# WELCOME

Sharing in the body of Christ, we seek to:

#### KNOW SEE

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

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December 22, 2024 • Fourth Sunday of Advent and The Nativity of the Lord

#### 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

## Jesus, the Light of Life By Fr. Wratkowski, Pastor

As the light has grown shorter and night has become greater as we arrive at the winter solstice, I do not believe I am alone in my appreciation for the festive lights that pop up in yards and on houses as Christmas approaches. It almost seems like I forget how dark the dark is this time of year. Those questions begin ruminating in my mind: "Was it this dark last year? Did I long for the light as much last year as I do this year?"



Many people can find this time of year and its accompanying darkness difficult. The physical darkness reminds us of the

spiritual darkness in ourselves and in the world. Not only does it have potential to weigh on us, our attempts to flee from the discomfort of it or to distract ourselves from it can be self-destructive and put strain on our relationships.

When we allow ourselves the opportunity to face our spiritual darkness, instead of avoiding or medicating it through throwing ourselves into sensual delights and pleasures, we realize that the remedy we need is not distraction from the darkness but a light to illuminate it. It is into this dark scene that the gentle light of God's glory rises in the cry of a newborn baby in Bethlehem. This newborn baby would later declare *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life"* (John 8:12).

Like the sun, the Son of God does more than reveal the glory of God's life and love but also "illuminates all things on earth, making everything appear in its true light," as Raniero Cantalamessa put so eloquently in his homily to Pope Francis and the papal household on March 1 of this year. The sun is magnificent in its own right, and it helps us to see the world as it truly is. With Jesus, the "light of life" we see that His light helps us to see our darkness in a new way. We see that our sinful darkness is no match for the light of His forgiveness, that the darkness of despair flees with the advent of hope, that the cold darkness of a selfish heart can be warmed by the self-giving light of God's love.

When Jesus, the light of the world was born, there was no room for Him within the inn illuminated by earthly light. The world, which offers its own competing light, has no room for the "light of life." It invites us to see the world and our darkness in a different light: that unforgiveness is power, that despair is inevitable and that selfishness is the way to happiness.

In this last week of Advent and this Christmas season, may we welcome the true light, Jesus, in our hearts. May His presence as "the light of life" help us to see our spiritual darkness for what it truly is, as the joyful occasion of the savior to come flooding into the heart to illumine and redeem it, no matter how dark it is. A Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent and a Merry Christmas to you and all your loved ones!

Like us on facebook.com/hnojwayzata Follow us on twitter.com/HNOJ Wayzata Follow us on Instagram hnojwayzata

## **Parish News**



#### 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 – Holy Day of Obligation

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.

## 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.

## Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus, Jan. 3

On Friday, Jan. 3, we celebrate the special Feast for which our church was named, the Holy Name of Jesus. Anytime we are able to celebrate a church's namesake, it is a great reminder that we have someone, in our case Jesus, looking over us in a special way.

We will start the morning with First Friday Rosary at 7:30 a.m., with Mass at 8 a.m., and First Friday Social in the Good Samaritan Center. Stop by for a portion or all of this celebration on Jan. 3.



#### Winter Weekend Registration is Open

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."

The cost is \$100 per family, with additional costs for housing and shared dinners. Please register now at www.hnoj.org/winterweekend



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

## Cana Dinner, Feb. 22

Married Couples, remember the first time you fell in love with your spouse? Relive and celebrate that moment at HNOJ's Cana Dinner on Feb. 22. Married couples are invited to an evening of good fun, great food and an inspiring message about the beauty of married love.

The Cana Dinner is one of the premier events of the year at

HNOJ and a fantastic night to spend time with your spouse amongst other HNOJ couples.

