

Nov/Dec 2017

29 November 2017

## Important Information

The Youth Ministry Event  
and Teen Mass on

December 10 has been

# CANCELED

## IGNITE



## *Middle School goes to Ignite!!!*

On November 17, nineteen 6-7-8 graders went all the way to North St. Paul for some praise, worship, adoration, and reconciliation!

# NPACC Youth Ministry

## Newsletter



*Senior Youth Alive and NHS helping at the Park Ballroom*

**"We helped clean up after the Wonderland in the Park Gala, which was sponsored by the Mayo Clinic Health System New Prague Foundation and held at the New Prague Park Ballroom. We took down decorations, tables and reset them." Mary Rynda**

## ADVENT

What are you doing this advent? Here are some opportunities:

**Service Hours: 12/13/17 Spirit of Christmas**

**Contact Pamela Sherlock for more information**

**Worship: *This Sunday is the first Sunday in Advent - don't miss out - stay alert!***

### Contact Us

Pamela Sherlock

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Helping at the Park Ballroom and enjoying “Friendsgiving” afterwards:  
*Mary Rynda and Sara Zweber’s Senior Youth Alive*



## *A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark*

*Jesus said to his disciples: “Watch out and be ready! You don’t know when the time will come. It is like what happens when a man goes away for a while and places his servants in charge of everything. He tells each of them what to do, and he orders the watchmen to be on their guard. “So be on your guard! You don’t know when the master of the house will come back. It could be in the evening or at midnight or before dawn or in the morning. But if he comes suddenly, don’t let him find you asleep. I tell everyone just what I have told you. Be on your guard!”*

*The Gospel of the Lord.*

# 'TIS (almost) THE SEASON


Remember getting ready for Christmas when you were a child? From decorating the tree to baking cookies, each moment brought you excitement and joy. Preparing for Christmas can be as joyful as it was then. Don't let this be just another Advent where you get distracted and busy.

Rediscover the joy in the season with *Best Advent Ever*, a free email program that will help you prepare for Christmas in a way that will allow you to have a Christmas as memorable and joyful as when you were a child. **You'll receive...**



Get ready for the best Christmas of your life!

SIGN UP AT  
[DYNAMICCATHOLIC.COM/ADVENT17](https://dynamiccatholic.com/advent17)

 Dynamic Catholic

BEST  
*Advent*  
EVER

DECEMBER 3, 2017



# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



ISAIAH 63:16B-17, 19B; 64:2-7

PSALM 88:2-3, 15-16, 18-19

1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

MARK 13:33-37

## REFLECTION

Advent is a time of quiet, stillness, preparation, and joyful anticipation. Not only do we anticipate the coming celebration of Jesus' birth at Christmas but we also prepare and look forward to Christ's return at the end of days. When considering that dual purpose of Advent, the readings about waiting and preparing for the Lord take on a whole new meaning. Advent is also the beginning of the liturgical year. In our society, it is common for people to make New Year's resolutions—they promise themselves that they are going to make a positive change in their lives. Advent also allows the opportunity for us to think about our lives and find ways we can improve. Jesus tells us in the Gospel this week: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come!" (v. 33). He warns us of being unprepared to receive Christ's return. Imagine that one of your teachers announces that you will be given a comprehensive test on a random day during the term. Every day when you walk into class, you know there is a chance you will be tested on everything you've learned in the class so far. How would you prepare for that? Jesus is teaching the same thing. It is easy for us to think that we can start improving ourselves tomorrow. But as the proverb says, "The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is now." Every day that we wait to do something is a day we can't get back. While it might seem like there is always more time to accomplish something, the best time to act is now. What change do you want to make in your life, starting right now?

## ACTION

Consider this beginning of Advent as your New Year, and think of a New Year's resolution that you want to make—some way in which you want to live your life just a bit better. Maybe you want to become more attentive to the needs of people in your lives, or maybe you want to try doing one extra act of kindness for someone each day. By making your New Year's resolution now, you can have something extra to focus on during this Advent season. Making an "Advent resolution" might also be easier in this quiet season of contemplation than the hustle and bustle of the New Year.



## JOURNALING QUESTIONS



● What one thing would you like to change the most about how you live your life, and why? What do you think of as "attentiveness" in daily life? Do you believe that you are attentive? Why or why not?