

Diocese of Peoria  
**St. Malachy Church and School**

595 E. Ogden Avenue, Geneseo, Illinois 61254

Parish, 309-944-5393 School, 309-944-3230 Fax, 309-944-5319

Email: church@stmalgeneseo.org Website: www.saintmalachy.org

The Third Sunday  
 Of Advent  
 December 17, 2023



**Weekend Mass Schedule:**

Saturday: 5:00 pm

Sunday: 8:15 am and 10:30 am

**Reconciliation:**

*Advent Reconciliation: Mon.-Thurs. 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm*

Monday & Tuesday 8:45 am; Thursday 5:00 pm

Saturdays 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

*For activities in the Quad Cities, go to:*

<http://catholicquadcities.com>

**Traveling?** [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org) to find Masses

*We warmly welcome new parishioners and invite them to register at the Parish Office. Individuals interested in becoming Catholic may contact Fr. Daniel Gifford or call the Parish Office.*

**Pastor:** Fr. Daniel Gifford.....309-944-5393  
 frdgifford@stmalgeneseo.org

**Deacons:** .....309-944-5393

Tom Wachtel Robert O'Rourke Art Ries (SS) Mike Sigwalt  
 Bob Thoene Tom Mattan

**School Principal:**  
 Tim Smith.....309-944-3230  
 tsmith@stmalgeneseo.org

**Administrative Assistant:**  
 Deacon Robert O'Rourke.....309-944-5393

rourourke@stmalgeneseo.org

**Office Manager:**  
 Mary Sebastian.....309-944-5393  
 msebastian@stmalgeneseo.org

**Secretary:**  
 Debbie Mattan.....309-944-5393  
 dmattan@stmalgeneseo.org

**Business Manager:**  
 Jennifer Higgins.....309-944-5393  
 jhiggins@stmalgeneseo.org

**Parish Music Director:**  
 Lance Carroll.....309-944-5393  
 lcarroll@stmalgeneseo.org

**Director of Religious Education:**  
 (CCD/Confirmation Prep/MS Youth Ministry)  
 Kimberly Souba.....309-944-5393

ksouba@stmalgeneseo.org

**HS Youth Ministry Coordinator**  
 Deacon Bob Thoene.....563-529-0529  
 bthoene@stmalgeneseo.org *Remind: @2ag97e*

**Parish Nurse:**  
 Cathie Stinson, B.S.N.....309-944-5393  
 cstinson@stmalgeneseo.org

**Ministry Contacts:**  
**Baptism:**.....Parish Office  
**Marriage:** .....Fr. Daniel Gifford

**Hospital Visits:**.....Parish Office

**Anointing of the Sick:**.....Emergency phone: 309-944-0422

**Pastoral Care:**.....Ed Kemnitz, Deacon Tom Mattan

**Bereavement:**.....Deacon Art Ries

**Prayer Chain:**.....Parish Office

**Divorced Ministry:**.....Shannon Carroll

# Mass Intentions

## MONDAY, December 18

8:00 am Jeanette DePauw +  
9:00 am Larry Honzel +

**Advent Weekday**

## TUESDAY, December 19

8:00 am Harley & Mary Chaffee +

**Advent Weekday**

## WEDNESDAY, December 20

8:00 am Josh McGuidan +

**Advent Weekday**

## THURSDAY, December 21

5:45 pm Kim Van Meenen & Kelly +

**St. Peter Canisius**

## FRIDAY, December 22

8:00 am No Mass - Communion Service

**Advent Weekday**

## SATURDAY, December 23

5:00 pm People of the Parish

**Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent**

## SUNDAY, December 24

8:15 am Gerald Breidenstein +  
10:30 am Oscar DePauw +  
4:00 pm Connie Pond +  
7:00 pm Mark Vandemore & daughter Brenda

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord  
The Nativity of the Lord (During the Night)**

**Altar Servers: December 18 - 24**

**M-T-W:** Leona Werner, Kate Vorac

**Saturday: 5:00 pm:** Aiden Daly, Trace Hager

**Sunday: 8:15 am:** Tucker & Colton Seals

**Sunday: 10:30 am:** Beth Mroz, Joe Venneberg

**Sunday: 4:00 pm:** Everett Haars

**Sunday: 7:00 pm:** Natalie Reisner, Camryn Hawkins

## St. Malachy Eucharistic Revival Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,  
You have made Yourself PRESENT  
to us in every age, through the  
Holy Eucharist.  
Help us to make You more  
widely KNOWN,  
that You may be greatly LOVED.  
Amen.

