

## Children's Faith Formation

CHRISTMAS BREAK

**NO Children's Faith Formation Class until Monday, January 9, 2012!**



Parents, YOU are the primary teachers of your children's faith formation. Our catechists will introduce the topic each week, and then it is your responsibility to cover the materials in the chapters indicated below. Please return those chapter worksheets to class the following week. Thank you for your support!

### UPDATED SCHEDULE:

• **January 2, 2012: NO CFF - CHRISTMAS BREAK**

• **January 9, 2012: THE EUCHARIST, THE MASS**

Grade	Chapter	Title
K	16	We Thank God for Mass
1st	13	We Celebrate Mass
2nd	8 & 17	The Traveler on the Road Emmaus & We Give Thanks to God
3rd	13	We Celebrate the Eucharist
4th	13	Jesus Feeds the People
5th	14	One Bread, One Cup

• **January 16, 2012: NO CFF - MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**

• **January 23, 2012: The Holy Bible**

K	6	The Bible Tells Us about God's Love
1st	6	The Good Samaritan
2nd	4	Praising God
3rd	2	God the Creator of Heaven & Earth,
4th	2	God's Word to Us
5th	2	The Word of God

• **January 30, 2012: Prayer & Liturgy & Rosary**

K	24	Jesus Taught Us to Pray
1st	25	We Pray Many Ways
2nd	24	We Talk to God
3rd	23	Jesus Teaches Us to Pray
4th	24	People of Prayer
5th	24	Jesus, Our Model of Prayer

## FAMILY TIME



**Sharing the Gospel:** When something wonderful happens, we want to find out all about it, then go tell everyone we know. That's just what the shepherds did. We also want to think about it again and again. That's just what Mary did. Jesus has come to us. Let's do what the shepherds and Mary did.

**Prayer:** Dear God, You give me a new year and new chances to love You. I want to tell everyone about You like the shepherds. I want to think about your love like Mary.

**Something to Draw:** Draw yourself telling someone about Jesus.

**Mission for the Week:** Make a thank-you card for someone who told you about Jesus.

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Young Angels (YA) = High School  
Kids for Christ (KFC) = Middle School  
Steve & Sheryl Senesac, Youth Ministers  
s\_s59tops@msn.com 970-535-4825

### RECIPE FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR...anonymous

Try this teens:

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past-have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time. Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (so many persons spoil the entire lot this way) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, rest (leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing-don't do it), prayer, meditation, and one well-selected resolution. Put in about one teaspoon of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

Happy New Year to you and your families, we will see all youth back for youth group on January 9, 2012!

Sheryl & Steve Senesac

### NEW YEAR'S PRAYER

God, thank you for a new year.

May everyone in our family be willing to begin anew with a clean slate.

We know that you are always ready to forgive us.

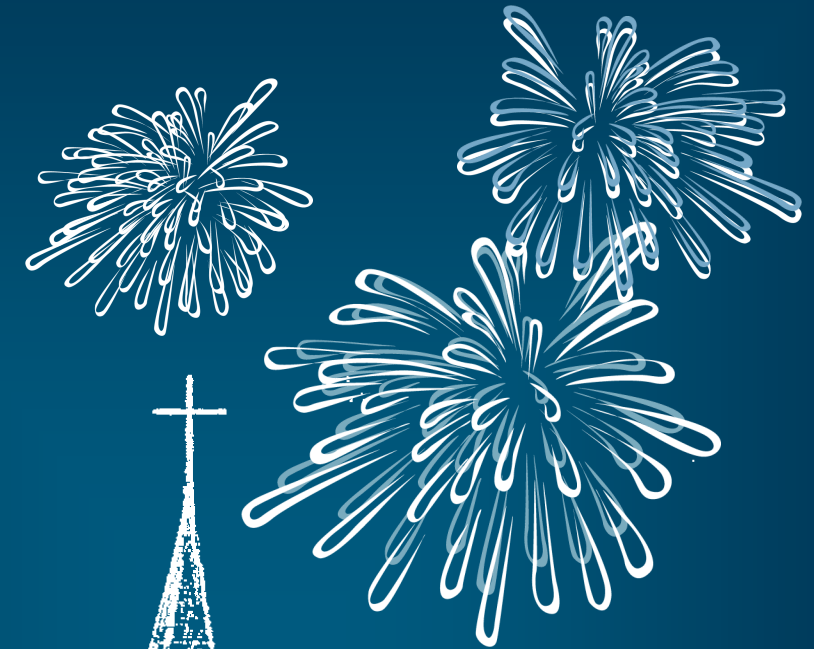
Help us to be willing to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another.

