



# THE MESSENGER

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas Week, Year C  
December 19, 2021



Serving the Catholic Parishes of  
**Sacred Heart, Villa Grove, Illinois &  
St. Michael's, Hume, Illinois**



*And the Word became  
flesh and made his  
dwelling among us,  
and we saw his glory,  
the glory as of the  
Father's only Son,  
full of grace  
and truth.*

*John 1:14*

*Wishing you  
and yours a very  
blessed and  
Merry Christmas!*

## **CHURCH CENTRAL OFFICE**

206 N. Pine Street  
Villa Grove, IL 61956  
Phone Number: (217) 832-8352  
Fax Number: (217) 832-8354  
E-mail: villagrove.hume@gmail.com  
Web Site: www.sacredheartandstmichael.com

Pastor: Father Aloysius Okey Ndeanaefo

## **PASTORAL STAFF**

Secretary: Amy Walch  
DRE/Youth Coordinator: Mike Stauder  
Custodial Care: Jim Balmer  
Maintenance: Scott & Matthew Albin & Jim Balmer

## **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday — Friday: 8:30 am — 1:30pm  
(Closed on Holidays and Holy days)

## **MASS SCHEDULE**

Daily Mass at Sacred Heart  
Tuesday—Friday: 8:00 a.m.

Saturday Vigil at Sacred Heart: 4:00 p.m.

**In person Mass + Online Streaming**

Sunday Mass at St. Michael's: 8:00 a.m.

Sunday Mass at Sacred Heart: 10:00 a.m.

## **CONFESSION**


Saturday at Sacred Heart: 3:15 p.m.

Or by appointment

## **HOLY DAY MASSES**

6:30pm: Vigil Mass at St. Michael's

8am & 6:30 pm: Holy Day Masses at Sacred Heart.

