Elizabeth asked,

“And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”

Luke 1:43

December 19, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Advent
**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, December 20, 2021 (ONLINE and in SN church)**
8:15 AM † James Milota

**Tuesday, December 21, 2021 (ONLINE and in SN church)**
8:15 AM † Deacon John Lucas, †John Simmons, †Philomena D’Souza, †Pedro J. Duque & Cecilia Lopez de Duque, †Anita Lozada, † Dr. H. R. Henderson & Lenore Henderson

**Wednesday, December 22, 2021**
8:15 AM † William J. Leiser  **OPEN TO ALL: NO SCHOOL (online too)**
12:00 PM † Poor Souls (in SN church)

**Thursday, December 23, 2021 (ONLINE and in SN church)**
8:15 AM † Juliana Bolsinger

**Friday, December 24, 2021**
8:15 AM † Collette Festa
3:00 PM Mass in SN church
5:00 PM Mass in SN church
10:30 PM Mass Online and in SN church

**Saturday, December 25, 2021**
7:30 AM Mass in SN church
9:30 AM Mass Online and in SN church
11:30 AM in SN church
NO MASS AT 5:00 PM

**Sunday, December 26, 2021**
7:30 AM † Maria Formica
9:30 AM † Jean Hills, † Thomas Dadigan, Special Intention: Villalba
NO MASS AT 5:00 PM

* www.facebook.com/stnorbertparish/
Or * www.northbrookcatholic.church/livestream.html
Or northbrookcatholic.church and click on the link for Live Streams

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**Please Pray for Our Sick**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ted Superson</th>
<th>Al Pisterzi</th>
<th>Richard Jawgiel</th>
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<tr>
<td>Vincent Sansonetti</td>
<td>Barbara Kaplan</td>
<td>Hope McGowan</td>
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<td>Cathy Kalina</td>
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<td>Gerald Byrne</td>
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All the Homebound

Contact Amy at amy@northbrookcatholic.church (847) 513-6715 to have a name added to or removed from the list. When calling, please leave your contact information and relationship to the sick person. You may call to renew if needed.

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**Rest in Peace**

We assure the families of our departed loved ones of our prayers and support at this difficult time. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.
Some years ago I had the opportunity to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. On the trip the tour guide told us that the land of Israel was the fifth gospel. I didn’t think too much of it until we traveled across that small country. The story of Mary’s visit to her cousin Elizabeth brought back some of those memories of how the land itself tells the story of the Savior of the world in its own way. St. Luke recounts that after receiving news about her cousin’s remarkable conception in her old age, Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a city of Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. St Luke almost makes it sound like Mary just crossed the street to visit her cousin. But in reality Mary was in Nazareth and Elizabeth was living in Ein Karem on the outskirts of Jerusalem about 100 miles away.

Ein Karem is almost 2,500 feet above sea level, while Nazareth is about 1,100 feet. This means Mary had to trek uphill over 1,300 feet in elevation over the course of the journey. Besides the physical toll it must have taken on the newly pregnant Virgin Mary, the path she took had many hidden dangers.

The dirt path that wound through the mountainous region was a popular place for bandits, who would surprise unsuspecting travelers. The good news is that the Virgin Mary was likely not alone. While the Gospel only mentions Mary, it makes sense that Joseph would have ensured her safety.

Most likely it was Joseph who arranged the trip, probably looking for a caravan in which the Blessed Virgin could travel safely. He may have even accompanied her, at least as far as Jerusalem. Some think he may have gone to Ein Karin with Mary because it was only five miles from the holy city. But it’s likely he may have had to immediately return to his work in Nazareth.

The Visitation presented many risks to Mary, yet she trusted that God would protect her and allow her to assist her aging cousin. It is a beautiful mystery, one that only deepens when you understand a little about the geography and the obstacles Mary had to overcome to visit Elizabeth.

With this as a backdrop the words of St Pope John Paul II, when he visited St Bartholomew the Apostle Church in Rome on the 4th Sunday of Advent in 1997, provide some beautiful imagery that brings to life this moment in world events that have affected every human being who has lived. This is in part what he said, “Mary’s anxiety to visit her cousin indicates her wish to be of assistance to her during her pregnancy, but above all her desire to rejoice with her that the time of salvation had arrived. In the presence of Mary and the incarnate Word, John leapt for joy and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.”

