

**FIRST SUNDAY
OF ADVENT**

DECEMBER 2, 2018

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for December 9th Second Sunday of Advent

Baruch 5:1-9

What "mountain" of pride do you need to be leveled?

What "gorge" of depression or anxiety do you need filled?

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

For what good work might you rejoice today?

Where is your conduct in need of change and growth?

Luke 3:1-6

For what sins must you repent this Advent?

How are you preparing for the Lord's coming?

WEEKDAY MASSES December 4 - 8

Tues: 5:00 pm +Roseann Hoffarth

Wed: 8:40 am **School Mass** Living & Deceased Members of Tony & Dorothy

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Wayne Gendreau Schneider Family

Fri: 10:15 am **Maple Manor** +Iris Lothspeich

Fri: 7:00 pm +Dennis Lyons **Holy Day Mass**

Sat: 9:00 am +Darlene Mikkelsen **Holy Day Mass**

WEEKEND MASSES December 8 - 9

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma People of the Parishes

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus +George, Shirley & Terry Kram

Reader: Colin Fetsch

EMHC: Bernadette Fetsch

Servers: Regner Family

Musicians:

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Harold & Dolores Berg

Reader: Jeannette Scheffer

EMHC: Dennis Karsky

Servers: Volunteer

Musicians: Martha & Choir

9:00 am St. Michael's - Wales +Fr. Dan Mrnarevic

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +John & Mildred Geisen

Reader: George Podhradsky

EMHC: Elaine Hill

Servers: EJ Cluchie

Musicians: Martha & Choir

Fellowship Hall Host: Dennis & Diane Schill

Fr. Phil's cell phone: 701-740-7593 and Fr. Will's cell phone: 701-640-2858

Website for St. Alphonsus Parish – <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Tuesday after 5:00pm Mass, Wednesday after 8:40am Mass, Thursday after 5:00pm Mass & Saturday at 6:45

Weekly Reflection for November 25th, 2018: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$2,297.00
Intentional Givers	\$330.00
Plate	\$442.00
Total	\$3,069.00

First Sunday of Advent

It may come as a shock, therefore, to hear the readings from the scriptures that the Church sees fit to proclaim during this season, especially at its beginning. They seem to have no connection with the mirth and jollity prevalent at this time in the world around us. There are horrific warnings of signs in the sun and moon and stars, of people dying of fear as they await what menaces the world. Whatever possesses the Church to begin Advent with such a chilling message?

This is how the Christian faith works. We believe in a saviour who is risen, ascended, glorified; but first he had to be crucified. There can be no resurrection without the crucifixion, no Easter without Lent; and likewise there can be no Christmas without Advent. Jesus does not enlist disciples under false pretences; he teaches us that we cannot journey with him to the joys of heaven unless we first take up our cross and follow him to Calvary. And he warns us, on this first day of the Church's year, that days of agony and menace lie ahead. We cannot skip them and proceed directly to the sweetness of the nativity story, with its jolly shepherds, glittering angels and exotic kings. Taken from The Living Word

1st Sunday of Advent

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (LUKE 21:28)

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await his second coming. In this Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It's never too late.

CD of the Week: A Journey Through Advent – Cycle C (2018) – Bishop Robert

Barron - Get the most out of Advent and Christmas by following along with Fr. Robert Barron's homilies as he unpacks the profound Scripture readings for Liturgical Cycle C. **Donations keep the kiosk updated with new CDs!**

Best Advent Ever – Advent is a time to prepare our hearts for Christmas, but we often get distracted and busy. Don't let this Advent pass you by. Slow down and focus on what matters most with BEST ADVENT EVER. Each Day, you'll receive an email with short inspirational videos from Allen Hunt and Dominick Albano, practical tips for your everyday life, and real-life stories to encourage you in your faith journey. All you have to do is sign up at BestAdventEver.com.

Save the Date! St. Alphonsus Church and School Presents: an Evening in December on Sunday, **December 9th from 1:00 – 5:00pm.** Christmas Tree Viewing, Hors d'oeuvres, Silent Auction. **Music by: Dakota Blende:** Keyboard & Violin/Fiddle Duo - Bonnie Deegan & Marcie Grohs and **Back by Popular Demand & Featured Act: The Wales Quartet** – Curt Kram, Kim & Steve Hart and Darby Hart

St. Edward's Church cleaning for November/December – Janet Schill & Sarah

Schill

Knight of Columbus will be collecting non perishable food items for the Cavalier County Food Pantry. There is a purple plastic tote at the back of the church.

