

St. Mary’s Catholic Church
Annunciation Church of B.V.M., Shumway, IL
+Bishop Thomas John Paprocki
Father Albert (Al) Allen, Pastor
Reconciliation Time: Saturdays 3-3:30 pm

Or by appointment
Mass Times: Saturday 4:00 pm & Sunday 8:00 am
Wednesday 8:00 am

Phone: 1-844-536-6514 (leave a message)
During a life emergency please contact
217.703.1042 to reach a priest.

Website: www.stmaryshumway.org
Email: stmarysshumway@gmail.com
Address: PO Box 96, Shumway, IL 62461

To reserve the church basement please call
1-844-536-6514.

Diocese Website: www.dio.org



Green Creek Mass Times:
Friday – 8 am
Saturday – 6 pm
Sunday – 10:30 am

Victim Assistance Contact Information-To Report Child Sexual Abuse by Church Personnel or to inquire about Safe Environment Programs in the Diocese of Springfield call 217-321-1155 or Children & Family Services Child Abuse Hotline 1-800-25-ABUSE

PRAYER LIST: Please remember them in your prayers!



Nelda McCoy
Marita Kemme
Sam Sheehan
Larry Nation
Jim Gordon
Don Kemme
Danny Zacha
Don Clark
Kendall Fulk
Dan Zacha Sr.

Dean Gengler
Steve Moore
Sally Wakefield
Pat Kuhns
Bill Hamilton
Christie Dust
Helen Kollinger
Bill Nuxoll
Mrs. Scott (Stacey)
Vonderheide
Jane Emmerich
Timber Miller
Marita Elson



Call: 1-844-536-6514 to add or remove someone. Thank You.

December Committee: Jamie Brown, Kara Brown, Donna Davis, Kathy Brown, Christy Brown, Katrina Davis, Theresa Davis, Betty Gengler

LITURGICAL MINISTERS					
SAT 4pm	Dec. 9	Dec. 16	Dec. 23	Dec. 30	Jan. 6
Servers	Abby Brown Anna Brown Aubrey Brown	Trey Brown Tryston Brown Madalyne Brown	Isaac Wells Abby Brown Anna Brown	Aubrey Brown Tryston Brown Trey Brown	Anna Brown Madalyne Brown Isaac Wells
Lector	Katrina Davis	Mike Holland	Alaina Miller	Jesse Davis	Abby Brown
Usher	Jason Wells Mike Holland	Jesse Davis Don Brown	Doug Brown Mike Holland	Jason Wells Don Brown	Jesse Davis Doug Brown
Ech Min	Don Brown Kathy Brown Rosemary Holland	Donna Davis Jesse Davis Katrina Davis	Mike Holland Don Brown Kathy Brown	Donna Davis Rosemary Holland Katrina Brown	Mike Holland Jesse Davis Don Brown
Gift Bearers	Don Brown Family	Doug Brown Family	Jesse Davis Family	Jason Wells Family	Wanda Ohnesorge
Greeters	Wells Family	Davis Family	Wells Family	Davis Family	Wells Family
SUN 8am	Dec. 10 Parish Families in Faith	Dec. 17 Parish Families in Faith	Dec. 24 NO 8 AM MASS Christmas Eve Mass at 6:30 pm. This mass doesn't fulfill your Sunday obligation. Christmas Day Mass at 8 am. Sign up for ministries in the cry room.	Dec. 31 8am	Jan. 7 Parish Families in Faith
Servers	Wade Conder Zoey Conder Olivia Vonderheide	Garrett Hoene Rory Miller Wylie Miller		Daisy Miller Zoey Conder Olivia Vonderheide	Garrett Hoene Wade Conder Jacob Vonderheide
Lector	Lisa Thompson	Terry Hoene		Lisa Thompson	Terry Hoene
Ushers	Justin Conder John Neu	Don Antrim Jason Vonderheide		Charley Vonderheide Larry Lieb	Jim Vonderheide Roy Waldhoff
Ech Min	Lisa Waldhoff Barb Vonderheide Roy Waldhoff	Lisa Thompson Leslie Kemme Timber Miller		Linda Doedtman Barb Vonderheide Lisa Waldhoff	Leslie Miller Lisa Thompson Roy Waldhoff
Gift Bearers	Greg Michelle Spannagel	Deb Stremming		Wanda Ohnesorge	Wally Thompson Family
Greeters	Tom Helen Doedtman	Ed Leslie Kemme		Jim Mary Miller	John Karen Neu
Money Counters	Doedtman Shadwell	Waldhoff Hoene		Bales Richards Sheehan, Hackman	Stremming Conder
WED. 8am Lectors	Dec. 6	Dec. 13	Dec. 20	Dec. 27	Jan. 3
	Irene Koester	Kay Conder	Linda Doedtman	Irene Koester	Kay Conder

