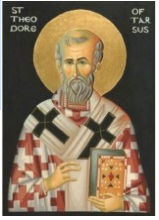


Our Lady of the Pines & St. Theodore of Tarsus Catholic Churches



NEVIS, MN 56467 www.ccnevislaporte.org LAPORTE, MN 56461
Parish Office: 205 Main Street West, PO Box: 378, Nevis, MN 56467

Parish Office Hours	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Parish Secretary/Pastoral Assistant	8:30 AM - 1:30 PM	10:00 AM - 3:00 PM	8:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Faith Formation Contact Person	--	4:00 PM - 8:00 PM	--

Pastor:
Fr. Tony Fernando
Phone: 218-652-4022 (Office)
218-652-2785 (Residence)
Email: ccnevis@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Judy Thompson
Phone: 218-652-4005
Email: parishofficenevis@gmail.com

Faith Formation Contacts:
Confirmation - Ronda DeWulf
1st Holy Communion - Angie Lindow
Pastoral Assistant - Anna Hudson
Phone: 218-652-4005
Email: olpfaithform@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: Charlotte Rauch
Email: olpbookkeeper@gmail.com

OLP Custodian: Pat Dietenberger
Phone: 218-652-3811

STC Custodian: Lisa Katzenmeyer
Phone: 218-224-2227

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: LouAnn McGlynn
Phone: 218-281-7895
Email: lmcglynn@crookston.org

December 18, 2016 4th Sunday of Advent

Christmas Programs in Our Parishes

Christmas Eve – Saturday, December 24, 2016
Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis
4:30 PM Lessons and Carols
5:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass

Christmas Day – Sunday, December 25, 2016
St. Theodore’s Church, Laporte
8:00 AM Lessons and Carols
8:30 AM Christmas Day Mass

Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis
10:30 AM Christmas Day Mass

There is No Room in the Manger, Except for Jesus and us

There isn't room in the manger for all the baggage we carry around with us.
There's no room for our pious pride and self-righteousness.
There's no room for our human power and prestige.
There's no room for the baggage of past failure and un-forgiven sin.
There's no room for our prejudice, bigotry and jingoistic national pride.
There's no room for bitterness and greed.

There is no room in the manger for anything other than
the absolute reality of who and what we really are:
very human, very real, very fragile, very vulnerable human beings
who desperately need the gift of love and grace
which God so powerfully desires to give!

Mass Times

Our Lady of the Pines, Nevis
Tuesdays: 12 Noon
Wednesdays-Fridays 9:00 AM
Saturdays: 5:00 PM
Sundays: 10:30 AM

St. Theodore’s Church, Laporte
Sundays 8:30 AM

Eucharistic Adoration at OLP
Thursdays: 9:30-10:30 AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturdays 4:15-4:45 PM at OLP
Sundays 8:00 AM at St. Theodore’s

Information on Reception of Sacraments

Baptism: We are delighted to welcome you or your children into our faith community. Please call the Pastor at 218-652-4022 for Baptism preparation and for scheduling a date of your child’s Baptism.

Marriage: Congratulations! We are happy to assist you in preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage. Do call the Pastor at 218-652-4022 as early as 6 months in advance.

Pastoral Visitation: We want to be a part of your life. If you desire a home visit with communion for the sick and homebound or intend to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Anointing of the Sick, or just a pastoral visit, please call the Pastor at 218-652-4022.

New Parishioners

Welcome to Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis and St. Theodore Church, Laporte, MN. We are happy to have you worshipping with us! If you consider becoming a member of either of our parishes, please stop by the Parish Office or call us at 218-652-4005 to send you a registration form.

