



"...the voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight..." Mark 1:3

#### WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

Sacraments | Parish Information | Coats for Kids | New Parishioners

#### **SACRAMENTS**

#### **INQUIRERS**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A.) is the process through which persons inquire into and determine if they are called to live out their faith as a member of the Roman Catholic Church. For more information, please contact Brad Romantic at bromanticecotrna.org or 614–855–1400.

#### **BAPTISM**

INFANTS & CHILDREN: INFANTS &

CHILDREN AGE 7 AND YOUNGER – the parents make a profession of faith for their child and accept the responsibility of nurturing God's gift of faith in their child as he/she grows. Parents are asked to attend a Parent Preparation Session (preferably during pregnancy) before a date for their child's baptism is scheduled. Sessions are held on the 4th Sunday of each month, in Our Lady of the Resurrection Chapel at 12:30 p.m., lasting 90 minutes.. Register on the parish website or scan the QR code.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION ADAPTED FOR

**CHILDREN:** AGE 8 AND OLDER: In this Rite, the child speaks a profession of faith appropriate to his/her age. After attending the Parent Session, parents will meet with Peggy Kehres to prepare the child for Baptism in a

manner appropriate for his/her age.

For more information, Contact Mary Koors, 614–855–8861 or marykoorslegmail.com.



#### **EUCHARIST**

Weekdays – See next page for Mass times Saturday: 5:00 p.m. Sunday: 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

#### **RECONCILIATION**

Saturday, 4:00–4:30 p.m. Individual – anytime by appointment. Advent and Lent communal services.

#### **ANOINTING**

Please call the Parish Office to notify us of an illness in the family and especially if someone is confined at home or in the hospital.

#### **MATRIMONY**

Please call the parish office for an appointment with Fr. Denis Kigozi.

**PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:** Church of the Resurrection Parish is a family of loving, caring and open persons seeking to respond to the call of Jesus in the Catholic Christian tradition. We are a praying community who in every way possible provide for the spiritual and corporal needs of God's people. As members of the Resurrection community, we seek to serve all of our brothers and sisters in Christ.

#### PARISH INFORMATION

#### **PARISH OFFICES**

6300 East Dublin-Granville Rd New Albany, OH 43054 614-855-1400 FAX 614-855-0779 Rectory (phone for emergency) 614-855-0476

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday-Friday 8:00a.m.-12:00p.m. 1:00p.m.-4:00p.m.

#### **GENERAL INQUIRES**

postmaster@cotrna.org

#### **CONNECT ONLINE**

Website: www.cotrna.org Facebook: www.facebook.comallrwelcom

www.tacebook.comallrwelcom Instagram: www.instagram.com/ cotr\_newalbany

Scan the QR codes to the right to get connected.











#### **INTERESTED IN BECOMING A PARISHIONER?**

Anyone interested in registering with our parish, please scan the QR code below or visit our website: cotrna.org and click on *Get to Know Us/New Member Welcome*. If you don't have access to a computer, but would like to register, please call the church office at 614-855-1400 and ask for Chris Roberts.



#### THIS WEEK AT CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

<b>SUNDAY: 12/10</b>	MONDAY: 12/11	<b>TUESDAY: 12/12</b>	WEDNESDAY: 12/13
7a Bethlehem Olivewood Company in Rooms 104-106 8:15a Rosary in Church 9a Mass 9a RCIA 11a Mass 12:30p Children's Choir Rehearsal in Social Hall 1:30p Adult Choir Instrument Christmas Rehearsal in 6:30p CREED 6:30p Ignite in Church 6:30p RISE in Social Hall	9a Mass 9:30a Rosary Group in OLR Chapel 4:30/6:15p CREED 6:30p Adult Faith Formation Advent Event- The Chosen Christmas Special	4:30p CREED 7p Mass 7:15p Young Adult Ministry 7:30p KofC Rosary Group in OLR Chapel 8p KofC Council Meeting	9a Mass 9:30a Rosary Group in OLR Chapel 12p Rental: Habitat Mid-Ohio 4:30/6:15p CREED 6:30p Walking With Purpose

# THURSDAY: 12/14 FRIDAY: 12/15 SATURDAY: 12/16 NEXT SUNDAY: 12/17 6a That Man Is You! 9a Mass 9:30a Rosary Group in OLR Chapel Chapel SATURDAY: 12/16 NEXT SUNDAY: 12/17 8:15a Rosary in Church 10a Cherub Choir in Rooms 104-106 9a Mass 9a Mass 9a Rosary 9a Mass 9a Rosary

