

Children's Christmas Tree: The parish wants children to decorate a tree which is all their own. Each Sunday in Advent, children are invited to bring an ornament special to them which they will receive back later. The children will be called up when appropriate.

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Toonie Tree for Valley Native Ministry

Our annual campaign for Valley Native Ministry in our Archdiocese (5 reservations) has begun. Please help Sister Bernadette Feist minister to the children and seniors under her spiritual care.

You can leave a donation in the tin, write your name and a message for sister and hang it on the tree which will remain until after Christmas masses.

Thank you for your generosity in the past and may God bless you and your families this holy season. Merry Christmas.

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We pray for the repose of the soul of FRANCOIS "FRANK" MORIN, whose funeral took place at St. George's Church on Saturday, Dec 7th. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

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Please consider donating flowers/plants/money for parish Christmas décor, on your own or through Mom's Florist shop: 306-642-2777 THANKS! Please contact JoAnn Girardin Cell 306-642-8722

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Pastoral Reflection: 3rd Sunday of Advent Gospel - Matthew 11, 2-11 Expectations

Christmas is coming soon. The lights, the sounds, the smells of the holidays are in the air. No matter where we go, we are reminded of holiday cheer. In fact, many of us rely on this atmosphere to bring us out of our doldrums. We expect people, places, or events to create the mood that Christmas brings.

Human nature tempts us to lean on others to bolster our condition. We expect others to "fix" us when we are down, sustain us when we are "up." We are tempted to treat God the same way. God, the Mr. Fix-it for our souls. What happens when God doesn't "fix" us? How many times have we been disappointed when our expectations of God are unfulfilled? How many times have we confused faith with expectation? How many times have we forgotten that God defines himself? John the Baptist had expectations about the One to come. Did Jesus fulfill his expectations? Or, did Jesus define his mission on his own terms?

We expect much from the Lord who gives us much. His gifts challenge us to pass them along to others, especially those in need. As Jesus has freed us from need, so we, too, must free others from need.

Sometimes, however, all we can do is stand in awe. While these experiences help to strengthen our faith, we should not depend upon them in the future. An experience of God is a gift, not an expectation. Once we build our faith solely upon awe experiences, we focus upon them as if they were magic. We might think that these experiences should be an everyday event; if we have a "down" day, our prayer life dwells only upon a return to the "wow" experience. When we do not have a consistent spiritual high, we might be tempted to reject faith as an illusion. We might forget the passion of Christ; even pain and depression are paths to God. Even "down" days are God's gifts to us. As Christmas approaches, it's time to ask the question. What do we expect from God? Do we want to follow him? Or, do we want him to fix us? Do we seek to be with him? Or, do we expect him to be with us? Have we confused faith with expectation? Faith puts God in charge. Expectation puts us in charge. Faith allows God to surprise us. Expectation does not.

What should we expect from God? Nothing. What should we believe God can do? Everything! Even the surprise of his Son born in a poor stable.

Church Finances

Sunday Collection DEC 1 - \$ 2320.00
Sunday Collection DEC 8 - \$ 1437.00
Maintenance Fund – \$ 1530.00
ANNUAL APPEAL TO DATE - \$ 6729.00
PARISH GOAL - \$ 19,292.00
Thank You !

Tuesday, DEC 24 7:30 PM
Collection: Please Volunteer
Greeters & Offerings: Brad & Debbie Auchstaetter

Rosary Leaders: Please Volunteer

Readers: Wes Thomson; Lorne Kwasnicki

Communion Ministers: Rene Chabot;
Jo-Ann Girardin; Vicki KACHUIK

Altar Servers:

Collection Counters: Leader: KEN B.

Tuesday, DEC 24 9:30 PM
Greeters & Offerings: Brad & Debbie Auchstaetter
Readers: Rita Walters & Carla Leduc
Communion Ministers: Doris O'Reilly, Rita Walters & Anette Pryce
Altar Servers: KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Collection Counters: Leader: SUE R.

Wednesday, DEC 25 9:00 AM
Collection: Please Volunteer

Greeters & Offerings: Yvette Wojcik;
Jackie Simard

Rosary Leaders: Please Volunteer

Readers: Rita Walters; Philomene Brochu

Communion Ministers: Walter Agopsowicz;
Irene Montgomery; Rita Walters

Altar Servers: Please Volunteer
Collection Counters: Leader: Gerald D.

Sunday Ministries

<i>Sunday, DEC 22</i>	
Collection	Please Volunteer
Greeters & Offerings	Martin & Cathy Tandler
Rosary Leaders	Gayleen Thomson Irene Montgomery
Readers	Sue Robinson Alyssa Kwasnicki
Communion Ministers	Gerald Delorme Rita Walters Lynn Rogers
Altar Servers	Alyssa Kwasnicki Luke Kwasnicki Lily Kwasnicki
Collection Counters	GERALD / DENISE/AL
<i>Sunday, DEC 29</i>	
Collection	Please Volunteer
Greeters & Offerings	Mary Chipak Jeannette Hildebrandt
Rosary Leaders	Cordelia Scheltgen Irene Klein
Readers	Gayleen Thomson Anette Pryce
Communion Ministers	Janice Erfle Al Farwell Denise Farwell
Altar Servers	KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Children's Liturgy	
Collection Counters	SUSAN / KIM / CARLA