

The Masthead

Equip, Support, Serve, Witness Where God Calls Us!



Church Office: 248-541-0613 & School Office: 248-546-6555

DECEMBER 2020



REV. JAKE ANDRZEJEWSKI

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DECEMBER SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Dec 2, 9, 16	Mid-Week Advent Worship
Dec 13	Announcement of Women of the Year
Dec 24	Christmas Eve Family Worship Candlelight Worship
Dec 25	Christmas Day Worship



From Pastor's Desk



Please, Lord. Just give us Christmas. Give us one uninterrupted, unphased, uninhibited, snowy, joyful, *normal* Christmas! Because right about now, we could use some Silent Nights and Holy Nights. We could use some Peace on Earth and Goodwill to Mankind. We are in desperate need of some Joy to the World. Lord, if possible, send your angels to appear to the shepherds around the world and reassure us of the hope we have in the baby whose very name means salvation! Whatever you do, just please don't take away our Christmas!

Have any of those thoughts run across your mind lately? Have you felt like one of the most loved and cherished holidays known to mankind is in jeopardy of being "cancelled"? After the last 9 months, I certainly wouldn't blame you. It just feels like we could use some authentic saving again. We need saving from this sickness; from these shutdowns; from this national hostility of an invisible enemy that threatens the very livelihood of our Christmas joy. We need saving. We need normal! It's going to be hard to sing our favorite hymns with masks shielding our proclamation. It's going to be heard to belt out our voices while singing *O Come, All Ye Faithful* when we know that so many families are not quite comfortable coming to church just yet. Sure, we'll sing to the Lord *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* – just make sure he's 6 feet from us when he does come! We know Advent is here. We know Christmas is coming. But as we prepare ourselves for the coming of our Lord Jesus in his precious birth, how can we possibly prepare ourselves for what it might look like this year? Will churches be closed? Will homes be quarantined? Will Christmas be... taken away? What are we supposed to do?

There is no doubt: this Christmas will certainly be unique. Things may be very different this year. Joy may be stifled. Christmas jubilation may be suppressed. The exultation that St. Paul shares in the birth of our Lord may have to be restrained to safely consider CDC guidelines. But in any and every season, holiday, month, year, or day: we will nonetheless live in constant celebration for the baby born in the manger. The God in the barn. The Savior in the straw. We will call him Jesus because He is our salvation; our salvation that saves us from sin, guilt, shame, death, and yes- even invisible enemies that seek to threaten the joy of Christmas. Upon Gabriel's announcement to Mary, he said these words: *He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High* (Luke 11:32). You heard him right, Jesus is great. Great enough to silence storms, command demons, banish viruses, empty graves (including his own), and above all- give to you the Christmas joy of knowing that the Great One is all for you.

So, whatever happens this month or the next month or the month after that, know that there is something that will never be taken from you. There is something that will never be silenced. There is something that will never be lost. It is your Christmas joy- a joy that resounds through every month of the year. A joy that finds its foundation in Christ. Rejoice in the Lord always (Philippians 4:4). This, we will do because we know that "for the joy set before him" (Hebrews 12:2), Jesus has been born in the manger, died on the cross, and rose from the grave. And no one can take that away from us. Have a merry Christmas in the Lord! Rejoice; again, I will say, rejoice!

Pastor Andrzejewski

MINISTRY

COME WORSHIP WITH US



- | | |
|-------------|---|
| December 2 | Midweek Advent 1 Worship 7:00 p.m. |
| December 9 | Midweek Advent 2 Worship 7:00 p.m. |
| December 11 | School Christmas Shoppe (lounge, all day) |
| December 16 | Midweek Advent 3 Worship 7:00 p.m. |



- | | |
|-------------|---|
| December 24 | Christmas Eve Worship 5:00 p.m. (Family Song Service)
Christmas Eve Worship 11:00 p.m. (Candlelight Service) |
| December 25 | Christmas Day Worship 10:00 a.m. |

*The church office holiday hours: Dec 23-Closed at 1:00 p.m., Dec 24—Jan 3 Closed

Merry Christmas From the Staff of St. Paul Lutheran

CHRISTMAS CHURCH DECORATING - Volunteers Needed

Let's "Step Into Christmas" and "Deck St. Paul with Boughs of Holly" for "The Most Wonderful Time of the Year". "We All Need A Little Christmas"- "Please come, to your *St. Paul*, Home for Christmas" and help us decorate! "This Christmas" we need you! November 29th following the 11:00 a.m. service, here in the sanctuary. We need all the helping hands we can get!



