

The Third Sunday in Advent December 10 & 11, 2022

St. Charles Borromeo Catholic Parish

707 Eagle Street, P. O. Box 130, Genoa, WI 54632

Pastor: Fr. Daniel Sedlacek

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Parish Office: 608-689-2642

Email: stcharle@mwt.net

Website: www.stcharlesgenoa.org

Mass Schedule & Intentions for December 12 – 18, 2022

12/12/22	Monday	NO MASS
12/13/22	Tuesday	8:30 AM † Bernard Domke
12/14/22	Wednesday	NO MASS
12/15/22	Thursday	8:00 AM † Bernard Domke
12/16/22	Friday	8:00 AM Health & Wellness Steve Trussoni
12/17/22	Saturday	4:00 PM † Trent Pedretti
12/18/22	Sunday	9:30 AM People of St. Charles

Volunteers

Lectors

Sat. Dec. 17: 4:00 PM: Steve Woodhouse

Sun. Dec. 18: 9:30 AM: Kelly Hutchison

Servers

Sat. Dec. 17: 4:00 PM: Volunteers

Sun. Dec. 18: 9:30 AM: The Mitchell Family

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

Sun. Dec. 18: 9:30 AM: Kevin Mitchell

If you would like to participate as Lector, Server, or Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion please call Tom Jeffers at (608) 689-2683

Rosary Leaders

Sat. Dec. 17: 4:00 PM: Volunteer

Sun. Dec. 18: 9:30 AM: Volunteer

Sacrificial Giving Tabulation

Mon. Dec. 12: Ed & Priscilla Martin; Tom Naegle

Mon. Dec. 19: Conrad & Nancy Kirby; Keith
Magnuson

Ushers (Month of December)

Saturday: John Nicklay & Tim Woodhouse

Sunday: Conrad Kirby & Tom Urbanek

Sacraments and Prayers

Church Hours

The church is open every day from 7 AM - 7 PM.

Confession:

Saturdays: 3:15 PM - 3:45 PM

1st Thursdays: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Eucharistic Adoration:

1st Thursdays: 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

1st Fridays: After the 8 AM Mass

Baptism: Contact parish at least 2 months prior:
608-689-2642

Marriage: Contact parish at least 6 months prior to the wedding to schedule a date and preparation meetings with the parish priest.

Anointing of the Sick and Homebound

Inform the parish office at (608) 689-2642 if someone is seriously ill and needs the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

Prayer Requests - Call 608-689-2642 - requests will be passed to Father Sedlacek & the prayer chain.

Sacrificial Giving December 3 & 4, 2022

Adult Envelopes \$6,396.00

Plate Offering \$ 33.00

Endowment Fund \$ 100.00

Religious Education \$ 30.00

Immaculate Conception \$ 10.00

Total: \$6,569.00

From the Pastor's Desk

Joyful Patience

Peace to you! We celebrate Gaudete Sunday today, or, as one of my former students liked to call it "Pink Sunday." "Gaudete" means "Rejoice, you all!" in Latin.

"Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged. Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates. Take as an example of hardship and patience, brothers and sisters, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord" (James 5:7-10).

This is our second reading for our Mass this Sunday. It is all about patience, specifically in waiting for the Lord's coming. This applies to both Christ's coming at the end of time and Christ's present coming into our lives in many ways and at many times. Christ is not a vending machine. We can't just push some buttons, say some prayers, and expect Him to do just exactly what we want when we want it. I don't know about you, but I don't like it when other people treat me like a vending machine. So I can't imagine that Jesus would like it either. He is more like a farmer who patiently waits for the plants to grow and the harvest to come. And He wants us to "farm" with Him, to co-operate with Him. But in order to do that, we also need patience.

When we wait patiently with God, so much spiritual good happens. Oftentimes it is when we take the lead and don't consider God's will when all sorts of frustration and difficulties happen. But it is hard to wait. Do you remember that when you were a kid that Advent seemed like it lasted forever and it seemed like Christmas would never come? And now as an adult, it seems like Advent takes about 3 days. Since we are all spiritual children, it can be difficult to "wait" for God. We pray for healing in all aspects: physical, mental, and emotional. We pray that relationships be mended, war averted, and death avoided. We pray for guidance and knowledge of God's plans for us. And sometimes it just seems like we are waiting for the answer.