We find reflected in Mary's visitation the hopes and expectations of the humble, God-fearing people who were awaiting the fulfillment of the prophetic promises. The first reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah announces the coming of a new king, after God's heart. A king who will not try to display greatness and power, but who will rise from humble origins like David and, like him, will be wise and faithful to the Lord. "But you, Bethlehem ... who are little ... from you shall come forth ... one who is to be ruler". This promised king will care for his people with the strength of God himself and will bring peace and security to the ends of the earth. All these ancient promises will be fulfilled in the Child of Bethlehem.

May Mary, model of faith for all believers, help us prepare worthily to welcome the Lord. Together with St Elizabeth we acknowledge the great things that the Lord accomplished in her. "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!" May Jesus, the blessed fruit of the Virgin Mary's womb, bless your families, the young people, the elderly, the sick and those who are alone. May he, who became a child to save mankind, bring everyone light, hope and joy as we celebrate the incarnation of salvation”.

Merry Christmas
Deacon Jim Fruge
This Week’s CCN Calendar

Monday, December 20
8:15 AM Mass Online and in SN church*

Tuesday, December 21
8:15 AM Mass Online and in SN church

Wednesday, December 22
8:15 AM Mass Online and OPEN TO ALL
12:00 PM Mass in SN Church

Thursday, December 23
8:15 AM Mass Online and in SN church
8:45 AM Baptism: McEwen

Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve
8:15 AM Mass online and in church
3:00 PM Mass in SN church
5:00 PM Mass in SN church
10:30 PM Mass in SN church and online

Saturday, December 25 Christmas Day
7:30 AM Mass in SN church
9:30 AM Mass in SN church and online
11:30 AM Mass in SN church
NO MASS AT 5:00 PM

Sunday, December 26
7:30 AM Mass in SN
9:30 AM Mass in SN
11:30 AM Baptism: Pokkamthanam
NO MASS AT 5:00 PM

www.facebook.com/stnorbertparish/
www.northbrookcatholic.church/livestream.html

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — From Bethlehem-Ephrathah shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel (Micah 5:1-4a).
Psalm — Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved (Psalm 80).
Second Reading — We have been consecrated through the offering of the body of Christ once for all (Hebrews 10:5-10).
Gospel — Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken by the Lord would be fulfilled (Luke 1:39-45).


SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES
Sunday: Fourth Sunday of Advent
Tuesday: St. Peter Canisius; Winter begins
Thursday: St. John of Kanty
Friday: The Vigil of Christmas
Saturday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK
Monday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
Wednesday: 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
Thursday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-34; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Friday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24; Lk 2:41-52

COMMUNION IN YOUR CAR

We offer Communion in your car for those who are uncomfortable attending Mass in church. It is after SUNDAY 9:30 am Mass, in the school parking lot. Please line up at 10:30 am and remain in your car.
**Sharing Ministry**

In this impossibly confusing world of masks and shots and breaking news that breaks our hearts, the Good News of the Greatest Gift amazes us again, and “the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.” Your generosity reflects that light and warms the hearts of many who are overwhelmed by loss and need. Thank you.

Merry Christmas!!

**If not us, who?**

**If not now, when?**

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**Wedding Banns**

During the month of December the following couple will promise to love one another as Christ has loved them. This generous vow, including the willingness to live together till death parts, to be faithful to one another, to give each other the right to children, God willing, gives us a vague, shadowy glimpse of what the divine love for us must be like.

Kyle Slovis and Anna Skowron  II

Jeffrey Fuchs and Mary Claire Seeberg  II

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**Early Bulletin Deadlines**

Due to the holidays, we have many early deadlines. Please pay attention to the dates below!

For the bulletin of Jan 9: Submissions due by 9:00 am on Tuesday, Dec. 28

Submissions for Enews are Wednesday mornings before the Thursday Enews. *(There will NOT be Enews during the last two weeks of December.)*

Submissions are to be sent to amy@northbrookcatholic.church. THANKS!