9:50a Rosary Group in OLR Chape 9:45a Walking With Purpose 7p Contemporary Folk Group Rehearsal 9:30a Rosary Group in OLR Chapel 9:45a Playgroup Gathering 12p Piano Tuning in Social Hall and Church 1p Shawl Ministry 6p Rental in Social Hall 7:30p Advent Evening of Reflection in Church 7:30a That Man Is You!
10a Cherub Choir in Rooms
104-106
12p Quinceanra Mass
12:30p Children's Choir
Christmas Party in Social
Hall
5p Mass

9a Mass
9a RCIA
11a Mass
12p Eucharistic Exposition in
OLR Chapel
12:15p Children's Choir Snack
in Tile Area
12:30p Children's Choir Rehearsal in Church
1p Rental
2p Adult Choir Rehearsal for
Christmas Eve in Church
5p Confirmation Class in
Church
6:30p CREED

6:30p RISE in Social Hall

## MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

9:00 am Charles K Gallagher

11:00 am PARISH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 11

9:00 am Gayle Kerkman

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12

7:00 pm Amelia & Pantalis Ligias

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13

9:00 am Cheri Paquette

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14

9:00 am Edward Stuesser

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15

9:00 am Charles Wetta

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

5:00 pm PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

9:00 am Margaret (Peg) Nelson 11:00 am Fr. James Csaszar



#### ADULT FAITH FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP

Check out these upcoming events!

#### YOUNG AT HEART

#### December 20th-Merry Christmas Lunch

Merry Christmas lunch starting at noon in the Ministry Center. Seasonal music by Director of Music, Thom Wyatt along with his "bunch." The meal is catered so bring yourself, no need to bring food.



#### January 5th-First Friday Breakfast following the 9:00am Mass

Last names A-D - Bread or Dessert; E-K - Salad; L-P - Main Dish; Q-Z - Vegetables.



#### YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

#### December 12th– White Elephant Gift Exchange after the 7pm Mass in Ministry Center

Come and gathering for an evening of fellowship with other young adults from the parish. If you'd like to participate in the white elephant exchange, please bring a wrapped gift item (\$10 limit). Cookies and hot chocolate will be provided!

December 20th– Parish Reconciliation Service (7pm) followed by Gath-

#### ering at BrewDog New Albany

All are invited to join in the sacrament of reconciliation as we continue into the Advent season, preparing ourselves for Christmas. After the sacrament, we will meet at BrewDog New Albany for drinks and fellowship.

## ADULT COMMUNITY NIGHT- THE CHOSEN CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

#### Monday, December 11th: 6:30-8:30pm

Join us for an evening of community and reflection on the coming of our Lord at Christmas! The parish will provide pizza, we just ask that you bring along something to go with it! Salad, Breadsticks, Cookies, etc. We will eat and enjoy community together and watch the Chosen Christmas special. RSVP through parish website or scan the QR code.





#### PARISH ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

#### December 20th, 7:00-9:00pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation, commonly known as confession, in the Catholic Church offers forgiveness to sinners. One reason to go to confession is that it provides the penitent reconciliation with God, allowing them to live in His light and grace. Join us this Advent Season for this sacrament. Check out this article on preparing for reconciliation and examination of conscience through the QR code .



#### **ADULT FAITH FORMATION AND FELLOWSHIP**

Ministry Spotlight | Around the Diocese

#### MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT



#### **Little Dresses of Love**

This ministry provides another way for our parishioners to make a connection with and serve people in underprivileged areas around the world and here in the U.S. Sewers and non-sewers are invited to join our ministry. While we start with a basic pattern, we encourage creativity. Contact Patti Kenehan for more information at pkenehaneatt.net.

#### Adult Faith Formation

Adult Faith Formation plans and implements Bible Studies and Faith building opportunities on a regular basis at the parish. Our goal is to offer opportunities to build both our personal relationships with Christ and our community through these offerings. Be on the lookout for different faith offerings throughout the year. If you would like to get connected to help us lead and plan these initiatives, please contact Joanne Cavedine at jmc7981egmail.com.

#### Medical Ministry

The Medical Ministry provides us with first responders during mass and other church events. Interested persons with medical training (eg: doctors, nurses, physician assistants, paramedics, etc.) are invited and encouraged to be part of this important ministry. Contact Steve Jewell at sjewellpe@gmail.com for more information.

