

*~December 20, 2020~*

4<sup>th</sup>

*Sunday*  
OF ADVENT

St. Remy  
Catholic Church



# SCHEDULES, EVENTS & DAILY READINGS

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 19-27

- 19 Sat:** 5:00 p.m. Ken & Dory Borchers & Fran MacLean  
**20 Sun:** 7:30 a.m. Stan Grieshop & Ray & Pauline Holscher  
 9:00 a.m. Dorothy "Champ" Monnier  
 11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish  
**21 Mon:** 8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the  
 Floyd & Frieda Monnin Family  
**22 Tues:** 8:15 a.m. Don Butsch  
 7:00 p.m. Confession (ending at 8:00 p.m.)  
**23 Wed:** 5:45 a.m. Traditional Latin Mass  
 3:00 p.m. Confession (ending at 4:00 p.m.)  
 5:45 p.m. Confession (ending at 6:10 p.m.)  
 6:15 p.m. Joe & Juanita Goubeaux  
 7:00 p.m. Confession (ending at 8:00 p.m.)  
**24 Thurs:** 8:15 a.m. For Vocations  
 9:00 a.m. Confession (ending at 10:00 a.m.)  
**25 Fri:** 12:00 a.m. **Midnight Mass**—Living & Deceased  
 Members of the Parish  
 7:30 a.m. **Christmas**—L&D of Dapore/Bensman Fam.  
 9:00 a.m. Urban & Elfrieda Borchers  
 11:00 a.m. Ron, Sally, & Steve Monnin  
**26 Sat:** 8:15 a.m. L&D of Leonard & Winifred Monnin Family  
 9:00 a.m. Confession (ending at 10:00 a.m.)  
 3:30 p.m. Confession (ending at 4:45 p.m.)  
 5:00 p.m. Gary Daniel & John Bensman (Anniversary)  
**27 Sun:** 7:30 a.m. Adrian, Bernice, & Fred Paulus,  
 Mark McCalla, Vic Siefring  
 9:00 a.m. Marilyn Borchers  
 10:30 a.m. Confession (ending at 10:50 a.m.)  
 11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish



**DUE TO CHRISTMAS EVE FALLING ON THURSDAY, THERE WILL BE NO EUCHARISTIC ADORATION THIS WEEK.**

### WEEKLY RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Tuesday: 7:00-8:00 p.m.  
 Wednesday: 3:00-4:00 p.m., 5:45-6:10 p.m., 7:00-8:00 p.m.  
 Thursday: 9:00-10:00 a.m.  
 Saturday: 9:00-10:00 a.m., 3:30-4:45 p.m.  
 Sunday: 10:30-10:50 a.m.

### REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

- Knights of Columbus—3rd Monday of the month (December 21) at 8:00 p.m. in the parish office basement.
- Children's Adoration—will resume on Thursday, January 7.
- Pastoral Advisory Council—4th Tuesday of every other month (January 26) at 7:00 p.m. in the parish office basement.
- St. Vincent de Paul Society—2nd Wednesday of the month (January 13) at 8:00 p.m. in the church basement.
- Catholic War Veterans—3rd Wednesday of the month (January 20) at 8:00 p.m. at the CWV Hall.
- Patriotic Rosary—will be prayed every Tuesday at 7:45 a.m., as well as on the 1st Friday of the month.
- Blessing for Expectant Mothers—will take place in church following the 11:00 Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

## MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR MIDNIGHT MASS AND CHRISTMAS

### SERVERS

12:00 a.m. High Mass Crew  
 7:30 a.m. Xavier & Samuel Philipot  
 9:00 a.m. High Mass Crew  
 11:00 a.m. Casey & Levi Delaet

### LECTORS

12:00 a.m. Bill Francis  
 7:30 a.m. Vern Siefring  
 9:00 a.m. Doug Hoying  
 11:00 a.m. Claire Meyer

### DISTRIBUTORS

12:00 a.m. Linda Grogan  
 7:30 a.m. Cindy Goubeaux  
 9:00 a.m. Chris Tebbe  
 11:00 a.m. Kathy Nichols

**COLLECTION COUNTERS:** Bart Doseck & Karen Doseck

**Daily Mass Readings can be found on page 4.**

## MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 26-27

### SERVERS

5:00 p.m. Maximilian Schulze & Will Borchers  
 7:30 a.m. Jonas Magoto & Sheldon Pohlman  
 9:00 a.m. Zane Shappie, Eli & Jonah York,  
 Zeb Schulze, Michael Bell, Ben York (Ben)  
 11:00 a.m. Jude & Leo Counts

