

## The Catholic Community of

# Saint Joseph

### *Masses*

#### **Saturday**

4:00 p.m.

#### **Sunday**

8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

#### **Mass in Spanish**

**Sunday** – 1:30 p.m.

#### **Holy Days**

Check inside of bulletin.

#### **Weekdays**

**Tuesday** – 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, Thursday**

**& Friday** – 8:15 a.m.

#### **Confessions**

**Saturday** – 3:00-3:45 p.m.

**Sunday** – 12:30-1:15 p.m.  
or anytime by appointment.



*"In the spirit of St. Joseph, we lovingly serve Jesus Christ and His people."*

**Parish Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday-Friday**

- ◆ **PARISH STAFF:** Rev. James Hatfield, *Pastor*; Deacon Ronald Fondriest, *Retired*; Ms. Brenda Stilgenbauer, *Pastoral Associate*; Ms. Cindy Teynor, *Director of Religious Education*; Ms. Mary Maresch, *Youth Ministry*; Mr. Matthew Nadalin, *Director of Music Ministry*; Mrs. Jodi Lindberg, *Bookkeeper*; Ms. Diane Lemmermann, *Coordinator of Family Life Center*; Mr. Russ Clay, *Church and Cemetery Maintenance*; and Mr. Neal Kwasnicka, *Custodian*.
- ◆ **FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** Mr. Brian Bauer, Mr. Chris Chaney, Mr. Mark Clemence, Mr. Jack Dooling, Mr. Dennis Gonano, Mr. Jan-Michael LaBrake, Mrs. Brenda Pope, Mr. Frank Rose, Mr. Joe Sciarretti
- ◆ **MARRIAGES** – Arrangements should be made through the Parish Office at least eight months before any other planning.
- ◆ **BAPTISMS** – Baptisms are celebrated on Sunday at 12:30 p.m. (outside of Mass). Parents must attend the Baptismal Preparation Program. This is at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month in the Family Life Center. Godparents are also welcome to attend. Please pre-register by calling the Parish Office.
- ◆ **BAUTISMOS** – Bautismo en español se celebran una vez al mes después de la Misa el Domingo. Los padres y padrinos deben recibir charles de preparación en el Centro Familiar. Deben inscribirse llamando a las Oficinas de la Parroquia
- ◆ **NEW PARISHIONERS** – Please register in person at the Parish Office or complete a registration form (available in church). Please return to Parish Office or put in collection.
- ◆ **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Please have bulletin announcements to the Parish Office by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, or e-mail [stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com)

**Parish Office:**  
330-364-6661

**After Hours  
Emergency Line:**  
330-364-6662

**Fax:**  
330-602-7488

**Youth Ministry:**  
330-364-6661

**Hispanic Ministry:**  
330-432-0811

**Tuscarawas Central  
Catholic Elementary  
School:**  
330-343-9134

**Tuscarawas Central  
Catholic High School:**  
330-343-3302



**St. Joseph Church**  
**Dover, Ohio 44622**  
**The Fourth Sunday in Advent**  
**December 18 and 19, 2021**  
**Diciembre 18 y 19 del 2021**



**Mass Intentions**

**Monday, December 20**

No Mass

Readings: 196: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24/Lk 1:26-38

**Tuesday, December 21**

**5:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration**

**6:00 p.m. Msgr. David Sorohan**

Readings: 197: Sg 2:8-14/Ps 33/Lk 1:39-45

**Wednesday, December 22**

**8:15 a.m. John and Ann Dooling**

**9:00 a.m. Rosary,**

Readings: 198: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Ps 1 Sm 2/Lk 1:46-56

**Thursday, December 23**

**8:15 a.m. Patrick Bearducci**

**9:00 a.m. Eucharistic Adoration**

Readings: 199: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25/Lk 1:57-66

**Friday, December 24**

**The Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord**

**5:00 p.m. Tony Ginnetti**

**7:30 p.m. People of the Parish (Mass in Spanish)**

**11:30 p.m. Frank and Rosalie Cugliari**

**The Nativity of the Lord**

**Saturday, December 25**

**9:00 a.m. Jack Beckman**

Readings: 14: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14

**Sunday, December 26**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph**

**8:30 a.m. Anne Leibfarth**

**11:00 a.m. Jim and Nancy Zifer**

**1:30 p.m. People of the Parish (Mass in Spanish)**

Readings: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84/  
1 Jn 3:1-3, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52

The Parish Office will be closed on Friday, December 24, 2021, Saturday, December 25, 2021, and Monday, December 27, 2021 for Christmas. If you have an emergency, please call the office and leave a message, someone will return your call as soon as possible. The voicemail is checked routinely when the office is closed.

