



Mass Intentions

- Monday December 22nd**
5:00 p.m. Dominic Giovannazzo
- Tuesday December 23rd** John of Kanty, priest
8:30 a.m. Frederick J. Tabler
- Wednesday December 24th**
4:00 p.m. The Living & Deceased of St. Mary Parish
6:00 p.m. The Living & Deceased of St. Mary Parish
12 Midnight The Living & Deceased of St. Mary Parish
- Thursday December 25th** The Nativity of the Lord
9:00 a.m. The Living & Deceased of St. Mary Parish
11:00 a.m. The Living & Deceased of St. Mary Parish
- Friday December 26th** Stephen, The First Martyr
8:30 a.m. Jane Stamp
- Saturday December 27th** John, apostle/evangelist
9:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Larizza & Ross Families
4:30 p.m. The Martin and Meanor Families
- Sunday December 28th** Holy Family
8:00 a.m. Ben and Mary Mahl
9:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of St. Mary Parish
11:00 a.m. Carl and Marian Ternes

Readings for the Week of December 22nd

- Mon 1 Sm 1:24-28; Ps 1 Sm 2:1-4, 7-8; Lk 1:46-56
Tue Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25: 4-5, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66
Wed Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Thur **Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-7, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 **Night:** Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-3, 11-13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 **Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20 **Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
Fri Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3-4, 6-8 16-17; Mt 10:17-22
Sat 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20: 2-8
Sun Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40

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 Lou, Betty, Carmen, Eli, Jim, LaVera, Maggie, Tim, Todd, Tom** and all who have asked for our prayers.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Faith Direct (12/04/14)	\$6,474.00
Sunday Collection (12/14/14)	\$9,441.90
Helping Hands Ministry	\$2,194.00
Envelopes	298

Thank you for your generosity.

- [2nd Collection December 21st - Tuition Assistance]
[2nd Collection Christmas - Education Endowment Trust Fund]
[2nd Collection December 28th - Capital Improvement Fund]



My Friends,

The encouragement these four weeks of Advent was to 'stay awake' and 'be ready.' Our time is running out. We may have the decorations up and the presents bought but that is not the 'ready' we are talking about. We can be so busy about Christmas preparations that we never enter into the awe and mystery. It seems to me that many people depend on the lights and the 'Holiday Tree' for the warm glow. There is no reference to Christ in their life or the celebration of this season. We lose the connection to the source of true joy and lasting peace. The battery runs down pretty quickly when we are not connected. Violence in our society and our world continues to escalate. Our response to the problem is to buy more guns. It is hard for the Prince of Peace to find a place to make His dwelling.

If you haven't been able to do much to deepen your spiritual life, we still have a couple of days. I would recommend our Communal Penance Service to be celebrated at St. Jude's this Sunday evening at 7pm. Also included in this bulletin, is the schedule of confessions for the days before Christmas. If we accomplish nothing else in these last days of Christmas, we would truly be graced by taking some time to reflect on the direction of our lives and make any adjustments necessary.

I would also encourage you to spend some time in prayer as a family. Read the stories of Jesus' birth found in the gospels of Matthew and Luke. The memories shared will be remembered and impact your life for years to come. Jesus is the best gift that you can pass on over Christmas. Don't stop with your family. This is a good time to invite neighbors and friends to join us in the Christmas celebration. Be sure to keep this bulletin for the schedule of Masses. I would strongly encourage you, if you do not have young children, to avoid the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass. We also have a Mass at 6pm. Then there is the traditional Midnight Mass – at midnight. There are only 2 Masses on Christmas Day at 9am and 11am. Let us be awake and ready to receive the Lord into our midst.

Fr. Charlie

Thank you for your generosity to the Religious Retirement Fund. You truly are "Sharing in the Care" of many religious throughout this country who are in need. We deeply appreciate this assistance. God's loving care touches our retired religious through the hearts of all those who give so generously to this collection year after year.

