

WELCOME

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we seek to:

KNOW

SEE

BE

THE HEART OF CHRIST. THE FACE OF CHRIST. THE HANDS OF CHRIST.



December 15, 2024 • Third Sunday of Advent

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and
5:30 p.m.

Nursery

Nursery is available for children ages
nine months to kindergarten during the
Sunday morning Masses.

Daily Mass Schedule

Monday-Saturday 8 a.m.

Confessions

Saturdays: 8:30-9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays: 5:15-6:15 p.m.

Sign Up for Email!

If you are not receiving our emails, the
sign up link is on hnoj.org under the
contact us information.

Anointing of the Sick or Funeral

Please call the parish office at
763-473-7901 to schedule. Or for an
emergency, call 763-233-0259.

Adoration Schedule

Sign up at hnoj.weadorehim.com

Monday 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

Tuesday 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

Thursday 8:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-4 p.m.



Give Online:

<https://www.hnoj.org/online-donations>

A Conversion of Heart

By Jennifer Wendt, Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation

By this point in Advent, we are well on our way to Christmas. Most of us are deep into our preparations - decorating, cookie making and present buying. Even the tenor of this Sunday's readings reflects the excitement of this anticipation. We hear the refrain of "be glad and exult with all your heart," "cry out with joy and gladness" and "rejoice in the Lord always." Christmas is right around the corner, and we are ready for celebration and feasting.



But we are getting ahead of ourselves, and the Gospel reading is here to pull us back. Last week we heard about John the Baptist, who was sent to "Prepare the way of the Lord." Even before Jesus started His ministry, John was preaching baptism for the repentance of sins. In this week's Gospel the crowds that had been following John asked, "What should we do?" John replies that they should share their food and belongings, treat others fairly, be truthful and be grateful for what they have. All of this sounds nice and what most everyone learns early on to be the basics of *how to play well with others*. Easy enough, right?

Still, John isn't simply offering a lesson in how to be a good person. Interestingly there is a part of Luke's Gospel in between the verses of last week and this week's Gospel reading that we don't get to hear during Mass. In Luke 3:8-9 John exhorts, "Produce good fruits as evidence of your repentance...Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." In these passages one can really get a sense of how John isn't one to mince words. With what is at stake, it is in our best interest to listen.

Towards the end of this week's Gospel, John tells of the One who is coming that will gather the life-giving part of the wheat in his barn while using wind to separate, and fire to destroy, the non-nutritive, disposable plant material. The grain, or that which is closer to the bread of life will be gathered by Christ as the good fruit of the harvest. All that is not wheat, the chaff will be burned.

John baptized with water for the repentance of sins, but John knew that repentance wasn't a one-time event. Knowing who is to come, John called for a conversion of heart. As disciples of Christ, we are called to continually turn back towards Jesus, to repent so that the Holy Spirit can burn away the sin from our hearts. As we revel in the joy of the forthcoming birth of our Savior, let us remember that before the feast is the preparation, and before the bread is the threshing. Repent and prepare the way of the Lord!



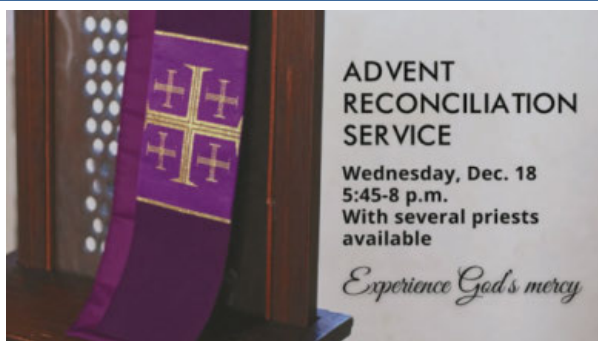
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Parish Advent Reconciliation Service, Dec. 18

Why go to Confession? Jesus gave us the Sacrament of Confession (or Reconciliation) when He breathed on the Apostles saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained" (Jn 20:22-23). This authority to forgive sins has been passed on from the apostles to the priests of our own time through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. Confession is the only ordinary means of forgiveness for mortal sins committed after Baptism. Though other extraordinary means are possible, they are never guaranteed and shouldn't be presumed upon. As all sacraments do, it also bestows an increase of grace.

