

Eucharistic Minister/Lector/Altar Servers

Saturday – Nov 30th – 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Annette Olson Lector: Robert Mitchell
Servers: Kevin Einhaus, Ella Sterling

Sunday – Dec 1st – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Gary Kizior Lector: Robert Maierhofer
Servers: Audrey Jenkins, Brody Thompson

Saturday – Dec 7th – 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Jerry Barla Lector: Joyce Barla
Servers: Anna/Clara Bruno, Lucy Chellino

Sunday – Dec 8th – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Tracy Ellis Lector: Kathy Baker
Servers: Brady Fort, Calvin/Levi Maierhofer

Saturday – Dec 14th – 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Jennifer Doloski Lector: Michael Doloski
Servers: Daniel/David/Joshua Doloski

Sunday – Dec 15th – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Allie Williamson Lector: Lynn Hobbs
Servers: Elliot Geier, Landon Harty, Audrey Jenkins

Saturday – Dec 21st – 4:00pm

Minister: Annette Olson Lector: Robert Mitchell
Servers: Gavin Nusbaumer, Ella Sterling

Sunday – Dec 22nd – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Sandra Kizior Lector: Cathy Erickson
Servers: David/Dominic Bilot, Brody Thompson

Tuesday – Dec 24th – 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Robert Mitchell Lectors: Calvin/Levi Maierhofer
Servers: Anna/Clara Bruno, Elliott Geier

Tuesday – Dec 24th – 9:00pm Mass

Minister: Gary Kizior Lector: Michael Bilot
Servers: David/Dominic Bilot

Wednesday – Dec 25th – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Cathy Erickson Lector: Lynn Hobbs
Servers: Landrie/Layken Callahan

Saturday – Dec 28th – 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Jackie Nusbaumer Lector: David Nusbaumer
Servers: Lucy Chellino, Gavin Nusbaumer

Sunday – Dec 29th – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Tracy Ellis Lector: Kathy Baker
Servers: Landon Harty, Calvin/Levi Maierhofer

Tuesday – Dec 31st – 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Jennifer Doloski Lector: Michael Doloski
Servers: Caleb/Daniel/Joshua Doloski

Wednesday – Jan 1st – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Michael Bilot Lector: Robert Maierhofer
Servers: David/Dominic Bilot

Saturday – Jan 4th – 4:00pm Mass

Minister: Jerry Barla Lector: Joyce Barla
Servers: Kevin Einhaus, Ella Sterling

Sunday – Jan 5th – 9:00am Mass

Minister: Gary Kizior Lector: Michael Bilot
Servers: David/Dominic Bilot, Elliott Geier

Mass Intentions for the Month of December

Sun Dec 1st – Rose Tautz

By:

Tues Dec 3rd – Ronald Elens

By: The Elens Family

Wed Dec 4th – Art & Mary Mitchell

By: The Barsi Family

Thurs Dec 5th – Mary “Bonnie” Schaefer

By: Herman Schaefer Family

Fri Dec 6th – John Claggett

By: Jim Claggett

Sat Dec 7th – Joan Reardon

By: Jay Reardon & Family

Sun Dec 8th – Richard Anderson

By: Les & Nadine Maierhofer & Family

Tues Dec 10th – Rita Cleary Smith

By: George & Wilma Oswald

Wed Dec 11th – Jack Farrell

By: Jim Claggett

Thurs Dec 12th – Theresa Pagoria

By: John & Sandra Ellis

Fri Dec 13th – Buffo Family

By: George McComb

Sat Dec 14th – Loretta Petges

By:

Sun Dec 15th – John Fencel

By: Devine Family

Tues Dec 17th – McComb Family

By: George McComb

Wed Dec 18th – Jeffrey Haiduke

By: Haiduke Family

Thurs Dec 19th – Mary “Bonnie” Schaefer

By: Doug & Cathy Carlson

Fri Dec 20th – Jean Naretto

By: Rudy & Viv Maierhofer

Sat Dec 21st – Margaret Raibley

By: Brian & Annette Olson

Sun Dec 22nd – Dale Norton

By: Gail Norton & Family

Tues Dec 24th – Bob Heath

By: Gail Heath

Wed Dec 25th – Donald Schmeckpeper

By: Dustin & Dana Schmeckpeper

Thurs Dec 26th – Theresa Pagoria

By: Margaret Raibley

Fri Dec 27th – Msgr. R.J. Boyle

By: Jim Claggett

Sat Dec 28th – Margaret Hooper

By: Brian & Annette Olson

Sun Dec 29th – Anne Kehoe

By: Les & Nadine Maierhofer & Family

Tues Dec 31st – St. Mary Victorine Ryan

By:



We pray to the Lord!

**St. Patrick's Seneca
Diocese of Peoria**

December 2019

176 W Union Street, Seneca, IL 61360

(815)-357-6239

www.senecastpatricks.com

SMA Fathers



Pastor : Ghislain INAI, SMA

Curates : Augustin KASSA, SMA

Deacon : Ron Wackerlin

Parish Services

Secretaries

Andrea Hogan Mon/Tue 9-4:00

June Steder Wed/Thurs 9-4:00

Phone: 815-795-2240

Email: parishgroup3@gmail.com

Religious Education

Jennifer Doloski

(815)-357-8509

Rectory

(815)357-6239

Parish Hall

(815)357-8509

Cemetery

Mr. Fran Kasten

(815)357-8816

Mass Schedule

Tues to Fri 8 am

Saturday 4 pm

Sunday 9 am

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. or by
appointment.

