Christmas Memorials 2016

Acamo & Godek Families
Janet Aggen
Joe Bartek
Gene & Marilyn Berg
Ruth Blecha
George and Clara Bluvas
Borghoff & Howick Families
Rich Borowick
John & Lorraine Car
Mary Curley
Barb Denne
Anne Dittrick
Eberle Family
Fay Epping
Marion & Vloyce Feldhausen
Francis Johnson Grant
Martin Grant
Gary Hansen
Hermanek and Daly Families

Blanch & Edgar Kuhlmann
Bob & Jo Luke
Bob Martin
Theresa & Don McBride
John McDonald
McDonald & Jackson Families
Dode & Art O’Dell
Pedersen Family
Dave Rossiter
Francis Rueb
Anne C. Russell
Dale Schaaf
Schmidz and Paben families
Bryce Sparks
Henry Stender
Ray Yost
Kathleen Zelenski
Edward & Katherine Zielinski
Edward Theodore Zielinski
## Liturgical Ministry Schedule—December 31–January 1, 2017

This schedule can also be accessed at St. John’s website—http://stjohns.creighton.edu

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday 5:00 p.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 8:00 a.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 10:30 a.m.</th>
<th>Sunday 4:30 p.m.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRESIDER</strong></td>
<td>Fr. Snow, S.J.</td>
<td>Fr. Amidon, S.J.</td>
<td>Fr. Snow, S.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LITURGICAL ASSISTANT</strong></td>
<td>Linda Hayek</td>
<td>Dick Cleary</td>
<td>Pam Yenko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALTAR SERVER</strong></td>
<td>Larry Brennan</td>
<td>Dick Cleary</td>
<td>Julia Nubel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LECTORS</strong></td>
<td>Eileen Burke – Sullivan</td>
<td>Bob Austria</td>
<td>Kathy O’Keefe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PRAYERS</strong></td>
<td>Sean Joyce Whipp</td>
<td>Bob Austria</td>
<td>Richard Super</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS</strong></td>
<td>T. Bartek D. Keane</td>
<td>D. Cleary</td>
<td>K. Blecha T. Berg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>G. Selk</td>
<td>B. Austria</td>
<td>R. Super</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>M. A. McDonald</td>
<td>A. Haddad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>L. &amp; M. Brennan</td>
<td>A. Nubel</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>T. Joyce Whipp</td>
<td>J. &amp; F. Berg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>C. &amp; T. Finney</td>
<td>J. &amp; S. Scherr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Readings for the week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>Acts</th>
<th>Mt</th>
<th>Is</th>
<th>Heb</th>
<th>Jn</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12/26</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Acts</td>
<td>Mt</td>
<td>6:8-10, 7:54-59</td>
<td>10:17-22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/27</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>1 Jn</td>
<td>Jn</td>
<td>1:1-4</td>
<td>20:1a, 2-8</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/28</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>1 Jn</td>
<td>Mt</td>
<td>1:5–2:2</td>
<td>2:13-18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/29</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1 Jn</td>
<td>Lk</td>
<td>2:3-11</td>
<td>2:22-35</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/30</td>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Sir</td>
<td>Mt</td>
<td>3:2-6, 12-14</td>
<td>2:13-15, 19-23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12/31</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>1 Jn</td>
<td>Jn</td>
<td>2:18-21</td>
<td>1:1-18</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/01</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Nm</td>
<td>Gal</td>
<td>6:22-27</td>
<td>4:4-7</td>
<td>2:16-21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mass Intentions December 26-31, 2016

**7:00 AM (Main Church)**
- Monday: No Mass
- Tuesday: No Mass
- Wednesday: No Mass
- Thursday: No Mass
- Friday: No Mass
- Saturday: No Mass

**12:00 Noon (Main Church)**
- Monday: Dr. Richard & Beverly Crotte—deceased
- Tuesday: Morris Burnett - 1st Anniversary of death
- Wednesday: Special Intention
- Thursday: Al & Rita Burke—deceased
- Friday: Steve Roth—deceased
- Saturday (LSJ’s)

**5:00 PM (Fr. Halley Chapel, LSJ’s)**
- Monday: Richard & Mary Cleary—deceased
- Tuesday: Deceased Members of Ignatian Associates
- Wednesday: Colleen Davis & Family—prayers

### Weekly Offering Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Amount Collected YTD</th>
<th>Above (Below) YTD Goal</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>7,067.31</td>
<td>182,395.31</td>
<td>5,712.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekend</td>
<td>10,737.32</td>
<td>176,682.75</td>
<td>182,395.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Above (below) weekly</td>
<td>3,670.01</td>
<td>5,712.56</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank you for your generous support for: **St. John’s Building Fund**

The special collection raised $665.00

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**We prayerfully remember**

**Michael Sullivan**, husband of **Eileen Burke-Sullivan**

who passed away this week. May Jesus Christ console his family and friends, especially during this difficult time.

