




Mass Intentions

- Monday December 4th**
5:00 p.m. Clemence, Carolyn, Robert Alan and Richard Faecking
- Tuesday December 5th**
8:30 a.m. Robert Daly
- Wednesday December 6th**
5:00 p.m. Theodore Giovannazzoo
- Thursday Dec. 7th Ambrose, bishop & dr of the church**
8:30 a.m. Jeanne Esch
7:00 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Keys Family
- Friday December 8th Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation**
8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish
12:15 p.m. Fr. Joseph Weigand
7:00 p.m. Rick Brlas
- Saturday December 9th Juan Diego**
9:00 a.m. Michael Tecca Family
4:30 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish
- Sunday December 10th 2nd Sunday of Advent** 
8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Anthony Larizza Family
9:30 a.m. The Ursem and Peloquin Families
11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Wukie & Matus Families

Readings for the Week of December 4th

- Mon: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt 8:5-11
Tue: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
Wed: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37
Thur: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 & 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Fri: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Sat: Is 30: 19-21. 23-26/ Ps 147: 1-6/ Mt 9: 35 – 10: 1. 5-8
Sun: Is 40: 1-5. 9-11/ Ps 85: 9-14 / 2 Pt 3: 8-14/ Mk 1: 1-8

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, Betty, Bob, Charlie, Chris, Craig, Elaine, Eli, Jessica, Jim, Joe, Kathy, Linda, Maggie, Mark, Mary, P.J., Patrick, Paul, Robert, Sharon, Susan, Tom, Victoria** and all who have asked for our prayers.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

Sunday Collection 11/19/17	\$8,751.88
Catholic Campaign for Human Dev.	\$707.25
Envelopes	241
Sunday Collection 11/26/17	\$10,048.60
Capital Improvement Fund	\$591.13
Envelopes	265

Thank you for your continued generosity.

- [2nd Collection December 3rd - Helping Hands Ministry]
[2nd Collection December 10th - Retirement for Religious]



My Friends,

On this first Sunday of the new 'church' year, we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent. Our faith centers around two basic mysteries. The Incarnation at Christmas affirms that God took on human flesh in Christ to restore humankind to union with himself. The Resurrection at Easter reveals a whole new transcendent way of being made possible through Jesus' death and resurrection.

In the coming weeks of Advent we focus on the Christmas mystery. The Old Testament prophets look to the day of a coming Messiah who will restore the justice and peace of God's original creation. We have yet to experience its full realization but are in active pursuit through our daily activities. Our Advent theme is: *Blest Be All Who Wait for the Lord*. We need to be awake and alert to God's work among us. This is a critical time for prayer as we grow in our awareness of God present among us. We live too much on the surface. There is no depth to our lives and we wonder why joy is so elusive. Don't let the busyness of these holidays rob you of the true joy of this Christmas mystery.

As we conclude our *Grateful Giving* campaign, I want to thank you for your very generous response to the appeal. An analysis of your responses indicates an increase of \$2,000 to our weekly collection! This is truly a blessing to our parish in the work of carrying out the mission of the Gospel.

We are also closing in on matching the \$25,000 grant. Presently, we are at \$19,000. It would be great if we could take advantage of the full grant by raising the \$6,000 by the end of the year. Thanks again for your generosity to St. Mary's.

Fr. Charlie

Pancake Breakfast

This Sunday ~ December 3rd

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 buy special gifts at **The Lil' Christmas Shoppe**

[Sponsored by the St. Mary P.T.U.]

Help care for elders. "Thanks to support from the Retirement Fund for Religious, we are now in a much better position to care for our elders," writes a religious sister. Your donation helps her religious community and hundreds of others provide for aging members and plan for long-term needs. Please give to next Week's Retirement Fund for Religious collection.

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

Friday ~ December 8th

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

[Vigil: Thursday ~ December 7th at 7:00pm]



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



This Week in our Parish

Monday 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	December 4th Helping Hands Ministry - Conference Room P.S.R. - St. Joseph & Marian Buildings
Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	December 5th Wellness Group - Conference Room
Wednesday 5:45 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	December 6th Worship Commission - Conference Room Cub Scouts - Green Room Choir - Choir Loft R.C.I.A. - Conference Room
Thursday 9am - 5pm 6:00 p.m.	December 7th Eucharistic Adoration - Lower Church SMS Band Concert
Sunday 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.	December 10th Liturgy of the Word with Children Pre-School P.S.R. - St. Joseph Building Hot Meals - Cafeteria

200 Club Winner: 12/03/17 Pat Prusak #207



The next Senior Luncheon will be held on Monday, December 11th 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 by Friday, December 8th. 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.

CASH EVERYDAY IN JANUARY CALENDARS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!



Each calendar sells for \$10 and entitles you to 31 chances to win that day's cash prize. Please be sure to stop outside the Weigand Room and pick up an envelope of calendars.



They make great Christmas stocking stuffers!



Our "GIVING TREE" is set up outside the Weigand Room. As you have in the past, we encourage you to participate in the "GIVING TREE" again this year. We have requests for items from Blessing House, Birthright, Catholic Charities Family Center, Genesis House and additional families who are in need. These requests are 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 next SUN., DEC. 10th** in order for them to be distributed in time for Christmas. ~ Thank You

St. Mary School Programs:



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Band Concert: Thursday ~

December 7th at 7pm in the Parish Hall

Pre-School Christmas Program: Wednesday
December 13th at 10am in the Lower Church

Christmas Choral Concert: Thursday ~
December 14th at 7pm in the Parish Hall

All are welcome to attend.



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 Sun. evening Dec. 24th in the Weigand Room for costume distribution and instruction.



All teens 8th - 12th grade are invited to get active with **Teen JaM**, a Teen Ministry for St. Mary & St. Jude Parishes in Elyria! Upcoming events are on the St. Mary and St. Jude websites. Just click on the **Teen JaM** link.



The Upper Room

Our next meeting is Sun., Dec. 3rd from 6-7:30pm

Christmas Shopping & Christmas Movie

Join us on **Sat., Dec. 9th** from 2-8pm for Christmas Shopping & Christmas Movie Night. We'll meet at St. Jude (by Carrabine Hall) and head over to Great Northern to do some Christmas shopping. We ask that each teen buy 1 gift for the Giving Trees at St. Jude or St. Mary Parishes. [You can also get your own shopping done too.] We will need some parents to drive & shop with us! We'll then head over to the Teen JaM Upper Room at St. Mary's to wrap the presents for the Giving Tree, enjoy some food & snacks and watch "Elf". We know you'll have a good time! Please e-mail Randy Kula at randy@saintjudeparish.org if you're interested in joining us. Questions? Call Randy at 216-409-2639.



Our Parish will be serving dinner next **Sunday, Dec. 10th** from **5-6pm** in the **St. Mary School Cafeteria**. Volunteers are always appreciated to serve or help with preparation beginning at 3pm.

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

December 16th is the next day we will take dinner to St. Elizabeth's Center in Lorain. If you can supply a pasta dish, dessert, salad or rolls call Maryann by Dec. 13th, 440-458-6159. I could also use a driver to take the food to Lorain. Thank you.

St. Mary Church along with its family & friends are sponsoring a **Free Christmas Dinner** on **Christmas Day** from **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. 24th beginning at 11am, please email Angie Pluta at stmaryelyria@aol.com.

