

# 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, PO Box: 378, Nevis, MN 56467

Parish Office Hours	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	<b>8:30 AM - 1:30 PM</b>	<b>8:30 AM - 1:30 PM</b>	<b>8:30 AM - 1:30 PM</b>
<b>Faith Formation Coordinator</b>	--	<b>12:00 PM - 8:00 PM</b>	--

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

**Parish Secretary: Florence Kramer**  
Phone: 218-652-4005  
Email: parishofficenevis@gmail.com

**Faith Formation Coordinator: Mary Schiebe**  
**OLP Holy Communion Preparation:**  
Angie Lindow  
**STC Holy Communion Preparation:**  
Lisa Katzenmeyer  
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: Cindy Hulst LSW**  
Phone: 218-281-7895  
Email: chulst@crookston.org

## 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**

Fridays: 9:30-10:30 AM

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Saturdays 4:15-4:45 PM at OLP

Sundays 8:00 AM at St. Theodore's

**December 24, 2017**

**Christmas Eve**

May the Christmas season fill your home with joy,  
your heart with love  
and your life with laughter!



**Have a BLESSED CHRISTMAS!**

~ The Pastor, the Staff and the Volunteers of  
**Our Lady of the Pines & St. Theodore's Catholic Churches**  
Nevis / Laporte, MN

**New Year's Programs in our Parishes**  
**January 1, 2018: "Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God"**

**New Year's Day Mass – Monday, January 1, 2018**

**St. Theodore's Church, Laporte**

8:30 AM New Year Day Mass

**Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis**

10:30 AM New Year Day Mass

## 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 Holy Communion for the sick and homebound or would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation or Anointing of the Sick, or just a pastoral visit, please call the Pastor at 218-652-4022.

## *THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISHES*

<b>Saturday, 12/23</b>	4:15 - 4:45 PM 5:00 PM	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis</b> <b>Mass at OLP:</b> Birthday Remembrance of +Alan Dvorak by Ed and Dee Dvorak Projectionist: Help Needed
<b>Sunday, 12/24</b> 4th Sunday of Advent	8:00 AM 8:30 AM  10:30 AM	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Theodore's Church, Laporte</b> <b>Mass at STC:</b> For + Ray Copa by Karen Copa NO First Reconciliation Class at St. Theodore's Church, Laporte <b>Mass at OLP:</b> For + Fr. Joe Kieselbach by Parishioners Projectionist: Anna Hudson
<b>Sunday, 12/24</b> Christmas Eve	4:30 PM 5:00 PM	<b>Lessons and Carols at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis</b> <b>Christmas Eve Mass at OLP:</b> For the Members of our Parishes
<b>Monday, 12/25</b> Christmas Day  PARISH OFFICE CLOS	8:00 AM 8:30 AM 10:30 AM	<b>Lessons and Carols at St. Theodore's Church, Laporte</b> <b>Christmas Day Mass at STC:</b> For the Members of our Parishes <b>Christmas Day Mass at OLP:</b> For + Angela Martini by Connie Gueli and Family
<b>Tuesday, 12/26</b>	12:00 Noon 10:30 AM	<b>Mass at OLP:</b> For Good Health of Shawn Karl by Judy Karl - Duclos Money Counters: Doug Scraper, Mary Schiebe & Loren Kramer
<b>Wednesday, 12/27</b>	9:00 AM	<b>Mass at OLP:</b> For + Joe Tomas by Helen Tomas and Family NO Faith Formation Classes for Nevis School Release Time Students NO First Reconciliation Class at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis NO Faith Formation Classes for Confirmation and Pre-Confirmation Students
<b>Thursday, 12/28</b>	9:00 AM	<b>Mass at OLP:</b> For the Intentions of Jared and Molly Senger Family by Walter & Renee Johnson
<b>Friday, 12/29</b> PARISH OFFICE CLOSED	9:00 AM 9:30 - 10:30 AM	<b>Mass at OLP:</b> Blessings on Tanner Ferderer by Mary Kempf <b>Eucharistic Adoration</b>
<b>Saturday, 12/30</b>	4:15 - 4:45 PM 5:00 PM	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis</b> <b>Mass at OLP:</b> Birthday Remembrance of + Raymond Novak by Walter and Cindy Novak Projectionist: Darin Kowalke
<b>Sunday, 12/31</b>  Feast of the Holy Family	8:00 AM 8:30 AM  10:30 AM	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. Theodore's Church, Laporte</b> <b>Mass at STC:</b> For + Rosemary Moss by Elizabeth Baurquin NO First Reconciliation Class at St. Theodore's Church, Laporte <b>Mass at OLP:</b> For the Members of our Parishes Projectionist: Anna Hudson
<b>Monday, 01/01</b> New Year Day Feast of Mary, Mother of God	8:30 AM  10:30 AM	<b>New Year's Day Mass at STC:</b> For +Ray Copa by Karen Copa <b>New Year's Day Mass at OLP:</b> For the Members of our Parishes
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	January 03 January 07 January 10 January 10 January 10 January 10 January 13 January 16 January 17 January 18	Faith Formation Classes resume at Our Lady of the Pines Church Second Collection at STC: For Laporte Food Shelf Faith Formation Classes for Laporte School Release Students 12.00 - 2:00 PM Faith Formation Classes for Nevis School Release Students 12.00 - 3:00 PM FF Classes for Confirmation & PreConfirmation Students 6:30 - 7:30 PM First Reconciliation Class at Our Lady of the Pines Church, Nevis, 6:30 PM First Reconciliation Retreat and Celebration at OLP at 10:00 AM KC General Meeting at 7:00 PM Preparing for Lent: A Program for FF students, Teachers & Parishioners by A.J. Garcia from the Diocese of Crookston Haiti Mission Committee Meeting in OLP Community Room at 7:00 PM

