



# CHRIST IS *Christmas*




Charity ♦ Unity ♦ Fraternity ♦ Patriotism

DECEMBER 10, 2017

## UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2017 & 2018

### DECEMBER 2017

- 3 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent
- 4 – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting 7p
- 8 – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
- 10 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Breakfast with Santa 8a-12p
- 11 – Council 10926 Meeting
- 12 – Euchre Night
- 17 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
- 21 – Leadership Meeting 7p
- 24 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent
- 25 – Merry Christmas 

### JANUARY 2018

- 1 – New Year's Day
- 2 – 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Meeting 7p
- 8 – Council 10926 Meeting
- 13 – 500 Club Dinner
- 14 – Squires Meeting
- 19 – Mass K. Carrell 7:30a
- 20 – Mass J. Rubino 7:30a  
Jr Women's Bunco for Babies 7p
- 25 – Heartland Blood Drive 3-7p  
Leadership Meeting 7p
- 26 – 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Degree Ceremony
- 28 – St Jude School Open House  
Brunch

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Jan 13 – 500 Club Dinner 6p  | Mar 08 – Fish Fry Prep 4p    |
| Jan 20 – Bunco for Babies 7p | Mar 09 – Fish Fry 4p         |
| Jan 28 – Brunch 8am          | Mar 15 – Fish Fry Prep 6p    |
| Feb 03 – Candlelight Bowl 9p | Mar 16 – Fish Fry 4p         |
| Feb 15 – Fish Fry Prep 6p    | Mar 17 – St Joseph Table 5p  |
| Feb 16 – Fish Fry 4p         | Mar 22 – Fish Fry Prep 6p    |
| Feb 22 – Fish Fry Prep 6p    | Mar 23 – Fish Fry 4p         |
| Feb 23 – Fish Fry 4p         | Mar 24 – Bunny Breakfast 7a  |
| Mar 01 – Fish Fry Prep 6p    | Mar 25 – RCIA Retreat Dinner |
| Mar 02 – Fish Fry 4p         |                              |



### KNIGHT OF THE MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2017

When you think of Mike Nowakowski several items come to mind, Tootsie Roll Drive, Moscow Mules and an endless stream of jokes and stories. When there's work to be done, Mike will always step up to the plate and help, keeping everyone loose in the process. His true passion though is the ID Drive which he spends countless hours organizing and setting up the volunteer positions and times. This effort would not be a success without this level of commitment.

## SPECIAL OCCASIONS

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Robert Anzelmo, Michael Beaudin, Ray Schweiger, Bro Angelo Sturn, Michael Bialon, Gary Mueller, Tommy Lo Cicero, Raymond Malmgren, James Mikolajczak, Robert Hansen, Rob George, Ronald Rosinski, Victor Senese, Thomas Jungles, Daniel Okrzesik, Sr, Mike Rueck, Gregory Serratore, Ron Williams, Terence Dempsey, James Donnelly, Robert Goudie, John Loecke, Roy Gesell, Drew Williams

## 11<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL WINTER FUNDRAISER!!! KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CANDLELIGHT BOWL

Saturday, February 3, 2018 – 9:15pm  
\$75 per Couple – Food & Shoes Provided

Laraway Lanes  
1009 Laraway Road  
New Lenox, IL

Lane Sponsorships are Available for \$50

Contact Craig Lyons 815-735-6914 or Mike Nowakowski 815-485-2264

*For the young children of fallen Brother Knights*



# ADVENT CHRIST



Advent candles demonstrate the strong contrast between darkness and light. In the Bible, Christ is referred to as the "Light of the World" contrasted with the darkness of sin. Human history spanned long ages before our Savior would make his appearance, and God's promise to make all things new through him.

As his Advent, or "coming," draws nearer another candle is lit, with each candle dispelling the darkness a little more. Thus, the Advent wreath helps us to spiritually contemplate the great drama of salvation history that surrounds the birth of God Incarnate who comes to redeem us.

The circular shape of the wreath, without beginning or end, symbolizes God's complete and unending love for us - a love that sent his Son into the world to redeem us from the curse of sin. It also represents eternal life which becomes ours through faith in Jesus Christ.

The Advent Wreath traditionally holds four candles which are lit, one at a time, on each of the four Sundays of the Advent season. Each candle represents 1,000 years. Added together, the four candles symbolize the 4,000 years that humanity waited for the world's Savior—from Adam and Eve to Jesus, whose birth was foretold in the Old Testament.

Some Advent wreath traditions also include a fifth white "Christ" candle, symbolizing purity, that is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas day. Many circular wreaths can incorporate a white candle by adding a pillar candle to the wreath center.

Violet is a liturgical color that is used to signify a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice and is used during Advent and Lent. Advent is the season where we spiritually wait in our "darkness" with hopeful expectation for our promised redemption, just as the whole world did before Christ's birth, and just as the whole world does now as we eagerly await his promised return.

During the first two weeks of Advent we light the first two purple candles. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for the birth of Jesus on Christmas day is almost over. Rose is a liturgical color that is used to signify joy, so we light the single pink candle on the third Sunday of Advent.

Then on the fourth Sunday of Advent, the final purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait expectantly for the soon-coming birth of the King of Kings. Traditionally, each of the four Advent candles have a deeper meaning which is depicted in the lovely Four Weeks of Advent Pewter Wreath:

- The 1st Sunday of Advent symbolizes Hope with the "Prophet's Candle" reminding us that Jesus is coming.
- The 2nd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Faith with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.
- The 3rd Sunday of Advent symbolizes Joy with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.
- The 4th Sunday of Advent symbolizes Peace with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

The progression of lighting candles shows our increasing readiness to meet our Lord. Each family ought to have an Advent wreath, light it at dinner time, and say the special prayers. This tradition will help each family keep its focus on the true meaning of Christmas. In all, during Advent we strive to fulfill the opening prayer for the Mass of the First Sunday of Advent: Father in Heaven, ... increase our longing for Christ our Savior and give us the strength to grow in love, that the dawn of His coming may find us rejoicing in His presence and welcoming the light of His truth.

## The Beginning of Advent

On the Saturday before the First Sunday of Advent, the family gathers around the decorated wreath. One candle should be lit.

**Leader:** We gather around our wreath to begin the celebration of Advent. Let us ask our Father in heaven to fill our hearts with grace.

Silent pause for prayer

Heavenly Father, we look forward to the celebration of Christmas and to the coming of the Lord in glory. Bless this Advent wreath and all of us. As we pray daily around it, fill us with your life and strengthen us for our daily tasks. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

## The First Sunday of Advent [One candle is lit.]

**Leader:** Heavenly Father, as we begin this Advent, give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts. May the Lord find us watching and waiting in joy when He comes. We pray in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

## The Second Sunday of Advent [Two candles are lit.]

**Leader:** Father in heaven, set our hearts ablaze to follow in the steps of John the Baptist. May we bring light and love to all we meet, that the darkness of sin and fear may be overcome. In Christ's name we ask this.

All: Amen.

## The Third Week of Advent [Three candles are lit.]

**Leader:** As we draw near to you, Lord God, keep us aware of your presence in all we do. Come with power to enlighten us by your grace, that we may live in praise and peace all our days. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

## The Fourth Sunday of Advent, On Christmas Eve, [Candles can be replaced with new white tapers for use during the Christmas season.]

**Leader:** Lord Jesus, we approach that holy moment when Your coming as man is renewed in our hearts. Give us peace and allow us to celebrate Your presence with joy, that we may one day share Your glory. We ask this of You, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, as One God, now and forever.

All: Amen.