

From The Desk of Father Seth...

PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE

Patience is the power or capacity to endure without complaint something that is difficult or disagreeable, forbearance and longsuffering. Patience is an important tool in overcoming frustration. Patience allows us to suspend judgement long enough to make informed decisions, thus paving the path to a happy and peaceful life.

Below are some benefits of patience:

- Patient people enjoy better mental health.
- Patient people are better friends and neighbors.
- Patience helps us achieve our goals.
- Patience is linked with good health.

May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as if fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. (Rom 15: 5)

Be filled with love and patience, (Titus 2:2) be patient in trouble, (Rom 12:12) be patient with everyone, (1Thes 5:14) endure persecution patiently, (Rev 14:12) for God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat (1Pet 3:20) and so I waited patiently for the Lord (Ps 40:1).

Thus with patience and endurance you will save your life. BE PATIENT at all times.

Blessings,
Fr. Seth

St. Mary's, Avoca

Pastor, Fr. Seth Owusu
Jane True, Secretary

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St. Patrick's, Walnut

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FORMED CODE is **R2Z2VN**

December 2, 2018 First Sunday of Advent Today's Scripture

Sat. 12/1 -5:30 St. Mary; Sun: 12/2 - 8:00 a.m. St. Mary, Avoca, 10:30 a.m. St. Patrick, Walnut

Jeremiah 33:14-16: God fulfills the promise to raise up a good seed from King David.

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2: When Christ returns may he strengthen our hearts in holiness.

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36: In the end Christ will suddenly return and bring redemption.

Sunday, December 9: Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:4,6.

Mass Schedule for December 3 - December 10, 2018

<i>Tues.</i>	12/04	8:30 a.m.	Peace Haven, Walnut	†Josephine Leslie
<i>Wed.</i>	12/05	10:00 a.m.	Avoca Specialty Care	†Esther Dea
		6:00 p.m.	St. Mary's, Avoca	For Vocations
<i>Thurs.</i>	12/06	5:45 p.m.	St. Mary's, Avoca	†George Leslie
<i>Fri.</i>	12/07	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's, Avoca	†Wilbert Brown
<i>Sat.</i>	12/08	5:30 p.m.	St. Mary's, Avoca	†Francis Wise
<i>Sun.</i>	12/09	8:00 a.m.	St. Patrick's, Walnut	†Teresa Martin
		10:30 a.m.	St. Mary's, Avoca	All Parishioners

Normal Weekend Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:30 p.m. St. Mary's

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's(1-3-5)

St. Patrick's (2-4)

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. St. Mary's (2-4)

St. Patrick's (1-3-5)

Reconciliation (Confessions):

Saturday & Sunday before Mass

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE December 2 - December 9

Sunday, December 2 – First Sunday of Advent

- * **Please Join Us for Coffee and Rolls** following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Mary's.
- * **Grades K-7th Religious Education Class #8** is 9:15-10:15 a.m. at St. Mary's.

Wednesday, December 5

- * **8-12 High School Religious Education #9** begins with Mass at 6:00 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m. and Class from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. at St. Mary's, Avoca.

Thursday, December 6

- * **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** is from 7 - 8 p.m. at St. Mary's, Avoca. Father will also be hearing confessions.

Saturday, December 8 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Sunday, December 9 – Second Sunday of Advent

- * **Please Join Us for Coffee and Rolls** following the 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Patrick's.
- * **Grades K-7th Religious Education Class #9** is 9:15-10:15 a.m. at St. Mary's.
- * **5th & 6th Grade Children's Mass** is at 10:30 a.m. at St. Mary's, Avoca.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- √ **8-12 High School Religious Education Class #10** is Wednesday, December 12th from 7:00 - 8:00 P.M. at St. Mary's.
- √ **Knight of Columbus** meeting is Thursday, December 20th beginning with a Rosary at 7:00 p.m. and meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Avoca Legion Hall.

AVOCA FOOD PANTRY bags are in the church entry-way. Please pick one up and return by December 15th. Non-perishable food items are needed along with, soap, toothpaste and brushes, shampoo, etc. Please be sure to check expiration dates. Cash donation are always welcome.

FORMED PICK OF THE WEEK - Prepare the Way of the King by Dr. Scott Hahn. *Ready Your Heart this Advent.* Your Advent journey will take on new meaning as you prepare your heart for the birth of our Lord. This illuminating presentation is sure to help you grow in appreciation of the greatest gift ever given to mankind - Jesus Christ. **GO TO: FORMED.org**, the Parish Code is **R2Z2VN**, then create your account.

“ST. MARY’S - BOOK EXCHANGE” Feel free to share and/or borrow any Good Catholic Reading materials in back of church.

WALNUT COMMUNITY CENTER is hosting “Breakfast with Santa” on Sunday, December 9th. Pancakes breakfast will be served from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. along with activity tables, goodie bags and photo with Santa. This is a free will donation.

NEOLA COMMUNITY CHOIR is presenting **“What’s Happening in the Barn”** on December 2nd at 2 p.m. at Zion Congregational Church - Treynor, December 8th at 7 p.m. at St. Patrick's Church - Neola, and December 16th at 10:30 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Neola.

ST. PATRICK CHRISTMAS FLOWER sign-up forms are in the back of church. If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one please sign up by December 9th. The cost is \$10.

ST. MARY’S CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA forms are on the table in the back of church. If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one please complete the form and return by December 16th. Poinsettias are \$15 each.

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS & MASSES: Donnie Bauerkemper, Helen Juelsgaard, Helen Dea, Eileen Denning, Paul Koster, Marie Manuel, Patricia Koster, Kenneth Suhr, Doris (Jeannie) Mertz, LaVern Mertz, Carol Porter, Doyle Gilland, Mike D’Angelo, Sharon Sorrells, Marie Suhr, John O’Keefe, Janet Doyle Antony, Lori Reinig, Judy Willoughby, Tim Tuel, Robert Stuart, Roland McLaughlin, Monica McLaughlin Merryman, James Hoffmann, Mary VanCamp, Cole Geraghty, Eleanor Brown, Marcus Upton, Shelly Mattox, Ted Aikman, Dan Noonan, Angela Brisbois, Darla Snyder, Ethel Thomas, Gordon Gladdin, Leona Bladt, Lillie Sue Mace, Nathan Hall, Nancy Blum, Sherman Snyder, Carol Gubbels.

TITHES St. Mary: 11/25 Tithes- \$255; Plate - \$37. **St. Patrick:** 11/18 Tithes 585; Plate 129. 11/25 Tithes -\$80; Plate -\$67.

St. Patrick’s Breakfast: Dec. 9 Jane & Wayne Johnk, Betty & Jim Blum.

Ministry 12/08 SM 5:30 p.m.	12/09 SM 10:30 a.m.	12/09 SP 8:00 a.m
Lector Steve Sauvain	Lector Children’s Mass	Lector Peggy Gaul
Comm Deb McCarthy	Comm Jane True*	Comm Jane Hayes-Johnk
Nancy Gress	Harold Hoffmann*	Jim Hoffmann
Jennie Piittmann	Stephanie Geraghty	Judy Kay
Servers Julia Kock	Servers Children’s Mass	Servers Miraylie Stuart
Nora Paulson		Alaina Bruce
Grace Fichter		
U/G Bill Dea	U/G Children’s Mass	U/G D. Bauerkemper
Tom Pattee		Gene Gaul
Gifts Pat Sievers/Melody Cordes	Gifts Children’s Mass	Gifts Jim/Mo Hoffmann