GIVING TREE will be planted in the narthex this Christmas season again. Help a child that is less fortunate. All donations welcome!

*Hats, gloves, mittens, and a scarf; help to shape the GIVING TREE bark,
A tree that may in winter wear; clothing so the skin not bare.*

Donate to WLCFSA, a child you will truly bless!

CHRISTMAS CARD TREE will be located in the lobby for you to place your Christmas cards on that you would normally send to fellow friends of St. Paul. Why not save a buck and wish them by placing your card on the tree.

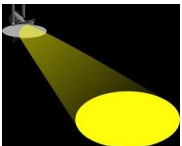
MINISTRY



BIBLE VERSE'S OF THE MONTH CHURCH YEAR — SERIES 'B' *BEGINS*



	Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalm	New Testament	Gospel
ADVENT	Nov. 29	First S. in Advent	Is. 64:1–9	Psalm 80:1–7	1 Cor. 1:3–9	Mark 11:1–10 or Mark 13:24–37
	Dec. 6	Second S. in Advent	Is. 40:1–11	Psalm 85	2 Peter 3:8–14	Mark 1:1–8
	Dec. 13	Third S. in Advent	Is. 61:1–4, 8–11	Psalm 126	1 Thess. 5:16–24	John 1:6–8, 19–28
	Dec. 20	Fourth S. in Advent	2 Sam. 7:1–11, 16	Psalm 89:1–5 (19–29)	Rom. 16:25–27	Luke 1:26–38
CHRISTMAS	Dec. 24	The Nativity of Our Lord (<i>Christmas Eve</i>)	Is. 7:10–14	Psalm 110:1–4	1 John 4:7–16	Matt. 1:18–25
	Dec. 25	The Nativity of Our Lord (<i>Christmas Midnight</i>)	Is. 9:2–7	Psalm 96	Titus 2:11–14	Luke 2:1–14
	Dec. 25	The Nativity of Our Lord (<i>Dawn</i>)	Is. 62:10–12	Psalm 98	Titus 3:4–7	Luke 2:(1–14) 15–20
	Dec. 25	The Nativity of Our Lord (<i>Day</i>)	Is. 52:7–10	Psalm 2	Heb. 1:1–6 (7–12)	John 1:1–14 (15–18)
	Dec. 27	First S. after Christmas	Is. 61:10–62:3	Psalm 111	Gal. 4:4–7	Luke 2:22–40
	Dec. 31	Eve of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus	Is. 30:(8–14) 15–17	Psalm 90: 1–12	Rom. 8:31b–39	Luke 12:35–40



SERVANT SPOTLIGHT

Do you ever wonder where the 'giving of gifts' for Christmas started? Some stories tie the origin of gift giving to old Roman celebration called Saturnalia, timed around the mid-winter solstice, where the wealthy would serve their servants. The early Christians may have used this same time to establish a tradition of remembering the worship of the three wise men and their gifts to

the baby Jesus. In the 4th century, Saint Nicholas of Myra became more widely known in the Roman Catholic Church for his secret gift giving. In the early 1800's in New York, Clement Clarke Moore wrote a popular poem to more strongly influence some of the Christmas traditions called "A Visit from St. Nicholas" or as we know it, "The Night Before Christmas". Moore's poem was widely accepted and galvanized the modern idea of the secular Christmas celebrations we know today in the U.S.

The Christmas traditions our society practices in 2020 have a long and winding history, building upon legends, stories, and socio/economic influences. Christmas celebrations with family and friends become some of our fondest memories. Christmas gifts are thoughtful expressions of love that makes both giver and recipient feel good. The Christmas Holiday is wonderful, but we need to be grounded as Christians and ensure that the main point of our Christmas is not the gifts *we give*, but the gift *we receive* from God – Jesus.

