

PASTOR'S CORNER

“HE CAME UNTO HIS OWN AND HIS OWN RECEIVED HIM NOT!”

My Dear Faithful,

The time of Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Savior at Christmas. In this joyous season of expectation, we place ourselves in the same dispositions as God's chosen people in the Old Testament whom He prepared over a long period of four thousand years to receive the Savior. In one respect, though, we must not imitate the Israelites. St. John tells us in his Gospel how the Word made flesh was received when He came to dwell among His people: “He came unto His own, and His own received Him not!”

How easy it is to rebuke the chosen people for rejecting the Messiah. But can we honestly say that we have received Him any better, we who, as Christians, are more “His own” than they? Let us hear St. John Vianney, preaching to his faithful at Ars:

“We cannot dwell upon the conduct of the Jews, my dear people, without being struck with amazement. These very people had waited for God for four thousand years, they had prayed much because of the great desire they had to receive Him, and yet when He came, He could not find a single person to give Him the poorest lodging. The all-powerful God was obliged to make His dwelling with the animals. And yet, my dear people, I find in the conduct of the Jews, criminal as it was, not a subject for explanations, but a theme for the condemnation of the conduct of the majority of Christians. We can see that the Jews had formed an idea of their Redeemer which did not conform with the state of austerity in which He appeared. It seemed as if they could not persuade themselves that this could indeed be He who was to be their Savior; St. Paul tells us clearly that if the Jews had recognized Him as God, they would never have put Him to death. There is, then, some small excuse for the Jews. But what excuse can we make, my dear brethren, for the coldness and the contempt which we show towards Jesus Christ? Oh, yes, we do indeed truly believe that Jesus Christ came upon earth, that He provided the most convincing proofs of His divinity. Hence the reason for our hope. We rejoice, and we have good reason to recognize Jesus Christ as our God, our Savior, and our Model. Here is the foundation of our faith. ***But, tell me, with all this, what homage do we really pay Him? Do we do more for Him than if we did not believe all this? Tell me, dear brethren, does our conduct correspond at all to our beliefs? We are wretched creatures. We are even more blameworthy than the Jews.***”
(emphasis added)

Our Lord comes amongst us each Christmas, but the majority of us Christians do not receive Him. Yes, we believe He is God, but our conduct does not conform to this belief. Our actions speak only of “coldness and contempt” for Him. It is by *our actions* that we have rejected Him. If we would have it otherwise this Christmas, we must take advantage of this time of penitential preparation. Let us heed the cry of St. John the Baptist, the great Advent preacher, who invites us to bring forth fruits worthy of penance. Let us listen to his invitation to lay the ax to the root, cutting away that conduct which does not conform with our name of Christian. If we would receive our Savior this year with anything more than our habitual coldness and contempt, we must take this time of Advent seriously. It cannot be that we Christians are found more blameworthy than the Jews, having Christ among us, but not receiving Him.

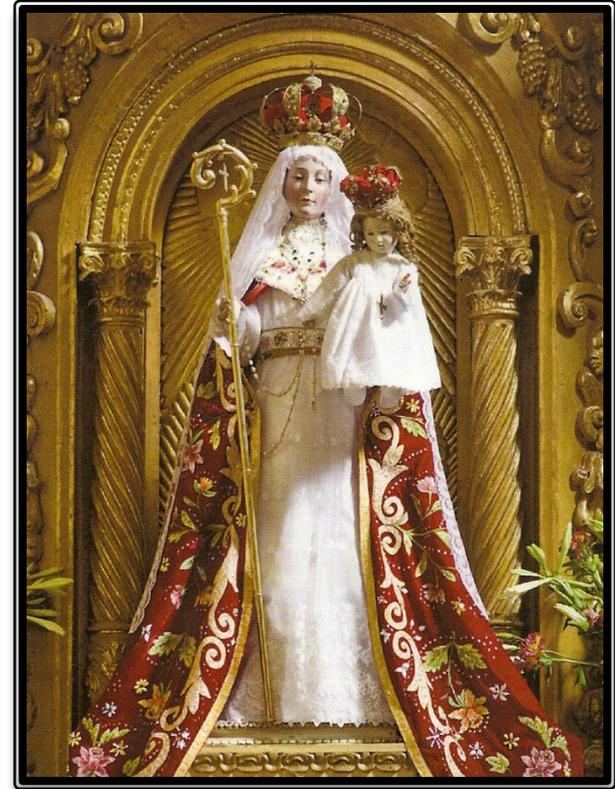
With my prayers for a fruitful Advent,

Fr. Nicholas McManus

OUR LADY OF GOOD SUCCESS

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Society of St. Pius X
Traditional Latin Mass



