“They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks”

(Isaiah 2:4)

The prophet Isaiah wrote this verse in the eighth century BC, a critical time in the Israelites’ history when they were being invaded by powerful foreign nations. Against this backdrop of bleakness and despair, Isaiah proclaimed his beautiful vision of universal peace. It is a vision we still long for almost 3000 years later in our violent and war-torn world. Wouldn’t we love to see our instruments of war used for peaceful purposes; tanks converted into tractors, warships transformed into hospitals and troops deployed solely for humanitarian purposes?

But Isaiah was clear. His vision of peace rested on Israel’s fidelity to God’s love and commands. The same is true today. We will not have peace in our families, communities, nations, and world until we live lives of love and justice. This Advent, as we prepare for the coming of Jesus, our Prince of Peace, let us ask ourselves: Where might we put more love? With whom can we share our talents and goods?

Sr. Melannie Svoboda, SND
Living with Christ, November 2016
Used with Permission
Readings for the week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>2:1-5</th>
<th>13:11-14</th>
<th>24:37-44</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/27</td>
<td>First Sunday of Advent</td>
<td>Rom</td>
<td>Mt</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>4:2-6</th>
<th>8:5-11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/28</td>
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<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>11:1-10</th>
<th>10:21-24</th>
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<td>11/29</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Rom</th>
<th>10:9-18</th>
<th>4:18-22</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11/30</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mt</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>26:1-6</th>
<th>7:21, 24-27</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/01</td>
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<td>Mt</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>29:17-24</th>
<th>9:27-31</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>12/02</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>30:19-21, 23-26</th>
<th>9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/03</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rom</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>11:1-10</th>
<th>15:4-9</th>
<th>3:1-12</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/04</td>
<td>Second Sunday of Advent</td>
<td>Rom</td>
<td>Mt</td>
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Mass Intentions Nov. 27–Dec 3, 2016

7:00 AM (Main Church)

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday

12:00 Noon (Main Church)

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday

5:00 PM (Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ’s)

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday

Weekly Offering Report

The Weekly Offering Report for November 19/20 and 26/27 will be printed in next weekends newsletter. Thank you for your continued support.

Prayer Requests

- Renee Kalkowski
- Jack Walsh
- Colleen Davis & Family
- Steve Morris
- Dan
- Richard Grimit

The Second Collection this weekend is for: St. John’s Building Fund

Please be as generous as you are able.
**A Message from Fr. Lorn Snow, S.J.**

St. Johns Parishioners,
At this time of Thanksgiving and Advent we count our blessings and gifts. I want to personally give thanks to everyone at St. Johns for your outstanding generosity and service. St. Johns is able to reach out to those most in need and accompany the poor through-out Omaha. We touch the lives of the sick and home-bound. We celebrate Eucharist and engage a living faith with all ages and cultures. Our Jesuit Mission is sustained by your generosity and kindness. We are aware of the many obligations that confront your lives and still you contribute to the wonderful mission of St. Johns. We are deeply grateful for your generosity of time talent and treasure. Everything that you give and your very presence makes a profound difference and strengthens our Parish Community. Peace and thank you,

Fr. Lorn J. Snow, S.J.

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**Christmas Environment Donations**

At all the entrances of the church you can find envelopes for Memorials for the Christmas Environment. Please return envelopes by way of the collection baskets on Sundays. The last weekend to send in a memorial will be the weekend of December 18th. If you have any questions please contact Kathleen Denne at 402-280-2975 or email kdenne@creighton.edu

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**“Our Story of Faith”** Each of us is called to respond in faith, knowing and trusting that God recognized your willingness to live out the message of the Gospel. Our parish goal is $11, 89.00. You can either mail in your gift intention envelope or make a gift online at give.archomaha.org Thank you for opening your hearts to the love of God and allowing the Lord to increase in your lives.

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**Seeded at God’s Hand: The Collected Writings of Patrick Malone, S.J.** Books for sale (cost: $15) after the 5 pm, 8 am, 10:30 am, and 4:30 pm Masses this weekend! All other times books may be purchased in the parish office.

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**St. John’s Fall Adult Faith Formation Series:**

Faith beyond Belief Spirituality for Our Times

**editor** Johannes Kaup

Lower St. John’s: 9:15-10:15 a.m

December 4:“Three and One? Or…” and “Suffering and Reconciliation, or…”

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**St. John’s Day of Service: December 3, 2016**

On Saturday, December 3, the parish will celebrate the feast day of St. Francis Xavier, who co-founded the Jesuits, with a Day of Service. We invite individuals, couples and families to take part in service projects with the organizations such as Siena/Francis House, Juan Diego Center, Quality Living, Inc. (QLI), Notre Dame Sisters, Servants of Mary, and Sisters of Mercy. We will also gather for Mass at St. John’s followed by dinner in the Skutt Student Center. Questions? Contact Mary Ann McDonald at: mamwriter@gmail.com. Assignments will be arriving to your inbox shortly! Please remember to check your emails.

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**Christmas in the Forest**

Presented by Knowles Mercy Spirituality Center
Friday, December 9 from 5-8 p.m. and Saturday, December 10 from 3-8 p.m. Pilgrimages into the forest every 20 minutes. Come join us in the woodlands for this annual tradition! A family orient-ed event that will take you on a journey to...sing at the Christmas tree, visit the shepherd, participate in the manger scene with live animals, gaze at the north star, hear from the innkeeper, and pray at the peace fire. Enjoy festive music, cookies, bars and hot chocolate. (approximately 1 hour) Reservations are required. $5.00 per person, children under 5 free. To register, call 402.359.4288.

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**Thursday, December 8, 2016**

is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Bless Virgin Mary and is a Holy Day of obligation. Please join us for Mass in the Main Church at 7:00 a.m., noon, or 5:00 p.m.

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**We are in need** of a point person in connection with the printing of our new parish directory. The company has been selected and this person will be the communication person between the company and St. John’s. Any interested individuals should contact Mary Alice Howick at 402-934-2004 or maryalice.howick@gmail.com.
St. John’s Invites You To…

Come to the Feast

In celebration of our first ever Service Day, St. John’s welcomes all who will spend next Saturday serving our greater Omaha community, and the many other volunteers who give their time and talents all year long serving our parish, to a feast.

The Service Day Dinner on Saturday, December 3, immediately following the 5:00 p.m. mass, will cap off a busy day of community building. Volunteers and their families, along with St. John’s music and Eucharistic ministers, lectors, committee members, commission members and other church volunteers, are invited to gather across the Mall in the Skutt Ballroom for an Italian buffet.

In other words, bring your appetites.

Also available: adult beverages--cash bar only.

For those going the Creighton basketball game that evening, don’t worry about parking. A school van will shuttle you from Skutt to the CenturyLink Center and back again.

Please RSVP at the parish office or sign up at the entrance of St. John’s.

The Service Day Dinner promises to be a joyous--and filling--event!

With great appreciation for all you do,

Fr. Lorn Snow, S.J.