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Web Site: stanselm.org email: office@stanselm.org Phone: 440-729-9575

### **STAFF**

Fr. Christopher A. Cox Administrator frchristophercox@gmail.com

> Fr. Thomas M. Sweany, Pastor Emeritus

Deacon Bob Kovach deaconbob@stanselm.org

**Sister Noel Marra, O.S.U.** Director of Religious Education

## Mrs. Therese Rose School Principal 40-729-7806 Ext. 325

440-729-7806 Ext. 325 roset@stanselmschool.org

# Ms. Nicole Reichard Director of Communications nreichard@stanselm.org

Ms. Mary Ann Coleman Business Manager mcoleman@stanselm.org

Sister Mary Ellen Brinovec, O.S.U. RCIA Ministry mebrinovec@ursulinesisters.org

**Dr. Rosemary Heredos**Coordinator of Liturgical Music rheredos@stanselm.org

### Ms. Kimberle Caticchio

Parish Secretary kcaticchio@stanselm.org

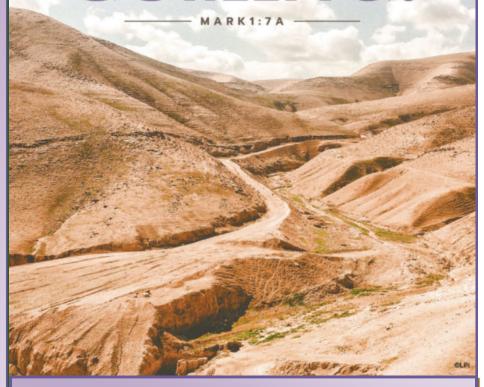
### Mr. Brandan Bizzi

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries bbizzi@stanselm.org

**December 10, 2023** 

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# ONE MIGHTIER THAN I IS COMING.



# **SCHOOL OFFICE**

Web Site: stanselmschool.org email: office@stanselmschool.org Phone: 440-729-7806 Parish School of Religion Grades 1-8 440-729-9575 psroffice@stanselm.org

# From the Desk of Fr. Chris

"And this is what he proclaimed: 'One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy



Spirit'." (Mark 1: 7-8)

This weekend marks the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Advent. We highlight this new week by lighting another purple candle. This candle, sometimes called "the Bethlehem Candle," denotes *Peace*. This is sometimes a struggle for us as we get closer to Christmas. We continue to look at the list of things that we need to accomplish. As I mentioned this past weekend in my homily, Advent is a time of preparation, waiting, and patience. In preparation, we sometimes forget the waiting and patience parts of Advent. Don't forget to take deep breaths this week, our God desires so much for us to have peace in our hearts at this time of year. Consider reading from your bible daily following along with the Daily Mass readings or pull out your rosary. Our Advent prayer books that we gave out last weekend are also great easy ways to reflect more deeply on this Season – and a chance for us to take a few deep breaths before continuing with our day.

Just as it has been busy in and around your home, we have had a whirlwind of activity here at St. Anselm. Just this past weekend we celebrated the Rite of Acceptance for members of our RCIA program. This was their formal declaration of intent to become fully initiated Catholics at the Easter Vigil. It was also the Church's recognition of that intent and formal acceptance into the community. We also had a mini-retreat for our Confirmandi and their Sponsors as they look forward to their own celebration of Confirmation this coming Spring. Recently we also celebrated First Reconciliation with our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and their families. Please continue to pray for those journeying through our Sacramental programs.

A great thank you to so many members of our parish community and staff that have helped to prepare us for Advent with their decorations, programs, and events. I think we can all say that St. Anselm is a very special place to all of us and we're blessed as a parish community to have so many willing helpers.

Be sure to browse through this bulletin, our social media, and the website for information about upcoming opportunities, events, and news.

