



SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH



NOVEMBER 27, 2016 • FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

**140 RICHMOND ROAD
EUCLID, OHIO 44143**

Website: www.saintjohnofthecross.org

Parish Office: 216-289-0770

Parish Staff

Rev. Salvatore M. Ruggeri *Pastor*
Rev. Timothy Buyansky, OSB *Weekend Assistant*
Rev. Edward E. Mehok *Weekend Assistant*
Rev. Mr. Charles Doerpers *Deacon*
Martha Dodd *Principal for Student Success at
Ss. Robert and William School*
Kate Fraser *Youth Minister*
Ben Koval *Director of Music & Liturgy*
Kay Magri *Business Manager*

Parish Office Hours

Monday–Friday 8:00 am–4:00 pm
Saturday 9:00 am–1:00 pm

Parish Membership

All are welcome!

Please register at the Parish Office.

Celebration of Eucharist

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am & 11:00 am
Monday & Thursday 6:30 pm
Tuesday & Friday 8:15 am
Holy Day 8:15 am, 12:00 & 6:30 pm

Eucharistic Adoration

First Friday 9:00 am–4:00 pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 pm

Rosary

is prayed after the Tuesday and Friday morning Masses.

Marriage

Arrangements are to be made at least six months in advance. Please call Fr. Sal at the Parish Office.

Baptisms

Expectant parents are to attend a Baptism Class prior to making Baptismal arrangements.



nica news update

DECEMBER 2016

**"TODAY OUR PARTNERSHIP
BECOMES EVEN STRONGER BECAUSE
WE HAVE PRAYED AND LOVED GOD
TOGETHER"**

The bond with our partnership parish grows stronger each day through our prayer partner program and continued spiritual and financial support of our sister parish in Chacraseca, Nicaragua.

PROGRESS CHACRASECA STYLE

Slow but steady! Thanks to the generosity of the parishioners of St. John of the Cross and St. Mary-Chardon, Padre Tomas' new rectory is beginning to take shape. Last year we raised enough to begin the renovation process. This year we are hopeful that through the Giving Tree and Lenten Almsgiving we will be able to raise the additional funds needed to complete the project, so that Padre Tomas can finally move into his new home in 2017.



PRAYER PARTNER PROGRAM

"God Our Father,
Reminded that we are all your children, that we are all one in the Body of Christ throughout the world, we lift up our prayer family to you. Bless them today with the peace and joy that you alone can give and hear their special needs. May our prayer for one another be a source of strength and hope that reaches across the miles that separate us and brings us ever closer to each other and to you. We ask this through Christ Our Lord,
Amen."

If you are interested in joining this global prayer partner program, please email a family photo to prayerpartner@stmarychardon.org

Please include your family name and list the first names of the members of your family, in the order that they appear in the photo.

MAY MISSION TRIP

The next partnership trip is scheduled for **May 8 to 15, 2017**. It promises to be an amazing journey of faith, hope and love. We need at least 8 parishioners to join the team to facilitate the mission trip in May. Please prayerfully consider joining parishioners on our next partnership trip to Nicaragua.

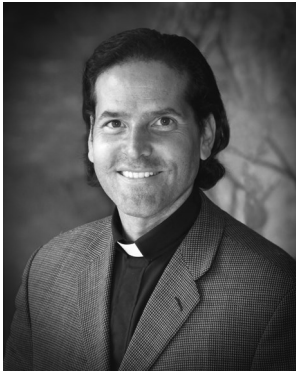
*Accommodations at Casa de Paz ("PeaceHouse")
modest dormitory style with flush toilets and showers!
We eat "tipico"
Nica food (mostly rice and beans).*

The cost is



generally around \$800 per person, plus airfare

For details, please contact Dale or Marie George at maridalegeo@msn.com or call 440-343-0329



FROM THE DESK OF OUR PASTOR

They are words that we will hear often over the next several weeks...are you ready for Christmas? And when people ask, they will probably be referring to whether or not we have planned for dinner, purchased and wrapped all of the gifts, have the tree up, have the lights on the house, and all of that stuff that will help us to prepare for the day, but completely misses the point of Advent.

Advent, of course, is a time for us to prepare... The focus of the entire season is preparation to celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. Thus, Advent is far more than simply marking a 2,000 year old event in history. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. During this time, we focus, in a special way, on the fact that we live "in between" His first coming and His second, and do our best to recognize His presence in the world today and our responsibility to share that presence.