### Area Church Weekend Mass Schedules:

#### St. Anthony/Atkinson

4:00 pm Saturday  
9:30 am Sunday

#### Sacred Heart/Annawan

8:00 am Sunday

### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Wednesday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm,  
Thursday 8:00 am - 3:00 pm, Fridays 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

*Bulletin articles **MUST** be submitted no later than  
Noon on Tuesdays.*

## Readings for Sunday, December 24, 2023

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

#### 1st Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16

*The kingdom of David shall endure  
for ever before the Lord*

#### Responsorial: Psalm 89

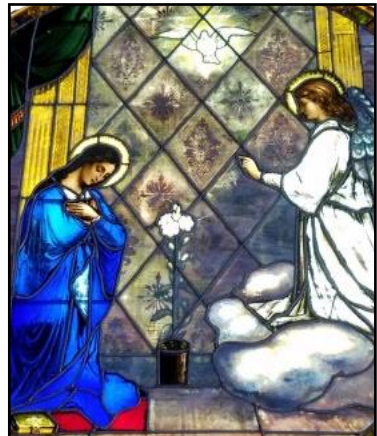
*R.:/: "For ever will I sing the goodness of the Lord."*

#### 2nd Reading: Romans 16:25-27

*The mystery kept secret for long ages  
has now been manifested.*

#### Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

*Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son.*



# Come, let us Adore Him

## Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Adore - Every 1st Wednesday 7:30 pm  
Thursday 4:30 pm  
(1st Fridays, & 1st Saturdays at 8:30 am)



### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### Monday, December 18

School Mass 9:00 am  
Eucharistic Adoration 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Advent Reconciliation - Cancelled  
Holy Hour For the Hungry 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

#### Tuesday, December 19

Advent Reconciliation 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm  
Chair Soul Core 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Rm A  
Women's Support Group 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Rm C  
OCIA 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm CR

#### Wednesday, December 20

Advent Reconciliation 12:00 - 12:30 pm  
K-5 CCD 3:30 pm - 4:45 pm  
Oasis Christmas Party 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm YR  
College Christmas Party 5:00 - 8:00 pm Rm A  
Surviving Divorce 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm CR

#### Thursday, December 21

Advent Reconciliation 12:00 - 12:30 pm  
School Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal 12:15 pm  
The Rock 6:30 - 8:00 pm YR  
School Christmas Program 7:00 pm

#### Friday, December 22

Chair Soul Core 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm Rm A

#### Sunday, December 24

Mass 8:15 am  
Mass 10:30 am  
Mass - Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord 4:00 pm  
Mass - The Nativity of the Lord (During the Night) 7:00 pm

## Come Let us Adore Him

### Christmas Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve, Sunday:**  
4:00 pm  
7:00 pm Live Streamed  
**Christmas Day, Monday:**  
9:00 am Live Streamed



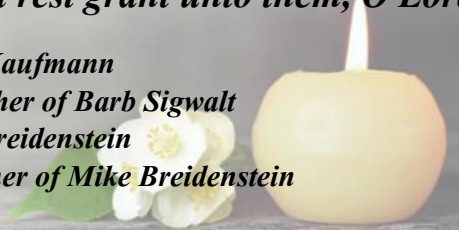
*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.*

