

ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION Catholic Church

December 31, 2017

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

601 Jennings Road ~
Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Pastor

Rev. Stanley Szybka

Deacon

Deacon Andrew McMahon

Principal

Dan Metzger

Coordinator Religious Ed.

Cheryl Freewalt

Office Manager

Angie Renner

Masses:

Saturday: 4:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Weekday: Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 8:45 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. & Saturday, 3:00 - 3:30 pm. or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms are celebrated during or after any weekend Mass. Instructions for parents having their first child baptized are held the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Cherie Freewalt to schedule a date.

Sacrament of Matrimony

Please contact Fr. Stan AT LEAST SIX MONTHS prior to your proposed wedding date to begin preparation for your marriage and to schedule a date.

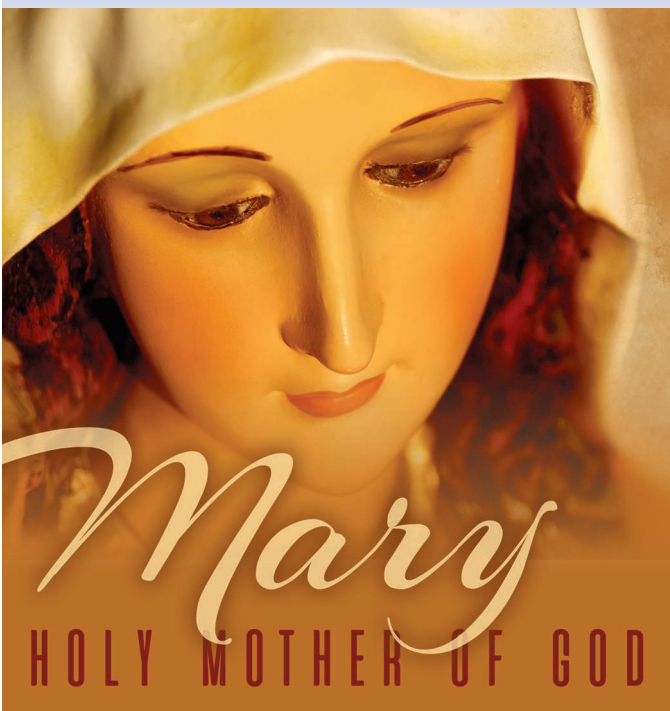
New to the Parish?

We are glad to welcome you as a member of our Parish Family. Please stop by or call the Parish Office to register. Welcome!



This Week in Our Parish

<u>Sun Dec 31:</u>	Bingo (K of C)	6:15 pm
	Vigil—Mary, Mother of God	7:00 pm
<u>Mon Jan 1:</u>	Mary, Mother of God	9:30 am
<u>Tue Jan 2:</u>	Adoration	8:00 am—5:30 pm
<u>Wed Jan 3:</u>	SOR	6:45—8:00 pm
<u>Thu Jan 4:</u>	Pastoral Council	6:00 pm
	Bingo (K of C)	6:15 pm
<u>Fri Jan 5:</u>	First Friday	
	Mass at Van Crest	10:00 am
	Adoration	8:00 pm-8:00 am
<u>Sat Jan 6:</u>	First Saturday Mass	8:00 am



Liturgical Schedule

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 + HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY

8:30 AM Dennis and Betty Kinkle & JOSEPH
10:30 AM St. Mary's Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31 + VIGIL—MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

7:00 PM Rosemary Schroeder

MONDAY, JANUARY 1 + MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

9:30 AM Helen Schemmell

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2 + STS. BASIL & GREGORY NAZIANZEN

8:00 AM—5:30 PM Adoration
5:30 PM Benediction and Evening Prayer
6:00 PM Fr. Bill Parker

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3 + MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS

8:45 AM Fr. Paul Kwiatkowski

THURSDAY, JANUARY 4 + ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

8:45 AM Fr. Frederick Snyder

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5 + ST. JOHN NEUMANN

8:45 AM Kathleen Frederick
10:00 AM Mass at Van Crest
8:00 PM—8:00 AM First Friday Adoration