**Ministry Schedule**

**Tuesday, December 21 – 6:00 p.m. – Vicki Wilhelm**

**Wednesday, December 22 – 8:15 a.m. – Jack Burnham**

**Thursday, December 23 – 8:15 a.m. – Jeannine Kennedy**

**Due to the holidays and families traveling, we did not do a Ministry Schedule for December 24, 25, and 26, 2021, or for December 31, 2021 and January 1 and 2, 2022**

Please call or email Brenda at the Parish Office if you would like to serve. Thank you!

If you know of a friend or family member that is in the hospital for surgery or due to illness, or is currently homebound, please call the Parish Office and someone will visit them as soon as possible.



**Prayer Chain:** To place your request on the prayer chain, please call the Parish Office or Charlene Herzig at 330-343-1063. If no one is available, please leave a message.

**Please remember in your prayers, all the sick, homebound, and recovering in our parish. Also, pray for those coping with physical or mental conditions.**

Please include all those on our prayer lists that have asked for our prayers, and those who have no one to pray for them.

**There is a Special Intentions Book in the Vestibule.** Please simply write the request for prayer intentions or for special needs and/or the sick in the parish in the book and give your fellow parishioners the privilege and the opportunity to ask for God's blessings on you and yours.

**Offertory for December 11 and 12, 2021**

Loose Cash and Checks	\$ 2,790.00
Adult Weekly Envelopes	\$ 6,088.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,395.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12,621.00</b>

**Other Funds:**

Poor Fund	\$ 472.00
Youth Ministry	\$ 55.00
St. Joseph Catholic School Subsidy	\$ 65.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 557.00
Other Collections	\$ 660.00

**Your contributions make the mission of St. Joseph Parish possible and keep our parish financially sound.**  
**Thank you for your generosity!**



masstimes.org  
MASS TIMES FOR TRAVEL

**When traveling, and you need to find information on the closest Catholic Church and the times for their Masses, please check out [www.masstimes.org](http://www.masstimes.org).**



### Spiritual Notes:

In the final days of Advent, our liturgical focus shifts to preparing to commemorate the Lord's Birth. Today's Gospel narrates how Mary, now an expectant mother, turns her attention to her "relative" Elizabeth, who is also pregnant. This story illustrates Mary's deep concern for others, as the trip from Nazareth to the hill country is not an easy one and lasts several days. The women share their joy in anticipation of the births of their sons, who are key figures in the history of salvation: the Messiah and His forerunner. The presence of Jesus in His mother's womb is such a source of joy that Elizabeth declares, "The infant in my womb leaped for you" Our Gospel calls us to be a people of great joy, for in Christ our salvation arrives.

The prophet Micah announces both judgment and salvation in his book, but today's text is one of salvation. Writing in the eighth century B.C., a turbulent time in Israel's history, he speaks words that challenge the people to be faithful to the covenant. The prophet declares that after a time of judgment, God will renew the people by sending "one who is to be ruler in Israel" whose origins is from the old. "This figure shall stand firm and shepherd his flock... and they shall remain... he shall be peace." The author of Hebrews speaks of Jesus as the ultimate high priest of Israel, whose sacrifice is offered once for all. Jesus "comes to do God's will." For the Christian, Christ's sacrifice "takes away the first to establish the second." By doing God's will, Jesus consecrated us, gaining us forgiveness and access to God.

*For reflection: Does Mary's example of concern for Elizabeth inspire me to help others, even when I need help myself? What can I do in the days leading up to Christmas to more fully prepare for Christ's coming?*

### The Celebration of Christmas

#### Mass Schedule

Friday, December 24, 2021

5:00 p.m., 7:30 p.m. (Spanish), 11:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 25, 2021

9:00 a.m.

*Music will begin 30 minutes before each Mass.*

#### Solemnity of Mary,

#### The Holy Mother of God

Masses will be celebrated on  
December 31st at 6:00 p.m.

