

Possible Adoption for a baby due in February, 2010, by a childless couple who are committed to their Christian Faith. "Home study" by IL Dept. of Child & Family Services must be completed. Call the parish priest at 347.7177.

Pro-Life & Family Life Center Giving Tree will be on display in the baptismal area. Please take a tag off the tree and return that item under the tree by Dec. 20. All donations will be given to the area Pro-Life and Family Life Center.

Immaculate Conception is a Holy Day. Masses at Sacred Heart Church will be Monday, December 7, at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, December 8, at 7:00 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Great things are being planned for Sacred Heart Church during the Christmas Masses.

Christmas Eve ~ December 24

4:00 p.m. – Children's Mass. Rumor has it that Santa Claus may make a special appearance!

11:00 p.m. – Music by the Sacred Heart Adult Choir and special guest mezzo soprano, Valerie Nicolosi.

Christmas Day ~ December 25

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. – Music by two of our parish ensembles and a rumored visit from Santa Claus!

Sacred Heart Council of Catholic Women Christmas Party will be Tuesday, December 1, at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. The meal will be catered. No gift exchange; however, we will have a silent auction. Please bring items for the auction that evening. Scrip cards will also be available for purchase. We hope to see you there.

Christmas Flowers & Decorations ~ If you would like to make a donation for poinsettias and Christmas decorations in memory of a loved one, envelopes can be found in your December packets. Please complete the information on the back side of the envelope and enclose your donation. Drop it in the collection or bring it by the parish office by Dec. 17.

Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated on Sunday, December 13, at a noon Mass at Sacred Heart Church. The sacrament is intended for all whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or age. Everyone is welcome. If you want to be anointed, but cannot make it to this Mass, contact Darlene at 347.7177 and the parish priest will come to your home.

New Parish Relations Committee ~ The PRC is excited to announce a **JOINT FELLOWSHIP & FUNDRAISING EVENT** to help promote Catholic education in the Effingham and surrounding areas. This newly created event will be a fun and engaging fellowship activity, will serve as the Effingham Catholic Schools fundraiser, and will replace the previously held car raffle. Please save the date for Saturday, March 13, 2010. More information will be coming soon with complete details. Any questions, contact Christy Hakman at 217.347.7177 or Emily Hartke 217.342.1031.

National Night of Prayer for Life will be December 8-9 at St. Anthony's Memorial Hospital Chapel. Prayers will begin at 9:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 8, and will continue until 1:00 a.m. on December 9.

"Christmas for Kids" store is being held from Dec. 14-18. Please bring your non-perishable foods, new and gently used toys, etc. to the school, or place items in the red tub in the back of church by December 4.

Advent Angels ~ Our parish priest and several "angel helpers" will be making special deliveries of gift bags to our parishioners who are homebound, sick, or in the nursing home. If you would like to help provide items to fill a gift bag, please place items or gift bags in the boxes in the back of church. Suitable items would be soaps, lotions, perfume/cologne, air fresheners, handkerchiefs, socks, slippers, small afghans, a small religious picture, statue, picture frame, doily, or basic essentials for everyday use. If you prefer to make a cash donation, place money in an envelope marked "Advent Angels." Return gift bags or items to the church by Tuesday, December 8.

2010 Sacred Heart Church Calendars are available in the back of church. Thank you to the following businesses for providing these calendars: Dust & Son, Thelma Keller Convention Center, Holiday Inn Express, Hilton Garden Inn, Country Inn & Suites and K-Bowl. Your generosity is much appreciated!

4 Day Parish Mission 'Awakening Our Faith in Challenging Times' hosted by the parishes of Rev. Robert "Bud" DeGrand will be Sunday, Nov. 29 through Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 7:00 p.m. each night at St. Michael Church in Sigel, IL. Fr. Dennis Koopman, O.F.M. of the St. Gratian Friary, Countryside, IL will present the mission. Everyone is welcome.

Effingham Knights of Columbus . . .

- ❖ **Children's Christmas Party** will be Thursday, Dec. 10, at 6:00 p.m. with games and refreshments prior to Santa's arrival at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Adult Christmas Party** will be Sunday, Dec. 20, with a social hour from noon until 1:00 p.m. The meal will be at 1:00 p.m. with the Sawyer Brothers Band to play from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Liturgy Schedule

Monday, November 30

7:15 a.m.: Robert Stephens by *Katherine Stephens*

Tuesday, December 1

7:15 a.m.: Larry Ganley by *Joe Nuxoll family*

Wednesday, December 2

8:30 a.m.: Jean Kuhns by *O'Niell family*

Friday, December 4

7:15 a.m.: Louis Kinkelaar by *Don Zumbahlen*

Saturday, December 5

4:00 p.m.: Bertha T. Ordner by *Tom & Maggie Overbeck*

Sunday, December 6

8:30 a.m.: Jerry & Paul Vonderheide by *Elaine Vonderheide*

10:30 a.m.: Barbara, Laura & Kindra Westendorf by *Ken & Colleen Westendorf family*

