

St. John Vianney Church

December 3, 2023
First Sunday of Advent



Catholic Diocese of Peoria
Fr. Ghislain Inai, SMA, Pastor
Fr. Chris Haake, Parochial Vicar
Mass: Sunday 8:00 AM Wednesday 5:30 PM

Reconciliation: Sunday 7:30 AM to 7:50 AM
PO Box 183, 313 S West St Cambridge IL 61238
Phone: 309-937-3304 Email: stjohnvianney3@gmail.com
www.threestjohns.com www.facebook.com/stjohnvianneycambridge

Fr. Ghislain Inai, SMA: Email: frghislain@saintjohnpaulii-kewanee.org
PO Box 249, 390 E Highway Ave, Woodhull IL 61490 - 309-852-4549 Ext 106
Fr. Chris Haake: Email: fatherhaake@saintjohnpaulii-kewanee.org
406 W. Central Blvd, Kewanee IL 61443- 309-852-4549 Ext 118

Religious Education: Terri Borkgren 309-945-2628
Greeting Cards: Mary Kay Newman: 309-944-7032
Parish Secretary: Rita Taylor 309-714-8278

St John, The Apostle
Mass Sunday 5:00 PM
PO Box 249 390 E Highway Ave
Woodhull IL 61490
Phone: 309-334-2180 Fax: 309-334-2136
Secretary: Tena Anseeuw
stjohnchurch@divcominc.net

St John, The Evangelist
Mass Saturday 4 PM | Sunday 10:00 AM
PO Box 18 212 NE 1st St
Galva IL 61434
Phone: 309-932-2409
Secretary: Linda Simmons
stjohngalva2@gmail.com

Date	Mass Intentions	Given By
Dec 03 8:00 AM Sunday	For: Betty DeSmith	By: Mark & Karen DeDecker
Dec 06 5:30 PM Wednesday	For: Carolyn Ossian	By: The Family
Dec 10 8:00 AM Sunday	For: Betty Lou Doubler For: Fred DeSplinter	By: Marv & Mary Kay Newman By: Theresa DeSplinter & Family
Dec 13 5:30 PM Wednesday	For: Francis & Trisha Carroll	By: Dwaine & Janice VanMeenen

Serving at Our Lord's Altar

Lay Ministry Schedule for December 3-13, 2023		
Sunday	December 03	8:00 AM
Extra Min:	Bill Taylor	
Lector:	Lorrie Stiles	
Wednesday, December 06		5:30 PM
Lector & Server Volunteers		
Sunday	December 10	8:00 AM
Extra Min:	Don & Sharon Hulin	
Lector:	Trent Taber	
Wednesday, December 13		5:30 PM
Lector & Server Volunteers		
USHERS		
Dec:	Josh Gibson & Christian Jackson	
COUNTERS		
Dec:	Clyde & Kaye Maertens	

Other Weekday Masses:

Woodhull: 8:00 AM Tuesday & Thursday Galva: 8:00 AM Wednesday

For Prayer Chain requests contact:

Terri Borkgren: 309-945-2628 or Julie Dwyer: 309-507-1627

Dates to Remember:

Dec 06: A&R Christmas Party 6:15 PM
Dec 08: Immaculate Conception Holy Day
Dec 17: CCD Christmas play & party

Last Week's Gifts to God



November 26, 2023

Collection: \$ 515.00
Building Fund: \$ 480.00
Sunday Total: \$ 995.00

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation - Mass Times are:

Woodhull: Thursday, 12/7 at 5:30 PM

Galva: Friday, 12/8 at 8:00 AM

Kewanee: Friday, 12/8 at 8:30 AM

St Johns' A&R Christmas Party

A&R Society ladies in all 3 churches are cordially invited to attend the Christmas party in our church hall on Wed, Dec 6th at 6:15 PM after the 5:30 PM Mass. There is no cost for the meal. Please sign up at the back of the church **today, Dec 3rd** if you are planning to attend or if you would like to furnish a salad or dessert for the meal.



