

ST. MARY'S CHURCH

Fr. Tuan Van Nguyen

First Sunday of Advent



Sunday, November 27, 2022

Contact Information:
P.O. Box 456
Minooka, IL 60447
Parish Office: 815-467-2233
Parish Email: stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net

A Message from Fr. Tuan

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday is the 1st Sunday of the Liturgical year of the Church. We have only 4 weeks to prepare for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. I know that everyone is so busy with preparations for Christmas. However, I would like to ask you to take this wonderful opportunity, during this holy season, to prepare spiritually for the birth of Jesus. For He is the Reason for the Season! Please set aside 5-10 minutes each day to spend in prayer, saying the Rosary or reading the Bible. I promise to continue to pray for you each day and I ask you to pray for me too.

This week the Giving Tree will be back in the Church. What a wonderful opportunity for us to help bring Christmas joy to others in our community with gifts.

Here is a reflection for the First week of Advent Year A:

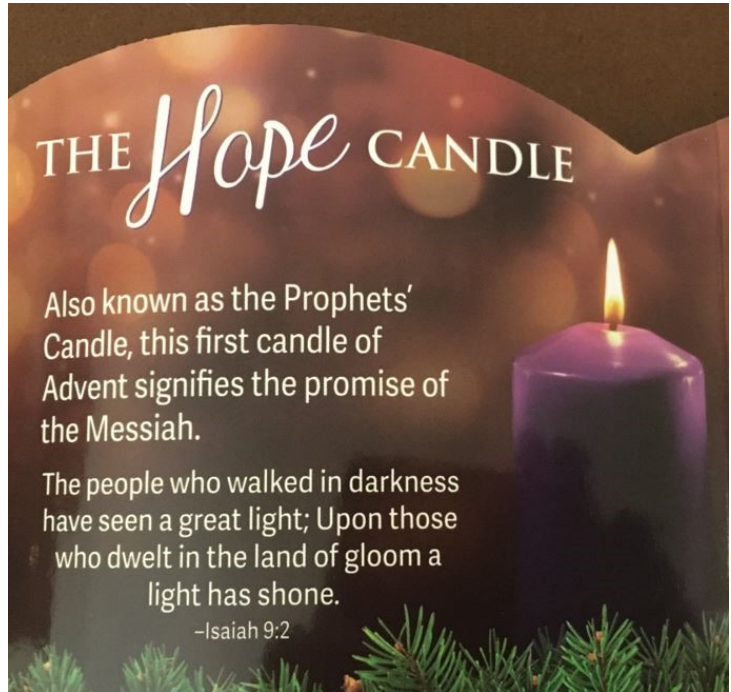
Advent is not only a season to prepare for Jesus' coming as a tiny baby at Christmas. Today's Gospel reminds us that Jesus will come again at the end of time, like a thief in the night, when those who are unprepared will be swept away like victims of the Great Flood. How can we prepare? Isaiah's counsel can help. Isaiah prophesied that those walking in the Lord's paths will take their swords and spears and turn them into blades for their plows and pruners. Swords and spears are weapons, used against a foe in battle. Plows and pruners are used for preparing fields and trees to grow food. In Isaiah's vision, tools of war become tools of life. Instead of being used to fight, they are used to nourish. Turning confrontation into cooperation, as in Isaiah's prophecy, is how we can prepare ourselves for the arrival of the Prince of Peace, no matter when he comes. May Jesus Christ, that thief in the night, break into our hearts this Advent and guide us to making peace in our families, in our communities, and in the world.

With whom can you reconcile and cooperate during the next four weeks?

Love and Prayers,



Fr. Tuan





Bishop Hicks' Monthly Column

November 2022

Our Baptismal Duty

Recently, many of us tuned in to watch the events surrounding the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, the longest reigning British monarch. In the United States, the existence of a royal family may be somewhat of a foreign concept in our political system that prefers democratically elected officials. Yet, with some curiosity, many of us cast our gaze across the pond to capture a glimpse of the new King Charles III receiving the royal scepter.

In the Catholic Church, we tap into "royal language" with titles like "Queen of Heaven" and the "Prince of Peace." During this month, we will come to the end of our liturgical year when the universal Church boldly proclaims Christ as King of the Universe on November 20, 2022.