If it's been a few weeks or a few years since your last Confession, you are invited to experience Christ's healing power of forgiveness and mercy! **Please join us for our Parish Advent Reconciliation Service on Wednesday, Dec. 18. We will have several priests available from 5:45-8 p.m. in the church.**

Don't worry if you don't remember the prayers. We will have examination of conscience pamphlets available and the priest can walk you through the process.

Advent Resources

Hallow App - The Complete Guide to the Season of Advent: <https://hallow.com/>

Dynamic Catholic - Best Advent Ever: www.dynamiccatholic.com/advent/best-advent-ever.html

Word on Fire - Bishop Barron's Daily Advent Reflections: <https://www.wordonfire.org/reflections/advent>

USCCB Advent Calendar - www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/liturgical-year-and-calendar/advent

FORMED Advent Calendar:

At FORMED.org you'll find a seemingly endless list of engaging Catholic formation content. FORMED has video series, movies, talks, music and more for children, teens and adults too. FORMED is free for HNOJ parishioners and can be accessed online or via their app for all devices and smart TVs. Convenient, free and full of great content.

If you visit FORMED.org, you will grow in your faith, understand Catholicism better and feel greater confidence in living an authentic way of life!



Christmas Schedule at HNOJ

Christmas Eve - Tuesday, Dec. 24, 2024

Join us as we prepare for Mass with Congregational Carols and Anthems prior to each Mass

4 p.m. Mass in the Church - School Choir with Handbell Ringers

4 p.m. Mass in the GSC - Sunday Evening Band (guitars, keyboard and drums)

6 p.m. Mass in the Church - Sunday Evening Band (guitars, keyboard and drums)

10 p.m. Mass in the Church - HNOJ Choir (string quartet and organ)

Christmas Day - Wednesday, Dec. 25

9:30 a.m. Mass in the Church (organ, piano and Cymbells)
Join us for a 15-minute prelude before Mass (no nursery)

Solemnity of the Holy Mother of God

Tuesday, Dec. 31, at 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 1, at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m.

Holiday Office Hours

The parish offices will be closed on the following dates:

Dec. 24-25

Dec. 31 closing at noon

Jan. 1

Incense will be used at the 10 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. There will be no incense at the 4 or 6 p.m. Christmas Eve Masses, nor the 9:30 a.m. Mass on Christmas Day.

Marriage in Christ

We are so excited to bring the Marriage in Christ Seminar back to Holy Name of Jesus this winter!

The seminar consists of two-hour sessions on Tuesday nights from Jan. 21 - Feb. 18, at 6:30 p.m. at HNOJ.



The Marriage in Christ Seminar is a five-week seminar for couples who desire to strengthen their marriage, who want to establish good patterns of prayer and friendship or who are facing transitions in their lives, e.g., having children, an empty nest or retirement. The Marriage in Christ seminar invites couples to renew their love and affection for each other and the Lord, to deepen their unity as a couple and to celebrate the presence of God in ordinary life. God, our Father, desires to renew marriage through the power of the Holy Spirit. Let Him begin with yours!

Cost is \$100. For more information and to register, please visit hnoj.org/marriageinchrist or email Jon Hickman at jch55447@yahoo.com with any questions.

Men's Night, Dec. 17

Men's Nights are back at HNOJ. Please join us on Tuesday, Dec. 17, from 6-8 p.m. We will have food, a talk and manly things.



We will hear from Fr. Chris Yanta on "What is it like to say Mass?" Dinner is provided.

Please register today at hnoj.org/mensnight

6-6:30 p.m. Optional Rosary in the Church

6:30-7 p.m. Dinner in Emmaus Rooms

7-8 p.m. Talk and discussion in Emmaus Rooms

Questions? Please contact Chris at ckostelc@hnoj.org.

Blessing of Our Holy Family Statue, Dec. 29

This fall, we installed a new statue of the Holy Family at the east entrance of the parking lot. In honor of the Feast of the Holy Family, we will do a special blessing of the statue after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, Dec. 29.



