



# The Catholic Communities of Bowlus, Holdingford and St. Anna

## St. Stanislaus Kostka, Bowlus All Saints, Holdingford Immaculate Conception, St. Anna

The First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2019

### Central Office in Holdingford

**Hours:** Mon.-Wed. 10 to 3, Thurs. 1 to 5

**Website:** [tworiverscatholic.com](http://tworiverscatholic.com)

**Office:** (320) 228-0105

**Father:** (320)228-0110

In case of emergency or a death, call  
Father at the **Rectory** 746-2231.

### Parish Pastoral Team

**Father Gregory Mastey**, Pastor

**Kristin Molitor**,

New Evangelization Coordinator

[evangelist@tworiverscatholic.com](mailto:evangelist@tworiverscatholic.com)

**Janice Wuebkers** Business Manager

Office hours: Wed. 10 to 3 p.m.

[businessmanager@tworiverscatholic.com](mailto:businessmanager@tworiverscatholic.com)

**Jessie Johnson**, Secretary

[secretary@tworiverscatholic.com](mailto:secretary@tworiverscatholic.com)

### Confession Times:

Before weekday Masses at 7:30 a.m.

Saturday: 7:30 p.m. St. Anna

### Marriage: Couples are to begin

preparation 6-12 months in advance and

**must** call the Central Office to meet with

Father Gregory **before setting a date.**

Diocesan Marriage Preparation Classes  
are required.

### Baptism: Call to schedule Baptism.

A baptism class is offered quarterly.

**Shut-Ins:** Please call us.

### New Parishioners: Please introduce

yourself to Father after Mass and call the

Central Office. **If you are leaving our parishes**

**please call the central office so we can**

**update our census. Thank you.**

**P.O. Box 308,**

**Holdingford, MN 56340**

*"The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness!" - Pope Benedict XVI*

Special thanks to Ryan Parsons, our November G.I.F.T. night speaker who shared his knowledge of online gaming with us. Ryan reminded us that we are all called to become great saints, and he challenged us to look seriously at our online habits to see if they are distracting us from this great call. Below are some of the statistics about gaming Ryan shared with us.

### **Statistics About Gaming:**

- 97% of all American children between ages 2-17 play video games each year.
- The smartphone is the most popular gaming device.
- 41% of teenage boys and 11% of teenage girls say they spend too much time playing video games.
- 83% of teenage girls and 92% of teenage boys say they play video games regularly.
- 250 million registered Fortnite accounts, 91 million Minecraft accounts.

### **Impact of Gaming:**

- There are 250 million Fortnite players. 35% of high school and college Fortnite players have admitted to skipping class/school to play.
- 75,000,000 hours of video games were played in the first 3 days of Call of Duty: Black Ops III.
- Over 10 million gamers are addicted (3-4% worldwide); with 94% of addicts being male, 6% being female.

**People aren't just addicted to gaming though:** Internet Addiction Disorder (IAD) was recognized by China as its number-one public health crisis, with more than 23 million addicts.

**The effects of gaming on the brain:** delayed cognitive development, ability to focus, speak, reason, comprehend social cues, anxiety, depression, ADHD, obesity, addiction.

### **Resources on Gaming**

Book: Glow Kids, By Nicholas Kardaras, Ph.D

Websites: [GameQuitters.com](http://GameQuitters.com)



## Evangelization Corner

~Kristin Molitor

What do we remember each week of Advent?

<p><b>Week 1</b> <b>Hope</b></p> <p><b>Reminds us...</b> Jesus is coming</p> <p><b>Bible verse</b> Romans 15: 12-13</p> <p><b>Bible verse</b> Luke 2:10</p> <p><b>Reminds us...</b> The joy at the coming birth of Jesus</p>	<p><b>Week 2</b> <b>Faith</b></p> <p><b>Reminds us...</b> To prepare the way of the Lord</p> <p><b>Bible verse</b> Luke 3:4-6</p> <p><b>Bible verse</b> Luke 2:14</p> <p><b>Reminds us...</b> "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace for those he favours"</p>
<p><b>Week 3</b> <b>Joy</b></p>	<p><b>Week 4</b> <b>Peace</b></p>

## ADVENT REFLECTIONS

Looking for ways your family can enter into the Advent season together? Grow closer to Christ this season with reflections sent to you daily.