*Bridget Kaufmann*

*Mother of Barb Sigwalt*

*Gerald Breidenstein*

*Father of Mike Breidenstein*



## Joy to the World

### Nativity Display

Over 250 Nativities will be on display in the Parish Hall.  
December 26, 2023 - January 1, 2024  
2:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Fee will donations will be accepted  
Handicap Accessible  
Sponsored by St. Malachy Altar & Rosary

### Order of Christian Initiation of Adults

**Next Session: Tuesday, December 19, 2023 at 6:00 pm**  
**Topic: Sacrament of Initiation: Eucharist - Part II**

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact  
Dcn. Mike Sigwalt ([msigwalt23@gmail.com](mailto:msigwalt23@gmail.com)) (309) 502-9243)

## *A Note From the Pastor*



Dear St. Malachy Parishioners,

*“Beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures” (Luke 24:27).* We continue the journey of exploring how God prepares us to encounter Him in the breaking

of the bread, by revealing Himself to us in the Scriptures, beginning in the Old Testament. We have already focused on the prophets and the psalms. As promised, we will focus on the story of Salvation History this week.

In this Third Week of Advent, as we reach the great turning point of Gaudete Sunday, in which the light of Christ coming very soon begins to dawn, it is fitting to focus on the story. Jesus is the center and climax of the story. Hope entered the scene the moment that our Savior came to live in the womb of the Blessed Mother. On Christmas day, when His eyes first opened upon this broken world longing to meet its Savior, it was like the rising of the sun, after a long dark night. “In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death and to guide our feet into the way of peace” (Luke 1:78-79). This is the cause of our joy.

But, this prompts us to ask, where did the darkness come from? Well, in order to understand that, we have to begin with the original beauty and splendor of light, which is God’s glorious creation. In His infinite goodness, God created the world out of love with harmony, unity and purpose. At the crown of that creation is the human person, made in His image and likeness, made for communion, made for love. We can far too easily forget that it is not our weakness, failures and sins that make us human, but rather this original purpose for which we were made. God made us for communion with God and one another.

The most dangerous and beautiful gift God gave us was free will. While it was necessary in order for our love to be authentic, it also made the rejection of God’s love and grace possible. Thus, sin entered the story when our first parents, Adam and Eve, believed the lies of the serpent (who is actually the fallen angel Lucifer, now known as the Devil or Satan) and freely chose to disobey God. Sin compounded with each proceeding generation, as the first murder was

committed by one of their sons, against the other. Sin is what brings division, destruction and all forms of evil and suffering into our world and it only progresses further through the years. But, God never gives up on those He made for communion with Him. Just as Adam and Eve had been in covenant with Him, so also He established a new covenant with Noah. And later with Abraham, He established a new covenant grounded in a promise which would find further fulfillment in the proceeding covenants with Moses, David and the long awaited Son of David, the Lord Jesus Christ. But, now we’re getting ahead of ourselves.

In Moses, God had shown mercy to a people who had grown inclined toward their own destruction, toward sin, by giving them the law, a very clear set of instructions to help them avoid sin. In David, He established for them a kingdom, uniting them with purpose and governance. David sinned, as did his successors, but God promised that one day there would be a “son of David” (one born of his line) whose kingdom would have no end. However, as the sins of the kings and the people compounded over time, more devastation resulted and the kingdom itself began to seem hopelessly far away. First the kingdom was divided into two, only to later be sent into exile. After the exile, the earthly kingdom would never be reestablished. Even after being restored to their land, they found themselves beneath the yoke of foreign rulers: Persia, Greece and finally Rome. Thus, the promised son of David came to be understood as a messianic figure, a savior who would finally deliver them and restore them. We learn about this Messiah from prophets such Isaiah, Jeremiah and Daniel. With all this in mind, we can begin to understand all the more clearly the weight of the words of the angel to Mary, about the Child to be conceived in her womb: *“the Lord God will give Him the throne of David His father... and of his kingdom there will be no end.”*

Yet, over time, weighed down by all of the suffering that sin had wrought, they misunderstood that from which this savior was meant to deliver them. It was not merely from the suffering heaped upon them by their worldly oppressors. He came to deliver us from the source of all suffering: sin. Thus, the One they awaited came with a greater deliverance than they could have imagined. While it would not mean a deliverance from suffering, through this same suffering, God had taught them to hope in their savior, who would bring them home to the Lord Himself. How great is our God! So, let us join our hearts to the words of Isaiah in this weekend’s first reading: *“I rejoice heartily in the LORD, in my God is the joy of*

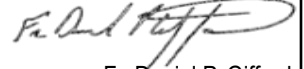


my soul.”

