



**Mass Intentions**

- Monday** January 2<sup>nd</sup> Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, bishops/drs of the Church  
5:00 p.m. Tom Kaminski
- Tuesday** January 3<sup>rd</sup> The Most Holy Name of Jesus  
8:30 a.m. Anthony Jezewski
- Wednesday** January 4<sup>th</sup> Elizabeth Ann Seton, religious  
5:00 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Keys Family
- Thursday** January 5<sup>th</sup> John Neumann, bishop  
8:30 a.m. Ferdinand 'Freddy' Sanchez
- Friday** January 6<sup>th</sup> Andre Bessette, religious  
8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Anthony Larizza Family
- Saturday** January 7<sup>th</sup> Raymond of Penyafort, priest  
9:00 a.m. Jeanne Esch  
4:30 p.m. Carl H. Goetz, Jr.
- Sunday** January 8<sup>th</sup> Epiphany of the Lord  
8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish  
9:30 a.m. The Ursem and Peloquin Families  
11:00 a.m. Julius Korzan

Readings for the Week of January 2<sup>nd</sup>

- Mon: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Jn 1:19-28  
Tues: 1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6; Jn 1:29-34  
Wed: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9; Jn 1:35-42  
Thur: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5; Jn 1:43-51  
Fri: 1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20; Mk 1:7-11  
Sat: 1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5 & 6a & 9b; Jn 2:1-11  
Sun: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:2

*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, Chris, Janice, John, Pat, Violet** and all who have asked for our prayers.

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Due to the Holiday Bulletin deadlines, the Collection totals from Sunday, December 25<sup>th</sup> ~ Christmas Day were unavailable for publication.

**Thank you for your generosity.**

[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection January 1<sup>st</sup> - Helping Hands Ministry]  
[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection January 8<sup>th</sup> - Capital Improvement Fund]

Matching Funds Grant total: \$25,000.00  
Thank you!!



My Friends,

My prayer as we begin a new year is that it may be a time of blessing and good health for all of us. It seems like the world is continuing to unravel and so many people are wrestling with serious health issues. It is difficult to find good news in these trying times. But the gospels teach us otherwise. It is our faith that is the ground of our hope.

Today we celebrate Mary as the Mother of God. Her 'fiat' to God's will did not make her life any easier. The only place she could find in Bethlehem to give birth to the Son of God was in a cave. Then they had to flee to Egypt to escape Herod's slaughter of the innocents. In time, she would have to endure the passion and death of her Son on a cross. Faith does not take away the hardships of life. It provides light at the end of the tunnel that gives us hope. It gets us through the hard times.

The beginning of a new year is a time for renewing hope. We need to focus on what is life-giving and free ourselves from destructive habits and addictions that hold us prisoner. I can see only one way out of the opioid epidemic that is tearing our families and society apart. It is our faith in God that enables us to live in true freedom. It is by the grace of the gospel that we find true joy and happiness in the love we share with one another.

This year, the city of Elyria is celebrating its 200th anniversary. What was once a wonderful bedroom community is finding itself plagued by thefts and drug trafficking. The churches of Elyria are working together to rebuild our community into a Compassionate City. In the coming months we will be encouraging 'acts of kindness' to various groups. The focus for the month of January is the 'homeless.' You will see more detail in the weeks ahead. May the coming year be a time of grace for our families and our city.

*Fr. Charlie*

P. S. I want to thank everyone who made a donation toward our Matching Funds Grant. We were able to take advantage of the full \$25,000 - giving us \$50,000 to catch up on our past due bills.



*Thank you to all who helped make our Christmas Dinner a great success ~ God Bless You!*

# SOLEMNITY OF MARY



## This Week in our Parish

**Tuesday** January 3<sup>rd</sup>  
11:00 a.m. Hot Meal Planning - Conference Room  
7:00 p.m. Wellness Group - Conference Room

**Thursday** January 5<sup>th</sup>  
9am - 5pm Eucharistic Adoration - Lower Church  
7:00 p.m. Bible Study - Cahill Library

**Sunday** January 8<sup>th</sup>  
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

**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' *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.*



### St. Mary Parish Night at the Races

Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>  
5:30 - 10:00pm ~ St. Mary Hall

Tickets are \$20.00 - price includes Food, Dessert & Drinks. There will be Basket Raffles & 50/50 Raffle, Side Boards, and of course...**Horse Races!** Mark your Calendars!!



*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!

Save the Date: **SUPPORT ST. MARY SCHOOL  
REVERSE RAFFLE  
MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2017**

Details to follow...



Our Parish will be serving dinner next Sunday, Jan. 8<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*

Our next dinner for St. Joseph Catholic Overnight Shelter is January 21<sup>st</sup>. If you are able to furnish a pasta dish, salad, dessert or rolls please contact me by January 18<sup>th</sup>. We could also use a driver to take the meal to Lorain on that date.

Thank you ~ Maryann 440-458-6159

Each year on January 22<sup>nd</sup> we observe a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, remembering the anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision. Thousands gather in Washington, D.C. for the "March for Life," including several hundred students and faithful from the Diocese of Cleveland.

The 2017 Diocesan **Mass 4 Life** will be held on  
Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30am  
at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

[The Diocesan Mass 4 Life has been changed from a weekday evening to a Sunday morning liturgy, in hopes that a daytime liturgy will make travel easier in the harsh January weather.]

**The Elyria Hospitality Center** is open on **Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10am-Noon**. Please contact them at 323-9409 directly if you have questions or need to make arrangements for donation drop-off. Thank you.

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