Saint Mary Catholic Parish Vermilion, OH.

December 20, 2020

OUR PARISH VISION : *"Inspired by the Holy Spirit and nourished by the Sacraments, St. Mary Parish Vermilion, is a welcoming Christ-Centered community. We are committed to developing spiritual growth, sharing vibrant faith, and encouraging total parish involvement."*

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

PARISH OFFICE:
731 Exchange Street
Vermilion, Ohio 44089
440-967-8711
www.stmaryvermilion.org

The Parish Staff continues to work hard to help our parish family to live out our Baptismal call as followers of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. If you have any questions or if there is some way we can be of service to you, please contact us using the emails below.

Fr. Paul Schreiner, Pastor
pschreiner@stmaryvermilion.org

Mr. James Tokarsky,
Pastoral Associate
jtokarsky@stmaryvermilion.org

Mr. Edward Klimczak - Bookkeeper
eklimczak@stmaryvermilion.org

Mr. Joseph Kwiatkowski,
Director of Liturgy / Music
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Mrs. Kathie McBride - Office Assistant
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Mrs. Betty Nunn - Office Assistant
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Mrs. Sandy Smith,
Religious Education Coordinator /Life Teen
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Mr. Steve Stumphauzer,
Facilities Maintenance Coordinator
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Mr. Charles Trinter,
Confirmation Coordinator
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Mr. Elisha Valladares - Cormier
Communications Coordinator
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ST. MARY SCHOOL

5450 Ohio St.
Vermilion, Ohio 44089
440-967-7911
www.stmaryschoolvermilion.org

St. Mary School Mission Statement

St. Mary School inspired by our patroness is a Christ-centered nurturing Environment dedicated to academic excellence and education the whole child.

We are committed to: Answering Our Lady's call to work for peace, giving service to others, living the Gospel and being good stewards of God's creation.

For more information about enrolling please contact: **George Mitchell, Principal** gmitchell@stmaryvermilion.org
OR
Amber Settie, Secretary asettie@stmaryvermilion.org

Our Parish Office and Church Schedule.

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, Mornings: 9:15 am to 12 Noon
[Lunch 12:15 - 1:15 pm]
Afternoons: 1:15 pm to 4 pm

We will continue our Live Stream **Daily Mass M, T, Th at 8:30 am; W, and F at 9:00 am during school year**
Weekend Mass - Saturday at 4:00 pm - Sunday at 8:00 am and 10:30 am.

Masses are recorded and able to be viewed anytime on our parish website: **https://stmaryvermilion.org/**

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 12/19	**4:00 pm - John Varga**
Sunday, 12/20	**8:00 am - Helen, Tom, & Regis Longville** **10:30 am - In memory of the Anthony & Mahilo Families**
Monday, 12/21	**8:30 am - Sharon Propson**
Tuesday, 12/22	**8:30 am - For the Parish Family**
Wednesday, 12/23	**8:30 am - For the Parish Family**
Thursday, 12/24	**8:30 am - For the Parish Family**

CHRISTMAS VIGIL

4:00 PM - Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
6:00 PM - Christmas Eve Vigil Mass
8:00 PM - Christmas Eve Vigil Mass

Friday, 12/25	**12:00 AM - Christmas MIDNIGHT MASS** **9:00 AM - For the Parish Family**
Saturday, 12/26	**4:00 pm - Bob Jursinski**
Sunday, 12/27	**8:00 am - Marc Kourcklas** **10:30 am - Annette Dillon**

This Week in our Parish

Sunday, 12/20	**9:45-10:15 am - Confessions** 6:30 pm - Life TEEN
Monday, 12/21	No School / Christmas Break 5:30 pm - 6th Gr Boys Basketball
Tuesday, 12/22	9:00 am - Adoration (Church) **6:00 pm - Confessions** 7:00 pm - Reposition (Church) 7:00 pm - AA Meeting (PLCC)
Thursday, 12/24 **OFFICE CLOSED**	
Friday, 12/25 **OFFICE CLOSED**	
Saturday, 12/26	**3:00 pm - Confessions**

Join us on **Facebook**
Www.facebook.com/stmaryvermilion
Twitter@StMaryVermilion

Prayer Line: 963-9572 or 967-2599

PLEASE NOTE: **There has been a change in one of the telephone numbers for our St. Mary Prayer Line. 967-9818 is NO longer one of your starting number. Your starting number will now be: 963-9572 - Diane Melody**