**RECTORY UPDATE:** A while back, it was mentioned that updates for the rectory had been planned, which were originally scheduled to begin in fall of 2022. After many long delays, this fall we began Phase I after consulting with the Finance Council and the Buildings and Grounds Committee and receiving approval from the Diocese to begin the project. The project began with some remodeling of the guest room with a new bathroom, new carpet, and paint that will allow me to live there while we complete Phase II. The second phase will include remodeling the master bedroom, a house chapel, new carpet, kitchen flooring, and painting throughout the Rectory. The exact cost is still being determined, but is

expected to be in the range of 50-55 thousand. We hope to complete it by April 1, 2024. If you would like to volunteer to help out with Phase II, which will begin after the first of the year, please contact Bob Pettit.

In Christ through Mary,



Fr. Daniel P. Gifford  
St. Malachy, Pray for us



**Oasis**  
will be having their  
**Christmas Party**  
Wednesday, December 20th  
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm.  
**College Students:**  
there will be a  
**Christmas Party**  
for you in Room A  
December 20th  
5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Pizza and Beverages will be provided for both parties.

**Christmas Mass - Lay Minister Sign Up**

**Mass Schedule:**

**Christmas Eve, Sunday**

4:00 pm, & 7:00 pm

**Christmas Day, Monday**

9:00 am

Can you help at our Christmas Masses?

**We are in need of:** EMHC, Lector, Commentator, Ushers, Greeters and Altar Servers Please call the office to sign up.



**Christmas Flowers**



If you would like to donate toward the cost of Christmas flowers in honor of a loved one, please provide their name(s) with your donation. Please clearly mark your donation, “Christmas Flowers” and drop in the basket or leave at the Parish Office.

*Community Christmas Dinner*



First Lutheran Church will host a free

**Community Christmas Dinner**

Christmas Day from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

114 E Main St, Geneseo



Our mission is to bring our neighbors and friends together to celebrate Christ’s birth and to extend this meal as a free gift to our community. We welcome you to join us

for this warm Christmas dinner including:

*turkey, ham, mashed potatoes & gravy, stuffing, green bean casserole, salads, and special Christmas cookies.*

**Home delivery** will be provided for to those in Geneseo/Atkinson/Cambridge communities who are unable to leave their home. Home or curbside deliveries can be scheduled by calling the church office at 309-944-3196 by December 23 to reserve meals to be delivered on December 25.



**Circle 6** will have their

*Annual Christmas Luncheon*

**12:30 pm**

**Wednesday, December 20th**

at Sugar Maple.

All members are cordially welcome to attend.

**Needed: Saint Malachy School Secretary**

7:30 am - 3:30 pm on all school days and other days as needed over the summer break.

For more information please email:

Tim Smith, Principal [tsmith@stmalgeneseo.org](mailto:tsmith@stmalgeneseo.org)





**STEWARDSHIP**  
Managing God's Gifts To Us

**Parish Sacrificial Giving:**  
1% donated to:  
**Inspire Continuing Care**

**Week 24 - December 10, 2023**

	Weekly Budget	Weekly Actual	Variance	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Variance
General Collection	\$ 15,000	\$ 17,906	2,906	\$ 360,000	\$ 325,606	(34,394)
School Endowment	\$ 750	\$ 401	(349)	\$ 18,000	\$ 14,155	(3,845)
Paraclete Fund	\$ 750	\$ 276	(474)	\$ 18,000	\$ 11,750	(6,250)
Capital Improvement	\$ 750	\$ 714	(36)	\$ 18,000	\$ 13,461	(4,539)
<b>Special Collections</b>						
Bishop's Seminarian Appeal		\$ 315			\$ 1,640	
Immaculate Conception		\$ 268			\$ 325	
Religious Retirement		\$ 940			\$ 1,040	
Christmas		\$ 205			\$ 495	

*Luck of the Draw*

Christmas time is here.  
Luck of the Draw tickets make great Christmas gifts!  
They are the gift that can keep on giving!