### Did you know...

#### Readings for Christmas at St. Joseph Parish



Did you know that there are four set of readings for Christmas? They are as follows: At the Vigil Mass, At the Mass During the Night, At the Mass at Dawn, and At the Mass During the Day. Each of them opens up a new facet of the Christmas mystery. This year, we will hear the readings

from the Mass, During the Night.

### Real Presence, Real Future

#### Seeing God in All Creation

One Sunday morning recently at my parish, I saw a small child burst into sheer delight when he saw out the front door heavy snow falling. He pointed, jumping up and down, shouting, "Snow! Snow! Look! Snow." As tugged excitedly on his father's sleeve and pointed, I realized he saw more than frozen water crystals fluttering down from the gray sky overhead. That joy lightened my own heart, and I went outside and enjoyed the snow for a moment, too. The human heart has a natural yearning for God and the transcendence of our Lord's creation. This Fourth Sunday of Advent, with Christmas nearly here, let our hearts and minds turn to thoughts of God and the holiness we can see in all the He created. Let us also pray that our *Real Presence, Real Future* planning initiative also lead us to a deeper understanding of God's plan and will for our Diocese, as well. For more about the life of faith and discipleship in the Diocese of Columbus, visit [www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org](http://www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org).

### P.S.R. News

There will be no P.S.R. on Sunday, December 26th or Sunday, January 2nd. Classes will resume at the normal time on Sunday, January 9th. The next Confirmation Session will be Sunday, January 9th, beginning at the 11:00 a.m. Mass.



### Celebration of the Epiphany - Tres Magos

On Sunday, January 2, 2021, the Church celebrates the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord, otherwise known as the discovery of the child by the "Three Magi." Our Hispanic Parishioners celebrate this day as "Tres Magos." Their procession of kings, animals, shepherds to the crib to recall earlier practices of the Anglo/European Church has since been abandoned. These practices live on as an integral part of the Liturgy of the Three Kings in the Hispanic culture. Mass will be celebrated at 1:30 p.m., with the procession beginning at 1:00 p.m.

### St. Joseph Soup Kitchen

**Everyone is welcome!!**

**The intention for the Soup Kitchen is to serve God's children in need: the poor in spirit, as well as the needy. Teams, if you need assistance, please contact**

**Andrea Settimio or the Parish Office.**

December 22, 2021 - Team I (Isabellas)

December 29, 2021 - Team L (Chrissie Hensel)

January 5, 2022 - Team M (Fran Mason)

January 12, 2022 - Team O (Pat Figuly)

**Please keep our guests and volunteers in your prayers.**





## **Tuscarawas Central Catholic Elementary School**



### **TCCES Annual Casino Night**

Saturday, January 22, 2022 – Sacred Heart Parish Hall  
A winning night of appetizers, games of chance, a silent auction, entertainment, and a cash bar. All proceeds benefit the students of TCCES. Registration forms are in the bulletin.

### **Job Opportunity**

Immaculate Conception School in Dennison is seeking a part-time music teacher for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year. The successful candidate will teach music classes to students K through 6 and direct the school's choir, as well as have the opportunity to participate in the liturgies. Experience in music education is preferred. Current BCI/FBI background check and attendance at a Protecting God's Children Workshop are required. Please contact Matt Ritzert at [mrtizert@cducation.org](mailto:mrtizert@cducation.org).

### **Christmas Catholic Charities Collection**

The annual collection for diocesan Catholic Charities will be taken up during the Christmas Season. The envelopes are in your packet. This collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations including J.O.I.N. (Joint Organization for Inner-city Needs), St. Stephen's Community House, Catholic Social Services, and many more. You can help share in this important work by generously supporting the Catholic Charities collection this year. For more about our diocesan sponsored charities, visit [www.charities.columbuscatholic.org](http://www.charities.columbuscatholic.org).



**THE  
CATHOLIC  
FOUNDATION**

Learn how to share your gifts and Catholic legacy by supporting your parish and contact The Catholic Foundation. Visit [www.catholic-foundation.org/](http://www.catholic-foundation.org/) development for more information.

