









WINTER 2023 ISSUE



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SPECIAL EDITION OF THE WINTER NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first part of the Winter Newsletter. This is for the Advent season. The second part of the newsletter, the Christmas portion, will be ready by Dec. 24. I hope everything included here will increase your hunger for the coming of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Come, Lord Jesus!

Before you read, let us pray to the Communion of Saints: The Immaculate Conception, patroness of our country, pray for us. St. John the Evangelist, patron of our archdiocese, pray for us. St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of the Deaf, pray for us. St. René Goupil, our Deaf saint, pray for us. Blessed Alexandre Planas Sauri, pray for us. St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, pray for us.

FR. CK'S CORNER: EATING AWAY THE DARKNESS BEFORE THE MESSIAH'S ARRIVAL



By Fr. Christopher Klusman

Looking upon the Advent wreath with its four candles, there is so much meaning within it. I'd like to share with you one meaning behind the four

candles. Each candle symbolizes 1,000 years of waiting before the arrival of the Messiah (Savior). With four candles altogether, it symbolizes 4,000 years of waiting during the Old Testament period for the long-awaited arrival of Jesus, the Messiah.

The 4,000 years is meant to symbolize the time span between Adam and St. John the Baptist. Imagine each year was "eaten away" as they got

closer and closer to Jesus' Birth.

While the Advent wreath is to remind us of the wait and of being in unity with those who waited in the Old Testament, I'd like to introduce you to an interesting and unique clock that is at Corpus Christi College in Cambridge University, England. It is an outdoor clock made by a clockmaker, John

Harrison, who is a son of a carpenter. It is called the "chronophage" (a Greek word meaning "timeeater"). It doesn't have clock arrows, but three discs showing the hour, minute and second. On top is a huge, scary looking locust eating away time, as shown through its mechanical

mouth showcasing its ferocious jaws opening

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 3.



The Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee exists to enable all Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to participate fully in the liturgical, educational, pastoral, spiritual, and human concerns ministries in the Church.



St. Andrew Parish DEAF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY

SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER: "THE LONG AND SHORT OF THE ADVENT SEASON"



By Jennifer Paul, Coordinator Deaf Religious Education & Deaf Ministry St. Andrew Parish, Delavan

In last year's Advent issue (Winter 2022), we wrote that praying the Holy Rosary is like

running a marathon for our religious

education students. We added that as challenging as the Holy Rosary was, at least the Advent season was the longest one out of the 11-year cycle for more time to learn and meditate with the Holy Rosary. We also wrote that the shortest Advent season would be "next year" — which is THIS year.

Now, here we are! This year is a 180-degree turn — the "opposite" situation — from last year. With more time afforded in the Advent season last year, with four FULL weeks, we had more time to pray and prepare for Christmas. Now, we have very little time before Christmas, with only three full weeks (and one day).

The short Advent season, combined with the heavy saturation of commercialism leading up to the Holy Day of Christmas, can find us easily distracted with the 'busyness' of the season. That is dangerous. We came across a post on social media that is a very powerful reminder: "If the Devil can't make you bad, he will make you BUSY."

Parents discuss with their children and teachers discuss with their students and even employers discuss with their employees the importance of having priorities in their lives, studies and work. What you are willing to do with your focus, your money, your energy, your thinking — and your time — is often a reflection of what is important to you.

But what if you were mindlessly and unintentionally distracted and got lost in the busyness of life, forgetting what is important in life? That happens to almost everyone. Granted, there are

many situations where we have no choice but to do what we need to do, like having to work and missing out on the time with family. But going to work means providing for the family and that is practical. That is an act of love. It becomes a problem when you do not need to work and yet you still go to work, choosing to make money over time with family.

It is the same idea with the Advent season. We need to take a step back and remember how and where we are to put our focus. Pray for God's help to look critically at what is a 'hyperbole' (for its commercial, money-making effects) and what is holy. What is a hyperbole makes us anxious and what is holy

IF THE DEVIL CAN'T MAKE YOU BAD,
HE WILL MAKE YOU BUSY.

No time for the Church
No time for Holy Mass
No time for devotions
No time for prayers
No time for God
But has all the time for other things.

makes us happy.

We look to the story of Martha and Mary in the Gospel of Luke (10:38-42):

As they continued their journey he entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him.

She had a sister named Mary [who] sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak.

Martha, burdened with much serving, came to

► THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued on Page 3.

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued from Page 1.

and closing. One of the weird things is that it shows the time every 5 minutes. When it strikes a new hour (like 1 o'clock or 7 o'clock), there is a chain that falls into a small wooden coffin in the back of the clock. This is to remind people that when time goes, it is gone forever. We all live and we all die. This makes us



realize how much we, in the time of darkness, need Jesus Christ, our Savior, Light and Life.

The hunger of the chronophage to eat away time should show our hunger to chew away the time of Advent to hurry the much-needed arrival of our Lord and Savior at Christmastime! May this Advent increase your hunger for the importance of our Lord in your lives.

TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE



▲ Fr. Joel Szydlowski OFM blesses the Advent wreath Sunday, Dec. Q, at St. Matthias Parish as members of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community (from left) Walter and Nicole Fidler, and John Murphy wait to place the first candle.

Here is an Advent picture from the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's Catholic Herald dated Dec. 7, 2017.



Replacing
our "Pleasantries"
section will be the new
"Laughter Corner." I hope these will
lead you to laugh as laughter is the best
medicine.

LAUGHTER

What sort of lights were on Noah's ark? Floodlights.

► THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued from Page 2.

him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me."

The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things.

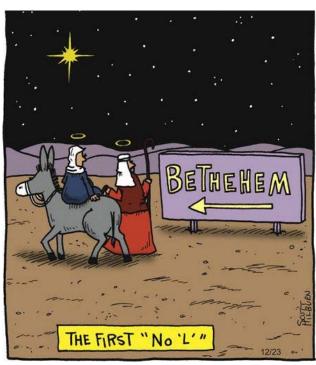
There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."

Jesus understands that we may have the best of intentions (which only make us anxious); he also reminds us to keep our eyes on the "only one thing." This Advent season, we are not to be "anxious and worried about many things" but to be happy as our eyes look on the coming of Christ! The coming of



Christ had been foretold for eternity, and at last the Advent season — long or short — brings us closer and closer to the Holy Day of Christmas!

Happy Advent!



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON: MODEL SAINT FOR THE ADVENT SEASON AND EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

How have you been growing in your understanding and love for our Lord in the Eucharist? What has the waiting intertwined in the Advent season revealed to you about receiving the Eucharist? In this newsletter, let's learn from an American saint, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and what she can teach us about the Eucharist and the Advent season.

I would like to share with you a great article in italics by Tom Hoopes, borrowed from: https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/
https://www.eucharisticrevival.org/
https://www.eucharistic-witnesses-saint-of-american-eucharist-st-elizabeth-ann-seton.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is the perfect saint to lead Catholics in the United States to rediscover the Real Presence of Jesus during our Eucharistic Revival: she is one of the

most quintessentially American saints, and the Eucharist was at the center of her life.

Along with Kateri Tekakwitha, Elizabeth Ann Seton is the saint we most identify with the United States

When girls dress up for All Saints Day, the two most popular costumes could double for a play about the first Thanksgiving dinner: the Native American St. Kateri or the bonneted early settler. St. Elizabeth.

She was born in 1774 in New York where, 200 years later, Cardinal Francis Spellman summed her up this way: "When our great Republic was born, she became a charter American citizen." He listed Alexander Hamilton and John Jay among her family's friends and acquaintances.

Born Elizabeth Bayley, she married William Seton in an Episcopalian church and gave birth to five children. In 1803 Elizabeth accompanied her husband to Italy, seeking relief for his tuberculosis. William died later that year. It was during their time in Italy that Elizabeth discovered the Catholic faith through the witness of her husband's business partners, the Filicchis.

Soon after she returned to the United States, the quintessential American citizen became a Catholic leader in the young Republic.





She entered the Catholic Church in 1805, then moved her family to the United States' primary see, Baltimore, in 1808, where she took a leading role in founding a Catholic education system. In 1809 she became a professed religious and, with help of Archbishop John Carroll—the cousin of a signer of the Declaration of Independence—she founded the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph.

Elizabeth Ann Seton's story is at the heart of the Church in the United States, and the Eucharist is at the heart of her story

When she traveled to Italy with her husband during his illness, they stayed with her family's acquaintances, the Filicchis, who welcomed the Setons into their home. She was fascinated by their faith in the Eucharist: they believed that Jesus really meant it when He said that the bread and wine offered at Mass are truly transformed into his Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

Elizabeth was moved deeply by seeing how the Italian people expressed their belief and devotion to the Eucharist.

In one letter home she wrote, "My sister dear, how happy would we be if we believed what these dear souls believe, that they possess God in the Sacrament and that He remains in their churches and is carried to them when they are sick."

Eucharistic processions passed by in the street where she was staying. "When they carry the Blessed Sacrament under my window," she wrote, "I feel the full loneliness and sadness of my case. I cannot stop the tears at the thought, 'My God, how happy would I be even so far away from all so dear, if I could find you in the church as they do."

► ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON - Continued from Page 4.

The knowledge that Jesus Christ was really there in the Catholic Church, waiting for her, dominated her thoughts even after she returned to New York. In her morning walks, she said, "I see nothing but the little bright cross on St. Peter's steeple," marking

where the Blessed Sacrament resided in the nearby Catholic church.

