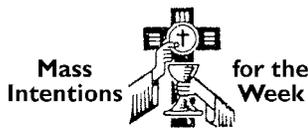


Holy Spirit Church

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2013



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, November 30,
Vigil Mass of the First Sunday of Advent
 5:30 p.m. Joe Rath (The Rath Family)

Sunday, December 1, First Sunday of Advent
 Readings: 1:Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-9/Rom 13:11-14/
 Mt 24:37-44

11:00 a.m. Antonio & Rose Battaglia & Family
 (Iulianelli Family)

Monday, December 2
 Readings: 175: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-9/Mt 8:5-11

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Philip

Tuesday, December 3, St. Francis Xavier
 Readings: 176: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
 Lk 10:21-24

8:15 a.m. Fortnatus Jones (Jestina Jones)

Wednesday, December 4, St. John Damascene
 Readings: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-6/Mt 15:29-37

8:30 a.m. William Usnick (Dininni Family)

Thursday, December 5
 Readings: 178: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25, 27a/
 Mt 7:21, 24-27

9:00 a.m. Mass at St. Philip

Friday, December 6, St. Nicholas
 Readings: 179: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

8:15 a.m. Charlotte Braun (The Nader Family)

Saturday, December 7,
Vigil Mass of the Second Sunday of Advent
 5:30 p.m. Ann Puskar (The Baptism Group)

Sunday, December 8, Second Sunday of Advent
 Readings: 4: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/
 Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12

11:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Bishop Hartley
Class of 1971 (Joe and Margaret Selegue)

Remember in your prayers those who have been hospitalized or are ill, especially Edward Chamberlain, Ed Podolski and Mimi Moore.



Baptisms: We welcome these new members to Holy Spirit Parish:

Lucia Daniella Garcia
 Daughter of William and Maria Garcia
 And
Jaylynn Emma Antonio
 Daughter of Enmanuel Antonio and Jennie Velasquez
 And
Nathaniel Griffin Maysey
 Son of James and Kelly Maysey

Volunteers Needed. The Advent Wreath will be blessed and the candles lit at the end of the Prayers of the Faithful during each one of our weekend liturgies during Advent. At each Mass, we need families or a group of individuals to assist in this part of the Mass. Instructions will be given on this procedure. Please look for the sign-up sheet in the back of the church.

From the Pastor's Desk....

The Spiritual dimension of Advent can certainly get lost and drop from sight. The culture surrounding Christmas has become smothering and overwhelming, partly for reasons of appealing warmth and sparkle, partly due to the irresistible drive of commercialism and shopping. Added to that, I believe, is a pervasive sense of impatience among people in general, perfectly described by fast food, microwaves, instant messaging, and all forms of fast (yet friendly) delivery.

Advent really does not seem to stand a chance. A spiritual season that stresses waiting, watchfulness, and unrushed preparation cannot seem to compete. The latest victim in the mad dash to Christmas is Thanksgiving Day itself. Once reserved for a grand meal of thanks in the company of family, always preceded by televised parades and followed by football and naps, it has been swallowed up. Seasonal encroachment has been fully embraced by business interests, eager to rechristen the holiday in the name of shopping, terrific bargains, and the opening gun at the starting line (front door) of Wal-Mart, Macy's and Target stores everywhere.

I come back to the lost spiritual voice of Advent. It is precisely this tidal wave like the rush and crush of a stampeding commercial season that the Gospel speaks to today. The coming day of the Lord is so transformative of all prevailing conditions that everyone and everything is caught off guard. People will be eating and drinking, shopping and traveling, celebrating and singing. We become totally absorbed in the goings on around us. Then, suddenly, the Lord appears. It is His appearance we hope and pray for during Advent. Will we be prepared or caught off guard? Advent has begun!

Have a good week!
 Fr. Bill Arnold

Grief Support Gathering: The Grief Support Gathering will be meeting on Tuesday, December 3, 2013, at 7:00 p.m., in the Holy Spirit Day Chapel. This is for adults who are grieving the death of a loved one. Being in a supportive atmosphere with others during this holiday season who are also experiencing grief can be a way of getting through the holidays. For further information, please contact Sister Joan at the parish office.

Sacrament of Penance before Christmas: Advent seems to come and go quickly. Look ahead in your calendar and prepare to receive the Sacrament of Penance (Confession) in preparation for Christmas. This is an excellent way to heed the message of John the Baptist: "Prepare the way of the Lord." Listed here are a few scheduled opportunities to receive the Sacrament before Christmas:

Monday, December 9 - Penance Service at St. Pius in Reynoldsburg at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 15 - Penance Service at Holy Spirit at 2:00 p.m.

Private Confession Times will be listed next week



Advent Bible Study: The Advent season is a time of preparation, to direct our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming and also to the celebration of the Lord's birth on Christmas. Our Advent Bible Study will focus on the infancy narratives of Matthew and Luke and explore the many connections these two Gospels make with the Old Testament. The three-week series will take place from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on December 2nd, 9th, and 16th. All three sessions will be held in the Holy Spirit Parish Office. For more information, contact Mark Butler at 614-861-1521.

