CHRISTMAS 2023 **DELATE ONEARTH**

Holy Spirit Parish 4383 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43213 614-861-1521 www.holyspiritcolumbus.org Holy Spirit Church Fourth Sunday of Advent The Nativity of the Lord December 24, 2023

Saturday, December 23 – Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent
Readings: 199: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 / Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 8-10, 14/
Lk 1:57-66
4:00 p.m. Mass – Shawn Patrick Head (Allen Head)

Sunday, December 24 – *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

Readings:11: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a / Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 / Rom 16:25-27 / Lk 1:26-38

9:00 a.m. Mass – For the People of Holy Spirit Parish

Sunday, December 24 – Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord
Readings: 13: Is 62:1-5 / Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 /
Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 / Mt 1:1-25
4:00 p.m. Mass – Thomas Sapp (Valario & Maria Tata)
8:00 p.m. Mass – Robert Dininni (Family)

Monday, December 25 – *The Nativity of the Lord* Readings: 16: Is 52:7-10 / Ps 98:1-6 / Heb 1:1-6 / Jn 1:1-18 11:00 a.m. Mass – Christine Krites (Jean Lutterbein)

Tuesday, December 26 – *St. Stephen, the First Martyr* Readings: 696: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 / Ps 31:3cd-4, 8ab, 16bc-17 / Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday, December 27 – *St. John, Apostle* Readings: 697: 1 Jn 1:1-4 / Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 / Jn 20:1a, 2-8 9:00 a.m. Mass – Jim Moehrman, Sr. (Lorrie Moehrman & Family)

 Thursday, December 28 – The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

 Readings: 698: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2 / Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8 / Mt 2:13-18

 9:00 a.m.
 Mass – Robert Udeck (Dr. Joy Blackett)

 Friday, December 29 – St. Thomas Becket

 Readings: 202: 1 Jn 2:3-11 / Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6 / Lk 2:22-35

 9:00 a.m.
 Mass – Carl Jura (Parish Gift Mass)

Saturday, December 30 – Vigil of the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph
Readings: 203: 1 Jn 2:12-17 / Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 / Lk 2:36-40
4:00 p.m. Mass – Frank & Eleanor Wirth (Dominico & Lynn Cervi)

Sunday, December 31 – Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Readings: 17: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 / Ps 128:1-5 / Col 12-21/ Lk 2:22-40

9:00 a.m. Mass – Antonio & Rosa Battaglia (Catherine Iulianelli)

11:00 a.m. Mass – For the People of Holy Spirit Parish



From the Pastor's Desk...

"For unto us a child will be born, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on his shoulders; and his name will be called wonderful counselor, and prince of peace." (Isaiah 9:6)

We are all in need of Jesus the Prince of Peace this Christmas more than ever. Looking at the things happening all over the world, the war in Ukraine, Russia; war in Palestine and Israel; the ongoing tension in some parts of the Middle East. The lives of the people are at stake. People are frightened, anxious, and worried. Similarly, there are also places where people are struck by natural disasters. In the midst of all this chaos, we need the Prince of Peace to comfort us.

In the darkness of their night, in their poverty, confusion, anxiety and fear, the shepherds were told, "Do not be afraid." When they saw the Baby Jesus, their fear vanished. They were filled with joy and peace.

Troubled by the political, sociological, economical, familial problems of life? Jesus, the Prince of Peace is the cure to all our problems. Let us receive Him in our lives and in turn be the messengers of peace to others.

> Have a peace-filled Christmas! Fr. Veevin Richard



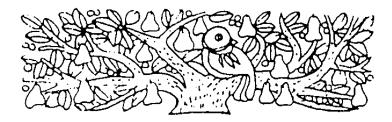
OFFICE CLOSED: Holy Spirit Parish Office will be closed on December 25th and 26th, for the Christmas holiday. The offices will reopen on Wednesday, December 27, 2023.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Almighty God and Father of light, a child is born for us and a son is given to us. Your eternal Word leaped down from heaven in the silent watches of the night, and now Your Church is filled with wonder at the nearness of her God. Open our hearts to receive His life and increase our vision with the rising of dawn, that our lives may be filled with His glory and His peace, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

The Nativity of the Lord

O God, who wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and still more wonderfully restored it, grant, we pray, that we may share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled Himself to share in our humanity. Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.