She still attended Episcopal Sunday services, but she found herself turning to the Catholic Church—literally. "I got in a side pew which turned my face towards the Catholic church on the next street and found myself 20 times speaking to the Blessed Sacrament there instead of looking at the naked altar where I was or minding the routine of prayers," she said.

Elizabeth was deeply saddened by the lack of the Eucharistic faith she saw in others

In Italy, she had witnessed a Catholic Mass with other non-Catholic visitors.

"At the very moment the priest was doing the most sacred action they call the elevation," she said, "this wild young man [who was not Catholic] said loud in my ear 'This is what they call their Real Presence.' My very heart trembled with shame and sorrow for his unfeeling interruption of their sacred adoration, for all around was dead silence and many were prostrated."

She added, "Involuntarily I bent from him to the pavement and thought secretly on the words of St. Paul with starting tears: 'they discern not the Lord's body."

She made her feelings about the Eucharist clear to her Protestant friends, and they challenged her. One asked, "How can you believe that there are as many gods as there are millions of altars and tens of millions of blessed hosts all over the world?" one asked.

She recalled that her answer wasn't agitated, but calm and even joyful. "I can but smile at his earnest [albeit erroneous] words, for the whole of my cogitations about it are reduced to one thought," she wrote. "It is God who does it, the same God who fed so many thousands with the little barley loaves and little fishes, multiplying them of course in the hands which

distributed them."

In fact, she said, "Nothing is so very hard to believe in it [the Eucharist], since it is He [God] who does it. Years ago I read in some old book, when you say a thing is a miracle and you do not understand it, you say nothing against the mystery itself, but only acknowledge your limited knowledge and comprehension

which does not understand a thousand things you must yet own to be true."

Elizabeth's joy when she was finally able to receive Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is an important lesson for Catholics today

When she received her first Holy Communion in 1805, she wrote to the Filicchi family about it, resorting to capital letters to convey her excitement.

"At last, Amabilia, at last! GOD IS MINE and I AM HIS," she wrote. "I HAVE RECEIVED HIM."

She said she had so longed for "the moment he would enter the poor little dwelling so all his own. And when he did—the first thought, I remember, was 'Let God arise, let his enemies be scattered!' for it seemed to me my King had come to take his throne, and instead of the humble tender welcome I had expected to give him, it was but a triumph of joy and gladness that the deliverer was come."

The Eucharist became Elizabeth's resting place. As a religious superior,

she arranged her desk such that she could see the chapel's sanctuary lamp through her doorway; as she lay dying an early death of tuberculosis at age 46, she instructed her sisters to position her bed so she could see the tabernacle.

"Happen now what will, I rest with God, in the tabernacle and Communion—so now I can pass the Valley of Death itself," she wrote in one of her last letters.

"She is a glorious tribute, by God's grace, to the health, zeal and spirituality of Catholicism [in the United States]," said Cardinal Spellman. He's right. Our government may be "of the people, by the people, and for the people," but St. Elizabeth Ann Seton shows us that our faith comes to us by the Eucharist, in the



God is everywhere, in the very air I breathe,
yes everywhere
but in His Sacrament of the Altar
He is as present actually and really
as my soul within my body;
in His Sacrifice daily offered
as really as once offered on the Cross!

Our Lord Himself I saw in this venerable Sacrament . . . I felt as if my chains fell, as those of St Peter, at the touch of the Divine messenger.

How sweet, the presence of Jesus to the longing, harassed soul! It is instant peace and balm to every wound.

St Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774-1821)

► ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON - Continued on Page 6.

► ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON - Continued from Page 5.

Eucharist, and for the Eucharist.

One of the main reasons why she is a great model saint for the Eucharistic Revival and Advent season was how she waited and waited to receive the Eucharist! Praise be to God for the living faithful witnesses of the Filicchis. The Eucharist is what drew her into the Catholic Church. She had such a profound hunger and thirst for Jesus' Body and Blood in the Eucharist. I love how she knew that God can do all things, in which it is not hard to believe that the bread and wine can become the Eucharistic Body and Blood of Jesus Christ! I thought it was so beautiful that she wrote in CAPITAL letters of having received her First Holy Communion in 1805: "I HAVE RECEIVED HIM." Such joy and happiness!

We all know an important part of Advent is the waiting, but also the longing for Jesus' coming. We want to prepare so that our lives point to Jesus and our lives can be more open to receiving him and seeing him. One of the beautiful things

ADAMAND EVE'S

BABYPICTURES

I love about St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is how she rearranged her desk so she could see the chapel's red sanctuary lamp, as well as her bed so she could see the tabernacle. This allows us to think about what things we can do to prepare ourselves



so we can be more open and more aimed at the Eucharistic Lord in our daily lives.

While one of the most ancient phrases for Advent is "Maranatha!" which means, "Come, Lord Jesus. Come!" I'd like to share with you a prayer that St. Elizabeth Ann Seton wrote down that showed her strong hunger and thirst for the Eucharist, desiring Jesus to come to her in Holy Communion. She prayed this to show the explosion of desire she wanted for the Eucharistic Jesus to live in her heart. When you look at her prayer, do you see the words, "come"?

O, food of Heaven, how my soul longs for you with desire! Seed of Heaven, pledge of its immortality, of that eternity it pants for. Come, come my Jesus, bury yourself within this heart. It shall do its best to preserve that warmth which will bring forth the fruits of eternity. O, Amen. Our Jesus.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, pray for us during the Advent season and Eucharistic Revival. Help us to be more like you in our strong hunger and thirst, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eucharist into our mouths, hearts and souls!

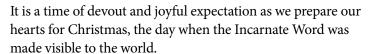


CLARIFYING MISCONCEPTIONS

Misconception #1

Seeing that Advent uses the color violet, Advent is like a mini-Lent.

The season of Advent is the beginning of a new liturgical year, where we, in a sense, put ourselves in the place of the people of Israel, our ancestors in the faith, who longed for the future messiah.



The liturgical season of Advent is not officially a penitential season even though the liturgical color of violet is used, as it is during Lent. The Code of Canon Law affirms this, stating, "The penitential days and times in the universal Church are every Friday of the whole year and the season of Lent" (Ca. 1250).

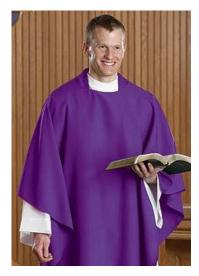
However, in preparation for the solemn season of Christmas, Advent takes on a more subdued tone. For instance, the Church urges moderation in the decoration of altars and in the selection of hymns during this season. The Gloria is omitted during the Masses in the season of Advent, except for solemnities.

In addition to Advent being a time to reflect about the first coming of Christ being made visible to the world, Advent is also a time to recall and await the Second Coming of Christ at the end of time.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church describes this Second Coming in the following way: "Only the Father knows the day and the hour; only he determines the moment of its coming. Then through his Son Jesus Christ he will pronounce the final word on all history. We shall know the ultimate meaning of the whole work of creation and of the entire economy of salvation and understand the marvelous ways by which his Providence led everything towards its final end" (CCC 1040).

Herein lies one of the great treasures of the season. In our contemporary culture, it is increasingly difficult for us to enter into the season of Advent. There is a great frenzy of shopping, parties and activity. This isn't all bad, but the Church reminds us to settle down, be patient, and contemplate. As the Catechism states, at the Second Coming, the ultimate meaning of God's salvation history will be revealed to us. That means all our questions of our purpose in this world and of God's providential plan will be known to us.





Thus, it may be said that the season of Advent builds up a longing in us for the greatest of things—the things that truly last. Rather than wondering what will be in our stocking on Christmas morning, the Church inclines us to wonder at the reality of God taking on human flesh and entering our world. Instead of longing for the latest gadget that will probably be out of date by next Christmas, think of what we can gain by using the season of Advent to stir up a yearning in our hearts that can only be fulfilled on the day that we meet the Lord.

Borrowed from: https://www.lincolndiocese.org/news/

diocesan-news/9747-ask-the-register-is-advent-a-penitential-season#:~:text=The%20liturgical%20season%20of%20 Advent,1250).

Just realized the last day of 2023 will be 123123



CATHOLIC QUIZ

- 1. Which of these women from the Hebrew Scriptures is not in the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew?
 - (a) Tamar (b) Ruth
 - (c) Rahab (d) Rebecca
- 2. Which Gospel mentions the census as the reason for Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem?



- (a) Matthew (b) Mark
- (c) Luke (d) John
- 3. Eucharistic Revival Q: What event in the Old Testament foreshadows the institution of the Eucharist?
 - (a) Noah's Ark; Jesus is the new ark.
 - (b) The Golden Calf; Jesus is the new Golden Calf.
 - (c) The Blood of the Passover Lamb (Exodus 12); Jesus is the new sacrificial lamb.
 - (d) The 10 Commandments; Jesus is the new law.

(Answers on page 9.)



AN UNFORGETTABLE AUTUMN DAY RETREAT!

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

Last Sept. 23, for our Second Annual Autumn Day Retreat at the Catholic Ecology Center, we were so honored to have an amazing guest presenter, Diane Nienas. She amazed us with her many virtues of faith, hope, love and fortitude (courage). We cried with her and also thanked God together for the many blessings he gave each one of us.



Diane Nienas

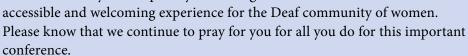
Overall, the whole day couldn't have been better: sunshine, autumn leaves to enjoy, and so much more. When we walked on their crooked paths, we remembered our theme that God truly makes crooked paths straight.