As we begin a new year, remind us of our truest values and our deepest desires.

Help us to live in the goodness that comes from doing what you want us to do.

Help us to put aside anxiety about the future and the past, so that we might live in peace with you now, one day at a time.

January 1, 2012  
*Beginning A New Century of Faith*



Guardian  
Angels  
Catholic  
Church

MEAD, COLORADO

**GUARDIAN ANGELS CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 15179 County Road 7—P.O. Box 444—Mead, CO 80542  
 info@garcc.org - www.MeadAngels.org  
 970-535-0721

## *Beginning a New Century of Faith*

Happy New Year to all the families and friends of Guardian Angels Parish,

Fr. Greg, myself, and all your parish staff wishes you the happiest of new years with grace poured out upon grace. May there be the peace of Christ in our lives and families and in our world. Although some think this is the year the world will end, for us it is the beginning of the next century of faith. In light of that, I'd like to dream a bit with you about what Guardian Angels will look like in 100 years. It is kind of fun to imagine predictions for ourselves and then those people in the distant future can look back and say how prescient we were or how whacky and far off the mark. I think these things will be true.

First of all, Mead will be a large town of 12,000 or more people and no longer the little town we know today. I-25 will be three lanes all the way past Fort Collins. While we'll have some more small business and growth of information age work, Mead will remain an exurban community of professional and educated citizens because it will remain an attractive place to raise a family with a fine school system, parks, and new downtown center. There'll be plenty of horses around; homes will be built to include ever larger gardens, as growing one's own food will be very popular and family oriented and environmentally sustainable. It will still be a community of open spaces, environmentally friendly, and a panoramic mountain view, treasured and valued more than ever.

Guardian Angels will have long had a beautiful new Church and grounds in heart of Mead; our current 200 or so registered families will exceed 500 households. Our emphasis will still be on youth and young adults, and adult faith formation. Guardian Angels will probably have a resident pastor and a rectory. Our parish community center will be a vibrant and active place engaged in the larger community.

When the pastor looks out over the congregation on Sundays, he will be able to identify people of at least two dozen cultures and languages, colors and ethnicities. In other words the Church will be more truly Catholic than ever. The world will be small and more global and the parish will reflect that reality. Guardian Angels will have undertaken a mission sponsorship and people will be making regular trips to work, build community, and share the gospel, all because of the wisdom, foresight and challenge of its lay leadership. The mission will have a reverse effect of evangelizing Guardian Angels in return and invigorating faith here at home.

The little carpenter Gothic Church of 1911 will have become a prayer chapel, still standing and well tended and will have a paved parking lot. The congregation will be forming two new committees for development and campaigns fund raising for yet more building expansion just as we are today to accommodate the local population growth. The Church built in 2013-14 will have been remodeled already at least once to include all the necessary new technologies to enhance the Sunday worship experience. One of the babies Fr. Alan baptized in 2011 will be present for their 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish.

The parish may well have its own app for smart phone users, and the hymnal will be electronic in every pew!

After Vatican III and Nicea III, the liturgy will be updated yet again, and everyone will be getting used to another new translation. Major steps will have occurred for reconciliation in the Catholic family of rites. But the biggest things the Church will be talking about are life and justice issues and the new evangelization because of the energy of the new pope from East Asia. In the post-oil economy, Christianity will be invited back to its Middle Eastern roots with new missionary efforts. The axis of the world will shift from East-West politics to North-South politics. Water will be the new oil. The parish will have a full time spiritual director to help people recovering, to teach prayer, and guide people on a Catholic spiritual path away from the new age faddism of the past 100 years, as well as a director of faith formation.

Quite the vision and dream! So that's what I'm guessing. I wonder what you dream about for our parish. We know things will change (they always do), but how no one knows for sure, but it is fun to play this little imaginary game of guess. For, we need to focus our faith on this gift of a new year of grace, roll up our spiritual sleeves, put our hand to the proverbial plow, and get to work. Fr. Greg and I so deeply appreciate our many volunteers, and look for more of the people to step forward in leadership in the year to come. Ponder these many things in your hearts like Mary does in the gospel, and let God's will be done unto us. Happy New Year!