Christmas Catholic Charities Collection: This collection is for a variety of diocesan agencies and organizations, including J.O.I.N. (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs), St. Stephen's Community House, Catholic Social Services, St. Francis Center, St. Lawrence Haven, St. Vincent Family Center, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. You can share in this important work by generously supporting the Catholic Charities collection this year. Envelopes are in your packet.



New Mass Times at Holy Spirit:The Mass/Confession schedule at Holy Spirit is as follows:Saturday:Confessions at 3:00 p.m.Mass at 4:00 p.m.Mass at 4:00 p.m.Sunday:Mass at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.Monday:Mass at 9:00 a.m.Wednesday:Mass at 8:15 a.m. (school liturgy)

Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Mass at 9:00 a.m.

Thursday:

Friday:

Due to the printer's publishing deadline, the collection totals for December 16/17 will be published in the next bulletin.





Holy Spirit School teachers, staff, and students wish all of you a very Merry Christmas! Our Savior is born! May all of you enjoy this beautiful season of the Church with your loved ones this year.

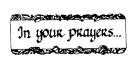
Thank you for your continuous prayers and support! - Miss Kathy Costello, Principal



2023 Annual Campaign for Holy Spirit School:

Holy Spirit School is turning to its parents, friends, and supporters in the 2023 Gift to the Spirit Annual Campaign. This year, our Parish School celebrates its 72nd Anniversary in the Whitehall Community. We are proud of the education we provide. We must, however, always update and modernize our facilities. Our project for the 2023-2024 academic year is to continue the process of upgrading security in our school building and surrounding property. We know that you share our great concern for the safety of our students! We would appreciate your prayerful consideration. Envelopes are in the back of the church. Please help us in meeting the challenges ahead! Thank you.

Mass Intention Requests: We have many openings in the Mass Intention schedule for 2024. If you would like to request a Mass Intention, please submit it in writing with the suggested stipend (\$10.00 per Mass) to the parish office. You may also put your request in the collection basket. Requests will not be taken by phone.



Please remember in your prayers all the sick, homebound, or recovering in our parish, especially Ned Braun, Carole Brill, Sia & Sasha Castle,

Bernie Comer, Lu & Bob Cudak, Dorothy Deems, Judy Dick, Carol Eisenhart, Anne Hill, Joann Huffman, Steve & Nancy Sagle, and Ron Scherer.





CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL HOLY SPIRIT CHURCH

Contributions were made for the Christmas Flowers, In Memory of Individuals, Families, or Special Intentions.