Communion for the homebound: do you know of someone who is not able to get to Mass due to medical or health reasons? Call Fr Phil or Fr Will to be put on our Communion Call List.

Donations for Christmas Flowers can be made by filling out the below form and can be placed in the collection marked "flowers" or brought to the parish office by Friday, December 14th. Thank You.

In Memory of/honor of

From

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

Save the Date! St. Alphonsus Church and School Presents: an Evening in December on Sunday, **December 9th from 1:00 – 5:00pm at the Parish Center**
NOTE THE CHANGE IN THE START TIME

Choir Practice will be on Wednesday, December 5th at 5:00pm

St. Alphonsus Catholic School's Christmas Concert will be held on Wednesday, December 12th at 1:00 & 7:00pm in the Parish Center. All are welcome

There is a sign-up sheet for Altar Server, Readers and EMHC's for Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day Masses at the back of the church

The Advent Reconciliation Service will be held on Thursday, December 20th immediately after 5:00pm Mass (just after 5:30pm). There will be 5 priests present for confessions.

Christmas Mass schedule is as follows: Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) 4:00pm – St. A's; 5:00pm – Nekoma and Midnight - St. A's. Christmas Day (Dec. 25) 9:00am – Wales and 10:30am - St. A's

You're invited to join us on Wednesdays at 12:05 PM as we pray the Rosary for the protection of the unborn. It will take place at the Church unless there is an afternoon funeral scheduled.

Catholic Daughters will be meeting on Monday, December 3rd - Potluck Supper at 6:00pm with meeting at 7:00pm in the cafeteria.

The Catholic Daughter Gift Stand has Advent Candles as well as other gift items for your Christmas giving stop by after Mass. If you need to stop other times call Margaret 256-2901 or Bev 256-256-2646.

Coming soon – new children's books just in time for Christmas, as well as "Bible in a Year" (leather or paperback), "Blue Christmas" and many more! Watch the Lighthouse Media Stand next week for these new items at special Christmas pricing! Give the gift of faith this Christmas! Very limited quantities – don't delay!

St. Alphonsus Fellowship Hall cleaning for December – 2-8 Patty Howatt & Jane Hayen; 9-15 Andrea Lorenz & Jessica Pengilly; 16-22 Helen Berg & Patty Fetsch; 23-29 Sheila Beauchamp & Dawn Christianson

St Alphonsus School is selling raffle tickets for \$10.00 a piece to raise money for recess/gym equipment. **Prizes:** #1 \$2000.00 cash, #2 \$1000.00 cash, #3 Medora Getaway, #4 Frost Fire Family pkg. Tickets can be purchased from Jackie in the school office or families of the school. Drawing is Sunday, December 9th at the Christmas Tree Festival.

Religious Ed – we are still in need of a 6th grade teacher to team teach with Fr. Will. Contact Carla at 256-5966 ext. 133

Warm Coats from Warm Hearts Coat Drive – Please bring your new or gently used coats to the box inside door #3(Lanai entrance) at St. Alphonsus School. All sizes from infant to adult are needed. Thank you from St. Alphonsus School student council.

The Annual Christmas Dinner will be held on December 25th at the St. Alphonsus Parish Center starting at 12:00pm. Please join us whether you are alone or with many. All donations of food, salads, pies or time is greatly appreciated. For more information contact Carla Horpestad 701-370-0594 or Dennis Horpestad 701-370-2924.

St. Michael's Cemetery thanks you for your past donations. If anyone would like to make a donation to help with the maintenance of our cemetery, donations can be sent to St. Michael's Cemetery c/o Marc Greening 9891 93rd Avenue NE, Wales, ND 58281

Al-Anon is open to anyone who feels his or her life has been affected by someone else's drinking, either now or in the past. Hope Al-Anon Family Group meets weekly at United Lutheran, Thursdays at 12pm, in the church library – please use the east door.