

Generations of Faith We had a wonderful first session last Sunday; 230 participants. We missed those who were unable to come. Follow up sessions for Adults—Sunday December 7 @ 10am in the hall. Join us for coffee & donuts. Students in pre-school → 6th grade will also meet at 10 — 11:15am in the hall. Come join us even if you weren't there last week. Next Generations session is January 25th. * Watch for further information on the GOF bulletin board.



President: Fr. Joe

Adoration Opening:

Fridays at 11:00am until Mass time. If you are able to fill this time (even for a short period), please call Maria @ 262-1703. Thanks!

Saturday, December 6, 2008 5:00pm	Sunday, December 7, 2008 9:00am	Sunday, December 7, 2008 11:30am
Eucharistic Ministers:		
Barbara Bonk John Bonk Kathy Culling Anna LaRoche Krys Williams	Barbara Dilley Bob Evenson Alyson Stogsdill Jim Stogsdill Kevin Woodvine	Karen Evans Diane Garske Lucy Katzenberger Tonilyn Spring Remy Spring
Lectors:		
1st reading: Dave Carey 2nd reading: Barbara O'Lena	1st reading: Kathleen Evenson 2nd reading: Eli Woodvine	1st reading: Linda Houglum 2nd reading: Charlie Miller
Altar Servers:		
Grey Hansen	Mark West	Georgia Forrest Willa Forrest
Mop & Bucket: 12/1 — 12/6, Drew O'Brien family Collection Counters: 12/7, Myrna & Pat Cowan		

UPCOMING EVENTS: Please mark your calendars.

Our Advent retreat with Pegge Bernecker is scheduled for November 30-December 3. Please see the bulletin board for further info.

First Reconciliation: Saturday December 6 @ 10am in Church—Come join us.

Liturgy Meeting, Wednesday 6:30pm

Healing & Anointing Mass, Thursday 7pm, specifically for the tragedy at the hospital

Calendar December 1 — December 7, 2008 Daily Readings

December 1, Monday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am	Isaiah 2:1-5 Psalm 122:1-3, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9 Matthew 8:5-11
December 2, Tuesday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am RCIA, 7pm	Isaiah 11:1-10 Psalm 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 Luke 10:21-24
December 3, Wednesday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Ministries gathering, 5:30—8pm	Isaiah 25:6-10a Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 Matthew 15:29-37
December 4, Thursday: Noon Mass and at 7pm there will be a Healing & Anointing Mass specifically for the tragedy at the hospital Morning prayer, 7:30am Eucharistic Adoration starts after noon service	Isaiah 26:1-6 Psalm 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a Matthew 7:21, 24-27
December 5, Friday: Noon Mass Morning prayer, 7:30am Eucharistic Adoration continuous from yesterday, ends before Mass	Isaiah 29:17-24 Psalm 27:1, 4, 13-14 Matthew 9:27-31
December 6, Saturday: 5pm Mass Reconciliation, 4:00pm	Isaiah 30:19-21, 23-26 Psalm 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 Matthew 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
December 7, Sunday: 9:00am, 11:30am Masses	Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11 (5B) Psalm 85:9-10-11-12, 13-14 2 Pt 3:8-14 Mark 1:1-8



Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church

Phone: 262-4749 O'Neill Hall & Fax: 262-5542
Prayer Chain: pjham@att.net, Pat Hamilton, 262-5250

Email: olph@alaska.net
Website: www.olph.cc

Pastoral Team:

Fr. Tony Dummer, OMI, Moderator
Fr. Andy Sensenig, OMI
Fr. Joe Dowling, OMI
Phone: 262-4749, Option 3

Bro. Craig Bonham, OMI, Pastoral Associate

Marlys Verba, Parish Director:
office 262-5542/262-4749 option 4
Home Phone: 262-8830

Bulletin for November 30, 2008

First Sunday of Advent

Please Come Back

Advent starts our new year of waiting for the cycle of Jesus' birth, life and death to unfold. I particularly want to wake you up to two realities --- that God loves you, and that God is faithful in loving you.

