



<b>Monday</b>	<b>December 11<sup>th</sup></b> <u>Damasus I, pope</u> 5:00 p.m. Clemence, Carolyn, Robert Alan and Richard Faecking
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>December 12<sup>th</sup></b> <u>Our Lady of Guadalupe</u> 8:30 a.m. Lawrence Coleman, Sr.
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>December 13<sup>th</sup></b> <u>Lucy, virgin/martyr</u> 5:00 p.m. Clifford Smith
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Dec. 14<sup>th</sup></b> <u>John of the Cross, priest/dr. of the church</u> 8:30 a.m. Fr. O'Shaughnessy
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 15<sup>th</sup></b> 8:30 a.m. Charles Knechtges
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>December 16<sup>th</sup></b> 9:00 a.m. Paul Critzer 4:30 p.m. Ben and Irene Bittner
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>December 17<sup>th</sup></b> <u>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</u> 8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of St. Mary Parish 9:30 a.m. Robert Lovicz 11:00 a.m. Carl and Marian Ternes 7:00 p.m. <i>Cluster Communal Penance Service at St. Jude</i>



Readings for the Week of December 11<sup>th</sup>

Mon:	Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tue:	Zec 2:14-17; Ps Jdt 13:18-19; Lk 1:26-38
Wed:	Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8,10; Mt 11:28-30
Thur:	Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13; Mt 11:11-15
Fri:	Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1- 4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Sat:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2- 3, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9-13
Sun:	Is 61:1-2, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

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

**STEWARDSHIP REPORT**

Sunday Collection 12/03/17	\$12,448.26
Helping Hands Ministry	\$1,816.78
Envelopes	273

**Thank you for your continued generosity.**

[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection December 10<sup>th</sup> - Retirement for Religious]

[2<sup>nd</sup> Collection December 17<sup>th</sup> - Tuition Assistance]



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

**OPLATKI** is now available in the Parish Office  
- Envelope of 4 wafers [3 white & 1 pink] for \$2.



My Friends,

It was great to see so many at last Saturday's 200 Club! It is a fun way to support our school. But even more important is the opportunity for us to socialize as a parish family. The next day many of you joined us for the Santa Breakfast to help fund our Helping Hands ministry. What excited me the most was the way more and more parishioners stayed after Mass to catch up on the week's news with each other. It is a sign to me that we are truly becoming a parish community.

In years past, when our options were more limited, it was natural for the local parish to be the center of our identity and life. Some churches in Cleveland even had their own bowling alleys! We identified ourselves by our church and school. Not only was it the center of our spiritual life, but it included our social life too. The families were large and the classrooms were full. I don't know how the good sisters did it. (BTW...this is the weekend we ask for your generous support of the religious retirement fund. My 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Sr. Mary St. Andrew Miller SND is still living at the sister's motherhouse in Chardon. After their years of teaching at St. Mary, they deserve every penny they can get!)

My point is that in a world that is becoming more and more isolated and focused on self, we need to make a conscious effort to grow together as a parish family. The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation for building this community. I pray in this Advent time that Christ can truly become the center of our lives, our families and our parish community.

*Fr. Charlie*

*Just a reminder:*



**All gifts for the Giving Tree need to be collected this SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>** in order for them to be distributed in time for Christmas. If need be, gifts can be dropped off under the tree on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for supporting this outreach project and helping those who are in need this Holiday Season.

**Help Religious Communities.** "Your generous contribution helps us to care for our retired sisters and enables our younger sisters to continue in active ministry," writes a religious sister. Your gift to today's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of senior sisters, brothers, and religious order priests. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders!

**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 stop outside the Weigand Room & pick up an envelope of calendars.

They make great Christmas stocking stuffers!



## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



### This Week in our Parish

<b>Monday</b> 12 Noon 5:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.	<b>December 11<sup>th</sup></b> Senior Luncheon - Weigand Room Helping Hands Ministry - Conference Room P.S.R. - St. Joseph & Marian Buildings
<b>Tuesday</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>December 12<sup>th</sup></b> Hot Meals - Cafeteria
<b>Wednesday</b> 10:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>December 13<sup>th</sup></b> Pre-School Christmas Program - Lower Church Cub Scouts - Green Room Choir - Choir Loft R.C.I.A. - Conference Room
<b>Thursday</b> 9am - 5pm 6:00 p.m.	<b>December 14<sup>th</sup></b> Eucharistic Adoration - Lower Church SMS Choral Concert - Parish Hall
<b>Sunday</b> 9-11 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 1:30 p.m. <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>December 17<sup>th</sup></b> Blood Pressure Checks - Weigand Room Liturgy of the Word with Children Pre-School P.S.R. - St. Joseph Building Secular Franciscans - Lower Church <b>Cluster Communal Penance Service at St. Jude</b>

200 Club Winner: 12/10/17 Marilyn Peloquin #27  
Congratulations to the five \$200 winners from December 2<sup>nd</sup>:  
Susanne Haag, Larry Pierce, Jim Fada,  
Julie Green & Mary Jane Taylor

Timothy Green won \$510.00 for the 50/50 drawing!

\*\*\*A red ladies dress coat was taken by mistake after the 200 Club Dinner/Dance, if you have the wrong coat, please contact the parish office at 323-5539...we have your coat.



The next Senior Luncheon will be held on Monday, December 11<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 11am for the Rosary and Benediction on **Thursday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>**. A TUREEN Luncheon will follow in the Weigand Room - just bring your favorite dish to share. [Please RSVP 323-5539, so we can plan accordingly for our main dish.]



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.



Blood Pressure checks will be available next Sun., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> from 9-11am in the Weigand Room.



St. Mary School Programs:

**Pre-School Christmas Program:** Wednesday December 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am in the Lower Church

**Christmas Choral Concert:** Thursday ~ December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Parish Hall

All are welcome to attend.

**PTU Texas Roadhouse Fundraiser:** St. Mary PTU is selling Texas Roadhouse gift cards in increments of \$5.00. Please see a PTU representative after Mass today to order your gift cards. The PTU receives a portion of each card sold. Additional order forms are in the school office or on the school website [stmarycatholicschoolelyria.com] under the Wednesday folder tab.



### 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. 24<sup>th</sup> in the Weigand Room for costume distribution and instruction.



Our Parish will be serving dinner this **Sunday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>** 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 16<sup>th</sup> 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. 13<sup>th</sup>, 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. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 11am - 12:30pm, please email Angie Pluta at [stmaryelyria@aol.com](mailto:stmaryelyria@aol.com).



### Advent and Christmas Schedule

All are encouraged to attend the Cluster Communal Penance Service at **St. Jude Church** on **Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> ~ 7:00pm**

**Reconciliation:** All Saturdays: 3:30 - 4:15pm

Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup>: 12:30 - 1:30pm & 7:00 - 8:00 pm

Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>: 4:00 - 5:00pm & 7:00 - 8:00pm

**Mass Schedule:** **Christmas Eve Masses:**

Sunday, December 24<sup>th</sup>: 4:00 and 6:00pm

Midnight Mass: 12 Midnight [Carols at 11:15pm]

**Christmas Day Masses:**

Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>: 9:00 and 11:00am

**New Year's Day Mass** (Solemnity of Mary):

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

Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018: 9:00am