



**December 1, 2024**

## **First Sunday of Advent**

**Parish Priest**

**Father Marreddy Pothireddy**

**Assisting Priest - Father Joshua Miller**

(For St. Joseph, Sacred Heart  
& Christ the King Parishes )

# ST. JOSEPH

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

512 South Elm Avenue  
Owatonna, MN 55060

Office Phone (507) 451-4845

Website: [www.stjosephowatonna.org](http://www.stjosephowatonna.org)



### **Office Hours:**

Mon-Thurs 8:30am-4:30pm

Friday 8:30am-3:00pm

### **Mass Schedule: Weekends**

Saturday 4:00pm

Sunday 8:00am and 10:00am

### **Weekdays and Holy Days**

(See schedule in the bulletin)

### **Confession**

Saturday 3:00pm - 3:45pm

### Christmas Mass Times

St. Joseph Parish Christmas Vigil - 4:00pm, 8:00pm

Christ the King, Medford Christmas Vigil - 6:00pm

St. Joseph Parish Christmas Day - 9:00am



“And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a  
cloud with power and great glory.” Luke 21:27

## A message from the desk of Father Marreddy

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of advent, December 01, 2024 – C Cycle**

**Readings: Jeremiah 33:14-16; 1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2; Luke 21:25-28, 34-36**

**What is Advent? When is Advent? How can Advent make a difference in my relationship with God & others?**

The word “**Advent**” comes from the Latin word “*adventus*” meaning “**arrival**” or “**coming**,” particularly of something having great importance. In the season with this name, we keep in mind both “advents” of Christ, the first in Bethlehem and the second yet to come.

The time before Christmas is Advent, *a season of preparation for Christmas*. Advent is a season in the Christian year that lasts for about four weeks. It begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve, thus there is some variation in its length.

Christians prepare for celebrating the birth of Jesus by remembering the longing of the Jews for a Messiah. In Advent, we’re reminded of how much we ourselves also need a Savior, and we look forward to our Savior’s second coming even as we prepare to celebrate his first coming at Christmas.

The **Advent Wreath** and the **Colors of Advent** are the most popular symbols of the season. **The Advent Wreath is a circular garland of evergreen branches** where four candles are arranged. During Advent one candle on the wreath is lit each week representing the coming of the Lord. The first, second and fourth weeks’ candles are **purple**, the primary color of Advent, symbolizing seriousness, repentance and royalty. **The rose or pink** colored candle used during the third week represents joy and reveals a shift in the season away from repentance and toward celebration. The white colored candle in the center, if used, represents the purity of Christ.

Advent is a period of spiritual preparation in which believers make themselves ready for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ. Celebrating Advent typically involves a season of prayer, fasting and repentance, followed by anticipation of hope and joy.

Advent is celebrated not only by thanking God for Christ’s first coming as a baby, but also for His presence among us today through the Holy Spirit, and in anticipation of His final coming at the end of time.

Be Calm in your waiting; Let your hearts be strong; because the coming of the Lord is near-**James 5:8**.

“Most High, Glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my mind. Give me a right faith, a firm hope and perfect love so that I may always and in all things act according to your perfect will” **St. Francis of Assisi**.

**I take this opportunity to invite you all to participate in St. Joseph’s “Singing with the Angels” Christmas Caroles on December 15 @ 3pm, please join us to celebrate Christmas at St. Joseph’s Parish as a big extended family to enjoy some Christmas music and have a fellowship together as family.**

**Happy Advent Season.**

Blessings!

Please consider St. Joseph Parish as you prepare for the year end giving. Your generosity will go a long way in the life of the Church upkeep and grounds. Your support is greatly appreciated.