St. James' letter encourages us that God's coming "is at hand," and that He is "standing before the gates." He cites as an example the prophets who came before us. All of them suffered and God always delivered them. He did not always deliver them instantly, but He did always deliver them. That is true for us as well. God will deliver us, not just from some suffering, but from all suffering, and death, and sin at the end of time. This is the cause of our joy and hope!

Meanwhile, we have patience. But being patient is not just being passive or sitting back and doing nothing. It means working, but working like a farmer (or a fisherman, a weaver, a teacher, an artist, a surgeon, or a repairman). All of these people work gradually and carefully in a way that fits what they are working on. And, in the case of God, the greatest farmer/fisherman/artist/teacher/surgeon, His work is us. We are His "crop." He is growing us into saints, creatures transformed by His grace into a new creation, capable of the fullness of the eternal life. He is preparing us to be participants in His divinity. That is an incredible work! But He is up to the task. It is our part to cooperate with God and learn His methods, which includes time, patience, and hope. But above all, it takes faith. As Peter Kreeft says, "Faith is really very simple: it's just saying yes to God, trusting Him and therefore obeying Him... Why must we trust and obey? Because He is love, because His will for us is always motivated by His love for us, at every stage of our story."

Whatever stage of your story you are at, it is good to know that God is not just a great farmer, but also a loving father. He is doing His work in your life. It is for us to trust Him and walk in His ways with joyful patience.

St. Charles Borromeo, pray for us!
-Fr. Daniel Sedlacek

St. Charles Parish News

Condolences

Francis "Frex" Furlano passed from this life on Wednesday, December 7th. A Mass of Christian Burial will be at 12:30 PM on Friday, December 16th with visitation at St. Charles church starting at 10:30 AM. Our parish family extends our deepest condolences and our prayers to the Furlano family during this time. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord! And let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace! Amen.

New Parish and School Website!

Earlier this week we launched a new website for our Parish and School. Please check it out at www.stcharlesgenoa.org. I thank Sally Emerson and Mary Kate Donovan for all their work on this project and their continued work to maintain the website and keep it up to date. Sally hopes to focus on the non-school parts of the website, while Mary Kate will focus on the pages dedicated to the School. The website is not complete, it still needs some "filling out." Your feedback and ideas are welcome! If you have ideas for website content (photos or text), please send them to Fr. Sedlacek or talk with Sally or Mary Kate.

Thank you! Baby Jesus Christmas Collection for Ukraine

Thank you to everyone who donated to the *Bambino Gesù* ("Baby Jesus") Christmas collection for Ukraine! All the donations were taken on Friday to a central location where they will be sorted and shipped by air to Ukraine where they will be distributed by the Chalice of Mercy team. Monetary donations are still welcome and help cover the cost of shipping. Those can be made online at: <https://chaliceofmercy.org/donations/donate/> or by mailing a check to Chalice of Mercy, N13740 Fairview Rd., Fairchild, WI 54741

Advent Confession Opportunities

The full schedule posted in the church entryway bulletin board with various times when the Sacrament of Reconciliation is being offered at all the area's parishes. Find below some nearby options.

Thursday, Dec. 15th 5:00-7:00 PM at St. Ann-St. Joseph, Harpers Ferry, Iowa

Saturday, Dec. 17th 8:00-9:00 AM at Immaculate Conception, Lansing, Iowa

Saturday, Dec. 17th 10 AM – Noon at St. Mary's, Viroqua 400 Congress Avenue

Saturday, Dec. 17th 2:00 – 3:00 PM St. Mary's, Coon Valley 900 Central Ave

Monday, Dec. 19th 9 AM – 6 PM at St. Joseph's Cathedral, La Crosse (multiple priests every hour)

Thursday, Dec. 22nd 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM at St. Charles (visiting priest)