Homebound/

Sacrament of the Sick

If a parishioner is homebound, please
call the Parish Rectory and
arrangements will be made to bring
them Holy Communion. Whenever



December, the Reason for the Season

Jesus is the Reason for Christmas



“The liturgy of Advent focuses on remembering Christ's first coming at Bethlehem which then directs our mind to Christ's Second Coming at the end of time. The readings focus on the people of the Old Testament awaiting the Messiah, John the Baptist, heralding the way for Christ and the Blessed Virgin Mary and her maternal preparations.

Christmastide begins with the Evening Prayer of Christmas on December 24 and ends on the Sunday after Epiphany. Christmas and Easter are the only solemnities with octaves attached in the revised calendar. The Christmas octave differs from Easter in that it includes some major feasts: St. Stephen (December 26), St. John the Evangelist (December 27), the Holy Innocents (December 28) and St. Sylvester (December 31). The octave closes on January 1, the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

The month of December is filled with expectation and celebration. Preparation is the key word for the first 24 days of December. Everyone is getting ready for Christmas — shopping and decorating, baking and cleaning. Too often, however, we are so busy with the material preparations that we lose sight of the real reason for our activity.

Christmas is a Christian feast — and we must reclaim it as such! In the same way that a family eagerly prepares for a baby, so in Advent should we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child. We should keep Advent as a season of waiting and longing, of conversion and of hope and keep our thoughts on the incredible love and humility of our God in taking on the flesh of the Virgin Mary. Let us not forget to prepare a peaceful place in our hearts wherein our Savior may come to dwell.

The best person we can turn to for help during Advent is Mary, Christ's and our Mother. She awaited the day of His birth with more eagerness than any other human being. Her preparation was complete in every respect. Let's crown our preparation and borrow something of Mary's prayerfulness, her purity and whole-hearted submission to God's will.”

~ Catholic Culture

As for me and my household,

Joshua 24: 15

we will serve the Lord.



Dear St. Patrick's Parishioner,

In the intro of his booklet, *Advent 2019: Daily Reflections, Practices and Prayers*, The Guiding Power of Hope, the Dominican Janet Schaeffler writes and I share with you:

"We've probably all heard about the poll that asked a sample audience: 'What is the greatest danger of our ignorance or apathy?' One half of the people answered, 'I don't know', and the other half responded, 'I don't care'."

We might laugh when we hear this story; yet is it close to reality? Are people – throughout the world as well as in our churches today – despondent, indifferent, discouraged... and feeling left without hope?

In our Christmas carol "Angels We Have Heard on High," we sing: "Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?" In the midst of culture experiencing strife, oppression, and unrest, the shepherds heard whispers of hope.

Advent is a season to hear the whispers of – and to rekindle the power of – hope. A poem by Aino Makoto relates a conversation among four candles: the peace candle goes out because no one is interested in keeping it lit; the faith candle goes out because it no longer feels indispensable; the love candle goes out because people don't understand its importance. A child enters the room, sees the three dark candles, and starts to cry. The fourth candle gently tells the child not to be afraid, for she is the hope candle, and because she is still burning, together they can relight the other candles.

As we celebrate Advent this year (...) let us listen for the myriad whispers of hope that are all around us. Together, let us live Advent and relight the light of hope in our families, our communities, our church, our nation, and our world."

In Saint Patrick's let us not only light the candle of hope, but be ourselves the candle of hope that will bring others to life.

Fr. G

Cleaning Committees



Cleaning Chairs for December's 1st Week; Dianne Bushman – 815-274-1999

Cleaning Families for 1st Week of December: Michael/Laura Bilot, David Bilot, Michael Buck, Diane Gordon, Julia Malone, Rock/Margi Monahan, Scott/Jean Steffes, and Aaron Walker. Dianne will contact all cleaning members with the time they will be cleaning.

Cleaning Chairs for December's 3rd Week; Mary Spicer – 815-357-1251

Cleaning Families for 3rd Week of December: RuthAnn Foehringer, Kellen/Erin Jenkins, Jack/Becky Jones, John Lamb, Mike/Tammy Murphy, Richard/Kathy Sisk, and James Weidensee. Mary will contact all cleaning members with the time they will be cleaning.

A Heartfelt Thank you!

St. Patrick's Communication Committee would like to thank everyone that has helped in the supplying of the Bulletin information.

St. Pat Com's heartfelt thanks also go out to parishioners who have Believed in the project of Saint Patrick having its own bulletin and have willingly accepted to sponsor it. Thanks to your generosity, we have been able for more that one year to be the only fully family sponsored parish print. Communication can be costly but all organizations, including a parish, need it. That is why we encourage parishioners to join Jim Claggett, Henry (may his soul Rest in Peace) & Dr. Gaile Nellett, Bill & Carol Mitchell, Jerry & Joyce Barla, Ray & Pam Eich, Brian & Annette Olson, Kyle & Jamie Dooley and Dorothy & Jim Fiedler, along with some anonymous sponsors, to support our monthly bulletin.