5:30 p.m.: Anthony Sicoli by *Linda Heath*

7:00 p.m. Spanish Mass: Rev. Lawrence Schieber by *Paula Moore*

WEEKLY OFFERING ~ Nov. 21-22

	<u>Weekly Total</u>	<u>Total to Date</u>
Envelopes ~ 268	\$ 11,518.50	\$ 254,487.75
Loose	\$ 1,414.10	\$ 30,708.22
Children ~ 40	\$ 39.88	\$ 784.09
Adopt-A-Student	\$ 88.00	\$ 9,829.00
Total	\$ 13,060.48	\$ 295,809.06
Budget Goal	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 315,000.00
Difference	- \$ 1,939.52	- \$ 19,190.94

Comparison to 1 Year Ago (YTD)

<i>Total YTD 2008-09 07-01-09 to 11-22-09</i>	<i>Total YTD 2007-08 07-01-08 to 11-23-08</i>	<i>Difference for YTD 07-08 to YTD 08-09</i>
\$ 295,809.06	\$ 267,406.65	+\$ 28,402.41

Community Events

Neoga Booster Club is offering Christmas wreaths, candy canes, crosses, Advent wreaths & grave pillows for sale. Call Sandy Deters at 217.844.2414 by Nov. 29 to order.

A Walk through the Nativity of Our Lord presented by the Litchfield K of C will be Friday, Dec. 4, from 4-7 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 6, from 1-4 p.m. at the Parish Center in Litchfield.

Holiday Craft Bazaar & Soup Luncheon will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Immaculate Conception Church, Shelbyville Parish Hall.

St. Anthony High School Musical *Into the Woods* will be presented on Friday, Dec. 4, at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 5, at 2:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 6, at 2:00 p.m. in the St. Anthony High School Multipurpose Room. Tickets: Adults \$6.00; Students \$4.00.

Madrigal Dinner to benefit the St. Francis area youth will be at the Teutopolis Grade School Auditorium on Friday, Dec. 11, at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 12, at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 13, at 1:00 p.m. Tickets must be purchased in advance by Dec. 3 ~ \$20 per person. Call 857.6404, ext. 311 to reserve.

Youth Ministry Update . . . Sacred Heart High School Youth will be meeting Sunday, Nov. 29, at noon in the lower level of the church. Wear athletic shoes and comfortable clothing because we'll take a break to play some sports in the gym. All high school students are welcome and bring a friend! For more information, contact our Youth Minister, Kate Pruemer, at 347.7177.

Sponsor of the Week

Donnewald Distributing Co.
Phone 857-3008

SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS . . .

Our students are gearing up for Advent and the start of their "Outreach Projects." Each classroom selects a charity or cause and then collects donations, makes a visit to the organization, etc. You too can get involved! If you'd like to make a donation to one of their chosen charities, you can drop off items in the school lobby – see respective dates below. This year's Outreach Projects by grade include:

Kindergarten, First, and Second Grades: Baby Jesus Tree ~ Students are collecting baby items for Catholic Charities, and will decorate the tree in the lobby with the items collected. Items will be collected until December 15, and can include: baby layettes, blankets, onesies, socks, baby bottles, formula, pacifiers, rattles, baby toys, etc.

Third Grade: Local Nursing Homes ~ On December 16, third grade students will be visiting local nursing homes, spreading cheer with music and singing. Students will also read a book, one-on-one with occupants of the nursing home and will present them with warm, snuggly slippers.

Fourth Grade: Humane Society ~ Students are collecting donations for our furry friends. Donations of cat and dog food, general pet supplies, and cat and dog toys will be collected until December 11, and will then be presented to the Humane Society.

Fifth Grade: Family Life Pregnancy Center ~ Students are collecting items for the Family Life Pregnancy Center. The center is in need of items such as baby clothes, baby food, formula, car seats, Boppies, bottles, and any other baby items that young mothers may not have access to. Donations will be accepted until December 10.

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grades: Nursing Home / Advent Angels ~ The students assist the parish priest – serving as "angel helpers" – delivering gift bags to Sacred Heart parishioners who are homebound, sick, or in local nursing homes. Collections of soaps, lotions, cologne/perfume, socks, blankets, religious items, or everyday essentials will fill the gift bags. To help with this project, drop off at the back of church. Cash may be given as well to help in purchasing items for the gift bags.

Prayer List

Please pray for the sick and convalescing: Corky Bock, Lisa Crosson, Ava Gass, Leo & Helen Haarmann, Deanne Huey, Jeanie Meyers, Ada Mae Moran, Brian A. Niebrugge, Eileen Overbeck, Lynn Petty, Barb Sims, Larry Weber, Rebekah Volk, Judy Reardon, Jesse Ketteman, Melissa Fiscus, Tena Behrman, Larry Rhodes, Janet Knabe, Amanda Swan, Quade Aldrich, Mark Rogers, Doug Myers, Michael Platz, Cheryl Nuxoll, Bonnie Bushur, Jodi Waymoth, Mirta Donnelly, Evelyn Krone, Jeanie Knabe, Sylvan Bauer, Phyllis Stock, Charlie Meyers, Jackie Luchtefeld, Shannan Miner, Pat Kagay, Carolyn Koerner, Joyce Westjohn, Joyce Vahling, Kathy Smith, Jessica Rhodes, Nicholas Rhodes, Dorothy Levitt, Delbert Ritz, Mardell Weis, Adeline Bailey