Please pray for the following people who are in need of God's healing touch

MaryEllen Ahern (Mother of Meghan Dubois)
Frank Andrasak
Rylan Andrews
(Grandson of Nancy & Russell Beach)
Tanner Bergman
Gideon Biggie
Kathy Blackham
Betty Ann Blakley
Mary Bosch
Kirt Bott (Grandson of Yvonne Bott)
Grace Brown
Richard Bulan
Christopher Burkart
Wilhelmina Burr
Emma Cairns
Penny Cambell
(Granddaughter of Mike & Anthea Simpson)
Colin Capek
Jon Capek
Elizabeth Cassidy
Alexis Cerio (Niece of Ray & Jackie Holland)
Eileen Coufalik (Cousin of Karen & Jim Gaul)
Francis
Luann Charity (Mother of Kellsey Horton)
Mary Clotz
Halina Czochara
Mike Daughtry
Debbie Dickerhoff
Valentino Dziak
Anita Edwards
Sandy Esper
Vicki Fagan
Larry & Chris Feldkamp
R. Feldkamp & Fam
Nick Ferrara
Denise Fenik
Monica Malloy Finley
Dick & Linda Flaim
Carol Fleming
Bill Fox
Harris Friedman
Brenda Funk

Julie Ann Gargasz
Blaine Gasdick
Bernie Gorenshek (Mother of Cheryl Hribar)
Adele Govoni
Steven Gross
Harry Hadaway
Tom Hanway
Sheri Haponic
Elizabeth (Burkart) Hawkins
Jasmine Rose Hoholski
Jacqueline Holland
Fr Jim Holmer
Cory Holzhauen
Don Hujarski
Gwen Jones
Maria Johnson
Theresa Johnson
Joan Joye
Patricia Joyce Jusak
Michael Kaprowski
Veronica Karolak
Victoria Kastanis (Mother of Margo Shultz)
Mac Kellar
Joni Kissel (Sister of Jeanne McCale)
Denise Kleinhans
Fr. Ted Kosse
Alma Kovarik
Rich Krieg (Nephew of John & Gloria Showalter)
Karen Krohe (Sister of Lorraine Lantz)
Evelyn Kruse (Mother of Teresa Krause)
Major Matthew Kuhnle
Christine Lallo (Daughter of Brian & Gloria Holloway)
Blake Lantz
Tom Lesniak
Amon Linnell (Son of Loren & Sara)
Nick Luby
Vincent Lupica
Douglas & Pamela Majoras
Joseph Majoy
Joseph Mayer

Claudia Mercer
Jacob Meyer
Sophia McCauley
Linda McCue (Sister in Law of Colleen DeMarco)
James Mitchell
Lynne Nagy
David Nash
Holly Neiding
Jessica Neiger (Daughter of Michael & Jill)
Len Nickoloff
Emmett Novak (Grandson of Dale & Tranette)
Jeff Pabon (Brother of Joe)
Jason Peak
Rose Petterson
Susan Plas (Sister of Annette Dillion)
Debbie Platts
Cathy Presnell
Marianne Prete
Don and Teri Priebe (Friends of Doreen Aldrich)
Kim Raeburn
Lola Rakar
Greg Ramser
Susan Ramser
Amy Redden
Nicholas Reed
Pat Reed
Joann Richardson
Mario Rini
Bill Roach
Lucy Root
Lori & Tom Rottenborn I (In Laws of Celia)
Daniel Rotundo
Mary Ruff
Vince & Mary Ann Schaffer
Rich Schaffer
Stephanie Sese
Connor Sexton (Grandson of Jean Armstrong)
Joe Sharpnak
Riley Sherman

Susan Shultz
Anthea Simpson
Bern Smith (Brother of Julie Stumphauzer)
Steve Smith
Rick Soley
Valerie Spies
Rick Stanford
Bud Stanner (Son-in-law of Kathie McBride)
Thomas Stefanik
Ed & Sharon Stempowski
Donna Strittmather
Stephen Stumphauzer,V
Karen Suhy
Terry Szperski
Gary & Diana Taylor
Rita Tershack
Joann Thaxton
Sharon Tomshack
Scott Trifiletti (Father of Anthony)
James Trohan
Michael Trotto (Nephew of Gerry Harkins)
Emery & Betty Vajda
Michael & Sereta Vallo
Mary Wagner (Mother of Bill)
Ginny Walker
Tammy Waybright
Bob Whorton
John Williamson
Betty Yuhos
Catherine C, Yukish
Clint Young
Pat Youngross (Sister of Steve Stumphauzer)
Jennifer Zadell Walker
Meghan Zadell
Gloria Zust
Betty Zywczyk

WEEKLY PRAYER

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 20, 2020

SUN 12/20	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38
MON 12/21	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
TUE 12/22	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/Lk 1:46-56
WED 12/23	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
THR 12/24	Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79
FRI 12/25	Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25. Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/ Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14. Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20. Day: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
SAT 12/26	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
SUN 12/27	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

Advent Greetings to the Good People of St. Mary's!

