



Weekly Words from The Rock

My Catholic Life has a series of questions and answers on the Catholic Faith. It can be found at the site "Catholic Questions and Answers: Questions and Answers from My Catholic Life!" I am going to share with you some of their questions and answers in the weeks ahead.

Q. Do people of different denominations go to the same heaven? Or is there any difference after death where different faiths go?

A. The simple answer to your question is pretty straight forward. There is only one Heaven and everyone who goes to Heaven goes to the same Heaven. So, no matter what your faith may be, if you go to Heaven you go to the one and only. But allow me to explain a bit about the beautiful reality of Heaven and what we actually believe about it.

First, Heaven is not a "place." Rather, Heaven is a "state of being." Now that may, at first, sound a bit deep and philosophical. But it makes perfect sense when understood properly.

When speaking about Heaven we often use language that implies it is some place we go to. Somewhere up there! But Heaven is not some location in this universe. It is, properly speaking, a state of being completely and totally united with God! Heaven, in a real sense, is a Person. The Person is Jesus Christ. Our goal in life is to enter into complete union with Him now and for eternity. Heaven, therefore, is simply the final state of complete union with Jesus after death. It is the permanent unbreakable bond or unity and oneness we will share with Him. And since He is completely united with the Father and the Holy Spirit, Heaven is a state of being fully immersed in the life the Most Holy Trinity.

Secondly, I think it's important to know that Heaven is to begin here and now. Throughout our life on earth we are called to be continually purged of our attachment to sin so as to walk, day by day, ever more deeply united to God. The deeper that unity the more

we are detached from sin and the more we share in the state of Heavenly unity right now!

Of course, as long as we are alive in this world we will always be tempted and usually be drawn back to sin on various levels. So the fullness of Heaven comes only after this life when we will never lose that full union with God again.

This also begs the question, "What is Hell?" Sadly, Hell is simply the complete loss of God and, thus, the complete separation from Him. Here and now, a "living hell" is when one lives in a state of unrepented mortal sin. In that state there is no union with God, no joy in life and no fulfillment. If one dies in that state he/she remains forever separated from God.

And lastly, let me mention that Purgatory is the state of being purified of our sins and even our attachment to sin. It is a process that should begin now but will be completed upon death if we still have some attachment to sin. But even though it may be painful, in a sense, to be purged from sin, it is also joyous in that we are freed from those unhealthy bonds. Hope that helps!

Nativity Scene

Greg Olsen's painting of the Nativity Scene is one of my favorite paintings of all time. Many times arguments and fights can ensue between children however in Olsen's painting we have two children working in unison. Notice the final touch each adds to the Nativity scene. The young boy adds the angel who appears to the shepherds announcing the "Good News" that a Savior has been born. The young girl adds the Christ-child to the crèche scene, the very Savior whom the angel announced would come to God's people and save them from their sins.



Blessed Advent! Father Peter Schuster

Liturgical Ministries

Dec 12th/13th

If unable to fulfill your ministry as scheduled, please find a substitute. Thank you.

Ministry Schedule as of November 18, 2020

Lectors

8:00 pm Therese Schoenfelder
8:00 am Richard Miller
10:30 am Fran Filzen

Ushers

8:00 pm Fred Noser, John Schoenfelder
8:00 am Kenneth Mueller, Char Robinet
10:30 am Elaina Robertson, Gordon Robertson

Eucharistic Ministers

8:00 pm Jerry Krantz, LG, Mary Meine, (1), (IF NO DEACON), Theresa Root, (2)

Greeters

8:00 pm Gretchen Cutshall, Dianne Plager
8:00 am Joanne Huegel, Char Stocker
10:30 am Tara Engel, Lee Witter

Check in Minister

8:00 pm Anne and Mia Cuccio
8:00 am Dianne Plager
10:30 am Brett Maronde

8:30 am Elaine Doherty, LG, Deb Rowekamp, (1), (IF NO DEACON), Jackie O'Connell, (2)

Sacristans

8:00 pm Judith Pelowski
8:00 am Tracy & Donna Smith
10:30 am Bob Voss

Walk in Ministers

8:00 pm Doreen Johnson, Cheryl Kieffer
8:00 am Michael Lose, Mary Lose
10:30 am Catherine Tiegs, Jackie Tyrrell

10:30 am Charles DeVos, LG, Denise Kelly (1), (IF NO DEACON), Char Stocker, (2)



Perpetual Eucharistic Adoration Chapel

24 hours/7 days a week

"Sitting before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, a new life begins. Another birth takes place; eternal life within us. We do not see Jesus with our eyes, but rather in the transformation of our lives, where Jesus loves to be and desires that we experience love."
Mother Elvira Petrozzi

Open Hours

Tue	Wed	Sat
12 am	2 am	5 pm
11 pm		

By choosing an open hour from the graph, you commit to the that one hour a week of adoring Jesus in the Chapel at Resurrection. Seating will be limited and masks required.