Sincerely yours,  
*Fr. Alan*

### LITURGY SCHEDULE

**Monday January 2, 2012—No Mass**

**Saturday January 7, 2012—5:30 pm**

Lector: Molly Rose Loran  
 EME: Frank & Ruth Grout  
 Server: Amber Senesac  
 Hospitality/Gifts: Klocek Family

**Sunday January 8, 2012—9:00 am**

M of C: Mike Hipsher  
 Lector: Joan Blossom  
 EME: Rita Deligio & Judy Gwin  
 Server: Kyle Cavey  
 Hospitality/Gifts: Alcott Family

**Sunday January 8, 2012—10:30 am**

Lector: Jeff Aragon  
 EME: Art & Jeanette Harris  
 Server: Ben Gillett  
 Hospitality/Gifts: Baird Family

**Collection Counters:** Ernie Jasmund & Dorothy Kinch

**Altar Linens:** Jeanette Harris



### READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 1, 2012

Sunday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21  
 Monday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Jn 1:19-28  
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6/Jn 1:29-34  
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Jn 1:35-42  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Jn 1:43-51  
 Friday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38  
 Saturday: 1 Jn 5:14-21/Jn 2:1-11  
 Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



### HOLY FATHER'S JANUARY PRAYER INTENTIONS:

**General Intention:** That the victims of natural disasters may receive the spiritual and material comfort they need to rebuild their lives.

**Missionary Intention:** That the dedication of Christians to peace may bear witness to the name of Christ before all men and women of good will.



### WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING

This **Tuesday, January 3 at 6:30pm**  
 all women invited to the parish hall  
 to help plan the upcoming Chili Bingo!

	<i>Christmas Offering</i>	
	<b>Christmas December 25, 2011</b>	<b>\$ 10,735.00</b>
	December 26, 2010	\$ 4,350.00
	<b>Children's Collection</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>

### TIME CAPSULE



Throughout this centennial year, we've worked together to make a unique personalized treasure chest of current history, church culture, and special memories of captivating activities of Guardian Angels. These items are on display in the Parish Hall for a limited time for your viewing before being placed in a time capsule. Thank you to all who donated items, and especially to Monica Klocek who organized this centennial project.

### Mary, the Holy Mother of God

January 1 is the oldest celebration of Mary in the Catholic Church. The custom of honoring the Virgin on the first day of the New Year originates in the sixth century, when her celebration was tied to the octave day of Christmas, the eighth day after December 25. In doing so, ancient preachers would remind their congregations about the role that Mary played in the history of salvation. Jesus was born of a woman, and so, as Eucharistic Prayer 4 states, "Made incarnate by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, he shared our human nature in all things but sin." The human nature of Christ is rooted in his being born like us. As we round out the Christmas celebration with its Octave Day on January 1, we venerate the woman who gave birth to him.

There is a dual action in today's Gospel that is sometimes overlooked. The shepherds find the infant in the manger as has been told to them by the angel. And then they go out to tell others about the child. In the meantime, Mary reflects on all these things in her heart. These are the two complementary stances of the Christian: action and reflection. Both are needed for a balanced spiritual life. It is, in effect, putting into practice the two great commandments: love God and love your neighbor.

As we begin the New Year, it is customary to make resolutions: to diet, to exercise, to change something in one's life. Like Mary, who reflected on the events surrounding the birth of her child, we take some time to reflect on our own lives: where we have been, and where we are going. The Gospel gives us the opportunity to situate that reflection in a spiritual context. What does the birth of Jesus mean for me spiritually (reflection), and what do I intend to do about that in my daily life (action)?

### OUTREACH MINISTRY

...from Guardian Angels to the Mead Food Bank



January Food Bank item:

**Boxes of Macaroni & Cheese**

Collection bins in Parish Hall & Church

### OUR CATHOLIC JOURNEY CONTINUES...



**Monday January 9 after 5:30pm Mass**  
 Read Chapters 10-12 in Rediscover Catholicism.  
 This discussion is open to anyone interested in learning more about Catholicism.