### LECTORS

5:00 p.m. Judy Goubeaux  
 7:30 a.m. Marci Langenkamp  
 9:00 a.m. Don Borchers  
 11:00 a.m. Henry Cordonnier

### DISTRIBUTORS

5:00 p.m. Deacon Meyer  
 7:30 a.m. Deacon Meyer  
 9:00 a.m. Deacon Meyer  
 11:00 a.m. Deacon Meyer

### USHERS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

5:00 p.m. Dave Goubeaux, Kevin Barhorst, Kevin Borchers,  
 Pat Sherman  
 7:30 a.m. Scott Armstrong, Luke Heuing, Gary Heuing,  
 Andy Meyer  
 9:00 a.m. Josh Francis, Felix Francis, Jeff Hoehne, Adam Hoehne  
 11:00 a.m. Craig McEldowney, Mike York, Sam York,  
 Spencer Cordonnier

**COLLECTION COUNTERS:** Barney & Sonja Francis,  
 Dave Borchers

# WHAT DOES FATHER FOX SAY?

**Parish Offices closed a lot the next two weeks.** Most of our staff will be taking time off to be with family, so our office will be closed from December 23 - January 1. I will take a little time away, but I will be checking email and am always accessible by telephone.

**A very good financial review.** Avid readers of this column will already know that the Archdiocese performed a customary financial review of St. Remy in May, 2020. This was part of a process of reviewing every single parish in the diocese; we were not singled out. This also followed “control and policy” review for St. Remy in 2015 – again, something every parish took part in. The final report was received a couple of weeks ago, and I wanted to share some bullet points with you. FYI, the full report will be shared with members of the Finance Committee and the Pastoral Advisory Council. Here are some highlights:

*“The objective was to review the reliability and integrity of the financial information and the operation of the controls and procedures currently in place” for our parish. Good controls make fraud or error more likely to be deterred, detected, and prevented. The review examined handling of offerings, other cash receipts, accounting, payroll, bank accounts, benefits, and oversight by the Finance Committee. One year of activity was reviewed. Many strengths were noted, including lots of good procedures, employees are dedicated and properly enrolled in benefits, reimbursements are properly documented, records are “meticulously maintained,” and financial activity is subject to proper oversight. There were no “findings” of violations of law or diocesan procedures. Several suggestions were made, nearly all of which will be adopted; those found to be impractical will be discussed with the Pastoral Advisory Council and Finance Committee. These include maintaining a separate bank account for the festival, and whether individuals are classified as “employees” or “contractors.”*

I share this with you because we all know that so many have lost confidence in their institutions and wonder if things are on the up-and-up. You have a right to know that there is oversight and accountability and transparency. Accordingly, anyone who wants to see the 14-page report on the 2020 financial review for St. Remy, simply let me know and I will gladly give you a copy.

**Death and dying: Catholic views vs. everything else.** We forget sometimes that we Catholics are, and always have been, very much a cultural and religious minority in our country. One way that becomes clear is in how we approach death and dying. Much of our culture tries to ignore death; and as we’ve seen this year, almost all the focus is on avoiding death, and if that fails, to avoid suffering – as if physical well-being is all that matters. So, for example, so many people, especially the elderly, have endured oppressive isolation in 2020, all in the name of their well-being. As Catholics, we view everything through the lens of eternity. We do not think we can escape all suffering; rather, we join our suffering with Jesus on the Cross. And suffering does not mean we lose dignity – so we should not seek to end our lives ourselves, as a so-called “death with dignity.” Pope St. John Paul II suffered a great deal in his final years, very publicly. Some people thought he should have hidden away, but the Holy Father understood that his physical trials were a witness to faith in Jesus – who suffered and who rose from the dead, a witness to hope.

**Catholic funerals are not like those of everyone else.** Most of our society, and most Christians, tend to view a funeral as primarily a “remembrance” and a tribute to the one who died. Of course, we do want to remember and honor our loved ones. Still, this can unintentionally be at cross-purposes with the funeral Mass itself, which is absolutely not focused on our loved one, but on Jesus, who is our hope. So the readings are chosen, not so much because they talk about our dad or grandmother, but because they give us grounds for hope. The homily likewise isn’t about canonizing the person who died, but to help us see signs for hope, both in God’s actions in the life of the one we lost, and above all, in what Jesus did to open heaven to us.

