

GIVE CHRIST YOUR HEART

The Christmas season is here again. That means that Christ is coming! Throw open the door to your heart: Let Him in; Give Him a warm welcome; Let Him abide with you, forever. "I stand at the door and knock," says Jesus. Of course, He means the door of your heart. If there were no Christ child, there would be no Christmas...none of the joy that has captivated the world for nearly two thousand years, and will continue to hold them captive in ever-increasing numbers till the end of time ...yes, and on into eternity.

Christmas is all around us..yet it is not Christmas until Christ comes in...into *your heart!* The Savior came into the world to seek out your heart. The story is told that when Jesus was a little boy at Nazareth His mother took the greatest care of Him. Every night Our Lady put the Holy Child to bed; she would then place His clean clothes and His spotless sandals beside His cot.

Now one morning she was greatly puzzled at finding His sandals and the hem of His robe dusty and mud-splattered. This happened several times, so the Blessed Mother decided to watch. Next night she saw the Little Lord rise from His bed, put on His clothes, take a candle, and start down the road that ran past their cottage. All night long He walked the highways of the world looking for souls. From house to house He went, from palace to cottage, seeking people's hearts, searching for souls. At dawn, His candle still flickering, He returned wearily to His home and back to bed. His sandals dusty, and His Heart heavy because so many people had forgotten their God. Did He find *your heart?*

Oh yes, Our Lord is seeking the heart of mankind. Seeking your heart. Prepare for His coming this season. Give Him a heart filled with pure love. That is Christmas...*That is the purpose of life!*

HOW FAR IS CHRISTMAS?

How far is it to Christmas day?

The journey's just as long as taking time to listen to a joyful angel song. It's just as far as one can go in doing a loving deed that helps someone feel better or that meets their special need. For Christmas is a journey that the heart makes every year It starts right with your family and those you hold so dear. It travels on to strangers 'round the world to everyone with the message that God loves us and that's why He's sent His son!

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Dear Lord, in this holy Christmas season may we draw nearer to you. How wise you were to reveal yourself in the presence of a little baby, the Christ child. You demonstrated the power and the depth of your love for each of us. Thank you for showing us that Christmas begins in the heart, and for the love that it teaches. Help us now to keep the light of the Christmas message burning brightly all year through. Amen.

St. Mary's... Dec. 11, 2016
Offertory....1386.00
Christmas...\$115.00
Christmas Party..\$95.00
Shrine renovation \$500.00
in memory of Mary Puskar

St. George. Dec. 11, 2016
Offertory...\$681.00
Candles....\$46.00

SOCIAL GAMES

With Christmas only a week away we are sure you could use some XTRA CASH... you might want to consider attending our Social Games and let us help you with your expenses.

Games are played every Sun & Wed. at 6:45 p.m. WE ARE PLAYING A PROGRESSIVE PIGGY GAME AS WELL AS THE HOG GAME.... Come check us out!!! Come join us for an enjoyable evening with a group of **FRIENDLY FOLKS**. We are sure you will be glad that you did.

PLEASE NOTE....NO BINGO CHRISTMAS DAY.

WE WILL have Bingo on New Year's Day...Come ring in the NEW YEAR with a Great Group of people!!!

CHRISTMAS LITURGY
PLEASE NOTE....Since Christmas falls on Sunday our regular Sat. & Sun. schedule will be followed. This is being

done this year only since Christmas falls on Sunday. We will revert back to our regular Christmas schedule next year unless you prefer it this way.

ANOINTING with BLESSED OIL...MIROVANIJE & RECEPTION OF BLESSED BREAD

Anointing of foreheads with blessed oil will take place after the final blessing on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. As Father anoints you he will say "**Christ is born!**" Your response, "**Glorify Him!**" This is a beautiful way of greeting one another during this holy season. Let us not forget our heritage.

CALENDARS FOR NEW YEAR

The 2017 calendars are in the vestibule. Please take one and check it regularly they are a wealth of information. We are truly grateful to George & Tom Kinnick and Michael Kirila for sponsoring these calendars every year for our Parishioners.

GRANT HER ETERNAL REST

Please remember in your prayers Mrs. Ann Leson who passed on to her eternal reward. Divine Liturgy with Christian burial Service for the repose of her soul was held Tuesday. Interment being in our cemetery. Grant eternal rest O Lord to your servant, Ann and remember her forever. **Vicnaja Pamjat!**