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6

8:00 AM First Saturday Mass
4:00 PM Carmen Jacobs

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

8:30 AM St. Mary's Parish
10:30 AM John and Heather Metzger



Servers, Eucharistic Minister, Lector & Usher

Schedules for January 6 & 7, 2018

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 4:00 PM

Servers: Brandon & Annie Renner, Shay Wehner
E. M.: T Heckler, G Hirzel, J Hoersten, T Marshall,
D Mathew, T Reinhart, A Renner
Ushers: Terry Johnson, D Heckler, D Hohman, D Renner
Lector: Pat Johnson

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 8:30 AM

Servers: Alexa & Sophia Gearhart, Myles Moody
E. M.: J Cross, M Cross, F Minnig, M Minnig,
J Sheeran, L Vonderwell, B Wasserman
Ushers: Jim Brickner, R Knueve, S Thomas, D Krizay,
B Wolke, E Fox
Lector: Diana Pollock

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7, 10:30 AM

Servers: Colin, Mason & Lauren McHugh
E. M.: D Berryman, J Bloomfield, J Comer, B Fallis,
M Fallis, M Geesey, L Kill
Ushers: Charles Brickner, M Keber, D Allmandinger,
D Keber, J Meyers, B Keber
Lector: Cherie Freewalt

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Please come forward immediately when the prayers for extending Peace are offered. This will help substitutes know they are needed and allow sufficient time to be ready at the altar. Also, please watch for a total of 8 with Father, Deacons and yourselves.

HOLY FAMILIES

When a loving couple welcomes a child into their home, a family is created. How that family will appear is determined by each member.

Mary and Joseph welcomed Jesus into their home. From various passages of Scripture, we know that both these individuals were people of faith, attuned to the will of God. They would have shared their religious sentiments with their son, who undoubtedly made them His own. Not always ideal, they would have struggled with the same challenges that our families face.

It is within the family that we learn to reach out and consider others, whether we say "thank you," "I love you," "I'm sorry," or "I forgive you," we begin to understand how important and life-giving these relationships are. It is also in this environment within which we are encouraged to explore our special gifts and talents, deciding how we may use these in life.

Sometimes, families "short-circuit." Due to immaturity, personality disorders of various kinds and numerous circumstances, it may seem that the atmosphere becomes "every person for themselves." While healing and wholeness are possible, it takes a great deal of effort and may involve outside help. All families need the grace of God.

This Sunday, we will pray for all families, thanking God for all that is good, and praying for those areas that can be improved. We will also bless the stained glass window of the Holy Family recently installed by the bell tower doors.

Sunday evening and Monday will be New Years Day, or the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. While it is not a Holyday of Obligation this year, people do like to begin the new year asking for God's blessing. We will have two Masses, Sunday evening at 7:00 PM and Monday morning at 9:30 AM.

Celebrating both occasions in such close proximity, we may wish to ask how we can grow in holiness this year—it makes an excellent New Years Resolution.

Perhaps the prayer of St. Padre Pio, found at the end of our Advent Penance Service, may assist us.

"O Lord! I abandon my past to thy mercy, my present to thy love, and my future to thy providence. Amen."

Fr. Stan



SCHOOL NEWS

We believe our Catholic School is not only a school, but a community of Faith.



Donates Items to the Pregnancy Life Center

Mrs. Therese Tate's Kindergarten and Kindergarten Plus students recently made several donations to the Pregnancy Life Center of Van Wert. The Pregnancy Life Center is a non-profit ministry whose mission is to protect the life of the unborn, offer alternatives to abortion, encourage sexual abstinence outside of marriage, bring people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ, and offer love by providing spiritual, educational, and physical support to those affected by unplanned pregnancy.

On December 8th, St. Mary's School hosted the Bread and Bowl meal for needed people in the Van Wert community at First United Methodist Church. We would like to thank everyone who donated items and helped serve this meal. Below are some pictures of our students, parents and staff working at the Bread and Bowl.



