

TWO DISTINCTIVE OPPORTUNITIES TO WITNESS TO OUR FAITH –

This coming Friday, December 8th, the Church invites and directs us to celebrate the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of our Blessed Mother. On this occasion, the Church highlights that God equipped Mary for the most awesome and challenging role that she was to play in the life of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. As the Patronal Feast of our country, this Solemnity is a Holy Day of Obligation. This means that in the eyes of the Church, it is as important for us to gather for Mass on this occasion as it is to come to Mass each weekend.

THE MASS SCHEDULE FOR THIS OCCASION IS AS FOLLOWS: on Thurs., Dec. 7th, at St. Mary Parish at 7:00 p.m.; on Fri., Dec. 8th, at St. Mary Parish at 9:00 a.m. (with the School Community), and at Resurrection Parish at 7:00 p.m. Coming to Mass for this Solemnity is counter-cultural. Most other Christian faith communities do not observe this special occasion. What a powerful witness we can offer to one another and to non-Catholic persons as we make the special effort that may be needed to come to Mass this coming Thurs. evening or on Friday! Besides coming to Mass, it is important that we share with others why we do this.

Even though I am not Jewish, as a high school student, I was deeply impressed by the witness that a fellow student, who is Jewish, gave to his faith in God. This student, whose name is Larry Kaluzny, was a star football player on our school's team. There was a school assembly to honor our football team. Larry was excused from attending school that day, including the honors' assembly for the football team, because on that day, the Jewish Faith was observing a High Holy Day. Larry chose to be with his family at his synagogue on that day rather than be honored with the rest of our school's football team. What a powerful testimony he thus gave for the rest of us in regard to his faith in the presence and working of God in his life.

As Catholics, we have an opportunity to witness along this line to the Faith that we profess. By shaking ourselves loose from what we might otherwise be doing by coming to Mass this coming Thurs. evening or Friday, we are sowing seeds in the lives of persons who are hungering for a meaningful faith in our Lord.

Next Sunday, December 10th, Resurrection Parish is to host the annual Mansfield Area Tri-Parish Advent Communal Penance Service at 2:30 p.m. Five priests plan to be present to assist with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. What a wonderful role the celebration of this Sacrament can play in our lives as we prepare to celebrate our Savior's Birth.

All of us want to give the best that we have to offer for the persons about whom we care. At times, we can be down upon ourselves because we simply don't have the money to buy what we would want to give to our loved ones. As we allow ourselves to personally receive the Lord's forgiveness for those specific ways in which we have hurt Him, others, ourselves and the environment as this is offered in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are set free to become the best version of ourselves. As we grow in this way, on the one hand, we will not be mastered by demands and pressures of this season that could otherwise overwhelm and drain us. On the other hand, we will grow in the ability to be there for others as the Lord wants this to happen. What a meaningful and beautiful setting this offers for all other expressions of generosity that we extend to others.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Fr. Nelson Beaver – Pastor

Please keep Judy Simon and her family in your prayers. Judy's husband Gary passed away November 23rd. May he rest in peace of Christ.

Bernardo Fernandez passed away on November 23rd. Please keep his wife Delores and their family in your prayers. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

THE CONFIRMATION CLASS will meet from 5-8:15 pm this Sunday, December 3rd. Students please bring your workbook and folder. We will begin with pizza in the cafeteria at 5 pm sharp.

THERE WILL NOT BE A DECEMBER MEETING FOR SOCIAL CONCERNS.

THE K of C will meet in the rectory this Tuesday, December 5th, at 7:00 pm.

The Altar Rosary Society's annual Christmas dinner will take place on Monday, December 4th at the Skyway East. Social time begins at 6 pm followed by a buffet dinner at 6:30 pm. The cost is \$10. Please contact Kathy Adams no later than December 3rd, by phone or text to 419-989-8513, to make your reservation.