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES

Saturday, 12/17	4:15 - 4:45 PM 5:00 PM	Sacrament of Reconciliation at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis Mass at OLP: For +Kurt Blumberg by Gene & Joan Blumberg Projectionist: Jesse Clack Advent Wreath Lighters: Jesse & Jill Clack
Sunday, 12/18 4th Sunday of Advent CLOW	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 9:30 AM 10:30 AM 11:45 AM	Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Theodore's Church, Laporte Mass at STC: For the Members of our Parishes Advent Wreath Lighters: Mueller Family Christmas decorating at St. Theodore's Church, Laporte Mass at OLP: For +Verena & Joseph Lorenz by Richard Lorenz Projectionist: Jeanne Thompson Advent Wreath Lighters: Mike & Ronda DeWulf Family CLOW Leader: Help Needed Hospitality after Mass OLP Guild Meeting
Monday, 12/19 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED		No Mass Pastor's Day Off
Tuesday, 12/20	10:30 AM Noon 12:30 PM 7:00 PM	Money Counters: Terry Lenz, Catherine Lenz, Sue Joerger Mass at OLP: Birthday Remembrance of +Maggie Casey Winslow by Mary Frank Advent Individual Confessions at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis. Knights of Columbus General Meeting
Wednesday, 12/21	9:00 AM	Mass at OLP: For Death Anniversary Remembrance of +Simon Dietenberger by Pat Dietenberger NO Faith Formation Classes - Christmas Break
Thursday, 12/22	9:00 AM 9:30 - 10:30 AM 6:30 PM	Mass at OLP: For Safe Travel of Emily & Sophie Kempf by Mary Kempf Eucharistic Adoration OLP Choir Practice
Friday, 12/23 PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	9:00 AM 10:00 AM	Mass at OLP: For the Intentions of the Molly & Jarod Senger Family by Walter & Renee Johnson Christmas Decorating at OLP
Saturday, 12/24 Christmas Eve	4:30 PM 5:00 PM	Lessons and Carols at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis Mass at OLP: For the Members of our Parishes Projectionist: Anna Hudson
Sunday, 12/25 Christmas Day CLOW	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM	Lessons & Carols at St Theodore's Church, Laporte Mass at STC: For +Marie Fabiani by the Fabiani Family Mass at OLP: For +Joe Tomas by Helen Tomas & Family Projectionist: Anna Hudson CLOW Leader: Help Needed
Upcoming Events	December 28 December 28 December 31 January 1 January 1 January 4 January 4 January 5 January 6 January 6 January 7	NO Faith Formation Classes - Christmas Break NO STC Guild Meeting New Year Eve Mass: Feast of Mary Mother of God - 5:00 PM at OLP, Nevis New Year Day Mass: Feast of Mary Mother of God - 8:30 AM at STC, Laporte New Year Day Mass: Mary Mother of God - 10:30 AM at OLP, Nevis STC Second Collection for Laporte Food shelf Faith Formation Classes resume at Our Lady of the Pines Church Confessions for Grades 5 & 6 at OLP from 2:00 - 3:00 PM OLP Choir Practice Eucharistic Adoration with new timing starting: from 9:30 - 10:30 AM at OLP OLP Pastoral Council Meeting 11:00 AM

Our Lady of the Pines Church Liturgical Ministers Saturday, December 24, 2016	
Sacristan	Anna Hudson
Musician	Ardis Johnson & Don Hudson
Cantor	Choir
Lectors	Mary Schiebe, Mike DeWulf & Jesse Clack
Altar Servers	Spencer Lindow, Brenna Lindow, Liddy DeWulf & Tyler Lindow
Ushers	Mike Greene, Ed Dvorak, Jim Warner & Tom Walz
Greeters	Nancy Greene, Deb Tangeman, Cheryl Van Guilder & Help Needed
Eucharistic Ministers	Ronda DeWulf (C), Jarod Senger, Rita Schulte, Carol Lindow & John Lindow