Last, but not least, thanks to all who helped to make this a success, as well as to all who joined us.

WOMEN OF CHRIST 2023



Last Nov. 18, the interpreted Women of Christ Conference was held. Praise be to God that it was a success! The theme was "Behold!" based on the Gospel of John 6:51. Thank you to the Women of Christ team for your hospitality in making this an







WHY IS OUR LADY CALLED THE "TOWER OF DAVID"?

The Catholic Company's "Get Fed: Bite-Sized Faith" article helps us to understand the importance and meaning of the different color.

Like a defensive tower, Our Lady stands formidable and strong, ready

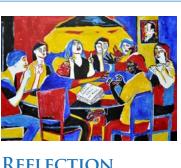


and willing to protect us at any moment.

On the summit of the highest peak in Jerusalem stood a strong fortress called the Tower of David. King David was one of the greatest kings of the Old Testament, a prefigurement of Christ, and His ancestor according to His earthly lineage.

Such a mighty tower was essential to the defense of the city. From its great height, it had a clear view of any potential threats and could issue warnings against any gathering armies. Moreover, its towering strength projected power for miles so that all enemies of Jerusalem would recognize the holy city's immense power.

It is with honor, then, that we often refer to Our Blessed Mother as the Tower of David. Like the formidable tower



REFLECTION **QUESTION:**

Try to start a conversation with your family and/or

friends about this question. By looking at the statue of the very pregnant Blessed Mary, what does it make you think?



of old Jerusalem, Our Lady stands strong for us, always watching for threats from her great heights in heaven, the new Jerusalem, the city of David's divine Heir-Christ.

At the sight of Our Blessed Mother in glory, Queen of Heaven and beloved Mother of Our Lord, our enemies flee, knowing that we are well protected under her loving mantle.



She is our first line of defense against the attacks of the devil, a mighty tower protecting her children from sin and temptation.

Just as Our Lady stands as a defensive tower for us, she has also armed us with a powerful weapon against our enemies: the Most Holy Rosary.

Our Lady, Tower of David, pray for us!

Quiz Answers: 1d; 2c; 3a;

GRATEFUL FOR THE MASS OF MERCY

By Fr. Christopher Klusman

Last Oct. 14, 2023, we had a Mass of Mercy. It was an emotional experience for everyone involved. A huge thank you to all who helped plan this event, as well as all who helped in different ways. Keep posted for a broadcast email from the Office of the Deaf Apostolate when the taped Mass is posted on the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's website. I'd like to share with you again our archdiocese's Catholic Herald article reprinted here from the Oct. 5, 2023, issue. It is an article written by Larry Hanson of the Catholic Herald staff.

Three offices within the Archdiocese of Milwaukee came together in a "beautiful collaboration" to create a Mass of Mercy specifically tailored to the Deaf Community.

The Mass of Mercy for the Deaf Community will take place at 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14, at St. Alphonsus Parish, Greendale. Before the Mass, there will be a Deaf-led Rosary at 12:30 p.m. Bishop James T. Schuerman will be the main celebrant, and Fr. Christopher Klusman and Fr. Kevin McManaman, Pastor at St. Alphonsus, will be concelebrants. Dcn. David Sommers, a member of the Deaf Community, will also be present to assist with the Mass.

The Mass will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's acknowledgement of the abuse that took place at St. John's School for the Deaf, where more than 250 children were abused by adults, including Fr. Lawrence Murphy.

Fr. Klusman, Director of the Deaf Apostolate for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, worked with Victims Assistance Coordinator Sofia Thorn and Kim Mandelkow of the Office of Worship to create the Mass.



"It's been a very holy and blessed experience," said Mandelkow. "I always struggle to prepare the liturgy for the Mass of Atonement because sexual abuse by clergy in the Catholic Church touches on so many people in different and complex ways. I find myself struggling to suggest readings. I probably over-analyze every word of every music selection. I agonize over writing the Prayer of the Faithful. Somehow, it always comes together, but it's one of the most difficult things I do in the course of a year."

She furthere explained how the process of designing this Mass was different.

"(We) met and talked about the Mass, the purpose of the liturgy, the difficulty of selecting readings, how the Deaf Community feels today 30 years later and how Fr. Christopher can help bring healing and reconciliation with the Deaf Community," Mandelkow said. "Then we all went to work on different tasks. There was great communication back and forth between the three of us that I feel we grew together professionally, as well as spiritually."

Thorn said when she approached Fr. Klusman over the summer with the idea for the Mass, he reached out to the Deaf Community for feedback, and the response was this was something that was

needed.

"Due to the impact this had on the Deaf community in the past several decades, the Archdiocese of Milwaukee offered Mass of Atonements in solidarity with them, especially one specifically for and with the Deaf Community at St. Roman Parish in 2013," Fr. Klusman said. "On Oct. 14, the Mass will not be a Mass of Atonement (it will still incorporate the act of atonement), but will instead be a Mass of Mercy. It is for all gathered in continuation of their journey with Christ in order to deepen their experience of (Christ's) accompaniment and his needed gift of healing to share God's gift of merciful forgiveness."

In creating a Mass specifically for the Deaf Community, Mandelkow noted there are some differences in how it is structured. There will be a Deaf cantor who will sign in ASL the opening and closing songs, as well as the responsorial psalm and communion song.

"When setting up for Mass, there are little things that are important to remember," Mandelkow said. "The ASL interpreter should be positioned so that the Deaf Community can see both the interpreter

► MASS OF MERCY - Continued on Page 11.

THE KELLER FAMILY

In this newsletter, we will not have a story from "Our Young People: The Friend of the Deaf." Instead, we will have an older article that was given to me. The time to reprint this (in a summarized way) is appropriate due to Dcn. Martin Keller's wife, Helen, who had just passed away last Nov. 10, 2023, as well as their daughter, Virginia, on Oct. 17, 2023. Please offer a rosary each for Dcn. Keller, Helen and Virginia.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Born June 19, 1930, Deacon Martin Keller died after an extended illness on March 1, 1993. Martin was born in St. Paul, Minnesota. When his family moved to Chicago, Martin and his brother, Sherwin attended school at Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD) in Jacksonville, Illinois. At ISD, Martin met a friend who was a strong Catholic and began to explain about Jesus to him. Kellers were Jewish. After much interest and study, Martin was baptized a Catholic in 1950 and encouraged his brother to do the same.

Martin married Helen and, as a postal worker in Chicago, raised eight children all of whom are deaf. Martin was on medical disability from the post office when he moved his family to Milwaukee, Wisconsin to enroll his younger children in St. John's School for the Deaf.

In 1983, he wanted to enter the training for the permanent deaconate. He would not accept no for an answer, just because they had never had a deaf applicant before. On April 23, 1988 in a joyous celebration for the Deaf community, Martin



Deacon Martin Keller
was ordained a permanent
deacon.

Martin suffered with leukemia in the last year and a half. In January 1993 he entered the hospital for the last time. After massive chemotherapy and 40 days in the Intensive Care Unit of the hospital, Martin went home to the Lord. The Deaf community of Milwaukee also mourns his loss but they know they have a new advocate in heaven.



Helen Keller



Virginia Keller

► MASS OF MERCY - Continued from Page 10.

and the action on the altar. For this reason, we specifically looked for a location that was smaller than a large church so that the Deaf Community would have better sight lines. In the Office for Worship, we prepare American Sign Language interpreter scripts."

Thorn said Fr. Klusman reached out to the Deaf Community to help create the petitions for the Mass and the three archdiocese staff members took great care and consideration to select the readings. Fr. Klusman met with a few of the victims to help with formulating the Prayer of the Faithful.

"Is it symbolic? Yes, in a way, but I see it as symbolic like we remember 9/11," Thorn said. "Nothing we do will ever really be enough, but we remember on purpose. We remember to let them know that this trauma is not unheard. Survivors of abuse are still hurting in some way. It's a generational trauma. It's also why we reach out to the community and ask if they feel it's necessary. When we celebrate Mass, it's also our way of being in communion all together."

Fr. Klusman said current estimates say there are 500,00 Deaf or Hard of Hearing people in the state of Wisconsin, and the Archdiocese of Milwaukee's Deaf Community has large concentrations in the Milwaukee area and Delavan, the site of the state's only residential school for the Deaf.

SAVE THE DATE: "HEALING THE WHOLE PERSON" OPEN TO THE DEAF AND HEARING COMMUNITIES!

Do you want to be healed? Do you want freedom from patterns of behavior or sin you can't seem to break? Do you want to understand and help someone who desires healing or freedom? The John Paul II Healing Center's "Healing the Whole Person" is a time away to learn about how to better understand and receive Christ's healing and peace in the heart of the Catholic Church.

For anyone who has lived with anxiety, depression, anger, addiction, illness or a pattern of sin they can't seem to break, it can be difficult to imagine a life of freedom and peace. Participants in Healing the Whole Person will come to understand the wounds at the root of their struggles and how to bring those wounds to the Lord to receive the insight, healing and freedom he wishes to give, especially through the sacraments and prayer.

What to Expect

- Sound teaching from the Roman Catholic tradition
- Sign Language interpreters
- A supportive community of people (including some who are discouraged or doubting) who desire to understand and receive Christ's healing
- Private journaling activities for application of teaching and prayer
- Communal prayer for healing
- Opportunity to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation (w/ Fr. Christopher Klusman) and the Eucharist
- Privacy and Compassion no one will force you to share personal struggles you



may be facing

Schedule*

PRIL 11-13, 2024

Thursday, April 11, 2024, from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Friday, April 12, 2024, from 6 p.m. to

9:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 13, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

*Fr. Christopher Klusman will be present for the whole retreat for support.