Thank you from St. Vincent de Paul: Because of the generosity of our parishioners, this past Sunday we were able to help 101 families with food to make a Thanksgiving meal, a bag of apples and gift cards to help them purchase a few items. The youth of our parish also gave of their time and effort during the distribution and contributed baked goods for the families to take home. Through this drive, we helped families who come regularly to our pantry as well as families who have never needed our help before. They are our neighbors. Most of all they are loved by God and deserving of our help. Thanks to all of you for your generosity.



- ❖ **Monday, December 2** - Bible Study from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Parish Office.
- ❖ **Tuesday, December 3** - Market Day orders due
- ❖ **Wednesday, December 4** - RCIA from 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Parish Office
- ❖ **Wednesday, December 4** - Choir Practice at 7:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Thursday, December 5** - Bell Choir Practice at 6:00 p.m.
- ❖ **Saturday, December 7** - Market Day pick-up in the Parish Hall from 9:00-10:00 a.m.
- ❖ **Sunday, December 8** - Baptism Class at 12:30 p.m. in the Parish Office



Whitehall Community Kids' Christmas: The "Giving Tree" is now up and adorned with many ornaments. The ornaments on the tree represent the children in Whitehall who Holy Spirit Parish has adopted to help make the Giving Season of Christmas possible. Holy Spirit has joined with other faith communities in Whitehall and adopted 25 out of 225 children. These gifts consist primarily of necessities such as clothing and shoes, but also a few toys as well. Please consider taking an ornament (or two) from the "Giving Tree" and purchase these items. Please do not wrap any of the gifts, but securely attach the ornament onto the gift before placing it back under the tree no later than December 10. Your generosity will be rewarded. If you have any questions, call Mrs. Kathie Rath at 861-1521.

Happy Spirits and Silver Stars will be holding their Christmas gathering on Thursday, December 5 at 1:30 p.m., in Holy Spirit's Church Hall. Ham and scalloped potatoes will be furnished, please bring a dish to share! All are welcome!

Parish Offertory Summary: November 23 & 24

Offertory Envelopes (151)	\$6,032.85
Loose Offerings	\$ 304.18
St. Vincent de Paul (18)	\$ 437.00
Thanksgiving (9)	\$ 117.00
Military Service Envelope (3)	\$ 45.00
Campaign for Human Development (12)	\$ 139.00
Campaign for Human Development Cash	\$ 5.00
Christmas Flowers (1)	\$ 15.00
Candles	\$ 54.41
Total Contributions	\$7,149.44

Thank you very much for your support of Holy Spirit Parish.
Your generosity is very much appreciated.
Your contributions help keep our finances strong.
May God reward your generosity.

Holy Spirit School News:



- **Monday, December 2-Sunday, December 8** - Book Fair begins!
- **Tuesday, December 3** - Spelling Bee at 1:15 p.m.
- **Wednesday, December 4** - All-School Liturgy at 8:30 a.m.
- **Friday, December 6** - St. Nicholas Day
- **Friday, December 6** - 2nd quarter Interims go home today
- **Sunday, December 8** - Winter Carnival!

**Youth Encountering Life and Liturgy
Upcoming Events**



- **December 4** - Theology of the Body for High School students. Please meet in the school gym from 7:00-8:00 p.m.
- **December 10** - Visit the Nativity Scene at the State Auto Building (more details to come).

Winter Carnival! Holy Spirit Mothers' Club invites you to the annual Winter Carnival on Sunday, December 8, 2013, in the school from 12:30 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. Come and enjoy lunch provided by O'Charleys (dine in or take away), the Book Fair, the baskets raffle, Mothers' Club pantry and bake sale, games and prizes for the children, entertainment, a Secret Santa preview and more!



Bakers Needed! The Mothers' Club needs home-baked goods to fill their pantry for the Winter Carnival! Drop your goodies off in the school gym on Saturday, December 7, between 12:00-2:00 p.m.

All types of baked goods are needed, including sugar-free and gluten-free goodies! Winter Carnival, which is Mothers' Club's biggest fund raiser, is Sunday, December 8, from 12:15 until 4:00 p.m. throughout the school.

St. Philip the Apostle Choir will present a beautiful program of "Carols and Readings" on Sunday, December 15, 2013, at 4:00 p.m. Come and join us and give yourself a gift of reflection on hearing the sounds and joy of the season.

Columbus Faith Communities against Violence is having their next gathering on December 8, 2013, at 6:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church, located at 93 W. Weisheimer Road, to pray for those victims of gun violence in the Central Ohio area. All are welcome.

Show Appreciation and Thanks please support our bulletin advertisers. They make our weekly bulletin possible. This weekend, our featured Advertiser is: **Dryer Vent Wizard**

Christmas Flower Memorials: Christmas flowers are placed in the sanctuary each year in memory of deceased family and friends. **A minimum contribution of \$15.00** is asked for up to three names. Envelopes are included in your packets or you may use the form below. Place your contribution in the weekly collection by December 9, 2013. A list of names and donors will be published in the Christmas bulletin.

Christmas Flower Memorial	
(Please print information below)	
In Memory of _____	

Offered by _____	
Donation Amount \$ _____	