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**In Loving Memory**

Eileen Burke-Sullivan

St. John’s Parish

Creighton University

Omaha, Nebraska
**A Christmas Message**
We wish you and your family a joyful and holy Christmas season. Christ’s birth is the sacred promise that God is not far away, but grounded in our humanity. Christ’s presence assures us that life is not forsaken. Our world is now filled with great hope, expectation and promise. Celebrate the wonder of Christ’s Peace and Joy.

Merry Christmas,
Fr. Lorn Snow, S.J. and the Parish Staff of St. John’s.

**We Are Updating the Parish Directory**
Wouldn’t it be nice to be able to match a name with a face, and have something that shows all the beautiful people here at St. John’s? Let’s take some new photos to show where we are now in our parish.

Where: Lower St. John’s
When: **Friday, January 20**, 1:00—8:00 p.m.
**Saturday, January 21**: 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. and 6:00—8:00 p.m.
**Sunday, January 22**: Noon—3:00 p.m.
**Monday, January 23**: 10:00 a.m.—8:00 p.m.

Go to St. John’s webpage, click on the link to schedule a portrait session, select the number of people who would be in the photo, select a day and time, and you will receive a confirmation email in return. If you would like assistance scheduling a time, please call Vivian at 402.280.2786 or email kdenne@creighton.edu.

Michael Hoover at hooverdds6@gmail.com
*We can’t wait to see all the great photos!!*

**Parking on the East side of the Church will be unavailable until approximately Jan 5th due to construction.**

**Contribution envelopes for 2017 can be picked up at the main entrance of the church for pick up. Thank you for your continued support of St. John’s, it is greatly appreciated.** Any questions about envelopes please contact Kathleen Denne 402-280-2975 or email kdenne@creighton.edu.

**Administration Commission minutes from November meeting:**
Eileen Wirth, chair of the Communication Committee, reported on the excellent work that her group is contributing to three areas central to the public face of St. John’s Parish.
1. A revised, dynamic website
2. A new, expanded format and publisher for the weekly newsletter
3. A streamlined, artistic logo for use on all Parish communications

Considering the importance of all three of these projects, the Committee and Commission will devise a method to better keep in touch.

**Volunteers Needed—Sick and Homebound**
Our parish is in need of volunteers to accompany the sick and homebound. Training for this ministry will be **January 22, 2017 at 11:45 a.m.**
Some of the topics that will be covered will include the distribution of communion, how to interact with people who may be unable to communicate, have disabilities or who are in hospice. Or, if you are simply interested in learning more, please stop by to ask questions or gather information. Thank you!
Just the thought of Christmas can bring visions of joy, excitement, family, friends, shopping and gifts. Or, it can bring visions of endless waiting and loneliness, overwhelming pain, sorrow and ongoing fear and darkness.

One of my favorite children’s Christmas story books* about Mary and Joseph’s very long and arduous journey to Bethlehem and the birth of Jesus begins “walk, walk, walk.” The prominent characters are Mary, Joseph and their donkey. Together they travel, together they stay. They “knock, knock, knock,” but are “sad” when there is “no more room in my house”. They end up in a barn – Mary and Joseph with their donkey and the resident cows and cats and their kittens. Joseph covers Mary with “his coat so that she would be nice and warm.” They peacefully “sleep, sleep, sleep” in the hay lullabied by the heavy breathing of the cow and the peaceful suckling of the kittens. “During the night… an exciting thing happened…a little baby.” “Hush, hush, hush.” Mary knew “little babies liked to be loved.” She cradled and swaddled her newborn son. Joseph knew that new mothers and their babies needed to be warm and lovingly cared for.

Have you ever stayed up all night just to experience the dawn – the gradual dimming of the stars as colorless light gently pushes back the darkness revealing the now? Somehow all is refreshed, brilliant – light has come. A new day has dawned.

Christmas is just this – Light blessing the now. Christmas is not the end of the Advent wait and journey. It is the dawn of Advent. It is Light blessing and sanctifying the journey, the waiting itself.

Who waits for whom? Who blesses whom? Parents, siblings, buddies and lovers wait pensively for the loved one to return. Parents wait in eager anticipation for the infant soon to be born. Parents, friends and strangers sit and wait in compassion with the lost and lonely. Many wait in longing for the estranged. The outcast wait in yearning for the welcome. The hungry wait in anticipation for the cook. The homeless wait in hope for the host. The jobless wait in faith for the employer. The imprisoned wait in uncertainty for the visitor. And children wait in joy for the anticipated delight.

And so I walk, and I knock, and I wait. At times I sleep. At times I am cold. At times I am warmed. At times I am hungry. At times I am nourished and nurtured. But in the hush of Christmas I am invited to witness the gift of the Light that shines in the now. I am invited to notice and to receive the sanctifying presence within my journey, my waiting. I am invited to be that light to others who wait. To sing Alleluias to the Christ in my life. To the Christ who dwells in others. To Jesus who walks with me in the now – wherever and however that is. To Jesus who walks with the other.

And the goodnews: The joy of Christmas, of God with us, is for all of God’s children. Alleluia, Alleluia! We no longer have to live in darkness. The wait is over. Emmanuel!

God bless us every one!

*The Very Special Baby by Carol Woodard

Joan Blandin Howard
December 25, 2016