



SACRED HEART of JESUS CATHOLIC CHURCH

❧ Bethlehem • Founded 1833 ❧

December 1, 2019 First Sunday of Advent



5742 State Route 61 S.
Shelby, Ohio 44875
(419) 342-2256

Mass Intentions

Tuesday

6:30 pm - Mass at Sacred Heart

Mass Intention: Lester & Eileen Cochran

Wednesday

8:30 am - Mass at Sacred Heart

Mass Intention: Mary Hoepf

Thursday

5:30 pm - Confession at St. Joseph

6:30 pm - Mass at St. Joseph

*Mass Intention: Donald W. Alt ;
John Smarto*

Friday

8:30 am - Mass at St. Joseph

Mass Intention: Eileen Cochran

Saturday

3:30 pm - Confession at SHJ

4:30 pm - Mass at Sacred Heart

Mass Intention: For All Religious

Sunday

7:00 am - Mass at St. Joseph

*Mass Intention: Eileen Cochran;
James & Rita Linn*

8:30 am - Mass at Sacred Heart

*Mass Intention: Marie & Joe Biglin;
Cletus & Nellie Young*

10:30 am - Mass at St. Joseph

*Mass Intention: Eileen Cochran;
Bob & Lee Gordon*

O Come O Come Emmanuel!

We are now in the season of Advent. The word Advent means, "coming" And for the next four weeks we are supposed to prepare for the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the flesh. I know what you want to say- "Fr. Chris- Jesus all ready came in the flesh more than 2,000 years ago!" Yes, Jesus did come in the flesh a long time ago, as a matter of history, but spiritually it is a great truth of our faith that will echo for all eternity.

Every time we come to Mass, Jesus' death at Calvary and His Resurrection is just as spiritually present as the day it happened. In heaven there is no time, so the truth of Jesus Christ's coming in the flesh (Incarnation) and His death and Resurrection will always be in the present- always in the now- of life in heaven.

Therefore, don't let the secular emphasis of shopping and parties dominate your thoughts as a way to prepare for Christmas, but let the joy of Christ coming in the flesh as a baby fill your hearts and minds. And in the spirit of our Bishop I want to suggest some things for you to do this Advent so you will be ready for Christmas spiritually. Here they are:

1. Say- "Have a Merry Christmas!"- To as many people as you can.
2. Pray Together as a family at least once a week during the four weeks of Advent
3. Bow at Mass during the Nicene Creed when it states the Jesus became Incarnate- meaning He took on flesh and became one of us.
4. Read the first three chapters of each Gospel.
5. Always remember to say "Amen" when receiving the Body and Blood of Christ because you are receiving His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity when you do and a acknowledging that He came in the flesh. (This should be said every Mass)
6. Give something to someone not expecting to be paid back.
7. Imagine you are traveling with the Three Wise Men- What gift would you bring to Jesus at the manger?

These are but a few examples of things to do during Advent. You can be creative and come up with ideas of your own. Just remember that for Advent you want to prepare your heart to receive the Christmas joy of Jesus being born in the world, which will help to increase your devotion to Him and not increase your stress!

God Bless!!!

Fr. Chris

COLLECTION:

November 24, 2019

\$3,180.00

Offertory
\$2,785.00

Christmas Flowers
\$ 255.00

Gen Maintenance
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Human Development
\$ 90.00

Thank you !



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Dec. 3rd : Cheryl Rietschlin