 <b>Mass Intentions</b>		 <b>Ministry Schedule</b>									
Dec 18	4:00 pm	Rolland Sprague by Amy Walch									
Dec 19	8:00 am 10:00 am	Charles & Clella Barrett by Phyllis Stone John Dee Hawkins by Steve & Martha Williams									
Dec 20	8:00 am	<b>NO MASS</b>									
Dec 21	8:00 am	Ursula Calvert by Mark & dawn Jenson & Family									
Dec 22	8:00 am	Pat & Martha Carr by Lee & Laura Diltz									
Dec 23	8:00 am	Mary and Henry Kramer by Tony Kramer									
Dec 24	4:30 pm 6:30 pm	Gloria Secore by Ollie & Ruth Anne Smith									
Dec 25	9:00 am 4:00 pm	All Parish Families Mike Pangburn by Alice Kaufman									
Dec 26	8:00 am 10:00 am	George Carroll by Mary Waller Pat & Martha Carr by Lee & Laura Diltz									
 <b>Mass Intentions Requests</b>		<p align="center"><b>December 25th and December 26th, 2021</b></p> <p align="center"><b>(Friday, December 24th: Lector: Amy Walch Servers: Cory Kappes &amp; Landon Kappes)</b></p> <p>4:00 pm LECTORS: Kim Lytle SERVERS: Zane Hosler</p> <p align="center"><b>(Friday, December 24th: Lector: Martha Williams Server: Tim Keske)</b></p> <p>8:00 am LECTORS: Ollie Smith USHERS: Glenda Waller SERVERS: Lily Brown &amp; Leah Wood GIFTS: Leah Wood</p> <p>10:00 am LECTORS: Traci McAfee COLLECTION COUNTERS: Dennis Mitsdarfer &amp; Barb Vandeventer SERVERS: Amy Mitsdarfer &amp; Dennis Mitsdarfer</p> <p align="center"><b>Sacred Heart:</b> <b>Saturday, 4:00 p.m. &amp; Sunday, 10:00 a.m.</b> <b>St. Michael's: Sunday, 8:00 a.m.</b></p>									
Submit Mass Intention requests to the Parish Office and prayer chain requests to Amy Walch: <a href="mailto:a.walch65@gmail.com">a.walch65@gmail.com</a>											
 <b>Prayer Requests</b>											
We pray for: Geneva Allen, Teresa Balmer, Kay Barrett, Verna Bennett, Doris Birkner, Judy Cler, Pat Dillon, Tita Fleener, Malea Fonner, Kim Franzen, Peter Frank, John Gilles, Faith Grave, Denise Griffith, Daphne Grise, Vicki Harmon, Julie Harrison, Bob Jones, Christina Kappes, Tyler King, Debbie Koberlein, Marge Koeberlein, Kiley Kramer, Meghan Kramer, Tony Kramer, Dorothea Lasley, Albert Ledford, Ann Maxwell, Sally McNamara, Doris Miller, Amy Mitsdarfer, Yair Flores Molina, Mark Mooney, Ezinne Theresa C. Ndeanaefo, Michael N. Ndeanaefo, Lara Nguyen, Christopher and Nicholas Nolte and their families, Rosemary Raeske, Phyllis Rund, Mary Margaret Rund, John Rothecker, Betty Smith, James Smith, Joseph Smith, Matt Smith, Rosemary Sprague, Mary Tipsend, Barbara Waymire, Susan Wilkey, Cathy Weatherford, and Mike Webb.											
<b>Daily Scripture Readings</b> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Dec 18: R1: JER 23:5-8 Gospel: MT 1:8-25</td> <td>Gospel: LK 1:46-56</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec 19: R1: MI 5:1-4a R2: HEB 10:5-10 Gospel: LK 1:39-45</td> <td>Dec 23: R1: MAL 3:1-4, 23-24 Gospel: LK 1:57-66</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec 20: R1: IS 7:10-14 Gospel: LK 1:26-38</td> <td>Dec 24: R1: 2SM 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Gospel: LK 1:67-79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec 21: R1: SG 2:8-14 Gospel: LK 1:39-45</td> <td>Dec 25: R1: IS 52:7-10; R2: HEB 1:1-6; Gospel: JN 1:1-18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dec 22: R1: 1SM 1:24-28</td> <td>Dec 26: R1: SIR 3:2-6, 12-14 R2: COL 3:12-21 Gospel: LK 2:41-52</td> </tr> </table>			Dec 18: R1: JER 23:5-8 Gospel: MT 1:8-25	Gospel: LK 1:46-56	Dec 19: R1: MI 5:1-4a R2: HEB 10:5-10 Gospel: LK 1:39-45	Dec 23: R1: MAL 3:1-4, 23-24 Gospel: LK 1:57-66	Dec 20: R1: IS 7:10-14 Gospel: LK 1:26-38	Dec 24: R1: 2SM 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Gospel: LK 1:67-79	Dec 21: R1: SG 2:8-14 Gospel: LK 1:39-45	Dec 25: R1: IS 52:7-10; R2: HEB 1:1-6; Gospel: JN 1:1-18	Dec 22: R1: 1SM 1:24-28
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<b>St Michael's Parish Tithing Goal</b>		<b>Weekly Collection</b>									
The Parish Tithing amount for November collections was calculated at <b>\$404.00</b> or 10% of the monthly collection which was \$4024.00 and a check will be sent to the diocese. To date the PCT payments have totaled <b>\$2041.00.00.</b>		<p align="center"><b>Week Ending Sunday, December 12, 2021</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Sacred Heart Church</b>  Weekly Collection: \$1536.00 <b>\$425.00</b> Loose Cash: \$95.00  Building Fund: \$ 30.00 <b>Retired Religious: \$ 445.00 \$50.00</b>  Christmas Offering: \$ 50.00 Christmas Flowers: \$15.00  Children's Home: \$ 250.00 <b>\$50.00</b> Immaculate Conception: \$115.00  PCT: \$  Online Giving: <b>\$605.00</b>  <b>Total Deposit: \$3061.00</b></li> <li><b>St. Michael's Church</b>  Weekly Collection: \$ 810.00 <b>\$150.00</b> Loose Cash: \$5.00  Immaculate Conception: \$ 315.00 Christmas Flowers: \$ 100.00  Hall Rental: \$ <b>Retired Religious: \$ 140.00 \$50.00</b> PCT: \$  Online Giving: <b>\$200.00</b>  <b>Total Deposit: \$1570.00</b>  <b>All collections OTHER than the Diocesan Collections may be tithed  Diocesan Collections will be denoted here in a different color.</b></li> </ul>									
<b>Sacred Heart's Parish Tithing Goal</b>											
The Parish Tithing amount for November collections was calculated at <b>\$760.00</b> or 10% of the monthly collection which was \$7600.00 and a check will be sent to the diocese. To date the PCT payments have totaled <b>\$4565.00</b>											