For Christians, there is deeper meaning to 'gift giving'. Gift giving is really a central theme in the Bible and in our relationship with God. God has given us all that we have, all that we are and in return for His awesome love, we also give. There are many opportunities to give at St. Paul as we approach the celebration of the birth of Christ. Supporting the food pantry at Thanksgiving, decorating the church, sending "Blessed Christmas" cards to friends and family, sharing messages to brothers and sisters in the congregation who we miss, singing in the family choir on Christmas Eve – these are all wonderful gifts we can share with each other. Ultimately, the greatest gift we can give, is sharing the message of salvation, given to use through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

MINISTRY

ALL EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID, WATCH FOR UPDATES IN THE WEEKLY NEWS

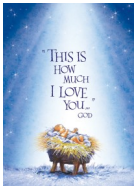
St. Paul Face Mask— Be a part of the St. Paul family with your own designer mask. We have three designs to choose from. The Crown, the school Viking logo or the St. Paul church cross logo. Profits go to the PTL and please make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran School PTL. Questions please contact Anne Sagan at 248-224-0968 or annesagan@yahoo.com See page 11 for order form for you to pick your color and logo. All orders along with payment need to be in by December 2, 2020. Turn into church or school office.



School's Christmas Shoppe

On December 11, the students of St. Paul School will have an opportunity to do all their Christmas shopping for mom, dad, sister, brother, grandma and grandpa and friends, to buy handmade gifts for \$1-5. This is an affordable and fun way for the students to get quality gifts for everyone on their list. Please contact Anne Sagan at 248-546-5228 or email her at annesagan@yahoo.com for any questions.

Christmas Card Campaign

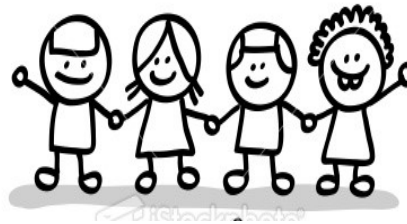


Christmas gatherings & celebrations may be smaller this year, but the angel's good news that God sent His only Son to redeem us will still be as big as ever. While many of us will be attending Christmas services at St. Paul, due to the pandemic, many of our family members will have to listen online. Let's show them we care! Consider sending them a card. The welcome center has a list of these members. Please choose one (or ten) and send a card to them.

Ideas for Christmas card notes

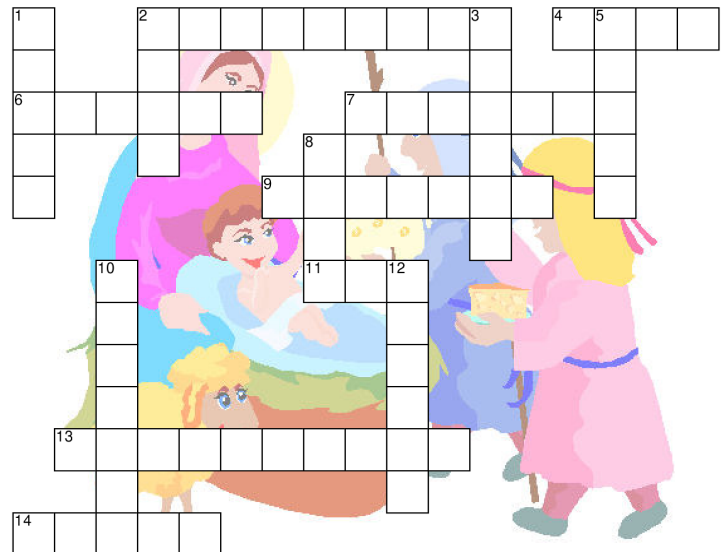
- Though we may not be able to worship with you this Christmas, please know that you are in the hearts and prayers of your St. Paul family.
- At this time of uncertainty, know that your St. Paul family is here for you.
- Your St. Paul family wishes you a blessed and peaceful Christmas.
- Our (St. Paul) wish for you is that your heart is filled with joy at the birth Jesus, Our Savior.

