

## Reflections from Fr. Pfeifer

Are you struggling with certain people on your gift list again this year? Consider these gifts of self that don't cost a dime, yet are the most priceless and often treasured gifts given.

**The Gift of Laughter:** Everyone loves to laugh. Give those you love this gift. Try to see humor in day-to-day living. Develop the gift to laugh at yourself.

**The Gift of Listening:** One of the greatest things we can do for another person is to listen without interrupting, day dreaming or thinking about our next great leap into the conversation.

**The Gift of Acceptance:** Pray that we can come to love those different from us and view them as a brother or sister in Christ.

**The Gift of Compliment:** Help people reach their full potential by catching them doing something right and then complimenting them for what they have done. Compliment children for listening, for their smile, or for doing a good deed.

**The Gift of Cheerfulness:** Try to be cheerful around those you love...that means no complaining, no feeling sorry for yourself and no nasty comments or screaming. Your gift of cheerfulness will be a precious gift for everyone including yourself.

**The Gift of a Note:** Write notes to friends and family. The notes can be as simple as, "Thinking of you today," as personal as, "I love you," or as thoughtful as, "Super job! Keep up the good work."

**The Gift of a Game:** Most people have at least one game they like to play whether it is softball, cards, chess, or checkers. Offer to play your loved one's favorite game. Even if you lose you'll be a winner because together you have shared an experience.

**The Gift of Showing Affection:** Demonstrate the love you feel deep inside with hugs, kisses, a gentle squeeze of the hand, and pats on the back to show that you care.

**The Gift of Doing a Favor:** Do favors for those special people in your life. Help with dishes, vacuum, sweep the floor, make the bed, or run an errand.

**The Gift of Prayer:** This is the most valuable gift we can give anyone. Pray for those people you love and those who are in need of love. There is no limit to what God can do, and He is waiting for us to ask for His help.

The best thing is each of these gifts when truly given as pure gifts of self, are given from the heart, and will often mean the most!



## St. Philip Neri Catholic Church A Discipleship Parish



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*"Therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." – Matthew 3:10*

Do you bear good fruit for Christ? Or, do you spend your time, talent, and treasure constantly acquiring more toys, clutter, and junk? Our time, our talent and our treasure

are gifts that God has given us. What we do with them is our gift back to God. What gifts are you planning to give to the Lord during this upcoming Christmas season?

**December 4, 2016  
Second Sunday  
Of Advent**

Mon., Dec 5 ..... 7 PM <i>+Leo Unser by Tom Wald &amp; Family</i>
Tue., Dec 6 ..... 7 PM <i>Living &amp; Deceased Christian Mothers</i>
Wed., Dec 7 ..... 7:30 PM <i>Health of Tony Sperle by Betty Sperle</i>
Thurs., Dec 8 ..... 7 PM <i>+Regina Gross (Death Anni) by John &amp; Margaret Bitz</i> Thurs., Dec 8 ..... 8:45 AM <i>@ Care Center Our Parishioners</i>
Fri., Dec 9 ..... 8 AM <i>+Dave Laber by Sheldon &amp; Angela Gerhardt Family</i>
Sat., Dec 10 ..... 4 PM <i>Our Parishioners</i> <b>OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS TO FOLLOW</b>
Sun., Dec 11 ..... 10 AM <i>+Angeline Gerving</i>
Sunday Care Center 8:45 AM <i>Helper: Phyllis Johnson</i>



Rosary 25 minutes before weekend Masses.




Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place from 6 AM Thursday until midnight Friday.

**Stewardship of Treasure**  
This Week: \$ 2,398.28

Parish Announcements

**Right to Life Bingo** on Sun., Dec. 4th @ 7pm.  
**Christian Mothers First Sunday Breakfast** - Sun., Dec. 4 from 8:15 - 9:15 AM. No 1st Sun. breakfast January 1st.  
**Christian Mothers Christmas party** after 7 PM Mass on Dec. 6th. Party is a potluck for women and spouses with Bingo to follow.  
**Fr. Pfeifer's Holy Land Pilgrimage** - Fr. Pfeifer will be doing a presentation on Wed., Dec. 14 from 7:30 to 9:00 PM in the church. Learn about the places Jesus walked, talked, and preached.  
 Sign up to help with **Immaculate Conception Masses** on Wed./Thurs. We need servers, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Ushers.  
**Advent Reconciliation Service** on Sun., Dec. 18th at 7:30 PM. Take advantage of this opportunity. Three priests will be available.  
**Additional confession times** will be announced as we draw closer to Christmas. Give Jesus the best present this year - a pure heart bathed in the supernatural graces of the sacrament of Confession.  
**Consecration to Mary** - Consecration will be Wed., Dec. 7 after the 7:30 PM Mass and Thurs., Dec. 8th after the 7:00 PM Mass. Try to make it to confession before that night.  
**Poinsettia orders** as memorials for loved ones will be placed on our altar at Christmas. To order, call the Trophy Haus by Dec. 12.  
**St. Boniface Prints** for \$100 framed or \$40 unframed. Please contact Cheryl Weigel at 332-6663 or Jackie Weigel at 332-6625 if you are interested in purchasing a print.  
**Thanksgiving Collection** of \$378 was given to the Food Pantry.  
**Old Fashioned Christmas on Dec. 10 - SAT. VIGIL WILL START AT 4 PM.** Light supper at 5. Concert at 6:30. Sleigh rides. Come and enjoy fellowship, food, and musical entertainment.  
**No CCD** on Wed., Dec. 7 due to Immaculate Conception.