<b>Our Lady of the Pines Church Liturgical Ministers Saturday, December 30, 2017</b>	
Sacristan	Help Needed
Musician	Ardis Johnson
Cantor	Margo Bernardy
Lectors	Jarod Senger, Loren Kramer & Help Needed
Altar Servers	Mallory Kowalke, Blake Kowalke & Mirand Kowalke
Ushers	Ed Dvorak & Tom Walz
Greeters	Florence Kramer & Dee Dvorak
Eucharistic Ministers	Theorah Goodrich (C), Bob Lindow & Pat Dietenberger

<b>Sunday, December 31, 2017</b>	
Sacristan	Bob DeCrans & Mary DeCrans
Musician	Don Hudson
Cantors	Don Hudson
Lectors	John Lindow, Bob DeCrans & Anna Hudson
Altar Servers	Aiden Thompson, Help Needed & Help Needed
Ushers	Jason Funk, Stephen Lindow, Jim Warner & Gino Hebzynski
Greeters	Karie Lindow & Carol Lindow
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary DeCrans (C), Mike VanGuilder, Carol Lindow, Jeanne Thompson & Help Needed

<b>St. Theodore's Church Liturgical Ministers Sunday, December 31, 2017</b>	
Sacristan	Charlotte Rauch
Musician	Don Hudson
Cantor	Don Hudson
Lectors	Charlotte Rauch, Irene Fehn & Bonnie Conrad
Altar Servers	Abbey Richardson, Gabby Nelson & Caine Richardson
Ushers	Ken Nelson & Marcel Noyes
Greeters	Lisa Katzenmeyer & Bonnie Conrad
Eucharistic Ministers	Kevin Warne (C), Dee Warne & Ruth Grandy

**Reminder for Liturgical Ministers**  
If you are not able to serve when you are scheduled, please notify the Parish Office by email at [parishofficenevis@gmail.com](mailto:parishofficenevis@gmail.com).

<b>Stewardship Report For the Week of 12/17/2017</b>	<b>Our Lady of the Pines</b>	<b>St. Theodore's Church</b>
Sunday Offering	\$2656.00	\$1096.10
Christmas Envelopes	--	\$100.00
Christmas Flowers	\$155.00	
Retired Religious Fund Envelopes	\$150.00	--
Candle Envelopes	\$15.00	--
Rectory project	\$70.00	--

<b>2017 DAA Contribution</b> (\$ as of December 15, 2017) % parish participation	<b>\$12,174.00</b> (Goal: \$14,215.00) 36.70%	<b>\$4125.00</b> (Goal: \$3,632.00) 38.46%
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**Christmas Tree Blessing**

Blessed are you, Lord our God,  
before whom all the trees of the forest sing for joy,  
for you have come to rule the earth and all its peoples  
in your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

We ask you to send your blessings upon this tree  
which we have decorated in honor of your Son's birth.

Let it help us to celebrate this holy season  
as living branches of him,  
and bear the fruit of good works for your glory,  
this day and every day,  
both now and forever. Amen.

**Church of the Nativity**

In 326 AD, Roman Emperor Constantine ordered that a church be built on the site where Jesus was believed to have been born. Nearly 200 years later, the Church and the city walls were destroyed by Samaritan rebels. The Church of the Nativity was rebuilt with an unique feature. It has a small entrance that was built to keep invaders from bringing their horses into the church. Because visitors have to bow low in order to use the entrance, the entrance has also become known as the 'Door of Humility'.

<b>OLP Monthly Assignments: December 2017</b>	
Hospitality Ministers	Sue Joerger, Marsha Karam, Angie Lindow, Jody Karl, Donna Lindow, Florence Kramer, Shirley Zurn & Karrin Lindow.
Altar Linen	Anna Hudson

**Prayer Requests**

Terry Moen, Jerry Amundson, Kathy Quinn, Jenny Avenson, Jack and Kathy Roberts, Shawn Karl, Ted Thielen, Sue Joerger, George Noyes, Greg Carter, Trent Cole, Jan Lundberg, Dennis Schafer, Jean Dryness, Larry Yunker, Art Meyer, Janet Ramlet, Alan Knott, Shirley Tatro, Peg Kocktavy, Dorothy Goeden, Jan Pollack, Carla Wheeler, Barbara Dietenberger, Priscilla Dietenberger, Harold Dietenberger, Paul Mockenhaupt.