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**“The Book of Job: Lessons of Faith & Suffering”**

[A joint project of St. Norbert and Our Lady of the Brook Parish Adult Faith Formation and Shir Hadash Synagogue Adult Education programs]

Join us as we take a look at the Book of Job from a Jewish-Catholic perspective…the same book but also a different book… what we learn, why we study it, and how we can share it as a Book of the Bible. The course will be taught by Deacon Peery Duderstadt of St. Norbert and Our Lady of the Brook Parish and Rabbi Eitan Weiner-Kaplow of Shir Hadash. Classes will meet on Tuesday afternoons 1:00 PM at on Zoom, beginning January 11 and ending March 8.

Interested? Email Deacon Peery at peery@northbrookcatholic.church or Rabbi Eitan at rabbi@shir-hadash.org by January 4. We’ll send out the ZOOM link at a later date. Register here: https://sh.shulcloud.com/event/book-of-job-class#


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**PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may by his Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.
St. Norbert and Our Lady of the Brook Parish

The Men’s Club 2022

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Make checks payable to the St. Norbert Men’s Club
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https://Raffle2022.givesmart.com

All entries should be submitted to:
St. Norbert & Our Lady of the Brook Parish Office
Attn: The Men’s Club
1809 Walters Avenue, Northbrook, IL 60062

The deadline for entries is January 31st, 2022.
For more information please contact Michael Daly - mtdl730@sbcglobal.net

No purchase is necessary. Entry forms for free tickets and purchased tickets are available at the St. Norbert & Our Lady of the Brook Parish office listed above. Your order for a raffle ticket is subject to the Official Rules which are posted at www.stnorbertparish.org, effective as of the date of the submission of an order and hereby incorporated in full by this reference. If you disagree with the rules you must request a refund within 24 hours of its purchase in order to be eligible to receive a refund of the purchase price. After 24 hours you acknowledge and agree that: (i) you have read and understood the Official Rules; (ii) you agree to all of the Official Rules; and (iii) you will be irrevocably bound under the Official Rules. A copy of the Official Rules will be provided via U.S. Mail or electronic message upon written request. No ticket may be issued to anyone under the age of 18 years old. Drawing are held the 3rd Monday of every month in the church basement.
Prayer of Spiritual Communion
My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You have already come, and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Advent Reconciliation Service
December 21 at SCL, 7 PM

Together with our fellow parishioners in our Renew My Church ‘grouping’ we will offer an Advent Reconciliation Service on Tuesday, December 21 at St. Catherine Laboure Church in Glenview. Parishioners from St. Norbert and Our Lady of the Brook will join with St. Catherine and Our Lady of Perpetual Help for this joint service.

(Confession is available in St. Norbert Church on Saturdays from noon to 1 pm or by appointment.)

Live Nativity: December 20 at 6:30 pm

Come celebrate the birth of Jesus through our Live Nativity event, with geese, goats, sheep & a donkey!

Please join us on the front steps of St. Norbert Church for singing, sweets and the story of Jesus birth.

(Corner of Walters and Spruce, Northbrook) Open to the Public

2022-23
PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!
FULL DAY AND HALF DAY OPTIONS

HAVE A THREE OR FOUR YEAR OLD GETTING READY FOR PRESCHOOL?
St. Norbert Preschool creates a safe, nurturing environment grounded in Christian values that encourages all our students to learn, play and explore. Here your child will develop a sense of self, a respect for others, and a lifelong love of learning. The skills your child learns at our school will ensure your child is prepared and excited for kindergarten.

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www.stnorbertschool.org
admissions@stnorbertschool.org
847.272.0051
Christmas Schedule

2021

Friday - Christmas Eve
Mass at 3:00 pm, 5:00 pm, and 10:30 pm* in St Norbert Church  *Carols at 9:45 pm

Saturday - Christmas Day
Mass at 7:30 am, 9:30 am+ and 11:30 am in St Norbert Church

Sunday, December 26: Feast of the Holy Family
Mass at 7:30 am & 9:30 am only (no evening Masses)

Have a safe and Blessed Christmas!