To sign up or for more information, call the church office at 507-288-5528.

Resurrection's Advent Reconciliation
Tuesday, Dec. 8th: 12:00 noon - 1:00 pm
Thursday, Dec. 10th: 5:00 - 6:00 pm
Saturday, Dec. 12th: 9:15 - 10:15 am

Are you going to miss the Real Presence Radio fundraising banquet this year?

We've got great news!!! Presence Radio is hosting a virtual fundraising event on Thursday, December 10th! The event will feature Dr. Ray Guarendi as keynote. Host of "The Dr. Is In," Dr. Ray is a Catholic father of ten adopted children, a clinical psychologist, author and comic!

If you are interested in attending as a guest or hosting a watch party from your home, please register online at RealPresenceRadio.com/banquet or call 877-795-0122. Sponsorship packages are available at the \$250, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 or higher levels.

For more information or to sponsor, email Jessica at jessica@realpresencerradio.com! Thank you for your help and support of Real Presence Radio!

Parish Events



It's almost here! Tickets to purchase the CASH CALENDAR will be available from Dec. 7 - Feb. 5, 2021. Tickets will cost

\$30 each which makes you eligible for 52 chances to win cash prizes ranging from \$50 to \$500. There are only 800 tickets available so you have great odds to win cash AND support Resurrection Catholic Church. Remember that all buyers and prize winners must be 18 or older.

Each weekly winner's name will be posted in the Church Bulletin as well as on the Parish website.

Checks will be mailed to the winners so fill in that entry ticket carefully and completely.

Please return all unsold tickets ASAP to allow them to be purchased by others who wish to purchase extra tickets. The deadline for all entry stubs, money and unsold tickets to be returned to the church office is Feb. 5, 2021. This allows time for all tickets to be accounted for, a requirement of the MN State Gambling Board.

A gift of a CASH CALENDAR ticket for a Christmas present may result in a "Lovely" Valentine's Day win, a beautiful way to honor Mom on Mother's Day, end the summer with a Labor Day win or celebrate Christmas 2021 with some extra cash! Even one win of \$50 is more than the cost of the \$30 ticket! Buy your ticket now!



Resurrection's 2020 Giving Tree

Resurrection's Giving Tree is now in the Gathering Space. A little change for the tree this year. We do not have tags to take from the tree for either Elder

Care Ministry or Family Promise. However, please stop by the table near the tree to pick up information on how to contribute to these two ministries. Due to Covid 19, Family Promise will not take donations of household items this year. Instead they have registry lists through Amazon and Target. Please check the table for information regarding these registries or go to Family Promise's website for more information:

familypromiserochester.org. Throughout this summer and fall, Family Promise Rochester has served the community through a focus on Shelter Diversion, ways to keep families out of the shelter and in a safe stable environment. They have assessed families and placed them on our statewide housing priority list, helped families apply for Section 8 in surrounding counties, provided food and gas voucher support, resources and referrals to other agencies who assist with back rent funds, first month rent, and deposit assistance. In September, they moved to a new location 913 1st St NW. The hope is that Family Promise can reopen its new doors on January 4th. At that time, a sign up genius will be available for those that are interested in volunteering. More to come! Any questions, please email Resurrection's volunteer coordinator, Luann Borst at llaa4@icloud.com.

Holy Day, The Immaculate Conception, Tuesday December 8th: Masses are 9:00 am and 7:00 pm. No Mass reservations needed. Livestreaming is available for both Masses.

Christmas Mass: Families need to register before December 8th. Go to our website to register: www.rescathroch.org.

Dec 24th: 1:00pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm; 10:00 pm service is not a Mass, Liturgy of Hours with communion (Deacon Rob Miller);
Mass Dec 25th: 9:00 am.

