

3rd Sunday of Advent - December 11, 2022

Advent

~ a time for preparation ~



St. Mary Parish ~ Berea, Ohio

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

For John the Baptist, pointing to Christ as Messiah was complete fulfilment of God's work in him. He didn't do it for his own fame or reward, but merely to prepare the way. [Living the Word 2023]



The book of the prophet Isaiah consists of layers accumulated over time. Unlike most of the material in Chapters 1-39, with its references to exile and return, more than likely reflects a post exile time and compose in response to the destruction of Jerusalem, the exile to Babylon and also the eventual return of some to Jerusalem. Yet, as God's Word, Isaiah's influence continues to offer hope in seemingly hopeless situations. **"The desert will bloom . . . abundant flowers, joyful song . . ."** Written in this manner, God's mighty past deeds provide assurance of what will be!

James writes of **"patience"** four times in this short passage this weekend and we probably dislike that word and its meaning. We are in general NOT patient. Amen? James repeated it because his people were living then in an in-between time: hoping for the coming of the Lord and it's not-yet time. James wants to encourage us, like farmer, the spring rains and one another. Our understanding of this ancient author is to be **"expectant"** and assured that the Lord is coming.

The Gospel author Matthew gets it as he mirrors John the Baptist's powerful statement from last week, **"the one who is to come is mightier than I"** with his question from prison, **"Are you the one?"** Clearly he is here with us!

Monday December 12th, the church celebrates the **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, which recalls the apparitions of Mary to the native Juan Diego. The Feast goes back to the 16th century. Mary's appearance to Juan Diego as one of his people is a powerful reminder that Mary—and the God who sent her—accept all peoples. Mass on Monday is at 9:00am.



Wednesday evening December 14th is our **Advent Penance & Absolution Service** at 7pm. Making time for reconciliation is an EXCELLENT way to prepare our minds, hearts and spirits for the Coming of the Lord. Making time for reconciliation is our earnest sign of desire to be *with the Lord* who is *with us* in all the times of our lives. See the flyer for a copy of the Examination of Conscience. BEGIN to prepare now and come together for the Penance and Absolution Service.

I've been asked to repeat my invitation: With Christmas being on a Sunday, we will lose a much needed "Sunday" collection, so I am ASKING you to consider using BOTH envelopes this month to help meet our operating expenses. If you are ABLE to do so, please do so as it will help tremendously in meeting our annual budget. Your Christmas gift and consistent generosity GOES a very long way to keep us in balance, and we know that is a GOOD THING! You have responded well to all the SPECIAL REQUESTS and this one, I pray will be met with graciousness and kindness. *Thank you most sincerely.*



Your generosity in all our collections is truly appreciated! Thank you! Happy Advent!

Fr. John

MASS INTENTION FOR THE WEEK

Weekend of December 11

4:00pm John Kerekes
7:30am Sue Spahr
9:30am Theresa DeAngelo
11:30am Margaret Noland

Third Sunday of Advent

Linda - Daughter
Family
Family
Family

Monday

December 12

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab / Lk 1:26-38
or Lk 1:39-47 (690a)

9:00am O'Sullivan Family

Betty & Ron Thery

Tuesday

December 13

Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 / Mt 21:28-32 (188)

9:00am In Honor of St. Lucy

Mary Ferrante

Wednesday

December 14

Saint John of the Cross, Priest and

Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25 / Lk 7:18b-23 (189) Doctor of the Church

9:00am Maryhelen Shawkey

SMOF Tuesday
Evening Group

Thursday

December 15

Advent Weekday

Is 54:1-10 / Lk 7:24-30 (190)

9:00am Russell Poling Jr.

DeAngelo Family

Friday

December 16

Advent Weekday

Is 56:1-3a, 6-8 / Jn 5:33-36 (191)

9:00am Vinny Mastandrea

Mastandrea Family

Saturday

December 17

Late Advent Weekday

Gn 49:2, 8-10 / Mt 1:1-17 (193)

4:00pm Bill & Bernice Skvarch

Dennis & Sandi Ziegler

Sunday

December 18

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Is 7:10-14 / Rom 1:1-7 / Mt 1:18-24 (10)

7:30am Stefan Urbancic

Family

9:30am Elizabeth Prots

Family

11:30am William Nicholson, Sr.