So, while many see Lent as the time that we are to "change" or "give something up" or "take something on," (for so it is) I think that we should see Advent the same way...as a chance for us to reflect upon Jesus' coming 2000 years ago, but also to ask ourselves how we are living in anticipation of His coming again, for we are told that "(we) know not the day or the hour."

Several weeks ago, I came across 9 Advent Attitudes written by Joseph Paprocki, and I found them to be great ways for me to focus on ways for me to grow in my faith and truly prepare my heart. Each week during Advent, we will include a couple of these Attitudes in a flyer in the bulletin and make cards available for you in the Gathering area to take home with you, and carry with you that week...the card will have the Attitude on one side and practical suggestions for living that Attitude on the back.

The Advent Attitudes are: **1) Uninhibited Selflessness 2) Lightness of Being 3) Unwavering Sense of Serenity 4) Patience 5) Kindness 6) Having Others' Best Interests in Mind 7) Staying on Message 8) Remaining Even Keeled and 9) Practicing Mindfulness.**

It is my hope and prayer that these Attitudes will help you on your Advent journey and inspire you to be excited about the possibilities for your spiritual life during this Advent season and beyond. As Christmas approaches, may our hearts be set on preparing ourselves to celebrate Christ's birth, but also taking time to prepare His way, as John the Baptist did. We truly prepare His way when we live as those whose hearts are set on living the life that He calls us to live, and by making His presence known in the world until He comes again.

Will you be ready for Christmas?

With prayers for a blessed and holy Advent season.....

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY 6:30 p.m.	Advent Weekday Nancy J. Piascik	NOV. 28
TUESDAY 8:15 a.m.	Advent Weekday Legion of Mary Members	NOV. 29
WEDNESDAY	St. Andrew	NOV. 30
THURSDAY 6:30 p.m.	Advent Weekday Frank & Anne Sims & Family	DEC. 1
FRIDAY 8:15 a.m.	Advent Weekday John & Margaret Walsh	DEC. 2
SATURDAY 4:00 p.m.	St. Francis Xavier Victor & Ann Urankar	DEC. 3
SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	2nd Sunday of Advent Joseph & Marie Ross Joseph Jarc	DEC. 4

**HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION-DECEMBER 8th
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION MASSES:**

**Thursday, December. 8th at
8:15am, 12:00pm and 6:30pm**

This feast of Mary celebrates God's extraordinary favor of choosing Mary to be the mother of Jesus and preserving her from all sin from the moment of her Immaculate Conception.

**REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK
AND THEIR CAREGIVERS...**

Beverley Argento, Ann Barni, Trovatore Briganti, Jane DePalma, David & Barbara DeProspero, Lillian Dolenc, Steve Dreyer, Constance Durrah, Mary Frain, Joe Hocevar, Marlene Hoageson, Andrew Jarm, Doris Kowalski, Evelyn Kublin, Lucille Kucharski, Daniel Latessa, Joan Latessa, Marie Lipold, Joe Matejka, Ronald Maxey, Linda Moore, Anna Pepock, Joan Raddell, Martha Rymer, Carole Smigelski, Frank Somrack, John Tarmann, John Tousel, Marcie Vanek, and Debbie Williams

***Please remember our elderly
and homebound as well.***

Please notify the Parish Office when a name

**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PRAYER NETWORK
HOTLINE 216-289-0770 ext. 33:** Call and leave a short message regarding your request. Let us know when your request has been answered. We can also offer prayers of thanksgiving. All information will be kept confidential.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Richmond Hts. Hospital-Wed. Nov. 30th.....Katie
Grande Pointe-Sunday, Dec. 4th.....Kathy & Celeste

COUNTERS

Counters for Monday, Dec. 5th....."A" Team

MINISTERS SCHEDULE —DECEMBER 3-4, 2016

MASS	PRESIDER	GREETERS	LECTOR 1	LECTOR 2	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	SERVERS
Sat. 4:00pm	Fr. Sal	K. Beyer J. Buda	J. Cernansky	K. McVoy	T. Brokamp, F. Buda, M. Dodd, M. Freas, P. Kiikka, W. Nalepka, B. Pophal, S. Thomas-Greaves	K. Brokamp J. Schmidt
Sun. 9:00am	Fr. Mehok	T. Chounet C. Hainrihar	E. Edelman	R. Somich	J. Chounet, D. DiMare, C. Gricar, M. Gricar, R. Lammermeier, P. Mastrangelo, N. Powell, M. Somich	J. Gricar A. Somich
Sun. 11:00am	Fr. Timothy	R. Apanasewicz R. Simek	J. Matlock	T. Wetzel	D. Apansewicz, J. Berquist, J. Kirchmeir, F. Koballa, A. Koballa, K. Musarra, D. Rymer, J. Solpa	A.Apanasewicz C. Knox

NEWS AT ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGY: All children are invite to participate in the Children's Christmas Eve Liturgy, at 4:00pm. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested.

'KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS' POSTER CONTEST: Create a poster expressing the theme 'Keep Christ in Christmas' and honor Him whose birth the Angels sing! Posters should be approximately 11x17 inches and the work of a single person between the ages of 5 and 14 (as of Nov. 1). Posters will be judged based on their slogan, visuals, and overall impact. Winning contestants in each age group (ages 5-7, 8-10 & 11-14) will receive a cash prize and be entered in a district competition. Poster board and contest entry forms will be available in the gathering area. Finished posters may be delivered to the contest display in the gathering area, to the parish office, or to any Knight of Columbus. Posters must be submitted by Sunday, December 18. Good luck to the artists!

FR. MEHOK'S SCRIPTURE STUDY continues on Monday evenings at 7:30pm in Rm. 6 of the Parish Community Center, studying Paul's Last Letters.

BINGO NEEDS YOUR HELP! Bingo has been and continues to be an important financial resource which helps fund the many ministries here at St. John of the Cross Parish. This fiscal year we have budgeted \$48,000 to come in from Bingo. Bingo is our largest fundraising effort for our parish. Over the past couple of years, we have seen a decline in the number of players because of the internet cafes and casinos. This has translated into less income coming into our parish. Linda White and her very dedicated core of weekly volunteers have been working very hard in trying new incentives, and various ways to increase player participation. One of their struggles has been getting enough volunteers to work the floor and serve the players we have. Because of the lack of volunteers, starting in January we will no longer have Bingo on Saturdays. It is our hope to be able to continue Thursday Bingo. But we need your help. Please consider helping just a few hours per month or a couple of times per year to make sure we continue having the necessary financial resources to further the mission of our Parish. If you are able to help please contact the Parish Office.

ADVENT COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE: St. John of the Cross Parish, together with Ss. Robert and William Parish, will celebrate our annual **Advent Communal Reconciliation Service** here at St. John of the Cross on Monday evening, December 5th, at 6:30pm. We will join together in prayer, seeking the peace that comes with the endless mercy of our God, and will also have the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please join us in receiving God's forgiveness and grace as we begin to look forward to the coming of Emmanuel - God's most precious act of love and mercy for us.

BOOK OF INTENTIONS: A Book of Intentions has been placed near the Holy Family statues. Please stop by to write in a prayer intention and to also pray for the intentions of our parishioners.

LAST CHANCE TO PURCHASE YOUR CHRISTMAS DINNER TICKETS: Tickets are \$15/person and \$6/child and will be available after Masses in the Gathering Area or at the Parish Office through Nov. 27th. Our Annual Christmas Dinner will be **Saturday, December 3rd**.

GIVING TUESDAY: When Black Friday and Cyber Monday are over Giving Tuesday is a day to count your many blessings and give back to your favorite charity or charities. In 2012 this day was created as a response to consumerism and to bring awareness to the many worthwhile not for profit organizations around the world. In 2013, 28 million dollars was given to charities on Giving Tuesday. In 2014, the movement grew and 45.7 million dollars was given only to be more than doubled to 117 million dollars last year. November 29th will be Giving Tuesday this year. So take the Giving Challenge! Consider giving your time or your treasure on November 29th.

2016 Contribution statements will not be mailed out this year unless requested. Please fill out the form below and drop the form off either at the parish office, green drop off box or in the collection basket. All statements requested will be mailed out before the end of January.