#### **AROUND THE DIOCESE**

#### Change a life, inspire your own...Become a tutor!

Volunteer tutors are greatly needed for adult ESL, GED, and Basic Education Learners.

Please contact Annette Cohn at (614) 444–7330 x2 or Annette.Cohneoppeace.org for more information on this rewarding opportunity. https://domlearningcenter.org/volunteer. Requirements: 18 or older, High School Diploma or GED, attend our free training session.

#### **START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT!**

Give the gift of time to each other this year.

Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2024 the best year of your marriage by applying today! The next weekend is February 9-11 2024 in the Central Ohio area. For more information or to apply, visit our website at WWMEcolumbus.org or contact Paul & Marilou Clouse at 614-834-6880. Early registration is highly recommended.

#### Christmas Shop at the Marian Gift Shop

The Marian Gift Shop is located inside St. Paul the Apostle Church in Westerville. Our ministry is to help Catholics to have a place locally to find crucifixes, religious jewelry, rosaries,

sacred art, bibles, Catholic Books, devotionals, and inspirational gifts to grow in faith.

Dec. 12 - A Day of Prayer at Our Lady of Guadalupe

Discipleship Center Eucharistic Adoration 10 AM - 5 PM. Pray with us for millions of conversions to Jesus. The image of Our Lady of Guadalupe on the Tilma of Saint Juan Diago led to the conversion of 9 million Indians over the period of 9 years. This brought an end to human sacrifice among the Indians to their Pegan gods. Pray in the beautiful Our Lady of Guadalupe Chapel. If you can commit to an hour or more, please email bpojesu2000@gmail.com or call 513 373 2397. Where: 5701 Lawshe Rd., Peebles Ohio 45660.

#### **YCP Vocations Panel Discussion**

December 13th @ 7:00pm | St. Matthew (807 Havens Corners Rd. Gahanna, OH 43230) Join us as we welcome our panel-Father David Sizemore, Sister Loretta de Domenicis, Philip and Allison, and Mary Hodgson to discuss Vocations.

#### YOUTH FAITH LIFE

Youth Programs and Opportunities | Kids' Page

### YOUTH PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The Religious Education Department offers a diverse set of programs for children in grades Pre-K through 12! Here are just a few of our youth programs, but be sure to check out our website to learn more about all of our youth programs.

#### **COTR Playgroup**

The COTR Playgroup organizes local playground meet ups on the first and third Friday of each month. See link through QR code for dates/locations. Not in the group? Contact Peggy in the parish office.



#### Journey with Jesus

JOURNEY WITH JESUS is our children's Liturgy of the Word program for children 3 years of age through 1st grade. This program is designed to teach the Sunday Mass readings at the child's age level. No registration is needed. Held during the 9am and 11am Sunday masses, the children begin in the church with their family and are sent forth as a group prior to the Liturgy of the Word. They return to the church during the Offertory.

#### CREED (PreK-5th)

CREED (Church of the Resurrection Elementary Education Days) is our weekly religious education program for children in grades Pre-K through 5. The focus of the CREED program is to assist parents in their role as the primary religious educators of their children by providing religious education and formation classes for children of the parish who attend area public schools.

#### RISE (6-8th Grade)

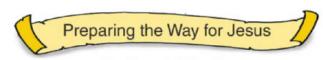
RISE is our weekly faith formation program for middle school students. Fostering the faith of young adolescents involves helping them to make connections between the Catholic faith and everyday life. Registration for RISE is on-going via the parish website.

#### **Confirmation (9th)**

This is the final sacrament of initiation into the Catholic Church. Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives you an increased ability to practice their Catholic faith in every aspect of their lives and to witness Christ in every situation. Confirmation classes for this year have already started so please check back in the Fall for next year's registration.

#### Ignite (Grades 9-12th)

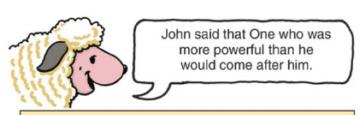
At *Ignite* we explore the Truth of the Gospel and discuss how it applies to our lives. *Ignite* gives you the opportunity to: Ask tough questions; deepen your relationship with Christ; make friends who will encourage you, challenge you, and hold you accountable; become a better, stronger, happier person. It's so much more than a Sunday evening gathering! High school students are invited to come see what it's all about.