### **Leave a Legacy of Love and Faith**

Your last will and testament can leave a legacy of your faith by helping to pass it on to others. When drafting your will, after taking care of your family, consider naming St. Joseph, Dover Parish Endowment Fund as a recipient of your estate. For more information, call The Catholic Foundation at 614-443-8893 or visit [catholic-foundation.org](http://catholic-foundation.org).

### **Save the Dates!**

The 2022 Catholic Women's Conference will be held on Saturday, February 19th at the Ohio Expo Center in Columbus. A week later on Saturday, February 26th, the Annual Catholic Men's Conference will be held at the same location. More information will be following.

## **Office of Social Concerns Diocese of Columbus**

### **January is Poverty Awareness Month**

"Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

For more information about what Catholics can do to address poverty in the United States, visit the USCCB's Poverty USA website at [www.povertyusa.org](http://www.povertyusa.org).

### **World Day of Peace - January 1, 2022**

January 1, 2022 will mark the annual World Day of Peace with a message titled: "Good Politics is at the Service of Peace." Pope Francis compels everyone to be engaged in the work of advocating for and with those whose voices are marginalized, to ensure the protection and fulfillment of the "youngest and smallest." To learn more please visit [www.usccb.org/issues-and-actions](http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-actions).

### **Information and Response NETWORK**

The Office for Social Concerns monitors developing public policy issues at the local, state, national, and international levels and coordinates responses to be sent to key policymakers. OSC will activate the Information and Response Network and send action alerts to those in the network when a priority issue develops and there is a need for a timely response.

The primary sources of Action Alerts are from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, United States Catholic Conference, Catholic Conference of Ohio, and Office for Social Concerns. Additional sources include disaster response alerts from Catholic Relief Services, Catholic Charities USA, and our diocesan Disaster Response Office. Subscribers will receive alerts on issues such as abortion, euthanasia, death penalty, those affecting senior citizens and persons with disabilities, disaster response, economic justice, human rights, rural life, environmental justice, and other domestic social development and international justice and peace issues. The Office for Social concerns will also periodically send messages on upcoming events. To subscribe, contact the Office of Social Concerns at (614) 241-2540 or email [socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org](mailto:socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org).

### **9 Days for Life will take place**

#### **Tuesday, January 19-Wednesday, January 27**

9 Days for Life is a multi-faceted Novena for the respect and protection of all human life. Each day a different intention is accompanied by a short reflection, suggested actions and related information. To receive the Novena by email or text, visit [www.9daysforlife.com](http://www.9daysforlife.com).

*The Office of Social Concerns serves as a central diocesan resource for social justice, education, and advocacy. It is also the local liaison to national programs of the U.S. Catholic Bishops and responsible for local implementation of those programs within the diocese.*



# Lectio Divina

## SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

"What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?" ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

***"If the princes and rulers of this world are privileged to make merry over the sons of their flesh, what a mountain of reasons we have for exulting over the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, our Savior!" ~SAINT PETER CANISIUS***

### **Monday, December 20 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Advent**

*O Key of David, and Scepter of the House of Israel, who opens and no man shuts, who shuts and no man opens; come and bring forth the captive from his prison, he who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death.*

**Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38** In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary. And coming to her, he said, "Hail, full of grace! The Lord is with you." But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father, and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his Kingdom there will be no end." But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?" And the angel said to her in reply, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God. And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren; for nothing will be impossible for God." Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

**Meditation:** In a great leap of faith and trust in the angel Gabriel's message, Mary says without hesitation: "Yes!"... "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be to me according to your word." For us Christians, the moment of that "Yes" is a turning point in the history of the world. As it is also even for those who do not know Christ or who refuse to believe in his divine origin. It is the moment of the Incarnation, when the Word became flesh and began to live among us as one of us. The world would never be the same. In a way, this is a more important moment than Christmas, but it is understandable that we should tend to celebrate more the visible presence of God in Jesus at Bethlehem. Mary had yet to learn what that "Yes" involved but it was made unconditionally and it was never withdrawn. Through a life joy and celebration, and of trials and tribulations, challenges, fears and anxieties – of which we can know only a fraction – right up to those terrible moments as she stood beneath the Cross and saw her only Son die in agony and shame as a public criminal, Mary never once withdrew that "Yes" she gave to God through the angel Gabriel. Mary is truly a loving and faithful child of God – how do each of us compare in this regard?

