

Recipes for the Soul ...

Hungarian Kolache or Nutroll

For Christmas and Easter, Central and Eastern Europeans make a similar type of nutroll that is often referred to as Hungarian kolache. Depending on the country, this was a common treat made for the holidays with walnuts, almonds, and sometimes poppy seeds. The most common type in South Bend, Indiana, with large Polish and Hungarian influences, was either a walnut or poppy seed kolache. The following recipe is very easy to make and almost foolproof. Shirley Buzolich, a long time cook at some of our community houses at Notre Dame, offered this recipe about 30 years ago. Enjoy.

Ingredients for the pastry.

- 7 cups of flour
- 1 ½ cups of warm milk
- 3 tablespoons of sugar
- 1 teaspoon of vanilla
- 1 cup of melted butter
- 12 egg yolks (must be at least one cup)
- 1 small cake of yeast (or 1 package of dry yeast)



Ingredients for the filling:

- 2 pounds of ground walnuts
- 2 cups of sugar
- 12 egg whites beaten stiffly
- Lemon to taste

Dissolve the yeast in ½ cup of the warm milk. Mix flour and sugar together. Then knead in the melted butter and the remaining cup of warm milk along with the yeast, vanilla and egg yolks. After sufficient kneading, the dough should come off your hands easily. If not, add flour to your hands and work into the dough. Make four equal size balls and wrap them individually in wax paper. Refrigerate for at least one and a half hours.

For the filling, mix the ground walnuts with the sugar and lemon and fold in the stiffly beaten egg whites.

Roll out each of the four balls into 12 x 14 inch sheets. Spread the filling evenly on each sheet, roll like a jellyroll and pinch the seams and ends together. Place seam side down onto a baking pan. Stick four times on the top and three times on each side with a fork. Let rise for about 20 more minutes, and then bake for 45 minutes at 350 degrees. When finished, brush with butter. Cool before slicing.



Spread filling as above and roll



Rolls ready to rise before going into the oven

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Dear Friends of Holy Cross,

Here’s a glimpse at the eldest and youngest men in our Province!



On November 16th, Br. James Lakofka, C.S.C., celebrated his 101st birthday. Br. James resides at Holy Cross House and is still active in the local community. He also spends time each day as the Director of the Confraternity of Lourdes that Fr. Sorin, C.S.C., the Founder of Notre Dame, established in 1874. Br. James responds to the requests for Lourdes water and for candles at the Lourdes Grotto on the Notre Dame Campus. His affable personality is perhaps what has kept him so active these many years since beginning his novitiate in 1949 at the age of 33. He was a veteran of World War II and worked for The Catholic Boy for many years. A Chicago native, he has always been a Chicago Cubs fan and was very pleased to see them finally win the World Series two years ago. Our congratulations to Br. James and our prayers for him to continue serving the Lord as he has done for these many years.

At the other end of the spectrum, the Province has eight Postulants this year living at Moreau Seminary. These young men will spend the year discerning their vocations and preparing for their novitiate year that will begin next August, God willing. The Province is truly blessed with these vocations, and we ask that you continue to pray for them and for vocations to the religious life and priesthood, especially in Holy Cross. Also, during this season of giving we thank you for your continued support of the Congregation of Holy Cross. It is because of you that these men are able to carry on the mission of Holy Cross.

Your gift of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$500 or more does great things for and through Holy Cross. Your generosity empowers our work, is passed from our hands to others with great love and hope, and is a profound source of our gratitude. Thank you!



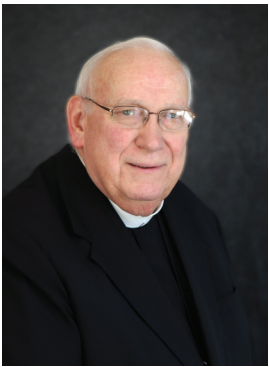
First row from left to right: Fr. John Vickers, C.S.C., Assistant Director of the Postulants, Matthew Gambetta, Fr. Jeff Cooper, C.S.C., Director of the Postulant Program, Robert McFadden, and Richard Bevington. Second row from left to right: David Murray, Noah Junge, Hunter Ostapowicz, Alex White, and Aaron Morris.

Brother Donnell, CSC

CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Family is so important at Christmas, and you are a part of the Holy Cross family as are your loved ones. If there are specific individuals (living or deceased) you would like us to remember this Christmas season, jot them down on the enclosed prayer slip and return it to us. No offering is required, but any gift would go a long way to help support the apostolic priorities of Holy Cross. May God bless you this holiday season!

MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD



With Thanksgiving festivities over, we quickly turn our attention to the Christmas season. Everything centers on weeks of preparation, partying, purchasing, and paying for the many events we schedule this beautiful time of year. The weather has changed—at least for us in the Midwest and East Coast—and because we stay indoors more than other seasons of the year, we decorate our houses, bake for special parties, and spend more time with family and close friends. We look with anticipation for many opportunities to celebrate the holidays. We are willing to expend inordinate amounts of time and energy in planning events that we look forward to hosting. In fact, we rarely complain about this as being taxing because we really like doing these things. Overall, it is a happy and special time and for the majority of society, it is perhaps their favorite time of year.