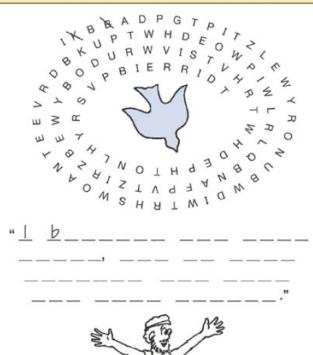
God sent John to prepare the way for Jesus.







Cross out every other letter and write the remaining letters on the lines below. The puzzle has been started for you.





#### **YOUTH FAITH LIFE**

A Christ-Centered Christmas: Advent Reading Plan



#### LITURGICAL LIVING

Connecting to the Faith Throughout Your Week

#### ADVENT MUSIC PLAYLIST

Many people start listening to Christmas music in Advent, but what about Advent music? Check out this quick playlist of Advent songs below or listen to it on YouTube by scanning the QR code.



- O Come. O Come Emmanuel
- A Voice Cries Out
- Christ Be Our Light
- Freedom is Coming
- People Look East
- Maranatha. Come Lord lesus!
- · The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns
- · Come, Jesus, Prince of Peace



#### PREPARE THE MANGER

"Preparing the manger is the practice of preparing a soft bedding in the manger for the Christ Child by using little wisps of straw as tokens of prayers and good works performed through the penitential season of Advent. This is originally a French custom that quickly spread to other countries. Every night



the child is allowed to put in the crib one straw for each act of devotion, good work or sacrifice performed. "Thus the Christ Child, coming on Christmas Day, finds an ample supply of tender straw to keep Him warm and to soften the hardness of the manger's boards" (Francis

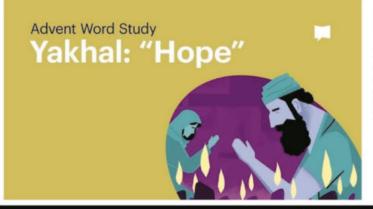
Weiser, Handbook of Christian Feasts and Customs, 1958)."

Check out the full article and instructions on the activity through the QR code below. Article excerpt from www.catholicculture.org.

#### **NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS**

Scan the QR code to for the daily readings online or subscribe and get them in your email.

DECEMBER 17TH	H- THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT
1st Reading	Isaiah 61:1-2A, 10-11
Psalm	Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-
2nd Reading	1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel	John 1:6-8, 19-28



#### FORMED THE CATHOLIC FAITH.

#### Yakhal/Hope | Advent: Word Studies | The Bible Project

In the Bible people who have hope are very different from optimists! In this video, we'll explore how biblical hope looks to God's character alone as a basis for trusting that the future will be better than the present.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and Augustics press



#### LIVING LITURGICALLY

**Eucharistic Adoration** 

# EXPERIENCE OUR LORD IN THE EUCHARIST!

# Monthly Eucharistic Adoration December 17th Immediately following the 11am Mass-4:00pm

12:15 Opening Prayer | 1:00 Litany 3:00 Divine Mercy Chaplet | 3:45 Closing Prayer & Benediction

Join us in the Our Lady of the Resurrection Chapel

It's Advent, a time of preparation. Come, and visit Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, to open your hearts to His voice. Pray the Saint Ignatius Prayer that opened his longing heart to put down these words to send him on his spiritual journey.

"Lord Jesus, as I sit here before Your presence in the Blessed Sacrament, this Suscipe Prayer keeps coming to my mind:

Take Lord and receive all my liberty,

My memory, my understanding, and my entire will.

All I have and call my own,

You have given all to me.

To You Lord, I return it; everything is Yours.

Do with it what You will.

Give me only Your love and grace.

That is enough for me."

#### LITURGICAL LIVING

Adoration | Knights' Advent Sale

#### SPECIAL ADVENT ADORATION WITH EXPOSITION



Adoration with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in the Reservation Chapel located behind the main altar each Thursday during Advent, now through <u>December 21</u>. The hours of Exposition will begin at <u>9:30 AM</u> and continue non-stop <u>until 9 PM</u>. Out of respect for the exposed Blessed Sacrament, we need at least two Guardians of the Eucharist for each hour of adoration, who will guarantee to be there during the hour(s) for which they commit.

Simply go to the Home Page of our parish website, www.COTRNA.org, and choose the hour(s) to which you are committing for the three Thursdays of Advent. You will need to register separately for each hour if you are committing to all three Thursdays or multiple hours. If you cannot commit to all three Thursdays, simply choose those days and hours to which you can commit. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact: John Hodges at jphodges@aol.com or (614) 395–1739.