~ Sister Mary Dorothy CSA

*The Cluster Penance Service
will be held at 7pm this Sunday evening December 22nd
at St. Jude Church. All are welcome!*

St. Mary Church along with its family & friends are sponsoring a **Free Christmas Dinner on Christmas Day from 12 Noon - 3pm.** Anyone seeking a delicious meal or good fellowship is welcome to join us.



Please note: Any last minute contributions to be credited for 2014 need to be received in the Church office by Tuesday, December 30th. Unfortunately there is no 'grace period' on this with the IRS, we may not credit contributions to 2014 received after December 31st.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



This Week in our Parish

Tuesday **December 23rd**
5:00 p.m. Hot Meals - Cafeteria
7:00 p.m. Evangelization - Conference Room

Thursday **December 25th**



Christmas Blessings

Noon - 3pm Christmas Dinner - Parish Hall

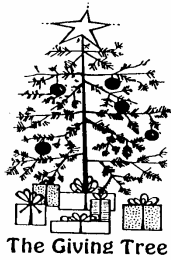
200 CLUB WINNER: 12/21/14 Judy Bulger #98

St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society

The envelope for the *Christmas Memorial Fund* [found in your December/January envelope packet], or just use a plain envelope marked attention: A&R and enclose a note saying in whose memory you are making the offering. A memorial list will be published during the Christmas Season.



Thank you for your continued support.



THANK YOU to all who took part in our *Christmas Giving Tree*. At this time when things are difficult we really appreciate your generous support in caring for those who are in such need. Your generosity was much appreciated by the *Genesis House, the Elyria Health Department, the Blessing House, Catholic Charities and Birth Right.*

"**SNOWFALL OF CASH**" Calendars make great gifts and stocking stuffers. Calendars sell for \$10 each and offer 31 chances at cash prizes throughout January. Sell all 10 calendars and your name will be entered into a drawing for \$1,000 at the end of January. Additional calendars are available at the Parish Office and all returns must be received by Dec. 31st to be eligible for the daily drawings.



The second collection on Christmas will be for the Education Endowment Trust Fund.



Blood Pressure checks will be available after all Masses in the Weigand Room this weekend
December 20th/21st.



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.

Anyone participating in the **4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass** (*Angels & Shepherds*) should meet with Sister Mary Dorothy in the Weigand Room at **3:40pm** on Wednesday before Mass.



Advent and Christmas Schedule

Reconciliation:

* *Sunday, December 21st ~ 7:00pm*

Cluster Communal Penance Service at St. Jude Church

Monday, December 22nd: 12:30 – 1:30pm

Tuesday, December 23rd: 4:00 – 5:00pm & 7:00 – 8:00pm

Mass Schedule: Christmas Eve Masses:

Wednesday, December 24th: 4:00 and 6:00pm

Midnight Mass: 12 Midnight [Carols at 11:15pm]

Christmas Day Masses:

Thursday, December 25th: 9:00 and 11:00am

New Year's Day Masses (Holyday of Obligation):

Vigil ~ December 31st: 5:00pm

Thursday, January 1st, 2015: 9:00 and 11:00am

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Charles T. Diedrick, Pastor

Rev. Thomas Hagedorn, Pastor Emeritus St. Patrick (Westpark)

Deacon Edward R. Dillon, Permanent Deacon

Deacon Frank A. Humphrey III, Permanent Deacon

Sister Mary Dorothy Tecca, C.S.A., Parish Catechetical Leader

Mrs. Sharon Brunkow, School Principal

Mrs. Mary Jane Taylor, Business Mgr. & Hall Mgr.

Mr. Michael J. Moore, Dir. of Music Ministries

Mrs. Angie Pluta, Dir. of Development

Mr. Randy Kula, Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Contact Information:

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:00pm

Phone: 323-5539; E-mail: stmaryelyria@windstream.net

Website: www.stmaryelyria.org

Sunday Mass Schedule:

Saturday Vigil: 4:30pm; Sunday: 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Mondays & Wednesdays: 5:00pm

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays: 8:30am

Saturdays: 9:00am

New Parishioners are welcome and asked to register at the Parish Office.