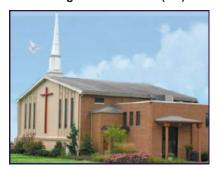


# HOLY SPIRIT FAMILY OF PARISHES

# United in Faith, Hope, and Service to the Community

St. Augustine Church (SA)



St. Benedict the Moor Church (SB)



Queen of Martyrs Church (QM)



Our Lady of Grace Parish (OLOG)

#### St. Benedict the Moor Catholic School

138 Gramont Ave. Dayton, OH 45417 937-268-6391

www.stbenedictthemoorcatholicschool.org

Principal: Debra Johnson





**Corpus Christi Church** 

**Our Lady of Mercy Church** 

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS-DECEMBER 24 & 25, 2023

## **MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS**

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

#### Sat., December 23, 2023 St. John of Kanty, Priest

4:30 p.m. at CC

4:30 p.m. at St. B

#### Sun., December 24, 2023 Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Eve

8:30 a.m. at St. A

Elizabeth Kraes +

9:00 a.m. at OLOG

10:30 a.m. at St. B

11:00 a.m. at QM

4:00 p.m. at ST.A Christmas Eve Mass 6:00 p.m. at QM Christmas Eve Mass

Mon., December 25, 2023 The Nativity of the Lord

9:00 a.m. at OLOM Christmas Day Mass

10:30 a.m. at St. B Christmas Day Mass Tues., December 26, 2023 St. Stephen, the First Martyr

8:30 a.m. at CC

Wed., December 27, 2023 St. John, Apostle and Evangelist

8:30 a.m. at OLOM

Thurs., December 28, 2023 The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

8:30 a.m. at OM

Fri., December 29 2023 (No Mass or Communion Service)

Sat., December 30, 2023

4:30 p.m. at OLOM

4:30 p.m. at St. B

#### Sun., December 31, 2023 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30 a.m. at St. A

Frances Stockert +

9:00 a.m. at OLOG

10:30 a.m. at St. B

11:00 a.m. at OM

Mon., January 1, 2024 Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

10:00 a.m. at St. B

#### **PASTORAL STAFF & LEADERSHIP**

Pastor: Fr. Francis Tandoh, C.S.Sp

sajares@yahoo.com 937-268-6697 x1002

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Benoit Mukamba, C.S.Sp.

benoit92@ourladyofgracedayton.org

Fr. Benoit Regional Phone: 937-972-3079

#### **Deacons:**

Kenneth Stewart krstewart@woh.rr.com

Osagie Victor Obasuyi vobasuyi@yahoo.com

Skip Royer <u>sroyer@ourladyofgracedayton.org</u>

#### **Parish Administrators**

Regional Parish Assistant Liz Gadola

lgadola@ourladyofgracedayton.org

(SA/OLG/QM) Fran Delegato delegatof@outlook.com

(SA) Sylvia Hess csaintaugustine@woh.rr.com

(SB) Janice Kwofie <u>admin@untiedinhope.org</u>

(SB) Damita Norton-Green <u>btribejudah@gmail.com</u>

(QM) Marty Phillips mphillips@qmdayton.org

**Sacristan and Facilities**: (OLG) Natinka Siwecki nsiwecki@ourladyofgracedayton.org

Saturday, December 30, 2023 4:30 p.m at CC

**Presider:** Fr. Benoit **Lector:** Pam Eyink

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Pat Gill / Detsy Sacksteder

Server:

Saturday, December 30, 2023 4:30 p.m. at St. B

**Presider:** Fr. Francis **Lectors/Readers:** tbd

Sunday, December 31, 2023 8:30 a.m. at St. A

Presider: Fr. Francis
Lectors: Jeff Bruns
Eucharistic Ministers: tbd

Sunday, December 31, 9:00 a.m. at OLOM

**Presider:** Fr. Benoit **Lectors:** Ellen Hopkins

Eucharistic Ministers: Deb Ravestein / Sr. Gerri

**Server:** 

Sunday, December 31, 2023 10:30 a.m. at St. B

**Presider:** Fr. Francis

**Lectors:** Jim Lorow / Emmett Orr **Petitions:** Deacon Victor O'Basuyi

**Eucharistic Ministers:** 

Rita Ellicott, Sharon Hairston, Carolyn Day (R) Susan Smith, Mary O'Basuyi, Robin Craft-Bell (L)