Jane Savinsky

SCHEDULE OPEN FOR MASS INTENTIONS - 2023

THE MASS BOOK FOR 2023 IS NOW OPEN.

CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE AT (440) 243-3877 OR
SUBMIT YOUR REQUEST IN WRITING. PLEASE INCLUDE A
PHONE NUMBER IN CASE WE NEED TO CONTACT YOU. WE
WILL DO OUR BEST TO ACCOMMODATE YOUR REQUESTS.

Anniversary Wishes

If you will be having a wedding anniversary in the
month of **DECEMBER** and would like your names listed
in the bulletin, please call the parish office (440) 243-
3877 or email jabraham1@stmaryberea.org

Jeff & Diana Tichy
December 3rd - 34 years



Mother Teresa



My God, You, only You. I trust in Your call,
Your inspiration. You will not let me down.

Excerpted from: Love: A Fruit always in Season (1987 Ignatius
Press)

Bulletin Prayer List

**Please remember in prayer all
who are ill or homebound, es-
pecially the following:**

Mary Ann Abraham
Mary Anne Bialosky
Mary Terese Blaseg
Candy Corbett
Kathleen Dorsey
John Owens Dumm
Sharon Fisher
Joan & Gerry Foust
Tom Gibbons
Nancy Grau
Zora Koukis
Marcel Liberge

Jan Lindenmeier
Rose Reilly
Bret & Bart Smith
Marilyn Serrao
Guy Sperk
Frances Ann Stock
Donna Squires
Chet Talarczyk

To add a name to the Prayer
List, please call the Rectory
Office: (440) 243-3877 or
email:
jabraham1@stmaryberea.org



In Your Charity

Pray For
The Dead



*In your charity, please remember the
repose of the souls of Anthony Go-
linar and Ann Hawk.*

May they rest in eternal peace.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Electronic Giving allows our parishioners to give easily
and is a safe way to make a one-time or recurring dona-
tion. Getting started is easy - Visit our website:

www.stmaryberea.org

Click on the VANCO Link to get started!

THE PARISH STAFF IS HERE TO HELP

Contact the Office if needed.

Ministry Schedules

4th Sunday of Advent - December 18, 2022

Mass	Lector	Cantor	Extraordinary Ministers	Servers
4:00pm	A Fadrowski		(H) Deacon Tom, J Gilmore, M Gilmore, R Heitz	I Zjaba, V Zjaba
7:30am	J Cassidy		(H) Deacon Tom, L Madzy, B Draves	T Flandera, P Flandera
9:30am	A Lindsay		(H) Deacon Tom, A Laubert, K Laubert, K M Laubert	J Laubert, M Laubert
11:30am	T Morgan		(H) Deacon Tom, B Cully, J Savinsky	L Bergmeyer, H Fuehrer

Music Ministry & Liturgy Notes

By Angela Kovic, Director of Music and Liturgy

REJOICE FOR ROSE

I am looking for children grade 3-8 to sing in a Children's Choir for the Christmas Eve [4pm](#) Mass! There will be two rehearsals the Tuesdays before Christmas at [6pm](#) in the choir loft, and the children will also be singing carols beforehand as a prelude. If you are already going to this mass and have children who like to sing, this is the perfect time for them to get the choir experience! Please contact me by email if you would like your children to participate!

Two weeks until Christmas: excitement is in the air as we celebrate this week of joy with the Gaudete Sunday! By now, you hopefully have gotten a good start on gifts, baking, and plans with your loved ones. The third candle on our advent candle brings us rejoicing as we see Christ's birth on the horizon. The Music Ministry is diligently working to make sure that Christmas Eve and Christmas Day are similar to the fourth Sunday of Lent, our priests and deacon are allowed to wear rose colored vestments to reflect this sentiment as well. Now we all agree that pink is a great color for men to wear, but there is actually a reason that the vestments are described specifically as rose! In the Latin version of the General Instruction of the Roman Missal (aka the GIRM), it states in 346f that "Color rosaceus adhiberi potest," which translates to 'Rose may be used' in the US version. The bright pink we think of is not actually found in our color spectrum, and cannot be found naturally in the wild. However, rose is technically a shade of red, not pink, and certain vegetables, flowers, and other plants are available to make a naturally blue-tinted 'pink' color. The color rose is only used twice a year in our liturgical calendar, which makes it even more special, so rejoice!