In Loving Memory/Honor of... Mr. & Mrs. Charles Arends and Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Mendes by Mr. & Mrs. Michael Arends Attilio Iulianelli and Quintino Alderina Nardis by Dr. & Mrs. Carmine Nardis Paul Jurkowitz, Bobbi Gill, and Fr. Ron Atwood by Carolyn Jurkowitz The Fish and Kitsmiller Families by Tom & Mary Kitsmiller Mr. & Mrs. Henry F. Brodish, Mr. & Mrs. Robert J. Dodd, Robert J. Dodd, Jr., and Mary Julia Dodd by Maureen Dodd Deceased brothers and sisters of Holy Spirit Church by Pierre Able Thomas and Rosemarie Costello by Kathy Costello Ronald H. Rooker, Sr., Deceased members of the Rooker Family and Deceased members of the Di Cesare Family by Mae Rooker Maria Mercedes Velazquez, Juan Ramon Petruccelli by Andrea Petruccelli and Family Mike, Clara, Joe, Pat, Antoinette, Sally and George Williams by Connie Williams All Deceased members of the Ralston, Pellican and Lally Families, and Mark Clark by Rita Ralston and Judi Pellican Cindy Stoll by Mr. & Mrs. Cliff Stoll John and Marcelline Hannon by Mary Pelzer Shawn Patrick Head, Deceased members of the Head, Jones, and Bosley Families by Allen Head June B. Walker by Hugh Walker Dorothy and Charles Miller, Jane and Robert Ranalli, Matthew Karl Miller, and Jim Miller by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller Dr. & Mrs. Robert White, Herb & Geri Torr, Fred & Evelyn Miller by Nancy & Steve Miller Lehman & Haffele Families by the Family Saverio Capuan, Sr., Saverio "Buddy" Capuano, Jr., & Ann Capuano by the Capuano Family Rita and Bob Byers, Camila and Stan Block by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Block Gaitan & Rose Roche, Josephine & Manuel Motha, Ranjeet Rayen, Lourde Corera, A Cruz Fernando, Lima Rose, and LT Morais by Arun Alex Fernando Peter Thomas Polk, Hunter Matthew Polk, June Arnold Jackson, Robert Achelpol, Sr. Jacqueline Baum OP, Sr. Joan Popovits OP, and Patricia Ann Morris by Fr. William Arnold Jennifer Henne, Sean and Kristen Gilmore, JoAnne Brough by Eric Henne Anson Y. Chan and Sr. Joan Popovits OP by Mrs. Garear Chan Valerio, Lucia, and Tony Canini by the Pellechia Family Antonio and Domenica Pellechia by the Pellechia Family Yao Cecile, Kowadio Yao Gaston, & Kacou Nori Victoria by Chantel Yao Kowadio Yao Gaston, Kacou, Nori Victoria, & Girlberthe by Amion Yao Primitivo Srm and Sofia Durusan, Elsa D. Concepcion by Elizabeth Durusan Elaine Fuchs and Everett and Loretta Marks by David & Susan Marks Mr. and Mrs. John Swain and Family, Mr. and Mrs. Hillis Jefferies, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Swain and Family, Mr. and Mrs. John and Karen Swain by John Swain Raymond and Doris Schneider by Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Fowler Jae Rotonda, May Starbeck, & James Kearns by Mrs. Margaret Rotonda Carmen C. Angelo, John J. Imwalle, & Ann M. Angelo by Mrs. MarJo Angelo Russ & Carol Cohen, Emery Seech, Kenneth & Irene Hanson, Catherine Seech, and Serafina Ramon by Russ & Paula Cohen John Juncewicz, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Juncewicz, Mr. & Mrs. Szumczyk, and Mr. & Mrs. Mykowski, by Maria Juncewicz George J. Rundag, Rita Pitts, and Heather Phillips by Lisa A. Rundag Woods, Weatherby, and Saunders Families, Morris, Bayer, and Urdock Families by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Weatherby Thone Phommarath, Son Phommarath, Ky Ett Inthavone, and the Inthavone Family by Mr. & Mrs. Vinalom Inthavone Thomas P. & Mary M. McGuire and Margaret Morscher by Maria McGuire Dickenson, Kohlhepp, and Powell Families by Robin Powell

The Deceased Members of the Siefert, Vollmer, and Niemann Families by Stephen Siefert Tom Sapp and Deceased Members of the Sapp Family by Mrs. Roseanne Sapp



GOD'S CALL

Reflection on Luke 1:26-38

The Gospel for this fourth Sunday of Advent is the familiar visitation scene – God calling Mary to be the mother of His Son. With her "yes," Mary is elevated from an obscure teenager to be the mother of God, from a time-and-spacebound human being to Queen of Heaven, from a prayerful supplicant to the eternal go-to Lady for intercession and perpetual help! The interruption of the incarnation becomes, for Mary, the path to holiness: "Blessed are you among women!"

In these final days of Advent waiting and preparation, consider how the incarnation – the birth of Jesus both in human history and in this very moment of your life – calls you to God's higher purposes. With Mary as our pattern of holiness, God is revealing some of what God wants from us: to be a co-creator of life, a nurturer, a font of love, a teacher, a healer, a reconciler, a prophet, a companion. "May it be done to me according to your word."