May God Bless You on Your Advent Journey, Fr. Chris † SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8 DECEMBER 10, 2023



# READINGS AND INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 10, 2023

Monday, December 11, 2023 @ 8:30am ~ Anointette Davet St. Damasus I, Pope

Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9-14; Lk 5:17-26

Tuesday, December 12, 2023 @ 8:30am ~ Dan Sapanaro Our Lady of Guadelupe

Zec 2:14-17; Jdt 13:18-19; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 @ 7pm ~ Dennis Szczepinski St. Lucy, Virgin and Martyr

Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30

Thursday, December 14, 2023 @ 8:30am ~ Guerino Zavarella St. John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9-13; Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 15, 2023 @ 8:30am ~ Jerry Fatica Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, December 16, 2023 @ 4pm ~ James & Dorothy Drockton

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 61:1-2, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28



## WEEKLY OFFERING THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The offertory numbers for December 3 will be included in the December 17th bulletin. Thank you for your patience!

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# Encounter Church

# The Original Nativity

"While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn." ~Luke 2:6-7

Most of us are intimately familiar with the story of the birth of Christ. However, with the growth of the sales of Nativity scenes, sometimes we forget who was present at the original Nativity.

Scripture tells us that Mary and Joseph sought shelter in the inn in Bethlehem, but because of the census, any usual place to stay was already overcrowded. Thanks to the kindness of a stranger who let them stay in their stable—something only a little bigger than a shed became Jesus' quiet, humble welcoming place.

Later, Scripture tells us that the angels visited shepherds who were in the area. God chooses the most humble to behold His very face. People who often were forgotten by society were given the gift of intimacy with God, because Christ dwelt there, on the edges of society.

Eventually, the Holy Family did receive a visit and gifts from the Magi, but this visit likely did not happen immediately at the first Nativity. In fact, it happened after Joseph and Mary had left the stable.

Jesus' beginnings were humble. He came into the world surrounded by animals and shepherds, into the arms of His mother Mary, and Joseph, his adoptive father, who cared for his family with quiet strength.

There were no palaces or loud celebrations, but the singing of angels, and the grateful prayers of the shepherds.





# Parish Advent

Giving Tree

The Parish Advent Giving Tree will be in the baptistry starting the weekend of December 2 and 3. We are asking that gifts be returned by the weekend of December 16 and 17.

# Food Pantry

For the month of November, the Collinwood Food Pantry served **594** individuals. The number of people we help at this pantry continues to be on the rise as a number of pantries have closed over time and some clients are being rerouted to the Collinwood pantry. Our support of this pantry, as well as the local Geauga pantry is greatly appreciated. With your generous monetary donations, we continue to purchase and supply both the pantries with food items and personal hygiene items that they need the most and are

often requested. Donations can be made online or at Mass in the offertory collection. Envelopes are available at the bulletin board in the baptistry. Thank you for your support!

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Calling all instrumentalists - Do you play an instrument? Would you like to add to the beauty of our liturgies on Sundays and/or on Holy Days? All ages and skill levels are welcome! We are looking for musicians for Christmas, and for regular Sundays in general. Stop by after mass or email <a href="mailto:kmccoll@stanselm.org">kmccoll@stanselm.org</a>
-Karen McColl, organist

Children's Christmas Eve Choir - The parish Children's Choir has been steadily growing this autumn. This winter is an excellent opportunity for newcomers to join us to sing Christmas carols at the 4pm Mass on Christmas Eve. All ages welcome! Please contact Rosemary Heredos to sign up and receive the practice schedule at <a href="mailto:rheredos@stanselm.org">rheredos@stanselm.org</a>
- Rosemary Heredos, Music Director



# Calendar of EVENTS

### Sunday, December 10

9:00 a.m. RCIA

10:00 a.m. Coffee Social Kelly Hall 12:00 p.m. Children's Choir Practice Church 7:00 p.m. PSR Grades 6-8 School

