

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)

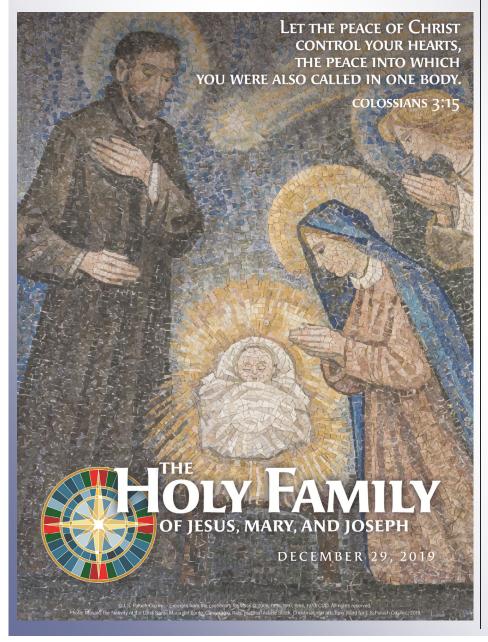




MISSION STATEMENT — We, the people of Mary of the Visitation parish, are a Catholic community bound together by the Word of God, sacramental worship, and the call to service.

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 Kellogg mkellogg@maryofthevisitation.org 763-273-8406
Deacon Phil Henneman
phenneman@maryofthevisitation.org763-447-3339
Director of Faith Formation
bolson@maryofthevisitation.org763-273-8411
Director of Youth Ministry
dwatercott@maryofthevisitation.org320-241-3827
Director of Music / Liturgy Gretchen Roe
groe@maryofthevisitation.org 763-273-8864 or 763-262-7388
Bookkeeper / Parish CensusPatti Kroll
pkroll@maryofthevisitation.org763-447-3339
Volunteer Coordinator / Communications Sue Willing
swilling@maryofthevisitation.org 763-447-3339 or 763-273-8410
Secretary
HousekeepingTeresa Riebel

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	320-249-4775
Brenda Prudhomme	612-251-5601
3 year term (ending 6/30/2021)	
Melissa Dumonceaux	320-293-5957
Jeff Howell	763-313-1722
Geary Keppel	763-263-2769
3 year term (ending 6/30/2022)	
Bonnie DeZelar	763-263-3746
Deacon Phil Henneman	763-220-2549
Trustees:	
Eric Krause	612-720-6470
Clay Wilfahrt	763-688-4150
10 10 11 11	

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	320-267-4562
Andy Voller	612-964-4964

PRAYER MINISTRY

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

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.

Sunday, Dec. 29	Kevin Soenneker, (St. Paul/Sauk Centre)
Monday, Dec. 30	Joseph VanDenheuvel (St. Joseph/Bertha)
Tuesday, Dec. 31	Nathaniel Daubner (St. Louis Bertrand/Foreston)
Wednesday, Jan. 1	Oliver Statz (Holy Spirit/St. Cloud)
Thursday, Jan. 2	Bishop Donald Kettler
Friday, Jan. 3	Rev. Arthur Hoppe
Saturday, Jan. 4	Rev. Harold Pavelis

HAPPENINGS at MARY OF THE VISITATION

Please take me home!

There are a number of 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 for your generosity!

Giving Tree — 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. Please place gift cards in the collection basket. Feel free to take more than one ornament.

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.

Card Club

Sat., Jan. 18 / 6:00 pm / Becker Location

Bring your own drinks and an appetizer or dessert to share. Cost is \$5.00 for couples / \$3.00 for singles. Please register by **Thurs.**, **Jan. 16.** Sign-up sheets are located in the narthex and annex. For more information or questions, please call Nancy or Tom 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 www.redcrossblood.org. 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.

New Member Orientation

Tues., Feb. 11 / 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.



