

Mary of the Visitation Catholic Church

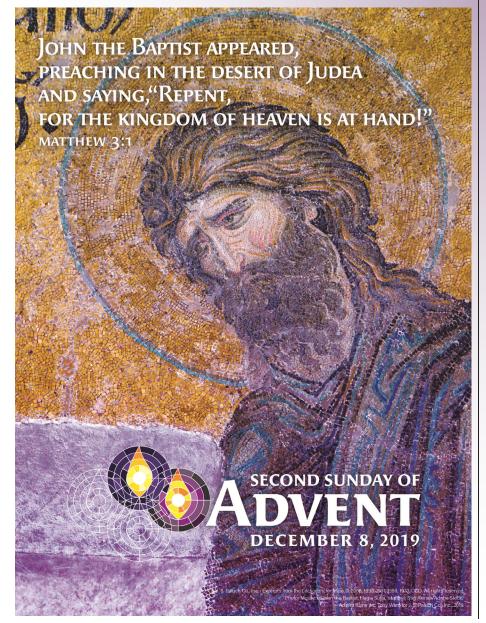
Mailing Address: PO Box 100 • Big Lake, MN 55309-0100 Phone: 763-447-3339 • Fax: 763-263-3187 (Big Lake) Fax: 763-275-0246 (Becker)



MISSION STATEMENT — We, the people of Mary of the Visitation parish, are a Catholic community bound together by the Word of God, sacramental worship, and the call to service.

VISION STATEMENT — Through the proclamation of the Word of God and embraced by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we seek to be welcoming, to grow spiritually, to see Christ's presence in others, and to offer our care and service to all.

MOTTO --- "See Christ In Others; Be Christ For Others!"



Parish Cell Phone: 763-250-0233 Call this number if you are unable to reach Fr. Mike at either location, if it is after regular hours, or if you have a pastoral need or emergency.

Website: www.maryofthevisitation.org Email: parish@maryofthevisitation.org

Weekend Mass Schedule Saturday - 5:00 pm Sunday - 8:30 & 10:30 am

Weekend Mass Location Schedule Becker Location (12100 Sherburne Ave.) 1st, 3rd and 5th Sundays of the month

Big Lake Location (440 Lake St. N.) 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

Weekday Masses Please see Weekly Calendar of Events on Page 8 for day, time, and location.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

On Saturday at 3:45 pm (follows the Weekend Mass Location Schedule), or by appointment (please contact Fr. Mike).

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are generally held the first two weekends of the month (during Mass). Membership with a Catholic parish is required. A baptism prep class within the past 5 years is required. Arrangements must be made 6 weeks in advance.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements must be made with Fr. Mike a minimum of 6 months in advance.

Welcome!

We would like to welcome all those visiting with us today. If you are interested in becoming a member, please plan to attend a New Member Orientation session. Visit the parish website (select Join the Parish under Quick Links) or call the office for more details.

PARISH STAFF

Pastor	Fr Mike Kelloga
mkellogg@maryofthevisitation.org	
Deacon	Phil Henneman
phenneman@maryofthevisitation.org	
Director of Faith Formation	Barb Olson
bolson@maryofthevisitation.org	
Director of Youth Ministry	
dwatercott@maryofthevisitation.org	
Director of Music / Liturgy	
groe@maryofthevisitation.org	4 or 763-262-7388
Bookkeeper / Parish Census	
pkroll@maryofthevisitation.org	
Volunteer Coordinator / Communications	Sue Willing
swilling@maryofthevisitation.org 763-447-333	•
Secretary	Danette Toenies
dtoenies@maryofthevisitation.org763-447-333	
Housekeeping	Teresa Riebel
Office Staff evailable by Dhane	

Office Staff available by Phone

Monday through Thursday: 8:00 am to 2:30 pm Please call ahead if you need to get into the building to make sure someone is available.

Physical Addresses (Post Office does NOT deliver to these addresses)
12100 Sherburne Avenue, Becker, MN 55308
440 Lake Street North, Big Lake, MN 55309
Bulletin Deadline — Please have articles submitted to Danette two weeks prior to bulletin date.