# DECK THE HALLS THIS ADVENT SEASON

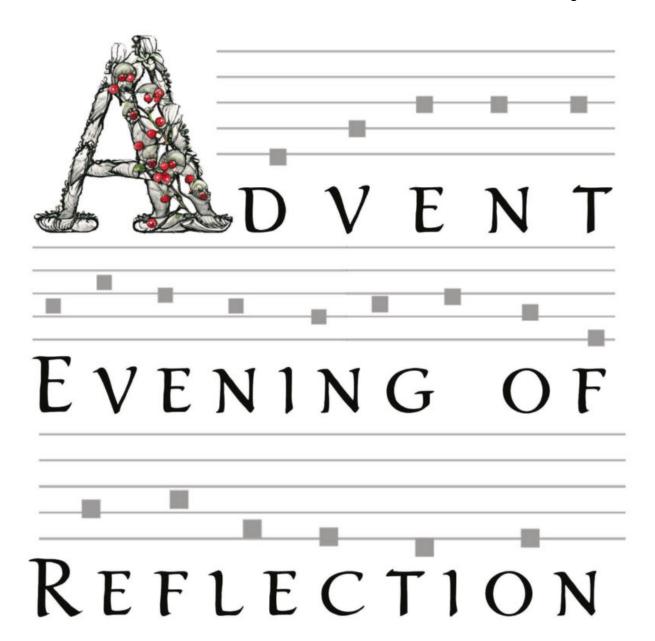




PURCHASE ONLINE TODAY THROUGH QR CODE

#### LIVING LITURGICALLY

Advent Evening of Reflection



Friday, December 15, 2023 | 7:30pm



A freewill offering will be taken for OpenDoor Columbus

#### STEWARDSHIP

Care for Creation | Ministry Schedule



#### WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP RECOMMENDATION

#### Keep it simple!

Pope Francis, in his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, cautions us to avoid the "culture of consumerism." He warns us that "A constant flood of new consumer goods can baffle the heart and prevent us from cherishing each thing and each moment." A simpler "outer" life, free of clutter and distraction, makes it easier to be more spiritual. In turn, greater spirituality leads to a less attached and simpler outer life. A virtuous circle! Material simplicity is an intentional pathway to more joy, happiness and the flourishing of God's Creation. Filter your acquisition decisions through a lens of needs v. wants. "Less is more."

"...we need to commit ourselves to caring for Creation, without squandering its resources..."

- Pope Benedict XVI

#### MINISTRY SCHEDULE

LITURGICAL	Saturday, Dec. 16th 5:00pm	Sunday, Dec. 17th 9:00am	Sunday, Dec. 17th 11:00am	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION TO SICK & HOMEBOUND: December 17th		
1st Lector	Ed Barber	Laura Miller	Terry Sikora	Avalon	N.A. Care	OTTERBEIN
2nd Lector	Jennifer DiGiovanni	Peter Mudre	Sue Fox			
SERVERS	Daniel Adams Colton Barker Aubriana Thomas	Caitlyn Vargo Sophia Warner	Emma Klingele Luke Klingele Corbin Morrisey	Bill Pederson Yvette Pederson	Janene Rowe Terri Turner	Melody Kramer Bobbi Lus
				Out Home NA	Smith's Mill	Wesley Woods
MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	Marg Barber Christine Barker Don DeWitt Margaret DeWitt Bob Dixon Sharon Duncan Jeff Ghilani	Mary Delaney Mary Eckenrode Diane Fleming Laura Valido Dale Vitale Jennie Wilson Jackie Yingling	Jason Milburn Lauren Morrisey Sean Morrisey Arlene Murrin Jacqueline Paluszak Jason Petry Jesse Roberts		Daniel Bailey Jim Flynn Ben Reese  inen box on ben office  up/return between December 11-13	
LEAD USHER	Carlene Tucker	George Butzler	Christopher Sarka	Tamara Frissora		
USHERS	Julie Ryon Dan Shaw Suzanne Smith Michael Sosinski	Greg Maney Sandy Perone Tom Perone Mareion Royster George Sabol	Pat Heinzman Mario Macioce Jack Petrick		up/return betwee December 18-20	en
				Patti Kenehan		
				Pick December 27-29	up/return betwee (Wednesday due	en to Christmas)
DEAF MINISTRY		Kathy Hodges			Roberta Franz	

#### PARISH FINANCIALS



#### Thank you for your support and continued generosity!

Please consider using PushPay, our online giving tool used to manage your parish offertory. PushPay is safe, easy, and convenient. You can visit our website, <a href="https://www.cotrna.org">www.cotrna.org</a>, or use the QR code to get started:

For questions, please contact Chris Roberts in the parish office: 614–855–1400.