KIDS KORNER



CHRISTMAS BLESSING'S

Christmas Nativity
www.kidsCanHaveFun.com



Across

- The town where Baby Jesus was born.
- Jesus mother's name.
- The inn-keeper told Mary that she could stay in the _____ with the animals.
- There was a _____ star that lead the wise men to Baby Jesus.
- _____ brought Jesus gifts and travelled far.
- Baby Jesus was also the son of _____.
- The wise men _____ baby Jesus.
- The manger was filled with _____ to make it comfortable for baby Jesus.

Down

- Mary was told by the angel to call the baby _____.
- An angel told Mary that she would have a very special _____.
- Jesus lay in a _____.
- An _____ told the Shepherds about Jesus birth.
- Jesus was also known as the newborn _____.
- Jesus would be our _____.
- Mary rode on a _____ to find a place to stay.

MINISTRY



Contributing to St. Paul using an Individual Retirement Account (IRA)

Under federal law, individuals age 70½ or older who own traditional Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) are required to take an annual, minimum distribution.

Are you aware that you may redirect some or all the minimum required distribution (MRD) to charity, up to \$100,000 annually, and possibly enhance your standard deduction while preserving more liquid assets for other, equally important uses?

St. Paul Lutheran Church joyfully receives IRA gifts that can support the mission of Christian Education through the day school, St. Paul supported missionaries, local community outreach, the preparation and care for church workers, and carry out other aspects of our Lord's mission.

To learn more about making an IRA charitable distribution to support the St. Paul Lutheran Church & School work you care most about, contact Ken Milz through the church office at 248-541-0613 or by email at kmilz@stpaulroyaloak.org.

How does it work?

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity. QCDs can be counted toward satisfying your minimum required distributions (MRDs) for the year, if certain rules are met.

In addition to the benefits of giving to charity, **a QCD excludes the amount donated from taxable income**, which is unlike regular withdrawals from an IRA. Keeping your taxable income lower may reduce the impact to certain tax credits and deductions, including Social Security and Medicare. Since it is already excluded from your taxable income, you can't take the itemized deduction (charitable donation) again. That would be double-dipping.

While many IRAs are eligible for QCDs—Traditional, Rollover, Inherited, SEP (inactive plans only), and SIMPLE (inactive plans only) * —there are requirements:

- You must be 70½ or older to be eligible to make a QCD.
 - QCDs are limited to the amount that would otherwise be taxed as ordinary income. This excludes non-deductible contributions.
 - The maximum annual amount that can qualify for a QCD is \$100,000. This applies to the sum of QCDs made to one or more charities in a calendar year. (If, however, you file taxes jointly, your spouse can also make a QCD from his or her own IRA within the same tax year for up to \$100,000.)
- For a QCD to count towards your current year's MRD, the funds must come out of your IRA by your MRD deadline, generally December 31.

If you are having the money from your IRA going directly to the Charity, you do not deduct that amount on your tax return. Since the amount is going directly to the Charity that amount you withdrew from the IRA is not taxable to you. Because it is not taxable to you, you have not paid Federal tax on that amount, so you have already received the tax benefit.

Please contact your financial advisor or management group for your IRA for more information.

Lutheran High Northwest is happy to invite you to our Virtual Future Crusader Day! Interested families may check us out at www.lutherannorthwest.com. Just click on the BEGIN YOUR VIRTUAL VISIT button and enjoy the video presentations on the many outstanding aspects of a Lutheran Northwest education! If you have questions, are interested in setting up a virtual meeting with our Principal and Admissions Director, or would like to be put on a list for a future shadow day opportunity, please call us at 248-852-6677 or email mgutenkunst@lhsa.com. We'd love to hear from you! Ready to apply for admission for Fall? Our online application is now live at www.lutherannorthwest.com/apply!

DON STORCK 21st Annual Bible Class Trivia - Sunday, December 27 at 9:45 a.m.
Come for the fun. Come for fellowship. Come for the prizes. Everyone invited including children.