**Prayer:** O God, eternal majesty, whose ineffable Word the immaculate Virgin received through the message of an Angel and so became the dwelling-place of divinity, filled with the light of the Holy Spirit, grant, we pray, that by her example we may in humility hold fast to your will. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** There is a crystal clear message in today's gospel. Each of us have been called in our own special way to give birth to Jesus in our lives and in our own environment in which we live, work and interact with one another. We too have been called to say "Yes" – an unconditional and resounding "Yes" to following Jesus. In this last week of Advent, just days before Christmas, wow is the time for us to renew that pledge with Mary's help and example.

### **Tuesday, December 21 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Advent** **Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church**



*O Dawn, splendor of eternal light, and sun of justice, come,  
and shine on those seated in darkness, and in the shadow of death.*

**Holy Gospel: Luke 1:39-45** Mary set out in those days and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

**Meditation:** In Monday's and Tuesday's gospel narratives we heard about the two annunciations – to Zechariah and to Mary – about the birth of two special children, John the Baptist and Jesus Christ. Obviously, both mothers, cousins, were each very excited about the birth of their first child. They were anxious to share together their joy and happiness, just as mothers do today with family and friends. In one way, it would make sense for Mary to visit Elizabeth, because the younger should visit the older. On the other hand, Elizabeth should be the one to visit because Mary's child was a person of such rank and dignity, God's own Son. In a way, the story is more interested in the children than in the mothers. And Luke uses his Infancy Narrative as a vehicle to present something in advance that is worth thinking about – one of the hallmarks of Jesus' future life. It is of service to others that he illustrates. Jesus later on in sacred scripture will say: "I have come to serve and not to be served." And so today, still in his mother's womb, he comes to visit his cousin, John, rather than wait at home to be visited. A subtle, yet very important characteristic of Christ for us to note, and for us to imitate as his disciples.

**Prayer:** Hear in kindness, O Lord, the prayers of your people, that those who rejoice at the coming of your Only Begotten Son in our flesh may, when at last he comes in glory, gain the reward of eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Prayer ~ Saint Peter Canisius:** O God, who for the defense of the Catholic faith made the Priest Saint Peter Canisius strong in virtue and in learning, grant, through his intercession, that those who seek the truth may joyfully find you, their God, and that your faithful people may persevere in confession you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** In these last days of Advent, have you reached out to help someone in need? Have you "served" anyone in some special way, in living witness to Christ our Savior? There is still time to do something in these days before Christmas – a family in need in the parish that the pastor may know of, or someone in the neighborhood or parish who you might reach out to by inviting them into your home at Christmas, or riding to Church for Mass. In a world where so many are high-maintenance people demanding to be served, let's think about how we can best serve others by seeing the face of Christ in them, and reaching out to them from our hearts with the love of Christ enflamed in our hearts.

### **Wednesday, December 22 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Advent**

*O King of the Gentiles and their desired One, the Cornerstone that makes both one;  
come, and deliver man, whom You formed out of the dust of the earth.*

**Holy Gospel: Luke 1:46-56** Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior, for he has looked upon his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, and has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever." Mary remained with Elizabeth about three months and then returned to her home.

**Meditation:** Today's gospel, referred commonly as *The Magnificat*, is not what one would have expected to hear from the lips of a simple village girl named Mary. It is Mary's response to the greeting she received from her cousin Elizabeth – a song is full of joy, especially because Mary recognizes that God has acknowledged the presence of a simple girl living in a small place who, in the eyes of the world, is deemed a person of no consequence. But, where God is concerned, everyone is of equal consequence because we are all children of God, equal in his eyes.



**Prayer:** O God, who, seeing the human race fallen into death, willed to redeem it by the coming of your Only Begotten Son, grant, we pray, that those who confess his Incarnation with humble fervor may merit his company as their Redeemer. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** Despite what we may think about ourselves, always remember that God has great things in store for his people. It is again a vision of the Kingdom, of God's will being done on earth. It is indeed Good News. All this is very much in line with the picture of Jesus when one reads the gospels. It is in the gospels where the poor, the weak, the marginalized, the outcast and the sinful have a special place in the eyes of Jesus. We, too, can rejoice with Mary in the long list of good things that we have been gifted with by our loving Lord. Those gifts are not just for our enjoyment. Our task is, in accordance with those God-given gifts, abilities and talents, to make sure that the love of God is tangibly experienced by the poor, the weak, the marginalized, the outcast and the sinful in our own midst. The realization of what Mary sings about in today's gospel will only take place when we all work together with Jesus to bring it about.