PASTORAL COUNCIL

3 year term (ending 6/30/2020)	
James Adelman	
Brenda Prudhomme	612-251-5601
3 year term (ending 6/30/2021)	
Melissa Dumonceaux	
Jeff Howell	
Geary Keppel	
3 year term (ending 6/30/2022)	
Bonnie DeZelar	
Deacon Phil Henneman	
Trustees:	
Eric Krause	612-720-6470
Clay Wilfahrt	

Minutes from Pastoral Council meetings can now be found on our website at http://www.maryofthevisitation.com/parish-council. If you do not have access to the website, a copy of the most recent minutes can be found in the scheduling area at either location.

FINANCE COUNCIL

Juanita Johnson	763-263-3240
Greg Powers	763-263-1663
Ryan Sakry	
Andy Voller	

Prayer is a powerful gift from God. Prayer can be used to give praise, in thanksgiving, for forgiveness, for guidance or when in need. Listed below are ways we are able to offer prayers for others:

If you have an immediate prayer request, please contact Fr. Mike at **763-250-0233**. He will forward the request to the Prayer Team.

As a parish, we have been asked to pray for the following people. If you would like a name included on this list, please contact Danette at 763-273-8408 or send a request to

prayerrequest@maryofthevisitation.org. Out of respect, we ask that the person being listed has given permission to be added to the bulletin. Names will remain on the list for 4 weeks unless other arrangements have been made.

Bobb Anderson Charissa Bates Ron Dietl Ron Erickson Cindi Flack Lisa Gue Jim Herickhoff Terri Hight Keith Houle Richard Kantor Judy Kindle John Koenig Patrick Koenig Julie Kuznia Wilbur Lemmon Linda Gail Lippert Bill Malikowski Tom Marshall Catherine Nelson Marcel Osowski Doug Paumen Marley Jane Puissegur Charles Rice Judy Schmidt Pat Schorn Blake Soenneker Nancy Stang Dcn. Greg Steele Lisa Thelen Elaine & David Torma

Please pray for those active in Military Service

The Serra Club of St. Cloud asks that we pray for priests and seminarians of the diocese throughout the year.

Rev. Benjamin Kociemba Rev. Jeremy Ploof
Rev. Bradley Jenniges, OSB
Rev. Mitchell Bechtold
Please pray for deceased priests
Rev. Timothy Gapinski
Rev. Aaron Nett

HAPPENINGS at MARY OF THE VISITATION



Annual Christmas Treat Sale

Sat./Sun., Dec. 14/15 (after all Masses)

Purchase an empty plate for \$5 or \$10, and fill it with your choice of Christmas holiday treats. All funds will help support our Parish Youth Ministry. *** *Do you enjoy making holiday treats but have no one to**

bake for? The youth group will gladly take them to sell at their Christmas Treat Sale. Just drop them off at the Becker location before Mass on Sat., Dec. 14. Thank you so much!!



Please remember to pick up the dishes remaining from the desserts and salads that have been graciously donated for recent funerals. At the Becker location, the dishes can be found above the coat rack in the hallway. At the Big Lake location, the dishes can be found in the walkway cupboards between the dining rooms. Thank you!

New Member Orientation

Tues., Dec. 17 / 6:30 pm / Becker

Become part of our parish! You can register for the orientation session online at www.maryofthevisitation.org (select Join the Parish under Quick Links) or call Danette at 763-273-8408.

Book Club Meeting

Thurs., Dec. 19 / 10:00 am / Café Pawz / Becker

The book being discussed this month is *The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* by Phaedra Patrick. New members are welcome to join at any time. If interested, stop by during the meeting or contact Kelly Ciernia at 763-263-7577.

500 Card Club Brunch — The 500 Card Club will meet on **Sun., Dec. 29 at 11:00 am** for brunch and cards. Bring a brunch item or dessert and your own beverages. Cost is \$5 per couple or \$3 for singles. For questions or more information, call Tom or Nancy Lee at 763-262-7366.

Red Cross Community Blood Drive

Mon., Jan. 20 / Noon until 6:00pm / Mary of the Visitation (Big Lake Location) Please schedule your appointment online at <u>www.redcrossblood.org</u>. Your donation is desperately needed!

