

St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish Catholic Campus Ministry

DECEMBER 24, 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

603 N Leverett, Fayetteville AR 72701

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FOURTH SUNDAY

OF Advent

Pastor:

Fr. Andrew Hart.....aphart@uark.edu

Associate Pastor:

Fr. Jason Sharbaugh.....jsharba@uark.edu

Deacons:

Norm DeBriyn.....

.....ndebriyn@razorbackfoundation.com

Bud Baldwin.....

.....bud.baldwin@regionsinsurance.com

Campus Ministers:

Adam Koehler.....akoehler@uark.edu

Juliane Pierinijpierini@uark.edu

Music Minister:

Marguerite Martinez....

.....musicminister@catholicogs.com

Administrative Assistant:

Nora Bryant.....nbryant@uark.edu

Faculty Advisors

Dc. Paul Cronan.....cronan@uark.edu

Dr. Theresa Cronan.....thercron@uark.edu

Newman Center Hours

Sunday—Tuesday.....8:00am—9:00pm

Friday—Saturday.....8:00am—5:00pm

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Mass Schedule

12/25 Monday.....10:00am

**No Daily Mass 12/26 through
12/30**

The Center is also closed

12/31 Sun—Reconciliation.....9:00am-9:45am

Mass.....10:00am

Reconciliation.....4:00pm-4:45pm

Mass.....5:00pm

Reconciliation.....7:00pm-7:45pm

Mass.....8:00pm

Administrative Office Hours

Monday—Tuesday.....8:00am—5:00pm

Friday.....8:00am—12:00pm

Saturday.....Closed

Sunday.....Closed



DECEMBER 24, 2017

HERE I AM!

A Women's Religious Vocation Discernment Retreat will be held – February 24-25, 2018 at the Diocesan Pastoral Center, 2500 N. Tyler St., Little Rock, AR 72207. Come see that Sisters are Real People! The retreat is for young women 16-35 years of age who want to learn and discern about Religious Life. Sponsored by the Diocesan Offices of Vocations, Youth & Campus Ministry, & Minister for Religious, the retreat will include talks on Religious Life by Sisters from congregations serving in Arkansas; time for prayer & reflection; and opportunity to speak with the Sisters. The Retreat is free. Registration deadline is February 15th. For the Registration Form and more information click on <http://bit.ly/dolrwr2018> or contact Sr. Mary Clare, Minister for Religious smcbezner@dolr.org or 501-664-0340, ext. 309.

Get a*Spire*, a free monthly e-mail newsletter covering the Catholic faith, Pope Francis and the Diocese of Little Rock. Brief, casual and entertaining -- it's news you might have missed, simple inspirations and useful tips for achieving an exceptional Catholic life. Sign-up at <http://www.arkansas-catholic.org/publications/e-letter>

St. Thomas is a contributing member of Cooperative Emergency Outreach (CEO), a faith cooperative located in Fayetteville composed of volunteer workers from many local churches serving those in need in southern Washington County. CEO provides a food pantry, as well as financial assistance with utilities, gasoline, clothing, rent, and bus transportation. Thank you for your recent contributions!

If you are interested in volunteering at CEO, please contact our parish representative, Anne Marie Candido at 841-2673. This is a wonderful opportunity for students and our Catholic campus community to fulfill our social calling as Christians to help the poor.

NWA Catholic Respect Life will sponsor NWA March for Life. If you are not planning on the March in Washington D.C. or in Little Rock, please plan on joining NWA pro-lifers on Sunday, January 21st at 2:30p starting at St. Joseph's church in Fayetteville.

We will walk approx. 2.9 miles to Planned Parenthood abortion center for a short rally. Fayetteville Judge Joseph Wood will be our key note speaker. Hot cocoa and refreshments will be served at St. Joseph following rally.

Holiday Mass Schedule

December 25—10:00am
December 31—10:00am and 5:00pm
January 1—9:00am

An Arkansas Catholic subscription is a great gift for any Catholic home. With this special offer, you can buy two one-year subscriptions (46 issues), and get a third one free!

A print subscription is \$26 for one year or \$24 if recipient over age 65. Digital subscriptions are \$12.95 each. Send your order to: Arkansas Catholic Gift Subscriptions, P.O. Box 7869, Little Rock AR 72217. We'll send a card to the recipients telling them of your gift starting in December, and they'll get their first issue soon after. Please order by calling 501-664-0125 before December 15, 2017, to be sure of delivery in time for Christmas.