Operation: One More- The holiday season is one filled with joy and wonder but can also bring financial stress. Many families with children in our community are food insecure. Our mission is to provide extra food as a gesture of compassion during the holiday season. Last year nearly 60 families, 260 individuals were blessed with a holiday food basket. With COVID-19 effecting so many, we anticipate a greater need for our assistance. We will be collecting food through December 13th. Items needed are jars of peanut butter, mashed potatoes, plain oatmeal (not single packs), and canned tuna. Please consider donating. Collection bins are located in the gathering space in front of the office window.

The Resurrection's Knights of Columbus thank you for your support through purchasing their Christmas bouquet and roses. *A reminder to pick them up at Flowers by Jerry on Dec. 11th or 12th, 8:00 am - 2:00 pm.*

At Resurrection This Week

The dispensation from the obligation of Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation remains in effect until further notice.

Monday 7 Dec	Mass Registration for Dec 12th/13th rescathroch.org to sign up Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14/Lk 5:17-26 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Mass 8:30 am• Office walk in hours 9:15am - 5:00 pm
Tuesday 8 Dec	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Holy Day Immaculate Conception Masses: 9:00 am, 7:00 pm• Office walk in hours 9:15am - 5:00 pm• Sacrament of Reconciliation 12noon - 1:00 pm• Society of St. Vincent de Paul Meeting 7:00 pm
Wednesday 9 Dec	Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Mass 8:30 am• Office walk in hours 9:15am - 5:00 pm
Thursday 10 Dec	Mass Registration for Dec 12th/13th ends at 10:00 am Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Mass 8:30 am, Office walk in hours 9:15 am - 5:00 pm• Sacrament of Reconciliation 5:00 - 6:00 pm• Choir rehearsal 6:30 pm
Friday 11 Dec	Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Daily Mass 8:30 am,• Office walk in hours 9:15am - 5:00 pm• Wedding Rehearsal 5:00 pm
Saturday 12 Dec	Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19/Lk 1:26-38 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sacrament of Reconciliation 9:15 am - 10:15 am• Wedding 3:00 pm• Mass 8:00 pm
Sunday 13 Dec	Mass Registration for Dec 19th/20th rescathroch.org Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mass 8:00 am• Mass 10:30 am



Michelle's



Music & Choral Director & Coordinator of Liturgy
choirdirector@rescathroch.org

You might have noticed that our central theme for Advent and Christmas is waiting in hope for Christ. How many of us like waiting? Not me. I am so impatient that I tell my family what they're getting for Christmas as soon as I come up with an idea! So why must we wait?

Here's a few reasons:

1. Advent is the time to remind ourselves what we are waiting for. It's also the time to witness the fullness of the paschal mystery so we might come to more fully understand God's saving grace.
2. Waiting requires us to open our hearts to God and place our trust in him.
3. Take this quote from Henri Nouwen: "Waiting is a period of learning. The longer we wait, the more we hear about him for whom we are waiting." And finally,
4. As we wait, our hope for what is to come heightens. For instance, I spend months, even years, practicing and preparing for one 3-hour opera. Every day the show gets closer, I work harder and harder to make that performance my very best, and my excitement builds along the way. Our desire to be with God is very similar. Just as we spend every day of our lives waiting in hope, our desire to be with God deepens.

Our challenge for the week, then: embrace the wait! Let's grow in our faith, in our relationship with God, and in our relationship with each other as we wait in hope for Christ this Advent season.

God Bless,
Michelle Perrier

Song of the Week: The Jesus Song by Tom Booth
Check it out on YouTube!

And remember to check out our virtual Advent Calendar!

Mass Intentions

Mon	Dec 7	8:30 am	†John Neylon
Tues	Dec 8	9:00 am	†Doris Curley
Tues	Dec 8	7:00 pm	For the Parish
Wed	Dec 9	8:30 am	†Huguette G. Dorsey
Thu	Dec 10	8:30 am	†Joan Mas
Fri	Dec 11	8:30 am	†Souls in Purgatory
Sat	Dec 12	8:00 pm	†David Carson
Sun	Dec 13	8:00 am	For the Parish
Sun	Dec 13	10:30am	†John Neylon

St. Francis School News

The regular monthly meeting of the Home and School Association will be held on Monday, December 7th at 6:30 pm in the school Science Lab.

The weekly school Mass will be celebrated by students in grades K, 2 and 3 on Tuesday, December 8th at 9:15 am.

Friday, December 11th, our third grade will participate in the Blessing of the new Nativity scene for the parish.