Pope Pius XI instituted the celebration of "Christ the King" in 1925 with his encyclical *Quas primas* ("In the first") to respond to growing secularism and atheism in the world. From the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops: "This solemnity reminds us that while governments come and go, Christ reigns as King forever. During the early twentieth century, in Mexico, Russia and some parts of Europe, militantly secularistic regimes threatened not just the Catholic Church and its faithful, but civilization itself."

Almost 100 years after the solemnity's inception, there is still a need to promote the message of this feast day. We do not have to look far to see blatant attacks on religious liberty and increasing secularism. It is in this context that atheists are proactively trying to convert vulnerable minds to not believing in God. Still, there are others who plant a deceptive message by saying, "If you insist on believing in God, at least do so by being only spiritual and not religious within the Church."

While we embrace Christ as our king, we also need to remind ourselves that he is a very different kind of king. Instead of donning a crown of gold, Jesus wears a crown of thorns, and instead of ruling with arrogance or revenge, he utters decrees of mercy and forgiveness: "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34). Jesus rules by being a good shepherd who rejects loftiness and domination. Instead, he serves, as opposed to seeking to be served. He calls all those who follow him to join his ministry of service, humility, forgiveness and charity.

During the past few years, there has been a popular streaming series named "The Crown." In the first season, there is a poignant scene in which King George VI reminds his son-in-law, Philip, of his duty, especially toward the new queen, Elizabeth II. "You understand, the titles, the dukedom. They're not the job. She is the job! She is the essence of your duty. Loving her. Protecting her."

For those of us who have been called to minister in the Church, I think this quote is quite appropriate. It applies not exclusively to bishops, clergy and religious, but to every Catholic who is baptized and is a missionary disciple of Jesus: "The Church is our duty. Loving her. Protecting her."

In the rite of baptism for children, the parents listen to the following words before the water is poured: "You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so, you are accepting the responsibility of training him or her in the practice of the faith. It will be your **duty** to bring him or her up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor." When parents are asked, "Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?" the affirmative answer they give at that moment is hopefully repeated daily and throughout the course of their lives.

To accomplish this, I continue to invite us to follow my vision for this diocese of Catechesis, Evangelization and Faith into Action. For if we truly know Jesus, love Jesus and serve others like he taught us, then we are doing our baptismal **duty**. As we strive to keep God at the center of our lives, the Church and the universe, may Christ the King live and reign today and always.



The Giving Tree is back IN the church!!

Each weekend more tags will be added.

ALL gifts are to be returned to the

Parish Center on the dates listed below:

November 27th during the KC Breakfast

December 3rd and 4th before and after all Masses

Dec. 7 Tues. and Dec. 8 Wed. 4p-6p

December 10th and 11th before and after all Masses

**ALL GIFTS MUST BE RETURNED BY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11th**

When you take a tag from the tree, keep it to tie onto the item
or bag when you bring the gift back.

Please only buy what the tag says and DO NOT wrap the gifts

Any questions? Call Kathy (815) 941-4419

St. Mary's Junior High Night



**All 7th & 8th Graders Are
Invited**

Stay post RE for an hour of fun starting with pizza and treats,
and then play & fun in various ways! We will have a group sport
in the main room and other areas & rooms set up for games,
music, art room, & more.

November 30th 7:30pm - 8:30pm in the Parish Center



December 2022

Dear Friends,

Pope Francis often highlights the value of older adults and the role they play in conveying the faith from one generation to the next. In his message this year for World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly, he noted, "A long life – so the Bible teaches – is a blessing, and the elderly are not outcasts to be shunned but living signs of the goodness of God who bestows life in abundance."

As we approach the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection on the weekend of December 10-11 — an appeal that benefits some 25,000 elderly Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests in the United States — I am reminded that senior religious never retire from their vows.

Instead, the prayer and ministry of older religious are an ongoing witness to the Gospel. In their younger years, they laid the foundation for Catholic schools, hospitals, and works of mercy. Today, many serve in volunteer ministry. Others are frail and need assistance. Yet all remain wholly committed to their vocations by embracing the opportunity to spend more time praying for our Church and world.