Monday, December 11

6:30 p.m. Tolkien Society Meeting Parish offices

Tuesday, December 12

9:00 a.m. Adoration Church 11:30 a.m. Benediction Church

Thursday, December 14

6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study Pentecost Rm

Saturday, December 16

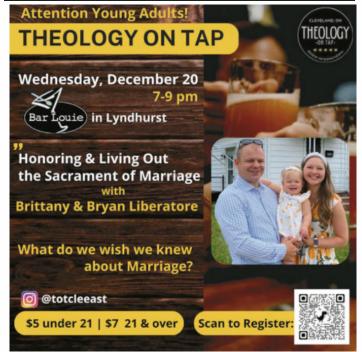
9:00 a.m. PSR Grades 1-5 School 2:30 p.m. Confession Church

# The Saint Anselm Tolkien Society

The next meeting of the Saint Anselm Tolkien Society will be on Monday, December 11th from 7-8:30pm in the parish offices. We will be reading

The Tombs of Atuan, by Ursula K. Le Guin. If you are interested in attending or have any questions, please reach out at sean.e.cogan@gmail.com. Anyone is welcome to come and bring snacks or treats to share!





# Holiday Helps for the Divorced and Separated

Divorced or Separated and struggling with the holidays?

Join us for a special 3-week program for those having difficulty facing the holidays as a result of separation and divorce.

This program is intended to offer practical advice, support, and the skills to get through the holidays and move forward. It will help to identify and manage the emotions brought on by the stress of the holidays, provide encouragement to build new holiday traditions, and provide opportunities for growth. Attend one session, two or all three in the comfort of your home, thus avoiding the cold and bad weather.

We will meet Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm, on **December 12, and 19, 2023 and January 9, 2024** 

via Zoom. To register or for more info: call Karen @ 440-352-8282 or email: kjubeck@stgabriel.org



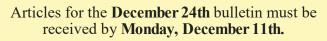
# Catholic Cemeteries Association

The Catholic Cemeteries Association offers free, safe, and compassionate monthly Grief Support meetings and Memorial events throughout the year. The next Grief Support meeting is Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm for in -person support (at 6 locations), and 5:00pm for virtual support and the topic is "The Gift of God's Presence: You Never Walk Alone".

https://

For details, visit: www.clecem.org/Information/Bereavement.aspx.

For more information or questions, call Rhonda at 216-930-4866.



Email to Rebecca at bulletin@stanselm.org



# Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesdays following 8:30 a.m. Mass

Benediction at 11:30 a.m. All Are Welcome!

# Attention Men!

Plan ahead! The Church's New Year is here and the calendar New Year is right around the corner. Mark your calendar for our 2024 Men's Retreat:

# Be Holy!

The retreat is <u>Saturday February 10, 2024</u>! We will start with Mass at 8:00 am and conclude around 2:00 pm. Breakfast and lunch provided (a \$15 free-will offering is suggested).

The retreat is open to all men -- adults and teens -- and will be held at St. Mary, Chardon.

Questions or to register, contact Gary

Burling: <a href="mailto:garyWburling@gmail.com">garyWburling@gmail.com</a>. Who doesn't want to be more Holy? Looking forward to seeing you!

# **Protecting God's Children**

The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct and inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report any past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers or personnel associated with the Church, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at 216-334-2999 or email at response services@dioceseofcleveland.org. You are also asked to immediately inform local authorities about inappropriate behavior.

If you would like to be a member of our parish, please complete this form, and place it in the collection basket or send it to the parish office and someone from the parish will contact you.

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### **SPECIAL INTENTIONS**

### Heavenly Father, we pray that You will lay your healing hands upon all those who are sick. We beg you to have compassion on all those mentioned below. Amen

U.S. Active Military U.S. Veterans Patricia Adamik Peter Amato David & LuAnn Anderson Mark Andres Tina Arnold Kevin Austin Daniel Ayala, Sr. Don Bear Agnes Blackley Julian Blaha Thomas Bolt Barb Borelle Nancy Boutellier Sally Bovineing Karen Bowlus Daneen Brickmann Bridgette Bright Fran & Charlie Brooks Charlene Brown James Buehner Haley Burgman **Bob Carlson** Amy Caprez Children/St.Jude's Hosp.