When: Saturday, Feb. 22, 6-10 p.m. Where: HNOJ, following the 5 p.m. Mass

What: A night to celebrate your marriage with your spouse and others; speakers, blessing, remembering vows and fellowship

Who: Married couples, engaged couples and widows/widowers Cost: \$65 a couple Registration: hnoj.org/cana



If you have any questions, or if you would like to serve at this event (volunteers have just as much fun as those attending) please contact Chris at ckostelc@hnoj.org.

## **Parish News**

## 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

## Seniors Birthday Bash, Jan. 16

Calling all Seniors over 55: let's start the New Year with a 12-month birthday bash! Join us on Thursday, Jan. 16, from 1:30-3 p.m. in the Good Samaritan Center. We will celebrate with fun games, a little singing, fun prizes and cake with ice cream. Please bring an unsigned birthday card with a message for a card exchange.



There is no cost for this event. Please sign up at the welcome desk in the Gathering Space with your name and birthday month.

## Scripture of the Week



"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb..." (Luke 1:41a)

Fr. Arnold used to refer to the Fourth Sunday of Advent as "Hurry Up Sunday". Our fourth week this year is but half a week as we celebrate Christmas on Wednesday. Still, we do have a few days to continue "wasting time with the Lord" and ponder the message of today's Gospel reading. The very person who has a reaction to the presence of Jesus as an embryo in Mary's womb is the unborn fetus who will become John the Baptizer while he is still in Elizabeth's womb. Have you leapt for joy at the news of Jesus's "adventus" - coming?

For His coming is what Christmas is all about - and it is really a two-fold coming. Jesus's coming as a baby 2000+ years ago yes, but we also anticipate and celebrate His second coming. Recently I heard a comment on a podcast that made me stop and think. Fr. Mike Schmitz was reflecting on some readings from 1 Corinthians. He spoke of how hard an athlete will work to perfect her skills to sharpen those skills for competition. And then Fr. Mike said, "Help me to strive for Heaven like a champion strives for the championship." And there is the gift of Advent, taking the time to strive ever harder to be friends with the one who came 2000+ years back - the same one who will come again.

Weekly reflections by parishioner Jon Hickman on this Fourth Sunday of Advent.

## 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!



## In Our Parish and Our Community

#### Support Life Sunday, Jan. 12

Sunday, Jan. 12, will be Support Life Sunday, sponsored by HNOJ's A Community Caring for Life (ACCL). Come hungry for a fresh, warm cinnamon roll after the morning Masses! Please note that this Sunday hospitality will be replacing our annual Baking for Babies event.



There are still opportunities for volunteers to bake, frost and serve the rolls. There will not, however, be packaged rolls available to take home. All proceeds go to Elevate Life and Pro-Life Across America. More information and volunteer sign up at hnoj.org/SupportLifeSunday

#### School Open House, Jan. 12

Come and check out our school open house on Sunday, Jan. 12, from 12-3 p.m. Families will have the opportunity to tour the school, meet some teachers and learn about our



preschool - 6th grade programs for the 2025-26 school year.

#### Help Needed - Maintenance and Custodial Assistant

Looking for a fulfilling part-time job that supports your parish family? Whether you're seeking extra income or simply want to give back to your church, we'd love to chat with you!



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We're currently hiring for both a temporary

full-time position (Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; up to twomonth assignment) and a part-time role (16 hours per week, Saturday and Sunday, 6 a.m.-2 p.m.). These positions involve regular cleaning, routine maintenance and helping with event set-up and take-down for parish activities. No experience is required - just a dedication to service and attention to detail.

At HNOJ, we offer a supportive and friendly environment where you can make a real difference. If you're interested in contributing to our church family, please reach out to Jeff Ruchti at jruchti@hnoj.org to apply!

#### Experience the Holy Spirit in Your Life!

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

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

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

## Senior High Youth

We have several great options for your senior high youth to grow in their faith and have fun!



us most Wednesdays from 7:30-9

p.m. Please email Eve at eanders@hnoj.org or Luke at Iklavins@hnoj.org with any questions.