~ Fr. Jay

HOPE | PEACE | JOY |LOVE



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, December 24, 2023

Fourth Sunday of Advent 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38

Monday, December 25, 2023

The Nativity of the Lord Is 52:7-10 Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18

Tuesday, December 26, 2023

Saint Stephen, The First Martyr Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 Mt 10:17-22

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist 1 Jn 1:1-4 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Thursday, December 28, 2023

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs 1 Jn 1:5–2:2 Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7cd-8 Mt 2:13-18

Friday, December 29, 2023

Fifth Day within the Octave 1 Jn 2:3-11 Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 Lk 2:22-35

Saturday, December 30, 2023

Sixth Day within the Octave 1 Jn 2:12-17 Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 Lk 2:36-40

> Access Daily Readings from the New American Bible, Revised Edition (NABRE) online at https://bible.usccb.org

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Feast Day: December 27 Patron Saint of: Turkey

It is God who calls; human beings answer. The vocation of John and his brother James is stated very simply in the Gospels, along with that of Peter and his brother Andrew: Jesus called them; they followed. For the three former fishermen—Peter, James and John—that faith was to be rewarded by a special friendship with Jesus, but John's friendship was even more special. John's own Gospel refers to him as "the disciple whom Jesus loved" (see John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2), the one who reclined next to Jesus at the Last Supper, and the one to whom Jesus gave the exquisite honor of caring for his mother, as John stood beneath the cross. "Woman, behold your son.... Behold, your mother" (John 19:26b, 27b).

On the first Easter, Mary Magdalene "ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, 'They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him'" (John 20:2). John recalls, perhaps with a smile, that he and Peter ran side by side, but then "the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first" (John 20:4b). He did not enter, but waited for Peter and let him go in first. "Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed" (John 20:8).

John was with Peter when the first great miracle after the Resurrection took place—the cure of the man crippled from birth—which led to their spending the night in jail together. The mysterious experience of the Resurrection is perhaps best contained in the words of Acts: "Observing the boldness of Peter and John and perceiving them to be uneducated, ordinary men, they [the questioners] were amazed, and they recognized them as the companions of Jesus" (Acts 4:13).

"The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers" (1 John 3:16).

Read the full article: "Saint John the Evangelist" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars, https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-john-the-evangelist/. (Accessed December 8, 2023).



Feast of the Holy Family: Sunday, December 31, 2023 – Many Catholics unfortunately take a pass on attending Mass on this day. But as we come to the end the year, may we be reminded of

the prayer intentions connected to this feast:

- We pray for all families who work hard, raise their children, pay their bills, and every day struggle with the duties and troubles of daily life.
- We remember all families who are grieving this holiday season over the loss of a loved one and people close to them.
- We pray for families divided because of war or civil violence; families separated by immigration or deportation; families apart because of imprisonment; families separated by divorce, or families torn apart by domestic violence at home.
- We remember families separated because a loved one is serving in harm's way in the armed forces.
- We pray for all families whose parents are in nursing or care centers, especially elderly folks who are separated from their children who live great distances away.

Father, help us to love as the Holy Family, united in respect and love. Teach us the sanctity of human love, show us the value of family life, and help us to live in peace with all people that we may share in your life forever. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen

<u>Ministry Schedule:</u> <u>Saturday, December 30, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.</u> Lector: Diane Udeck Servers: Elisa, Rocio & Victoria Pardo Eucharistic Ministers: Roseanne Sapp, De Ann Bukowski

<u>Ministry Schedule:</u> <u>Sunday, December 31, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.</u> Lector: Sharon Woods Servers: Yami Ortega Eucharistic Ministers: Clifton Hawkins, Emma Kitsmiller

<u>Ministry Schedule: Monday,</u> <u>December 31, 2023 – 11:00 a.m.</u> Lector: Jim Cottrill Servers: Alex & Richie Dininni Eucharistic Ministers: Bill & Anne Heinmiller



May the blessings of this Holy Season be with you always. January 1, 2023, The Solemnity of Mary the Holy Mother of God: This day has also been designated as a Day of Prayer for World Peace. The Mass will honor Mary, the Mother of God, and on the first day of the New Year, 2024, we will together pray for peace throughout the world, especially for protection from armed



nuclear conflict and the threat of terror anywhere in the world. There will be one Mass that day at 11:00 a.m.