COLLEGE THANK YOU NOTES: Thank you all so much for the cookies and candy! Getting something around Halloween was great. I really appreciate it, **Sam Mancha**. A fun surprise came in the mail. Thank you for the cookies and goodies, **Susan Kempf**. Thank you so much for thinking of me and sending me the package! **Isabelle Mancha**.

Christmas Flowers: Donations can now be made toward the Christmas flowers that will decorate our Church for Christmas and throughout the Christmas season. Envelopes are located at both the main and organ door locations. You may designate your donation in memory of a loved one or as a gift to the infant Jesus and the Holy Family.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: Due to early transmission for Christmas, due dates for articles in the bulletin will be as follows: For December 24th, items will need to be submitted by Thursday, December 14. For December 31st, items will need to be submitted by Wednesday, December 20th.

Kindly remember in prayer all our Priests serving in the Diocese of Toledo, as they gather on Monday, December 4th for the annual Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests, at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey. Through our prayers, may the Lord grant them many blessings.

CATHOLIC WOMENS CLUB: The next luncheon will be Wednesday, December 13, 2017. Luncheon will be at Brown Derby Road House in Ontario. Luncheon will start at 12 pm. All Catholic Women in the St. Juan Diego Deanery are invited. If you are new, we encourage you to join us and get to know the Catholic women in the area. Please call Carol Sgambellone at 419-529-2758 or 419-632-5839, or call JoAnn Jerger at 567-274-7954. Reservations should be made by December 8, 2017, before 12 noon. We are looking forward to meeting new members.

Our annual Polish Christmas Eve dinner, in Polish Wigilia, will be held on Saturday, December 9 after the 4:00 PM Mass in the Saint Adalbert School Hall, corner of Lagrange and E. Oakland Streets in Toledo's Polish International Village. In the true Polish tradition, we will serve a meatless dinner serving foods from the fields, forests and waters. We will feature fish, beet soup, meatless gołabki and pierogi among other items! There will be opłatki, prayers, Christmas carols (Kolędy) and a performance by the Echoes of Poland. Please join us for this celebration of our Lord's coming. There will be no charge but any free-will donation you wish to make will be accepted. Reservations **MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE** as seating is limited and must be made no later than **Sunday, December 3** by calling Jim at 419.509.8050.



ALTAR ROSARY MINI CHRISTMAS SALE

(With items donated after the fall sale)

DEC. 9th & 10th

In the cafeteria after the Masses

Proceeds to benefit St. Mary's students

Mohican Outdoor School Fund



CHRISTMAS GARLAND

CHRISTMAS DÉCOR

CRAFT ITEMS

NEW ITEMS

TREES

WREATHS

AMISH OAK HUTCH





December Church Events

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

NOTE

****12-31-17****

Pork-Sauerkraut

Dinner after

11:00 am Mass

The Parish Office will be closed from Friday December 22 through Thursday December 28th