Weekly Offering.....11-26-23

Adults..... \$2026.00
Loose..... \$385.00
Cemetery..... \$50.00
Christmas Flowers..... \$40.00
Campaign for J&H..... \$80.00
Total..... \$2581.00

Mass Money \$10.00.

Heaven or Hell: How God judges – It's one of the deepest theological questions – judgement. What is the particular judgement and the last judgement? Will we know everything in heaven? Will we know if our loved ones are in hell? Ultimately, what does the Church say about what will happen at your judgement? Father Peter Harman, who holds a Doctorate in Moral Theology from the Catholic University of America, joins Dive Deep. Go to dio.org/podcast or youtube.com/diospringfield or search “Dive Deep” on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING HOLIDAYS-

Immaculate Conception

Shumway Thurs. Dec. 7 @ 7pm
Green Creek Fri. Dec. 8@ 8am

Weekend of Dec 23/24



SATURDAY

Shumway @ 4pm
Green Creek —NO MASS

SUNDAY

Shumway —NO MASS
Green Creek- 8 am

(There is a ministry sign up in the cry room for Christmas Eve/Day Masses.)

Christmas Eve

Shumway @ 6:30pm
Green Creek @ 4pm

Christmas Day

Shumway @8 am
Green Creek @ 10:30am

New Year's Eve

Shumway @ 6pm
Green Creek —No Mass

New Year's Day

Shumway —No Mass
Green Creek @ 9 am



It is that time of the year!!!
The tags are located on a special board found in the cry room. Wrapped gifts MUST be returned to the church basement by **Sunday, Dec. 10**. Each gift must have the tag from the board attached to it. If you have multiple packages, make sure each package is labeled with the tag number.



Saturday, Dec. 2 – Decease Member of the Leroy & Leona Zacha Family
Sunday, Dec. 3 – Edward & Myrtle Savickas by Josh Timber Miller Family
Wednesday, Dec. 6- Corey Sandschafer by Mary Sandschafer
Thursday, Dec. 7 – Joyce Habing by Steve & Sharon Moore
Vigil for Immaculate Conception -7pm
Saturday, Dec. 9 – Brenda Vahling by Tom & Cindy Vahling
Sunday, Dec. 10 – Ross Pautler by Duane & Joyce Shadwell
Wednesday, Dec. 13 – Matthew Tegeler by family

Please call or email (info on front page) to schedule an intention or put an envelope in the collection basket with the information. Envelopes can be found in the mailbox in the cry room. There is a calendar of available dates located on the bulletin board and in the cry room.

Happy Birthday



Sam Sheehan 12-3
Dorothy Hankins 12-6
Chad Kessler 12-6
Judy Zacha 12-6
Braxton Hoene 12-7

Parish Families in Faith



Next class: Dec. 10 & 17

Adult classes AND Parish Family Time are for ALL PARISHIONERS not just those who have children in PSR!!!

Reminder ALL tickets need to be turned in by DEC. 10.