Please support the retirement needs of our senior religious. And please join me in praying for God's continued blessing on our nation's elderly sisters, brothers, and religious order priests.

Paz y bien,
Most Reverend Ronald A. Hicks
Bishop of Joliet

Food Pantry Items Needed:

If you would like to donate, any item will be appreciated. Some ideas for needed items include: soups, vegetables, canned fruits, condiments, spaghetti sauce, breakfast foods/bars, cake/brownie/ Cookie mixes, and snacks.



**Feeding the
Community**



"A Festival of Lessons and Carols"
An Advent Program

Sunday, December 4th at 1:00pm

Gather in Church for the program

Bring the entire family to hear the Christmas Story through Scriptures and Songs

Sing along to open your hearts and prepare
for Christmas this Advent

Come to the Parish Center for desserts and beverages
following the program

To help with planning please contact Peg Furto at askpjfur@yahoo.com or (815) 603-0908
but just come if even if you decide last minute!!



Meet and talk with Santa!
Sunday, December 18, 8am – 1:00

Sponsored By: St. Mary's Parish, Knights of Columbus

Santa's Helpers: St. Mary's Youth Group

*Menu: Pancakes, Sausage, Scrambled Eggs
Orange Juice, Coffee, Milk*



Religious Education

Good Morning RE Families,

We hope your Thanksgiving Holiday went well with your families and you didn't get too full.

With Advent starting this week we just wanted to remind you that the last class before Christmas break is Tues Dec 13th and Wed Dec 14th. We will return to RE on Tues Jan 10th and Wed Jan 11th.

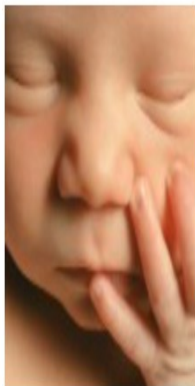
Our Second Graders will be celebrating their First Reconciliation on Mon Jan 9th, please keep them in your prayers.

Confirmation will be celebrated on Thurs Feb 9th at St Ann in Channahon along with the children of St Ann Parish, again please keep them in your prayers as well.

Have a great week.

Peace and Blessings,

Deacon Fred Ban
Director of Faith Formation



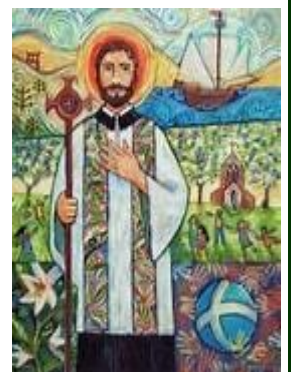
Week 36

"We are in the home stretch now. (pun intended! ☺) These are the last few weeks of my time in the womb and it seems that my parents have just about everything done in preparation for my arrival. Every part of my body is fully formed and ready to go except for my lungs. They still need a couple more weeks until they function perfectly. If I were to be born now, though, I would just need to spend a couple of extra days in the hospital before going home with my parents. It looks as though I will just be here for a short while longer...please pray for me."

Saint of the Week

St. Francis Xavier was a Navarrese-Basque Roman Catholic missionary born in the Kingdom of Navarre on April 7, 1506. His father was a privy counselor and finance minister to King John III of Navarre. He was the youngest in his family and resided in a castle which still partially stands today and is in the possession of the Jesuit order.

Xavier was beatified by Pope Paul V on Oct. 25, 1619, and canonized by Gregory XV on March 12, 1622 at the same ceremony as Ignatius of Loyola. He is the patron of Catholic missions and his feast day is on



Volunteer Schedule

	Altar Server	Eucharistic Ministers	Lector
Saturday, Dec. 3 5:00pm	Lauren Klimchak	Roy Sabuco	Kathy Sabuco
Sunday, Dec 4 7:30am	Kevin Looney	Nita Caruso Cindy Creasman	Rose Ruettiger
Sunday, Dec 4 9:00am	Molly Schramm	Erica Schramm Sydney Yunker	Mike Schramm
Sunday, Dec 4 11:00am	Megan Weinstock	Jessica Folsom Kathy Williamson	Bruce Ukockis



Communion For the Homebound

If you or someone you know would benefit from a Communion Visit, please call the rectory at 815-467-2233.