**Sign up at [formed.org/advent](http://formed.org/advent)**

FORMED Daily



## The Healing Power of God

Teckla Scegura	Donald Wenderski	Connie Young
Lee Bieniek	Marcie Selinski	Kieran Kloss
Bernice Carlson	Katie Yurczyk	Judy Schehr
Tyson Myers	Matt Myers	Reagan Zierdan
LeRoy Johannes	Nancy Bieniek	Evelyn Trettel
Cayden Van Norman	Melissa Scepurek	Baby Wyatt
Arnold Voss	Gretta Bayer	Margaret Helmin
Lawrence Trettel	Sharon Prokott	Arlene Beniek
Aaron & Esther Krych		

## Eucharistic Adoration

### Every Monday

All Saints-St. Mary's  
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.

### Every Saturday

St. Stanislaus Kostka  
6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Daily Mass** Eucharistic Adoration is also held for one hour following daily Mass on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. No Adoration if there is a funeral on that day. Confession and the Rosary begin 1/2 hour before Mass.



## This Week's Events

- Sun.** December 1 *First Sunday of Advent*
- Mon.** December 2 *Adoration*  
All Saints-St. Mary's  
7:00 p.m. Women's group
- Tues.** December 3
- Wed.** December 4
- Thur.** December 5  
All Saints-St. Mary's  
6:30 p.m. Finance Council  
8:00 p.m. Knights of Columbus-St. Isidore
- Fri.** December 6
- Sat.** December 7  
St. Stanislaus Adoration  
All Saints-St. Mary's  
8:00 a.m. Men's Prayer Group
- Sun.** December 8 *Men of Faith*  
All Saints-St. Mary's  
7:00 p.m. Youth Meeting

If you are interested in being on the schedule or have changes in availability please contact:

### Ministry Schedulers:

**All Saints:** Patty Becker 291-6582  
**St. Anna:** Kathy Scegura 746-2814  
**St. Stanislaus:** Margie Benusa 584-5405

### Prayer Lines:

**All Saints:** Ramona Fedor 746-2395  
Kathleen Ebnet 746-2227  
**St. Anna:** Shirley Schwalbe 356-7209  
Christine Maleska 356-7246  
**St. Stanislaus:** Arlene Beniek 584-5235



## News & Events

### How to Celebrate Advent Like a Catholic

#### What does Advent mean?

"Advent derives from the Latin *adventus* meaning 'arrival' or 'approach'. For thousands of years the world waited for the coming of the Messiah to redeem and to save the human race, restoring mankind's relationship to God. We, too, experience this same longing for the coming of Christ. Spiritually, we long for the coming of Christ into our hearts as the Holy Spirit draws us into ever deepening relationship with Him; we also long for Christ in his Second Coming, when He will return physically to earth—as He Promised—to restore all things to Himself.

#### Therefore the Advent season has these characteristics:

**It is a season of:** Hopeful longing, Joyful expectation, Prayerful Penance and Spiritual preparation

**It looks to:** Salvation history of the past, Our present redemption being accomplished and the future coming of Christ.

#### When does Advent begin?

Advent is the liturgical season we celebrate as the precursor to the Christmas season. Don't skip it! It's there for a reason. Advent begins on the Sunday nearest the feast of St. Andrew the Apostle (November 30th) and ends on December 24th. Christmas begins December 25<sup>th</sup> at midnight and continues until the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus.

#### Advent Traditions:

**Advent Wreath:** Four candles (three purple and one pink), are used to count down the weeks until Christmas. (see the New Evangelization Corner)

**Advent Devotional Reading:** There are lots of great Advent books that take you deeper into the profound theology of Advent. God comes to us as a Child, and this is amazing to think about! Going through each day with devotional reading is one of the best ways to spiritually prepare yourself for Christmas, the birth of the King of Kings. (our cluster is reading *Rejoice, Advent Meditations with Joseph*).

**Special Prayers:** Adopt special prayers during the Advent season. You can often find them in Advent devotional books. There is also the [St. Andrew Christmas Novena](#) which is traditionally prayed from the feast of St. Andrew (November 30<sup>th</sup>) until Christmas Eve. ~catholiccompany.com/getfed.com

### Saint Andrew Christmas Novena

Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen.