**Upcoming TEC Weekends**



- February 17-19, 2024 (Girls)
- April 20-22, 2024 (Boys)
- June 22-24, 2024 (Girls)
- August 3-5, 2024 (Boys)
- October 5-7, 2024 (Girls)
- December 7-9, 2024 (Boys)

For information visit  
[www.northwest-tec.com](http://www.northwest-tec.com)



**DAILY PRAYERS FOR VOCATIONS**  
Please Pray for these  
**Seminarians**

- Peter Schoonmaker*    *Blake Miller*
- Dcn. Jacob Martini*    *Luke Olson*
- Brady DePoorter*    *Nate Devlin*
- Jared Hernandez*    *Robert Pitts*

Are you feeling called to serve as a priest or other religious?

If so, contact Fr. Chase Hilgenbrinck:  
309-671-1550 or email him: [fr\\_hilgenbrinck@cdop.org](mailto:fr_hilgenbrinck@cdop.org)  
*He took bread, said the blessing, broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body."*

**Fr. Pakula Memorial Food Pantry Collection**

In Memory of Father Pakula, St. Malachy Parish will have a monthly theme to collect items for the Geneseo-Atkinson Food Pantry.

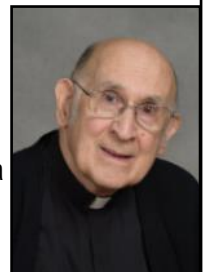
The theme for **December** is:

**"Meal Items"**

**Donations needed:**

- Side dishes, potato mixes, rice, pasta
- Hamburger Helper, canned vegetables, creamed soup

Items can be placed on the shelves inside the front doors before entering the Narthex. The current Food Pantry Newsletter can be found on the St. Malachy website, under the heading Parish Life.



# St Malachy Memories

## Judy (Egert) Pobanz

My dad Robert L. Egert Sr., went to St. Malachy Church and school when he was young. I have been blessed to be a part of the St. Malachy Family for 72 years. St. Malachy School was only one block from our home. I started school in 1957 at the age of 6. My brothers Bob and Rick were already going to St. Malachy school and would walk with me every day back and forth. We also walked home for lunch at that time too.

We had Dominican nuns in our school except when I was in 4th grade, we had a lay teacher step in for the school year. The first grade was very exciting, and Sister Nilus was my teacher. I thought she was beautiful and amazing. Over the years my siblings at home joined us at school: Jane, Randy, and Sue. When the first 4 of us went, there were 8 grades. By the time Randy and Sue graduated St. Malachy school, it had changed to only 6 grades. Mass was available every morning which we attended. The kids who rode the bus would come in as the buses arrived. School would begin shortly after Mass was over.



The classrooms held two grades per room. First and second grade were on the first floor along with seventh and eighth across the hall. Third and fourth grades along with fifth and sixth grades were located on the second floor. The dress code was dresses for the girls and collared shirts for the boys. When I was in seventh grade, uniforms were introduced but were optional. My parents made us wear uniforms. Maybe they didn't like my plaid shirt and striped skirt which is very much in fashion today!

Our Confirmation class consisted of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students. The Bishop came to perform the ceremony. The Sister's had us very well prepared for any question he might ask us.

(Continued on next side)

Like my Godmother, Virginia Wachtel, I also loved the May Crowning of our Blessed Mother. The girls wore their most fancy church dress and one by one proceeded up the aisle carrying a flower to put in a vase around Mary. In first grade, I was picked to carry the crown down the aisle, and in eighth grade chosen again to help place the crown on the statue of Mary. I was very honored to have had these along with so many memories the school provided.