**Forgiveness and purgatory.** This is a good time to remember also that we believe that Jesus absolutely forgives the eternal guilt of our sins if we ask; nevertheless, sin continues to have consequences, and this has been termed the “temporal guilt due to sin.” As parents understand, even with forgiveness, justice usually still requires *some* consequence; and the effects of sin themselves need to be healed. This is what daily embrace of penance does for us, and finally, what purgatory does for us. So remember! The funeral Mass is about praying for the one who died, who can still benefit from our prayers, likely more than we can imagine.

**How did this happen?** If you’re wondering why this divide happened between a Catholic approach, and pretty much everything else in our society, it is because our fellow Christians don’t have the Mass. This is a sad consequence of the so-called “Reformation” in which all the Protestant denominations have their origin, and they all reject the Mass as a true sacrifice, offered by Jesus Himself, in the person of the ordained priest. This creates a huge void, filled either by lengthy preaching, hymns, “praise and worship,” among other things. To be clear: I’m not saying any of these things are bad, or that Protestants don’t love Jesus – they do, often with greater zeal than we do! But losing the Mass makes all the difference; and as a result, we Catholics can’t help but be influenced by our own culture, and therefore, not realize the difference between a Mass-centered approach, and one that lacks the centrality of the Mass.

—Father Fox  
StRemyPastor@gmail.com  
(937)526-3437

# LIVE YOUR FAITH



The family receiving the **TRAVELING VOCATION CHALICE** this Sunday is Bart and Nicole Doseck. The family receiving it the week of December 27 is Greg and Rose Pleiman. Please pick up the chalice from the table inside the rectory door after Mass on Sunday, and return it to the same place the following Friday.

**NOTE OF THANKS:** On behalf of the St. Remy Conference of St. Vincent de Paul, I would like to say thanks to all parishioners who so generously donated to our most recent Food for the Poor Campaign. The total amount donated by St. Remy for this worthy cause was \$4,411. Funds collected from this campaign were used to purchase food that will be donated to our local food pantry, as well as food pantries in Sidney, Piqua, Troy, and Dayton. Again, thanks for your generosity in making this a success. ~Tom Doseck



**CONGRATULATIONS** to Levi Francis and Kathryn Kaltenmark, who were married here at St. Remy's on December 12! May God bless them and help them to honor their marriage covenant as they strive to help each other to become saints.



**NEED HELP WRAPPING YOUR CHRISTMAS GIFTS?** Lehman High School students would like to help through their giftwrap fundraiser. If you would like assistance, bring your gifts to the mall in Piqua at one of the following times:

Monday, December 21 from 12:00-5:00  
 Tuesday, December 22 from 12:00-5:00  
 Wednesday, December 23 from 12:00-5:00  
 Thursday, December 24 from 12:00-4:00

There will also be gift wrap service available at Lehman High School on Friday evening, December 18 from 5:30-9:00. For large jobs or to make an appointment, please email [helpinghands@woh.rr.com](mailto:helpinghands@woh.rr.com).



**FISH OF SHELBY COUNTY** is a volunteer organization that helps to provide food, medicine, and personal and household items to those in need in our county. The group is in need of additional volunteers—men, women, or teens age 16 and up. If you can donate a few hours to help sort donations, run the cash register, or help in the food pantry, please contact Darla Cabe at (937)492-1760.

+JMJ+

*Jesus, Mary, & Joseph, I give you my heart & my soul.*

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE INTENTIONS OF THE HOLY FATHER FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER



**Universal Intention:** We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.

Please note that the parish office will be closed December 23-January 1. The Mass schedule for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God is December 31 at 5:00 p.m., and January 1 at 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. We will not have Mass at 7:30 a.m. on January 1.

## FUNERAL LUNCH



### WE ARE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH FUNERAL LUNCHEONS.

Any ladies and gentlemen who are available are asked to consider this ministry. Also, students who need service hours are welcome to help, provided that

there is no school the day of the funeral, or if they have permission to leave school for the necessary time. Tasks include taking down chairs, serving drinks, carrying plates and drinks for those who need assistance, and cleaning up and putting up chairs when the meal is over. For each funeral, two volunteers are needed from 9:00-2:00, and several volunteers are needed from 11:00-2:00. For more information or to volunteer, please contact Bonnie Paulus at (937)295-9805.



**THE NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS** will be held on Saturday, January 9 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the St. Joseph Village Centre (formerly called the Gathering Place). The next opportunity to take the class will be in April. Parents are required to attend a class before the Baptism of their child. Call Steven and Regina Schulze at (937)638-3642 to register or for more information.

## GRIEF SHARE

### GRIEF SHARE, A GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP,

will meet in the Precious Blood Church basement in Chickasaw every Tuesday from January 5 through March 30 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. All necessary materials for the 13 sessions will

be donated by Hogenkamp Funeral Home. To obtain more information or to register, please contact Herb Wilker at (419)953-5398 or [hiwilker@mercy.com](mailto:hiwilker@mercy.com).