K/C Breakfast

Sun., Feb. 2 / 7:30 am—12:00 Noon / Becker Location

The K/Cs are making omelets! Select your toppings and let them do the cooking for you!

Baptism Preparation Class

Tues., Feb. 5 / 6:30 pm / Big Lake

If you have not taken the class in the past five years and are expecting a baby, please plan to attend. You can register online at www.maryofthevisitation.org (select Sacraments tab) or call Danette at 763-447-3339.



Eucharistic Adoration happens every Monday from 5am to 12pm midnight in the church at the Becker location. If interested, or for more information, please contact:

- Theresa Slominski (763-227-0654)
- Carol Brunn (320-248-5976)
- Julie Haecherl (612-219-3337)

Communion to the Homebound—Has illness or fragility prevented you or another member of the parish that you know from attending Mass and receiving communion? Would a visit from a Minister of Communion to the Homebound be appreciated? Whether it's short term or long term there are members of our parish who serve in this ministry of bringing communion to those who are homebound. For more information or to request a visit, please contact the parish office at 763-447-3339.

We continue to take donations on behalf of the below organizations. Containers for these items are available in both the Annex and Narthex.

- Lions Recycle For Sight—Used eyeglasses/sunglasses/hearing aids can be recycled to provide aid to those in need in our communities.
- Soles 4 Souls—Used/old shoes become valuable to those in poorer countries where they are repaired (thus providing employment for the local residents in those countries) and then put to good use. Please be sure that the footwear is attached in pairs and somewhat clean.

Mass Intentions—It is the custom of the Catholic Church that priests remember specific intentions at the celebration of the Eucharist. Normally, an offering (customarily \$10 in the Diocese of St. Cloud) is given for a Mass intention. (*Can.* 946--The Christian faithful who give an offering to apply the Mass for their intention contribute to the good of the Church and by that offering share its concern to support its ministers and works.)

Anyone can request a particular intention for which a Mass can be offered (for a living or deceased person, or for a special intention--in thanksgiving, for peace, healing, etc.). There are 7 (weekday) Mass Intention openings for the month of January and 13 (12 weekday and 1 Sunday) openings for the month of February. If you are interested in scheduling a Mass Intention, please contact Danette at 763-273-8408.

FAITH FORMATION



Journey of Faith

 Families identify themselves and tell their family stories through daily routines, celebrations, and rituals, many of which are lived out in the context of the liturgical year.

How does your family celebrate its rituals?

Our People of Inspiration for this month are Saints Priscilla & Aquila.

Session 2 Dec. 11, 6:30 - 8pm, Becker only



HAPPY SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT!

Today's first reading from Isaiah (Is 11:1-10) is one of hope and anticipation, and describes the expected Emmanuel "God with us." The reign of Emmanuel will be harmonious, just, and peacefilled. The one who comes will be a person of justice and wisdom. Read this with your family

and choose one or more of the following suggestions to further reflect on this reading.

- At the dinner table, share examples of how family members have been a source of peace this past week. Ask each at the table to finish this sentence, "This week I helped make peace by..."
- As a family, make a list of ways you can make your home a better place for Christ to live. Post the list where everyone can see it. Every day during Advent focus on one item on the list.
- Imagine what the world would be like if everyone lived in peace and harmony. Have family members look for news items about people working for peace and justice in the world today. Pray for all those who are poor and discriminated against, and for all those who help them



Journey of Faith Schedule

Wed, Dec. 11, 6:30 pm, Becker Journey of Faith Session 2



Like us on Facebook - search for: Mary of the Visitation Faith Formation

Faith Formation Office is at the Becker Location Barb Olson - bolson@maryofthevisitation.org

Youth for Truth / U-JAM / Kids for Christ

MOTV YOUTH MINISTRY MISSION STATEMENT

To inspire Youth to develop their relationship with Jesus Christ — and empower discipleship through prayer, service and community.

YOUTH GROUPS FOR 2018-2019 School Year

Kids for Christ—Grades 3-5

6-7 meetings a year from 3:00–5:00 @ Youth Center in Becker. from 4:00-5:30 @ Youth House in Big Lake.