Deacon Victor O'Basuyi (C)

Sunday, December 31, 2023 11:00 a.m. at QM

**Presider:** Fr. Benoit **Lector:** Steve Koob

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Jim Zeller / Teresa Huntley

Server: Carl Meyer

#### **Music Ministers**

(SA) Denise Jasek denisejasek@gmail.com

(OLOG / OM) Michael Kastner

mkastner@ourladyofgracedayton.org

(SB) Gabe Lawson gabe.lawson.1609@gmail.com

#### Religious Education

(SB) Dominique Akpore <u>dakpore@stbenedictdayton.org</u>
(QM) Marty Phillips <u>mphillips@qmdayton.org</u>

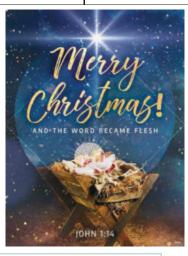
#### Parish Council for Holy Spirit Family of Parishes

Chair: Randall Klotz Vice Chair: Consuella Wilson

# HOLY SPIRIT FAMILY OF PARISHES WEEKLY CALENDAR

	MONDAY December 25, 2023 The Nativity of the Lord	
	See Mass Schedule to the left	
	TUESDAY December 26, 2023	
9:30 a.m.	Charismatic Prayer Group	CC Madonna Room
4:00 p.m.	Neighborhood Meal	CC Madonna Room
	WEDNESDAY December 27, 2023	
9:30 a.m.	QM Bible Study- On Christmas Break	QM McAuley Hall
11:30 a.m.	Chair Fitness Class—On Christmas Break	QM McAuley Hall
6:30 p.m.	St. Augustine Rosary	SA Church
7:00 p.m.	St. Benedict Bible Study	In the meeting room
	SUNDAY December 31, 2023	
	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph	All Regular Masses

Check with your groups above to see if you are meeting this week!



#### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4 p.m. before Mass at SB, or after daily Masses at CC, OLOG, QM or by appointment.

# **CHURCH INFORMATION**

#### St. Augustine Church

6939 Weaver Rd. (Church), Germantown, OH 45327 6891 Weaver Rd. (Rectory)

937-855-2289 Email <u>csaintaugustine@woh.rr.com</u>
Website catholicsmart.com

Office hours: Tues. & Thurs. 9:00 am—12:30 pm

#### St. Benedict the Moor Church

519 Liscum Dr., Dayton, OH 45417
937-268-6697 Email <u>admin@unitedinhope.org</u>
Website <u>unitedinhope.org</u>

Office hours: Tuesday through Thursday 10:00 to 2:00 pm



#### **Weekend Collections**

ST. AUGUSTINE

**Sunday Mass** 

November 26

COLLECTION \$1127

CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT \$20 POINTSETTIAS /ART & ENVIRONMENT \$20

# ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR

**Saturday and Sunday Mass** 

November 26
Collection \$1880

Christmas Flowers \$270

# OUR LADY OF GRACE - OLOM & CC Saturday and Sunday Mass

November 26

Collection \$363

#### **QUEEN OF MARTYRS**

**Sunday Mass** 

November 26

Collection \$1222 Christmas Flowers \$13

SVDP \$10

CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT \$210

- Prayer Chains, Sacrament of the Sick Call office 937-268-6697
- Weddings, RCIA/RCIC: Call office 937-268-6697
- **Baptisms:**

Call office 937-268-6697 Deacons Ken Stewart & Victor Obasuyi, and Marty Phillips, instructors