Mark Chambers William Cierebiej Karen Cleland Tom Colitto Lenny Cosentino, Jr. Katie Cuthbert Giuseppe D'Alessandro Leslie (Hubbell) Davis Kathy Debevits Jackié DeCaro Frances DelBlaso Joan DiCillo Nick DiCillo Dorothy DiLillo Ken DiLillo Doreen Dipple Chris Drost Debbie Edelman Mark Farley Greg Ferencz Gaston Fernandez Connie Fox Dorothy Fromhercz Kim Frost Ellen Gambrill Mike Ganim Barrett Gates Frank Gigliotti

Danny Gliha Jim Golias Jason Graham Gumto Family Robert&GenevaHamilton Rose Hanois Deborah Hartshorn Susan Swan Heiss Jim Head Gail Herbert Adam Hess Steve Horvath Michael & Jeanette Hrisko Louis Hrusch Emily Hun Tiffany Hutchinson Incarcerated people Lynn Janovski Kay Johnson Mike Johnson Katie Kane Marval Kear Mike & Diane Keefe Lara Kitko Scott Kistler Dave Kluk William Knauer Cesira Koning

Jack Kotheimer Lucas Kovacs Brett Kratochvil Joseph Lanckiewicz Paula Lanese Patrick Lazar Anthony Leonard Chris Livers Lucchese Family Isabela Maiewski Lauren Makuh Jutta Manherz Michael Marinko Rosemary Mariola Joe Marotta Jim & Marilyn Martines Marcia Mayer Bill McNally Donald Mihelcic Eli Mihelcic John Monaco Lisa Morek Vincent Nastasi Laurie Novak Marilyn Novak

Kevin O'Brien Bobbie O'Connell Saul Obelenis Betty Omerza Lulu Pawlowski John Peck Deborah Penksa Carol Piper Kelly Pipiti George & Dee Pitko Tony Pizzino Carol Pongonis Abby Prikockis Carolyn Prikockis Jim Podojil Melissa Razayeski Marchia Razayeski Bill Reagan Kathleen Roddy Clare Ronnebaum Jack Roznik Mark Ruppe Joyce Russo Marc Sabransky Frank Sak Tina Sapanaro Jack Seem Willow Elizabeth Simpkins Becky Slusarz Frances Snitzky

Shawn Spenze Margherita Spina Ellie Spitz Clara Stenson Rosa Studniarz Beckham Thompson Amelia Tishaus Mike Topazio Don & MaryAnn Trask Anthony Trivisonno Cindy Trivisonno Sally & Bruce Turner Gordon Turske Christopher Tyers Barb Ulizzi Bob Velotta Kelly Boyd Viezer Sr. Denise Marie Vlna Larry Vlna Leona Vokas Becky Vura Kathy Wanamaker Frank & Jason Wardega Kelsey Watts Jackie Weller Cathleen Wilson Alex Wojowicz Bob Wright Sue Wrobel Rav Zeitz

If you have requested a name to be added above for the Prayers for the Sick and that person is no longer in need of these prayers, please inform Kim in the Parish Office so she can remove the name. email: bulletin@stanselm.org; phone: 440-729-9575



### Please remember in your daily prayers these individuals, who have been and are called to the priesthood.

Sunday, Sunday, December 10 ~ Pray for our Safety Forces Seminarians at Borromeo/St. Mary Monday, December 11 ~ Jake Cermak Tuesday, December 12 ~ Steve Zbiegien

Wednesday, December 13 ~ Gregory Hovan Thursday, December 14 ~ William Martzaklis Friday, December 15 ~ John Scantling Saturday, December 16 ~ Connor Trout



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