Welcome to St. Mary's Church!

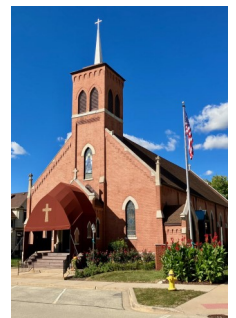
Would you like to become a Registered Parishioner?

We are so blessed to have you with us today and every day! Our liturgies are made better by your presence and participation. We hope that you find the experience here at St. Mary's to be a warm and inspiring experience of the Eucharist and the faith that we profess.

If you are not registered and would like to be, please fill out the form below and mail it to the Parish office at St. Mary's, P.O. Box 456, Minooka IL 60447.

Name: _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 Phone _____
 Email _____

- ☐ New Parishioner
- ☐ New Email
- ☐ New Address
- ☐ New Phone Number



MASS AND PRAYER INTENTIONS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>MASS INTENTION</u>	<u>FROM</u>
Saturday, Nov. 26	5:00pm	Bill Stafford	Emma Hozian
		Mr. & Mrs. Jack Futterer	
		Helen Mackay	
Sunday, Nov. 27	7:30am	Terry & Joyce Danek	
		50th Anniversary	
	9:00am	Kata Eric	The Family
		Dominic Anthony DeCicco	The Family
	11:00am	Francis R. Dollinger	Cathy Glover
Monday, Nov 28	8:30am	Helen Challman	JoAnn Dollinger
		Lisa Maubach	The Family
Tuesday, Nov. 29	8:30am	Pat & Mickey McDonald	The Family
		John Brown	
Wednesday, Nov. 30	8:30am	Communion Service	
Thursday, Dec. 1	8:30am	Communion Service	
Friday, Dec.2	8:30am	Marie Starks	JoAnn Dollinger
Saturday, Dec 3	5:00pm	Rex & Ben Easton	The Family
		Laly Cyr	The Family
		Living & Deceased Members	
		Of the Golubiak Family	
		Lonnie Barutello	Bill & Pam Kunke
Sunday, Dec 4	7:30am	Dorothy Bickel	The Family
	9:00am	Steve Clennon	Gloria Maxwell
		Fr. Tuan's Brothers	
	11:00am	Jack Blatti	The Family

This week candles were lit for :

- Police & Firefighters
- Pat & Mickey McDonald & John Brown

If you would like a candle lit outside for a special intention, please call the Parish Office at 815-467-2233.



Please Pray For:

Denise Tonarelli	Sara Lovell	Lorenzo Benitez
Kimberly Gaydula	Wren Wagoner	Marlena Benitez
Dylan Pickett	Sue Burich	Judy Stafford
Paul Thien Phu	Jerry Davidson	Irene Davidson
Deidra Hogan	Linda Bradley	
Robert Fonck	Baker Family	

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, please email st.marysmiinooka@sbcglobal.net or call the parish office at 815-467-2233.

STAFF

Fr. Tuan Van Nguyen- Pastor

815-467-2233 ext.106

stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net

Deacon Fred Ban- Director of RE

815-467-2769, deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com

Kathy O'Hagan- Pastoral Associate/

Co-Website Editor

815-467-4228 stmary3@sbcglobal.net

Mary Blatti- Office Manager/Bulletin Editor/

Co-Website Editor

815-467-2233 ex100,stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net

Mary Mogensen - Bookkeeper/

Foundation for Faith

815-467-2233 ext. 101, stmarysbusiness@gmail.com

Rebecca Carmack-Regennitter - Music Director

815-467-2233 ext. 109,

Rebecca.stmarymusic@gmail.com

MASSES

Weekend Masses-

Saturday- 5:00pm

Sunday- 7:30am, 9am Livestream and 11am

Weekday Masses

Mon, Tues, Fri- 8:30am

Communion Service-

Wed, Thurs - 8:30am

Confession-

Saturday's 4pm-4:45pm in the Church

Anointing of the Sick

Fr. Tuan is available for personal anointing at home, nursing home, hospice etc. please call the rectory 815-467-2233.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Rectory Office-