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 2 (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



Preparation for Fall 2020 Confirmation begins soon for current 10th graders. Candidate / Parent orientation sessions are scheduled for early January. Families, please use the link emailed to you to sign up for your preferred session, or visit the webpage and find the link under the Sacraments tab on the Confirmation page. Options are:

Sunday, January 5, 4pm or 6pm, in Big Lake Sunday, January 12, 4pm or 6pm in Becker



The Holy Family ~ A Model for All Family Life

By celebrating the Sunday following Christmas as the Feast of the Holy Family, the Church encourages us to look to the Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph for inspiration, example and encouragement. They were a model family in which both parents worked hard, helped each other, understood and accepted each other, and

took good care of their child so that He might grow up not only in human knowledge but also as a Child of God. The Catechism of the Catholic Church gives the following advice to the parents: "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility first by creating a home where tenderness, forgiveness, respect, fidelity, and disinterested service are the rule. The home is well suited for education in the virtues. This requires an apprenticeship in self-denial, sound judgment, and self-mastery - the preconditions of all true freedom..." The CCC adds: "Parents have a grave responsibility to give good example to their children."



Journey of Faith Schedule

Wed, Jan. 8, 6:30 pm, Becker & Big Lake Journey of Faith Session 1

Tues, Jan. 14, 6:30 pm Faith Formation Committee meeting, Becker

Wed, Jan. 15, 6:30 pm, Becker only 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

Peace is not the absence of trouble.

Peace is the presence of Christ in the midst of that trouble!!

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- Wed. Jan. 1—Happy New Year!
- Thur. Jan. 2—Youth Advisory Board Meeting
 7:00 @ Becker Youth Center
- Fri. Jan. 3—Youth Prayer Breakfast
 7:00-7:50 @ Becker Youth Center
- Wed. Jan. 8—Youth Group in Big Lake 8:00-9:30 @ Youth House

Guest Speakers: Past Graduates

- Fri. Jan. 10—Youth Prayer Breakfast 7:00-7:50 @ Becker Youth Center
- Wed. Jan. 15—Youth Group in Becker 8:00-9:30 @ Youth Center
- Shirts for sale! Here is what each logo looks like:







During this Christmas Season may you be Blessed... With the spirit of the season, which is Peace. The gladness of the season, which is Hope. And the heart of the season, which is Love! Christ's Peace to All,

Doug Watercott

MUSIC & LITURGY NOTES

THANK YOU to all who were involved in the Christmas celebrations—cantors, choirs and instrumentalists, liturgical ministers, decorating teams, and the Liturgy Committee. We greatly appreciate the effort and hours that you contribute to make our celebrations so very beautiful and joyful! Thank you for such awesome dedication to your ministries!

January 1—Feast of Mary, Mother of God: We will celebrate Mass for this holy day of obligation at **9:00 am in Becker**. If you are available to serve in any area of liturgical ministry, please sign up today; sheets are in the usual locations. *Thanks!*

Art and Environment Committee: Our next meeting will be Wednesday, January 22, at 7:00 pm in Big Lake. This committee is responsible for developing plans for seasonal décor for our worship spaces. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Gretchen or come to this meeting. New faces and ideas are always welcome!

Liturgy Committee: Next meeting is Wednesday, January 15—7:00 pm in Big Lake.

Rehearsal Reminders: Regular rehearsals resume for Thursday groups this week—all rehearsals in **BECKER**:

Thurs., January 2—Children's Choir, 5-6 pm Cantor Practice, 6:15-7 pm Adult Choir, 7-8:30 pm

The Youth Ensemble will resume rehearsals next week on Wed., January 8. Schedules for January-May are now available for all groups. If you did not receive a copy yet, please contact Gretchen.

**If you enjoy singing and would like to get involved in one of our choirs, please give Gretchen a call and/or plan to come to our next rehearsal. All groups welcome new members throughout the year.