## Weekly Readings

**Monday** Is 4:2-6/Mt 8:5-11

**Tuesday** Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24

**Wednesday** Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37

**Thursday** Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27

**Friday** Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31

**Saturday** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/

Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

**Sunday** Is 11:1-10/Rom 15:4-9/

Mt 3:1-12

#### 2019-2020 Spiritual Adoption

Participants pledge to pray for nine months for a baby in danger of abortion. ***While this child will remain unknown to his or her 'spiritual parent', God knows who the child is.***

At the end of the program a 'baby shower' will be held and gifts of baby items will be donated to Elevate Pregnancy & Family Resource Center [elevatestcloud.org](http://elevatestcloud.org)

#### Women's Night of Worship

The Church of St. Mary in Upsala is hosting a Women's Night of Worship Monday, December 9th starting with Mass at 6:30pm followed by Worship Hour 7:30 – 8:30pm. Social with refreshments to follow. Childcare is available. Encounter Jesus!

Cluster Confessions for Upsala and our Cluster will be on Sunday, December 15th from 2-5:00 p.m. at St. Mary's, Upsala

Men of Faith, a presentation for men will be on December 8th at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary's in Upsala. All men welcome to attend.

### Weekly Offering

#### Financial Contributions

PARISH INCOME

**November 24, 2019**

AS	Unavailable due to an
IC	early bulletin deadline
SS	

Thank you for your generosity!  
For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be." —Luke 12: 34

## Parish News & Events

Catholic United Financial

**MINISTREE**

Community service rooted in faith



### All Cluster

#### **Women's Group-Next meeting December 2nd**

Our Women's Group will be reading *Rejoice! Advent Meditations with Joseph* during the month of December. Women's Group meets at 7 p.m. on the first and third Monday's of the month in the All Saint's - St. Mary's basement. All women are invited!

#### **Well-Read Mom's Group**

In just eight years Well-Read Mom (WRM) has become a group of thousands of women in 40 states and 10 countries reading more and reading well... together. Come find out why so many women are discovering friendship and renewal through reading together. WRM is a way for women to reclaim time to read the best. The goal is to provide a way for women to read high-quality literature together and grow in friendship in the process. WRM groups read one book per month and meet to discuss once a month. Our year together includes great books, spiritual classics (during Advent and Lent), worthy reads, poetry and selected essays from the Catholic and Western traditions. Our group meets at Kristin Molitor's home (the yellow house next to the church in St. Anna) on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 3:30 -5:00 p.m. Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 17th. Our next meeting is November 26th.

#### **Live Nativity Volunteers needed**

On Friday, December 6th, there will be a live nativity on the steps of City Hall from 4-7:30 p.m. Children of all ages are invited to come and take part. Costumes are provide (dress for the weather). Please contact Virginia if you would like to participate or help. We are in need of teen and adult volunteers to help dress the children. If you have small farm animals and would like to share them with us or have 4 to 6 straw bales to use for seating contact Virginian Tretter (651) 214-9791.

### **Celebrate the Advent Saint Feast Days:**

**St. Andrew:** November 30th with his Christmas Novena read daily until Christmas Eve. "It is piously believed that whoever recites the St. Andrew Christmas novena prayer FIFTEEN times each day will obtain the favor requested...This prayer will undoubtedly leave your heart well-prepared to welcome the coming of Christ. The beauty and sweetness of this prayer will unfold for you through its daily recitation, allowing you to meditate more fully on the profound mystery of the Incarnation."

**St. Nicholas: December 6th** St. Nicholas of Myra is a major saint in many European and Eastern countries, and one of the old Christian traditions surrounding his feast day is for kids to leave their shoes out overnight in front of the fireplace, on the windowsill, or outside their bedroom door so that St. Nicholas can fill them with special fruits, candies, and other small gifts and treats. ~getfed.com/how-to-celebrate-advent-like-a-catholic

**Next week: Our Lady of Guadalupe: December 12th and St. Lucy: December 13th**

When completing a task, fill out one of the MinisTree cards found in the back of church and turn it into the Central Office or collection basket. If more than one person is helping with the task, each should fill out a card. Thank you!

\*Visit the Homebound

\*Join the St. Stanislaus Community Outreach, Homa Bay Committee, Christian Mothers/Rosary Sodality