Location

Hosted by Catholic Community of Waukesha at St. William Parish

440 N. Moreland Blvd., Waukesha, WI 53188-3302

Participate in-person OR virtually

Registration Info

Online Registration Opens Jan. 8, 2024. Members from the Deaf community can contact the Deaf Apostolate Office to preregister at deafapostolate@archmil.org.

It is open to people who want to come from the area and/or from out of state (you would be responsible for your own transportation and/or hotel accommodation).

Cost

In person (interpreted): \$165 per person Livestream (interpreted): \$119 per person (for those who cannot attend in person, playback available 2 weeks after event)

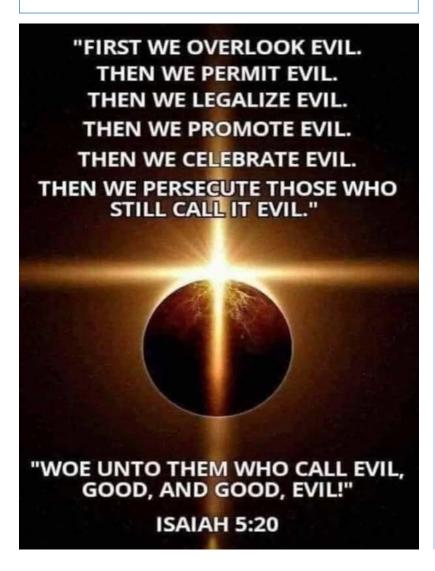
Register early, as in-person space is limited, and this event sells out quickly.





SIGNED AND INTERPRETED MASSES FOR CHRISTMAS

For any questions about a parish having Mass accessible for the Deaf community for Christmas, please email with a question for which area (Milwaukee, Delavan, etc.) at deafapostolate@archmil.org, and you will receive a response listing the time and place.





Renewal Prayer for Deaf Catholic Church

Father, we ask you to look with mercy at us, your Deaf Catholic Church.

We ask you to bless us, inspire us to always love you above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

We pray to you for our bishops, our spiritual leaders.

Please bless them and give them the strength
and wisdom to guide us, their people.

Help them to recognize, understand, and respond
to our unique needs.

Please bless the priests, deacons, religious, and lay people who serve our community.

Inspire them so that they may then inspire all hearts of deaf people to know, love, and serve you and your Catholic Church.

Father, we pray to you for our baptized

Deaf Catholic brothers and sisters.

Please send your Holy Spirit to enkindle and
renew their hearts
so that they may continue to grow spiritually
through making time for prayers, receiving sacraments,
and serving other people.

Our young baptized Deaf Catholics are growing up in a challenging and confused world.

Almighty God, please help them understand that the way of the world does not give life; your way alone gives true life.

Please touch their hearts and guide them to find your love.

Bring them back to the Church.

Put in them the desire to pray, to receive the sacraments and to serve other people.

Holy Spirit, come and transform each of us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Holy Mary, our Mother, pray for us. Amen.

INTERPRETED & ASL

THROUGHOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE





- ASL WEEKEND MASS -

St. Charles Borromeo **Parish** 5571 S Marilyn St., Milwaukee,

WI 53221



Time: Saturdays, 6 p.m.

Please email deafapostolate@archmil.org for updates on Signed Masses.

- CLOSED CAPTIONED MASS -

St. Clare Parish 7616 Fritz St., Wind Lake, WI 53185



E-Mail: bulletins@tds.net Website: stclarewindlake.org

Times Listed Are Subject to Change as of

October 1, 2022

- INTERPRETED SUNDAY MASS -

St. Andrew Parish

714 E. Walworth Ave, Delavan, WI 53115 Time: 9 a.m. E-Mail: deafministry@ saspcatholics.org Website: standrews-delavan.org



St. Joseph Parish

1619 Washington St, Grafton, WI 53024 1st & Last Saturdays at 4 p.m. and 3rd Sunday at 10:30 a.m. E-Mail: parish@stjosephgrafton.org Website: stjosephgrafton.org



St. Mary's **Immaculate** Conception

1610 Monroe St, West Bend, WI 53090 2nd Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Email: rprim@wbparishes.org Website: stmaryparishwb.org



6400 Spring St, Racine, WI 53406 Time: 10 a.m.

(on certain Sundays)

Please check with office prior to attending

E-Mail: svrana@stpaulracine.org Website: stpaulracine.org

St. Peter Parish

2224 30th Ave, Kenosha, WI 53144

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Please request at least 3 days in advance to: broadwayterp73@gmail.com.

Website: stpeterskenosha.com

Shepherd of the Hills Parish

W1562 County Road B, Eden,

WI 53019

Please email deafapostolate@archmil.org for schedule

Website: sothparish.org











CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: : Monday, Wednesday — Fridays (Fr. Christopher is off on Monday early evenings & Tuesdays)

Fr. Christopher Klusman

Director klusmanc@archmil.org Office: 414-501-2022 (Videophone/Voice)

General Inquiries:

deafapostolate@archmil.org Office: (414) 455-2245 (Videophone)

EMERGENCIES Only: Text Fr. Christopher at: (414) 793-1369

HAND IN HAND SUBSCRIPTION

Two ways to get the Hand in Hand newsletters:

- (1) **E-mail:** Cost is FREE and will be emailed to you. Please fill out this online form to get your Newsletter at: https://www.archmil.org/deaf-apostolate/offnav/Subscription-Form.htm
- (2) **By Mail:** Fill out and send registration form & check below:

MAILED (PAPER COPY) SUBSCRIPTION

Name:	 	
Address:		
City State & Zin Code		

Cost: \$12.00 for 4 Newsletters from Jan. to Dec. 2024.
Make checks payable to: The Deaf Apostolate.
Mail to: **Deaf Apostolate, Archdiocese of Milwaukee**3501 S. Lake Drive
St. Francis, WI 53235











WINTER 2023 ISSUE



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SPECIAL EDITION OF THE WINTER NEWSLETTER

Here is the second part of the Winter Newsletter. I hope you were able to enjoy the previous first part, the Advent portion, these past few weeks. This newsletter is the Christmas edition.

Before we begin, let us pray to the Communion of Saints: The Immaculate Conception, patroness of our country, pray for us. St. John the Evangelist, patron of our archdiocese, pray for us. St. Francis de Sales, patron saint of the Deaf, pray for us. St. René Goupil, our Deaf saint, pray for us. Blessed Alexandre Planas Saurí, pray for us. St. Josemaría Escrivá, pray for us.

FR. CK'S CORNER: "HEARTBEAT"



By Fr. Christopher Klusman

At all the weekend Masses during the Christmas season (as well as during the previous Advent season), during the readings, we can see

how the events in the Gospel move rather quickly. The Blessed Mother, newly pregnant

with Jesus in her blessed womb, went quickly to visit her cousin, St. Elizabeth. After going back to Nazareth, she and St. Joseph got news that they had to hurry to

Bethlehem. After giving birth to Jesus in the cave, they had to hurry to Egypt to escape the wrath of the evil King Herod. Years later after the death of King Herod, the Holy Family was informed that they can safely return back home to Nazareth. Remember, this was back in the days when there were

no cars. It was a challenge going from one area to another. But the Holy Family are perfect models of obedience. They always go wherever God tells them to go.

Thinking of our Blessed Mother and how she always ponders and reflects everything that happens in her heart and how God's will must always be the number one priority. Wherever she goes, she always prays and reflects to see God in the daily events of her

> daily life. Each place becomes like a place of pilgrimage.

I found a beautiful passage from Carrie Gress, an amazing Catholic writer who gave a powerful and

deep insight into a pilgrimage. It blew me away!

Pilgrimages are one of the oldest forms of worship found in every major religion. Part of the draw is to leave our everyday lives

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued on Page 3.

MISSION STATEMENT - DEAF APOSTOLATE

The Deaf Apostolate in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee exists to enable all Catholic Deaf and Hard of Hearing people to participate fully in the liturgical, educational, pastoral, spiritual, and human concerns ministries in the Church.



St. Andrew Parish DEAF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION MINISTRY SHARING THE GOOD NEWS

FROM THE DELAVAN CORNER: THE BOUNTIFUL GIFTS



By Jennifer Paul, Coordinator Deaf Religious Education & Deaf Ministry St. Andrew Parish, Delavan

This year, we offer religious education classes for elementary and high school students. We also offer a separate class for students preparing for the sacrament of

Confirmation. We are slowly but surely beating to the rhythm of the school year. As we approach Christmas, we need to

remind ourselves, both children and adults, that Christmas is not about getting gifts but giving gifts.

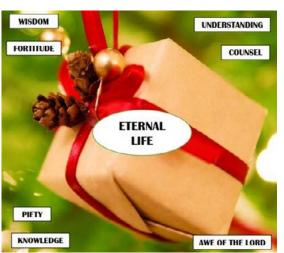
Yet, in this holy season, as we teach our students preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation, it strikes me with a great realization that as Catholic adults, we keep receiving gifts from the Holy Spirit, at Christmastime and throughout the year, for as long as we live!

The sacrament of Confirmation evokes one of the most holy events in this world: the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost bearing seven gifts —

wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and awe (fear) of the Lord. These are real, practical, guiding morals to live our lives as Catholic adults; these are the gifts that keep on giving to us!