57th Day of Prayer for World Peace: Every Holy Father since Pope Paul VI in 1967 (that includes John Paul II, Pope Benedict, and Pope Francis) has called upon Catholics and peoples of the world to pray for peace. The Holy Father commands neither military force nor an

arsenal of weapons to "fight" for peace. Rather, Pope Francis uses the words of Jesus in Luke's Gospel.

In sending His disciples forth on mission, Jesus told them:

"Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' And if a son of peace is there, your peace shall rest upon him; but if not, it shall return to you."

Pope Francis has emphasized the role of good politics – more specifically – good politicians, as key to bringing peace to the world and society. Politicians should see themselves as the servants of all. These qualities the politicians of every (or any) nation ought to possess. They are called the "Beatitudes of the Politician."

- Blessed be the politician with a lofty sense and deep understanding of his role.
- Blessed be the politician who personally exemplifies credibility.
- Blessed be the politician who works for the common good and not his or her own interest.
- Blessed be the politician who remains consistent.
- Blessed be the politician who works for unity.
- Blessed be the politician who works to accomplish radical change.
- Blessed be the politician who is capable of listening.
- Blessed be the politician who is without fear.

One thing is certain: Good politics is at the service of peace. It respects and promotes fundamental human rights, which are at the same time mutual obligations, enabling a bond of trust and gratitude to be forged between present and future generations.



Plenary Indulgence during Christmas Season: The Holy Father, Pope Francis, has granted the privilege of a plenary indulgence for all the faithful to celebrate the 800th anniversary of Christmas in Greccio, Italy. The indulgence is available from December 8, 2023, the Solemnity of the Immaculate

Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, to February 2, 2024, Feast of the Presentation in the Temple of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The usual conditions for receiving plenary indulgence are:

- Confession of our sins;
- Receive Holy Communion;
- Pray for the intentions of the Holy Father (*Our Father & Hail Mary*);
- Have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin.

Added to this – visit a church run by the Franciscan families and stop in prayer in front of the Nativity scene set up there. In the Diocese of Columbus, Christ the King Parish and St. Thomas Parish are run by Franciscans. Those sick or unable to participate physically can obtain plenary indulgence by offering their sufferings to the crucified Lord and praying.



RCIA to Begin Soon: Are you or is someone you know curious about the Catholic faith? Interested in becoming Catholic? Baptized Catholic as a child, but never received the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process through which adults join the Catholic Church. The first step in this process is a period of inquiry, which is an opportunity to learn more about our parish community, our Catholic faith, and our God. You are welcome to participate with your questions in a warm setting with no commitment required. The first date for this gathering will be announced soon. If you or someone you know is interested in more information, please call 614-861-1521 or e-mail info@holyspiritcolumbus.org.



Give Something That Means Something! The American Red Cross Blood Drive: Whitehall United Methodist Church is hosting a Blood Drive on Wednesday, December 27th, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. WUMC is located

at 525 Bernhard Road in Whitehall. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-RED-CROSS, or visit www. redcrossblood.org, sponsor code: WhitehallUMC.



St. Charles Preparatory School Drama Department will hold women's auditions for *The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical* on Wednesday & Thursday, January 3 & 4, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. at the St. Charles Campus Theater, 2010 East Broad Street (You need only attend one of the two days.)

Auditions are open to all area high school women in Central Ohio. Production Dates: February 29-March 3, 2024. If you would like additional information, please email Doug Montgomery, at dmontgomery@scprep.org.

St. Padre Pio Relic at The Columbus Catholic Women's Conference: The glove of St. Padre Pio will be displayed for veneration at the upcoming Columbus Catholic Women's Conference in February. Early registration for the conference extends through January 1, 2024. Scan the QR code to register for the conference.



URGENT SUPPORT NEEDED IN THE HOLY LAND As the war rages on, Pope Francis is reaching out to world leaders calling for a cease fire, entry of humanitarian aid into Gaza and the release of all hostages being held by Hamas. Due to their longstanding presence, Catholic Relief Services has been responding to meet urgent, comprehensive needs, while also monitoring possible extended needs across the region. To support their efforts, pray and consider learning more and donating to CRS at: Catholic Relief Services (crs. org). For more information, contact the diocesan Social Concerns Office at socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org or call 614-224-2540.

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