



# St. Patrick's Parish Bulletin



[www.stpatrickschurchbrownsvillemn.org](http://www.stpatrickschurchbrownsvillemn.org)

December 21, 2025

## Parish Business

### Mass Schedule

#### Sunday, December 21, 2025

8:00 a.m. ☩ + Bill Howes

#### Tuesday, December 23, 2025

5:30 p.m. ☩ + Tim, + Ellen, & + Lloyd Ogilvie

#### Wednesday, December 24, 2025

6:00 p.m. ☩ + Maria Gartner

#### Sunday, December 28, 2025

8:00 a.m. ☩ + Ron & + Keta Bradford

### Liturgical Roles - Sunday, December 21

**Announcer/Lector:** Bill Fitzpatrick

**Ushers:** Grace & Isaac Bruggeman

**Eucharistic Ministers:** **Host:** Ann Fitzpatrick

**Choir:** Karen Colsch **Precious Blood:** Jan Howes  
& Mary Mell

**Gift Bearers:** Jessica & Ray Waters Family

**Servers:** Summer Colsch & Shauna Colsch

**Rosary:** Mary Lou Graf

**Children's Lectionary:** Teresa Colsch

**Counters:** Mary Lou Graf & Gerry Bruening

### Liturgical Roles - Sunday, December 28

**Announcer/Lector:** Kent Bezdicek

**Ushers:** Mike Moriarty & Dan Boser

**Eucharistic Ministers:** **Host:** Bill Fitzpatrick

**Choir:** Al Christian **Precious Blood:** Adeline Colsch  
& Ann Fitzpatrick

**Gift Bearers:** Martha & John Meyer

**Servers:** Brynn Waters & Thea Waters

**Rosary:** Dan Hurley

**Children's Lectionary:** Joan Reining

**Counters:** Carmen Barthel & Marilyn Rose

### Church Support: December 14, 2025

**Adults:** \$ 885.00

**Adult Online Giving:** \$ 460.00

**Offertory:** \$ 129.00

**Help A Student:** \$ 20.00

**Special Offering:** \$ 10.00

**Immaculate Conception:** \$ 10.00

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### Servant Leadership

**Pastor:** Rev. Andrew Vogel

**E mail Address:** [frapvogel@gmail.com](mailto:frapvogel@gmail.com)

**Sacramental Emergencies:** 507.722.0788

**Blog:** [fathervogel.wordpress.com](http://fathervogel.wordpress.com)

**Podcast:** Musings of a One-eared Catholic Priest

## Fourth Sunday of Advent

### Announcements

☩ **Fr. Vogel will be attending the HIM Broom Tree Retreat in Irene, S. Dakota December 29 – January 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

☩ **Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup> – There will be NO 5:30 pm Mass.**

☩ **Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup> - New Years Mass at St. Patrick's is at 7:00 pm. St. Mary's is at 5:10 pm. This is a Holy Day of Obligation.**

### PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Merry Christmas!

Well, actually not yet. Today we celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent. We see Joseph trying to **love** Mary the best he can in the middle of a sticky situation. Again, as I have said many times, Saint Thomas Aquinas defined love as willing the good of the other. Joseph wills Mary's good. He knows that Mary is an amazing person. However, there was evidence to the contrary right in front of him. He doesn't quite know how to square up all of the facts. So, he decides to divorce her quietly. He's not mad at her. He is not vindictive. He still loves her. He still cares for her. He does not want others to shame her or think less of her. However, once an angel explains everything, he does exactly what the angel commanded him to do. In the confessional, sometimes I ask kids in regard to the Fourth Commandment, "Did you do what your parents asked you to do right away every time?" We can ask this question of ourselves in regard to God. Did we, like Joseph, do what God asked of us right away?" As I have said before, often it's not that we don't know what God wants us to do. Often, it's that we hesitate or like Joseph at first, we let fear get the best of us. Jesus says many times throughout the Gospels, "Do not be afraid." Do not be afraid to love greatly, to will someone else's good greatly, to sacrifice greatly for the good of spouse, children, friends, and maybe even strangers.