## *Pastoral Reflections*

### **Scripture Reflection (4<sup>th</sup>, Sun in Advent, Year C)**

True to his name, it translates as “Who is like God” this prophet challenges the people of his day to give pride of place to the standards of heaven. It seems he had some success. King Hezekiah, 800 years before the birth of Jesus, was moved by Micah’s message to initiate some spiritual reforms (Jeremiah 26:17 –20). But these reforms were not enough to steer the kingdom off the course that would eventually cause its collapse. In this reading, however, the prophet reveals the spiritual healing God has in store for a wayward people.

Today’s Gospel from Luke is traditionally designated simply as “The Visitation.” It describes the visit Mary made to Elizabeth upon finding out that her barrenness has been removed and she is now pregnant. Structurally, this story brings together the unexpected objects of the angel Gabriel’s annunciation to Zechariah and then to Mary. Although both are miraculous pregnancies, Jesus is always superior to John the Baptist.

Mary visits Elizabeth. Part of the announcement the angel Gabriel made to Mary regarding her future motherhood included the information that her relative Elizabeth, who for years had been barren, was now six months pregnant. This seems to be the motive for Mary’s visiting Elizabeth with such haste. Immediately upon entering Elizabeth’s house and giving her a greeting, a strange response takes

place. The infant in Elizabeth’s womb leaped. What really happened was that John the Baptist paid homage to Jesus even before either of them was actually born. That is the purpose for which John will be born.

Elizabeth declares Mary blessed. Upon encountering Mary and experiencing the unborn John leaping in her womb, Elizabeth is immediately filled with the Holy Spirit. This will be the source for Elizabeth’s insights into who Mary really is and why she has come to make this visit. Through the Holy Spirit, Elizabeth declares that Mary is the most blessed among women and blessed also is the fruit of her womb. These are, in effect, prophetic oracles coming from Elizabeth and inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Why should Mary make this visit to Elizabeth? This is a question whose answer Elizabeth already knows. It enables Elizabeth to pronounce Mary most blessed among all women. It also gives Elizabeth the occasion to proclaim Mary blessed because she has believed what the angel Gabriel told her. In effect, this will also make Mary the first disciple.

This visitation story brings together all the important events that will lead up to the birth of the Messiah.

The Holy Spirit is behind all the miraculous moments described here. Both of these infants now in their mothers’ wombs will eventually fulfill their divine missions.

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### **Christmas at Greccio ~Feast Day for Dec. 24th~**



What better way to prepare for the arrival of the Christ Child than to take a brief journey, to Greccio, the spot in central Italy where, Saint Francis of Assisi created the first Christmas crib in the year 1223. Francis, recalling a visit he had made years before to Bethlehem, resolved to create the manger he had seen there. The ideal

spot was a cave in nearby Greccio. He would find a baby, we’re not sure if it was a live infant or the carved image of a baby, hay upon which to lay him, an ox and an ass to stand beside the manger. Word went out to the people of the town. At the appointed time, they arrived carrying torches and candles. One of the friars began celebrating Mass. Francis himself gave the sermon. His biographer, Thomas of Celano, recalls that Francis “stood before the manger...overcome with love and filled with a wonderful happiness...” For Francis, the simple celebration was meant to recall the hardships Jesus suffered even as an infant, a savior who chose to become poor for our sake, a truly human Jesus. Tonight, as we pray around the Christmas cribs in our homes, we welcome into our hearts that same Savior.

### **Coming Soon ~26, December, 2021~**

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28. Psalm 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10.  
1 John 3:1-2, 21-24. Luke 2:22-40.