Christmas Day is also to celebrate one of, if not the most, holy events of the year: the descent of the Son bearing the ultimate gift for us — eternal life. Together, the gifts are bountiful! We are gifted with the eternal life given to us by the Son of God AND the gifts of the Holy Spirit for daily living on earth by the sacrament of Confirmation.

As bountiful as these gifts are, Most Rev. Jerome Edward Listecki reminds us in his Nov. 28 email broadcast to "carve out a time for yourselves in a world that is silent to God's presence." We must not forget these bountiful gifts and be spiritually mindful of God's presence and the true meaning of Christmas. We are blessed to have these gifts that keep on giving, and we need to pray for greater resolve to make good use of these gifts against the secular saturation that is also a problem during the Advent season.



About these seven gifts of the Holy Spirit, paragraphs 1830 and 1831 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church explain that:

"The moral life of Christians is sustained by the gifts of the Holy Spirit. These are permanent dispositions which make man docile in following the promptings of the Holy Spirit. The seven gifts ... complete and perfect the virtues of those who receive them. They make the faithful docile in readily obeying divine inspirations. 'Let your good spirit lead me on a level path' (Ps 143:10)."

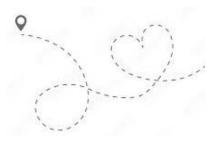
This Christmas, may we sustain our moral life and heed to the "promptings of the Holy Spirit," made possible by the seven gifts. As challenging as it is for Catholic adults, imagine the challenge for the Catholic children and teenagers in need of the sacrament of Confirmation and the lack of accessible preparation towards the sacrament for the Catholic deaf youth.

As Catholics and as deaf people, we are obliged to impart this divine guide to our Catholic deaf children and teenagers and continue with the foundational teachings towards the seven

► THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued on Page 3.

► FR. CK'S CORNER - Continued from Page 1.

(the profane) and seek out the sacred in places like St. Peter's Basilica, Santiago de Compostela, or Marian shrines. (Pope St. John Paul II used to



call these the places where you could hear the mother's "heartbeat.")

Once we arrive at the sacred, we enter into something beyond us — something that we know will transform us. We enter into the memory of the Christian story, but sometimes we find new graces, new insights, or even healing that change us. Few people leave a pilgrimage site without feeling transformed in some way. As we return to the everyday, we bring with us something of the sacred and pass it along — even in the smallest of ways — to those around us. (Gress, 170)

Did you catch what Pope St. John Paul II said about pilgrimages being places where you can hear the mother's "heartbeat"? For the Deaf community, it could be that we can "feel" the mother's "heartbeat." Of course, we all know that the "mother" whom Pope St. John Paul II referred to is Mother Mary. That was the most beautiful way I have ever seen anyone explain to us what a pilgrimage is like ... a mother's heartbeat. Wow ...

Even a pilgrimage can be made by traveling to closer places, most importantly the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, as well as other areas such as Holy Hill. You can also make a "pilgrimage" through "grace" by praying the Rosary to the various events in the life of Jesus and Mother Mary. It is at all those places that we try to "feel" and "hear" the Blessed Mother Mary's heartbeat. Like how Mother Mary held the newborn Jesus close to her that he could feel and hear her heartbeat in all the places that she carried and went with him.

Reflect back on any pilgrimage you made. Do you notice any experience(s) where you actually felt the Blessed Mother Mary's heartbeat? Will you make any future pilgrimages, and how can you prepare yourself ahead of time to really "feel" and "hear" the Mother's heartbeat?

Happy Pilgrimages!

► THE DELAVAN CORNER - Continued from Page 2.

gifts of Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety and awe (fear) of the Lord, made "complete and perfect" by the sacrament of Confirmation.

That said, we close with Fr. Michael Depcik's renewal prayer for the Deaf Catholic Church:

Renewal Prayer for Deaf Catholic Church

Father, we ask you to look with mercy at us, your Deaf Catholic Church.

We ask you to bless us, inspire us to always love you above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves.

We pray to you for our bishops, our spiritual leaders.

Please bless them and give them the strength
and wisdom to guide us, their people.

Help them to recognize, understand, and respond
to our unique needs.

Please bless the priests, deacons, religious, and lay people
who serve our community.

Inspire them so that they may
then inspire all hearts of deaf people
to know, love, and serve you and your Catholic Church.

Father, we pray to you for our baptized
Deaf Catholic brothers and sisters.

Please send your Holy Spirit to enkindle and renew their hearts so that they may continue to grow spiritually through making time for prayers, receiving sacraments, and serving other people.

Our young baptized Deaf Catholics are growing up in a challenging and confused world.

Almighty God, please help them understand that the way of the world does not give life; your way alone gives true life.

Please touch their hearts and guide them to find your love.

Bring them back to the Church.

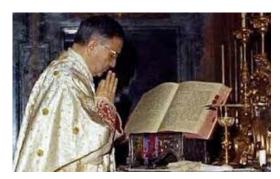
Put in them the desire to pray, to receive the sacraments and to serve other people.

Holy Spirit, come and transform each of us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Holy Mary, our Mother, pray for us. Amen.

ST. JOSEMARÍA ESCRIVÁ, MODEL SAINT FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

A great model saint for Christmas and the Eucharistic Revival is St. Iosemaría Escrivá. He was born in Barbastro,



Spain, on Jan. 9, 1902, and baptized Jan. 13 of that same year. His parents were devout Catholics who gave him a firm foundation of faith and the Catholic virtues. They taught him a great love for the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation. St. Josemaría also learned from his parents about the importance of prayer, devotion to Our Lady and helping others in need.

I'd like to share with you a profound event that happened

to him on Christmas:

"In the winter of 1917-18 something happened which was to have a decisive influence on Josemaría Escrivá's future. The snow fell very heavily that Christmas in Logroño, and one day he saw some frozen footprints in the snow. They had been left by

a discalced Carmelite. Josemaría found himself wondering: If others sacrifice so much for God and their neighbor, couldn't I do something too? This was how God started to speak to his heart: I began to have an inkling of what Love is, to realize that my heart was yearning for something great, for love. He did not yet know what precisely God wanted of him, but he decided to become a priest, thinking that it would make him more available to fulfill God's will."

(Borrowed from https://www.ewtn.com/ catholicism/saints/josemaria-escriva-654.) 'THE MASS IS LONG', YOU SAY AND I REPLY, BECAUSE YOUR LOVEIS SHORT (St. Josemaria Escriva)

The humility of Jesus: in Bethlehem, in Nazareth, on Calvary. But still more humiliation and more self-abasement in the most sacred Host - more than in the stable, more than in Nazareth, more than on the cross. That is why I must love the Mass so! (Our Mass, Jesus.) -St. Josemaria Escriva

After some time, St. Iosemaría was able to receive a new plan from God for him:

"[St.] Josemaría was spending some days on retreat and, while doing his meditation on some notes regarding to the inner motions he had received from God in the previous years, he

suddenly saw — to see was the term he always used to describe the foundational experience — the mission the Lord wanted to entrust to him: to open up in the Church a new vocational path, aimed at spreading the quest for holiness and the practice of apostolate through the

> sanctification of ordinary work in the middle of the world, without changing one's place.

... This was the goal he set for the initiatives of the faithful of Opus Dei: to life up to God, with the help of grace, each and every created reality, so that Christ may reign in everyone and everything; to get to know Christ Jesus;

to get Him known by others; to take Him everywhere." (Ibid)

We often forget the difference between a vocation and an occupation. A vocation is something that is 24/7 and "a way of being" that God calls us. Examples are being Catholic living a life of holiness, being a father or mother, priest or nun/sister, and/or husband or wife. Those are several examples of a vocation. An occupation is a job, like a dentist, teacher, construction worker or an accountant. They have limited time shifts, such as five days a week from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

St. Josemaría said that in whatever occupation you currently do, you still can take Christ everywhere through your words

► ST. JOSEMARÍA ESCRIVÁ - Continued on Page 5.

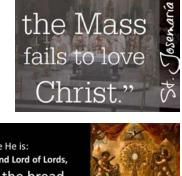
St. Josemaría was ordained a priest March 28, 1925, in Saragossa.

► ST. JOSEMARÍA ESCRIVÁ - Continued from Page 4.

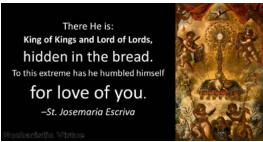
and actions. For example, as a construction worker, you can show, proclaim and teach others about God and his Catholic Church. At the same time, our vocation always takes greater priority over our occupation.

On Oct. 2, 1928, he established

Opus Dei, which in English means, "The Work of God." Shortly afterward, the terrible Spanish Civil War



"A man who ছৈ fails to love



broke out in the year 1936. It was a time of serious religious violence. He would often have to dress himself in regular layman clothing so he wouldn't be discovered and arrested as a priest. He would meet with people in various places to offer them spiritual direction, especially to offer the much-needed opportunity for the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Opus Dei spread to many places in the world. "His interior life fed on prayer and the sacraments, and expressed itself in a passionate love for the Eucharist, in the depth with which he lived the Mass at the center and root of his own life ..." (ibid) He eventually celebrated his 50th anniversary as a priest March 28, 1975. He passed away shortly afterward on June 26, 1975, at the age of 73 in Rome, Italy, where he is buried.

St. Josemaría was beatified May 17, 1992, and became a saint Oct. 6, 2022, when he was canonized by Pope St. John Paul II. His feast day is June 26.

I hope you enjoy some of his quotes on the Eucharist.

