

December—2019

# ST. CLARE CHAPEL

60 Compton Road ▪ Cincinnati, OH ▪ 45215

513-761-9040

[www.franciscansistersofthepoor.org](http://www.franciscansistersofthepoor.org)

All Are Welcome!

Sunday Liturgy—10:00 am

Weekday Liturgy—8:00 am

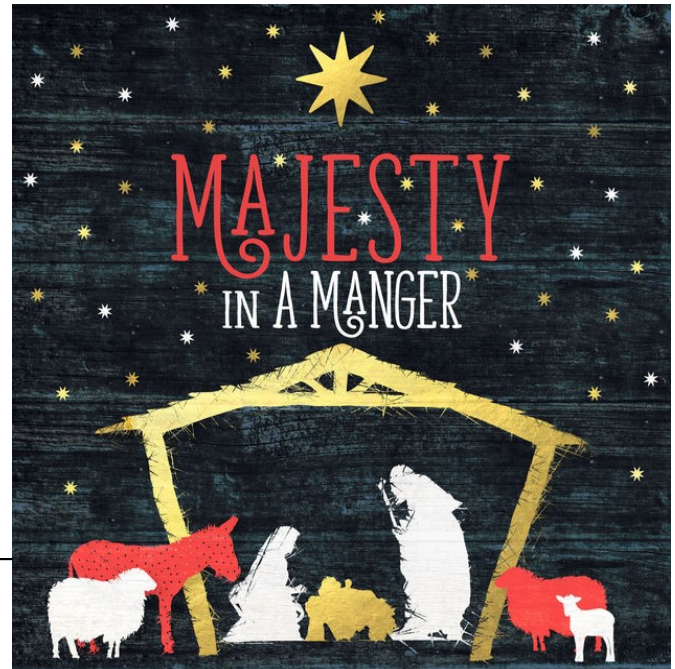
Celebrant—Fr. Frank Jasper & Guest Celebrants

The weekday Liturgy schedule may change during the month.

Please, check the daily schedule in the back of the Chapel.

Or on our website at: [www.franciscansistersofthepoor.org](http://www.franciscansistersofthepoor.org)

Adoration: First Friday of the Month 8:30 am—11:00 am



St. Clare Chapel Bulletin is published the first Sunday of the month.

If you'd like a copy email: [Office@FranciscanSistersofthePoor.org](mailto:Office@FranciscanSistersofthePoor.org)  
or call 513-761-9040 X-101

## Advent Reflection

Join us on Facebook  
as we journey to Bethlehem  
together with

**Advent**

**Scriptural Visual Reflections**

created by

**Sr. Marilyn Trowbridge.**

New posts will land  
every Sunday and Wednesday  
beginning today, December 1st.  
Prepare your heart and soul for the  
coming of our Savior,  
Jesus Christ.  
The journey awaits us!

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, December 6th

8:30 AM—11:00 AM



## The Gift That Keeps On Giving

In many ways gift giving has changed dramatically within our lifetime. In our high tech world of e-commerce, a family member's "Wish List" can land in our inbox and with a few "clicks" their gifts will be delivered within 24 hours. Although easy and convenient, I find it depersonalizes and commodifies the gift giving process. On a more positive note it takes the guesswork out of shopping for others, guarantees satisfaction and eliminates gifting (yes, now a verb) anxiety attacks.

Some people have a natural knack for picking out wonderful gifts—a book that delights, a scarf that adorns, a kitchen gadget that saves time. Others of us

worry, as we put the last presents under the tree, whether we have chosen well. Will he like the shirt? (Maybe.) Will she wear the earrings? (Possibly.) What will they think of the wine glasses? (Hard to know.)

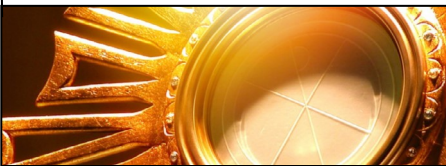
There is, of course, one perfect Christmas gift: the Christ child, borne into the world by the power of the Most High and the gracious fiat of a young peasant girl. Majestically divine, miraculously human, he is "God with us," Immanuel. And he will remain with us, not just at Christmas but until the end of the age. For the promise of God's presence among us is the most enduring promise of the Scriptures.

To Jacob by the ladder, to Moses by the burning bush, to Joshua at the boundary of the promised land, to the disciples, God's message is the same: "Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go." This ancient assurance is meant for us, too: When we struggle with challenging circumstances or steel ourselves to accept an unwanted responsibility or see our plans thwarted, our Lord comforts us: "Do not fear, for I am with you." So much does God love this messy, imperfect world that he chose to enter into human history and to abide with us forever.

What can we give him? As the old hymn tells us, in gratitude for God's wondrous gift, we can offer only one thing: our hearts. May the desire to love and serve Him become our guiding star, this throughout this season of advent and forever.