## Weekly Readings and Mass Intentions

Monday, December 2, 2024 <i>Is 2:1-5/Mt 8:5-11</i>	Advent Weekday 7:15am - Sacred Heart Church
Tuesday, December 3, 2024 <i>Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24</i>	St. Francis Xavier, Priest 8:00am - Lanny Huemann†
Wednesday, December 4, 2024 <i>Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37</i>	Advent Weekday - St. John Damascene, Priest & Doctor of the Church 8:00am - Dorry Kenney†
Thursday, December 5, 2024 <i>Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21,24-27</i>	Advent Weekday 8:00am - Leo and Bernice Klinkner†
Friday, December 6, 2024 <i>Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31</i>	Advent Weekday - St. Nicholas, Bishop 8:00am - Christ the King - Mark and Joe Smith†
Saturday, December 7, 2024 <i>Is 30:19-21,23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1,5a, 6-8</i>	St. Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor of the Church 8:00am - Bernice Kloos†
Sunday, December 8, 2024	Second Sunday of Advent
<i>Bar 5:1-9</i>	12/07/24 4:00pm - Ray Pirk†
<i>Phil 1:4-6,8-11</i>	12/07/24 5:30pm - Christ the King - Emil and Margaret Spinler†
<i>Lk 3:1-6</i>	12/08/24 8:00am - Dick Thamert†
	12/08/24 10:00am - Parishioners

### St. Vincent de Paul Society



#### December 1 – First Sunday of Advent:

As we begin Advent we are called to “wait” in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Wherever you live in our parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell.

**Thank you for your donations to St. Vincent de Paul! May you continue to be blessed as you wait in joyful hope for the grace of the Christmas season. God Bless You!**

We meet the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at **6:30 p.m.**, at **St. Joseph’s Church**. **If you would like further information on growing your spiritual life and serving those in need in our community**, please join us at a meeting or contact Ed Wacek at [edwacek46@gmail.com](mailto:edwacek46@gmail.com). **Our phone is 507-676-5508.**

### Parish Staff

**Parish Priest** – Fr. Marreddy Pothireddy  
[pastor@stjosephowatonna.org](mailto:pastor@stjosephowatonna.org) (507) 451-4845

**Administrator**– Al Christenson (507) 451-4845  
[apchristenson@stjosephowatonna.org](mailto:apchristenson@stjosephowatonna.org)

**Parish Office**– Linda Strand (507) 451-4845  
[parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org](mailto:parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org)

**Bookkeeping**– Erika Starman

**Liturgical Music Director** – Carol Hodapp  
[carolhodapp@gmail.com](mailto:carolhodapp@gmail.com)

**Faith Formation Coordinator** – Brittany Boubin  
[shsjyouth@shsjfaithformation.org](mailto:shsjyouth@shsjfaithformation.org) (507) 686-5184

**Maintenance**– Dave Oman

**Facebook**– <https://www.facebook.com/StJosephParishOwatonna/>

## Church News & Events



**You're invited to attend the Installation Mass of Fr. Marreddy Pothireddy** as Parish Priest of St. Joseph Parish, Owatonna and Christ the King Church, Medford celebrated by  
The Most Reverend Bishop Robert Barron  
Diocese of Winona-Rochester  
**10:00 AM Sunday, December 22, 2024**  
**St. Joseph Parish, Owatonna**  
Brunch will be served in Joseph Hall after Mass. (Free will offering)  
Please **RVSP by Monday, December 16** if you plan to attend the meal at 507-451-4845.

**DONUT SUNDAY**  
December 8th  
Joseph Hall after Mass

**Owatonna KC Council 945 Benefit Breakfast** for Catholic Daughters & Our Lady of Guadalupe Festival  
**Sunday, December 15 • 8am - 12pm**  
St. Mary's School Cafeteria  
**Advance tickets are \$9 or \$10 at the door.**

*Two sensational breakfast choices and table service!*

**KC Omelet Breakfast: 3 egg omelet selections**  
**KC Country Breakfast: eggs fried or scrambled, ham or sausage.**

Served with pancakes or french toast, milk, or coffee.

Advanced sale tickets may be purchased in the parish office or from breakfast benefactors.



**Catholic Community**  
**Communal Penance Service**  
Tuesday, December 17th at 6:00pm  
St. Joseph Parish

**Volunteers needed to decorate the church!**

\*\*\*\*\*

We will begin decorating the Gathering and Joseph Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 18th around 9am.

On Sunday, Dec. 22nd after the Installation Mass, volunteers can set up the manger scene and the two 10 foot tall Christmas trees on the altar.

Monday, Dec. 23rd we can set out the poinsettia on the altar and finish what is left.

If you would like to volunteer again this year, please call the parish office at 507-451-4845.

Your help in decorating our church for the Christmas season is greatly appreciated and can be a fun memorable tradition for your family!