**Thursday, December 23 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Advent**  
**Saint John of Kanty, Priest**

*O Emmanuel, God with us, our King and Lawgiver, the expected of the nations and their Savior:  
Come to save us, O Lord our God.*

**Holy Gospel: Luke 1:57-66** When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, "No. He will be called John." But they answered her, "There is no one among your relatives who has this name." So they made signs, asking his father what he wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, "John is his name," and all were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, "What, then, will this child be? For surely the hand of the Lord was with him."

**Meditation:** Elizabeth is firm in her faith and determined to see that God be glorified through this child. The name "John" means "the Lord is gracious." In the birth of John and in the birth of Jesus the Messiah we see the grace of God breaking forth into a world broken by sin and death and without hope. John's miraculous birth shows the mercy and favor of God in preparing his people for the coming of its Lord and Savior, Christ the Savior, the Son of God.

**Prayer:** Almighty ever-living God, as we see how the Nativity of your Son according to the flesh draws near, we pray that to us, your unworthy servants, mercy may flow from your Word, who chose to become flesh of the Virgin Mary and establish among us his dwelling, Jesus Christ our Lord. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Prayer ~ Saint John Kanty:** Grant, we pray, almighty God, that by the example of the Priest Saint John of Kanty we may advance in knowledge of holy things and by showing compassion to all, may gain forgiveness in your sight. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** When God acts to save us, he graciously fills us with his Holy Spirit and makes our faith "alive" to his promises. The question always comes down to this, though: Do you make your life an offering to God, along with your family, and all that you possess? God wants to fill us with his glory all the days of our lives, from conception, to birth, through every moment of our earthly lives, until our death. As Advent draws to a close and we prepare to celebrate the birth of our Lord, Savior and Redeemer, Jesus Christ, renew the offering of your life to God, and from your heart give him thanks for his mercy and favor towards you.

**Friday, December 24, 2015 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Advent**  
**Christmas Eve Day ~ Daytime Gospel**

*Behold, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son into the world.*

**Holy Gospel: Luke 1:67-69** Zechariah his father, filled with the Holy Spirit, prophesied, saying: "Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; for he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of his servant David. Through his prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our



fathers and to remember his holy covenant. This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hand of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace."

**Mediation:** The Holy Spirit gave Zechariah a vision for his own son as a prophet and forerunner who would prepare the way for the Messiah. Like Zechariah, the Holy Spirit wants to give us vision, joy, and confidence in the knowledge of God's merciful love, protection, and care which he offers us through his Son Jesus Christ. Like the Baptist, we too are called to prepare the way that leads to Christ. Life is a journey and we are either moving towards the Lord or away from the Lord. The Lord comes to visit us each day with his life-giving Word and Spirit. Those who hunger for the Word of the Lord will never be disappointed. He will draw them to himself and show them his love and mercy.

**Prayer:** Come quickly, we pray, Lord Jesus, and do not delay, that those who trust in your compassion may find solace and relief in your coming. Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Contemplation:** When John was circumcised on the eighth day according to the Jewish rite, his father Zechariah was "filled with the Holy Spirit" and with great joy. Inspired by the Holy Spirit he spoke out a prophetic word and hymn of blessing for the work of redemption which God was about to accomplish in Christ. He foresaw the fulfillment of God's promise to David and his descendants that David's dynasty would endure forever through the coming of the Messianic King (2 Samuel 7:16). This King would establish peace and security for his people. We often think of peace as the absence of trouble. The peace which the Messiah brings cancels the debt of sin and restores our broken relationship with God.

**Saturday, December 25, 2015**

### **Solemnity of Christmas ~ The Birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**

*Today a light will shine upon us, for the Lord is born for us; and he will be called Wondrous God,  
Prince of peace, Father of future ages: and his reign will be without end.*

**Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-14** (Revised Standard Version translation) In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirin'i-us was governor of Syria. And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to be delivered. And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in that region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. And the angel said to them, "Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased!"