Though communication is important, it appears to be the first sector to be cut when an enterprise is financially challenged and so, St. Pat's Com, would like all parishioners to join in the effort of keeping our bulletin alive. We would like you to join our above sponsors to support the parish monthly bulletin as we do our best to improve it.

While we are "Thanking" the people of our parish we can't forget those that serve/help in other ways: our Cleaning Head Chairs, Cleaning Groups, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Servers, CCD Teachers and Coordinator, Money Counters, Ushers, Organists, Singers, the Heads and members of all the other Committees. Without ALL of your help, our church would not survive!

May you and your families all
have a blessed Holiday Season!

God Bless You and Merry Christmas ☺

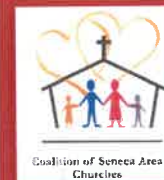


UPcoming EVENTS

We have listed below some highlights of our town's and neighboring town's Calendar of Events:

Dec 1 st	NO CCD Classes – Thanksgiving Weekend
Dec 2 nd	Color Craze – 3:30pm @ the Library
Dec 6 th	Midnight in Morris Shopping 6pm-12am
Dec 7 th	Grinch sighting @ the Library
Dec 7 th	Ottawa Art League @ 807 LaSalle St 10am-4pm
Dec 7 th	See Santa at Seneca Ace Hardware from 12pm-2pm
Dec 8 th	First Reconciliation – 2 nd Grade @ 10:15 am
Dec 9 th	Christmas Clay Ornament – Mold/Shape @ Library
Dec 11 th	Holiday Concert @ the High School 7-8 pm
Dec 12 th	Family Movie Night 5:00 pm @ the Library
Dec 15 th	See Santa @ BP from 1-4
Dec 16 th	Time to paint – Clay Ornament @ 5pm @ Library
Dec 17 th	Adult Lunch/Movie 12pm @ the Library
Dec 19 th	Home for the Holidays @ the Library 5:30 pm
Dec 22 nd	NO CCD Classes – Christmas Break
Dec 23 rd	Seneca Grade School starts Winter Break
Dec 23 rd	Seneca High School starts Winter Break
Dec 23 rd	Adult Book Group 6:30pm @ the Library
Dec 24 th	Christmas Eve Children's Mass @ 4:00pm
Dec 29 th	No CCD Classes – Christmas Break

Registration required for library sponsored events.



Packs for Pals packing signup sheet will be in the back of church. The more help we have, the faster the packing goes! January is St. Patrick's month to pack the Packs on Wednesdays @ 6:30pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church. Please mark your calendar for a Wednesday or two ☺

Adopt a Pal

Your \$50 donation will provide weekend packs for a student for an entire semester!

1 in 4 kids in the United States don't know where their next meal is coming from. Although this number is lower in the Seneca area, the fact remains that some of our children go hungry, especially on the weekends, when school breakfasts and lunches aren't available to them. Our "Packs" contain a variety of nutritious food to help children with food insufficiency make it through the weekend so they are well fed and ready for the next school week. Won't you help?

Send your donation to:

Our Savior's Lutheran Church/Packs for Pals
300 E Union St.
Seneca, IL 61360

As a reminder, the family with the intention for the given mass is to present the gifts to Father. While ushers are taking up the weekend collection, we ask that the members of the family for whom mass is being said to please head to the back of church so they will be ready to present the gifts at the end of the collection.



ALL Orders for Christmas Wreaths, Crosses, and Grave Blankets are available for pick up **THIS WEEKEND** - Nov 30 to Dec 1.



With the heating season beginning, we ask that everyone to be aware of closing the doors throughout the church to save on fuel costs. We ask that as you enter or leave to make sure the doors are closed and not left open to allow cold air to come into the church. Also note that one of the double doors at the bell tower entrance has been marked to remain closed so that the weather stripping will be kept in place. Please do not hook the doors open for any reason throughout the year.

Holiday Masses at St. Patrick's

December 24	Our Children's Mass @ 4:00pm
December 24	9:00 pm
December 25	Christmas Day @ 9:00am
December 31	New Year's Eve Mass @ 4:00pm
January 1	New Year's Day Mass @ 9:00am

PRAIRIE SINGERS 32nd ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT SERIES

This year marks the Prairie Singers 32nd Christmas concert series. We invite you to hear them at various locations. The Prairie Singers have selected carols that reflect the joys and beliefs of the Holiday season. Come and enjoy "Hallelujah, I Believe" with the Singers.

Prairie Creek Public Library, Dwight, December 5th @ 6:30pm

First Presbyterian Church, Morris, December 7th @ 7pm

Trinity Lutheran Church, Ottawa, December 8th @ 2pm

First United Methodist, Streator, December 14th @ 7pm

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Seneca, December 15th @ 2pm

The Dwight Public Library concert is open to the public and free of charge. The church concerts will have a free will offering.

