



<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 5<sup>th</sup></b>
5:00 p.m.	Robert Daly
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 6<sup>th</sup></b>
8:30 a.m.	John and Irene Polacsek
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 7<sup>th</sup></b> Ambrose, bishop/dr of Church
7:00 p.m.	Living & Deceased of the Keys Family
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Dec. 8<sup>th</sup></b> Feast of the Immaculate Conception
	<u>Holy Day of Obligation</u>
8:30 a.m.	Joan and Jim Reitz
12:15 p.m.	Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish
7:00 p.m.	Rocky and Eileen Ross
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 9<sup>th</sup></b>
8:30 a.m.	Living & Deceased of the Anthony Larizza Family
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 10<sup>th</sup></b>
9:00 a.m.	Larry Coleman, Sr.
4:30 p.m.	Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 11<sup>th</sup></b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent
8:00 a.m.	Debbie and Tom Forthofer
9:30 a.m.	Ron Peloquin
11:00 a.m.	The Wukie and Matus Families



Readings for the Week of December 5<sup>th</sup>

Mon:	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab & 10, 1-12, 13-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tues:	Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-2, 3 & 10ac, 11-12, 13; Mt 18:12-14
Wed:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 & 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thur:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Fri:	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 & 6; Mt 11:16-19
Sat:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac & 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sun:	Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11

*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: **Arlene, Bette, Betty, Carmen, Charlie, Chris, Dave, Doug, Kelly, Mary, Pat, Richard, Sharon, Terry, Tom** and all who have asked for our prayers.



**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Sunday Collection (11/27/16)	\$7,442.75
Capital Improvement Fund	\$537.09
Envelopes	236

**Thank you for your generosity.**

[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection December 4<sup>th</sup> - Helping Hands Ministry]  
[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection December 11<sup>th</sup> - Retirement for Religious]

Matching Funds Grant total to date: \$15,590.00



My Friends,

I want to begin by thanking all who volunteered their service through the Thanksgiving weekend. There was an incredible collection of food for the Hospitality House! So many of you brought food. The children from our school and PSR classes also contributed. We had our own grocery store. I also need to thank Jerry Schill and Angie Pluta along with all their volunteers for hosting the dinner on Thanksgiving Day. It is a great witness to our city. Then there are the Tuesday night Hot Meals, the Sunday night Salvation Army meal and the St. Joseph Shelter meal. Helping Hands alone distributed over \$30,000 in rent and utility assistance. If it sounds like I am boasting a bit, I am proud of our parish commitment to the works of mercy.

I am more and more convinced that the vibrancy of parish life depends on our engagement in the ministries and activities. It is here that we get to know one another and form a true community. It isn't enough just to show up on Sunday to give the Lord and hour of our week. We come to be connected to one another, so that we can support one another through the difficult times.

In our Catholic faith tradition, salvation is not a personal affair between God and myself. We are always brought into community. That is what heaven is all about. We need to keep reaching outside of ourselves to encounter others. That is how we grow. Every person we meet reveals something to ourselves about ourselves that we never would have known unless we encountered that person. This season of gift giving lends itself to thinking of the other first. Take the chance and reach out to get to know a fellow parishioner as part of your Advent observance.

A final footnote....I want to thank everyone who has made a donation toward the \$25,000 matching grant opportunity. We are up to \$15,590.00. We have until the end of December to take advantage of the full grant.

*Fr. Charlie*

Your donation works for aging religious. "I read that roughly 95% of donations to the Retirement Fund for Religious aid senior religious," a donor writes. "That's wonderful when we truly want our donation to *work*." your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support next week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime.

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

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

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

[Vigil: Wednesday ~ December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm]



There will be **NO** December Book Club. We will meet **Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> 2017**. Our book title is The Christmas Train by David Baldacci



**CASH EVERYDAY IN JANUARY CALENDARS ARE  
STILL AVAILABLE OUTSIDE THE WEIGAND ROOM**



## 2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### This Week in our Parish

<b>Monday</b> 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>December 5<sup>th</sup></b> Helping Hands Ministry - Conference Room P.S.R. - St. Joseph & Marian Buildings
<b>Tuesday</b> 11:00 a.m. 12 Noon 6:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>December 6<sup>th</sup></b> Hot Meals Planning - Conference Room Senior Luncheon - Weigand Room Advent Family Night - Weigand Room Brownies - Green Room SMS - Band Concert - Parish Hall Wellness Group - Conference Room
<b>Wednesday</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>December 7<sup>th</sup></b> Choir - Choir Loft
<b>Sunday</b> 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	<b>December 11<sup>th</sup></b> Liturgy of the Word with Children Pre-School P.S.R. - St. Joseph Building Hot Meals - Cafeteria

200 Club Winner: 12/04/16 Susan Obral #96



The next Senior Luncheon will be held on Tues., Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon in the Weigand Room. The cost of the luncheon is \$5.00. Please call your reservation to Sister Mary Dorothy at 323-0140. The Children from St.

Mary School will perform part of their Christmas Choral Concert. Time will be available for those who wish to stay and play bingo. We look forward to a great meal, sharing new ideas and hope that you will bring a friend with you.

**St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society** will meet in the Lower Chapel at 11:00am for the Rosary and Benediction on **Thursday, Dec. 15<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.

Our "**GIVING TREE**" is once again set up outside the Weigand Room. We have requests from Catholic Charities Family Ctr., Elyria Health Dept., Blessing House, Genesis House, & Birthright. The requests were placed on Christmas tree ornaments and hung on the tree. Parishioners are encouraged to take a tree ornament, purchase the gift, wrap it and place it under the tree. [Please attach the tags



securely to packages so they 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 11<sup>th</sup>** in order for them to be distributed in time for Christmas. ~ Thank You!

St. Mary School Programs:



### CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

**Band Concert:** Tuesday ~

December 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Parish Hall

**Pre-School Christmas Program:** Wednesday ~  
December 14<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Lower Church

**Christmas Choral Concert:** Wednesday ~  
December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Parish Hall

All are welcome to attend.

The St. Mary Hall Committee is sponsoring a **Pancake Breakfast** this **Sunday, December 4<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.]

**ADVENT FAMILY NIGHT ~ Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**  
at **6:00pm** in the **Weigand Room**

Please contact Sister Mary Dorothy at 323-5539 if you plan to attend and have not sent in a reservation slip.

Light supper provided.



### 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 & return it to the Church office. We ask all who sign up to arrive by 3:40pm on Sat. evening Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> in the Weigand Room for costume distribution and instruction.



Our Parish will be serving dinner next Sunday, December 11<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 **Saturday, Dec. 17<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. I also need a driver to take the meal from my home to St. Joseph's. Please call Maryann at 440-458-6159 by **Wed., Dec 14<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 Sat., Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> at 11am, please email Angie Pluta at [stmaryelyria@aol.com](mailto:stmaryelyria@aol.com).

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