Saturday, December 7, 2019

MUSIC MINISTER

Kevin Willis

SERVERS

Nathan Rietschlin & Braden Drake

OFFERTORY

Andy & Paula Rietschlin

EXTRAORDINARY

MINISTERS

*JoAnn Claytor, Karen Keiser
Jake Rietschlin & Kim Metzger*

USHERS

*Paul Gosser
Need One*

LECTOR

Kim Metzger

GREETERS

Jake Rietschlin & Barb Finnegan

Sunday, December 8, 2019

MUSIC MINISTER

Folk Group

SERVERS

Hayden & Ruthie Faith

OFFERTORY

Dusty Milligan Family

EXTRAORDINARY

MINISTERS

*Dick & Marilyn Vogt
Paul Schroeder & Steve Vogt*

USHERS

Joe Faith & Rick Gosser

LECTOR

Diane Metzger

GREETERS

John Bonen & Debbie Gwartz

COUNTERS

Linda Schroeder & Karen Bonen

Bible Readings for the Week of December 2nd. 2019

Monday Is 4:2-6, Ps 122:1-9, Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday Is 11:1-10, Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17, Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday Is 25:6-10a, Ps 23:1-6, Mt 15:29-37
Thursday Is 26:1-6, Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a, Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday Is 29:17-24, Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14, Mt 9:27-31
Saturday Is 30:19-21, 23-26, Ps 147:16, Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday Is 11:1-10, Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17, Rom 15:4-9, Mt 3:1-12



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HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE:

Mon	12/02	NONE
Tues	12/03	8:30 am at St. Joseph
Wed	12/04	10:00 pm at St. Joseph
Thurs	12/05	8:30 am at St. Joseph
Fri	12/06	9:30 am at St. Joseph First Friday Adoration
Sat	12/07	2:30 pm at Sacred Heart



Please check your schedules for:

12/24 at Midnight - 3 Servers & 2 Ushers
12/25 at 8:30 am - 1 Server & 2 Ushers
12/31 at 4:30 pm - 2 Servers & 2 Ushers

PLEASE call the parish office with dates you are available to help with the celebration! Thank You!

CATHOLIC WOMENS CLUB:

The next luncheon and meeting will be Wednesday, **December 11th.** at the Roadhouse Brown Derby Event Center at 3985 Park Avenue West, Mansfield, Ohio. The lunch will start at 12:00 pm and the meeting and program will follow. All Catholic women in the Saint Juan Diego Deanery are invited. If you are new, you are encouraged to come and join us and get to know the Catholic women in the area. Please call Debbie Cochran, the December Chairperson at 419-529-8176 or Joan Schonhardt, President at 419-366-0118. Reservations must be made by **December 6th. before noon.** We are looking forward to seeing current members and meeting new members!

K of C # 1968 Members

Children/Grandchildren Christmas Party
Sunday, December 15, 3 - 5 p.m.

Food, Fun & Santa!

Please bring a dish to share.

RSVP to Nita Walsh, via email, with children's names, ages and how many family members will be joining you. Please send email

to: nita6pita@yahoo.com



Free Community Meal

December 12th. 5:30-6:30

Calvary United Church, Crestline

All Are Welcome

Free Will Donations Accepted

PACK - A - PICKUP THIS WEEKEND!



November 30th & Dec 1st. Food and toys will be collected for area needy. Toys can be new or used, but if used, they must be cleaned & have all their parts. If they require batteries it is a big help to have new ones installed. All non-perishable food should have current date. **Thank you!**

Thank you Richard Vogt and Rodney Cole for the use of your trucks and for making the deliveries!

Retirement Fund for Religious

Give in thanksgiving. "The nuns left lasting impressions on me," write a donor. "I shall always be grateful for my Catholic education." Please join in thanking the thousands of senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who worked tirelessly to educate the young and serve those in need. Next week's collection is for the Retirement Fund for Religious, which helps hundreds of religious communities care for aging members. Please give generously.

Ecumenical Christmas Concert at Shrine:

The 48th Carey Ecumenical Christmas Concert is scheduled for Sunday, December 8th. at 4:30 p.m. at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady Consolation, 3165 Clay Street in Carey. The Shrine Cafeteria will be open for dinner immediately following the concert and the Shrine Gift Shop will also be open.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS


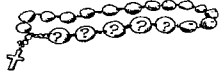

























12/04	John Workman	12/16	William Alt
12/06	Teresa Hicks	12/17	Dave Kromer
12/08	Louann Steiner	12/18	Tom Karbula
12/09	Rose Workman	12/24	Gerald McGowan
12/10	Chuck Keller	12/24	Barbara A. Weaver
12/10	Miriam Schroeder	12/25	Dennis Gwartz
12/10	Paula Goodman	12/27	Lucy Rietschlin
12/12	Claire Davis	12/28	Barbara E. Weaver

Sacred Heart School Temporary Position:

Looking for a temporary, part-time, math teacher from Jan 27th through March 6th. The position is 28 hours per week Monday-Friday excluding Wednesdays. Interested candidates should be certified in math, pass BCI, FBI and Protecting Youth checks/classes. Please submit a resume to Lisa Myers @ lmeyers@shelbysacredheart.org.