Are you unsure of attending Mass this Christmas? I would like to take this opportunity to present some different options for you and your family. The first point is that 8 PM is a late addition to the lineup that was added as a result of your feedback! This Mass was not published in the bulk mailing sent in November. More likely than not, there will be space at this Mass and the later opportunities on Christmas Eve like 6 PM and Midnight Mass. Please remember too that the Gym will be set up as overflow for extra space!

My second point is that as Catholics, we celebrate Christmas as a season! The Christmas Hymns and decorations will be used for the celebration until January 10th. If Christmas Eve/Christmas Day makes you nervous and uncomfortable consider:

- December 26/27- The Feast of The Holy Family (Normal Sunday Schedule)
- December 28/29/30 - Weekday Masses at 8:30 AM
- December 31/ January 1- The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (4 PM Vigil, 9 AM)
- January 2/3- The Feast of the Three Kings on the Epiphany (Normal Sunday Schedule)
- January 4/5/6/7/8 - Weekday Masses
- January 9/10- The Baptism of Our Lord (Normal Sunday Schedule)

If completely unable to attend Mass, but able to occasionally leave the house, consider Adoration from 9 AM until 7 PM on December 29th in the Christmas splendor of the church.

Our livestream on our website can also fill in any gaps, but do not be afraid to ask for Communion if you are unable to get out.

God's Blessings On Us All!
- Jim Tokarsky

Reflection for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

In today's Gospel, Luke writes that Mary was greatly troubled at the angel Gabriel's message and "pondered" what was meant by it.

At other moments in Luke's Gospel, he describes moments in the life of Mary when she received a message and reflected upon it in the silence of her heart. But what was she pondering?

Contrary to the song "Mary Did You Know," the Mother of God *did know the child in her womb was the savior of mankind. She knew Jesus was the incarnate God. She might not have known some of the specifics, such as walking on water, but she knew who Jesus was. But though she knew that, the words of the angel Gabriel, of the shepherds in Bethlehem, and those of Simeon at the temple in Jerusalem still caused her to ponder in her heart. So, if she did know these things, why did she also feel the need to ponder them?*

I believe that when Mary ponders or reflects on what she's told, she is showing us why she is the perfect disciple, the perfect example of faith. Despite knowing the "big picture," if you will, the day-to-day unfolding of Christ remained a mystery to her. In order to contemplate the words of God's messengers, she quieted her interior self to both allow God to fully communicate what he desired and remove whatever feelings of uncertainty she might have.

Is this not what our prayer should be like at Mass? We are privileged to hear the Word of God proclaimed at Mass, and the priest's reflection on the Scriptures during the homily. We listen to the prayers the priest prays on our behalf and hear the words of Christ himself during the consecration before receiving him in the Eucharist. During the entire Mass, God is communicating with us!

What a great time the moments following Mass are to ponder in our hearts the mystery of love that is God! But do we take full advantage of this incredible opportunity? I feel that too often people are quick to leave the church or even begin to socialize in the pews after the final hymn.

Something I like to say is that just because the priest has left the building, that doesn't mean Jesus has. He is still present in the tabernacle and eager to spend time with us! Like Mary encountering Gabriel, we must consciously silence ourselves and allow Christ to continue speaking to our hearts so we might spend the next week living out his will in our lives, a will we can only discover if we give him a chance to speak to us.

During these last days of the Advent season, I challenge you to take just a few minutes after the final blessing to kneel and pray: in thanksgiving for God's grace, but also in silence to allow him to communicate to you whatever he needs to. I hope that as we continue to prepare our hearts and homes for Christ's birth this Christmas, we might also, in Mary's perfect example, allow him to work in our lives and to work in the silence of our hearts.

Elisha Valladares-Cormier

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."