What an incredible occurrence on Christmas that forever changed St. Josemaría's life. Knowing of the powerful poem, "Footprints in the Sand," I think that would be the perfect way to end this article. I will change it to "Footprints in the Snow." This poem reminds us that Christ is always with us, even during times of great suffering that St. Josemaría experienced when following, loving and serving the Lord Jesus Christ. During Christmas, we are reminded that one of the names of Jesus is Emmanuel, which means "God with us."



"Footprints in the [Snow]"

One night I had a dream.

I dreamed that I was walking along the beach with the Lord. Across the sky flashed scenes from my life.

For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the [snow]; one belonging to me and the other to the Lord.

When the last scene of my life flashed before me,

I looked back at the footprints in the [snow].

I noticed that many times along the path of my life there was only one set of footprints.

I also noticed that it happened at the very lowest and saddest times of my life.

This really bothered me

and I questioned the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way.

But I have noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life,

there is only one set of footprints;

I don't understand why when I needed you most you would leave me."

The Lord replied, "My child, my precious, precious child,

I love you and would never leave you.

During your times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints,

it was then that I carried you."

St. Josemaría Escrivá, pray for us!



Magi

The most famous trio to attend a baby shower.

LAUGHTER

CORNER

JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

In Genesis

- He is the Creator
- He is the Breath of Life
- He is Seed of the woman
- He is the Promised Redeemer
- He is the Covenant Maker
- He is the Ark of Noah
- He is the Angel of God
- He is Jacob's Ladder

In Exodus

- He is the Passover lamb
- He is the Firstborn offered to God
- He is the Burning Bush

In Leviticus

- He is the Tabernacle
- He is the High Priest
- He is Fire of Burnt offering on the altar
- He is the water of cleansing in the laver
- He is the Light of the Lampstand
- He is the Sweet Savor of the altar of incense
- He is the Ark that holds the Law and Covenant
- He is Presence on the mercy seat of reconciliation
- He is our Perfect Sacrifice
- He is our Thankful Offering

In Numbers

- He is the Builder of nations recorded in genealogy
- He is the Pillar of Cloud by day and Fire by Night
- He is the Water in the desert
- He is Aaron's Rod

In Deuteronomy

- He is the prophet like unto Moses
- He is Moses's voice
- He is the Hope of Promised Inheritance

In Joshua

- He is the Commander of the Lord's Army
- He is the Victory in the battle
- He is Joshua (means Yahweh is salvation), who delivers His people

In Judges

• He is the Judge and Lawgiver

The Whole Bible Points to Jesus

- He is the Strength of Samson
- He is the True Nazarite
- He is the Deliverer from injustice

In Ruth

- He is the Giver of Bread to the hungry
- He is Rest for the Weary
- He is the Kinsman Redeemer

In I & II Samuel

- He is the Trusted Prophet.
- He is the Faithful Priest
- He is the True King
- He is the Ebenezer Stone of Help

In Kings and Chronicles

- He is the Eternal King, the Seed of David
- He is the Sovereign King of kings, greater than Solomon
- He is Elijah's mantle
- He is Shiloh
- He is the True Temple
- He is the Righteousness of the tablets of stone

In Ezra

- He is the Faithful Scribe
- He is the Priest who proclaims freedom
- He is the Restorer of Worship

In Nehemiah

- He is the Rebuilder of the broken walls
- He is the Restorer of broken people
- He is the Uniter of people to work together

In Esther

- He is the Advocate for His people
- He is Mordecai's courage
- He is Esther's willing service
- He is the Protector of His people
- He is the Salvation of Israel

In Jol

- He is the Ever-living Redeemer
- He is the Mediator between God

and man

- He is the Answer to all Job's question
- He is the Power of Restoration

In Psalms

- He is our Song in the morning and in the night
- He is the Lord our Shepherd.
- He is the Lord our High Tower
- He is the Lord our Redeemer

In Proverbs & Ecclesiastes

- He is True Wisdom
- He is the Meaning of Life
- He is the Hope we have

In Song of Solomon

- He is the True Bridegroom.
- He is the Author of faithful love
- He is the Song of songs

In Isaiah

- He is the High and Lifted-up One
- He is the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father
- He is the Prince of Peace
- He is the Branch of Jesse
- He is the Suffering Servant
- He is the Branch of the Lord who Saves

In Jeremiah and Lamentations

- He is the Weeping Prophet.
- He is the Tree planted by God's water
- He is the Bearer of God's wrath
- He is the Righteous Branch, a just King with power
- He is the Restorer of Israel

In Ezekiel

- He is the wonderful Four-faced Living Creature
- He is the Watchman
- He is the Glory of God
- He is the Voice of the Almighty

In Daniel

- He is the Fourth Man in the Fire
- He is the Crushing Stone
- He is the Ancient of Days
- He is Messiah, the Coming Prince

In Hosea

- He is the Faithful Lover
- He is the Forgiving Husband
 - **▶** JESUS Continued on Page 7.

▶ JESUS - Continued from Page 6.

In Joel

- He is the Baptizer with the Holy Spirit
- He is the Spirit's power

In Amos

- He is the Warning of judgment to come
- He is the Arms that carry us
- He is the Deliverer of justice to the oppressed
- He is the Tabernacle of David

In Obadiah

- He is the Judge of Evil-doers
- He is the Hope of Edom

In Jonah

• He is the Greater Missionary, sent by God

• He is the One Who Rose from death to prophesy to the lost

In Micah

- He is the Ruler from out of Bethlehem
- He is the One who casts our sin into the sea
- He is the Promise of Peace

In Nahum

- He is the Prophesier of destruction
- He is the Punisher of sin
- He is the Proclaimer of future peace
- He is our Strength and Shield

In Habakkuk

- He is the Cry to God
- He is the Strengthen of faith and trust

In Zephaniah

• He is the Plead for revival

• He is the Warrior who saves

In Haggai

- He is the Rebuker of lack of care
- He is the Encourager who mobilizes work
- He is the Restorer of the lost heritage

In Zechariah

- He is the Fountain for cleansing
- He is the Branch, a Servant and Man
- He is the Stone with seven eyes
- He is the Angel of the Lord
- He is the Staff, Beauty, broken for us

In Malachi

- He is the Abundant Gift-giver
- He is the Sun of Righteousness, with healing in His wings.
- He is the refiners fire and fuller's soap

JESUS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

In Matthew

- He is God with us
- He is the Jew's Messiah
- He is the Messiah who is King

In Mark

- He is the Miracle Worker
- He is the Messiah who is Servant

In Luke

- He is the Son of Mary
- He is the Messiah who is Deliverer

In John

- He is the Word who created all things
- He is the Messiah who is God incarnate
- He is the Lamb of God, the Bread of Life, the Light of the world, the Gate of the sheep, the Good Shepherd, the Resurrection and Life, the Way, the Truth and the Life

In Acts

- He is the Spirit who indwells His people
- He is the Strength and Power of the Church

In Romans

- He is the Righteousness of God
- He is the Law and Grace that sustains



In 1 Corinthians

- He is the Patience of God
- He is the Power of Love

In 2 Corinthians

- He is the God of all Comfort
- He is the Sufficient Grace Giver
- He is the Strength in our weakness
- He is the deposit of what is to come

In Galatians

- He is our Liberty in which we stand
- He is our Freedom by which we serve
- He is our Life

In Ephesians

- He is the Head of the Church
- He is the Unity of the Body
- He is our Glorious Treasure

In Philippians

- He is the Joy of our life
- He is the Peace of God
- He is the Heart of our service

In Colossians

- He is the Supreme Ruler over all
- He is the Glory in us
- He is the Godhead

In 1 Thessalonians

• He is the Comfort in the Last Days

In 2 Thessalonians

• He is the Coming King

In Timothy, Titus and Philemon

- He is the Foundation of Truth
- He is the Builder, Leader and Director of His Church
- He is the Faithful Pastor and Mediating Priest
- He is the Assurance of our salvation

In Hebrews

- He is Perfect Fulfillment
- He is our High Priest
- He is our Ever-Present God
- He is the Captain of our Salvation
- He is the Author and Finisher of our faith
- He is our Everlasting Covenant

In James

- He is the Power that fuels our faith
- He is the One who matures our faith
- He is the Healing that we need

In 1 Peter

• He is the Bishop of our souls

▶ JESUS - Continued on Page 9.

A STRANGE CHRISTMAS

Here is a story borrowed from "Our Young People: The Friend of the Deaf" December 1955 issue.

"There'll be no Christmas this year for me. I am going to dodge it," emphatically announced Edward Saunders to his family at breakfast one early December morning.

Mrs. Saunders looked up and said, "Edward, what do you mean?"

Fourteen year old Ted grumbled, "But! Dad! Everyone has Christmas."

Twelve year old Molly, her father's pet, looked askance, "As if anyone could dodge Christmas. Why, it's Our Lord's birthday," she said.

The younger children scarcely noticed the forecast of the impending tragedy.

"Well, I mean what I say," continued the father. "All this fuss and ceremony about Christmas makes me mad. Praying, feasting, hilarity. I'm finished with it. I'm not cutting it out for you. You can all be ready to leave home and go somewhere for a holiday on the twentieth, but I intend to have three days' rest, away in the country by myself, where none of this Christmas rubbish can come near me."

"Edward," replied his wife, "don't be silly. What's the idea?"

Edward Saunders did not like the shocked expression in his wife's eye, and he grew angry, "I am going to prove that a man can dodge Christmas. I'll spend it in a spot where no man will come near, and loaf and rest for three whole days."

"And what about Mass?" questioned Ted.

"I'm cutting it out too, completely."