In Christ, Gretchen Roe

WEEKLY ENVELOPE NOTES from CHILDREN

My talent is: Singing / Dancing / Basketball / Hockey / Reading / Soccer /

Volleyball / Football

My time was spent: Held open a door /

Cleaning the bathroom / Helping with Tony / Playing with

friends / Doing dishes

WEDDING BANNS

III. Paul Gruber & Amy Simon

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, January 4, 5:00 pm Mass

Sacristan: Norb Vossen

Greeters: Jill and Lauren Laudenbach

Ushers: Julie and Noah Nielsen, Jim Valiant, Volunteers (2)

Servers: John and Katelyn Nielsen **Lectors**: Anthony DeZelar, Emily Meyer

Euch. Ministers: Vicki Cote, Jan Doucette, Jeff Larch, Cheri and Troy Nelson, Norb Vossen, Volunteer (1)

Sunday, January 5, 8:30 am Mass

Sacristan: Mary Kimmes

Greeters: Arlene Blad, Jackie O'Hern

Ushers: Jerry Bebeau, Les Hinrichs, Betty and Roger

Koopmeiners, Pat O'Hern
Servers: Cody and Taya Olson
Lectors: Jerry Brunn, Paula Gaffaney

Euch. Ministers: Bev Bebeau, Carol Brunn, Brenda and Vern

Jurek, Dean Moeller, Dennis Nagorski, Lynn Sakry

Monticello NH: Keith Klein, Jeff Larch **Shepherd of Grace**: Tim Hinds

Sunday, January 5, 10:30 am Mass

Sacristan: Karen Dinville

Greeters: Luke Bordson, Daelyn Brannan

Ushers: Jackie and Kurt Neumann, Dennis, Erika and Noah

Werner

Servers: James Lane, Marshall Willing **Lectors:** Hannah Renslow, Doug Watercott

Euch. Ministers: Burt Arrigoni, Eron Bordson, Steve and Trish

Gingras, Sandra Hart, Mike Neumann, Volunteer (1)

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
1.4.20	5:00	Ushers (2), Euch. Minister (1)
1.5.20	10:30	Euch. Minister (1)
1.18.20	5:00	Usher (1)
1.19.20	8:30	Euch. Ministers (2)
1.19.20	10:30	Euch. Minister (1)
1.26.20	8:30	Usher (1), Euch. Ministers (2)
1.26.20	10:30	Usher (1), Euch. Minister (1)

STEWARDSHIP of our FINANCES

Parish Operations as of December 16, 2019 (Fiscal Year: July 1, 2019—June 30, 2020)

Current numbers were unavailable due to early bulletin publication.

YTD Total Income	\$358,891.07
YTD Budget Total Expense	\$366,831.00
\$ Difference	-\$7,939.93
	8000
% Difference	-2



Parish Debt



\$102,632.91	\$ 87,763.99
\$ 99,450.91	\$ 84,811.47
\$ 96,635.87	\$ 81,848.95
\$ 93,635.87	\$ 78,876.43
A 00 700 F4	

\$100 WEEKEND CALENDAR RAFFLE WINNERS

December 28, 2019—Dale Grebinoski December 29, 2019—Dick Silbernick

COUNTERS

January: Mary G., Joann H., Doug H., Dennis N. **February:** Gina N., Troy N., Keith K., Christa R.

ADVERTISER of the WEEK



CharlotteLumley@LakesGasCo.com Cell: 320.339.1013

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Thank you for your support!

HAPPENINGS in our AREA

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

- 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: christtheking@kingshouse.com, Website: www.kingshouse.com

March for Life at the State Capitol—January 22

There will be a Prayer Service at the St. Paul Cathedral and the March for Life at the State Capitol on January 22. Transportation will be provided. For more information, contact Al Goblirsch at 763-441-1006 or la.goblirsch@hotmail.com. Additional information can be found on the St. Cloud Diocese website: http://omf.stcdio.org/th_event/march-for-life-2020/. Select the DUELM BUS tab for bus information offered by Al Goblirsch.