2019 ADVENT CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 DECEMBER Buy or make an Advent wreath. Bless it and light the first violet candle each night this week. 	2 Advent is about waiting for the Savior to come. Offer a prayer anytime you have to wait during Advent. 	3 Call Catholic Relief Services (877-HELP-CRS or www.catholicrelief.org) to see how you can help. 	4 Set up your Nativity scene. Picture yourself in the scene and think about how you would act if you were there. 	5 Pick one habit that is keeping you from holiness. Resolve to conquer it during Advent. 	6 Show love on St. Nicholas Day by making at least one generous act today. 	7 Put up a Christmas tree. Put just a few ornaments on each day and finish up on Christmas Eve. 
8 Light two violet candles in the Advent wreath each night this week. Sit in silence and enjoy the quiet. Read Matthew 3:1-12. 	9 To honor Mary's Immaculate Conception, go to Mass and pray a Rosary. 	10 Perform some act of service for your parish. Ask at the rectory for suggestions. 	11 Ask Jesus to heal whatever keeps you from feeling God's bountiful love. 	12 To honor Our Lady of Guadalupe, place a rose in a vase in your home and pray a "Hail Mary." 	13 Today, pray for someone you don't like. 	14 Perform a thorough examination of conscience today. Then attend Confession to ready your soul to greet the Savior. 
15 Today is Gaudete Sunday. Light two violet candles and the rose one for joy. Read Matthew 11:2-11. 	16 Set a timer or other reminder to help you pray every morning and every evening this month. Continue after Advent. 	17 Make a conscious effort to see everyone with loving eyes today. 	18 Put a lamp or candle in a window to welcome the Christ Child. Light it each night until Christmas. 	19 Go to a private room, close the door, and pray to your Father in secret. 	20 Make time today to feed the hungry. Look for someone who is physically hungry or one who is hungry for kindness, too. 	21 Gather some friends and neighbors and go Christmas caroling at a nursing home or homeless shelter. 
22 Light all four candles in the Advent Wreath tonight and all week. Read Matthew 1:18-24. 	23 Pray for the men and women in the armed services who won't be able to spend Christmas with their families. 	24 Pick one way you can simplify your lifestyle to make more room for God. 	25 Rejoice! Read the story of Jesus' birth in Luke 2:1-20. 	<p><i>"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn" (Luke 2:1-7).</i></p>		

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

December 2019

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Rev. Christopher G. Bohnsack, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Maria di Rosa

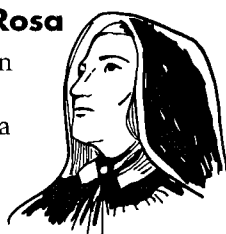
Born "Paula" in
Brescia, Italy,
Maria di Rosa

was the daughter of a mill owner and a countess. Coming from a wealthy family didn't spare her from difficulty. She lost her mother when young. At seventeen years old, she left school to work with her father at the mill. During the cholera epidemic of 1836, she cared for the sick. In 1840, she founded the Handmaids of Charity to care for the wounded during the wars.

Agent of change

True conversion is the work of the Holy Spirit. Salvation and faith are gifts from God – gifts that are not ours to give. Yet, believers are called to join with the Holy Spirit to bring others to God. When we have a strong and personal relationship with Jesus, we can be his agents of change.

"Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."
(Isaiah 40:5).



