



Mass Intentions

- Monday** January 1st Mary Mother of God
9:00 a.m. Chris Meanor
- Tuesday** January 2nd Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, bishops/drs.
8:30 a.m. Marie Rita Githens
- Wednesday** January 3rd Holy Name of Jesus
5:00 p.m. Anthony Jezewski
- Thursday** January 4th Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious
8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Keys Family
- Friday** January 5th John Neumann, bishop
8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Anthony Larizza Family
- Saturday** January 6th André Bessette, religious
9:00 a.m. Special Intention for Mary Jane Eldridge
4:30 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish
- Sunday** January 7th Epiphany of the Lord
8:00 a.m. Walt Ketchesin
9:30 a.m. The Ursem and Peloquin Families
11:00 a.m. Bob & Rita Doebele

Readings for the Week of January 1st

- Mon: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5-6, 8 ; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Tue: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1-4; Jn 1:19-28
Wed: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3-6; Jn 1:29-34
Thur: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Jn 1:35-42
Fri: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1-5; Jn 1:43-51
Sat: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11
Sun: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-13; Eph 3:2-3, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

In your prayers...

This week, please remember all in our parish community, the intentions in our intention book, our family and friends in need, especially: **Ann, Betty, Bob, Chris, Craig, Elaine, Eli, Greg, Harriet, Jessica, Jim, Kathy, Lillian, Linda, Mark, Mary, Mary Jane, Matt, P.J., Pat, Patrick, Robert, Susan, Tom, Victoria** and all who have asked for our prayers.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Faith Direct 12/15/17	\$10,330.50
Sunday Collection 12/24/17	\$6,718.50
Capital Improvement Fund	\$470.09
Christmas	\$19,582.00
Education Endowment Fund	\$995.75

Thank you for your continued generosity.

[2nd Collection December 31st - Tuition Assistance]
[2nd Collection January 7th - Helping Hands Ministry]



Christmas Blessings

My Friends,

As another year draws to an end, there is so much for which we can be thankful. I want to begin by thanking all who worked so hard these past weeks preparing our Christmas celebration. Sr. Mary Dorothy Claus and her elf Peggy Russell did an incredible job organizing our 'Giving Tree.' Our conference room looked like the North Pole! We served an incredible number of people and families.

I was also inspired by all the volunteers that assisted with our Christmas dinner. Angie Pluta invests a lot of time just organizing the various shifts. We have as many volunteers as we have guests for the dinner. Jerry Schill and his crew once again put on a wonderful meal.

We are fortunate to have so many talented people who assist with the Christmas liturgies. This year was a bit of a challenge celebrating the 4th Sunday of Advent at the 11am Mass and getting the church decorated in time for the Christmas Mass at 4pm. You may have noticed this year that we prepared the way for the Lord by getting the trees and crib up over the various Sundays of Advent. Thank you Jim Fada, Marie Fenik and all of our decorators.

There is no place in the county that has a better celebration of Midnight Mass than we do. Actually, we are probably the only church that still has a Midnight Mass. It is the 45 minute concert by the choir before Mass begins that lifts us into the true spirit of Christmas. We thank Mike Moore and our choir for all of their hard work.

Finally, as we come to the end of the year, I want to thank you for your loving support of our parish and school. The staff will be eating Christmas cookies until Easter! I personally want to thank everyone who assisted with the \$25,000 matching grant. We matched the full amount! So many of you also generously responded to our Grateful Giving appeal. It will be a great boost to our budget this year. May God bless you in this New Year.

Fr. Charlie



New Year's Day Mass (Solemnity of Mary):

Monday, January 1st, 2018: 9:00am



Thank you to all who helped make our Christmas Dinner a great success ~ God Bless You!