*Advent Prayer: Loving and gracious Lord, As each holy night of Advent approaches, we thank you for the perfect gift of Christ Jesus, who casts his everlasting light upon the world. May we forever live in presence of the light and love of Christ and generously share His light with all we encounter. Amen.*

Excerpt and Adaptation from America Magazine—Elizabeth Kirkland Cahill



**HOLY  
HOUR  
FOR HOPE  
+ HEALING**

Friday, December 6th

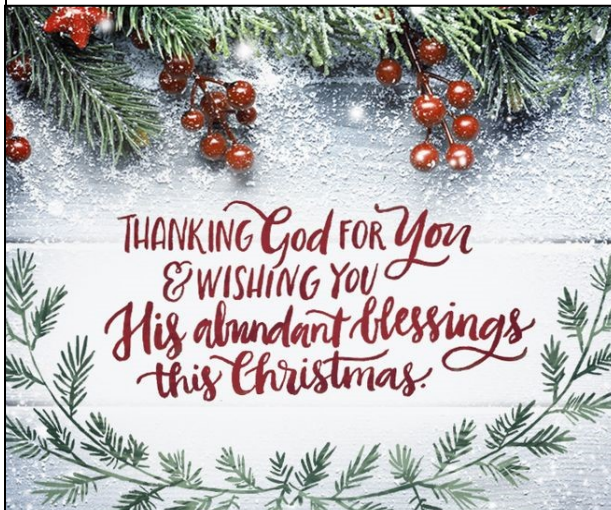
11:00 AM





The 85-foot-tall spruce tree comes from the Veneto region in northeast Italy and another 20 smaller trees will be donated by communities in the region's province of Vicenza. About 40 trees will be replanted in an area in the northeast that had been seriously damaged by severe hurricane-like winds and torrential rains in late 2018.

As our Congregational Leadership Team meets now in Rome, our Sisters will be present for the blessings and lighting of the Vatican Christmas tree.



## Centering Prayer

**TUESDAYS—DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>, 10<sup>TH</sup>, 17<sup>TH</sup>**

**3:30 PM**

**Peace Center—Garden Room**

**Facilitator—Sr. JoAnn Jackowski**

**513-761-9040 Ext. 156**

## St. Clare Chapel

**Congratulations to all those celebrating Christmas engagements!**



**Is there a wedding in your future?  
Contact our Wedding Coordinator**

**Mary Langenbrunner**

**Call 761-9040 Ext-176**

**Weddings@FranciscanSistersofthePoor.org**

## Sister's Corner Gift Shoppe

**Sunday, December 15th**

**Immediately After 10:00 AM Liturgy**

**Peace Center**

Handmade wearables, cards  
and various food goodies.

**A portion of all sales goes to our ministries!**



## Christmas Tree Blessing

The use of the Christmas tree is relatively modern. Its origins are found in the medieval mystery plays that depicted the tree of paradise and the Christmas light or candle that symbolized Christ, the Light of the world. According to custom, the Christmas tree is set up just before Christmas and may remain in place until the Solemnity of Epiphany. The lights of the tree are illuminated after the prayer of blessing.

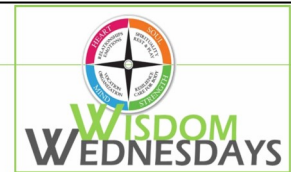
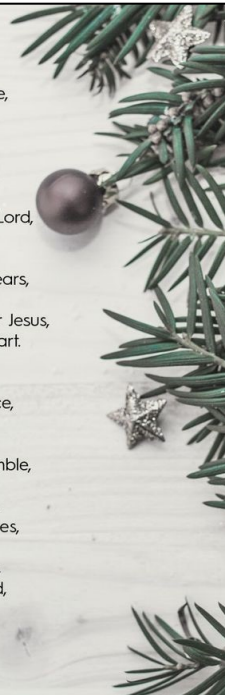
In the home the Christmas tree may be blessed by a parent or another family member, in connection with the evening meal on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time on Christmas Day.

Lord our God,  
we praise you for the light of creation:  
the sun, the moon, and the stars of the night.  
We praise you for the light of Israel:  
the Law, the prophets, and the wisdom of the Scriptures.  
We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Son:  
he is Emmanuel, God-with-us, the Prince of Peace,  
who fills us with the wonder of your love.

Lord God,  
let your blessing come upon us as we illumine this tree.  
May the light and cheer it gives be a sign of the joy that fills our hearts.  
May all who delight in this tree come to the knowledge and joy of Christ.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Dear loving Lord,  
You didn't come,  
To a perfect world.  
You came to a people,  
Full of complexity,  
And confusion.  
Your birth itself,  
Surrounded by conflict,  
Doubt and fear.  
You came humbly, oh Lord,  
Born of a virgin,  
To a simple family,  
To walk a journey of tears,  
And glory.  
Now come again, dear Jesus,  
Come to my fragile heart.  
Let my heart be,  
Your manger.  
Prepare that quiet place,  
Where peace and joy,  
Are born again.  
O Lord, Let me be humble,  
Receiving and giving,  
your ever-loving mercy.  
May my soul sing praises,  
To only You.  
For You alone are holy,  
You alone are the Lord,  
The Most High,  
Jesus Christ!  
In your sacred name,  
Amen.



**Wednesday, January 8, 2020**

**6:30 PM—8:00 PM**

**St. Clare Campus —Schervier Hall**

**60 Compton Road, 45215**

**513-761-9040 Ext. 101**

**Email: office@franciscansistersofthepoor.org**

## TRUSTING BODY, MIND & SPIRIT JULIE MURRAY

Julie will share some of the principles and learnings her years in private practice as a holistic Spiritual Director have offered her about the unity of the human person as a unique mystery of the body-mind-emotion-spirit unity.  
She will offer participants actual experiences of that unity which participants may take with them to enrich their own sense of themselves to support their desires for deeper awareness and health on every level of their being.



**The Franciscan  
Peddler  
Thrift Store**

**Closed December 27 & 28**

**OPEN:**

**FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS**

**10:00 am—4:00 pm**

**DROP off 24/7 - Gently Used  
CLOTHES • HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

**Dock located next to Convent Parking**



**CHRISTMAS ITEMS**

**Friday, December 6 thru**

**Saturday, December 21**

**Great Deals Each Week!**

