



**Mass Intentions**

- Monday**     **December 26<sup>th</sup>** Stephen, 1<sup>st</sup> martyr  
5:00 p.m.     John and Marie Doehne
- Tuesday**    **December 27<sup>th</sup>** John, apostle/evangelist  
8:30 a.m.     Jerry Savoy
- Wednesday** **December 28<sup>th</sup>** Holy Innocents, martyrs  
5:00 p.m.     Marie Borgmann
- Thursday**    **December 29<sup>th</sup>**  
8:30 a.m.     John and Irene Polacsek
- Friday**       **December 30<sup>th</sup>** Holy Family  
8:30 a.m.     Stella Jezewski
- Saturday**    **December 31<sup>st</sup>**  
9:00 a.m.     Carl, Helen, Jim, Gene and Donna Smith  
4:30 p.m.     John Radachi
- Sunday**       **January 1<sup>st</sup>** Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
8:00 a.m.     Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish  
9:30 a.m.     Christopher Meanor  
11:00 a.m.    Therese M. Solet

Readings for the Week of December 26<sup>th</sup>

- Mon: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 & 8ab, 16bc & 17;  
Mt 10:17-22
- Tue: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a & 2-8
- Wed: 1 Jn 1:5-2:2; Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18
- Thur: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
- Fri: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
- Sat: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13; Jn 1:1-18
- Sun: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21

*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, Grace, John, Kelly, Mary, Pat, Richard, Sharon, Terry, Tom, Violet** and all who have asked for our prayers.



**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Sunday Collection (12/18/16)	\$7,466.65
Tuition Assistance	\$696.96
Envelopes	229

**Thank you for your generosity.**

[2<sup>nd</sup> Coll. December 25<sup>th</sup> - Education Endowment Fund]  
[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection January 1<sup>st</sup> - Helping Hands Ministry]

Matching Funds Grant total to date: \$21,140.00

Please note: Any contributions to be credited for 2016 need to be received in the Church office by Fri., December 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.



*Christmas Blessings*

Blessed Christmas!

Once again we are graced in turning our attention to this mystery of God's love for us. It is incomprehensible that God could love us so much that He would become one of us that we might share in his love. The sad part is that we go through the year too busy and preoccupied to return God's love. Every day should be a little Christmas if we only acknowledged His presence in our lives.

In this secular age, more and more people think they can get along without God in their lives. Their focus is on themselves. It is the age of the 'selfie.' The whole value system gets turned upside down. These days if you look at your dog cross-eyed you get thrown in jail. But a woman should have the freedom to end a pregnancy even if there is another 'heart beat' involved!!! What are we thinking?

There is so much anger and resentment in our world today. If we want to know what made America great, we only have to look at the inscription on the Statue of Liberty. "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free... send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door." The mystery of the incarnation is the self-emptying of God ending ultimately on the cross. This seeming defeat is the only way to salvation and true joy.

The mystery of Christmas is the mystery of Emmanuel, 'God-with-us.' If we believe this then *all* of life becomes precious. This includes all of creation and every person in it. If we want a better world for our children, we need to bring God back to center stage. If we as disciples of Jesus do not do it, it is not going to happen. I challenge all of us in this new year to be instruments of peace and joy in our world. May we accept Pope Francis' challenge to be missionaries of the good news.

*Fr. Charlie*



Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Carolyn Reinders, Timothy McDonnell** and **Nancy Fada** and for the consolation of their loved ones.

**New Year's Day Mass Schedule:**

**Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**  
(Holy Day of Obligation)

Vigil ~ December 31<sup>st</sup>: **4:30 pm**

Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup> 2017: **8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am**



# NATIVITY OF OUR LORD



## This Week in our Parish

- Monday**      **December 26<sup>th</sup>**  
5:45 p.m.      Girl Scouts - Green Room
- Tuesday**      **December 27<sup>th</sup>**  
5:00 p.m.      Hot Meals - Cafeteria  
7:00 p.m.      Evangelization - Conference Room
- Thursday**      **December 29<sup>th</sup>**  
9am - 5pm      Eucharistic Adoration - Lower Church
- Sunday**      **January 1<sup>st</sup>**



200 Club Winner:      12/25/16      Mary DeSalvo      #72

### CONFIRMATION FOR ADULTS:

On Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup> 2017, 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.



### 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.*



'SNOWFALL OF CASH' 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 December 31<sup>st</sup> to be eligible for the daily drawings.



St. Mary Church along with its family & friends is 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.



*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 and Breakfast** on **Sunday, January 29, 2017** from **9am to 12:30pm**.

Our school enrolls children in grades kindergarten through grade 8 with a preschool for three and four year olds. An extended day program is available for all students until 6pm. We invite all parishioners, especially parents considering a catholic education for 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. See you on January 29<sup>th</sup>!

Families interested in St. Mary School Preschool and/or Kindergarten may come visit and talk to our teachers about the programs and curriculum. Call the school at 322-2808 to make an appointment. We are looking forward to your visit!

**Gentle Woman Fellowship** will meet Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at St. Clarence Parish Ctr. 30106 Lorain Rd., N. Olmsted beginning at 9:30am. Fr. Doug Koesel, Pastor of Cleveland's Holy Trinity Parish will be our speaker. A **potluck luncheon** will follow Mass ~ please bring a cold salad, cheese sandwiches, veggies & dip, fresh fruit or something similar to share. Dessert will be provided! All women are welcome. No reservations needed. Bring a friend. Questions? Call Mary 330-636-1698 or Mary 235-6258.

Our January Book Club book is titled The Christmas Train by David Baldacci. We will meet on Thursday, January 19<sup>th</sup> in the Cahill Library.



**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

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



**2017** Calendars are available at the Church Entrances – please be sure to stop and pick one up.