#### **BULLETIN DEADLINE**

Monday at noon

Send bulletin information to: mphillips@gmdayton.org

#### Queen of Martyrs Church

4134 Cedar Ridge Rd. (Church), Dayton, OH 45414 4144 Cedar Ridge Rd. (Office)

937-277-2092 queenofmartyrsdayton.gmail.com

Website <a href="http://qmdayton.org/">http://qmdayton.org/</a>

Office hours: Tues. & Thurs. 9:00 am—12:00 pm

#### **Our Lady of Grace**

Corpus Christi Church Our Lady of Mercy Church

 527 Forest Ave.
 533 Odlin Ave.

 Dayton, OH 45405
 Dayton, OH 45405

Our Lady of Grace Parish Center (Office) 220 W. Siebenthaler Ave. Dayton, OH 45405 937-274-2107 info@ourladvofgracedayton.or

37-274-2107 <u>info@ourladyofgracedayton.org</u>
Website <u>http://ourladyofgracedayton.org/</u>
Office hours: Mon.-Thurs. 9:00 am—4:00 pm

#### PASTOR'S CORNER

## GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE **Christmas**

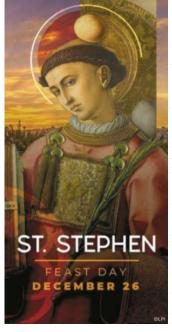
"She gave birth to her firstborn son." The pain of childbirth is something that boggles my mind. I'm sure I couldn't handle it. I can't even watch scenes in movies in which a woman gives birth. I understand it's a beautiful part of nature, but there's still something awful about it and the attendant suffering.

Which is why it's worth pondering an often neglected and currently unpopular part of the Church's theology around the birth of Christ, his was miraculous because it caused no pain to his mother. Even her physical virginity remains intact. Of course, we modern scientific people scoff at such an idea.

Without obsessing over the obstetrical details, we discover a glorious illumination in the symbolic meaning of this birth that we moderns find so embarrassing. God comes into the world in an utterly non-violent way. He himself will suffer his own bloodshed but will never shed that of others. He is so peaceful and non-violent that he will even rise from the dead without breaking the seal of the tomb. All of humanity, in the Church, will give birth to him in the Church free from the terrible pain due to original sin. How badly we need the truth of this miraculous birth today!

Let's delight in this great mystery and miracle of Jesus's birth. He is the Prince of Peace and always nonviolent. We need not fear him, ever.

Father John Muir



## St. Stephen Feast Day December 26

The Acts of the Apostles tells the story of St. Stephen, the first Christian martyr. A man filled with grace and power, he worked great wonders among the people. Some Jews debated with St. Stephen but could not match his wisdom and spirit. Eventually, a charge of blasphemy was brought up against him, and the local population demanded that he be tried and sentenced. He was seized and carried before the Sanhedrin. Despite the danger he faced, in front of the Sanhedrin and his accusers, St. Stephen gave

a long speech about the histo-

ry of Israel and the blessings that God had given upon His chosen people. He talked about how Israel had become disobedient despite God's abundant mercy. This enraged his accusers, and eventually the crowd dragged him out of the city and stoned him to death.

Even in his final moments, St. Stephen displayed great forgiveness and even asked God not to hold the sins of his attackers against them. Hundreds of years after his death, he is still a role model for us to follow.



# Full of Joy

Last year we waited much too long to buy our Christmas trees. We usually have one in the living room and then one by the large window in our room that sits at the front of the house. Essentially, there is one for us to see and then one for all the neighbors walking their dogs in the December cold. If you wait too long to buy a fresh tree you might just not find a tree. But last year I found one tree lot I had not bought from in the past. Luckily, they had some great trees. The price was a little higher than I was used to, but a tree would be mine no matter what.

What I found interesting at the lot was a group of about nine young people sitting around a fire, laughing and drinking coffee. I wondered, "All of these people for a tree lot late at night and this late in the season?" What I found out was that these weren't paid workers. These were recovering drug and alcohol addicts. This was their rehab's tree lot, and this was their service and group therapy. I spoke to a couple of them and found they were the nicest people around. They were full of joy for the new life they had found and thankful for the people who helped bring them through the trial of their lives. Suddenly, that tree they sold me seemed more beautiful and majestic than it had when I first drove up.