"May the Holy Virgin, Gate of Heaven, help us daily to trustfully and joyfully look to where our true home is, where she is awaiting us like a mother." *Pope Francis*

PRAY FOR THE SICK

Xander Carlson, Donna Dobbels, Tom Montgomery, Ron Swanson, Mary Lou Robinson, and Judy Brockway Skelton. Please pray for the sick, their loved ones, and caregivers. May they never lose sight of the love of God.



In Memory of Your Loved Ones

To order a Christmas flower in memory of your loved ones, please use the Christmas flower envelope in your envelope box or at the doors. Please **clearly print** your information. Cost is \$10. Order deadline is Sunday, **Dec 10th**.



ANNOINTING OF THE SICK

Before going into the hospital, please call Fr. Ghislain at 309-852-4549. If you are admitted to the hospital or nursing home prior to Fr. Ghislain anointing you, please tell admittance that you are Catholic. They will arrange for the designated chaplain to anoint you and will notify Fr. Ghislain.

In Memory of Joan Dobbels Morris

Loving Father, welcome home Joan, whom you have called from this world, and grant peace and consolation to Dave, Debbie, and their family. May the souls of the faithful departed rest in the presence of God.

 **Humility Homes Holiday Giving**

The "Most Needed Items" list for the homeless is available at the doors. Please place your donations in the box at the back of the church by **Dec 10th**.

The Christmas Play "The Nativity"

will be presented by the CCD and Confirmation students on Sunday, December 17th at the end of Mass.



Mass Intentions Reminder

Starting in January of 2024, we will only have one Mass intention per Mass.

Trivia Question (answer on last page)

What liturgical colors of vestments are worn by the priest during Advent? a) white & green b) white & gold c) purple & rose d) red & gold

Prayer for the 1st Week of Advent



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. Amen.



Be Watchful! Be Alert!

Today we begin the beautiful and holy season of Advent. With all that we have going on this time of year, it's no wonder that Advent doesn't always seem to get a deeper conversion to Christ and find real transformation in our lives as Christian stewards. Why? Advent calls us not only to look back in grateful contemplation of Christ's first coming, but it also calls us to look forward in preparation for His Second Coming. Advent is a time to reset and regroup, to repent over any misplaced priorities, to turn our minds and hearts back to God while we still have time. We do so not out of fear or guilt, but out of gratitude for Love Incarnate lying in a manger bed.

We can take as our theme for this season the words of the Prophet Isaiah in our First Reading. "You Lord, are our Father, our redeemer you are named forever... Would that you might meet us doing right, that we were mindful of you in our ways!" The passage ends with this verse, which is especially meaningful to the Christian steward: "We are the clay and you the potter: we are all the work of your hands." In other words, our lives are not about us — rather, they are a gift to be used to glorify God and serve others.

In our Second Reading, from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians, we are reminded of how extravagantly God has gifted each one of us. "You were enriched in every way, with all discourse and all knowledge... so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us embrace these Advent days to recommit to stewarding our spiritual gifts well. This will look different for each individual, of course. Perhaps a family can commit to setting up an Advent wreath and taking 10 minutes to reflect on the daily Gospel. Someone else may choose to be intentional in checking on a lonely neighbor each day to bring God's love to them consistently. Maybe some will be inspired to scale back their usual gift giving and donate that saved money to those in dire need right now.

Whatever we feel God calling us to do, there is no time to waste. Jesus makes this strikingly clear in our Gospel passage from Matthew through the parable of a man going off on a journey. Before he leaves, he "places his servants in charge, each with his own work, and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch." We, of course, are the servants in this parable, each with a mission to accomplish in building the Kingdom of God. Jesus warns us over and over in this passage to remain attentive to the work He has given us to do, because we do not know when we will be called to give an account for it. "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come."

Our lives are a gift. This holy season is a gift. Let us awaken if we have grown weary or complacent, and recommit to living the stewardship way of life. Love came down to us as a Baby. And He is coming again. Be watchful! www.TheCatholicSteward.com