We invite all parishioners to join in this blessing of the statue at 9:45 a.m. Space will be blocked off and all are welcome to participate in this blessing.

Scripture of the Week



"Shout for Joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel!" (Zephaniah 3:14)

Unspeakable joy. This is the theme of our readings today. From our First Reading in Zephaniah to our Responsorial "Psalm" from Isaiah to our Second Reading from St. Paul's letter to the Philippians - we continuously hear about joy.



But why? This is provided in today's Gospel with John the Baptizer's famous line - "I am baptizing with water, but one mightier than I is coming... He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." The One to come is the object and the cause of our joy! It is in the person of Jesus that we find all this unspeakable joy we hear about today. No wonder Fr. Arnold called this "Cheer Up Sunday!"

Weekly reflections by parishioner Jon Hickman.

Winter Weekend Registration is Open

Register today to reserve your spot!

This family weekend retreat is Feb. 7-9, at beautiful BugBee Hive Resort in Paynesville, MN. A great weekend of fun, faith and family. From the amazing VBS style fun for the kids to the inspiring talks for adults, from indoor pool time for everyone and times of prayer and worship, your family will grow closer and grow in faith. Honestly, this weekend is so much fun and yet totally a faith boost for all.

Winter Weekend has been called, "The perfect balance of retreat time with free time to enjoy the resort and just get away with my family."

Basic Information

When: Feb. 7-9, 2025

Where: BugBee Hive Resort - Paynesville, MN <https://bugbeehiveresort.com>

What: Weekend retreat for the whole family

Who: HNOJ families: adults, teens, children - all families are welcome

Cost: \$100 per family; additional costs for housing and shared dinners

Register now at www.hnoj.org/winterweekend

Email Chris at ckostelc@hnoj.org or Claudia at crabaey@hnoj.org with questions.



In Our Parish and Our Community

Help Us Reach Our Catholic Services Appeal Goal

Many thanks to those who have donated to the annual Catholic Services Appeal in 2024. **We are currently at 71% of our goal with \$44,137 yet to raise in 2024.** Additionally, 50% of all donations above the goal stay at our parish. Please consider a gift of any size to help us make this goal. The annual appeal supports many ministries that have seen reduced support from public funding – such as hospital and prison chaplains and support to life centers offering families supplies and services they are unable to find elsewhere. At HNOJ, we benefit from the appeal through training and support of our small group ministry, sacrament training and educational scholarships for the children and grandchildren of our parish. Thank you again for your prayerful consideration. To donate online visit www.archspm.org/csa. If you have any questions, please call 651-291-4412.

Thank You from the KC Auxiliary!

Thank you, everyone, who contributed baked goods to the Thanksgiving bake sale for the IOCP food shelf and to all of you who purchased goodies there. The KC Auxiliary was able to give the food shelf \$1600 to keep their shelves and freezers stocked for the upcoming holiday season. Your generosity is much appreciated!

Karen Karn and the KC Auxiliary

Experience the Holy Spirit in Your Life!

The Archdiocese is offering three amazing opportunities for you to grow your faith!

1. **Fire on the Hill** every third Saturday of the month at the Cathedral of St. Paul
2. **Life in the Spirit Seminar** in January (three options for dates and locations)
3. **The School of Charism Discovery** (10-week course January to April) held at Our Lady of Grace in Edina

Please find out more and register today at archspm.org/events



Interfaith Outreach Items Needed

Diapers and pull-ups (size 3, 4 and 6)
Healthy snacks (granola bars, Goldfish crackers, applesauce cups)
Brand name cereal
Feminine hygiene products (especially pads)
Bottled water
Reusable grocery bags

Learn more about our Food Shelf "SuperShelf" at iocp.org/outreach-services/food-shelf.