POST-ABORTION SUPPORT GROUP:

Do you feel alone, hurting or unforgiven from a past abortion? The Respect Life Office, through Project Rachel, is starting a support group for men and women, beginning February 19, 2018. The spiritual journey lasts 9 weeks, with small groups of four to six. Groups will be formed in Little Rock, Fayetteville/Rogers, and the Hot Springs area and other areas in Arkansas depending on the geographic location of the participants. All names and meeting places are strictly confidential.

For details call 501-664-0340, ext. 357 or email: helenevans@sbcglobal.net.

All inquiries must be made by February 19, 2018.

Our Mission Statement

 We are a Christian faith community with a unique mission and commitment to the students, faculty and staff of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. All in the Fayetteville area are welcome in this community. We prayerfully strive to be Christ-like by providing a source of guidance, spiritual growth and awareness of our Roman Catholic identity, a challenge to service and an enthusiastic spirit of worship. We are a sacrament and proclaim God's love with the message of hope, sacrifice, reconciliation and everlasting life. We encourage each other to accept the Eucharist as the Lord's invitation and the center of our lives.

Find Us Ready

Chorus:

Find us ready Lord, not standing still
Find us working and loving and doing Your will
Find us ready Lord, faithful in love
Building the kingdom that's here and above
Building the kingdom of mercy and love

We must wait for the Lord for we know not the time
So here and today, we gather and pray
Discovering love in our midst

We must make straight the path
God's love revealed
With sin cast aside, God's mercy alive
Fear not for here is your God

Lifting up those bowed down
We prepare for our God
Rejoice in the Lord, for hope has been born
In hearts where our God finds a home

Tom Booth

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Sweet Jesus

Sweet Jesus, my Savior, You are my faithful Friend
You made me, You know me,
You've seen my ev'ry sin
My soul is amazed by the gift of Your grace
And the arms that take me in
Sweet Jesus my Savior, You are my faithful Friend
Sweet Jesus my shelter, You are my faithful Friend
The refuge I run to when the world comes closing in
Why should I be afraid when I know I am saved
By the arms that take me in
Sweet Jesus my shelter, You are my faithful Friend

Sweet Jesus my Shepherd, You are my faithful
Friend
You hold me You lead me, I'll follow to the end
And once more I will say on that beautiful day
When Your arms take me in
Sweet Jesus, my Shepherd, You are my faithful
Friend

Matthew West | Todd Smith | Tony Wood

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Merry Christmas From St. Thomas Aquinas University Parish

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Children of the parish are somewhat focused on Santa Claus these days, who is keeping an eye on who's naughty and who's nice. Santa Claus, with his heavenly patron Saint Nicholas, has been more or less in charge of gift-giving to American children for a hundred years or so. In other places, perhaps more attentive to our Christian tradition, there are different gift-bearers. In Greece, Saint Basil delivers the presents on his feast day, December 31, and makes sure everyone is sprinkled with holy water. The Baby Jesus is in charge elsewhere, called the Christkind in Austria and Belgium, El Niño Jesús in Columbia, and Le Petit Jesus in France, where he shares his duties with Père Noël. In the Czech Republic almost everyone is atheist, but Jeiek, the infant Jesus, brings gifts to one and all. In Poland the "Star Man" is said to bring the gifts, although often he turns out to be the village priest in disguise. Saint Nicholas, not his Americanized cousin, is the giver in Holland, where he wears a bishop's miter, and in Russia, where he wears a bishop's crown. Soviet Russia tried to dethrone Saint Nicholas and promote Grandfather Frost, but no one was much fooled by this attempt to squeeze religion out of Christ's birth. One country has a saintly woman in charge of the gifts, Saint Lucy, honored in Sweden on December 13, when children serve their parents breakfast in bed, and others awake to news that they have been nominated for a Nobel Prize. Some children have a second round of gifts on Epiphany, when the magi assume the gift-giving duties. In general, the gifts of Christmas are simple pleasures, not great heaps of treasures. Once upon a time, a new pair of socks or an orange was enough for us. No matter what gifts we receive, all of them are to point us to the true gift, and the true giver. --Rev. James Field, Copyright (c) J. S. Paluch Co.