

St. John Vianney Church

December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent



***“Prepare the Way
of the Lord, Make
Straight His Paths.”***

Mark 1:3

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 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
Dec 17 8:00 AM Sunday	For: Rhea Dwyer For: Jim Dobbels	By: Michelle LaBelle By: Marv & Mary Kay Newman
Dec 20 5:30 PM Wednesday	For: Orville Ossian	By: The Family

Serving at Our Lord's Altar

Lay Ministry Schedule for December 10-20, 2023		
Sunday	December 10	8:00 AM
Extra Min:	Don & Sharon Hulin	
Lector:	Trent Taber	
Wednesday, December 13	5:30 PM	
Lector & Server Volunteers		
Sunday	December 17	8:00 AM
Extra Min:	Bill Taylor & Barb Montgomery	
Lector:	Larry Lavin	
Wednesday, December 20	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 17: CCD Christmas play & party
Dec 24: Christmas Eve Mass 4 PM
Dec 25: Christmas Day Mass 8 AM

Advent

Reconciliation Services

Wed, Dec 20th 6 PM in Cambridge
Thurs, Dec 21st 6 PM in Kewanee



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.



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.

The Christmas Play "The Nativity"

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



Thank You to our Confirmation Class,
5th/6th CCD class, and their teachers for
decorating our church. It looks beautiful!

2024 Altar & Rosary Books
are available at the doors of the
church. Please take yours home.



Trivia Question (answer on last page)

On which day of the week does Advent always begin?
a) Wednesday b) Thursday c) Friday d) Sunday

Last Week's Gifts to God



December 3, 2023

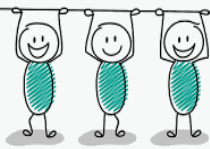
Collection: \$1,491.00
Building Fund: \$ 510.00
Sunday Total: \$ 2,001.00

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 **today**.



THANK YOU



to everyone who donated
cookies or helped in any way
to make our booth for
Christmas on the Square
on Dec 2nd a success.

Heartfelt Thanks

to everyone who gave gifts or
donations to the Caring Hearts
Drive. Your kind generosity was greatly
appreciated and will brighten Christmas for
many in the community. God bless you for
your caring hearts!



The new Living Faith booklets for
Jan-March are available at each
door. Everyone is invited to take
one home.

2nd Week of Advent Prayer



Jesus, as we prepare to welcome
you again this Christmas, speak
your words into our hearts and
lives, that by our preparation for
your birth, we might proclaim what
still needs to be made ready if our
world is to become more like your
kingdom. Soften our hearts, calm our
fears, and give us courage to proclaim
your coming in our broken world. *+Amen*



Comfort and Warning

Today's readings on this Second Sunday of Advent can be summed up as equal parts comfort and warning for the Christian steward. We serve a merciful and patient God — in His kindness, He warns us that we will be called to make an account one day for the way in which we made use of the gifts He has given us. The most precious gift He has given us is His own Son, Whose birth we are preparing to celebrate.

Our First Reading from Isaiah is filled with messages and images of the Father's tender love for us. "Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her service is at an end." In other words, Israel's time of exile and captivity is over and freedom is coming. Our freedom from the captivity of sin has come as well, through the saving power of Jesus.

In this passage we also read this description of the Father. "Like a shepherd he feeds his flock; in his arms he gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care." What tender love He has for us. And it is out of this love that we are told to "prepare the way of the Lord. Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!"

St. Peter reiterates the loving kindness of the Father in our Second Reading today. He says that God "is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance." Yet, in the same passage we receive this warning: "The Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar... and the earth and everything on it will be found out."

How are we to assimilate these two truths — the merciful love of God and the responsibility that comes with the privilege of living as His disciple? St. Peter tells us we should conduct ourselves "in holiness and devotion" and that we should be "eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace." Indeed, this is the goal of our Advent "reset" — to return to (or intensify) living lives focused on Christ, in gratitude for all He has done for us.

Our Gospel passage from Mark takes up the cry of Isaiah from the First Reading, this time through the prophet John the Baptist. John instructs us just as Isaiah did to "prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths." In practical terms, this means that we Christian stewards must make good use of the gift of time we have been given this Advent season. Let's be sure to get to Confession, prioritize a daily reading of the Scriptures, and reach out to someone in need with a word of comfort or an act of service.

In this way, we will honor both the mercy and justice of our God, and we will be prepared to celebrate the birth of Christ and give account for all His gifts to us.

www.TheCatholicSteward.com