Actual Budget Variance
October Offertory \$203,170 \$185,391 \$17,779
YTD Offertory \$729,527 \$711,748 \$17,779

Total Offertory Budget for FY 23-24 \$2,322,455 Our fiscal year runs July 1st – June 30th

#### **TURKEY DRIVE RECAP**

We wanted to thank everyone who donated to the 15th Annual Church of the Resurrection Turkey Drive. We provided turkeys to 473 families at St James the Less and St Dominic Parish. We also collected \$6,191 and the money raised will support these organizations through the upcoming difficult winter months. We are still in awe of how the Holy Spirit continues to work through COTR. We had an aggressive goal of 500 turkeys and had our 3rd highest collection ever

As many of you were wondering, which Mass won.....I am happy to tell you that the 11:00 am Mass won and brought in 208 turkeys, which was 44% of the turkeys collected. We also want to thank everyone who brought in a turkey this year because each donation significantly impacted the total number of turkeys delivered.

Your generosity left us with no words this year. Our deepest thanks and gratitude to all of you, from the smallest donations to the largest, your generosity has helped share and spread Jesus' love to those who need it most.

Lastly, we want to thank the Dixon family for starting this Annual Turkey Drive 15 years ago and for their unwavering commitment to St James the Less and St Dominic. The Dixon's have started a tradition here at COTR that we hope to continue for decades.

Thank you, and please have a safe and Happy Advent!



#### PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Intercessory Prayer | Contemplative Moment | Gospel Meditation | Confirmation

#### **INTERCESSORY PRAYER**

Let us pray... for all who are in the military and for all who are seriously ill, recovering from a serious illness or surgery. If you would like to add the names of family members to the prayer list below, call the Parish Office (614-855-1400) or email bulletinecotrna.org.

To be added to our Parish prayer chain, send requests online to: https://cotrna.org/intercessory-prayer. For more information on the prayer chain, contact: Valerie Coolidge, Prayer Chain Coordinator, by email at: Valerie@wyandottewinery.com.

#### U.S. ARMY

MAJ Ryan Griffin; SFC Bill Hayes, CPT LCpl Michael McCutcheon; LtCol Rick Lovering; SPC Corey Luffler; PVT Adam P. Kearney; CPT Cody Kehres; SGT Ryan Krysmalski; 1LT Bill Lovering; SFC Craig Markish; 2LT Ross Mitchell; Sat. Paul D. Perez; MAJ Derek Stocker, 2LT Roy Wood, III

#### **U.S. ARMY RESERVE**

PFC Jason McDonald

#### U.S. ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

MSG Ryan Pederson; SFC Justin Shuman; SGT Jamie Wasierski

#### **U.S. ARMY NURSE CORPS**

CPT Sean Coolidge

#### **U.S. AIR FORCE**

Curtis Abbott; MSgt Andrew Clymer; Adam Lewis; TSgt James Mathews; 2d Lt Daniel H. Touzinsky; Maj Matt Tucker

#### **U.S. AIR NATIONAL GUARD**

TSgt Liz Humphrey

#### U.S. NAVY

CPO Shane M. Cooper; PO3 Daniel Dunlevy; SA Evan Hammond; LCDR Axel Steiner

#### U.S. MARINE CORPS

Maj. Tom Bertram; GySgt Nicholas Bickel; Capt David Cook; Alan Finn; Capt Joseph Andrew Garcia; SSgt

#### Scott Kramer;

Matthew Oberdorfer; 1stLt Gabriel

#### SERIOUSLY ILL OR RECOVERING FROM A SERIOUS ILLNESS OR SUR-**GERY**

#### **OCTOBER**

Christina Neal, Hank Sherowski, Arlene Cucculelli, Linda Martens, Claudia Johnson, Barbara Jones, David Hoy, Joseph Allgeier, Pat McCarron, Leon Milnes

#### **NOVEMBER**

Emily Scullion, Tom Dardis

#### **DECEMBER**

Vijay Gaddam

We are now on a rotating basis of three months for prayers for the seriously ill. If you would like a loved one added back onto the rotation, please email bulletinecotrna.org or call the parish office at (614) 855-1400.