Please call the Parish Office at 652-4005 to keep a name on the Prayer List or to add someone new.  
Names will be removed after 4 weeks, unless a fresh request is made.



## A Christmas Prayer

Loving Father,  
help us remember the birth of Jesus,  
that we may share in the song of the angels,  
the gladness of the shepherds,  
and worship of the wise men.

Close the door of hate  
and open the door of love all over the world.  
Let kindness come with every gift  
and good desires with every greeting.

Deliver us from evil by the blessing  
which Christ brings, and  
teach us to be merry with clear hearts.

May the Christmas morning  
make us happy to be thy children,  
and Christmas evening bring us to our beds  
with grateful thoughts,  
forgiving and forgiven,  
for Jesus' sake. Amen.

~ Robert Louis Stevenson

## Come Home for Christmas

“I’ll be Home for Christmas” is an old song but it has new meaning for those serving in the military. Everyone thinks of home at Christmas and love to come home if they can. You can’t bring troops home for Christmas, but you can bring home people who feel far away from their family, or their Church. I’ll bet you can think of someone. Just a word of forgiveness or welcome would do it. Bring them home for Christmas.

## OLP Christmas Eve Mass on KDKK FM 97.5

Tune to FM 97.5 on **Sunday, December 24th.**  
Our Christmas Eve Mass will be broadcast live  
from 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

## Christmas and Year End Giving

Christmas and Year end giving is a Catholic tradition that recalls to mind the gifts of three magi to Jesus, the newborn king. During this season we have a spiritual opportunity to make a return to God of His many blessings. Please consider your parish and its ministry when you make a yearend giving and get a tax benefit. All gifts made on or before December 31st are tax deductible for this tax year.

We are grateful to the following persons who have made a yearend contribution to Our Lady of the Pines Church and Cemetery:

**Derek & Samantha Carlson**  
**Patsy & William Lorimer**  
**Greg & Pat Latsch**  
**Roselyn Becker**

## Happy Christmas!

Let me wish all of you, a grace-filled Christmas! May you have the gift of faith, the blessing of hope and the peace of his love at Christmas and always!!

In the past weeks, we have been preparing ourselves to celebrate the nativity of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. A good number of you were participating in the Advent Liturgies celebrated in our Churches. The children and youth in the Faith Formation Program had opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The Mass of the Anointing of the Sick was well attended. Thank you, parishioners and visitors, for participating in all these spiritual preparations for Christmas.

St. Theodore’s parish community as well as Our Lady of the Pines parishioners were generous to help the people who are in need in our neighborhood by supporting the Advent Giving Tree Program. The Organizers of “Ginger Bread Man Program, Laporte” and the “Walker Pregnancy Center” were our beneficiaries this year. I am grateful to Sandy Roerick and Jackie Duff for coordinating these programs.

Thanks to our parishioners, who have contributed for Christmas flowers and decorations, the Art and Environment groups in both of our parishes could create a festive look in our Churches. I am grateful to all those who volunteered to clean and decorate our Churches, replaced the OLP sanctuary lights with LED bulbs, the members of the Choir and Musicians, the Liturgical Ministers, and the families who took part in Advent Wreath Ceremonies.

On a more personal note, I gratefully acknowledge your Christmas wishes, prayers, cards and gifts sent to me. I am overwhelmed by your generosity and kindness. Thank you and God bless you.  
~ Fr. Tony Fernando

## “You Came Down from the Stars”

St. Alphonsus of Liguori may best be known as the founder of the Redemptorists, but he also composed one of Italy’s most popular Christmas carols. A poet and a prolific writer, Alphonsus published about 100 books and composed vocal prayers, devotions, and hymns which are still sung today. One such song is the Christmas hymn, “*Tu scendi dalle stelle*” (You Came Down from the Stars). The hymn is traditionally sung at St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, at the end of Christmas Eve Mass.

## Pre Marriage Retreat Weekend

Holy Rosary Parish in Detroit Lakes will be holding their annual pre-marriage retreat weekend on **Saturday April 28th into Sunday the 29th.** This retreat is recognized as meeting the diocesan requirement for a pre-marriage retreat and also qualifies couples for a reduced fee for their marriage license. Please register at: [www.crookston.org/documents/ministriesoffices/marriage-a-family/marriage-preparation/1555-2018-marriage-prep-weekend/file](http://www.crookston.org/documents/ministriesoffices/marriage-a-family/marriage-preparation/1555-2018-marriage-prep-weekend/file)