U-JAM—Grades 6-8

Meetings on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 on dates in which there is no Journey of Faith.

Youth for Truth—Grades 9-12

Meetings will be every Wednesday from 8:00-9:30.

Youth Leadership Team—Grades 11-12

For Youth desiring more leadership opportunities in the parish and diocese. Meets monthly.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The razor blade is sharp...but can't cut a tree. The axe is strong...but can't cut the hair. Everyone is important according to their own unique purpose. Never look down on anyone. Unless to admire their shoes!!

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Sun. Dec. 8—"Share the Spirit" Event Meet after 10:30 Mass for lunch. Go to Target to buy gifts for the two families adopted. Return to B. L. Youth House to wrap gifts around 1:30. We will be done around 2:30-3:00.
- Wed. Dec. 11—Youth Group in Becker
 8:00-9:30—Youth for Truth @ Becker Youth Center
- Fri. Dec. 13—Youth Prayer Breakfast 7:00-7:50 @ Becker Youth Center
- Dec. 14 & 15—Christmas Goodie Sale Buy an empty plate and fill it with an assortment of Christmas Goodies! All proceeds will go to help fund our Middle School and High School Mission Trips.
- Shirts for sale! Contact Doug if interested in a shirt. Here is what each Youth Group's logo looks like:



Christ's Peace to All,

Doug Watercott

MUSIC & LITURGY NOTES

Feast of Immaculate Conception—Mon., December 9: Mass for this feast day will be celebrated at **7:00 pm in Big Lake.** Because December 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent, this feast is transferred to December 9 this year and is not a holyday of obligation. Ministers who are available to serve are asked to sign up on the sheets by the mailbox slots. *Thank you.*

Advent Resources—Adults and Children!: There are still a few prayer and activity booklets available by the entrances. These are great resources to help celebrate the Advent season, providing faith-enriching ideas and reflections for family members of all ages. Please help yourself to anything that would be useful!

Christmas Ministry Sign-up: We are in need of many liturgical ministers to serve for our Christmas Masses:

December 24: 4:00 pm—Becker 7:30 pm—Big Lake 12:00 am—Big Lake December 25: 9:00 am—Becker

Sign-up sheets will be available after all Masses during Advent in the usual locations in the annex/narthex. If you are available, please sign up early! *Please note that you are asked to arrive earlier than usual for the Christmas Masses*. Thank you!

Communal Reconciliation Service—Sunday, Dec. 15: Our Advent Reconciliation Service will be held at **1:30 pm in Becker.** All are invited to attend as part of your preparation for Christmas.

Liturgy of the Word for Children: Next session is next weekend in Becker—Sunday, December 15, at the 10:30 am Mass.

Liturgy Committee: Next meeting is Wednesday, December 18—7:00 pm, in Big Lake.

Rehearsal Reminders: All rehearsals in *BECKER* this week:

Wed., Dec. 11—Youth Ensemble, 5:15-6:15 pm Thurs., Dec. 12—Children's Choir, 5-6 pm Cantor Practice, 6:15-7 pm Adult Choir, 7-8:30 pm

In Christ, Gretchen Roe

THANK YOU

Mary of the Visitation parish is amazing! Two thousand sixty-two (2,062) pounds of food was collected during the Thanksgiving Food Drive and donated to both the Becker and Big Lake Food Shelves! Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Please remember that you are responsible for your ministry when scheduled. You are asked to find a replacement for your ministry when you are unavailable to serve.

BECKER LOCATION

Saturday, December 14, 5:00 pm Mass

Sacristan: Donna Forge Greeters: John and Katelyn Nielsen Ushers: Linda Johnson, Julie and Noah Nielsen, Jim Valiant, Volunteer (1)

Servers: Evan Johnson, James Lane Lectors: Emily Meyer, Bill Schmidt Euch. Ministers: Jan Doucette, Dennis Gail, Kim Johnson, Denise Kerr, Donna Otten, Volunteers (2)

