



**Mass Intentions**

- Monday** December 7<sup>th</sup> Ambrose, bishop/dr of the Church  
5:00 p.m. Special Intention for Mary Keys
- Tuesday** December 8<sup>th</sup> [Holyday of Obligation]  
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
8:30 a.m. Huge Stillwell & Strohmeier Families  
12:15 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish  
7:00 p.m. Grant, Tim and Pat Keys
- Wednesday** December 9<sup>th</sup> Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin  
5:00 p.m. Deceased of the Michael Tecca Family
- Thursday** December 10<sup>th</sup>  
8:30 a.m. Special Intention for Mary Keys
- Friday** December 11<sup>th</sup> Damasus I, pope  
8:30 a.m. Paul Harmon
- Saturday** December 12<sup>th</sup> Our Lady of Guadalupe  
9:00 a.m. Clifford Smith  
4:30 p.m. Ben & Irene Bittner
- Sunday** December 13<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
8:00 a.m. Andrew O'Connor  
9:30 a.m. Tom Forthofer  
11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish



**Readings for the Week of December 7<sup>th</sup>**

Mon	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85: 9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tue	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Wed	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thur	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13; Mt 11:11-15
Fri	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Sat	Zec 2:14-17; Ps Jdt 13:18-19; Lk 1:26-38
Sun	Zep 3:14-18; Ps Is 12:2-6; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18



Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Virginia Holtwick** who died this past week and for the consolation of her loved ones.

**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, Ben, Bette, Bob, Carmen, Claire, Colin, Dan, Dennis, Eli, Jim, Jo Ann, Kelly, Linda, Lois G., Mary, Mary Ellen, Matt, Paul, Tom, Vicki, Zak** and all who have asked for our prayers.



**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Faith Direct (11/15/15)	\$4,758.00
Sunday Collection (11/22/15)	\$9,753.50
Envelopes	263
Catholic Campaign for Human Development	\$816.59
Sunday Collection (11/29/15)	\$8,094.90
Envelopes	258
Home for a Season	\$834.12

**Thank you for your generosity.**

[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection December 6<sup>th</sup> - Retirement for Religious]  
[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection December 13<sup>th</sup> - Helping Hands Ministry]



My Friends,

It seems like we just finished up Thanksgiving and already we are in the middle of Advent. I would be remiss if I didn't express my thanks for all the volunteer efforts that have been going on the last couple of weeks. First of all, I want to thank Jerry Schill, Angie Pluta, Joan Patchin and all the volunteers who worked on our Thanksgiving dinner. We served over 500 dinners of which 160 were delivered. That is a lot of volunteers on a holiday afternoon. Pope Francis would be proud! What a wonderful service to the poor in our community. Next up is the Christmas dinner.

I am also grateful to our Garden Club. Kathy Freeman has been cleaning up our courtyard and planting the pansies. Larry Seman trimmed the trees in front of the church. Rich Kocsis did the tough job of trimming back all the decorative grasses around the hall. It is amazing what the hands of a few can do to make such a difference to our parish grounds. I'm looking forward to see what they will do in the spring.

I want to thank Lori Fitch and Debbie Conner for all of their work with the 200 Club. They have been so faithful to this fundraiser that has been very beneficial to our school. We need to continue to support them.

Finally, I would hope that in gratitude for all that Sister Mary Dorothy does around here we would be generous in our response for the collection for the Religious Retirement Fund. I'm not sure that she is ever going to be able to retire but I hope she knows we appreciate her.

As we come to the end of the year, it is a time to reflect on our return to God for all that He has given us in His Son. You will be receiving a mailing to consider making a bequest to our St. Mary Heritage Society. The major capital improvements over the past few years have been made possible by gifts to the church. I would ask that you give some thought to help us continue the legacy here at St. Mary's. We have a great tradition and I hope that we can pass it on to the next generation.

*Fr. Charlie*

**The Feast of The Immaculate Conception  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

**Tuesday ~ December 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Mass times: 8:30am, 12:15pm & 7:00pm  
Vigil: Monday 5:00pm**



**'SNOWFALL OF CASH' CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!**



Each calendar sells for \$10 and entitles you to 31 chances to win that day's cash prize. Due to postal regulations, we are no longer able to mail these calendars so we ask that you please stop outside the

Weigand Room and pick up your envelope of calendars. They make great Christmas stocking stuffers!