Sunday, December 25, 2016	
Sacristan	Bob DeCrans & Mary DeCrans
Musician	Don Hudson
Cantor	Don Hudson
Lectors	Anna Hudson, Theora Goodrich & Chuck Tangeman
Altar Servers	Mallory Kowalke, Blake Kowalke, Miranda Kowalke & Emily Funk
Ushers	Chuck Tangeman, Jason Funk, Mary DeCrans & Bob DeCrans
Greeters	Mary DeCrans & Bob DeCrans
Eucharistic Ministers	Bob DeCrans (C), Mary DeCrans, Holly Funk, Help Needed & Help Needed

OLP Monthly Assignments: December 2016	
Hospitality Ministers	Sue Joerger, Marsha Karam, Angie Lindow, Jody Karl, Donna Lindow, Kate Schraeder, Mary DeCrans, Florence Kramer, Shirley Zurn, Karrin Lindow
Altar Linen	Judy Thompson

St. Theodore's Church Liturgical Ministers Sunday, December 25, 2016	
Sacristan	Charlotte Rauch
Musician	Carol Wellen & Angie Jobe
Cantor	Sandy Roerick
Lectors	Karen Copa, Bonnie Conrad & Rosemary Moss
Altar Servers	Cain Richardson, Abbey Richardson & Gabby Nelson
Ushers	Gary Roerick, Darin Katzenmeyer, Marcel Noyes & Roger Rudbeck
Greeters	Ruth Grandy & Charlotte Rauch
Eucharistic Ministers	Charlotte Rauch (C), Brady Duff & Jackie Duff

Stewardship Report For the Week of 12/11/2016	Our Lady of the Pines	St. Theodore's Church
Sunday Collection	\$1,774.25	\$481.00
Second Collection: Retired Religious Fund	\$615.85	\$85.00
Candle Offering	\$10.00	- -
Rectory Project Envelopes	\$120.00	- -
Building Maintenance Envelopes	\$75.00	- -
Christmas Flowers Envelopes	\$140.00	\$25.00
Immaculate Conception	\$220.50	\$69.00
Laporte Food Shelf Envelopes	- -	\$100.00

OLP Year-end Donations
We are grateful to the following families and organizations who made generous year-end donations:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ John & Sharon Pollard ◆ Carol & Dale Anderson ◆ Joseph B. Lux ◆ Everette & Ardeth Duthoy ◆ Nevis Volunteer Fire Persons Relief Association ◆ Greg & Mary Jo Downs

Christmas and Year-end Giving
During this season, we have a spiritual opportunity to make a return to God of His many blessings with a year-end donation. Please consider your parish and its ministry when you make a year-end contribution. For your contribution to be recorded for 2016 , you may mail your donation by December 31st . Gifts received after January 1st, will be recorded as 2017 donations.

Christmas Choir Practice
Join the Christmas Choir practice at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis on Thursday, December 22 at 6:30 PM

OLP Christmas Eve Mass on KPRM AM 870
You can be part of our Christmas celebrations at Our Lady of the Pines Church by tuning in to AM 870! Lessons & Carols and our Christmas Eve Mass will be broadcast live on KPRM AM 870 from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM on Saturday, December 24.

Christmas Day - Free Dinner
All are welcome to 28th Annual Community Christmas Dinner at the American Legion, Park Rapids on Christmas Day. The dinner is FREE and will be served from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. ~ Lynn Spilman & Dennis Anderson

Prayer Requests
Lydia Bjorklund, Jody Mockenhaupt, Carla Wheeler, Linda Wurm, Joan McGuire, Shirley Zurn, Helen Mockenhaupt, Mike Van Guilder, Lilly Langlois, Barbara Lockwood, Peg Koktavy, Dorthy Goeden, Barbara Dietenberger, Jan Pollack, Daryl Pollack, Paul Mockenhaupt, Priscilla Dietenberger, Rosie Davis, Bill Davis, Jean Dryness, Laverna Schulte, Ray Copa, Winslow Chery, Janet Payne, Harold Dietenberger.