Religious Education Connection

A Meal with the Holy Family

At the time of Jesus, a meal was a sacred time when God's presence was welcomed. Even though people had earned their daily bread, they recognized that God still gave them all they had. The act of welcoming the stranger to home and table goes all the way back to Abraham, and hospitality was an especially important job for a woman. How to prepare and present a meal would reflect on the entire family.

This recipe for Lentil Stew contains ingredients available and often used by a Jewish family at the time of Jesus. The stew would, most likely, be vegetarian unless a family was wealthy. Meat, such as lamb or chicken, would be reserved for visitors or a special occasion. Serve with barley bread. Barley was actually used more often than wheat for bread-making.

Lentil Stew

1. Roughly chop 1/2 C fresh cilantro (coriander)
2. Cut 3 carrots and 3 celery stalks into chunks (include leaves)
3. In a soup pot, heat 2 T olive oil over med. heat.
4. Add 1 large onion, diced, and cook until translucent
5. Add 1 clove crushed garlic and the carrots and celery
6. Sauté until the onion is golden and other veggies caramelize
7. Add 2 C dry lentils and 1/4 C pearl barley
8. Cover with 2 qts vegetable or chicken stock
9. Bring to boil and then reduce to simmer
10. Add the cilantro with 1 1/2 t cumin, 1 t hyssop (or parsley with a touch of mint), 1/2 t sumac, a Middle Eastern spice (or lemon zest or lemon pepper), 1 bay leaf, salt and pepper
11. Cover and let the stew simmer slowly for 1 1/2 to 2 hours, stirring every 30 minutes, until barley is tender and the stew is thickened.

Note: Omit the barley for a thinner soup. Brown rice can be substituted for the barley. Rice is not a biblical-era food but is much better for those with Celiac Disease.



Dec 31 Neil Smith, ED FOX, Charles Brickner,
Jim Brickner, Matt Krol
Jan 4 Neil Smith, ED FOX, Therese Tate,
Mary Kay Stegaman
Jan 7 Ed Fox, JIM BRICKNER, Matt Krol,
Linda Heitkamp

KITCHEN WORKERS Report By 4:30 PM

Dec 31 Ed Fox Family—Volunteers Needed
Jan 4 Theresa Anderson and Anita Smith
Jan 7 Cathy Smith and Sara Berheide

**St. Mary's Bingo—K of C Hall
425 Woodland Ave.**

**Doors open at 4:00 PM for games-
Warm-Up Bingo at 6:15 PM**

ATTENTION BINGO VOLUNTEERS!

We are in need of volunteers to work
bingo on Sunday, December 31st
(New Year's Eve).

If you can help us out, please call the
Joyce Oechsle at 419-203-1545

We are planning a **SUPER BIG** Bingo party on
New Year's Eve this year. Warm-up games will
start at 6:00 PM. Doors will open at 3:30 PM.

We will have one prize for every game - 22 DOOR
PRIZES. Single game winners will receive one
prize each. One of the prizes will be a LARGE
SCREEN TV! Other prizes will vary in value.

Admission packages is the 12 card at \$25. Add-on
package of 6 cards are available for \$7. Guaranteed
coverall payout of \$1000.

RESPONSE TO THE LORD FOR DECEMBER 17, 2017

ADULT OFFERING FROM 130 ENVELOPES	\$7,049.06
TOTAL ANONYMOUS	399.61
CHILDREN OFFERING FROM 11 ENVELOPES	11.50
TOTAL	<u>\$7,460.17</u>

3rd ANNUAL TASTE OF ST. MARY'S February 3, 2018 St. Mary's Gym

Tickets go on sale in January for \$25 each.

Table of 8 - 9 may be reserved.

If you have any questions, please call
Maribeth Dickman.