**Family Life.** Even the pre-teen Jesus astonishes and worries his parents as they fret over their child! Those of us who are parents know this stress. But all of us, even us aged ones, are still children of God, dearly loved and called to be obedient.

- *How will I obey God this day?*
- *What commandment will I keep?*
- *What mercy work will I do?*

### **Nativity of the Lord ~December 25th~**



*Behold,  
the virgin shall conceive  
and bear a son,  
and they shall name him  
Emmanuel, which means  
“God is with us.”*


*Matthew 1:23  
Christmas Blessings!*

	<h2>THE MESSENGER</h2> <p>Serving the Catholic Parishes of</p> <p><i>Sacred Heart - Villa Grove, IL and St. Michael's - Hume, IL</i></p>	
<p><b>Sacred Heart Catholic Church Villa Grove, IL</b></p>	<p><b>Please Patronize Our Local Businesses</b></p>	<p><b>St Michael Catholic Church Hume, IL</b></p>
<p>Advertise your business to hundreds of families in your area</p>	 <p><b>Villa Grove State Bank</b> <i>Your Hometown Community Bank Since 1919</i></p> <p>10 N. Main St. Villa Grove, Illinois 61956 (217) 832-2631 <a href="http://www.villagrovestatebank.com">www.villagrovestatebank.com</a></p>	<p>85% of those receiving a bulletin, refer to it during every week</p>
 <p><b>GILLES TRUE VALUE</b> "Best In Hardware Since 1985" <i>The Gilles Family</i> 7 N. Sycamore St - Villa Grove, IL 61956 217-832-8123</p>		 <p><b>First Mid Insurance Group</b> Thomas L. Schuett Senior Account Manager tschuett@firstmid.com Office 217-684-2277 www.firstmid.com Call Tom for help with your Medicare plans</p> <p>113 W. Washington St Philo, IL 61864</p>
 <p><b>PAUL'S</b> We Build Solutions</p> <p>650 N. Sycamore St., Villa Grove, IL 61956 OFFICE 800.642.2541 FAX 217.832.3311 <b>PAULSMACHINE.COM</b></p>	<p>THE WORLD TELLS US TO SEEK <b>SUCCESS, POWER AND MONEY;</b> <i>God</i> TELLS US TO SEEK <b>HUMILITY Service Love</b> - Pope Francis</p> 	
 <p><b>DAVID FROST, OWNER</b> (217) 202-8188 FROSTELECTRIC16@ICLOUD.COM RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL • AGRICULTURAL</p>	<p><b>Shaw Law Firm, LLC</b> Kylie S. Shaw, Attorney at Law 206 N. Randolph St, Suite 108 - Champaign, IL Phone: 217-363-2432 Services &amp; information go to: <a href="http://Shawlawllc.com">Shawlawllc.com</a></p>	<p><b>Honey FOR SALE</b> Sullivan &amp; Juscus Contact: Terry at 217-251-2324</p>
<p>Contact the Parish Office to advertise today!</p> <p><b>217.832.8352</b> <a href="mailto:villagrove.hume@gmail.com">villagrove.hume@gmail.com</a></p>		 <p><b>Sugar Creek DENTAL CARE</b> 701 S. Main Street -- Paris, IL 61944 Phone: (217) 463-4155</p>