Our school yard was blacktop, and the younger kids stayed there to play. The street was closed in front of the church and rectory where the girls mostly played on the street, and the boys played baseball in the lot next to the rectory.

Living close to St. Malachy's my sisters and I would be called on to help sing at funerals (which were all in Latin), and my brothers called to serve Mass whenever needed. My grandma lived with us and prepared extra food every day because if someone forgot their lunch, the Nuns would send them home with us as we walked home for lunch. My father was Taxi/Uber to the Nuns as he would pack them in our station wagon and take them back and forth to Sinsinawa, Wisconsin, when needed.

I was very blessed with a loving young couple (Harley and Mary Chaffee) who taught CCD and continued to further my journey with the Lord that St. Malachy school had begun.

I have been very blessed to have St. Malachy Church and School in my life. Now I'm enjoying my grandson Shawn going through this school.





# ST. MALACHY SCHOOL CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



## ADULTS



**DARK  
HEATHER GRAY**

**HEATHER  
FOREST GREEN**



## KIDS



**MUSTARD**

## PRICES

- YOUTH T-SHIRT - \$15
- ADULT T-SHIRT - \$20
- ADULT LONG SLEEVE - \$25

## IMPORTANT INFO:

**ORDERS ACCEPTED DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> - 22<sup>ND</sup>**

PLACE YOUR ORDER ONLINE AT [WWW.RURALROUTELIFE.COM/COLLECTIONS/STMALACHY](http://WWW.RURALROUTELIFE.COM/COLLECTIONS/STMALACHY)  
IF ONLINE ORDERING IS INCONVENIENT, PLEASE CALL ERIN AT 309-714-3006

**SHIRTS WILL BE DELIVERED PRIOR TO THE FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup> CELEBRATION**

**~\$10+ PER SHIRT SOLD WILL GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL**



# St. Malachy School Celebrates 100th Anniversary

You are invited to join us for an open house to celebrate our school's amazing milestone! Open houses will be after the following masses:



Current St. Malachy students form a 100



**SATURDAY, FEB. 3: 5:00 PM**  
**SUNDAY, FEB. 4: 8:15 AM & 10:30 AM**

- Worship at 10:30 a.m. with Bishop Tylka
- Tour the school to see students' special projects, mural & grade level activities
- Join alumni & current students in the church hall for light refreshments
- Enjoy videos of former & current students sharing memories
- Browse the school history timeline with memories, photos & memorabilia

## Share Your Story

We want to know where you are today!  
Send us an update. Please include:



- Name
- Years/grades attended St. Malachy
- Occupation
- Currently living in
- Family
- How St. Malachy influenced you
- Favorite memory, memorabilia, photo
- Current picture

**MAIL TO**  
St. Malachy School | "100 Years"  
595 E. Ogden Ave. | Geneseo, IL 61254

**E-MAIL**  
[schooloffice@stmalgeneseo.org](mailto:schooloffice@stmalgeneseo.org)  
Subject line "100 Years"

**All material NON-RETURNABLE**  
Please send copies only

**IN PERSON**  
Drop off photos and memorabilia in  
drop box at church or school office

# Luck of the Draw Winners November 2023



**Last day of the month (\$100)** Marilyn Parrs  
**Feast of St. Malachy (\$300)** Larry Gillespie  
**All other Days \$25**

Paula Kelly  
Vern & Pat Mariman  
Teresa Werner  
Sarah Henderson  
Steve Bjork  
Kim Anderson  
Sophia Cauwels  
Juan Raya  
Shirley Crosby  
Jonathan Graham  
Eugene Bouwens  
Eric Vorac  
Bob Palaski  
Polly DeClercq  
Tim Turpin

Vi Pettit  
Jacob Wyffels  
Megan Griest  
Julie Wiese  
Mary Kintigh  
Ilene Hamer  
Audrey Honzel  
John Loft  
Karna Frerichs  
Tod Dwyer  
Chris Sepaniak  
Kate Pillen  
Griffen Gray

Congratulations to our monthly winners and thank you all for participating.  
You can still buy, sell, and turn in raffle tickets all throughout the year.  
Tickets are available in the Narthex, or in the Church Office during the week.