MINISTRY

ALL EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID, WATCH FOR UPDATES IN THE WEEKLY NEWS

Advent Devotion Books

God With Us



What better news is there than to know that God is always by our side! In *God with Us*, we learn again what God the Father has done—He has kept His promise. In so doing, He has announced that grace and forgiveness are available to all, freely given in the birth of Jesus: God's Son, our Savior. He is Immanuel, "God with us."

The story of God coming to earth as a human child is a profound one. In *God with Us*, we find no aloof divinity who is unconcerned and remote somewhere in the cosmos. Rather, He is deeply involved in all our affairs—our joys as well as our heartaches. He *knows* us for He became one of us. At Christmastime, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Lord of the universe, Savior of the world, Shepherd of our lives.

Lutheran Hour Ministries seasonal devotions for Advent (beginning November 29) is available for you and your family to use during the Advent season or give one to a neighbor or friend. Invite them to worship with us this holiday season. Available for pick up in the church lobby (holiday worship schedule inside cover).

Woman of the Year Voting Ballots of nominated candidates are now available from November 29—December 9. Stop by the welcome center to cast your vote. Winner will be announced on Sunday, December 13 at church.

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox—We've finished collecting and now we are packaging up all the wonderful shoeboxes with gifts to be given to help celebrate Christmas for those in need around the world. Thank you to everyone who donated for this project throughout the past year. This was greatly appreciated. Watch the news & notes beginning in January for our next year's monthly collections. Blessings, Cheryl Dirkse

LUTHERAN WITNESS

A Lutheran Christian monthly subscription magazine which runs from March 2021 to February 2022. Each issue will include the *Michigan In Touch* supplement. This magazine provides LCMS lay-peoples stories, info on congregational life, foster personal growth in faith and help interpret the contemporary world from a Christian perspective **Annual cost \$11.60** **Deadline** to order, **December 7**, after the 7th you are responsible to order your own at a cost of \$13.60 and you'll have to order online at the CPH. Contact the church office to continue or order a new subscription. Make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church and write in the memo line *Lutheran Witness* or leave in the office. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who donated food stuff from the ingathering on Thanksgiving eve for the food pantry and to those who came and helped put food items away on Friday. Blessings. Clara Lichtenberg



CHRISMONS EXPLAINED

During Advent, our sanctuary is adorned in anticipation of Christ's birthday celebration during the season of Advent - that is, the four Sundays preceding Christmas and three Wednesday midweek Advents. Did you know the white & gold ornaments on our Christmas tree in the sanctuary have a special meaning?

These ornaments - called Chrismons - point to our LORD and SAVIOR by their colors, by their shapes & most importantly, by their Scripture references. Many St. Paul members have participated in the making of these Chrismons. Gerry Breyfogle originally brought this ministry of hand-crafted sacred designs to St. Paul in the 1970s, when St. Paul began

having a *Chrismon* tree. Please take time to stop by the tree this Christmas season and check out the beautifully hand-made designs of these ornaments. If you are ever interested in learning to make a Chrismon for our tree, feel free to contact Martha Smyth, at smythfam4@aol.com. See page 12 for list of some of the symbols used and their meaning.

SCHOOL MINISTRY



Dr. Margie Baldwin
Principal

St. Paul Lutheran School

100+ Years of God's Grace

Our Mission

"Equip, Support, Serve, Witness Where God Calls Us!"

Our Statement of Purpose

St. Paul Lutheran School equips children for a life of service with a foundation of academic, physical, spiritual, and social maturity centered around Christ Jesus.



PARENTING HELPS *(final series of four in a Harvard Family Research Project)*

Consider Your Connection to School

Think about getting involved

Parental involvement, such as attending school functions like back-to-school nights and concerts or volunteering in the library, is as important as helping with homework. Many working parents find it particularly hard to be a presence in their children's school. However, research indicates that it is worth the effort.

Although you initially may be puzzled as to how your presence can make such a difference, it's not so difficult to understand. You get to know the teachers and the administrators, and they get to know you. If you already have a relationship, you can more easily approach school personnel if problems occur, as suggested above.

Also, teachers are more likely to approach a parent whom they see at the school and whom they know is committed to their child's education.

