

I was in the television department of a electronics super store when I overheard a young man having a discussion with his father. The father was the voice of reason, "You don't have enough money for that one." The son was the voice of desire, "But, this one is not big enough!"

We live in a culture where advertisement influences us to think "bigger is better." It is easy to understand how this way of living can infiltrate the expectations of both adults and children. "We have become so enamored by super size, super stars, and high definition that we tend to view life through a lens that so magnifies what we expect out of the world that we can miss the wonderful potential in small things."

However, the season of Advent reminds us that God does some of his best work with small beginnings and impossible situations.

Reading through the bible about some of the characters God chooses for his work, I often think that God could have chosen "bigger" and "better" people to unravel his plan for the world. Yet God more often than not choose little and seemingly unimportant people to reveal himself in marvelous ways.

Advent is that time of year, then, when we contemplate hope enfleshed and incarnated in a newborn little baby - the perfect example of God's belief in us and the divine potential, and possibility embodied in our humanity. During Advent our expectation is not "bigger is better," but simply that God will once again be faithful to us and see our circumstances, hear our prayers, know our true longings for a better world for us, our families, friends and the small ones of this world. We hope that as Jesus first came as an infant, we will see him come again - little and hidden in our very midst!

Enjoy your week and keep your eyes open!



Parish Memorial Mass: Last week at the 11:00AM Mass we invited the families of all those buried from our church this past year (early November 2013 - early November 2014). One hundred and forty-five attended the Mass and reception in the parish social hall. The families of the deceased were very grateful for the opportunity to gather and pray for their beloved dead and for the warm reception they received in the parish hall. Many thanks to Kelly Friel and Carol Hrobak who organized the effort and to all the members of the Activities Committee who helped by setting -up, serving, baking, donating sweets, and cleaning-up!

Christmas Tree Stand: As you know the parish Christmas Tree Stand is up and running, all be it in new location at the Rectory front and side yard. Please spread the word and patronize the Tree Stand. The proceeds will be used to help meet the parish budget deficit. Jeff Swider and a crew of volunteers are operating the stand daily until Christmas. If you can volunteer to help at the stand, please contact the rectory.



ADVENT / CHRISTMAS SEASON

Liturgical Schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday, December 20, 2:00 to 3:30
PM

Christmas Eve
Wednesday, December 24
4:00 PM – Christmas Vigil Mass
with Children's Pageant
7:00 PM – Christmas Vigil Mass

Christmas Day
Thursday, December 25
10:00 am Mass

Feast of the Holy Family
Saturday, December 27
4:00 PM Vigil Mass
Sunday, December 28
9:00 AM, 11:00 AM & 6:00 PM Masses

New Years Day
Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
& World Day of Prayer for Peace
Thursday, January 1, 2015
9:00 AM Mass