HOLY FAMILY



This Week in our Parish

Monday **January 1st**



Tuesday **January 2nd**
7:00 p.m. Wellness Group - Conference Room

Wednesday **January 3rd**
7:00 p.m. Choir - Choir Loft
7:00 p.m. R.C.I.A. - Conference Room

Thursday **January 4th**
9am - 5pm Eucharistic Adoration - Lower Church
7:00 p.m. Bible Study - Cahill Library

Sunday **January 7th**
9:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Children
11:00 a.m. Pre-School P.S.R. - St. Joseph Building

200 Club Winner: 12/31/17 Ingrid Wright #193

CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS: Thursday, March 1st 2018, Abbot Gary Hoover will be celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation in our parish. Adults having received Baptism and First Holy Communion who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, please contact Sister Mary Dorothy at the Parish Office 323-5539.



St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society

Thank you to all who have contributed so generously to the St. Mary Altar & Rosary Christmas Memorial Fund.

A memorial list will be published during the Christmas Season.



January's Book Club Book is titled: Indestructible by John R. Bruning. We will meet on Thursday, January 18th at 7:30pm in the Cahill Library. All are welcome.



'SNOWFALL OF CASH' CALENDARS are still available at the Parish Office ~ all returns should be received by December 31st to be eligible for all 31 daily drawings in January. Winners will appear on the Bulletin Board outside the Weigand Room as well as in the weekly bulletin and 'Bells'.



2018 Calendars are available at the Church Entrances – please be sure to stop and pick one up.



The St. Mary School Community would like to wish all of our parishioners a Blessed and Happy Christmas Season. May Christ's peace and joy fill your lives. Thank you for your support and prayers for our school. We wish you God's blessings in the New Year.

St. Mary School, will host an **Open House** on Sunday, **January 28, 2018** from **11:00am to 2:00pm**. Our school enrolls children in grades kindergarten through grade 8. We also have a preschool for four year olds. We invite all parishioners, especially those considering the education of their children, to meet our teachers, tour our buildings, and learn about our challenging curriculum in a Christ-centered environment. If you have any questions, please call the school office at 440-322-2808 to discuss them. We hope to see you on January 28th.

PTU Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser:

St. Mary PTU is selling Texas Roadhouse gift cards in increments of \$5.00. Please call the school office 322-2808 to order your gift cards. The PTU receives a portion of each card sold. Additional order forms are in the school office or on the school website [stmarycatholicschoolelyria.com] under the Wednesday folder tab.



COMMUNITY CONNECT PROJECT

Money earning project for an outdoor electronic sign for SMS.
\$----->\$2535----->\$15k Goal
Thank you for your support of Tatiana Lipert's Gold Award Project!
Tatiana is a parishioner & alumni of St. Mary School who is working to earn her Gold Award [the highest achievement in Girl Scouting] she will keep the Parish Community posted with her progress as her project moves forward.

Next weekend, Jan. 6th/7th, after Masses, people can sign up for the Lorain County Right To Life Signature Ad & Billboard Campaign. These ads will appear in the local news media, electronically produced & printed, on or about January 22, 2018 [the 45th anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions legalizing abortion-on-demand for all 9 months of pregnancy.] The ads will include Pro-Life educational info. & the names of all people who sign up for the ads. Same-theme billboards will be displayed in the Lorain County area during the month of January. The purpose of the ads and billboards is to educate about abortion, and to publicize that many people in the county care about the men, women and children victimized by abortion. The cost for sign-up is \$5/per name line.

Gentle Woman Fellowship will meet **Fri., Jan. 5th 2018** at St. Clarence Parish Ctr. 30106 Lorain Rd., N. Olmsted beginning at 9:30am. The January speaker is Fr. Robert Cole, Pastor at Sacred Heart, Oberlin. His topic will be "We Are People Who Believe in Life" Please bring a cold salad, veggies with a dip, little cold sandwiches, fresh fruit or something similar to share. Dessert will be provided. All women are welcome. No reservations needed. Bring a friend. Questions? Call Mary Hoover 330-636-1698 or Mary Tschanz 440-235-6258.