#### **Gospel Meditation**

#### December 10, 2023- 2nd Sunday of Advent

We like to think we are totally free, but the bitter truth is we simply are not. Or better put, our freedom is limited on every side — by governments, corporate giants, physical and mental frailties, genetic shortcomings, and even the boundaries of time and space, and above all, the burden of our sins and pending deaths. In our day, we are perhaps particularly aware that we are not free to disconnect from the technocratic rulers of the air. If you doubt me, try not paying your internet bill and see what happens. We are not totally free.

It's nothing new, of course. In Jesus' day, everyone felt the crushing weight of the Roman Empire. You can say you're free all you want. But try not paying your taxes to Rome and see what happens.

Once we feel this burden in our own lives — however it comes — we are ready to hear the stunning announcement that commences Mark's gospel, "The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." It's not a simple perfunctory introduction, but a dramatic announcement of new freedom. The word "gospel" was a political, even military, term. It meant: a great victory has been won and a new king is in charge. This Jesus — not the Roman emperor — is God's son, and he has defeated all that crushes human freedom. It's time to follow him and be truly free. This week let's refuse to submit our freedom to false rulers — especially that of sin. And let's rejoice that Christ is coming to make us perfectly free from all our oppressors.

- Father John Muir

#### **Confirmation Candidates**

Please add our Confirmation students to your daily prayers. Come Holy Spirit...

Carmen Londono Samantha Luke William McClimon Kerrignton Miller Callan Morrow Wynnleigh Murdock Molly Page

#### **Contemplative Moment**

"Advent is the time we are given to welcome the Lord who comes to encounter us, and also to verify our longing for God, to look forward and prepare ourselves for Christ's return." -Pope Francis

#### PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Practicing Catholic | Eucharistic Revival

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

#### The World is Pregnant-By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's Grapes of Wrath who is pregnant with her first child. As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." -2 Peter 3:13



#### **EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE OF BRUGES, BELGIUM–1203**

"The oldest documents concerning the Holy Blood of Bruges date back to 1256. The Holy Blood probably was part of a group of relics of the Passion of Christ preserved at the Imperial Museum of Bucoleon in Constantinople (modern Istanbul). In 1203 Constantinople was besieged and conquered by the crusaders. Baldovin IX, Count of Flanders, after being crowned as the new emperor, sent the relic of the Precious Blood to his native country at Bruges...

Recent analyses were made on the crystal bottle containing the Holy Blood. The bottle has been dated as of the 11th century. It is also sure it was made in an area near by Constantinople. Although in the Bible there is no explicit mention that the Blood of Christ was ever preserved, in one of the Apocryphal Gospels it is narrated that Joseph of Arimathea preserved some drops of the Blood of Christ. According to an ancient tradition, Count Diederik van den Elzas brought the bottle containing the Blood of Christ from Jerusalem to Bruges during the second crusade. Recent investigations however have pointed out that the relic arrived in Bruges at a later date, probably around 1250 coming from Constantinople. The veneration of the relic is at the origin of the internationally famous procession that is held every year through the streets of the city on the day of the Feast of the Ascension. The citizens of Bruges dress in historical customs and reenact biblical scenes and the arrival of the Count of Flanders who brought the holy relic."

Read more on this miracle and more at http://www.therealpresence.org/eucharst/mir/a3.html or through the QR code.

#### PRAYER AND REFLECTION

Take Five for Faith

#### Sunday, Dec 10, 2023

#### A voice cries out

This year the Universal Declaration of Human Rights turns 75. The world could use a reminder that human rights belong to each of us and must be defended without exception. We live in an age marred by misinformation. Attacks on others grow more destructive online and in our common spaces. Climate change, hunger, and poverty are unequally borne by those whose rights are not recognized or protected. Advent is the perfect time to identify the rights that resonate most powerfully for you. Claim them. Discover ways to stand up for them. Create alliances with those whose rights are in jeopardy.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3:8-14; Mark 1:1-8 (5). "In the desert prepare the way of the LORD! Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!"

#### Monday, Dec 11, 2023

#### Backstory on the Bible

The 73 books in the Catholic Bible were written hundreds, and in some cases thousands, of years before they were officially compiled. It wasn't until the late fourth century that the Catholic Church decided upon the list of sacred scripture to be included. Pope Damasus I presided over the Council of Rome of 382 that determined the scriptural canon, and he commissioned Saint Jerome to translate these texts from Greek into Latin. This collection of sacred books is the inspired word of God, reveals the truth of Revelation, and forms the core of Catholic beliefs. Pass on the Good News!