As I indicated in the greeting, Merry Christmas. Just a reminder, on Christmas Eve Mass is 4 PM at St. Mary's, 5 PM at St. Olaf, 6 PM at St. Patrick's, and 9 PM back at St. Mary's. Then on Christmas Day, we will have Mass at 9:30 AM at St. Mary's. Jesus Christ has taken on our humanity so that we can take on His divinity. Jesus has elevated our humanity into the Godhead. What was mortal and fallen has become eternal and divinized. Through Jesus Christ, we are adopted into the family of God. We are beloved sons and daughters of God the Father. Due to our Baptism, this is our foundational identity. In a fallen world that says we can define ourselves, it is good to remember that we have an objective unchanging identity as believed daughters and sons of God. The incarnation of God, of the Second Person of the Trinity, of God the Son, is the beginning of the end of the victory of God over Satan. This is worthy of being the second most important day in the Liturgical

**Church Support: December 14, 2025**

Christmas Offering:	\$ 25.00
Choir Donation- Funeral:	\$ 50.00
VFW Christmas Donation:	\$ 125.00
Mass Stipends:	\$ 165.00
Memorial: Jan Fitzpatrick:	\$ 200.00
Religious Retirement:	\$ 573.00
Christmas Flower Donations:	\$ 66.00
Votives:	\$ 12.25

**TOTAL \$ 2,730.25****Liturgical Roles - Wednesday, December 24**

**Announcer/Lector:** Karen Colsch  
**Ushers:** Ralph Konkel & Nick Serres  
**Eucharistic Ministers:** **Host:** Bill Fitzpatrick  
**Choir:** Adeline Colsch **Precious Blood:** Ann Fitzpatrick & Hope Flannery  
**Gift Bearers:** Martha & John Meyer  
**Servers:** Jackson Zaiger & Colin Flannery  
**Counters:**

**Year-end Contributions**

Many thanks to all of you who have generously supported St. Patrick's Parish this past year. Contributions intended for 2025 should be received in the Parish Office by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Financial statements for 2025 will be mailed by the end of January 2026.

**PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

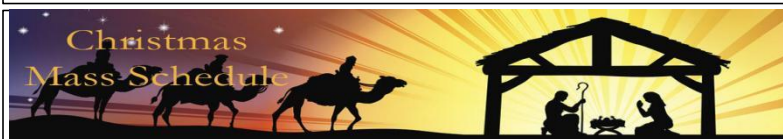
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Calendar. (The first being Easter.) Merry Christmas. May you and your family celebrate this infinitely important day with great fanfare and vigor.

Merry Christmas, Fr Vogel

**Christmas Décor**

Each year we ask for donations for the purchase of our Christmas plants. Your donation allows us to adorn the altar and entrance with holiday arrangements. Parishioners can make a donation in the collection baskets at each door following Mass on December 21<sup>st</sup>. **Thank you!**

**Christmas Eve:**

4:00 p.m. @ St. Mary's  
 6:00 p.m. @ St. Patrick's  
 9:00 p.m. @ St. Mary's

**Christmas Day:**

9:30 a.m. @ St. Mary's

**New Year's Eve:**

5:10 p.m. @ St. Mary's  
 7:00 p.m. @ St. Patrick's

**Semcac Food Shelf**

There is a need for everything at this time. They are very grateful for your continued support.

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Advent candles shine brightly in the midst of darkness, symbolizing and reminding us that Jesus came as Light into our dark world. The candles are often set in a circular Advent wreath.



The **fourth candle** represents **peace** and is called the "Angel's Candle." The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace--He came to bring people close to God and to each other again. The **fifth candle** represents **light and purity** and is called "Christ's candle." It is placed in the middle and is lit on Christmas Day.



✠ Our friend and parishioner, Sheryl Bissen, had a surgical procedure on Friday. Please keep her in your prayers.



**Mass Intentions & Offerings** envelopes can be dropped in offertory on Sunday or mailed to St. Patrick's Parish at the address below. Please indicate for whom the Mass intention is for, the preferred date(s) for the intention and who the donor is. Please note that specific dates may not be available, we will do all we can to honor your date on or as close to as possible. Also available is online giving at [www.stpatrickschurchbrownsvillemn.org](http://www.stpatrickschurchbrownsvillemn.org) and click on the 'Online Giving' link or set up automatic payment plan by calling the Office.

**Donations to St. Patrick's Cemetery** can be sent to St. Patrick's Parish Office at 604 Adams Street, P.O. Box 155, Brownsville, MN 55919 OR placed in the collection basket during Mass. Mark "St. Patrick's Cemetery" on the outside of envelope and on the check.

**Requests for the Prayer Network** may be emailed to [stpatricks@acegroup.cc](mailto:stpatricks@acegroup.cc) or leave a message at the Parish Office at 507-482-6818. Make sure to provide your name, to whom the request is for and any other details you wish.

**Reconciliation** is available at **7:30 to 7:45 am on Sunday** and **5:00 to 5:20 pm on Tuesday**. Confessions are taken in the confessional located at the back of the church.