## Announcements, Events and Activities

December Birthdays & Anniversaries	Reminders		
<p><b>Birthdays</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                     12/1 Bob Jones                      12/1 Jim Kremitzki                      12/3 Karen Schweighart                      12/4 Tom Cler                      12/6 Cora Shirley                      12/7 Kiela Martin                      12/8 Barb Cler                      12/9 Kathy Hettinger                      12/11 Carson Kappes                      12/12 Nicholas Wilkey                      12/13 Cory Kappes                      12/14 Malea Fonner                      12/18 Brandon Mitsdarfer                      12/18 Pat Bales                      12/25 Nick Barrett                      12/28 Mary Hildreth                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none; vertical-align: top;">                     12/30 Pam Wax                      12/31 Laura Wilhelm-Barr      <b>Anniversaries</b>                      12/3 Rusty &amp; Kim Keske                      12/19 Michael &amp; Alycia Holmes                      12/20 Marvin &amp; Pam Cler   </td> </tr> </table>	12/1 Bob Jones 12/1 Jim Kremitzki 12/3 Karen Schweighart 12/4 Tom Cler 12/6 Cora Shirley 12/7 Kiela Martin 12/8 Barb Cler 12/9 Kathy Hettinger 12/11 Carson Kappes 12/12 Nicholas Wilkey 12/13 Cory Kappes 12/14 Malea Fonner 12/18 Brandon Mitsdarfer 12/18 Pat Bales 12/25 Nick Barrett 12/28 Mary Hildreth	12/30 Pam Wax 12/31 Laura Wilhelm-Barr    <b>Anniversaries</b> 12/3 Rusty & Kim Keske 12/19 Michael & Alycia Holmes 12/20 Marvin & Pam Cler  	<p><b>SH Altar Society will meet Wednesday Jan 19th at 6:30 pm</b>  <b>SH: Finance Council : Thursday Jan 13, 2022 , 6:30 pm</b>  <b>SH Pastoral Council: Tuesday Feb 8, 2022, 6:30 pm</b>  <b>SM: Finance Council : Sunday January, 7:00 am</b>  <b>SM: Pastoral Council: Sunday , 7:00 am</b>  <b>SH : Church Decorating : Thurs Dec 23 9:00 am</b>  <b>SH: Adult Faith Formation Dec 23 6:30 pm</b>  <b>SM Advent Penance Service Dec 22 6:30 pm</b>  <b>SH Advent Penance Service Dec 23 5:30 pm</b>  <i>Don't forget to check the bulletin board in the church vestibule for flyers about events at local area church etc. that bulletin space limitations prevent it's posting.</i></p>
12/1 Bob Jones 12/1 Jim Kremitzki 12/3 Karen Schweighart 12/4 Tom Cler 12/6 Cora Shirley 12/7 Kiela Martin 12/8 Barb Cler 12/9 Kathy Hettinger 12/11 Carson Kappes 12/12 Nicholas Wilkey 12/13 Cory Kappes 12/14 Malea Fonner 12/18 Brandon Mitsdarfer 12/18 Pat Bales 12/25 Nick Barrett 12/28 Mary Hildreth	12/30 Pam Wax 12/31 Laura Wilhelm-Barr    <b>Anniversaries</b> 12/3 Rusty & Kim Keske 12/19 Michael & Alycia Holmes 12/20 Marvin & Pam Cler  		
<b>Christmas and New Years Schedules</b>	<b>PSR Updates for Advent &amp; Christmas</b>		
<p>Dec 22 SM Advent Penance Service 6:30 pm                      Dec 23 SH Advent Penance Service 5:30 pm with final adult formation class to follow at 6:30 pm                      Dec 24th SH Christmas Vigil Mass 4:30 pm with carols at 4pm                      SM Mass at 6:30 pm                      Dec 25 Christmas Day Mass SH 9 am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>All weekend Masses for Dec 25/26 will follow the regular weekend schedule</i></p> <p>Dec 31 SM New Years Vigil Mass 6:30 pm                      Jan 1 SH New Years Mass 9am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>All weekend Masses for Jan 1/2 will follow the regular weekend schedule</i></p>	<p> ~~ The Hat and Mitten tree remains in the church vestibule for donations of both adult and child sized gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves. After Christmas these will be donated locally to those in need.</p> <p> The Sacred Heart Fellowship Committee and the PSR program invite all parishioners to their Parish Christmas Party Sunday, Dec.19th, immediately following the 10 o'clock Mass. Pizza, salad and drinks will be provided. Everyone is asked to <u>bring a favorite dessert or Christmas treat to the hall before Mass.</u> Joe Landeck has graciously agreed to provide some holiday music as well as, a game or two for the children. The party will conclude with an anonymous gift (\$3 maximum and wrapped) exchange for those who wish to participate. All Covid precautions will be implemented. This promises to be a lot of fun, so please join us, even if you did not sign up last weekend!</p>		
<b>Thank You</b>	<b>Christmas Catholic Children's Home Collection</b>		
<div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <p style="font-size: small;">Thanks so much for all you do. You are appreciated! MERRY CHRISTMAS!</p> </div> <p>There are many members of both parishes that we simply <b>could not</b> function without. Those folks include our Pastoral and Finance Council members, musicians, servers and lectors, collection counters, live stream filmers, and of course our PSR teachers. It has been an eventful year establishing a new "normal" and we remain hopeful that our Extraordinary Ministers will soon be able to serve in their capacity as well. In the meantime Father Aloy, our ministry coordinators, and staff are <b>grateful beyond words</b> for all of these folks, and any others we failed to mention, who have stepped up and given so generously of their time and talents in 2021 to help keep our little parishes, so far in proximity from our Diocesan hub of Springfield, vibrant and strong. The parishes of St Michael and Sacred Heart have been a perfect and loving example of a church family. Thank You!</p>	<p>Since 1879, the Catholic Children's Home has served as a 'beacon of hope' for thousands of children in need of a safe harbor and a place to call home. Through the Spanish Flu pandemic in 1918 to the Coronavirus in 2020, the Catholic Children's Home has been there to give the love and compassion these children desperately need. In the spirit of Christ's special affection for all children, I ask that you continue to support the work of the Catholic Children's Home and generously contribute to the special collection held at Christmas.</p>		
	<b>Church Decorating</b>		
	<p>All of the Sacred Heart Church Decorating members are asked to help get the church ready for Christmas on Thursday December 23rd at 9:00 am (following the morning Mass). As always, the more members present the faster this project can be completed! Thanks in advance.</p>		