Holy Day of Obligation  
**Celebrating the Immaculate Conception**  
**December 8**



**Thursday, Dec. 8th. Mass times: Vigil Wednesday Dec. 7th at 7:30 PM.**  
**Thursday Dec. 8th 7:00 PM. 8:45 AM at the Care Center.**

Announcements, Cont.

**St. Philip Neri Parish Inquiry Class - Monday nights throughout the year from 7:40 to 8:40.** All are welcome!  
**December 5th** – The Tour of the Church (Sacred Vessels and Vestments and everything used in the liturgy and why it is used)  
**December 12th** - Mary and the Saints (Mary in God's Plan, Immaculate Conception, Assumption, the communion of the saints)  
**December 19th** - Prayer (Why prayer matters?, types of prayer, vocal, meditation, contemplation, Lectio Divina, The Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, the Rosary)

**Fr. Pfeifer will be doing an Advent Series every Tuesday (12/6 will be from 10-10:30 AM; 12/13 & 12/20 will be from 9:30-10 AM) during Advent on Real Presence Catholic Radio.** The stations are 91.7 FM Bismarck/Mandan and 99.7 FM out of Jamestown. Listen in as he reflects on how every candle that we light is meant to light our hearts on fire in preparation for Christmas.



**Christmas Angel Trees** - Angels are \$10 for the first and \$7 for each additional angel. Angels will be hung on Christmas trees during Advent and Christmas. You can take your purchased angels home on Epiphany weekend, Jan. 7 and 8. Sales support youth activities and our parish financial needs. Purchase angels as memorials for deceased or living family members, Godchildren, grandparents, siblings, or other intentions. Makes a great gift to show someone you were praying for them during the holiday season.

**Christmas Mass Times-** Sat., Dec. 24 at 4 PM – Children's Mass; Sun., Dec. 25 - Midnight Mass & 10 AM. 8:45 AM at Care Center

**Condensed Finance Council notes Wed., Nov. 23** – Parish started using the new Breaking Bread Hymnals the first weekend of Advent. There is a pending trust coming to the Parish, the council is looking at ways to implement the funds. Council decided to purchase, rather than rent, entrance rugs. Board discussed painting bell tower. Tony Braun used a rust remover on exterior of church to remove rust, plans to proceed in spring with further rust removal. Furnace down twice this month, it was installed in 2007. Board suggested comparing repair vs. new furnace cost estimates. Reviewed budget. Council discussed parish tithing, 10% of our Parish income will be split as follows: Seminarians Corey Baumgartner and Jarred Grossman and Sr. Mary Angela (Kayla) Gross at Holy Trinity Convent - \$500 each. Real Presence Radio Banquet - \$1500. Remaining money – split 50/50 with St. Ann's Mission Church in Belcourt and the diocese's seminary education fund. Discussed Old Fashioned Christmas. God's Gift chairperson Cheri Glatt reported that \$50,462 (129% of goal) has been collected with a 66% participation rate.

**St. Philip Neri Catholic Church**

**Confessions:** 1/2 hr before every Mass, 1 hour before Saturday Mass, OR by appointment.

**Weddings:** Contact Fr. Pfeifer at least 8 months prior.

**Baptisms:** Contact Fr. Pfeifer before Godparents are chosen.

	Saturday, December 10
<u>Sacristan</u>	Phyllis Johnson
<u>Lectors</u>	Paul Haegele, Chuck Wald
<u>Gift Bearers</u>	John & Sally Johs
<u>Servers</u>	Darissa Becker, Charmaine Haas, Payton Haas
<u>EMHC</u>	Anita Fettig, Jim Fettig, Sue Wald

	Sunday, December 11
<u>Sacristan</u>	Mark Wangler
<u>Lectors</u>	Terry Schwartzenbeger, Jackie Weigel
<u>Ushers/ Gift Bearers</u>	Willie & Alvina Piatz; Mark Feist Family
<u>Servers</u>	Jacob Leier, Jamison Fettig, Peyton Grunefelder, Riley Dewald, Anna Bitz
<u>EMHC</u>	Andy Gross, Jackie Grunefelder, Cindy Weigel