Money raffle with \$10,000.00 in prizes. Grand prize \$5000 2nd-3rd \$1000 and 4th-9th \$500. When you have sold/buy your tickets, simply put money and tickets in an envelope marked hall fundraiser and put it in the collection basket. Thanks again for your continued support. If you need more tickets, contact Ed or Leslie Kemme

PARISH CHRISTMAS PARTY
SUNDAY, DEC. 3
AFTER 8am MASS

Christmas Flower Donations are being accepted. If you would like to make a donation, please place it in an envelope marked "Christmas Flowers" and drop it in the collection basket. Please include how you would like your donation listed in the bulletin.

St. Mary's Parish is looking for someone to take care of cemetery record keeping. If you have questions about what the position entails, please talk to Fr. Allen. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank Gene Doedtman to his many years of service as the cemetery record keeper. Thank you very much.

Something new for this Advent--**Advent Stations** They are a powerful devotion that invites participants to embark on a spiritual journey through prayer and scripture. Similar to the Stations of the Cross, Advent Stations guide us through God's preparation for the coming of Christ throughout history. These stations beautifully connect Old Testament stories with corresponding New Testament readings, allowing us to witness the divine plan unfolding over time. Each station serves as a reminder of God's faithfulness and His unwavering commitment to redeem humanity. Go to <https://young-catholics.com/5413/advent-stations/> for the stations.

The Effingham Knights of Columbus Kids Christmas Party is Sunday, December 3. Doors open at 3:00pm with Santa arriving shortly thereafter. Cookies, hotdogs, and nachos will be served.

REFLECTIONS—cont. from page 2

In the gospel for the 1st Sunday of Advent Year B, Jesus warns his disciples to be vigilant, to stay awake. This is not just a call for the disciples of Jesus’ time but for us today. Life is full of unpredictable events, both tragic and joyful. It is not for us to know the time or the place when we will face these trials or when we will encounter Christ in our daily lives. Therefore, we must live in a state of readiness, serving Christ through our actions, words, and thoughts, at every moment.

Advent is a time to renew our commitment to God’s plan, to embrace the waiting and the uncertainty with faith and hope. It’s a period to prepare, to watch, and to be attentive to the ways in which we can serve and encounter God every day. Let this first week of Advent be a reminder to us to slow down, to reflect, and to align ourselves with God’s will, ready to act with love and compassion at every opportunity presented to us.

Reflection Questions

- What specific responsibilities in my life require more attention to detail and conscientiousness?
- How can I improve in performing my daily duties with an awareness that I am serving Christ through them?
- In what ways can I enhance my spiritual preparedness during Advent, and what practices might help me to achieve this?
- How does the concept of spiritual vigilance apply to my life, and what distractions do I need to guard against?
- Reflecting on the past year, how have I experienced grace, and how can I extend grace to others in my community?
- Which spiritual gifts do I wish to develop more deeply this Advent, and what steps will I take to nurture them?
- How does the anticipation of Jesus’ return influence the way I live my life on a day-to-day basis?
- What aspects of God’s plan am I struggling to trust in, and how can I surrender my own plans to His will?
- Can I identify ways in which I may have wandered from God’s path, and what concrete actions will lead me back?
- What does living in a state of readiness for the coming of Christ mean for me in practical terms?
- How will I renew my commitment to God’s plan this Advent, and what does embracing the season’s uncertainty look like in my life?
- In what specific ways can I prepare my heart and mind to be more open to encountering Christ daily?

St. Joseph’s Catholic Church in Island Grove will be commemorating 150 years as a Faith Community throughout 2024. A public celebration is in the planning for September 8th, 2024. Orders for spiral reprints of prior centennial books are now being accepted. The purchase price for the 1974 and 1999 combination reprint is \$25 dollars; \$15 for the 1924 reprint. Preview copies are in the your church’s sacristy or vestibule. Please contact Sandy Meinhart: 217-273-1758/sameinhart@gmail.com or St. Isidore Parish Office: 217-925-5788/ office@stisidore.dio.org with inquiries and orders.