Good luck on future drawings!  
Thank you,  
Fr. Gifford and the St. Malachy Parents Club

*We are a family in Christ*

Scan to follow us  
on Facebook





“The Lamb of God,” “The Bread of Life,” “The Body and the Blood of Christ”... these are phrases we know from the Mass. But do we understand what they mean in the greater and deeper context of Scripture and Church teaching?

Join us to watch the series and discover God’s wondrous plan for our salvation.

#	Description	Tuesdays 9:00 AM	Thursdays 6:30 PM
1	Source and Summit	January 9, 2024	January 11, 2024
2	In the Beginning	January 16, 2024	January 18, 2024
3	Lamb of God	January 23, 2024	January 25, 2024
4	Miracles of the Exodus	January 30, 2024	February 1, 2024
5	Mysteries of the Tabernacle	February 6, 2024	February 8, 2024
6	Miracles of Jesus	February 13, 2024	February 15, 2024
7	Bread of Life Discourse	February 20, 2024	February 22, 2024
8	The Last Supper and the Cross	February 27, 2024	February 29, 2024
9	The Mass	March 5, 2024	March 7, 2024
10	Revelation	March 12, 2024	March 14, 2024

Call the Parish Office (309-944-5393) to sign up for one of our study groups. Or study on your own or with your own small group. All Episodes can be found on FORMED. Study Guides will be available for purchase (\$10 each) through the Parish Office.



# ADVENT

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
LECTIONARY 8

## Gospel - John 1:6-8, 22-23



A man named John was sent from God. He came for testimony, to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to testify to the light. [The priests and Levites] said to him, "Who are you, so we can give an answer to those who sent us? What do you have to say for yourself?" He said: "I am the voice of one crying out in the desert, 'make straight the way of the Lord,'" as Isaiah the prophet said."



**We belong to God, our Father, who sent his only Son Jesus for our salvation. In the preparation for this Christmas season, Mary gives us the first example of discipleship in her radical "yes" to the Angel, Gabriel. This Advent season, we give thanks for the legacy of faith that has formed us, while we prayerfully envision the future vibrancy of our parishes, schools and ministries.**

"In times past, God spoke in partial and various ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these last days, he has spoken to us through the Son, whom he made heir of all things..."

- 1 Hebrews 1:1-2



## CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PEORIA



SPALDING PASTORAL CENTER  
419 NE MADISON AVENUE, PEORIA, IL 61603  
PHONE (309) 671-1550 | FAX (309) 671-1579

# Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

**Saturday, January 20, 2024 at 6:30 PM**

**Please RSVP by January 5, 2024 to the Church Office**

We would like to invite any and all of our parishioners who volunteer in any way to our first Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, January 20 at 6:30 PM. We encourage you to mark your calendars, your RSVP's can be sent into the parish office. This will enable us to plan the evening meal and entertainment. We hope you can join us. And even now, let us say thank you for all that you do.

- Lectors and Commentators*   *Ushers and Greeters*   *Communion Ministers*   *Altar Servers*
- Musicians and Choir*   *Livestream and recording*   *Parish Council*   *Finance Council*
- Welcome Committee*   *Liturgy Committee*   *Social Justice Committee*   *Wellness Committee*
- Building & Grounds Committee*   *Parish Directory*   *Knights of Columbus*   *Altar and Rosary*
- Children's Liturgy of the Word*   *School volunteers*   *SummerFest*   *Coffee and Donuts*
- 100 Year School Anniversary*   *Facilitators of Adoration*   *Funeral Luncheons*   *Pastoral Care*
- Facilitators of Adult Studies*   *OCIA*   *Seven Sisters*   *Women at the Well*
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