Finally, engaging the school has been shown to be effective in getting to the bottom of a problem and providing the child with whatever support might be needed.

Think about how you handle problems

Parents without a connection to the school are more likely to ignore problems or to try to fix them on their own, often through closer supervision and increased demands, which typically leads to conflict with the child.

Or if parents intentionally keep school personnel out of the loop in an effort to have their children look "good," the silence can backfire because learning disabilities or missed concepts are best addressed as early as possible in a child's academic career.

In Summary

It is a fine line that parents walk in determining how to assist in their children's academic success. By showing a genuine interest, by refraining from actually doing the child's work, by addressing academic concerns, and by being a presence in the school, parents can help their children to do their best – now and in the future.

FUNDRAISERS

Little Caesars Pizza Proof of Purchase We continue to collect these proof of purchases found on the pizza boxes. Please bring these in to the church or school.

Box Tops Find and clip **Box Tops** from various food packages for St. Paul! They are each worth 10¢! Our assigned coordinator, will send them in and our school gets a check! Leave them at the school in the box near the office or at the church. Thank you.

Viking News Every Friday, we send home our school newspaper – *The Viking*. We send it home with the children and also by email. If you would like to receive the Viking by email, please make sure the school office has your email address.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Dec 11	Kids Christmas Shoppe
Dec 2, 9, 16	Midweek Advent Worship
Dec 18	Half Day of School (Christmas break begins through to January 1)
Jan 4	School Resumes



Faculty and Staff Wish
You a Merry Christmas!

DIRECTORY & NOTES

Directory

Pastor Jakob Andrzejewski
(cell) 734-644-0059
revjski@stpaulroyaloak.org

Church Office
248-541-0613

School Office
248-546-6555

Church Fax
248-541-6965

School Fax
248-546-8096

Church E-Mail:
prodway@stpaulroyaloak.org

School E-Mail:
slutheranscho113880@comcast.net

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/stpaulroyaloak

Website:
www.stpaulroyaloak.org

(Please contact Steven Carpenter at scarpenter@stpaulroyaloak.org to request a communication, print publication or new web project for the website. Submit your news, story, recap, event, or photo and it'll be considered for publication.)

Prayers

Homebound

Marion Havrilla
Leona Jackson
Alan Lacey
Donna McMinn
Art Peludat
Jean Schneider
Charlette Schroeder
Ralph Schroeder
Kathleen Ulrich
Don Whitbeck



Military

Eric Banker
Mark Bowdich
Paul Bowdich
Matthew Canfield
Sam Eskew
Brandon Newton
Brendan Sharp
Hayden Sharp
Joe VanDamme
Tirzah VanDamme
Jason Zuniga
Gabrielle Zuniga

Boards/Committees

Board of Education
Board of Elders
Board of Evangelism
Board of Finance
Communications &
Technology
Fund Operating
Music Ministry
Board of Stewardship
Board of Trustees
Women's Guild
Board of Youth

Gifts Given

St. Paul Church

In memory of *Betsy Fortner* by Eyla Russ, Gay Eskew

In memory of *Angela Jackson* by Clara Lichtenberg

In memory of *Betty Saunders* by Clara Lichtenberg

In memory of *Mary Lichtenberg* by Roderick Pope

Sound System

In memory of *Betty Saunders* by M/M Steven Snell

GIFTS—Donate to the church by giving a memorial or honorarium by using the card located in the lobby. This is a two part card, one to go with the gift to the church and the other to be mailed to the family. Contact the church office, 248-541-0613 for any questions.