2. Life Night: All high schoolers are invited to attend Life Night which includes Mass, dinner, games, fellowship, prayer and more! Join us from 5:30-8:30 p.m. on Jan. 5, March 2, April 6 and June 1.

3. Winter Faith Camp: Our high school youth will be heading to Trinity Woods Catholic Retreat Center in Trego. Wisconsin, Feb. 14-17, to fortify their faith in a new way. Only 20 spots available so register today! (If full, just email Eve Anders to be added to the waitlist). All the registration details may be found at hnoj.org/winterfaithcamp

## **Friday Night Alive**

Friday Night Alive (FNA) is a monthly gathering at HNOJ for middle schoolers to get to know each other through fun activities (open gym, team 4square, gaga ball, fun crafts,



and more!) and to grow in their relationship with Christ through prayer and listening to relatable talks given by our high school core team. We begin with a meal at 5:30 p.m. and have a blast until 8:30 p.m. Our next FNA is Jan. 24.

FNA nights are free of charge and open to all 5th through 8th grade youth. This is a great time for middle schoolers to bring a friend! Walks in are welcome, but RSVPs are appreciated to help us get an accurate food count. To RSVP, please email Luke Klavins at Iklavins@hnoj.org.

#### Save-the-Date for our Lenten Parish Mission

HNOJ is excited to announce we will be hosting a Lenten Parish Mission March 26 and 27 with Dr. Ed Sri

Dr. Edward Sri is a theologian, author and well-known Catholic speaker who presents to tens of thousands of people from around the world each year, including clergy, parish leaders, catechists and laity. He is a founding leader with Curtis Martin of FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic



University Students), where he currently serves as Sr. Vice President of Apostolic Outreach. He holds a doctorate from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas Aquinas in Rome and is an adjunct professor at the Augustine Institute. He and his wife, Elizabeth, reside in Littleton, Colorado. They are blessed with eight children and one grandchild.

Mark your calendars now and invite your friends to this exciting opportunity to grow in faith this Lent.



## **Contact Us**

## Parish Staff

Pastor		
Fr. Tim Wratkowski763-745-3491		
Parochial Vicar		
Fr. Chris Yanta763-745-3495		
Deacon		
Rev. Mr. Dennis Hanson		
Parish Administrator		
Janna Webskowski763-745-3480		
Executive Assistant/Room Scheduling		
Cheri Quast		
Accountant/HR Specialist/Contributions		
Gabby Lehner		
Director of Sacred Music		
Kraig Windschitl763-745-3490		
Coordinator of Elementary Faith Formation (Preschool-Gr. 5)		
Jennifer Wendt		
Middle School Youth Minister (Gr. 6-8)		
Luke Klavins		
Senior High Youth Minister (Gr. 9-12)		
Eve Anders		
Ministry and Parish Administrative Associate, Baptism		
Scheduling and Safe Environment Coordinator		
Claudia Rabaey		
Director of Mission and Faith Formation		
Chris Kostelc		
Coordinator of Mission		
Tim Lyngdal763-746-8190		
Bulletin/Website		
Sarah Reid763-746-8194		

Cemetery/Sexton Bob Weinzierl, Jr	612-720-9206	
Parish Prayer Line: As a parish community we hold ea commit to praying for those in need requests confidentially or to join the Email: prayerline@hnoj.org or call Lee Ann Silver	d. To share your prayer e Prayer Line	
Mass Intentions: Call to have a Mass offered for the loved one Front Desk		
Pastoral Council Chairperson Bill Inhofer		
School Staff		
Principal Martha Laurent Assistant Principal		
Courtney Bush		

#### 

Administrative Assistant

Initial of first name followed by last name and @hnoj.org (example dhanson@hnoj.org) Exceptions: Fr. Tim Wratkowski: frtim.wratkowski@hnoj.org

Fr. Chris Yanta: frchris.yanta@hnoj.org