Special thanks to these sponsors of the Gift
Card raffle:

Jim Brickner	Carol Eickholt
Julia Gauvey	Ann Helm
Mary Kehres	Marilyn Leon
Donna Long	Penny Minick
Pat Pollock	



MARCH FOR LIFE

**LOVE
SAVES LIVES**

FRIDAY JANUARY 19, 2018

All are invited to support
March For Life 2018,
JANUARY 19, 2018 by
walking and or participat-
ing in the **Van Wert**

Community Mini- March For Life 2018. This local
march is sponsored by Van Wert Pregnancy Life
Center and local faith communities. The schedule is as
follows:

11:00 am -- Meet in Fountain Park
11:15 am -- Walk to K of C Hall (Woodland Ave.)
11:30 am -- Lunch (Donations to Pregnancy Life
12:00 pm -- Prayer Service Center)

The Mini-March coincides with the National March for
Life in Washington, D.C. Commemorating the 45th
Anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision to
legalize abortion.

Our vision is a world where every human life is valued
and protected. Tragically 57 million babies have been
lost to abortion since 1973.

Donations of cookies are appreciated. Drop off at K of
C Hall, Friday morning 10 or later. Your support is
greatly appreciated.



John Basinger, Steve Dietrich, Pat Fellers, Stacie Golliver, Connie Hofmann, Jon Jarrett, Megan Klosterman, Kourtney Kohnen, Mariam Lamb, Mary Alice Louagie, Tom Metzger, Joan Miller, Tyler Priest, J R Reinhart, Bob Say, Mary Say, Tom Stachler, Luke Sung, Russ Waltmire, Anne Wells, Bobbie Whittenbarger, Dan Williamson, Bob Wolters

The sick person or a close relative are the only ones who should call to add or remove name(s) to this list.

GOD BLESS OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

Please pray for all those serving in our military: Lance Corp. Josh Bolenbaugh, Capt. Virginia Brickner, Sgt. William (Ed) Carter, Commander Christopher Cavanaugh, 1st Lt. Brian Easley, Lance Corp. Tyler Goodlin, Airman Andrew Hammond, Airman Leisal Hanf-Fleming, MSG Andrew McMahon, CTN2 Quintin Mengerink, Corp. Joseph Moreland, SSgt. Nate Sinning, MSgt. Robert Stant, SRA Ashley Stant, Pvt. Andrew Szymanski, Spec. Jeremy Stevenson, Lt. Commnader Sean Stuart, Spec. R. J. Szymanski, Sgt 1st Class Johnny Vigil, and Sgt. Brian Wilson. Please submit to the Parish Office names of parishioners who are currently serving in the armed forces.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Sunday, December 31st—7:00 pm
&
Monday, January 1st—9:30 am



OFFERTORY ENVELOPES READY!

Please pick up YOUR offertory envelopes in the hall between the gym and chapel. If you didn't receive envelopes and would like to, please contact Angie in the Parish Office at 419-238-3979

NEW YEAR'S



Youth Group News

The next meeting for the Youth Group will be this Wednesday, January 3rd at 6:45 pm in the Holy Family Room. All High School students are welcome!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

***The next study will begin on Thursday, January 4th at 9:30 am (following Mass). The study will focus on Symbolon on the Formed website. This will also be available on Thursday evenings with Deacon Andy.



A big THANK YOU to our good friends at Brickners, Cowan & Sons & Alspach-Gearhart for providing our parish with the beautiful calendars for 2018. May God bless all of us in this New Year!

Readings for the Week of December 31, 2017

Sunday: Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9, [7a, 8a] or Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Monday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

Tuesday: 1 Jn 2:22-28/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [3cd]/Jn 1:19-28

Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:29--3:6/Ps 98:1, 3cd-4, 5-6 [3cd]/Jn 1:29-34

Thursday: 1 Jn 3:7-10/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [3cd]/Jn 1:35-42

Friday: 1 Jn 3:11-21/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5 [2a]/Jn 1:43-51

Saturday: 1 Jn 5:5-13/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12a]/Mk 1:7-11 or Lk 3:23-38 or 3:23, 31-34, 36, 38

Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12



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