech, Kevin Shaw, Gayle Smith, Leo & Betty Visga, Dorothy Smarch, Barbara Rumley, Dorothy Horn, Maria Miller, Bill Soboleski, Elizabeth Wessel, Maureen Pochodylo, Greg Riley, Lori Charette, Helen Ferris, Albert Kubek, Kathy & Karen Carty, Loreen Metheny, Helen Senik, Florence Ferris, Marlene Konik, Mary Blessinger, Dominic, Gino & Jordan Pecoraro, Russel Rumsey, Barbara Stockwell, Harvey Brodeur, Mary Hodges, Kyle Stivers and those who care for them.

Quest

**Sunday, December 3rd
7:00-8:30 p.m.**

**Please bring \$5.00
for Christmas Shopping for
Needy Family**

Also, parents, when you drop off your child please come into the Social Hall to complete a parental consent form for the event.

**BAPTIZED INTO
CHRIST & HIS
CHURCH**



November 25, 2006

Colin Michael Tieman, child of
Brady and Lisa (Wesch) Tieman

Rosary Altar Society Advent Buffet
Tuesday, December 5 6:00 p.m.

Cost \$10 per person

Please turn in your reservations. Call 364-6547 if you have any questions.

Readings for the Week of December 3, 2006

Sunday, Dec. 3
 Jer 33:14-16
 1 Thes 3:12—4:2
 Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

Monday, Dec. 4
 Is 2:1-5
 Mt 8:5-11

Tuesday, Dec. 5
 Is 11:1-10
 Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday, Dec. 6
 Is 25:6-10a
 Mt 15:29-37

Thursday, Dec. 7
 Is 26:1-6
 Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday, Dec. 8
Immaculate Conception
 Gn 3:9-15, 20
 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12
 Lk 1:26-38

Saturday, Dec. 9
 Is 30:19-21, 23-26
 Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday, Dec. 10
 Bar 5:1-9
 Phil 1:4-6, 8-11
 Lk 3:1-6

COPING

Coping with the holidays can be difficult, but even more so when you are recently separated, divorced or widowed. A peer group series for divorced, widowed or separated will be held for six weeks beginning December 8, and running until the end of January from 7:00 – 9 p.m. at St. Christopher's.

If you are hurting and would like to participate, please call 810-364-4715 and ask for Dale or George. There will not be a charge for this series; however, those who sign up are asked to participate for all six sessions.

Weekend Liturgy Dec. 9 & 10, 2006				
Day/Time	Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Sunday, 8:00 a.m.	Sunday, 9:30 a.m.	Sunday, 11:30 a.m.
Mass Intention	Kathleen Neumann by her family	Margaret Eagen by the Howards & the Taylors	Parishioners of St. Christopher	Doris Godi by Mary Hofmann
	Fr. Baranowski	Fr. Baranowski	Fr. Baranowski	Fr. Lever
Lector	Allison Warsinske Richard Schmitt	Nancy Trudell Charlie Andrews	Karen Fraschetti Martin Fraschetti	Jenine Ulrich Deem Boldyreff
Eucharistic Minister	Mike King Vince Pecoraro Judy Pecoraro Marilynn Pavlov Donna Landschoot	Gay Venia Rollin Stocker Barb Stocker Fely Nurenberg Ron Nurenberg	Cheryl Borowski Liz Bachler Mary Bixler Julia Szczygiel Beth Graham Jerry Huber Mary Jo Jewell	Lisa Jones Kimberly Erb Mary Russel Chrisann Krohn Skip Randall Gabrielle Randall Deanne Quain
Cantor	As Assigned	As Assigned	As Assigned	As Assigned
Altar Servers	Joe Rogers Spencer Rumley	Joel Orchard	Michael Schultz Jenna Furchak	Kyle Hercliff
Hospitality Ministers	Jerry & Lorraine Frendt Mike Kapus Steve Ginther	Kraig, Nancy, Kraig, Nate Hohf	Charlie Peyerk Don & Julie Wilson Mindy Lepine	Ron & Michelle Matthys Jerry Youngblood Rusty Dellofano
Coffee & Donuts	John & Sharon Goulet	Dale & Connie Conger	Michael & Carrie Roosen	Madonna Champagne & Rick Goodmen

Weekday Mass Intentions December 4, 2006 – December 8, 2006	
Monday, 9:00 a.m.	No Mass
Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Christopher
Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.	Bernard Shafran , by the Dandron family
Thursday, 9:00 a.m.	Parishioners of St. Christopher
Friday, 9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.	Earl Wetter (13 years) , by Dolores Wetter

Financial Stewardship At St. Christopher's

Nov. 25 & 26.....\$9696.07
 Youth.....1.00
 Camp. Hum. Develop....1289.00

Stewardship Thought...

“Be on guard,” Jesus warns in today’s Gospel, “lest your spirits become bloated with indulgence.” Let us heed His warning and follow the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with love for one another.

**Immaculate Conception Mass
Friday, Dec. 8**

9:00 a.m. Mass

Lector: Deem Boldyreff, Don Jewell
Eucharistic Ministers: Poppy Goddard, Vince Pecoraro, Judy Pecoraro, Pauline Smarch, Mary Bixler

6:00 p.m. Mass

Altar Server: Sean VanTiem
Lector: Chris Sass, Richard Schmitt
Eucharistic Ministers: John VanTiem, Mariol Schmitt, Liz Bachler, Kathy DeVigili, Dieter DeVigili



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