Sunday, December 15, 8:30 am Mass

Sacristan: Keith Klein
Greeters: Arlene Blad, Jackie O'Hern
Ushers: Jerry Bebeau, Nicholas Berglund, Alec, Brent and Morgan Kapsner
Servers: Lexi Kapsner, Mason Krause
Lectors: Daren Berglund, Michelle Thompson
Euch. Ministers: Bev Bebeau, Kelly Berglund, Paula Gaffaney, Dean Moeller, Dennis Nagorski, Pat O'Hern, Colleen Zeman
Monticello NH: Keith Klein, Jeff Larch
Shepherd of Grace: Jim and Mary Ellen Richter

Sunday, December 15, 10:30 am Mass

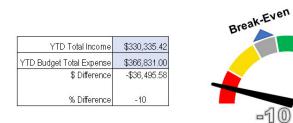
Sacristan: Dan Casey
Greeters: Doug Haecherl, Evedson, Rick and Tracy Johnson
Ushers: Megan Gamble, Cheryl Hultgren, Jackie and Kurt
Neumann, Volunteer (1)
Servers: Cody Olson, Marshall Willing
Lectors: Jason Baune, Barb Olson
Euch. Ministers: Eron Bordson, Dan Casey, Julie Haecherl,
Sandra Hart, Angie and Jaden Kraus, Mike Neumann

Volunteers Needed — If you are able to assist at any of the below Masses, please contact Danette at 763-273-8408 or dtoenies@maryofthevisitation.org. *Thank you!!*

Date	Mass	Liturgical Ministers Needed
12.14.19	5:00	Usher (1), Euch. Ministers (2)
12.15.19	10:30	Usher (1)
12.28.19	5:00	Usher (1), Euch. Minister (1)
12.29.19	8:30	Euch. Ministers (2)

STEWARDSHIP of our FINANCES

Parish Operations as of December 1, 2019 (Fiscal Year: July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020)



Parish Debt



\$100 WEEKEND CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

December 7, 2019—Deb Goenner December 8, 2019—Joe Thomalla

COUNTERS

December: Andy L., Keith K., Patti K., Volunteer **January:** Mary G., Joann H., Doug H., Dennis N.

ADVERTISER of the WEEK

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HAPPENINGS in our AREA

St. Marcus K/C Pancake Breakfast Sun. Dec. 8 / 8:30 am—12 Noon Clear Lake, MN

K/C Lumberjack Breakfast / Mary Queen of Peace Sun., Dec. 8 / 8:30 am 21304 Church Ave. / Rogers, MN

St. Anthony Parish Center / Sunday Breakfast Sun., Dec. 15 / 8 am—12 Noon 25th Avenue and 1st Street North / St. Cloud, MN

Advent Healing Mass

9/6

You are invited to join the Crosier Fathers and Brothers at the National Shrine of St. Odilia in Onamia on **Sun., Dec. 15, at 9:00 am**, for an Advent Healing Mass. The Mass will include the Anointing of the Sick and the ritual of blessing with the Relic of St. Odilia. Coffee and rolls will be served following the Mass. All are welcome! For further information call 320.532.3103 or email <u>onamia@crosier.org</u>

Christ the King Retreat Center / 621 1st Ave. S. / Buffalo, MN

- Advent Silent Retreat / December 13-15
- Men's Weekend / January 10-12
- Men's Weekend / January 17-19
- Women's Weekend / January 24—26 For information or to register: Phone: 763-682-1394, Email: <u>christtheking@kingshouse.com</u>, Website: www.kingshouse.com

Mardi Gras Celebration—January 25

Purchase Your Tickets Today! – Join us for the Catholic Charities 2020 Mardi Gras Celebration at the River's Edge Convention Center in St. Cloud. Show your support for Catholic Charities and our Central Minnesota community while enjoying great food, friends, and entertainment! This year's celebration includes a silent auction, wine pull, music by the Vista Jazz Band and the Fabulous Armadillos, and more. We hope to see you there! For more information and to purchase tickets visit ccstcloud.org/mardi-gras.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Yet, O LORD, you are our father; we are the clay and you the potter; we are all the work of your hands." As we begin the waiting of advent, let us strive to become the work of his hands by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next Weekends are **Feb. 7-9, 2020 and May 1-3, 2020 in Buffalo, MN**. For more information, call Brent & Tracy Chessen at 612-756-8720 or visit them at twincitieswwme.org.