Traditional Choir rehearses on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm in the choir loft. Youth Choir can be reestablished with interest. Contact me via phone (440.243.3877 ext. 27) or email (musicministry1@stmaryberea.org) for anything involving our Music Ministry!



This weekend December 10th & 11th, Catholics across the Diocese of Cleveland are encouraged to support the Annual Retirement Fund for Religious.

Please consider donating to this 2nd Collection to help with the care of those retired religious sisters, brothers and order priests from the diocese.



Please Remember Our Military In Prayer & With Gratitude

SSgt. Jeffrey R. Anzalone—USAF, Hurlburt Field, FL
 Private 1st Class Nicholas Cozzarin—US Army, Ft. Hood, TX ; Iraq
 Sergeant Justin P. Gertsma—USMC, Afghanistan
 SPC Carl Heitz, Army Reserves, Kuwait
 IT3 - Jeffery Jones, USS Nitché
 Captain David J Laubert - US Army 101 ABN Divarty (USA)
 Lieutenant Colonel Theresa M. (Ponstingle) Livingston—
 Dobbins Air Force Base
 Major Leonard J. Livingston, Dobbins Air Force Base
 Master Sergeant Zachary McLeish, USAF 76 APS Youngstown Ohio
 Major Frank P. Mercurio, Jr., US Air Force Weapons School
 Instructor.—Dyess Air Force Base, Abilene, TX
 Staff Sergeant Stefan Neuwar—Ft. Belvoir, VA
 Sr. Airman Anthony J. Phillipp—USAF, Davis Monthan AFB, AZ
 Master Sergeant, Joshua Stark, OSAN Airbase, South Korea
 MA2 Gary L. Stephen—US Navy
 LCDR Thomas A. Stephen—US Navy
 Sergeant Sean M. Walters—US Army Green Berets
 Staff Sergeant Elaine Wisnieski—U.S. Air Force

* * * * *
 Cpl. Brad D. Squires—KIA in Iraq, June 9, 2005

May God bless and keep
 these brave men and women safely in His care!



St. Mary Catholic School News Corner *Educating the Mind, Nurturing the Soul*

The SMS PTO, faculty & staff and many SMS families came out last Saturday to represent SMS in Berea's annual Jack Frost Christmas Parade. This was the best support we have had in years! Thank you to everyone that participated. The parade began at 5:30p.m. Those that partook in the parade walked through the streets of Berea for a little over an hour. Everyone had a great time; enjoyed the community while supporting and representing our school.

Students in grades 4-8 are participating in the Knights of Columbus Christmas poster during class with Mrs. Patena. Winners will be announced at our Christmas Mass on December 21st.

Update on the SMS Class DoJo Store – The SMS Class DoJo store is moving along. The Student Council Will be helping to finish decorating the store and setting Up items for purchase with the student DoJo points that They have earned for good behavior and random acts of Kindness.

If you would like to donate items for the store, or provide a monetary donation to help keep the shelves stocked, please feel free to reach out to Mrs. DeCore (ldecore@smsberea.org) or Mrs. Hennessy (mhennessy@smsberea.org). Your support is greatly appreciated.

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION As the end of the calendar year is quickly approaching, please consider a tax-deductible donation to the St. Mary Scholarship Fund. Your donation of any size will be greatly appreciated and your name will be posted in the 2023 SMS Graduation Program. Did you know that many companies provide matching gifts – why not check with your Benefits Office to see if your employer is one of them?!

Don't forget, St. Mary School is participating in the SchoolStore program this year. This online program helps SMS earn cash without students selling door-to-door, collecting money or delivering products. Over 400 merchants are available on this website. It is a perfect opportunity to help reduce the stress of your Christmas shopping by allowing you to shop from the comfort and safety of your home. Merchants such as Kohl's, Old Navy and Wal-Mart have agreed to give back a generous percentage of all sales just for shopping through **SchoolStore.com**. This opportunity is available to all St. Mary School, parish & extended families. Just log-on to www.schoolstore.com. On the Welcome to SchoolStore site, under school name **enter** St. Mary, **city** – Berea and **state** – OH and then click on *Find My School*. The screen will read: *You have chosen to support St. Mary School in Berea, OH – click here to Continue*. Your fun begins as you start to shop online while supporting St. Mary School. We thank you for your support!