Official Acts

Baptisms

Otto Allan Zenk	11-01-2020
Mayla Susanne Moelich	11-01-2020

Funerals/Memorials

Betsy Fortner	09-10-2020
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MERRY



CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

If we've missed listing your birthday, please contact the church office 248-541-0613




01 Steven Snell
02 Lyra Bowdich
04 Tiffany Jackson
Sally Wright
05 Lukas Snell
06 Bryan Harris
Stanley, II Harris
Pamela Rodway
Nigel Smith
07 Mariah Olsen
07 Belle Sawyers
13 Tony Valdes
15 Scott Manteuffel
Brittany Patterson
17 Brynn Cunningham
Lacey Lefere

20 Kurt Ulrich
21 Patrick Petersen
Marcus Schroeder
22 Daniel Pyykkonen
23 Ross Pierce
Jack Wendland
24 Taylor Fixler
27 Ronald Thies
28 Kyle Lefere
28 Maureen Walsh
28 Carsyn Young
30 Ella Guilmette
31 Rose Pomroy



December 2020

All events are tentative and subject to change. Contact the church office for verification.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																	
<div>Nov 2020</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30							1 7:00 PM EIP (lounge)	2 8:30 AM Chapel 7:00 PM Mid-Week Advent 1-Worship	3	4	5							
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6 8:15 AM Worship c 11:00 AM Worship 2nd Sunday in Advent	7 9:00 AM Trustees	8 7:00 PM EIP (lounge)	9 8:30 AM Chapel 9:30 AM Bible Cl 7:00 PM Mid-Week Advent 2-Worship	10 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast-The Avenue 6:00 PM Praise Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM Bell Practice Christmas Shoppe Set-up, lounge	11 School Christmas Shoppe (all day-lounge)	12																																																	
13 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM Bible Class, YCC 11:00 AM Worship c 12:30 PM Voter's Meeting (in-house & online) 3rd Sunday in Advent	14 9:00 AM Trustees 9:00 AM WBC 7:00 PM ALL Boards 7:00 PM Elders Mtg	15 7:00 PM EIP (lounge)	16 9:30 AM Bible Cl 7:00 PM Mid-Week Advent 3-Worship	17 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast-The Avenue 1:00 PM Finance Mtg 6:00 PM Praise Practice 7:00 PM Choir Practice 8:30 PM Bell Practice	18 12:00 PM School Dismissed-Christmas Break Begins	19 7:30 AM Men's Breakfast-lounge																																																	
20 8:15 AM Worship c 9:45 AM Bible Class 11:00 AM Worship Door Collection-Rachel Meyer-Uganda 4th Sunday in Advent	21 9:00 AM Trustees 7:00 PM Council	22	23	24 Christmas Eve 5:00 PM (live stream) Family Service & 11:00 PM Candlelight Service 	25 10:00 AM Christmas Day Worship c CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS	26																																																	
27 8:15 AM Worship 9:45 AM Don Storck Bible Class Trivia 11:00 AM Worship c 1st Sunday after Christmas	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	<div>Jan 2021</div> <table> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> <tr><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31							<div>Church Offices Closed</div> <div>School Christmas Break</div>
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C=Communion, YCC=Youth Confirmation Class, WBC=Women's Bible Class, AIC= Adult Info Class, EIP=Education Intervention Program, YA=Young Adults, SS=Sunday School

St. Paul Mask Order Form

NAME _____
PHONE _____

\$10.00 ea.

BLACK WHITE GREY WHITE BLACK WHITE
WHITEPRINT WHITEPRINT BLACKPRINT ADULT YOUTH

1				
2				
3				

Order Forms Must Be Submitted By Dec. 2

All profits go to the PTL.
Make checks payable to: St Paul Lutheran School PTL
Questions? Anne Sagan 248-224-0968 annesagan@yahoo.com



①



②



③

CHRISMONS

*A Christogram; Latin: Christ Monogram
(Handmade Christian symbols of the Church used as ornaments
to decorate our Christmas tree.)*

Symbols have played a very important part in the proclamation of the Christian faith. Christian art through the centuries has created hundreds of distinctive symbols to represent in visible form men's conception of the Christian religion. The Christmas trees used to decorate the Church at St. Paul in Royal Oak, Michigan are decorated with "Chrismons"—symbols from Christian history. To help you in the interpretation of some of the symbols on our tree, a brief description follows.

Nearly all Chrismons have been made in white and gold: White represents light, peace, joy, purity and Heaven. Gold symbolizes the majesty and glory of the Son of God.

If you are interested in making or repairing the "Chrismons" throughout the year, you can contact the Church Office for further information.