**Toys for Tots of Steele County and Family to Family of Steele County**

are working together to provide a Christmas for needy children age 15 & younger and families.



Consider taking an angel tag from the tree in the Gathering Hall. Attach the angel tag to a new, unwrapped item you've purchased and place in the Toys for Tots box - located in the parish office or Gathering Hall.

If you prefer to donate money, send gift cards or checks to:

Toys for Tots

PO Box 199

Owatonna MN 55060

Gift cards will be used to purchase toys. Cash donations will be used to purchase food cards. **The final day for**

**donations will be Thursday, December 12th.**  
*Thank you for your generosity!*



***You are the Light of the World***

**Appeal Goal: \$50,880.00**

**Current Balance: \$45,930.00**

*Give online: catholicismn.org*

**Envelopes are available in the Gathering Hall, Church entrances and Parish Office for mail in donations.** We are \$4950.00 away from meeting our goal.





## Church News & Events

You're invited for Christmas music and fellowship!

Sunday, December 15th • 3pm  
St. Joseph Parish, Owatonna



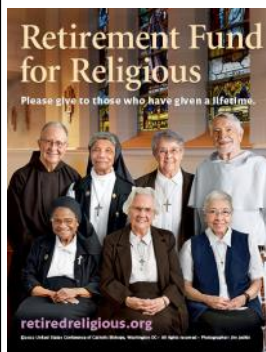
The Adult and Youth Choir will perform "Sing With the Angels" and Christmas carols.

Refreshments will be served in Joseph Hall. For information contact Carol Hodapp at [carolhodapp@gmail.com](mailto:carolhodapp@gmail.com).

*Free will offerings will be accepted for the Music Ministry.*



### Diocesan Collection December 8, 2024



Many aging religious spent decades ministering for little pay. Now, their communities do not have enough retirement savings to care for them. You can help meet their needs by donating to the Retirement Fund for Religious at Mass next weekend. If you would like to contribute, use the envelope stapled to this bulletin and drop it in next weekend's collection basket.

### We are recruiting Altar Servers!



Parents, if your son or daughter have received their First Holy Communion, are entering the 4th Grade and would like to be an altar server, call the parish office at 507-451-4845 for more information about Altar Server training at St. Joseph Parish.

**Magnificat** renewals or new subscription orders are due by the end of December. Cost for the year is \$34.95. Checks can be dropped off in the parish office or the collection basket marked "Magnificat."



### Keeping Christ in Christmas!

Parish Christmas Cards are back!

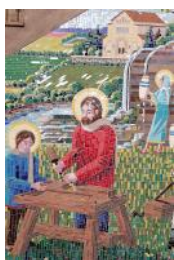
**A pack of 25 cards has been reduced to \$20!**

St. Joseph Parish Card featuring the beautiful mosaic of

St. Joseph and the Holy Family

**Cards can be purchased in the parish office.**

Proceeds from the sales of these cards assist the Knights of Columbus with their charitable work.



### Young Adult Catholic December Event

Young Adult Catholics ages 20-35 are invited to attend the next Young Adult Catholic Fellowship Night on Thursday, December 19th from 5:30pm-7:30pm at Joseph Hall, St. Joseph Parish. Singles, couples, and families with young children are invited to a Christmas Social! Plan to come dressed in an ugly sweater or your favorite Christmas attire. The night will also include fellowship, fun, and light refreshment. Feel free to invite friends!



If you have any questions please text Lucas and Kristine Arndt at 507-573-3532.

## Sacred Heart/St. Joseph Faith Formation News

### The Faith Formation Christmas Wreath and Poinsettia Fundraiser

Reminder to all who placed an order for the Faith Formation Wreath and Poinsettia Fundraiser to please pick up your items on Saturday December 7 between 9 am and 12 pm in Nazareth Hall of St. Joseph Church. If you ordered a poinsettia for either Sacred Heart or St. Joseph Parishes for Christmas, you do not need to pick up the poinsettia.