\*Help with the Christmas Pageant or Live Nativity

### **Upcoming Mass Times:**

Christmas

Tuesday, December 24th, Vigil

5:00 p.m. All Saints-St. Hedwig's, Holdingford

8:00 p.m. St. Edward's, Elmdale

8:00 p.m. St. Stanislaus, Bowlus

12 MN All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford

Wednesday, December 25th Christmas Day

8:00 a.m. St. Francis, St. Francis

9:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception, St. Anna

10:00 a.m. St. Mary's, Upsala

Vigil of Mary Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31st

6:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception, St. Anna

7:00 p.m. St. Edward, Elmdale

11:30 p.m. St. Stanislaus, Bowlus

Solemnity of Mary

Wednesday, January 1st

9:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Mary's, Holdingford

9:00 a.m. St. Francis, St. Francis

11:00 a.m. St. Mary's, Upsala

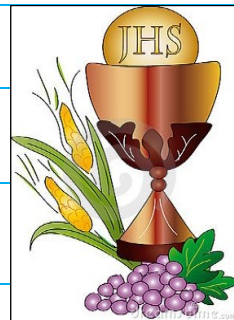
**Catholic Rural Life**, a national Catholic nonprofit organization dedicated to the vitality of the American countryside, is helping to spread the message about the 24/7 confidential "Minnesota Farm & Rural Helpline." Need help finding a confidential financial or legal adviser? Feeling worried and need a listening ear? Call the hotline at 833-600-2670. "Our farmers are facing hard times and this is one way we can help them. This helpline is offered by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, and all calls are answered locally by trained staff and volunteers,"

~Annie Huntington, Catholic Rural Life project coordinator.



## Mass Schedule

<b>Mon. Dec. 2</b>	<b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Tues. Dec. 3</b>	<i>Saint Francis Xavier, Priest</i> <b>8:00 a.m. St. Stanislaus</b>	<b>+Dolores M. Popp</b>
<b>Wed. Dec. 4</b>	<i>Saint John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church</i> <b>8:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Hedwig's</b>	<b>+Roman Zwak</b>
<b>Thurs. Dec. 5</b>	<b>8:00 a.m. Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>+Raymond Woitalla</b>
<b>Fri. Dec. 6</b>	<i>Saint Nicholas, Bishop</i> <b>No Mass</b>	
<b>Sat. Dec. 7</b>	<i>Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church</i> <b>8:00 p.m. Immaculate Conception</b>	<b>For the People</b>
<b>Sun. Dec. 8</b>	<i>Second Sunday of Advent</i> <b>8:00 a.m. All Saints-St. Mary's</b> <b>10:00 a.m. St. Stanislaus</b>	<b>+John Binsfeld</b> <b>+Gene and Kathy Kedrowski</b>



*Confessions and the Rosary begin 1/2 hour before Mass.*

## Faith Formation & GIFT (*Generations In Faith Together*)

### Faith Formation Directors

**All Saints:** Katrina Kolles, 292-1575,  
all saints@tworiverscatholic.com

**St. Stanislaus:** Cindy Fussy, 584-5982

**Immaculate Conception:** Jeff Johnson  
260-4959, Jeffrey.Johnson@clcmn.edu

**Confirmation:** Teresa LeBlanc, 420-4576

### Youth Events

Contact: Shelley Vouk 248-2860

Youth Group Meeting on  
Sunday, December 8th at  
All Saints-St. Mary's basement  
7:00 p.m.

All youth welcome to attend!

### St. Stanislaus Religious Education program

is doing a Giving Tree for those in need. If you would like to purchase a gift for someone in need this Christmas, the Giving Tree and instructions are in the St. Stanislaus Kostka entry-way. All are welcome to participate. Thank you!



### Christmas Pageant 2019

All Saints Faith Formation program would like to invite students K-12 from all 3 parishes (All Saints, St. Stanislaus, and Immaculate Conception) to be a part of our annual Christmas Pageant taking place on Sunday, December 29th. This would count toward volunteer hours for Confirmation Students. We are looking for parent/confirmed student volunteers to direct and help direct the pageant, as well as, a parent/confirmed student to direct and play the music. If interested contact Katrina Kolles 292-1575

### Vocation Events this upcoming year:

February 1st: Lifeline Vocation Mass (8th and 12th grades)  
NET Center in West St. Paul.

February 7th: Andrew Dinners at the Bishop's residence 6:00 p.m.

February 22nd: Men's Conference

### Come and See Weekend Visits:

February 13-15, 2020 St. John Vianney and St. Paul Seminaries in St. Paul, MN

March 14-16 and 21-23, 2020 Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary in Winona, MN

### Vocation Camps:

Avon, June 16-18, 2020

Belle Prairie June 22-24, 2020

For information and sign up: Fr. Doug at [vocations.stcdio.org](http://vocations.stcdio.org)

**Totus Tuus** June 27th-July 3rd, 2020 [Jamie.heurung@gmail.com](mailto:Jamie.heurung@gmail.com)