**Prayer:** Grant we pray, almighty God, that as we are bathed in the new radiance of Your incarnate Word, the light of faith, which illumines our minds, may also shine through in our deed. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever, Amen.

**Contemplation:** In the quiet of your home read and ponder the power of this "Christmas Gospel" and join with the angelic choirs of heaven and glorify God, giving thanks to God for the gift of his Son, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, our Savior and Redeemer. Blessings for a Merry Christmas!

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Daily meditations and contemplations adapted from the Irish Jesuits' *Sacred Space* web page and *Biblical Medications for Advent* by Rev. Carroll Stuhlmueller, C.P.; prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011; information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

\*

frlumpe:2021





### St. Joseph Annual Mission Trip

#### Interested in learning more about SWAP?

SWAP is a service of MCC/Great Lakes. It is a home repair ministry that serves low-income families in several counties of southeastern Kentucky and West Virginia. A SWAP experience includes spending time in the mountains of Appalachia, ministering to and building relationships with local folks in need while reflecting on and sharing your experiences as you serve "In the name of Christ." If you are interested in joining us, or learning more about the trip and the experiences of those who attended last year, please contact John Karl or Matt Ritzert.

### Retrouvaille

The Retrouvaille program offers tools needed to discover a loving marriage relationship. Thousands of couples headed for separation or divorce have successfully overcome their marriage difficulties by attend the program. Visit [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org) for more information, or contact the Diocese of Columbus Office of Family and Marriage at 614-241-2560.



### Other Information To Note:

#### **A special thank-you to all of our "Parish Bulletin Sponsors."**

Through your generous donation, we are able to publish over 600 bulletins each week for our parishioners, free of charge to our parish. Please support those who support us!

**Mass Intentions:** Please be reminded that any parishioner is welcome to request Masses be celebrated for deceased or living loved ones. To schedule a Mass Intention, please contact the Parish Office.

**Low-gluten Hosts:** If you are a person who needs to receive a low-gluten host because of wheat allergies or celiac disease, please call the Parish Office.

**Bulletin deadline:** The bulletin deadline is Monday at 3:00 p.m. Please include your contact information with phone number and email address. Bulletin notices may be in writing, faxed to 330-602-7488, dropped off, or emailed to [stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com).

### St. Joseph Cemetery

If you are interested in purchasing lots, or if you have questions regarding rules and regulations, please call Russ in the Parish Office, and he will be happy to assist you.

### Join our Team! Greeters Needed!

Are you interested in being a Greeter at Mass? This is a ministry your whole family can do together. Greeters welcome people to Mass and answer basic questions from our parishioners and our guests. If you would like to volunteer, please call the Parish Office.

### Stand up and be counted!

Are you a registered parishioner? Do we have your current phone number? Registering in the parish is a declaration of your desire to be a part of the Catholic community and commitment to the life of our parish. If you want to register, there are forms in the Vestibule, simply fill one out and drop it in the collection basket or stop in the Parish Office during the week or on Sunday mornings after the Masses and request a form.



Please help us to update our records. More and more parishioners have begun to eliminate their landlines, and use only cell phones. If you fall into this category, please contact the Parish Office with your correct information. You may fill out this

slip and drop it in the collection basket or email any changes to [stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com](mailto:stjosephchurch@roadrunner.com).

Thank you!!

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### The Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

December 2021

#### **Catechists**

Let us pray for the catechists, summoned to announce the Word of God: may they be its witnesses, with courage and creativity and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

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## **TCCES Casino Night**



**Saturday January 22, 2022**  
**6:00 – 10:00 PM**  
**Sacred Heart Parish Center**

Please join us for a winning night of appetizers, games of chance, a silent auction, entertainment and a cash bar. All proceeds benefit the students of TCCES.

**Reservations**

**\$10 per person**

**Advanced Sales Only**

*RSVP by January 5, 2022*

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone #** \_\_\_\_\_

**# of tickets** \_\_\_\_\_ **Amount enclosed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Optional table request – please print names of others in your party (tables of 4 or 8 available):** \_\_\_\_\_

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Reservations can be sent to TCCES, 600 N. Tuscarawas Ave, Dover, OH 44622  
For questions or electronic reservations (payment due at door), please email:  
[tccescasinonight@gmail.com](mailto:tccescasinonight@gmail.com).