- Lk 1:30-32

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass
©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sacrificial Giving Summary

November 14 & 15, 2020

Sunday Collection	$ 8,912.50
(Budgeted Amount)	($ 9,500.00)
Maintenance	$ 150.00
TOTAL	$ 9,062.50

November 22 & 23, 2020

Sunday Collection	$ 5,932.64
(Budgeted Amount)	($ 9,500.00)
Maintenance	$ 85.64
PSR	$ 51.21
TOTAL	$ 6,069.49

November 29 & 30, 2020

Sunday Collection	$ 6,399.99
(Budgeted Amount)	($ 9,500.00)
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	5.00
Maintenance	$ 124.54
PSR	$ 15.00
Christmas	$ 50.00
TOTAL	$ 6,599.53

NOVEMBER On line giving: $5,377.00

December 5 & 6, 2020

Sunday Collection	$ 7,153.50
(Budgeted Amount)	($ 9,500.00)
PSR	15.00
Maintenance	$ 360.00
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION	40.00
Retired Religious	250.00
CHRISTMAS	125.00
TOTAL	$ 7,943.50

Thank you St. Mary Family for everything

We collected almost $3,000 in our Turkey envelopes. Over 40 families in need have been helped!! All Blessings to YOU!

Adult Learning Opportunities

Tuesday Adult Learning

NO CLASS ON Christmas Eve

Classes will now be on

Thursdays
9:30 to 10:30am
In the Parish Office

There is a great need. Please consider giving the gift of life if you are able.

Sunday
December 27, 2020
9 am—1 pm
Parish Life Center Cafeteria
Please use NORTH Entrance

UNABLE to attend Mass because of health issues or seclusion from the pandemic?

Call ME, Jim, at the Parish Office. I can be creative in getting you or your loved one the Eucharist! Also, Fr. Paul is flexible in hearing confessions by appointment for those not leaving their homes.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Explanations for the Giving Tree

Garden of Grace: St. Mary's provides vegetables and other produce items to Grace's Kitchen grown on St. Mary's property, to the east of the playground, during the growing season. Money collected will help provide raised beds allowing greater return on the plantings, less loss of crop to animals.

Birthrite of Lorain County/Heartbeat of Erie County:
Both of these organizations help with women who are in need of assistance and to further the cause of Pro-Life. This year, money collected will be divided equally between these two organizations.

Bio-Sand Water Filters for Haiti:
A simple device which filters water for individuals and provides efficient, affordable and clean safe water thus combating the spread of water born diseases. St. Mary, as well as other churches in Vermilion support this effort

Vermilion Food Pantry:
Always in need of non-perishable food items. All churches in Vermilion support this great need. Local distribution place is UCCC (Rte. 60) and Salvation Army

Special Needs
This account helps individuals with emergency bills (food, utilities and prescription medicines). We get an average of 2-3 people each week seeking assistance.

Cap Haitian Dental Clinic:
A non-profit organization founded by 2 of our parishioners. Its mission is to support the North Haiti Dental Association member dentists so they are able to deliver dental treatments to the public population. St. Mary's continues to support this mission.

Grace's Kitchen:
Provides meals 2 times a week to area residents. Our church has the 4th Tuesday of each month. The money collected here supports this endeavor.
(Volunteers are always needed for our week…call Ann Beursken (967-4517) or

Tuition Assistance for PSR/St. Mary's School:
This is to assist families who may not be able to afford the fees for our PSR program or helping those who send their children to our Catholic School. The money collected will be equally divided between the two.

Assistance to Veteran's Home To buy Christmas gifts to Veterans at Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky such as :Socks, hats, gloves, toothpaste, toothbrushes, combs, magazines, etc.

LIVE THE LITURGY

Inspiration for the week

Does the world realize that it is waiting? As we go about all of the busyness of our lives and entertain our distractions, there are many holes and gaps in our lives that need to be filled. We are always wanting more, but not really sure what that "more" needs to be. Fulfillment, happiness, contentment, and true satisfactions are fleeting occurrences and often come to us in illusive ways. What we think is the ultimate fix to our anxious emptiness really is only a fancy trend that we entertain. The world does not realize any more today than it did over two thousand years ago that it is waiting for a Savior. We need a Savior. We need to see and embrace the God who has broken into history and become one with us. It is this union of God and man that sets us on a straight path, orders our relationships, establishes proper focus and goals, and tells us whose kingdom we really are meant to serve. The world does not know how truly lost it is. Do you realize how lost you are and that the One you need most is here among us and within your grasp?

FEAST of the HOLY INNOCENTS

All parents who have experienced the death of a child in utero or after the child's birth are invited to a *special* Mass on Monday, December 29th at 7 PM in the church. Together with the intercession of these Holy Children (Matthew 2:16-18), we pray for healing and Holiness

Listening to the request of our Parish Family from the recent survey we have: Added a

Christmas Eve
Vigil Mass 8:00 PM
Thursday,
December 24th