

**DATE: DECEMBER 25, 2005
"CHRISTMAS DAY"**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF: Dec. 26, 2005

MON, 8:00 AM Courtney Coleman
 TUES, 8:00 AM Chas & Mary Ellen Pratt
 WED, 8:00 AM Harry DeClue
 THURS,
 FRI, 8:00 AM Virginia Garrett
 SAT, 5:30 PM Eric Belt
 SUN, 8:00 AM The People of the Parish
 10:00 AM Lucy Politte

**SPECIAL MINISTRIES FOR WEEK OF:
DECEMBER 31ST & JANUARY 1ST**

CHRISTIAN MINISTERS

SAT, 5:30 C. Faye Jarvis
 L MaryJane Leonard
 R. Leroy Jarvis
 SUN, 8:00 Geraldine Skiles
 Mahlon McNabb
 Jeanne DeGonia
 SUN, 10:00 Charlie Schloemer
 Jan Coleman
 Stephanie Bone

LECTORS

SAT, 5:30 Mary Jane Leonard
 SUN, 8:00 Paul Villmer
 SUN, 10:00 Stephanie Bone

MUSIC

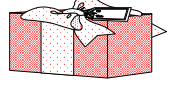
SAT 5:30-Chala Short
 SUN 8:00-Rebecca Richards
 SUN 10:00-Anita Govero

! SERVERS!

SAT 5:30-Stephen Johnson & Rebakah Pashia
 SUN 8:00-Garrick Zinecker & Cole Politte
 SUN 10:00-Todd Thebeau & Jinnger Rogers



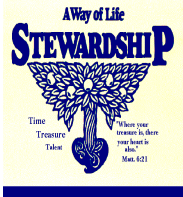
DRIVERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND
 SATURDAY: Aaron East
 SUNDAY: Robert Coleman



GIFT BEARERS
 5:30 The Ladies Sodality
 8:00 Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Adams
 10:00 Mr. & Mrs. Eric Aubuchon

HEAVENLY DUSTERS
 Rose Brewer & Helen Brewer

ST. JAMES GIFT SHOP OPEN
 1st Sunday of Every Month
 SUZANNE SHORT 438-4787



ENVELOPES\$2,746.00
LOOSE.....\$190.11
CHILDREN(2).... \$3.00
VOTIVE LIGHTS.....\$26.00
Solemnity of Mary \$303.00
Immaculate Conception ... \$27.00
Christmas Gift \$15.00
Seminary..... \$16.00
ST. VINCENT DEPAUL...\$88.00

**FOR THE WEEK OF:
Dec. 18, 2005**

NEEDED for Expenses \$2300.00
RECEIVED: \$3,281.11

**P
S
R
THE LADIES SODALITY
R.C.I.A.**

**NO PSR CLASSES!!
MERRY CHRISTMAS**

The Ladies Sodality will receive Communion as a group on Saturday, December 31st at the 5:30 PM Mass.

The Adult Convert class will meet this Tuesday, December 27th at 7:00 PM in the Rectory Basement.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our Membership, their families and friends. We wish to thank the people of the parish for making it possible to meet some of the needs of our neighbors during 2005. Our plans for the New Year include continuing the outreach to parishioners and members of the community who need spiritual and material assistance.

**TOUCHDOWNS WITH
ST. JAMES**

THIS WEEK WINNERS ARE:
High Score: Dr. Jim Robart (79 Pts)
Low Score: Rob Brown (9 Pts)

READINGS:

Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4,6,8ab,16bc-17 Mt 10:17-22
Tuesday: Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2,5-6,11-12 Jn 20:2-8
Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2 Ps 124:2-5,7b-8 Mt 2:13-18
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-3,5b-6 Lk 2:22-35
Friday: Sir 3:2-7,12-14 Ps 128:1-5 Col 3:12-21
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21 Ps 96:1-2,11-13 Jn1:1-18
NEXT SUNDAY: Nm 6:22-27 Ps 67:2-3,5,6,8 Gal 4:4-7 Lk 2:16-21

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

The Knights of Columbus of Washington County will be having a New Year's Eve Dance December 31st from 8:30 PM to 12:30 AM at the K. C. Hall in Old Mines. Please call Don Bourbon at 438-2374 to make reservations.

CHICKEN & BEEF DINNER

The Knights of Columbus of Washington County will be having a Chicken & Beef Dinner on Sunday, January 8th from 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM at the K. C. Hall in Old Mines.

SCRIPTURE STUDY CLASS

I Believe: The Heart of Christian Faith is a four week video and print program on the Apostles' and Nicene Creed. *I Believe* begins with an examination of faith and the role of the Creeds in articulating Christian faith. At first glance, the Creeds appear to be only a list of tenets or beliefs. However, the faith required by the Creed is much more than intellectual assent. It is dynamic and personal giving of oneself to three divine persons who are, from all eternity, a community of love, and who invite us to share in this life of love that opens out into eternity. The Class will begin on January 22, 2006. We will need to order books, so please contact Sharon Forrester (436- 1936) or call Gail at the Rectory (438-4686) by January 12th and register for this class. 436-

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The Knights of Columbus is seeking a Field Agent for a Career Opportunity representing their insurance program. We offer a complete benefits package with this full time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information contact Robert King, FICF General Agent at 636-239-1016.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

When all the hustle and bustle of the holidays are over, don't you both deserve a beautiful weekend away together? If you agree and need more information about Marriage Encounter Weekend, call 314-469-7317 to learn about the upcoming 2006 weekends.

Theologians tell us that Easter is the most important feast of the Church year. In some ways that is true. However, people, believers and nonbelievers alike, celebrate Christmas far more widely and with far greater joy.

Is this simply because Christmas is about motherhood, the birth of a child, innocence, and love? After all, these are at the heart of human life. Yet most of us would find it hard to identify with rising from the darkness of the tomb. But perhaps there is more, a lot more. Perhaps we are more deeply in touch with an abstract idea we call the Incarnation than we realize. It could be that something deep inside us knows what "the Word made Flesh" really means.

From the moment God breathed God's life-giving spirit over the darkness of the void and brought creation to life, God spoke to people. Through giants like Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, God gave us the words of life.

But, on Christmas day, the living Word of God came into the world. In this Jesus, God communicated most eloquently with God's people. God met with skeptics and dined with outcasts. In Jesus, God talked, listened. God wept over the dead Lazarus. God put mud and spittle on the blind man's eyes and healed him. Through Jesus, God entered the cycle of human life and unswervingly walked its path to the end.

Perhaps the gift-giving of Christmas, the outpouring of love we lavish on one another, echoes the final message this God-Made-Man spoke through human flesh: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12).

Maybe this feast opens the door to some inner cell of our hearts where we imprison the Word that tells us that now we must be the arms of God surrounding the little ones; that we must be God's voice to speak and God's ears to listen; that we must weep God's tears; that we must be God's healing hands; that we must be Jesus in our times and in our culture. the power of this truth escapes and, at least for a few moments, warms up the coldness of our world.

It is indeed up to the twentieth-century Christians to give birth to Jesus in their own time, their own culture, their own families. This is the heart of faith and life. And deep within us, we know it. We feel it and so we celebrate.

Father Robert Earl, C.S.S.R.