This Christmas may the Lord that slept in a manger provide for your rest. May the God that gives many gifts to all of us bless you abundantly. And may the Prince of Peace help you to find true gratitude for the gift of life. May you and yours feel the joy of the season, like a group of recovering addicts around a campfire on a cold December night.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS



#### FOR DECEMBER 31, 2023

The Holy Family



## Respect for Elders

"Look up at the sky and count the stars, if you can. Just so," he added, "will your descendants be." (Gen 15:5)

Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3 • Promise of a Great Nation

Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 • The Faith of Abraham

Luke 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40 • The Presentation of the Lord

Adults: What does your family do to honor and respect its oldest members?

Kids: Who are the oldest people you know, and what can you learn from them

# CHRISTMAS









#### **VOCATION VIEW**

God speaks to us through His Son, the Heir of all things. To be a priest or religious is to be drawn into a deeper relationship with the Son, so that we might also draw others closer to Christ. (Heb 1:1-6)

#### **RESPECT LIFE CORNER**

"Dearest St Joseph... Help us to faithfully commit ourselves to the service and defense of human life —especially where it is vulnerable or threatened. Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things."

USCCB Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities

#### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS:

Kenneth Bronston, Mary Helen Spanish, Pat Bell, Betty Jones, Susie Roberts, Angelina Matin, Nancy Green, Mary Dudley, Annena Younger, Keno Hampton, Sherman Mosley, Juanita Newell, Robert Florence, Loure Hayes, Renee Raisch, Ray Metzger, Richard Dillion, Joyce Merch, Sue Kozarec, Marie Hodapp, Craig Powell, Al Cochran, Mike Mobley, Rachel Woods, Peggy Neff, Wanda Offenberger, Fran Rickett, Pat Meyer, Norm Magoto, Kira Prikkel, Dave Hoerner, Pat Chirco, Keith Jones, Teresa Bond, Bev Ossege, Doncella Parks, Jeanne Sipniewski, Mikayla Powley, Ken Pendery, Samantha M., Joan Means, Mike Kessler, George Noeth, June Phillips, Chris Gavin, Ralph McEldowney, Kevin Oleckniche, Julie Moreo, Ryan Ravestein, Toni Schilling, Andrea Kittel, Betty Meehan, Karen Kuritar, Dorianne Minnelli, Fred Caudell, Mary Foster, Joe Hartenstein, Petronella Chirco, Carl Meyer, Skip Royer, Mildred Singleton, Ann Heaney, Christopher Garvin, Jerome Johnson

PLEASE CALL 937-274-2107 EXT 3001 TO ADD OR REMOVE A NAME ON THE PRAYER LIST

#### **NURSING HOMES**

Eddie Weaver—Mary Scott Laure Hayes—Laurels of Kettering Deloria Harris—Laurels of Kettering

#### WE SALUTE OUR MEMBERS IN THE MILITARY

Major Matthew Fecke, Tiffany Kracus Lewis, Sgt. Matthew Stull, Lance Corporal Patrick Nevius, Caleb Weaver, Spc. Phoebe Moreo, Adam Wilhelm, Martha Moreo, Capt. U.S. Space Force EM3 Douglas R. Sortman, Major Darren Ward, Staff Sgt. Jacob Naas, Spc. Jonathan Gladden, AB Makayla Picker, Ssgt. P. J. Picker

#### DO YOU NEED PRAYERS?

Please call Pat Wilson at 937-836-2006 and she will pray for you.