Mon-Thurs-8am-4pm

Fri- 8am-12pm

Rectory Phone-

815-467-2233

Website-

www.stmarysminooka.com

Fax-

815-467-1760

ST. MARY'S COMMISSIONS

Administration- John Jun Drjohnedd@aol.com	Education- Mary Kimble mtk2553@aol.com	Prayer Squares Group- Peg Francisco stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net	Parish Council- Anne Schrishuhn ponzovista@gmail.com
Rebecca Carmack-Regennitter Rebecca.stmarymusic@gmail.com	Eucharistic Ministers- Fr. Tuan stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net	Prayer Tree- Peg Francisco stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net	Youth Ministry- Joann Ban jmb3072@yahoo.com
Bible Study- Cathy Fouts cathyfouts@comcast.net	Finance Committee- Dan Friant daf1852@gmail.com	Protecting God's Children -Deacon Fred Ban Deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com	ProLife- Kathy Glover (815)467-2233
Building and Grounds- Dave Clark chiefengin@sbcglobal.net	Fishers of Men- Kevin Pullara kevinapullara@gmail.com	Quilters- Carole Fremarek cfremarek@sbcglobal.net	Religious Education - Deacon Fred Ban deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com
Children's Liturgy- Karen Resar karenresar@yahoo.com	Funeral Luncheon- Anne Schrishuhn ponzovista@gmail.com	Worship Commission- Chris Gregory cslkgreg@msm.com	Facebook- Kathy Williamson 815-467-2233
Children's Mass Coordinator- Katrinka Kochanek KKochanek@divfin.com	Greeters- Fr. Tuan stmarysminooka@sbcglobal.net	RCIA- Deacon Fred Ban/ Kate Ross deaconfredstmarydre@yahoo.com	Senior Luncheon Gail Flattness prettynanaofsix@gmail.com
Christmas Giving Tree- Kathy Williamson 815 467-2233	Knights of Columbus- Brian Flanigan brianflanigan@yahoo.com	Welcoming Committee- Doris Boehm wdboehm@att.net	
Council of Catholic Women- Jeanne Rapp Jeanchuck73@gmail.com	Lectors- Kathy O'Hagan stmary3@sbcglobal.net	Daybreak Shelter Debbie Bols 815-210-8351	Food Pantry Jean Jun Virginia Guertin 815-467-2233

Thank you for your financial support to St. Mary's



Please Remember St. Mary's in your will or trust

As Catholics. We are called to plan ahead and share the blessings of our lives with our loved ones and future generations. To help you be a steward of everything God has entrusted to your care, the Diocese of Joliet is sharing free, online will writing tools. It is cost-free and takes 20 minutes or less to protect your family and your assets and create a gift to pass the Catholic faith onto future generations.

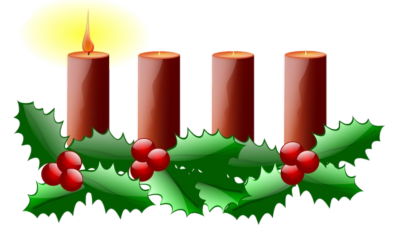
Get started at [FreeWill.com/DioceseofJoliet](https://www.FreeWill.com/DioceseofJoliet).



Here is a "Quiz" while we journey thru Advent and will publish the answers at a later date.

Please take the time to play this game with your families.

Advent Quiz



Jesus is a priest forever, in the order of _____.

True or False--The Catholic Church added the 7 books of the "apocrypha" to the Bible after the Protestant Reformation.

True or False--The Bible condemns all tradition.

The Liturgy of the Hours draws mainly from the Biblical book of _____.

_____ was completely forgiven for his sin by God, but still had to endure the death of his child as punishment.

_____ told Mary that a sword would pierce her heart.

Psalm _____ foretells the crucifixion of Jesus and that lots would be cast for his clothes.

Bethlehem means _____ of _____.

The prophet _____ foretold that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.

The prophet _____ foretold that Jesus would be born of a virgin.

CHURCH NAME & NUMBER —

Saint Mary #512192

ADDRESS —

P.O. Box 456
Minooka, IL 60447

PHONE —

815-467-2233

CONTACT PERSON —

Mary Blatti
Fr. Tuan Van Nguyen

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