## How can I serve?



Please consider becoming a Liturgical Minister at St. Joseph Church. There's something for everyone! See contact info. below:

**Altar Servers** – Parish Office (507)451-4845,  
[parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org](mailto:parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org)

**Communion Ministers** – Linda Huffington  
(507)456-5274 (leave message) or  
[lindamwhuffington@gmail.com](mailto:lindamwhuffington@gmail.com)

**Greeters** – Wayne & Betty Kubicek  
(507)451-8683, [bj-n-me@hotmail.com](mailto:bj-n-me@hotmail.com)

**Homebound Ministries** – Vickie Skala  
(507)456-2230, [vskala9174@gmail.com](mailto:vskala9174@gmail.com)

**Lectors** – Linda Strand (507)363-2596,  
[strand619@gmail.com](mailto:strand619@gmail.com)

**Music Ministry** – Carol Hodapp  
(507)213-6981, [carolhodapp@gmail.com](mailto:carolhodapp@gmail.com)

**Sacristans** – Ellyn Jardine (507)-444-4088,  
[leej7@reagan.com](mailto:leej7@reagan.com)

**Ushers** – Pat Rose (507)456-1146  
[rosepatp@gmail.com](mailto:rosepatp@gmail.com)

## Liturgical Ministers Schedule December 7/8, 2024

### Saturday - 4:00pm

EM: Dianne Unruh, Rose Ann Rypka, Matt Thurnau  
Lector: Linda Strand  
Sacristan: Julio Letona  
Ushers: Scott Yentsch, Mark Stradtherr  
Sue Yentsch, Larry Goettl  
Altar Servers: Julio Letona, *2 Servers needed*  
Greeters: Katherine Rypka

### Sunday - 8:00am

EM: Courtney Keller, Lynn Lattery, Diane Kaplan  
Lector: Annika Slacter  
Sacristan: Joanne Evans  
Ushers: Joel Dulas, Tyler Keller  
Rhynda Dulas, Doug Phillips  
Altar Servers: Charlie, Jacob and Sam Dulas  
Greeters: *Greeters Needed*

### Sunday - 10:00am

EM: Lee Jardine, Vickie Skala, Katie Holzerland  
Lector: Ellyn Jardine  
Sacristan: Ruth Broumley  
Ushers: Chuck Jurgens, Jerry Atkinson  
King Jurgens, Dina Atkinson  
Altar Servers: Carson Skala, Cole Trom, Westin Trom  
Greeters: Shannon Iacovino

*Volunteers are needed in all the liturgical ministries.  
Call 507-451-4845 if you are able serve.*

**St. Joseph's Church**  
**Youth Choir**

Come join the St. Joseph's Youth Choir.  
Practice will be one hour before Mass.

**December 15** at the 10:00 am Mass  
Practice at 9:00 am

**January 19** at the 10:00am Mass  
Practice at 9:00am

**February 16** at the 10:00am Mass  
Practice at 9:00am

**Rehearsal Location :**  
Basement - Nazareth Hall

**More Information :**  
Email Carol Hodapp:  
[carolhodapp@gmail.com](mailto:carolhodapp@gmail.com)

## December Funeral Chairpersons

**Linda Rice**  
507-451-3606

**Diane McShane**  
507-456-0492

### **Please Contact the Parish Office If...**

- \* A member of your family is in the hospital.
- \* You want communion brought to your home.
- \* Your address, phone, email has changed.
- \* You wish to register your family with the Parish.

**Phone: 451-4845 or**  
**email: [parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org](mailto:parishoffice@stjosephowatonna.org)**



In the Kindergarten Readiness classes we have been talking about all of the things that we have to be thankful for. Each child wrote one thing on a feather for our turkey in the hallway. Here are some of the things that they are thankful for: Families, houses, sunsets, things my mom buys me, food, hearts, flowers, rainbows, pets and trees.



### Christ the King, Medford Events

**THANK YOU!!!** Christ the King CCW and Faith Formation are happy to say “Thank you” for making the PIE BINGO event a success this year! The hall was full and families had a lot of fun! We hope to see you again next year!



Sat. Nov. 23, 2024



### Sewing/Quilting Group from Christ the King

If you are looking for a Gift for Christmas, graduation, birthday or other occasion, the ladies have a nice selection of quilts. Quilts will be on display downstairs again on December 14<sup>th</sup> after the Christmas program or contact Carla at 507-213-6465 to view at another time. The ladies sew/quilt every Monday.



Scan the QR Code for more information on upcoming events and happenings at Christ the King Church in Medford or visit the website at [www.ckmedfordmn.org](http://www.ckmedfordmn.org)






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