# December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 <i>First Sunday of Advent</i> StM 8a MI: Jodi Bosch SH 10a MI: Louise Schmidt	29	30 SH Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert	1 SH Mass 8a MI: Ruth Schweighart	2 SH Mass 8a MI: Brigit Pegeen	3 SH Mass 8a MI: Mike Pangburn	4 SH: Confess 3:15p Mass 4p MI: Jim & Connie Metford
5 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> StM - 8a MI: John Sullivan SH - 10a MI: Bud Kappes PSR SM 8:45 - 9:30 am SH 9 - 9:45 am	6  Feast of St. Nicholas	7 SH - Mass 8a MI: Ruth Schweighart	8 SH - Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert	9 SH - Mass 8a MI: Brigit Pegeen Kelly SH Advent Adult Formation 6:30 pm	10 SH - Mass 8a MI: Louise Schmidt	11 SH: Confess 3:15p Mass 4p MI: Rose Marie Marlatt
12 <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> StM - 8a MI: Harold Stone SH - 10a MI: Ruth Schweighart PSR: SM 8:45 - 9:30 am	13 	14 SH Mass 8a MI: John Schumacher	15 SH Mass 8a MI: Brigit Pegeen Kelly	16 SH Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert SH Advent Adult Formation 6:30 pm	17 SH Mass 8a MI: Barbara Legner	18 SH Confess 3:15p Mass 4p MI: Rolland Sprague
19 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> StM - 8a MI: Charles & Ciella Barrett SH - 10a MI: Joan Dee Hawkins PSR: SM 8:45 - 9:30am SH 9 - 9:45 am	20 	21 SH - Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert	22 SH Mass 8a MI: Pat & Martha Carr	23 SH - Mass 8a MI: Mary & Henry Kramer SH Advent Adult Formation 6:30 pm	24 Christmas Eve Vigil 4:30 pm SH MI: Mike Pangburn SM 6:30 pm MI: Gloria Secore	25 Christmas Day Mass SH 9 am MI: All Parish Families MI SH 4pm Mike Pangburn Merry Christmas
26 <i>Feast of the Holy Family</i> StM - 8a MI: George Carroll SH - 10a MI: Pat & Martha Carr	27 	28 SH - Mass 8a MI: Ursula Calvert	29 SH Mass 8a MI: Ruth Schweighart	30 SH - Mass 8a MI: Anicia Kramer	31 SH Mass 8a MI: Harry & Louise Schmidt	





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