Name _____

Address _____

SS. ROBERT & WILLIAM SCHOOL:

Meet Mrs. Ann Marie Raddell. Mrs. Raddell is the Music teacher for the Early Childhood students and the students in Grades 1-2. Here is her mission:

My mission in the early childhood music program, first and foremost, is to teach the children that music is a gift given by God that can also be shared with others, such as our family and friends. Singing to Jesus is another way to pray to Him. Our musical gift is a very special offering to God, especially when we give our best effort. And Jesus loves to hear our music, whether or not it's perfect. The students in my classroom will be encouraged to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" through singing, instrument playing and movement to music. They will have the opportunity to create music as a group which encourages a sense of community as well as times when they will independently demonstrate the music skills learned, which increases self-esteem in that which is accomplished. During early childhood music classes, students are not only being exposed to music concepts, but they are also growing in social skills, communication, fine and gross motor movement, and academics, such as reading and math, while also having fun! The children will freely express themselves through improvisation and song composition as well as learn more about different emotions that may be experienced while making and listening to music. Again, music is a gift. And my hope at the end of the each day is that every child leaves my music classroom feeling joyful, worthy, proud and most-importantly, loved, through the music that I share, which is the biggest gift that I can give to my students.

"He who sings, prays twice."—Saint Augustine

Our Mission

We are the Catholic Community of St. John of the Cross, established in 2009. Uniting the people of God as one family, we are rooted in, and empowered by, our sacramental life and Eucharistic celebrations. Living as disciples of Jesus Christ, we recognize our God given potential and challenge one another to share our giftedness, embrace our diversity, and engage in social outreach, service and education. In doing so, we seek to extend the reign of God in Euclid and the wider community.

**Readings for the Week**

Sunday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122/Rom 13:11-14
Mt 24:37-44
Monday: Is 4:2-6/Ps 122/Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72/Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday: Rom 10:9-18/Ps 23/Mt 4:18-22
Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118/Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27/Mt 9:27-31
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147
Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8
Next Sunday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72/Rom 15:4-9
Mt 3:1-12

MAKE THIS THE BEST ADVENT EVER: This Advent be sure to sign up for Best Advent Ever: Rediscover Christmas, a free email program from Dynamic Catholic that will help you slow down and focus on what really matters during the busy season. Each day, you'll receive an email with practical tips, free Christmas music, or an inspirational video from Dr. Allen Hunt and other Catholic voices of our time. The program is simple. All you have to do is sign up at BestAdventEver.com. Your experience of Christmas will be unlike any you've experienced before. Are you ready for your best Advent ever?

**Rest in Peace**

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILY OF:

Tom Ashcroft

MAY THEY KNOW THE PEACE AND COMFORT OF GOD'S LOVE AND FIND STRENGTH IN THE SUPPORT OF FAMILY AND OUR PARISH COMMUNITY.



Pledge Progress

224 responses



Annual Pledge Increase: \$26,580.

END OF THE YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS: We recognize and greatly appreciate your contributions to the parish as your gift to the church. Your generosity allows our parish to continue the many ministries here at St. John of the Cross. There can be tax benefits to your contributions in the year they are made. 2016 contributions must be received by the parish on or before December 31, 2016 or if mailed, the postmark must be on or before December 31, 2016. This year, December 31st is a Saturday. **The 4:00pm Mass contributions will be posted to 2016. The Sunday Masses, on January 1, 2017 will be posted to 2017.** We are obligated, by law, to post the contribution when it is received regardless of the date on the check. If you have any questions regarding year end contributions please feel free to contact our Business Manager, Kay Magri, (216) 289-0770.

YOUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Last Week's Giving will be posted in next weekend's bulletin.

**God bless you for your generosity.
Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.**

PARISH SCHEDULE

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 28th

MONDAY-NOVEMBER 28th

6:30pm PSR; Gr.7-8 (PCB)
7:00pm Edge (PCB)
7:30pm Fr. Mehok's Scripture Study (Rm. 6)

TUESDAY-NOVEMBER 29th

7:00pm Legion of Mary (MR2)
7:00pm Boy Scout Meeting (Rm. 6)

WEDNESDAY-NOVEMBER 30th

7:00pm Adult Ensemble (C)
7:00pm Women in Faith (MR2)

THURSDAY-DECEMBER 1st

6:30pm Bingo Team #1 (G)

FRIDAY-DECEMBER 2nd

9:00am-4:00pm Adoration (C)
8:00pm AA Meeting (Rm. 6)

SATURDAY-DECEMBER 3rd

11:00am First Reconciliation (SRW)
5:00pm Christmas Dinner (G)

SUNDAY-DECEMBER 4th

9:30am PSR (PC)



C-Church
MR2-Meeting Room #2
SHR-Sacred Heart Room
P-Parish Office
PG-Parish Grounds
G-Gym
PC-Parish Community Center
PCB-Parish Community Basement
Rm. 6 in Parish Community Center
SRW-Ss. Robert and William