There are no reservations required for Mass, but please remember to bring your mask. Hand sanitizer is available, and a small area of the church has ropes on pews for added distance. †Join us online for the 10:30 pm or 9:30 am Masses.
Bread Brigade – Drivers Needed

The Bread Brigade, a mission of the Catholic Community of Northbrook, has been rescuing food from local Panera Restaurants and Deerfield Bakery for many years. There is a continual need for drivers to assist in the pickup and transport of the food donations. Sign up for once a month or once a week – whatever time will fit into your schedule.

Sundays, 3:00 PM, pickup from the Bannockburn Panera at the corner of Rt 22 and Waukegan Road.

Mondays, 8:30 PM pickup from the Deerfield Panera, 385 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield.

Tuesday morning delivery to Mt. Prospect

Fridays, 8:30 PM pickup from the Deerfield Panera, 385 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield.

We hope that you will consider joining this group of dedicated people. For more details, contact Susan Eimerman, at susan.eimerman@att.net

Domestic Violence Awareness

Remember, you are not alone...

If you are a victim of domestic violence, or know someone who is, and need help, please contact:

* WINGS 24 hr. Hotline and Counseling Services and Emergency Shelter at (847) 221-5680
* National Domestic Violence Hotline 24 hr. (800) 799-7233
* National Sexual Assault Hotline (800) 656-4673
* National Dating Abuse Hotline (888) 331-9474
* Helpline for MEN 888-743-5754
* In an Emergency dial 911

Help with your healing journey...

If you are a victim of sexual abuse by any Archdiocese of Chicago personnel including clergy, the Office for Assistance Ministry would like to help you on your healing journey. Please contact us for more information.

Thomas P. Tharayil LCSW, BCD – Director
Ruth Robinson – Assistant Director
Office of Assistance Ministry
P O Box 1979
Chicago, IL 60690-1979
312-534-8256 or 8256
866-517-4528 (toll-free)
www.archchicago.org
assistmin@archchicago.org

Save the Date

Women’s Day of Reflection
Saturday, February 26
9:00 am to noon

The presenter for this half day of reflection is Anne Madsen, Teacher, Scripture Scholar, Theologian and Speaker. She has been teaching scripture for the past two years in the Adult Education Program at Holy Family Parish in Inverness. The cost is $10 for pre-registration for the morning and includes refreshments.

This day of reflection is sponsored by Guild 77 and is for the purpose of bringing women together to get to know one another and to bond. More details as it gets closer.

St. Norbert & Our Lady of the Brook clergy attended the Knights of Columbus Nativity Scene last week, blessing the creche as it was set up in the public square for the season.
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The Dibble Family
**Saturday/Sunday Masses**
5:00 PM ONLINE and in St. Norbert
7:30 AM, 9:30 AM and 5:00 PM in St. Norbert

**Daily Masses**
8:15 AM Monday through Saturday ONLINE, and in SN church. Wednesday 8:15 am Mass is NOT open to the public during the school year.
Noon Mass **Wednesday only**.

**Reconciliation**
Saturday 12-1 pm

**Baptisms**
Sunday at 11:30 AM. To register, contact the parish office. *(Baptism Preparation Class for first-time parents is the 4th Thursday of every month at 7 PM in parish office)*.

**Marriages**
Arrange with priest at least six months in advance

**Funerals/Bereavement**
Call 847-272-7090, Fr. Ismael and Mike Ward will assist your family

**New Parishioner Registration**
All new families can register by calling the parish office or by going to our website at www.northbrookcatholic.church under the “About> Welcome” tab.

**Communion for the homebound**
For homebound, please call 847-272-7090 and they will contact the Ministry of Care.

**Liturgy & Devotions**
**A Prayer Ministry of St. Norbert & Our Lady of the Brook**

- Rosary: Available after Daily Mass
- Eucharistic Adoration First Fridays, 12 to 1 pm,
- 1st Saturday: Devotion to Immaculate Heart of Mary; Rosary and 15 minute meditation after 8:15 am Mass.

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**St. Norbert School**
1817 Walters Avenue, Northbrook, IL 60062
(847) 272-0051 Fax: (847) 272-5274
www.stnorbertschool.org
Principal Eric Gallagher
egallagher@stnorbertcrusaders.org

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**Faith Formation & Religious Education**
Phone: (847) 272-3086 FFO@northbrookcatholic.church