Year End Giving

As we reflect on the many blessings of the past year, we are deeply grateful for your continued support of your HNOJ parish family. If you're considering making a special year-end gift, here are a few important details to keep in mind:



- **Checks:** must be received by Dec. 31, 2024 to count for the current tax year.
- **Stock Transfers:** must be transferred by the end of day Dec. 23 for tax credit in 2024. Please notify Janna Webskowski, parish business administrator, before transferring stocks to ensure prompt processing.
- **Matching Gifts:** check with your employer to see if they offer matching gifts to double your contribution.
- **IRA QCDs:** Qualified Charitable Distributions from your IRA may offer tax benefits. Contact your financial advisor and notify us if you make a QCD so we can provide the proper receipt.
- **Estate Planning:** consider including HNOJ in your estate planning to leave a lasting legacy.
- **2025 Donations:** contributions postmarked or received after Jan. 1, 2025, will be credited to tax year 2025.

We are deeply grateful for your generosity and commitment to the life and mission of HNOJ Parish. For more information or assistance, please contact Janna Webskowski, parish administrator.

Janna Webskowski:
763-745-3480 or jwebskowski@hnoj.org

Thank you again for all the ways you help make HNOJ a vibrant, thriving community!

Retirement Fund for Religious, Thank You

"Sincere thanks to the donors of the Retirement Fund for Religious. I hope we meet, if not in this world, then in the next," says Sister Teresa Korycka, 81, of the Sisters, Servants of Mary Immaculate. Your gift impacts over 24,000 senior women and men religious, providing them a dignified retirement. To learn how your donation helps, visit retiredreligious.org.



Benilde-St. Margaret's Open House, Jan. 9

You're invited to an open house at Benilde-St. Margaret's School on Thursday, Jan. 9, from 6-8 p.m. A Catholic education is a gift for students that will last a lifetime!

For more information and to RSVP: visit BSM.org or call 952-915-4345 or email us at admissions@BSMSchool.org



Contact Us

Parish Staff

Pastor	Fr. Tim Wratkowski.....	763-745-3491
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Chris Yanta.....	763-745-3495
Deacon	Rev. Mr. Dennis Hanson.....	763-233-0242
Parish Administrator	Janna Webskowski.....	763-745-3480
Executive Assistant/Room Scheduling	Cheri Quast.....	763-745-3486
Accountant/HR Specialist/Contributions	Gabby Lehner.....	763-233-0241
Director of Sacred Music	Kraig Windschitl.....	763-745-3490
Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation (Preschool-Gr. 5)	Jennifer Wendt.....	763-745-3483
Middle School Youth Minister (Gr. 6-8)	Luke Klavins.....	763-746-8195
Senior High Youth Minister (Gr. 9-12)	Eve Anders.....	763-233-0251
Ministry and Parish Administrative Associate, Baptism Scheduling and Safe Environment Coordinator	Claudia Rabaey.....	763-745-3492
Director of Mission and Faith Formation	Chris Kostelc.....	763-745-3489
Coordinator of Mission	Tim Lyngdal.....	763-746-8190
Bulletin/Website	Sarah Reid.....	763-746-8194

Cemetery/Sexton
Bob Weinzierl, Jr. 612-720-9206

Parish Prayer Line:
As a parish community we hold each other in prayer and commit to praying for those in need. To share your prayer requests confidentially or to join the Prayer Line
Email: prayerline@hnoj.org or call
Lee Ann Silver..... 612-790-3114

Mass Intentions:
Call to have a Mass offered for the intention of a deceased loved one
Front Desk..... 763-473-7901

Pastoral Council Chairperson
Bill Inhofer..... 763-476-6273


School Staff

Principal
Martha Laurent..... 763-473-3675
Assistant Principal
Courtney Bush..... 763-745-3493
Administrative Assistant
Carla Durand..... 763-473-3675 vm150

Email Addresses

Initial of first name followed by last name and @hnoj.org
(example dhanson@hnoj.org)
Exceptions: Fr. Tim Wratkowski: rtim.wratkowski@hnoj.org
Fr. Chris Yanta: frchris.yanta@hnoj.org

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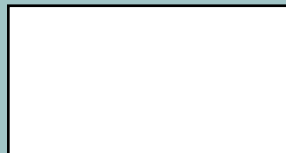


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