Important Dates to Remember:

12/15/22 – Student Choir Practice

12/16/22 - \$2.00 Fr. Marty Dress Down Day

“ “ “ Confessions – Grades 3-8



Third Sunday of Advent

“Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Philippians 4:4-5

SAVE THE DATE



Night at the Races

NEW DATE—Saturday, January 21, 6 pm Garrity Center

To benefit St. Mary CYO Athletics

Christmas New Year Schedule

Christmas Eve – Saturday December 24th

4:00pm Mass
6:00pm Mass
10:00pm Mass in the Night

Christmas Day – Sunday December 25th

7:30am Mass
9:30am Mass
11:30am Mass

Feast of the Holy Family – Friday December 30th

9:00am Mass

New Year's Eve – Saturday December 31st

4:00pm Mass

New Year's Day – Sunday January 1st

7:30am Mass
9:30am Mass
11:30am Mass

Epiphany – Sunday January 8th

4:00pm Saturday Vigil
7:30am Mass
9:30am Mass
11:30am Mass

And **REMEMBER** your financial resources are needed more than ever at this time. **THANK YOU** for your generosity and support! **Come, Lord Jesus!**

USHER HELP NEEDED

Usher help is needed for the upcoming **Christmas and New Year Mass Schedule**. Please sign-up in the Ushers Room. **THANK YOU!**

Lights For Lions

Do you have broken or used holiday lights and extension cords? Donate them at the Zoo to help protect lions and cheetahs in Tanzania. Bring your broken, non-working or used strings of lights and extension cords to Cleveland Metroparks Zoo for recycling November 1 through January 31, 2023. Please do not include any packaging. Proceeds from recycling support the Zoo's [lion and cheetah conservation program](#) partners the Ruaha Carnivore Project and Lion Landscapes.

When: November 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023

Where: At the main entrance of Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, 3900 Wildlife Way (you don't need a Zoo ticket to drop them off) or at the [Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District](#), 4750 East 131 Street in Garfield Heights.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER MEMORIAL GIFT

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY:

Donor: _____

Telephone: _____ Donation Amount _____

Please indicate: _____ Check # _____ or Cash _____

In Memory of: _____

Donor and memorial names will be printed in the bulletin. Your donation of any amount will help defray the cost of maintaining a beautiful Christmas Season when we celebrate the Birth of Our Savior.

Please return this slip to the Parish Office, along with your donation by December 19th.

Attn: Christmas Flowers. Thank you!

St. Mary Giving Tree 2022



And **YES** it's that time of the Year for the **Annual Giving Tree.**, and your generosity has been overwhelming over the years. The 12' outdoor **Giving Tree** reminds us that in this season of waiting and wonder, we make the effort to give from our hearts. The **Giving Trees** in our sanctuary are a prayerful reminder of the Child Jesus who gave Himself to us. What greater gift can we offer?

AGAIN, there are **NO TAGS** this year, just **THIS FLYER** with the much needed items. **DON'T WRAP YOUR GIFTS** but bring them in a **HOLIDAY GIFT BAG** to Church **by December 11th**.

All Gifts will be delivered to
West Side Catholic Center and University Settlement

HERE's THE LIST:

Suggested Clothing Items: **MARK** gift with Sex /Item – Size e.g. Male, Hoodie, XL

- | | |
|---------------|---------|
| ○ Sweatshirts | Hoodies |
| ○ Sweaters | Pajamas |
| ○ Underwear | Socks |
| ○ Outerwear | |
| ▪ Hats | Scarves |
| ▪ Gloves | Boots |

Suggested Baby Items: **MARK** gift with item

- | | |
|-----------|------------|
| ○ Diapers | Blankets |
| ○ Toys | Toiletries |

Suggested Youth Items: **MARK** gift with item

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------|
| ○ Toys | Children's' Books |
| ○ Bibles | School Supplies |
| ○ Toiletries | |

 **PLACE your Gifts in a HOLIDAY GIFT BAG**

RETURN ALL GIFTS BY SUNDAY DECEMBER 11th!

That simple and that easy to help make someone's Christmas Merry!