Give the Gift of a Retreat!

Not sure what to get your special loved one for Christmas? Give the gift of a Retreat! Join Holy Spirit Academy for the Encounter the Holy Spirit Retreat on February 29, 2020 at St. Michael Catholic Church. Cost is \$20/person and a cap of \$100 for immediate family members. Visit <u>www.holyspiritacademy.org\encounter</u> for more information.

HAPPENINGS at MOTV



Giving Tree

In the spirit of Christ during this season of kindness and generosity, a Giving Tree is offered at Mary of the Visitation (both locations). The ornaments on the trees include a tag that gives the name of a charity and a suggested gift item. The gift suggestions come from a "Wish List" provided by each charity and includes gifts for infants, children, teens

and adults, as well as items needed by the charity to support their mission.

The charities we are supporting this year are:

- ABBA Pregnancy Resource Center
- Anna Marie's Alliance
- Elevate Pregnancy and Family Resource Center (formerly Birthline)
- Crisis Nursery
- Catholic Charities Services
 - * DOMUS Transitional Housing
 - * Supported Housing for Youth
 - * Emergency Services (Clothing and Household Items)
- Open Doors for Youth
- Rivers of Hope
- Great River Family Promise
- Monticello Hospital Mental Health Unit
- Becker Primary School and Big Lake Elementary Schools

Return the UNWRAPPED gifts to either campus WITH THE CHARITY TAGS attached. Keep the ornament as a gift. Items can be returned to either location until January 5th (DECEMBER 15th FOR THE MONTICELLO HOSPITAL). Please place gift cards in the collection basket.

Items that are for the Monticello Hospital Mental Health Unit **must be returned by December 15**th. The items collected will be given to those patients that need to spend Christmas in the hospital. These items will all have a **red tag** and should be returned to the **red box**.

For those who would like to offer a gift of money, you may place an envelope in the collection basket marked Giving Tree. The donations of money will be used to help local families in crisis.

Please feel free to take more than one ornament.

Thank You, Mary of the Visitation Outreach Committee

WEDDING BANNS

I. Paul Gruber & Amy Simon

WEEKLY CALENDAR of EVENTS

Monday, December 9—The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (see Mass time below)

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 9	98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38	
5am-midnight	Adoration	Becker
7:00 pm	Mass for Immaculate Conception	Big Lake
	(Mass of Thanksgiving by Donor)	
7:00 pm	AA and AI Anon Meeting	Big Lake
7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Becker

Tuesday, December 10—Advent Weekday

ls 40:1-11; Ps	96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14	
5:00 pm	Mass († Michael Wargo)	Big Lake
7:00 pm	Outreach Committee	Big Lake

Wednesday, December 11—Advent Weekday; St. Damasus I, Pope

Is 40:25-31; Ps	103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30	
8:00 am	Mass († Tom Cobb)	Becker
8:00 am	Word & Communion Service	Big Lake
5:15 pm	Youth Ensemble Practice	Becker
6:30 pm	Journey of Faith / Session 2	Becker
8:00 pm	Youth for Truth	Becker

Thursday, December 12—Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

8:00 am	Mass († John Arrigoni)	Becker
8:00 am	Word & Communion Service	Big Lake
8:30 am	Rosary	Big Lake
10:00 am	Mass at Monticello Nursing Home	-
5:00 pm	Children's Choir Practice	Becker
6:15 pm	Cantor Practice	Becker
7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice	Becker
7:00 pm	Buildings and Grounds Meeting	Big Lake
8:00 pm	AA Meeting	Becker

Friday, December 13—St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

ls 48:17-19;	Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19	
7:00 am	Youth Prayer Breakfast	Becker
8:00 am	Mass († Maynard Donais)	Big Lake

Saturday, December 14—St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Sir 48:1-4,	9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:	9a, 10-13
3:45 pm	Reconciliation	Becker
5:00 pm	Mass († Elda Weiand)	Becker
6:00 pm	Christmas Treat Sale	Becker

Sunday, December 15—Third Sunday of Advent

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