



Monday 5:00 p.m.	January 4th <u>Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious</u> Chuck Manning
Tuesday 8:30 a.m.	January 5th <u>John Neumann, bishop</u> The Foss and Demos Families
Wednesday 5:00 p.m.	January 6th <u>André Bessette, religious</u> Clara Smith
Thursday 8:30 a.m.	January 7th <u>Raymond of Peñafort, priest</u> Margaret F. LaFon
Friday 8:30 a.m.	January 8th <i>50th Wedding Anniversary ~</i> Deacon Randall & Mary Redington
Saturday 9:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.	January 9th Julius Korzan John Daly Family
Sunday 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	January 10th <u>Baptism of the Lord</u> Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish Herman and Dolores Plas Family Donald Gaydosh

Readings for the Week of January 4th

Mon	1 Jn 3:22- 4:6; Ps 2:7-8, 10-12; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25
Tue	1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4, 7-8; Mk 6:34-44
Wed	1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72:1-2, 10, 12-13; Mk 6:45-52
Thur	1 Jn 4:19-5: 4; Ps 72:1-2, 14, 15, 17; Lk 4:14-22
Fri	1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Lk 5:12-16
Sat	1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-6, 9; Jn 3:22-30
Sun	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 104:1-4, 24-25, 27-30; Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

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, Dennis, Doug, Dustin, Eli, Jim, Jo Ann, Kelly, Linda, Mary, Mary Ellen, Paul, Tom, Vicki, Zak** and all who have asked for our prayers.



STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sunday Collection (12/20/15)	\$10,867.04
Tuition Assistance	\$545.41
Envelopes	286

Due to the Holiday Bulletin deadlines, the Collection totals from Christmas Day and Sunday, December 27th were unavailable for publication.

Thank you for your generosity.

[2nd Collection January 3rd - Helping Hands Ministry]
[2nd Collection January 10th - Home for a Season]

My Friends,

The beginning of a new year can and should be a time for new hope. We can close the door on the struggles of the past year and dream new dreams for the year ahead. This is why our faith is so important. In a world without God, it is eat, drink and be merry for tomorrow we die. The revelation of our Christian faith in the Christmas mystery is that we have been invited to a whole new way of living. The wisdom of the Christian paradox is that in sacrificing the self, we find our joy and fulfillment in focusing on others. Every person reveals something to us about God and ourselves that we would never have known if we had not met that person. This is what Pope Francis calls the 'theology of encounter.' It is not some abstract theory. We need one another to experience God's love. We give flesh to God's love in the world.

This is a daunting task in today's culture. Christianity, according to John Allen, is under serious attack throughout the world. It is not just a problem with Muslim extremists in the Middle East. Christians are being persecuted by the Hindu's in India. Christians are being martyred by gangs and drug cartels in South America. Christians are caught between tribal wars in Africa. Secularism and technology are subtle forces in our own culture that slowly undermine the mystery and power of God's love for us in Christ.

Christian hope invites us to overcome our fears and trust in God's love. Our fears are destroying us as we build higher walls and buy more guns. Yes, love makes us vulnerable as the cross clearly illustrates. But love is the only solution to resolve the major crises going on in the world. This Year of Mercy challenges us to a compassion whereby we walk in the shoes of the 'other.' This would be my hope for the new year. Encouraged by Pope Francis' example, may we make a conscious effort to live out the corporal and spiritual works of mercy in our lives.

Fr. Charlie

HIGH SCHOOL TEENS... SAVE THE DATES!!!

Teen JaM's second annual **Renewal Weekend** is scheduled for **February 12th-14th** at **Holy Spirit Parish** in **Avon Lake**. It is open to all high school students. We promise, you will have an awesome time & will create memories that will last a lifetime. Bring a friend or 2. Space is limited so reserve your spot. Registration forms are available at the Church entrances. Cost: \$20 [for the weekend.] Questions??? contact Randy Kula at RLKULA@COX.NET or (216) 409-2639.

2016 Calendars are available at the Church Entrances – please be sure to stop and pick one up.

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD



This Week in our Parish

Monday

5:30 p.m. Helping Hands Ministry - Conference Room
6:30 p.m. Elementary P.S.R. - Marian & St. Joseph bldgs.
7:30 p.m. P.S.R. Family Epiphany Prayer Service - Church followed by reception in Weigand Room

Tuesday

11:00 a.m. Hot Meals planning meeting - Conference Room
6:00 p.m. Brownies - Green Room
7:00 p.m. Wellness Group - Conference Room

Wednesday

3:30 p.m. Academic Challenge - Weigand Room
6:00 p.m. Cub Scouts - Green Room

Thursday

9am - 5pm Eucharistic Adoration - Lower Church
7:00 p.m. Bible Study - Cahill Library

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of the Word with Children
11:00 a.m. Pre-School P.S.R. - St. Joseph Building
5:00 p.m. Hot Meals - Cafeteria

200 CLUB WINNER: 01/03/16 Jack Plas #6

CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS:

On Thursday, March 3rd 2016, Bishop Roger Gries 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.



"REVISITING OUR FAITH TRADITIONS" will be held in the Conference Room on Tuesday, January 19th at 7pm. Our topic will be 'Egypt & Exodus' Part II - Exodus chapters 19-40.

'SNOWFALL OF CASH' *Winners* will be notified by phone and/or email and names will be posted on the board outside the Weigand Room.



Thank you to all who sold and/or purchased Snowfall of Cash Calendars.



Stubs can still be turned in for a chance to win a cash prize for days remaining in January. Additional Calendars are still available in the Parish Office.

Book Club will meet Thursday, January 23rd at 7pm in the Cahill Library. This month's book is: Language of the Sparrows by Rachel Phifer.



Happy New Year!



St. Mary School, will host an **Open House** on Sunday, **January 31, 2016** from 10:30am to 1:00pm. Our school enrolls children in grades kindergarten through grade 8. We also have a preschool for three and 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 31st.



Our Parish will be serving dinner next Sunday, Jan. 10th 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 be taking dinner to the St. Joseph's Catholic Overnight Homeless Shelter on Saturday, January. 16th. If you could supply a pasta with meat dish, rolls/bread, salad or dessert, please call 458-6159 by Wed., January 13th. Thank you so much. ~ Maryann

Gentle Woman Fellowship will meet **Fri., Jan. 8th** at St. Clarence Parish Ctr. 30106 Lorain Rd., N. Olmsted beginning at 9:30am. The January speaker is Father Damien Ezeani who's a Priest in the Orlu Diocese of Nigeria. He will speak on "The Fate of a Woman from the Bible." 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 458-5063 or Mary 235-6258.



THANK YOU to all who have been participating in the 'Coupons for the Military' program. The coupon collection box is located outside the Green Room in the Lower Chapel. This is an on going program and your donations of coupons are greatly appreciated.

~ Magdaline Bomback,
American Legion Auxiliary Chaplain

Next weekend, after all 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 and printed, on or about Jan. 22, 2016 [the 43rd 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.