What we cannot forget, though, is as Catholics, this is also a very special time for our liturgies and prayers that the Church provides for us as we prepare for and celebrate Christmas. This year, the new Church year begins on December 2nd with the First Sunday of Advent. For the next four weeks, we anticipate Christ’s coming on December 25th, the Feast of the Nativity. The Church has beautifully marked these days with special prayers and liturgies filled with longing for the coming of the Savior. Then, we enter the Christmas season, welcome a new calendar year, and twelve days later celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany. Finally, the Baptism of Jesus will end the Christmas season on January 13th. In our participation in this year’s holiday season, let us not forget the religious meanings of these events that are rich in understanding and purpose.

The period of Advent is perhaps the most beautiful season of the year because of its daily reminders that the birth of Christ is near. “Make ready the way of the Lord,” and “Come, Lord Jesus” are mantras that provide for us the overall theme of Advent. As we follow the Old Testament prophets foretelling the coming of our Savior, we enter into a time of preparing for the coming of the

Child Jesus anticipating a period of longed-for peace.

On that day, a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, and from his roots, a bud shall blossom. The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him...then the wolf shall be the guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox. The baby shall play by the cobra’s den, and the child lay his hand on the adder’s lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord, as water covers the sea (Isaiah 11).

From this prophetic description of a peaceful coming of the Lord, we then celebrate the final week before the Nativity. Each day at Evening Prayer, from December 17th to the 23rd, we recite the beautiful O Antiphons before the Magnificat. They represent a magnificent theology that uses biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but present ones as well. The repeated use of the imperative “Come” embodies the longing of all for the Divine Messiah.

- O Wisdom of our God Most High
- O Leader of the House of Israel
- O Root of Jesse’s stem
- O Key of David
- O Radiant Dawn
- O King of all nations and keystone of the Church
- O Emanuel, our King and Giver of Law

The Church also marks several other days in December dedicated to Our Lady and to St. Nicholas emphasizing how each of these days helps in our preparation for the Nativity. The first of these days is the Feast of St. Nicholas on December 6th. Many of us remember leaving shoes outside the door with the hope St. Nicholas would reward our good behavior with candy and coins. Of course, our mothers had to assure the visiting St. Nicholas, when he rapped on the door, that we had been very good that year and were deserving of rewards. The fear of course was that it may be the devil at the door,

and we would receive nothing and our shoes would be empty! Many cultures still celebrate St. Nicholas who is the forerunner of the present day Santa Claus.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception on December 8th is a very special day for us here in the United States. Under this title, Mary is the Patroness of our country, and we should celebrate it accordingly. This is a holy day of obligation, when we take the time to honor Mary, who conceived without sin, and was so willing to become the Mother of God. This year we should remember to ask Mary to intercede with her Son in making us aware of our need for peace and civility in our society as we make ready for the coming of her Son.

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe on December 12th has become a very important day among Latino Catholics in the American Church. Parishes throughout the United States mark this feast with impressive Marian liturgies marking her appearance to Juan Diego in Guadalupe, Mexico. The liturgy is usually followed with fiestas celebrating the cultural heritage of Latino Americans. In Des Plaines, Illinois, at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe at Maryville Academy, more than 100,000 people gather each year to celebrate this feast, and the number of pilgrims to this celebration in Chicago is second in size only to the Basilica in Mexico City. This is indicative of how important Latino Catholics view this feast day.

Christmas, of course, is the high point of this holiday season. At the Christmas Mass, we hear the beautiful news of the birth of Christ that fulfilled the hope of many centuries of waiting for the coming of the Messiah. The readings and beautiful Christmas carols sung during the Christmas season all remind us of our celebrating the birth of Christ.

*I proclaim to you good news of great joy;
Today a Savior is born to us,
Christ the Lord (Luke 2:10-11).*

These are very comforting words that summarize the meaning of Christmas. These are hopeful words for us who live in a world with so much violence and lack of

peace. Our prayers during Christmas should certainly be for peace in a world so in need of it. For twelve days following Christmas, we continue to celebrate the newborn infant with the Feast of the Epiphany, when the three Kings followed the star to Bethlehem bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. The Christmas season liturgically ends with the Baptism of Jesus celebrated this year on January 13th.

Despite the secularization of Christmas in our society, we still manage to maintain a strong and lasting meaning to this season. In a sense, the happiness of the season, so vibrantly demonstrated in the faces of children, and the gathering of family and friends, has not been totally lost. Paying attention to the Season of Advent, the several feasts preceding Christmas, and then the visit of the Magi, and finally the Baptism of Jesus, provides for us a time when we connect our faith to our celebrations in a myriad of ways that contribute to the true meaning of Christmas.

Let us this year, beginning with the First Sunday of Advent, take the time to pause and reflect on the importance of the season. Let us share with others the celebrations of these major December feast days. Let us enter fully in celebrating our faith and passing down, especially to children and grandchildren, the beautiful customs and practices surrounding each of these days. In the week before Christmas, let us appreciate the beauty of the O Antiphons reminding us of the many hopes of our ancient ancestors in their expectation of the Christ Child. Then, like the three Kings, may we make our offerings to celebrate Christ’s coming as we recall what some refer to as the “Second Christmas.” Let us also pray for peace in our families, our nation, and the entire world so that we may welcome the Infant Jesus into a world that is truly at peace.

Our prayers and best wishes for you and your families as you celebrate this beautiful time of the year. May the Infant Jesus bless you and provide good health for you in the coming New Year.