Saturday, Dec. 24th 8:00-9:00 AM at Immaculate Conception, Lansing, Iowa

Monday – Saturday 8:00 AM & 11:45 AM (until all heard) at Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Sundays: 8:30 AM; 10:30 AM; 12:30 PM (until all heard) at Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe

St. Charles School Christmas Concert: Dec 20 at 7 PM

Please come and join us for some Christmas cheer! The St. Charles School students will be performing "Music Brings Us Together - Christmas Around the World" on Tuesday, December 20 at 7:00 pm in the school gymnasium. We will share our singing talents, along with performances on the bells and tongue drum. Our art show will be going on also, so please stop by and see how creative and hardworking we've been!

Capital Campaign and Diocesan Annual Appeal 2022-2023

As you know, this time of year is usually when we conduct our Diocesan Annual Appeal to support the wonderful ministries of our Diocese. This year will be slightly different. The Annual Appeal for the 2022-2023 year has been incorporated into the Inspired by the Spirit Capital Campaign. This

comprehensive, all-parish campaign effort began in parishes this past spring and is being conducted throughout this fall and through the first half of 2023. It will not only incorporate and support the ministries through the Diocesan Annual Appeal but will also provide an opportunity for every parish in the Diocese to raise funds for their own parish needs, the Diocesan Center, and the new Catholic Foundation of West Central Wisconsin. Our parish is assigned to the second block of the campaign timeline, which will not launch until spring 2023. You will be hearing more details in the coming months. Please begin to pray about your commitment to this campaign and begin planning to budget for giving to our parish. If you would like to make an end of the year gift to our parish for 2022 which you would like to go toward our parish's Capital Campaign, please contact Fr. Sedlacek ASAP for how to do that.

St. Charles School News

RootinCrown Consignment Store

RootinCrown is taking donations between 10 AM and 4 PM on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. Appointments are still required for gently used furniture consignment. St. Charles earns a 60% share on clean and gently used furniture valued over \$50. To qualify for this offer, make an appointment with Mary Jo at 608-519-9500. Encourage family, neighbors and friends/social contacts to support our school by shopping at the RootinCrown and liking them on Facebook. www.rootincrown.com

CHRISTMAS Gift Card Orders for the Scrip Program: Due December 15th!

Thanks to everyone who has been using the Scrip program. If you haven't already, it is easy to join and start earning money for our school. Either create an account on raiserright.com or download the Raise Right app. You can use the app or website to immediately buy and use E-gift cards. We will be placing orders for physical gift cards to be here in time for Christmas. Orders are due December 15th. Order forms are available in the church vestibule. You can turn in the order form in the school office, in the black box by the front door of the school, or directly through the RaiseRight website or app. Feel free to share with family and friends. Reach out to Megan Olson with any questions at 608-385-7815 or mjtrussoni@gmail.com. Thanks!

Other News from the Diocese and our Community

Volunteers Needed at La Crosse Warming Center

Catholic Charities at the La Crosse Warming Center, located at 413 3rd St S, La Crosse. Hours of operation this season (November 1, 2022 - April 31st, 2023) are from 6:30pm till 8:30am 7 days a week. They can use your help as often or as little as you have time for! There are two ways you can sign up! Through the Assistant Coordinator Karla Hein, who is the lead for scheduling folks at the La Crosse Warming Center. Karla can be reached at khein@cclse.org, or you can call or text at 608-668-9005. She can also send you the link to their Sign-up Genius site where you can look ahead and sign up for available days/times at your convenience.

Parish Events Calendar

Sat. Dec. 10: St. Charles School Fundraiser and Bingo Night 6:00 – 9:00 PM.

Wed. Dec. 14: Middle School Group 6:30 – 8 PM.

Mon. Dec. 19: Confessions at Cathedral of St. Joseph the Workman, 9 AM – 6 PM with multiple priests

Thurs. Dec. 22: Confessions at St. Charles (visiting priest) 5:30-7:00 PM

Sat. Dec. 24: Vigil Mass of the Nativity of Our Lord 4 PM. Music program before Mass.

Sun. Dec. 25: Mass of the Nativity of Our Lord 9:30 AM.