The joyful expectation of Advent

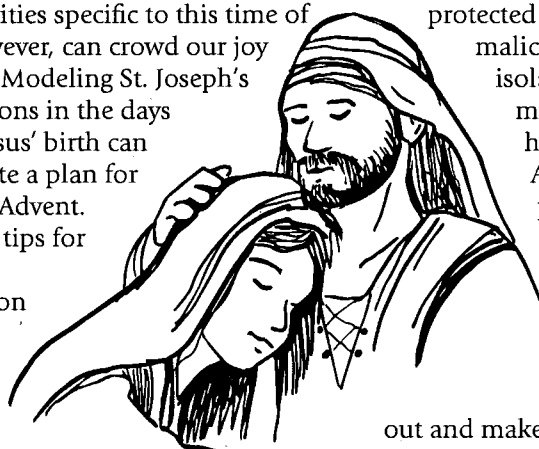
Jesus' birth at Christmas is real and amazing evidence of God's love. The priorities specific to this time of year, however, can crowd our joy and awe. Modeling St. Joseph's preparations in the days before Jesus' birth can help create a plan for our own Advent. Try these tips for joyful expectation of our Savior's birth.

Create silence. God found the quiet he needed in St. Joseph's life to speak and be heard over the noise of the carpenter's shop, the needs of neighbors, the demands of tax collectors. In the silence St. Joseph created just for him, God was able to work miracles.

Keep out the devil. When Joseph found out Mary was pregnant, he protected her from the evil of malicious gossip and isolation. He helped her to make a God-centered home filled with Love. Although the devil is powerful, he cannot go where he is not permitted. When we stay close to the Sacraments and live a God-centered life, we, too, keep the devil

out and make room for Love.

Look for him. Can you imagine the joy with which St. Joseph expected Jesus' coming? We celebrate Jesus' arrival in Bethlehem with joy. We can joyfully welcome him into our lives now. And, with joy we can look forward to Christ's coming in glory on the Last Day.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics celebrate Christmas after December 26?

The Catholic Christmas is not just one day but an entire liturgical season. It begins with the vigil Mass on Christmas Eve and ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (January 12th this year). During the celebration of Christmas,



we rejoice in the realization of God's plan for our salvation.

God became man to save us.

Thus, the Church makes sure we have enough time — almost a month — to fully celebrate such a joyful, hope-filled, destiny-altering event.

Open your heart to the Christmas promise

This time of year reminds us of our hope for a future of peace. But we cannot achieve this peace on our own. We must open our hearts to the promise of Christmas.

"One nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again" (Isaiah 2:4). Violence flourishes if the world accepts it as inevitable. The world can change if the love of the Christmas Child takes root in our hearts. Peace flows from hearts that love.

"The poor will eat their fill; those who seek



the Lord will offer praise" (Psalm 22:27). Peace spreads more easily when all have enough. These days the poor are everywhere and people are struggling to hold onto hope. If we each make our holiday charitable efforts a year-round habit, perhaps the words of the psalmist will come true.

"The virgin shall be with child, and bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel" (Isaiah 7:14).

This Christmas we can once again rekindle our own sense of innocence and hope.

from Scripture

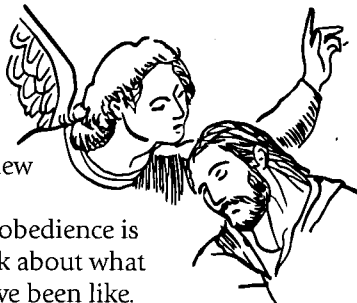
Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23, Trust God like St. Joseph did

By the time Mary gave birth to Jesus, St. Joseph was used to following orders from God without question. So when the angel appeared to him in his sleep urging him to flee to Egypt, Joseph obeyed immediately. He trusted that God would take care of him and his new family.

Joseph's unquestioning obedience is remarkable when we think about what the birth of Jesus must have been like. Mary and Joseph had traveled in the last stages of her pregnancy from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Whether on foot or donkey, it was a dirty, exhausting journey.

Once there, there was nowhere to stay except with the animals. After a short time, they fled to Egypt to escape danger, and stayed there for some years without family or friends. Through it all, Joseph trusted God to protect his family.

Being perfect didn't shield the Holy Family from experiencing pain and difficulty much like we do. Yet Scripture tells us that Mary and Joseph found strength from their faith in God and were guided by his Word. We can do the same.