**CityMusic Cleveland** will be performing a FREE concert here at St. Mary Church this Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm. All are welcome.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### This Week in our Parish

<b>Monday</b> 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>December 7<sup>th</sup></b> Helping Hands Ministry - Conference Room P.S.R. - St. Joseph & Marian Buildings
<b>Tuesday</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>December 8<sup>th</sup></b> Hot Meals - Cafeteria
<b>Wednesday</b> 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>December 9<sup>th</sup></b> Cub Scouts - Green Room Choir - Choir Loft SMS Christmas Choral Concert - Parish Hall
<b>Thursday</b> 9am - 5pm 7:30 p.m.	<b>December 10<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharistic Adoration - Lower Church CityMusic Cleveland Concert - Church ~ followed by reception in the Weigand Room
<b>Sunday</b> 9am-Noon 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 11:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m.	<b>December 13<sup>th</sup></b> Blood Mobile - sign-up in Weigand Room Liturgy of the Word with Children Pre-School P.S.R. - St. Joseph Building Cub Scout Christmas Party - Parish Hall Hot Meals - Cafeteria

200 CLUB WINNER: 12/06/15 Nancy Knuff #225

*St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society* will meet in the Lower Chapel at 11:00am for the Rosary and Benediction on **Thursday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup>**. A TUREEN Luncheon will follow in the Weigand Room - just bring your favorite dish to share.



The envelope for the *Christmas Memorial Fund* can be found in your December/January 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.



The Giving Tree

Our "GIVING TREE" is once again set up outside the Weigand Room. We have requests for items from Catholic Charities Family Center, The Elyria Health Dept., Blessing House, Birthright and Genesis House. The requests were placed on Christmas tree ornaments and hung on the tree. Parishioners are encouraged to take one (or more) of the tree ornaments, purchase the gift, wrap it and place it under the tree. [Please be sure to attach the tags securely to the packages so that they will get to the correct organization.] This outreach program brings Christmas to those most in need in our community and is a great way of showing concern for one another. **All gifts will need to be collected by SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13<sup>th</sup>** in order for them to be distributed in time for Christmas. ~ Thank You!

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



OPLATKI is now available in the Parish Office  
- Envelope of 4 wafers [3 white & 1 pink] for \$2.

St. Mary School Programs:



### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

*Christmas Choral Concert:* Wednesday ~ December 9<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Parish Hall

*Pre-School Christmas Program:* Tuesday ~ December 15<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Lower Church

*Band Concert:* Tuesday ~ December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Parish Hall

All are welcome to attend.

### St. Mary School Fund Raiser

**Marco's Pizza Day** - 649 S. Abbe Rd ~ Elyria



Make it a Pizza Day! Stop in on **Thurs., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** - be sure to mention that you are from St. Mary's when you order and we will receive credit.

[The next Marco's Pizza Day will be Thurs., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>.]

### Shepherds and Angels



At the 4pm Christmas Eve Mass, children [age 4-9] are encouraged to come and to dress as shepherds, angels, Mary & Joseph and the three kings. If you are interested in your child being a special part of this Christmas Eve Mass, please pick up a form from the church entrance, fill it out and return it to the Church office. We ask all who sign up to arrive by 3:40pm on Thursday evening December 24<sup>th</sup> in the Weigand Room for costume distribution and instruction.

The St. Mary Hall Committee is sponsoring a **Pancake Breakfast** this **Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** beginning after 8am Mass until 1pm in the Parish Hall.

**All are welcome!**

[No charge ~ free will donations will be accepted at the door. Proceeds will benefit our Helping Hands Ministry.]

Children can visit with Santa Claus and buy special gifts at **The Lil' Christmas Shoppe**. [Sponsored by the St. Mary P.T.U.]



Our Parish will be serving dinner next Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 5-6pm in the School Cafeteria. Volunteers are always appreciated to serve or help with preparation at 3pm.

...and Jesus said...FEED THE HUNGRY

We will deliver dinner to St. Joseph's Catholic Overnight Shelter on both **Saturday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>** & **Sunday, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>**. If you would like to participate you may do so by furnishing a pasta with meat dish, salad, rolls/bread or dessert. Please call Maryann at 440-458-6159 by **Wed., Dec 16<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you! ~ *Social Action Commission*



St. Mary Church along with its family & friends are sponsoring a **Free Christmas Dinner** on **Christmas Day** from **12 Noon - 3pm** for anyone seeking a delicious meal or fellowship. If you are interested in helping on Christmas Day or with set-up on Thurs., December 24<sup>th</sup> at 9am, please email Angie Pluta at [stmaryelyria@aol.com](mailto:stmaryelyria@aol.com).