"But you can't, Dad," asserted Molly.

"Can't I?" Young lady, just wait and see."

"But, Dad, I've got a secret. You won't dodge Christmas and you won't miss Mass."

"Well, we will see. Secret or no secret."

So Edward Saunders was left behind while the family went off to enjoy themselves and to celebrate Christmas in the proper spirit.

To make quite sure that he would get far away from his home, Edward Saunders packed up food supplies and set out early on Christmas Eve in his car for a secluded spot.





"Going to town, I suppose," suggested some friends.

"Yes, yes." He answered vaguely.

But when he had started he decided to follow the river. Turning a bend he discovered the very spot of his dreams. Great boulders had fallen ages before

and blocked up almost the whole river, leaving a broad expanse of water with but a narrow outlet.

"Here I stop," he told himself, and felt very pleased with the success of his plans.

Great storm clouds were gathering but he was relieved to see that they were speeding away to the East.

"Who said I couldn't dodge Christmas," he chuckled to himself when night came and he lay down to rest. "I'm miles and miles from any human being, and I'm all right."

But the storm still rumbled in the distance and the night noises of the country sounded eerily to the town-bred man.

But for long he could not sleep, and memories of other

Christmases came to worry his conscience. It was lonely, terribly lonely, this night in the wilderness.

Sleep at last began to dim his eyes and ears and he was falling slowly into heavy slumber when, "Coo-ee. Coo-ee," the sound came faintly through the trees.



Edward Saunders opened his eyes and listened. "Coo-ee-ee. Coo-ee-ee." Again the cry sounded, more pro longed, more pleading than before.

He jumped up. Someone out there in the darkness needed help. Making a megaphone of his hands he answered lustily, "Cooee. Coo-ee." Back came the response and there was a sound of pleasure in the repeated, "Coo-ee. Coo-ee."

Calling and answering thus, the two human beings approached each other. At last Saunders described a man standing on the bank of the river and the moon just rising showed a car standing in the bed of the river. The river was rising as the storm had broken further up, and it was necessary to get the car out as soon as possible.

► STRANGE CHRISTMAS - Continued on Page 9.

"Thank God, you came," said the man. "My car refuses to come out of the mud, and the water is coming down. Can you help me?"

"Yes," Saunders replied. "If you could switch on your lights, I'll go back and get my old bus I've left up there."

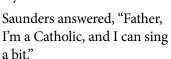
Both men went off and in a short time the disabled car was towed out of the mud and left on high ground.

"I'm on my way to the village. I'm a priest," said the stranger. "I was to be there for Midnight Mass, but the storm held me up, and now it will be daylight before I get there. Are you going that way?"

"No. I was not going anywhere particularly. I'm Edward Saunders. I'll take you there, or if you know the road you had better drive."

So the two started on the rough drive through the country lanes.

At midnight the priest turned to his companion, and said, "It's Christmas. Do you mind if we sing the Christmas Hymn?"



"Good," exclaimed the priest.

And the woods and field creatures were the only audience as the words of the Adeste rang out in the night.

"Can you answer Mass," the priest asked.

"Well, Father, once, when I was a boy..."

"Oh, that's good. You'll manage. And look, the people must have waited all night. We will have Mass straight away," decided the priest when he saw a number of people waiting near the church.

"Confession first," he announced, and Edwards Saunders found himself included among those who were to be heard.

The little church was filled to overflowing and Christmas Mass was offered at the break of day.

And Saunders was at that Mass and Holy Communion too, and later he took the priest some miles further on where he would offer two more Masses that morning.

Later, Edward Saunders telephoned his family.

He told them of his adventure, and to his wife's question.

"However did you get right out there?" he answered, "Dodging

Christmas. Put Molly on, I want her to explain herself."

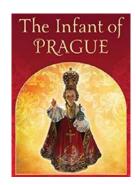
And when Molly's cheery "Hullo Dad, a Happy Christmas," greeted him, he said, "What was the secret, Molly, that made you so sure of things."

"O, Dad," she replied. "I offered lots and

lots of Hail Marys to the Little Infant that you would go to Mass and Holy Communion on Christmas morning."

He was silent and Molly asked, "Are you happy, Dad?"

"Yes, my girl. Happier than I deserve."



▶ JESUS - Continued on Page 7.

- He is the Chief Shepherd
- He is Hope in times of suffering

In 2 Peter

- He is our Example
- He is our Purity
- He is the Guard against false teaching

In 1, 2 and 3 John

- He is True Love
- He is the Source of Fellowship
- He is God in the flesh
- He is the True God

In Jude

(O Come, All Ye Faithful)

- He is the Revealer of apostasy
- He is the Protector from falling
- He is the Preserver of His own

In the Revelation

- He is the King of kings and the Lord of lords
- He is the Alpha and the Omega
- He is the Beginning and the End
- He is coming again
- He is the Maker of all things new



CLARIFYING MISCONCEPTIONS

Misconception #1

People seem to worship Mary by giving her a lot of attention. She takes us away from true worship of Her Son, Jesus Christ!

It doesn't seem right to give Mary only one page in [this Newsletter] about things you

need to know regarding Catholicism. Mary is Catholicism. She is the perfect disciple. She is everything we are called to be. While we'll never be perfect like Mary, our pursuit of Christ should lead us to saintliness like hers: rooted in humility, trust, service, and love.

... She is our guardian and our Mother. We ask her daily to pray with us and for us, and we encourage you to ask Her to do the same for you.

A popular question from people, especially non-Catholics, is, "Why focus at all on Mary? Why not just focus on Jesus?"

Often, the question is asked with sincere intentions, but stems from an erroneous idea that Catholics take their attention off of Jesus to focus on Mary.

At no time has the Catholic Church ever suggested taking the attention or focus off of Christ. We as Catholics and Christians, are encouraged, implored, and commanded to look to Christ and focus on Him in our prayers.

The misunderstanding comes in when people think that Mary takes the place of Christ, which she does not. Nor does our invitation to Mary to pray for us get in the way of Christ's work on our behalf.

Mary doesn't get in the way of Christ being our mediator to God. She enhances it.

When we pray, we invite Mary to join her prayers to ours, praying with us to Christ. Mary does not **and would not** do anything to divert the glory away from Jesus. She lived to glorify God. Anyone who disagrees should read **Luke 1:46-56**.

A few things I share with or ask people who pose this question to me:





The Mother of pure Love.

Do you wish to find Jesus? Seek Him in Mary's arms... she offers Him to us all and wishes to give Him to all of us.



When Mary came to Christ with a need (John 2) did He respond to her? Yes.

Did Jesus hold Mary in high esteem, honoring her like a Son should? Yes.

Did Jesus give her to us as a mother (John 19)? Yes.

Did Mary hold a place of honor in the early Church (Acts 1-2)? Yes.

God the Father calls us to be like Christ — to follow Him, emulate Him, love and serve and forgive like Him. It tells us in Scripture (Galatians 2:20) that we become "little Christs" when we follow Him. We are called

to imitate Christ in every way (1 Corinthians 11:1). I want to be just like Jesus.

In prayer, ask Christ to grant you His Heart ...

Pray:

I want to have the heart for God that you have, Jesus.

I want to have the heart for the poor that you have, Jesus.

I want to have the heart for sinners that you have, Jesus.

I want to have the heart for the Word that you have, Jesus.

I want to have the heart of mercy that you have, Jesus.

I want to have the heart for Your Mother that

you have, Jesus.

I have yet to find someone who truly prays that prayer who does not hold Mary in the beautiful esteem that she, as the Mother of God, deserves.

May Our Lady bless you and may her prayers be with you ... She will hold you and walk with you, whenever you call upon her, always directing your path perfectly and gently back to her Son ... like a good mother does.

[Blessed Mother Mary], pray for us!

Borrowed from "100 Things Every Catholic Teen Should Know" by Mark Hart and Todd Lemieux, pages 12-14.

CATHOLIC QUIZ

- 1. In 2005, a film adaptation of which book, written by C.S. Lewis and featuring the famous line, "Always winter, but never Christmas"?
- (a) The Silver Chair
- (b) The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe
- (c) The Voyage of Dawn Treader
- (d) Prince Caspian
- 2. On which day of creation did God create light and darkness (Genesis 1:3-5)?
 - (a) First (b) Second (c) Third (d) Fourth
- 3. Eucharistic Revival Q: Which of these Bible passages is not about the Eucharist?
 - (a) Matthew 26:26-30 (b) Mark 6:34-44
 - (c) Luke 24:13-35 (d) John 6:16-21

(Answers on page 12.)

FRIENDLY REMINDER: "HEALING THE WHOLE PERSON" OPEN TO THE DEAF AND HEARING COMMUNITIES!

Please check back to the previous Advent Hand in Hand Newsletter for information about this amazing opportunity in Waukesha from April 11-13!

Online registration opens Jan. 8, 2024. Members from the Deaf community can contact the Deaf Apostolate Office to preregister at deafapostolate@archmil.org. It is open to people who want to come from the area and/or from out of state (you would be responsible for your own transportation and hotel accommodation).

Register early, as in-person space is limited, and this event sells out quickly.









WHAT IS THE "CHRISTMAS NAIL"?

It's a little ornament that carries a profound meaning.

Maybe this Christmas, a friend will visit your house. As they admire your Christmas tree decorated with lights, images of the Nativity, perhaps some colorful ribbon and a snowman or two, they'll spy a strange little ornament hanging





close to the trunk of the tree. It's almost invisible — hidden behind branches and lights and other decorations.