Feasts & Celebrations

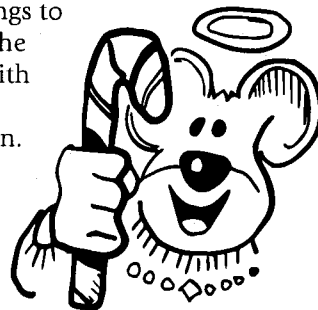
Dec. 1 – First Sunday in Advent. During this season, we anticipate Christ's coming. Catholics around the world light candles in an Advent wreath to signal the coming of the light of Christ.

Dec. 9 – Feast of the Immaculate Conception (1854). This feast day commemorates that Mary was conceived in St. Anne's womb without Original Sin. Attending Mass is a wonderful way to celebrate.

Dec. 9 – St. Juan Diego (1548). St. Juan Diego was visited by the Blessed Mother at Tepeyac Hill in Mexico. She

asked that a chapel be built and sent him to the bishop with roses as a sign. When the roses were emptied from his cloak, it retained the image of Our Lady which can still be seen today.

Dec. 21 – St. Peter Canisius (1597). Born in Holland, he was ordained into the Society of Jesus and worked strenuously through his writings and teachings to safeguard the Catholic faith after the Reformation. His work, *The Catechism*, is still used today.



Q & A Why does the Church year begin in Advent?

The Church has a liturgical year with its own seasons that help us to mark events that are important to Catholics. However, the Church year doesn't start on January 1, or even on December 25 — when we celebrate Christ's birthday. Instead, it begins on the first Sunday of Advent, the season before Christmas.




Advent is the perfect season for new beginnings. It's a season of preparation: the King of Kings is coming! There are three "arrivals" of Christ to prepare for and celebrate: as an infant at Bethlehem, at Mass in the Eucharist, and as the King of Glory at the end of time.

In order to properly greet such a Guest, the Church sets aside this time for us to purify our hearts and souls. Whether that means being with God in prayer, attending Confession, volunteering in the community or cleaning house, Advent is the time for it. The Church wants us to begin the year well by preparing to welcome the King who comes to *"make all things new"* (Revelation 21:5).

Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living.
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)



Bernardine Franciscan Sisters Florence Kruczek (*right*), 91, and de Lourdes Okoniewski, 87, each entered religious life in the 1940s, barely out of high school. For decades, prayer and teaching filled their days. Yet a lifetime of serving others has only increased their own gratitude. “I get up each morning and say, ‘O Lord, thank you for the gift of another day,’” says Sister Florence.

Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

For Sisters Florence and de Lourdes—and 30,000 other senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious—service is a way of life. Most ministered in Catholic schools, hospitals, parishes, and social service agencies, usually for little or no pay. Today, hundreds of religious communities lack adequate savings for retirement and eldercare. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious offers vital support for necessities, such as medications and nursing care. Please be generous.

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Sacred Heart of Jesus Christmas Cards:

Sacred Heart Christmas Cards are for sale 10 for \$10.00 at the parish office or look for a table after Mass next weekend to purchase. Proceeds go to the Altar and Rosary Society.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

Thursday, Dec. 5th ~ 6:30 p.m.

Holy Trinity, Bucyrus

Wednesday, Dec. 11th ~ 6:30 p.m.

St. Joseph, Crestline

(Rectory Open House to Follow)

Thursday, Dec. 12th ~ 4-8 p.m.

St. Francis Xavier, Willard

Thursday, Dec. 12th ~ 6:30 p.m.

St. Joseph, Galion

Wednesday, Dec. 18th ~ 6:00-8:30 p.m.

St. Bernard, New Washington



Today we light the first candle, which is purple, on the Advent wreath. This candle symbolizes hope. It is sometimes known as the "Prophecy Candle" to remember the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. The first candle represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

Mass Cancellation During Inclement Weather

The following policies are in effect for Sacred Heart when inclement weather threatens:

- On mornings when there is a school Mass, if there is a **2 hour delay the Mass will be at 1:30 p.m. IF school is cancelled, the Mass is CANCELLED.**
- If school is cancelled on a day when Mass is in the **evening**, please listen to the radio or call the Parish Office to check to see if Mass is cancelled for that evening. Father Chris will make a decision by Noon on those days.

(Tune in to WVNO @ 106.1 FM or WMFD.com)

In all cases, please use common sense and your best judgment! Be Safe !