Maybe some of you are feeling, "God's not real to me --- I don't think God really knows or gives a _____ (blank) _____ about what decisions I make." Or maybe you're floundering --- or don't feel you've done much with that potential life within you. But Isaiah says, God has called you BY NAME. Before you were born, your name was carved on the palm of God's hand --- the way we carved the initials of the person we loved in the tree as kids. We tend to forget, so remind yourself daily: You are precious --- God loves you --- and God is faithful. As God says in the song of Hosea, "Come back to me --- don't let fear keep us apart."

How are you doing hearing and responding to God's call. To any teenage readers --- how is this making a difference in how you make decisions for your life? If "God is Faithful", and you have been bonded and joined to Jesus by God, then it's going to have to have an effect on what you decide to do with your friends tonight. . For all of us, it's going to make a difference in how we spend our money --- how we talk and act toward people --- what we decide NOT to do --- who we choose to spend time with.

The point today is that God calls us by name every day. When Jesus says, "Keep awake!" he is telling us to "keep on keeping on" responding to God's call. Don't fall asleep! Because we're not the only ones who are waiting. Just remember God's love song to you: "Long have I waited for your coming home to me, and living deeply our new life!"

fr.tony,omi

PRAYERS NEEDED:

With the tragedies of Wednesday morning, staff and workers of the Hospital surely could use a little extra attention with both prayers, a thoughtful phone call or a cheery card. Fr. Andy has been spending many many hours over there; also as has Meg Zerbinos. A big THANK YOU to them certainly is in order as well as prayers for our State Troopers....a number of whom are involved in this and from our parish. May God bless us all at the time of Sadness, Thanksgiving and Gratefulness.

Fr. Tony, omi

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church

Advent Retreat: November 30th - December 3rd

"How We Do Anything is how We Do Everything: Prepare for Christmas"

- **Do you desire a transformative relationship with Christ to infuse love & relationships?**
- **Would greater depth in your prayer life bring you closer to God and you?**
- **Do you believe that the Holy Spirit is the love interweaving our lives together?**

Gift yourself this Advent with a retreat. Come to one or all of the sessions.

7:00 PM on November 30th, December 1st & 2nd

Following noon Mass on December 1st, 2nd & 3rd

See bulletin board for more info.

Jesse Tree The Biblical persons associated with the gradual coming of the Messiah are represented by the Advent tradition of the Jesse tree, named after the father of David.

Symbols are gradually added to the tree or branch you may have put up. They represent ancestors of Jesus, either in faith or blood line, such as Adam, Noah, Isaac, Moses, Joseph and Mary — Patterns are available for the upcoming Advent weeks by the GOF bulletin board. Fr. Tony suggests putting your tree up but decorating with the Jesse tree symbols until Christmas.

Symbols for this week represent:

- 1] *Jesse tree (1 Samuel 16 1-13)*
- 2] *Birth of Life (Genesis 1:24-28)*
- 3] *Adam & Eve (Genesis 3:1-24)*
- 4] *Noah (Genesis 6:11-22 and 8:6-12)*
- 5] *Abraham (Genesis 12.17 and 13:2-18)*
- 6] *Isaac (Genesis 22-1-14)*

December's Teen

Night will be at Our Lady of the Angels in Kenai on December 7th with Mass starting at 2:30pm, followed by a trip to the Nikiski Pool (transportation provided to and from the pool). Pick up will be at O.L.A. at 6:30 pm. Please note the time changes. Sign up is in the foyer at the teen bulletin board, and the normal \$5 cover charge applies. Female swimwear should be one-piece or covered with a dark t-shirt. For more information, contact Youth Ministry coordinator Adam Bell at 262-4956.

First Week of Advent

Blessing of an Advent Wreath

God of all hopefulness,
we pray for your blessing upon us
and upon this wreath.
With joyful expectation
we, your people, wait in darkness
for the coming of the Christ light.
As we light these candles,
kindle our faith.
As we pray together,
increase our hope.
As we go out into the world,
strengthen our love.
Let your wisdom encircle our lives
as this wreath encircles the candlelight.
And grant us the humility to receive
your light,
even as these candles receive the flame.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kairos

update The third Kairos retreat will be held at Wildwood January 8 to 11. If you can bake some cookies or give a half hour to pray during the weekend, please see Alex Zerbinos or Scott Earsley (262-7094).