Donations for Missionary Childhood Association are welcomed this week.

Lourdes High School News

MUSIC BOOSTER FUNDRAISER

With the inability to hold our annual fruit fundraiser - here's a different way to support the Lourdes Music department this year. Zumbro Valley Christmas Trees is a Rochester Catholic School family owned tree farm with Fraser Fir, Spruce and Pine varieties. During the month of December, mention the Lourdes High School Music Booster fundraiser and Zumbro Valley Christmas Trees will donate \$10 of your tree purchase to help support the Lourdes' Music Department.

Zumbro Valley Christmas Trees, 58588 County Rd 7 Zumbro Falls, 15 minutes north of Rochester, near Camp Victory.

Open 9AM -to 5 PM Saturdays and Sundays
December 5 - December 22

Faith Formation



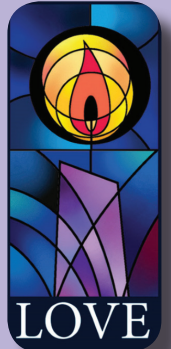
News from Stacey, Grades 1-5, Family Ministry, dre1to5fm@rescathroch.org or 288-5528 x108

Grades 1-5: We will not have Faith Formation classes on Mondays until the public schools open in January. Each child has a Take Home Faith Formation bag to pick up by the main church office windows.

Second Week of Advent: *Dear God, as we decorate our home for Christmas, we think about the birth of your Son, Jesus. Help us to show love and kindness toward one another as we prepare to celebrate Christmas. Amen.*

Teaching Kids to Respect Others: This week's chapter is called "We Care for People with Different Skin Colors, Accents, and Cultures." Let's start with a prayer: *O God, you created all people in your image. We thank you for the astonishing variety of races and cultures in this world. Enrich our lives by ever-widening circles of friendship, and show us your presence in those who differ most from us, until our knowledge of your love is made perfect in our love for all your children, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Racism is learned very early in life and we must be intentional about promoting respect for all God's people. Teach children the diversity of God's creation through textbooks, story books, art, music and traditions of many people, including a wide variety of Jesus and Madonna paintings from around the world. Children can learn to appreciate differences by watching movies, TV shows, and music from communities other than their own. Be aware of negative imagery of poor and homeless people; show children the successful contributions made by people of all ethnic backgrounds.



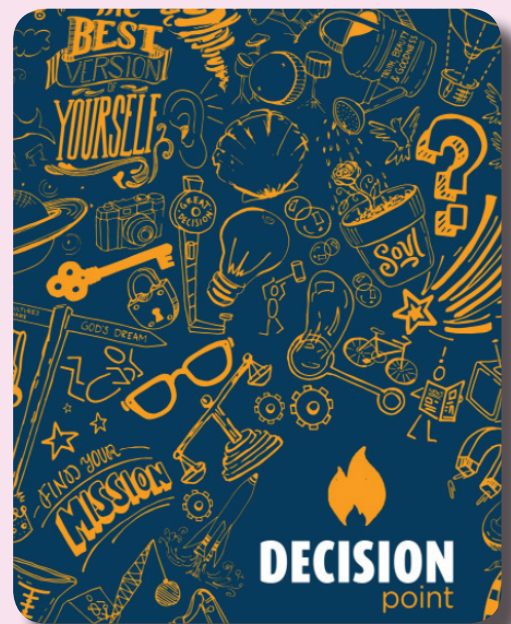
News from Sheila, Birth-KG, Grades 6-12, Children and Youth Ministry, RCIA dresscm@rescathroch.org or 288-5528, x 101

December brought a shift in Faith Formation by learning about saints and virtues and exploring big questions presented in the Decision Point Curriculum by Dynamic Catholic. Although established as confirmation preparation, the material invites all students to discover the incredible dream that God has for each of them.

Our students, our children, are not too young to explore their faith. As Matthew Kelly states, "young people are capable of incredible things."

On December 2nd, students began Decision Point Session 1 by exploring the topic Life is Choices. Matthew Kelly explains "one choice builds upon another, and in the end our choices define who we become. Choices matter."

Students, remember this quote from page 3 of Decision Point: *"Peer pressure; people can pressure you to do things, but the only one who makes the decision is you. They are not making the choice-you are. Own your decisions."*



St. Monica, increase in us the virtue of patience. St. Monica pray for us! Amen.