MEMORIAL OF DAMASUS I, POPE

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 5:17-26 (181). "We have seen incredible things today."

#### Tuesday, Dec 12, 2023

#### Mysterious mother of the Americas

On a wall, under glass, is the life-sized image of Our Lady of Guadalupe—enshrined in the Basilica of Guadalupe, on Tepeyac Hill in Mexico City, where Our Lady appeared to Juan Diego in December 1591. As mysterious and symbolic as the Woman of the Apocalypse described in Revelation 12, it continues to defy human explanation, including analysis from a NASA scientist. The humble cactus fiber cloak it appears on hasn't deteriorated in more than 400 years, nor has the image, which experts from Kodak likened to a photograph though photography wasn't invented yet. Countless miracles are associated with Guadalupe, but the greatest is the conversion of an entire continent. Pray for the people of the Americas with the Center of Concern prayer to Our Lady of Guadalupe that begins: Hail Mary, Lady of Peace, We pray for the peace in our world; make us peacemakers.

FEAST OF OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

TODAY'S READINGS: Zechariah 2:14-17 or Revelation 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Luke 1:26-38 or Luke 1:39-47 (690A). "A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun."

#### Wednesday, Dec 13, 2023

#### Keep your eye on the divine

Like many early Roman saints, little is known about Saint Lucy. Tradition says that her eyes were removed in an act of torture before her death for being a Christian. As such, she is the patron saint of the blind. We often take sight for granted, but Lucy should remind us, especially in hard times, to look beyond our own vision —and see with God's eyes. The reward for our faithful acts is the beatific vision. Or as Saint Paul puts it: "We see now in a glass darkly, but then face to face" (I Cor. 13:12). Work to improve your vision.

MEMORIAL OF LUCY, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 40:25-31; Matthew 11:28-30 (183). "Lift up your eyes on high and see who has created these things."

#### Thursday, Dec 14, 2023

#### He wasn't afraid of the dark

Today is the memorial of Saint John of the Cross, a Spanish Carmelite mystic, poet, and reformer who died in 1591. He may be best known for *Dark Night of the Soul*, which develops the idea that suffering—including the sense of God's absence—can actually lead to unity with God. "The endurance of darkness is the preparation for great light," he wrote. John came to his insights through experience, having been maltreated and even imprisoned by his own religious community. If God ever seems far away, let John of the Cross guide you to the light.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 41:13-20; Matthew 11:11-15 (184). "Whoever has ears ought to hear."

#### Friday, Dec 15, 2023

#### The secret to our success

Damned if you do, damned if you don't. That is Jesus' complaint about public opinion. John the Baptist fasted and they called him crazy. Jesus feasted and they called him a glutton and drunkard. We've all been there. The best response to criticism is success. What is success in the spiritual life? "In God's will, there is great peace" is the answer Saint Josephine Bakhita offers. Wise words. Ignore your critics, and follow Jesus' path to peace.

ADVENT WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 48:17-19; Matthew 11:16-19 (185). "Wisdom is vindicated by her works."

#### Saturday, Dec 16, 2023

#### Modernism gets its say

Maude Petre, who died on this date in 1937, was a British writer and religious sister best known for her work on Catholic modernism. She was a prolific author, writing on a wide range of topics, including theology, philosophy, politics, and literature. She openly supported women's suffrage, which the church opposed at the time. Her 1907 book *Catholicism and Independence* got her kicked out of her order and she was refused the sacraments by her bishop. Her views were controversial, but they helped form Catholic thinking for the Second Vatican Council. Prayerfully consider that the Catholic controversies of today may lead to the church of tomorrow.

#### ADVENT WEEKDAY

TODAY'S READINGS: Sirach 48:1-4, 9-11; Matthew 17:9a, 10-13 (186). "Elijah will indeed come and restore all things; but I tell you that Elijah has already come."

#### Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow-a day at a time



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PASSED Early Deadline

December 17th Bulletin- December 24th Bulletin- December 31st Bulletin-PASSED **Early Deadline** 

Due December 19th **Early Deadline** 

January 7th Bulletin-Due December 19th Early Deadline

January 14th Bulletin-Due January 3rd

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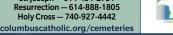
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