**Iglesias San José**  
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**Cuarto Domingo de Adviento**  
**19 de Diciembre del 2021**



**Calendario Litúrgico:**

Misas en Español

Navidad

**24 de Diciembre**

**5:00 p.m. en Ingles,**

**7:30 p.m. en Español**

**11:30 p.m. en Ingles**

**Domingo**                      **Diciembre 26**                      **1:30 p.m.**

Tres Reyes Magos

**Domingo**                      **Enero 2**                      **1:30 p.m.**

Confesiones

**Antes de misa de español de 12:30 p.m. a 1:15 p.m.**

Misas en Ingles

**Sábados**                                              **4:00 p.m.**

**Domingos**                                              **8:30 a.m. y 11:00 a.m.**

**Notas Espirituales**

En los últimos días de Adviento, nuestro enfoque litúrgico se desplaza a la preparación para conmemorar el nacimiento del Señor. El evangelio de hoy narra cómo María, una mujer embarazada, vuelve su atención a su "pariente" Isabel, que también está embarazada. Esta historia ilustra la profunda preocupación de María por los demás, como el viaje de Nazaret "al monte" no es una tarea fácil y dura varios días. Las mujeres comparten su alegría a la espera del nacimiento de sus hijos, que son figuras clave en la historia de la salvación: el Mesías y sus antepasados. La presencia de Jesús en el vientre de su madre es una fuente de mucha alegría que Isabel declara: "El niño en mi seno saltó de alegría." Nuestro Evangelio nos llama a ser un pueblo de gran alegría, pues en Cristo nuestra salvación llega. El profeta Miqueas anuncia ambos juicio y la salvación en su libro, pero el texto de hoy es una de la salvación. Escribiendo en el antes de Cristo, una época turbulenta en la historia de Israel siglo VIII, habla palabras que desafían a la gente a ser fiel a la alianza. El profeta declara que después de un tiempo de juicio, Dios renovará al pueblo mediante el envío de "el que será Señor en Israel; cuyo origen es desde el principio." Esta cifra "se mantiene firme y pastorea a su rebaño... y ellas permanecerán... él será la paz." El autor de Hebreos habla de Jesús como el último sumo sacerdote de Israel, cuyo sacrificio se ofrece una vez para siempre. Jesús viene "para hacer la voluntad (de Dios)." Para el cristiano, el sacrificio de Cristo "quita lo primero para establecer lo segundo." Al hacer la voluntad de Dios, Jesús nos consagró, nosotros adquirimos el perdón y el acceso a Dios.

*Para reflexionar: ¿El ejemplo de María de la preocupación por Isabel me inspiran para ayudar a los demás, incluso cuando tengo que ayudarme a mí mismo? ¿Qué puedo hacer yo en los días antes de Navidad para prepararme más a fondo para la venida de Cristo?*

**Intenciones de Oración del Santo Padre**

**Diciembre 2021**

**Los catequistas**

Recemos por los catequistas, llamados a proclamar la Palabra de Dios: para que sean testigos de ella con valentía, creatividad y con la fuerza del Espíritu Santo.

**Presencia Real, Futuro Real**

**Viendo a Dios en toda la creación**

Recientemente, un domingo en mi parroquia vi a un niño pequeño, saltar de alegría cuando vio en la puerta la cantidad nieve que caía. Señalando, saltando, gritando: "¡nieve, nieve, mira nieve!" Mientras jalaba agitadamente de la manga de su padre señalando la nieve, me di cuenta de que él veía más que cristales de agua frizados cayendo del cielo grisáceo. Esa alegría iluminó mi corazón, así que fui afuera y disfruté un momento de la nieve también. El corazón humano tiene un deseo natural por Dios y por lo trascendente de su creación. Este cuarto domingo de Adviento, ya cerca de la Navidad, dejemos que nuestros corazones y mentes se vuelquen hacia Dios y en la santidad que podemos ver en todo lo que Él ha creado. Oremos también para que nuestra iniciativa de planeamiento, *Presencia Real, Futuro Real*, nos lleve hacia un profundo entendimiento del plan de Dios y de su voluntad para con nuestra diócesis.



*Por favor, recuerde en su oración, a todos los enfermos, al salir de casa, y la recuperación de nuestra parroquia. Además, orar por aquellos que sufren de condiciones físicas o mentales.*



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