Experience God's Mercy

Individual Reconciliation

Tuesday, December 20, 2016 at 12:30 PM at OLP

Every Saturday, 4:00 PM - 4:45 PM at OLP

Every Sunday, 8:00 AM - 8:20 AM at STC

Or any time by Appointment.

Thank You!

- ◆ We were delighted to see a number of our Faith Formation children participating in the special Ceremony of Light last weekend. True to the spirit of the 3rd Sunday, their presentation added joy to our Advent Celebration. We thank the teachers and the volunteers who generously gave their time to share in the spirit of this season.
- ◆ About 35 people participated in the Mass of the Anointing of the Sick **last Tuesday** as a spiritual preparation for Christmas. We thank the Liturgical Ministers who served at the Mass, Don Hudson for the music, and Our Lady of the Pines Guild who served a lunch to the participants. We also distributed prayer shawls to a number of individuals following Mass. We appreciate the time and talent of the prayer shawl makers to provide comfort to those who received them.
- ◆ **Last Wednesday**, Laporte School Release Time children had a beautiful celebration of an Advent Mass, Advent Reconciliation, a Christmas Play and a Christmas treat with Santa visiting them. We are thankful to all the Faith Formation Teachers, Volunteers, the members of STC Guild who provided a lunch and all those who helped to bring the spirit of Christmas to these children.
- ◆ We would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets for the Crèche drawing. The beautiful Crèche was made and donated by Arleen and Jerome Biessener. The winner of the drawing was Florence Kramer. All proceeds will go to the Haiti Nutritional Program.
~ Joan Blumberg

Christmas Flower Memorials

If you wish to make a memorial for a deceased loved one or honor a living person during this season of Christmas, you may use the Christmas Flower Envelope in your offering box or use this Bulletin cut-out box. Your contributions will be used for flowers and decorations during Christmas and all memorials will be published in our parish bulletin.

Your Name: _____

In Memory of: + _____
or

In Honor of: _____

Amount: _____ Thank You.

Sunday Reflection: 4th Sunday of Advent

"When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home." ~ Matthew 1:24

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.

Events Calendar - Diocese of Crookston

Please visit www.crookston.org/calendar to view the most up-to-date information about events from the pastoral offices of the Chancery. The calendar can also be found by clicking the red box that says "Diocesan Events Calendar" on the www.crookston.org homepage.

Eucharistic Adoration at OLP, Nevis

After discussions with Our Lady of the Pines Church Councils and the Liturgy Committee, we are planning to shift our weekly Eucharistic Adoration from Thursday to Friday. Adoration is traditionally done on Fridays in many of our parishes. This change will also work better with my schedule since most of the Diocesan Priests' meetings are held on Thursdays. Starting in **January 2017**, we will have Eucharistic Adoration on **Fridays from 9:30 – 10:30 AM**. Please let me know if you have any suggestions or feedback on this change.
~ Fr. Tony Fernando

Jesus' Date of Birth

The Bible does not specify a date or month or year of Jesus' birth. The traditional belief is that Jesus was born on January 6th, 4 BC, shortly before the death of Herod the Great in 4 BC. Luke 3:1 and Luke 3:23 suggest that Jesus turned age thirty in the fifteenth year of Tiberius (AD 29). Hence, many early Christians deduced by calculation that Jesus was born in 2 BC. Several considerations strengthen the probability that January 6th was the actual birthday of Christ. This was generally accepted in the Eastern church and possibly also in the Western church.

In 336, the church at Rome officially observed the "birth day of Christ" on December 25th. The most important reason to fix Jesus' birth on December 25th was that it was the Roman feast of the Sun god that celebrated the winter solstice. On this day, the sun began its return to the northern skies, after the darkness of the short days. The Church in Rome used the same date to celebrate the birth of Christ.

We do not know the date of Jesus' birth, but we do know why December 25th was chosen as the date to celebrate the birth. For us, the Yule logs and candles symbolize the warmth and light of another sun: the Son of God. In the darkness of this night, we celebrate the birth of the Light of the World!