It's a plain, long nail — much like the nails that pierced the hands and feet of Christ during His Passion. Your

Most people don't really want the truth. They just want constant reassurance that what they believe is the truth.

guests might wonder why such a nail would be found on a Christmas tree.

You'll explain to them that Jesus was born in Bethlehem so that, thirty-three years later, He could die for our sins on Calvary.

The Nail is a reminder of the Passion this little babe would undergo, as innocent at His death as He was at His birth. It reminds us of His sufferings and the incredible love that motivated both His earthly nativity and His death. This Nail decorates a Christmas tree, and the nails of His



Passion decorated the Tree of the Cross.

The Nail is not in a place of prominence, but almost hidden away near the trunk. It is not so much a decoration, but a prayerful reminder for the family and for those guests with particularly keen eyes and hearts.

A poem explains the meaning of The Christmas Nail:

This is The Christmas Nail.

It is to be hung on a sturdy branch,
a branch near the trunk,
a branch that will hold such a spike without being noticed
by well-wishers

dropping by to admire one's tinseled tree.

The nail is known only to the home that hangs it.

Understood only by the heart that knows its significance.

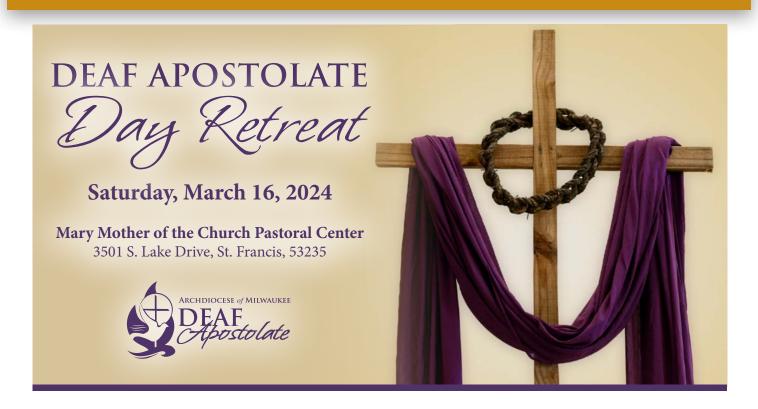
It is hung with the thought that the Christmas tree but foreshadows the Christ-tree

which only He could decorate for us, ornamented with nails as this.

You can make this tradition your own [by ordering a Christmas Nail or putting it on your "Christmas Wish List."] Hung on a red ribbon, this Nail will become a beloved part of your Christmas tree.

Taken from https://www.catholiccompany.com/getfed/what-is-the-christmas-nail/.

Quiz Answers: 1b; 2a; 3d



Theme: "Discerning God's Will"

Presenter: Al Alvord, Coordinator of Catholic Deaf Ministry,

Archdiocese of St. Louis, Missouri



Al was born Deaf in Chicago, Illinois. His family relocated to St. Louis, Missouri, at the age 4, and he attended St. Joseph Institute for the Deaf. He graduated from Gallaudet University with a Bachelor of Science in accounting and business in 1994. He resided in Olathe, Kansas, from 1995 to 2008, then relocated to St. Charles County, Missouri, where his

family lives. Al has taught ASL in community college and Catholic high school settings for over 20 years. He earned his Master of the Arts in education from Lindenwood University in 2011. Al later enrolled in a Ministry Formation Program for Catholic Deaf in Chicago and received his certificate in 2018. Archbishop Carlson appointed Al as coordinator of Catholic Deaf Ministry for the Archdiocese of St. Louis in 2019, and he has served in that position since then.

Arrival: 8:30 - 9 a.m. Departure after 4:15 p.m. Mass

RETREAT INCLUDES: Morning Kringles and Lunch. Cost is \$35.

If financial assistance is needed, please let the Office of the Deaf Apostolate know.

QUESTIONS: Fr. Christopher Klusman, klusmanc@archmil.org or 414-501-2022 (VP)

Make check payable to Deaf Apostolate, and mail to: Deaf Apostolate Attn: Fr. Christopher Klusman 3501 S. Lake Dr., St. Francis, WI 53235

Name		
Address		Zip Code
Email	 VP Number	
Parish	 	
Special dietary or allergy needs:		

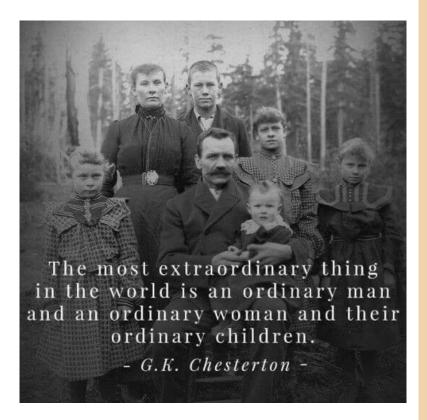


REFLECTION QUESTION:

Try to start a conversation with your family and/or friends about this question.

What is one Christmas ornament that is special to you and why?







What did Adam say on the day before Christmas? It's Christmas, Eve!

LAUGHTER

CORNER

TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

Here is an article from an older Hand in Hand Newsletter from January/February 2000:

When You Can't Hear the Christmas Bells



Even though it is after the Christmas season, the following article (with the song) will be wonderful to share for next year's holidays.

A writing assignment for Mrs. Diane Miller's deaf class at Escanaba High School in Michigan,

was to rewrite the famous Christmas song "Jingle Bells." Deaf pride was an important reason for this assignment. Four students worked together with Miller to make up their own version of the holiday song. Mrs. Miller submitted the song to the national deaf magazine, "World Around You," and an excerpt was printed in the November/December issue. We have permission to reprint the song for you.

Jason Robitaille is a freshman at Escanaba High School and the nephew of Verna Farmer.

Jingle Bells: by Paul Cady, Mike Meyer, Jason Robitaille and Don Weber

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way
I am deaf and can't hear them anyway
Santa Claus ringing bells everywhere you go
I am deaf, you can hear, ha, ha, ho, ho.

Dashing through the snow; hearing aids are gone
People stomping, talking, screaming, I feel they're all gone
I am deaf, I can't hear all that noise out there
Oh what fun it is to be deaf and you can hear!

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way
Oh what fun it is to be deaf, can't hear them anyway
Noisy streets, noisy bells, soon you'll be deaf, too
Oh your head, oh your ears, you want to be deaf, too.

Santa Claus is coming, the sleigh lands on the roof
I feel the whole house shaking, when the reindeer hit the roof
I sneak to see what's happening, Santa's busy as an elf
When Santa turns around and sees me, he's signing to himself.

Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way
I am deaf and can't hear them anyway
Santa Claus ringing bells everywhere you go
I am deaf, you can hear, ha, ha, ho, ho.

INTERPRETED & ASL

THROUGHOUT THE ARCHDIOCESE OF MILWAUKEE





- ASL WEEKEND MASS -

St. Charles
Borromeo
Parish
5571 S Marilyn
St., Milwaukee,

WI 53221



Time: Saturdays, 6 p.m.

Please email <u>deafapostolate@archmil.org</u> for updates on Signed Masses.

- CLOSED CAPTIONED MASS -

St. Clare Parish 7616 Fritz St., Wind Lake, WI 53185



E-Mail: <u>bulletins@tds.net</u>
Website: <u>stclarewindlake.org</u>

Times Listed Are Subject to Change as of

October 1, 2022

- INTERPRETED SUNDAY MASS -

St. Andrew Parish

714 E. Walworth Ave,
Delavan, WI 53115
Time: 9 a.m.
E-Mail: deafministry@
saspcatholics.org
Website: standrews-delavan.org



1619 Washington St, Grafton, WI 53024 1st & Last Saturdays at 4 p.m.

and 3rd Sunday at 10:30 a.m. E-Mail: parish@stjosephgrafton.org Website: stjosephgrafton.org



St. Mary's Immaculate Conception 1610 Monroe St,

West Bend, WI 53090 2nd Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Email: rprim@wbparishes.org Website: stmaryparishwb.org



6400 Spring St, Racine, WI 53406 Time: 10 a.m.

(on certain Sundays)

Please check with office prior to attending

E-Mail: svrana@stpaulracine.org

Website: stpaulracine.org



St. Peter Parish 2224 30th Ave,

Kenosha, WI 53144

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Please request at least 3 days in advance to: broadwayterp73@gmail.com.

Website: stpeterskenosha.com



W1562 County Road B, Eden,

WI 53019

Please email deafapostolate@archmil.org

for schedule

Website: sothparish.org











CONTACT INFORMATION

Office Hours: : Monday, Wednesday — Fridays (Fr. Christopher is off on Monday early evenings & Tuesdays)

Fr. Christopher Klusman

Director klusmanc@archmil.org Office: 414-501-2022 (Videophone/Voice)

General Inquiries:

deafapostolate@archmil.org Office: (414) 455-2245 (Videophone)

EMERGENCIES Only: Text Fr. Christopher at: (414) 793-1369

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Two ways to get the Hand in Hand newsletters:

- (1) **E-mail:** Cost is FREE and will be emailed to you. Please fill out this online form to get your Newsletter at: https://www.archmil.org/deaf-apostolate/offnav/Subscription-Form.htm
- (2) **By Mail:** Fill out and send registration form & check below:

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Name:	 	
Address:		
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Cost: \$12.00 for 4 Newsletters from Jan. to Dec. 2024.

Make checks payable to: The Deaf Apostolate.

Mail to: **Deaf Apostolate, Archdiocese of Milwaukee**3501 S. Lake Drive

St. Francis, WI 53235