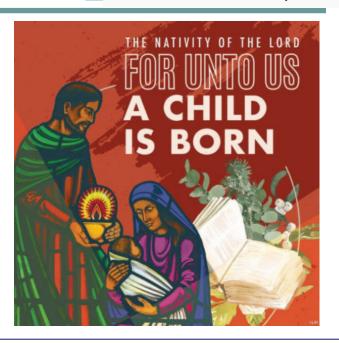


## The Real Presence

# Why does Jesus give himself to us as food and drink?

Jesus gives himself to us in the Eucharist as spiritual nourishment because he loves us. God's whole plan for our salvation is directed to our participation in the life of the Trinity, the communion of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Our sharing in this life begins with our Baptism, when by the power of the Holy Spirit we are joined to Christ, thus becoming adopted sons and daughters of the Father. It is strengthened and increased in Confirmation. It is nourished and deepened through our participation in the Eucharist. By eating the Body and drinking the Blood of Christ in the Eucharist, we become united to the person of Christ through his humanity. "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him" (Jn 6:56). In being united to the humanity of Christ, we are at the same time united to his divinity. Our mortal and corruptible natures are transformed by being joined to the source of life. "Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me" (Jn 6:57). By being united to Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit dwelling in us, we are drawn up into the eternal relationship of love among the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. As Jesus is the eternal Son of God by nature, so we become sons and daughters of God by adoption through the sacrament of Baptism. Through the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation (Chrismation), we are temples of the Holy Spirit, who dwells in us, and by his indwelling we are made holy by the gift of sanctifying grace. The ultimate promise of the Gospel is that we will share in the life of the Holy Trinity. The Fathers of the Church called this participation in the divine life "divinization" (theosis). In this we see that God does not merely send us good things from on high; instead, we are brought up into the inner life of God, the communion among the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. In the celebration of the Eucharist (which means "thanksgiving") we give praise and glory to God for this sublime gift.

> https://www.usccb.org/eucharist#tab--holycommunion-vs-eucharist-faq



# (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## **News of Great Joy**

I am not going to wish you a Merry Christmas.

I have no problem with merriness, and I certainly hope you have your share of it today. May the frosting on your cookies be extra thick. May the lights of your tree be particularly twinkly. May the crackling of your fire be especially pleasant, and the places around your table filled by smiling loved ones. No, there is nothing wrong with being merry, especially on such a day.

But the angels did not bring news of great merriment. They brought news of great joy, and though our world often confuses the two, they are not the same thing.

Joy is harder to achieve than merriness, but it's easier to keep because it is far, far more durable. Joy can withstand the roughness of this earthly life in a way that merriness never could. Merriness cannot live in the hearts of people whose plans have been upended, whose futures have been rearranged and whose very lives are in danger. But joy certainly can.

Merriness doesn't follow from a long and uncertain journey, with no reassurances except the steadfast belief that you are doing the will of God. But joy does.

Merriness does not shiver in a stable or hang on a cross. But joy can, and it has.

May you have a truly joyful Christmas.

"You have brought them abundant joy and great rejoicing..." — Isaiah 9:2

# · MERRY CHRISTMAS!

# Holy Spirit Family of Parishes

# ALL HOLY SPIRIT FAMILY OF PARISHES NEWS

Join your church family in praying the Rosary for the community and each other.

**St. Benedict Rosary** is every Monday at 11:00 a.m. in the sanctuary **Dial-In Available at:** 

New Dial-In Number: 6677701427 Access Code: 556136

**St. Augustine Rosary** is in person every Wednesday a 6:30 pm. Holy Hour every First Thursday of the month

**Queen of Martyrs Rosary** is in person every Sunday at 10:30 a.m., just before the 11:00 a.m.. Mass

#### **Bible Studies**

St. Benedict Bible Study every Wednesday Evenings 7:00 pm in the meeting room.

Queen of Martyrs Bible Study Wednesday mornings 9:30 am to 11:00 am. McAuley Hall. Year round.

#### ST. AUGUSTINE NEWS

#### ST. AUGUSTINE PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like to be a part of the St. Augustine Prayer Chain, please contact Marie Klotz at saintapraysingtown@gmail.com

#### ST. AUGUSTINE ONE CALL

To be added to the St. Augustine one-call, please



Thanks to all who attended the Holy Spirit Family of Parishes Mass celebrating Queen of Martyrs 75th Anniversary!



Harrison Township Trustee Roland Winburn reads letter of congratulations on the 75th Anniversary of Queen of Martyrs.

Deacon Ken Stewart, Father Francis, Archbishop Schnurr, and Father Benoit





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