THE CROSS



The Latin Cross, with the upper arm and two sides of equal length and the lower are twice as long, is form most commonly used.



The Greek Cross has all four arms of equal length.



The Celtic Cross is a Latin cross with a circle representing eternity placed at the junction of the arms.



The Crosslet is formed with 4 Latin crosses meeting in center and signifies the spread of Christianity to the 4 corners of the world.



The Jerusalem Cross is formed with four Tau crosses meeting in the center.



St. Andrew's Cross—St. Andrew was reputed to have died on a cross of this shape.



The Cross of Constantine is the Chi Ro (XP) with the Chi (X) turned to form a cross. It signifies Christ, the conquering King.



The Tau Cross is "T" shaped.



The Passion Cross has pointed ends to remind us of points of nails, thorns and spear.



The Anchor Cross—the cross rises out of an anchor. An anchor symbolizes Christian hope.



The Cross Treflee—Three circles on the

end of the arms symbolize the Trinity.

MONOGRAMS OF OUR LORD

X

Chi, or as we would write it X, is the 1st letter of the word of Christ in Greek.

XP

Chi Rho, the 1st two letters for Christ in the Greek alphabet. Sometimes the X is turned to form a cross. A 2nd interpretation is the Latin Christus Rex, Christ the King.

XC

XC are the 1st and last letter of Christ in Greek.

IHS

The 1st three letters of JESUS in Greek.

Star enumerates the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit. Eight-pointed Star—symbol of men's regeneration.



Serpent—"As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up" (John 3:14).



Butterfly—symbol of resurrection of Christ and man's hope of eternal life through grace and faith.



The Tongues of Flame, usually seven in number, symbolize the advent of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. The number seven represents the sevenfold gifts of the Spirit.



Scroll signifies written word of

prophesy; often used as a symbol of Advent.



An Open Bible, often shown with a lamp, is the symbol for the Word of God. "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet" (Psalm 119:105).



A Shell depicts the sacrament of Holy Baptism.



The Lamb of God, Agnus Dei, shown sometimes with a banner and other times reclining, is a symbol inspired by passages of Scripture such as... "The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and said, 'Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world'" (John 1:29).



The Dove is the

symbol of the Holy Spirit. The dove in a descending position recalls the Day of Pentecost.



The Hand of God suggests the word of the psalmist; "His right hand and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory" (Psalm 98:1).



The Fish is a symbol of Christ.



The Rose is a symbol of the nativity of Christ. Other flowers also symbolize other truths—the lily of the valley symbolizes the humility of Jesus, and the daisy the innocence of Christ-Child. The lily usually is shown in pictures of the mother of our Lord; a symbol of the virgin birth.



The Crown signifies the Kingship of our Lord through His victory over sin and death.



Jesus Christ, the chief Cornerstone. "Built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the chief cornerstone" (Eph. 2:20).



The Chalice symbolizes Sacrament of the Altar. Wheat and Grapes symbolize the same truth and often are shown surrounding the chalice and host.



Five-Pointed Star—symbol of Epiphany of our Lord, recalls sign given the Wise Men. Six-pointed Star, is the Creator's Star. Seven-pointed

IX

Monogram of 1st letters of Jesus and Christ.

M

The 1st letter of the name Mary, our Lord's Mother.

NIKA

The Greek word for conquer.

INRI

1st letter of words in Latin inscription, "Jesus of Nazareth, King of Jews." Pilate also wrote a title and put it on the cross; it read "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews" (John 19:19).

ΑΩ ΑΩ

Alpha and Omega, 1st and last letters of Greek alphabet. "I am the Alpha and Omega, the 1st and last. The beginning and end" (Rev.

22:13). Omega can be written in more than one way.

ΑΜΩ

M, or in Greek MU, is middle letter of the Greek alphabet. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. (Heb. 13:8)

SYMBOLS OF OUR LORD AND GOD



The Circle, being a figure without beginning and ending, represents God who is both eternal and one. It symbolizes eternity.



The Triangle, all sides and angles equal, carries the idea of God's unity in showing that God is three person, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, all of whom are equal.