Save a marriage. Are you or someone you know, living in the pain of a marriage in trouble? **Retrouvaille can help**. The next program starts Jan. 24, 2020 at Country Inn & Suites in St. Cloud, MN. Call 320-255-5314 or check the website www.helpourmarriage.org for more information. Preregistration is required. Space is limited.

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.

Catholic Men's Conference Sat., Feb. 22 / 8:30 am—5:00 pm St. John's University / Collegeville

This year's theme is "The Real Presence: Bringing Christ to the World" at St. John's University. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Michael Havercamp. Michael is the national liaison between the Catholic Church and Young Life. He has a phenomenal conversion story about becoming Catholic. For more information or to register online, visit: www.stcdio.org/mensconference20/. For questions, call Jan at 320-258-7615.

Central Minnesota Together Encountering Christ (TEC) celebrates 41 years of hosting retreats in the diocese of St. Cloud. It is the largest TEC retreat program in the United States, with more than 38,000 participants. TEC is geared towards youth (age 16+) as well as adults. As Pope Francis invites us to "Moments of Encounter" with our God and each other, TEC provides the perfect three-day retreat experience to do just that. Check out the monthly TEC retreat schedule at www.cmtec.org.



Leonard & Marlene Douvier

Nick & Alice Moonen

Grandma Gloria

Daniel Vettel

Grandpa Alton

Edward Vettel

Grandpa Ray

Dennis Voigt

Frank & Ruth Kasowski, Sr.

Susan Voigt

Fr. Andrew Marthaler

Robert & Elda Weiand

Walter & Hazel Minetor

GOD'S WORD for CHILDREN



When Herod died, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and told him to take Mary and baby Jesus to Israel.

Directions:

Seek and find the words listed below. Circle all the ones you find.

HEROD	ANGEL	JOSEPH	JESUS
EGYPT	ISRAEL	NAZARET	ГН

N	Q	W	I	E	R	Т	У	U
Н	Α	G	5	U	S	E	J	I
F	N	Z	R	D	S	Α	J	0
Z	G	X	Α	Н	E	R	0	D
C	E	٧	E	R	В	N	S	Р
N	L	M	L	Q	E	W	E	L
R	T	E	G	У	Р	Т	Р	K
A	S	D	F	G	N	C	Н	J

WEEKLY CALENDAR of EVENTS

Monday, December 30—Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord

1 Jn 2:12-17; Ps 96:7-10; Lk 2:36-40

5am-midnight Adoration Becker
No Liturgy Becker
No Liturgy Big Lake
7:00 pm AA and Al Anon Meeting Big Lake
7:00 pm Women's Bible Study Becker

Tuesday, December 31—Seventh Day within the Octave of the

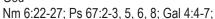
Nativity of the Lord; St. Sylvester I, Pope

1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18

5:00 pm Mass (Dcn. Jerome Roth) Big Lake

Holy Day of Obligation —Offices are Closed —

Wednesday, January 1—The Octave Day of the Nativity of the Lord; Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God



Lk 2:16-21

9:00 am Mass (For the People) Becker

Thursday, January 2—Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church

1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28

8:00 am	Mass († Ron Kolbinger)	Becker
8:00 am	Word & Communion Service	Big Lake
8:30 am	Rosary	Big Lake
9:00 am	Staff Meeting	Becker
5:00 pm	Children's Choir Practice	Becker
6:15 pm	Cantor Practice	Becker
7:00 pm	Adult Choir Practice	Becker
7:00 pm	Youth Advisory Meeting	Becker
8:00 pm	AA Meeting	Becker

Friday, January 3—Christmas Weekday; Holy Name of Jesus

1 Jn 2:29 — 3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-6; Jn 1:29-34

7:00 am Youth Prayer Breakfast Becker 8:00 am Mass († Roman Rieland) Big Lake

Saturday, January 4—St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42

2:00 pm Wedding Amy Simon & Paul Gruber
3:45 pm No Reconciliation Becker
5:00 pm Mass (For the Roback Family) Becker

Sunday, **January 5**—*Epiphany of the Lord*