1 9 am Mass
24 hour Exposition & Adoration to follow 10 am to 10 am Saturday

2 Exposition & Adoration until 10:00 am
3-3:30 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

3 YFC 9-10:45 am

9:45-10:45 RCIA

11:00 am Mass

4 Altar Rosary

6:00 pm Social time

6:30 pm Dinner at Skyway East

5 1:30 pm Mass at Mifflin Care

7 pm K of C mtg in rectory

6 7 pm HSC penance service in church and 2nd graders First Penance Celebration

7 9:30 AM Mass at Lex Ct

7 pm Vigil Mass Immaculate Conception
8 pm Contemporary Group Practice

8 9 am Mass Feast of the Immaculate Conception

7 pm Mass at Resurrection

9 10 am -noon High School Touching Safety Class

3-3:30 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

10 YFC 9-10:45 am

9:45-10:45 RCIA

10-10:45 am

Adult Scripture

11:00 am Mass

Tri-Parish Penance

2:30 at Resurrection

11

12

13

1:00 PM School Advent Penance Service

14 6 pm Penance service at St. Francis Xavier, Willard

2 pm Mass at Country Meadows
7 pm Contemporary Group Practice

15

9 am Mass

16

3-3:30 pm Confessions
4:00 pm Mass

17 9 am Family Faith in Church

9:30 continues in the cafeteria

9:45-10:45 am RCIA

17 CONTINUED

Donuts after Mass

3 pm Advent Penance Service at Shelby Most Pure Heart of Mary

19 12:15 PM Senior Citizen Lunch

2 pm Mass at Primrose

20 7:00 PM Advent Penance Service at Crestline St. Joe's

7 pm Contemporary Group Practice

21

22 9 am Mass after Mass Confessions until all are heard

23 3-3:30 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

11:00 am Mass

9 am Mass

4th Sunday in Advent

4 pm Christmas Eve Mass

10 pm Christmas Eve Mass

see above for 12-31

6-8:15 pm HSC

9 am Mass



26 6:30 pm Confessions until all are heard

Office closed



27 7 pm Contemporary Group Practice

Office closed

28

Office closed

29 9 am Mass

3 pm Decorate the church

30 3-3:30 pm Confessions

4:00 pm Mass

December

SCHOOL EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 5pm - 8:15pm Confirmation Class	4 3:15-4:15pm Girl Scouts 5pm 5/6 BB game at Malabar	5 1:30pm Grades 3 & 4 Miffiin Care Mass	6 St. Nicholas Day BB Practice 3:15-4:30pm 3/4 gr. 5-6pm 5/6 grade 7pm First Penance for 2nd Graders	7 7:15am Faculty Mtg. 2:30pm Ontario Bus Early release 5:30pm 3/4 BB game at Malabar	8 9am School Mass (4) Adoration until 6pm INTERIM REPORTS	9
10	11 5:15-6:30pm 6pm 5/6 BB game at Malabar	12 3:15-4:30pm 3/4 Basketball Practice	13 1pm Advent Penance Service 6:30pm PK - 8th Christmas Program	14 School Nurse In Adopted Grandparents 1:45-2:30pm Gr. 3/4 6:30pm 3/4 BB game	15 Kris Kringle Cards 9am School Mass (1/2) 5-6pm 5/6 BB practice	16
17	18 Spelling Bee Dress Down Day 11-12:30pm School Staff Luncheon 7pm 5/6 BB game at Malabar	19 Wear Christmas Spirit dress down 10am Christmas Caroling Oak Grove 12:15 Senior Luncheon 2:30pm Ontario Bus Early release	20 NO SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK	21 NO SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK	22 Kris Kringle Gifts Due Kris Kringle Cards	23
24	25 Merry Christmas 9am Mass	26 NO SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK	27 NO SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK	28 NO SCHOOL CHRISTMAS BREAK	29	30
31 Bring on the NEW YEAR!						



DECEMBER MISSIONS: COLLECT HATS & MITTENS/GLOVES. LOVE TREE TAGS FOR FAMILIES IN NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY



Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.

Elderly religious need your help. The religious pictured here represent more than 32,000 senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests living in the United States. Through prayer, love, and sacrifice, they established Catholic schools, hospitals, and more. Yet years of serving for little or no pay have left a shortage in retirement funding. Your gift helps their religious communities furnish necessities such as medications and nursing care. It also helps ensure younger members can continue the good works of their elders. Please be generous.

“My sister was to be a nun, and I was to be a mother,” says Notre Dame Sister Mary Ann Hanson (foreground), 79, “but God had other plans.” For 61 years, she has joyfully followed those plans. Today, she remains active by visiting the sick and knitting blankets for children rescued from human trafficking.

Roughly 94 percent of donations aid senior religious.
retiredreligious.org

To give at your parish: Make your check payable to your parish. (Write RFR on the memo line.)

To donate by mail: Make your check payable to Retirement Fund for Religious. Please do not mail cash.

Please check with your employer about matching gifts.

Amount: \$1,000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

E-mail address (for e-newsletters) _____

(Arch)diocese _____

National Religious Retirement Office
 3211 Fourth Street NE
 Washington DC 20017-1194
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 Fax (202) 541-3053



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