Natural Family Planning Class

2023 Sessions: To register, contact Kate Pruemer at 217-821-1840 or kpruemer@gmail.com. Saturday, December 9th - 9:00-10:30am at St. Anthony Church, Effingham, IL

Pre-Cana Dates---

Upcoming dates for programs in the diocese are listed below. Sunday, February 4, 2024 - St. Francis, Teutopolis Call 217-961-6404 to register. The fee is \$50 per couple to cover lunch and expenses.

REFLECTIONS—

Reflecting on Advent’s First Call

The gospel for the 1st Sunday of Advent Year B, Mark 13:33-37, is a passage where Jesus instructs his followers to be watchful and alert, drawing an analogy to a man going on a journey who leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their own task, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. This reflection will focus on the themes of vigilance and preparedness that are central to the season of Advent.

On this 1st Sunday of Advent Year B, this scripture invites Catholics to adopt a posture of awareness. As we enter this liturgical season, it’s a time to focus on the anticipation of Christ’s coming. Just as the servants in the parable are tasked with specific roles, each person has unique responsibilities in their life. The call to be alert reminds us to perform our duties diligently, whether in our family life, work, or community engagement, with the conscious intention that our actions should align with the teachings of Christ.

The doorkeeper’s role in the parable underscores the importance of readiness. For Catholics, Advent is not just about preparing for the celebration of Jesus’ birth but also for his eventual return. This scripture can prompt a reflection on personal spiritual preparedness. Are we actively engaging in prayer, confession, and acts of charity? The anticipation of Jesus’ second coming should inspire a reflection on the state of one’s soul and how we live out our faith in daily life.

Lastly, the instruction to ‘watch’ is a powerful reminder of the need for spiritual vigilance. This can be interpreted as staying steadfast in faith amidst life’s distractions and uncertainties. The unpredictable hour of the master’s return in the parable can be seen as a metaphor for the unexpected nature of events in our own lives. As such, maintaining a strong spiritual foundation ensures that, whatever the hour, one is not taken by surprise but is found living in a way that is pleasing to God.

Embracing Advent’s Gifts

The second reading for the 1st Sunday of Advent Year B, 1 Corinthians 1:3-9, speaks of grace, fellowship, and the strengthening of faith as we await the revelation of Jesus Christ. This passage is fitting for the first Sunday of Advent, which marks a period of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus and the anticipation of His return.

The beginning of Advent is a time to reflect on the grace that is given to us through Christ. Just as Paul greeted the Corinthians with a message of grace and peace, Advent ushers in a season to embrace these gifts anew. This grace is not earned, but it is a gift that sustains believers, enabling them to be enriched in every way. As we prepare our hearts for Christmas, we’re invited to reflect on how this grace has been evident in our own lives and how we might extend it to others.

Paul also speaks of the Corinthians not lacking any spiritual gift as they wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. This assurance is a reminder that God provides what is necessary for the journey of faith. In Advent, Catholics are called to trust in God’s provision, recognizing that spiritual growth is part of the preparation for Jesus’ coming. The gifts of the Spirit are sources of strength and should be nurtured through prayer, reading Scripture, and participating in the sacraments.

Finally, the passage ends with a promise that God will keep us firm to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Advent is a time of hopeful expectation, but also a call to perseverance. The period of waiting is not passive; it’s active vigilance, where believers are called to live out their faith authentically. The reflection on this promise can be a source of comfort and motivation, as we strive to live in a manner worthy of the calling we have received in Christ, especially during this season of watchful anticipation.

Patience and Vigilance in God’s Plan

As we enter the season of Advent, it’s a time for anticipation and reflection. It’s common for us to become impatient, especially when things don’t go according to our plans. During the first week of Advent, we are reminded that our own plans may not align with God’s vision for the world. God remains faithful even when we stray. The readings call us to return to God’s path, recognizing that His aim is the restoration of all creation to Himself, not merely fulfilling our individual desires.

Isaiah speaks to us of a people who have wandered from God’s ways. We too can relate to this wandering. In the midst of our daily challenges, we can become lost, focused on our immediate wants and grievances. However, the call of Advent is a call to turn back, to trust in God’s plan even when it seems distant or difficult to comprehend. (the remainder of the article can be found on the second to last page)