DECEMBER 2020

1460 5th Avenue East
Dickinson, ND 58601

Pastor: Fr. Nicholas McManus 303-325-7558
Coordinator: Stephan Kershnik 701-690-0317

MASS SCHEDULE

DATE	FEAST	SCHEDULE*
Tuesday, Dec. 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception	12:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe	5:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 13	Third Sunday of Advent	1:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 19	Ember Saturday	<i>5:00 PM Mass in Mandan</i>
Sunday, Dec. 20	Fourth Sunday of Advent	1:00 PM
Friday, Dec. 25	THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD	10:00 AM
Saturday, Dec. 26	St. Stephen	5:00 PM
Sunday, Dec. 27	Sunday in the Octave of Christmas	1:00 PM
Friday, Jan. 1	Feast of the Circumcision	1:00 PM
Saturday, Jan. 2	First Saturday	<i>8:30 AM Mass in Mandan</i>
Sunday, Jan. 3	Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus	1:00 PM
* Confessions begin one hour before every Mass		

DONATION INFORMATION

To donate by check or money order, please mail your donation to the address below:

***Our Lady of Good Success Church
P.O. Box 1873
Dickinson, ND 58602-1873***

You may also donate online by visiting
www.olgsdickinson.org/donate
and clicking on the yellow "Donate" button.

COLLECTIONS

First Collection	Operating expenses for OLGS.
Second Collections	<i>Please write the purpose of your donation on the memo line on your check</i>
-Sunday, Dec. 6	US District Foreign Missions
-Sunday, Dec. 13	OLGS Building Fund
-Sunday, Dec. 20	St. Isadores Priory

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Upcoming Holy Days of Obligation.** The Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, Christmas, December 25, and the Feast of the Circumcision, January 1, are Holy Days of Obligation. Attendance at Mass and refraining from servile work are obligatory under pain of mortal sin on these days. If unable to attend Mass, be sure to sanctify the day by praying the Rosary and reading the propers of the Mass.
- **Consecration to Our Lady.** On December 8, the Feast the Immaculate Conception, Fr. McManus will preside over the total consecration to Our Lady according to the method of St. Louis de Montfort. The consecrations will take place immediately after Mass.
- **Days of Fast and Abstinence.** Although no longer binding under pain of mortal sin, the faithful are strongly encouraged to observe the following traditional days of fast and abstinence:
 - **The Winter Ember Days** on December 16, 18 and 19. Ember Wednesday and Saturday are traditional days of fast and partial abstinence and Ember Friday of fast and complete abstinence.
 - **December 7**, which is a traditional day of fast and partial abstinence in preparation for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
- **Christmas Celebration.** Please join us in the church basement after the Christmas Mass for a celebration in honor of Our Savior's birth! Please bring juice/doughnuts/rolls.
- **Christmas Decorations.** Volunteers are requested to help decorate the church after Mass on Sunday, December 20. Many hands make light work!
- **Poinsettia Donations** are requested to adorn the Altar for Christmas. Please place your donation in a separate envelope (labelled "Poinsettia") at the collection.
- **Holy Name Society.** The Holy Name Society will be inaugurated at Our Lady of Good Success on Sunday, January 3, the Feast of the Holy Name. A preliminary meeting will be held on Saturday, **December 12** after Mass for men of the parish interested in joining.
- **Eucharistic Crusade.** The intention for December is "For the most abandoned souls in Purgatory". Fr. McManus will give a meeting to the children after Mass on Sunday, December 13. Any children interested in joining, please contact Miss Elizabeth Simek.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

- Prayers are requested for all the sick, suffering, and deceased of the parish
- If you would like to request prayers for sick, suffering, or deceased family members or friends by name in the bulletin, please notify Mr. Stephan Kershisnik.