In your charity, please pray for eternal peace and rest for St. Remy parishioners **MARY FRANCIS** and **FRED DREES**, who died recently. May they rest in peace.

# LIVE YOUR FAITH

## Bulletin Sponsor of the Week



This week's featured sponsor is **A & M PALLET COMPANY**. Located at 3860 Rangeline Road north of Russia, A & M deals with both new and used pallets. We appreciate their long-time support of St. Remy Church through their bulletin sponsorship. They can be reached at (937)295-3093.

We extend a sincere thank you to all of the businesses that advertise on the back cover of our bulletin. Their sponsorship covers the church's entire expenses in printing the bulletins each week.

Please call on these businesses when you are looking for products and services.

## SUNDAY AND HOLYDAY OFFERINGS for Fiscal Year 2021 (7/1/20-6/30/21)

July 1—November 29 budgeted amount: \$169,325  
July 1—November 29 offerings received: \$139,327

*If you would like to make your offerings online, please go to [stremychurch.com](http://stremychurch.com) and click on "Online Giving."*

*Thank you for your generosity!*

Please remember to pray for the people listed in the St. Remy Prayer Intentions Book located in the back of church.

## READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

<b>This Sunday:</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Rom 16:25-27 Lk 1:26-38	Fourth Sunday of Advent
<b>Monday:</b>	Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45	St. Peter Canisius
<b>Tuesday:</b>	1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56	Late Advent Weekday
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66	St. John of Kanty
<b>Thursday:</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Lk 1:67-79	Late Advent Weekday
<b>Friday:</b>	Is 52:7-10 Heb 1:1-6 Jn 1:1-18	The Nativity of the Lord
<b>Saturday:</b>	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59 Mt 10:17-22	St. Stephen, The First Martyr
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19 Lk 2:22-40	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

**IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY AND NEED TO REACH FATHER FOX**, please call the parish office at 526-3437. This is the best way to reach Father, day or night. If he isn't home, his home phone answering machine alerts his cell phone, so your message will get to him.

## The Gift of Kindness



I am not one to keep up with fashion trends or styles. I suppose I easily default to comfortable and practical. But there's one thing that never goes out of style—kindness. Why not dare to make kindness your signature style? Kindness is always appropriate whatever the occasion. It is always welcomed by people of all ages. It is truly needed in public discussions. It never causes embarrassment or regret. People remember acts of kindness because they touch the heart. They know that someone took the time and effort to be kind. They realize that someone noticed a particular need.

There is not one perfect way to show kindness. That's one thing that makes it so special. You get to decide what actions would matter most to another person. Kind actions simply don't happen by accident. They are purposeful and intentional. They might include smiling at everyone you meet, picking up trash in public spaces, sending a handwritten note, sending anonymous flowers to someone who's going through a rough time, saying please and thank you, calling or visiting someone who's lonely, or simply holding a door open for someone. People always appreciate the gift of prayer—you could say a Rosary for someone, or you could make a holy hour for them before the Blessed Sacrament (special prayer cards to present to people can be found in front of the St. Anthony statue just inside the main body of the church). In case you doubt the importance of kindness, consider the words of Mother Teresa: "Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless."

I don't expect to solve all the problems of the world. I don't expect to be featured on the cover of any magazine. I don't expect to be famous in any way. But I do know that this is still true: "No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted" (Aesop). Be the person who is known for being kind. Be the person who offers words of encouragement. Be the person who makes others smile. In a season where we are looking for ideas of gifts to give, let's give kindness, compassion, and encouragement. Those are gifts that everyone needs in every season of life!

*Information for this article was found at [www.organizedbyolive.com](http://www.organizedbyolive.com).*

# CCD & YOUTH MINISTRY



## Brotherhood of Virtue

High school gentlemen will be meeting on Monday, December 21 at the St. Joseph Village Centre. The time is yet to be determined as we work around school schedules.



## Stella Maria

High school ladies will be meeting on Monday, December 28. The time and place will be determined next week.



## Girls Groups Schedule

- Tuesday, December 22 Rosa Mystica (grades 7-8) from 6:45-8:15 at St. Remy Hall
- Monday, December 28 Little Handmaids (grades 1-3) from 6:30-8:00 at St. Remy Hall
- Tuesday, December 29 Daughters of the Immaculate Heart (grades 4-6) from 6:30-8:00 at St. Remy Hall

## Junior High You Night

All junior high students are encouraged to participate in You Night on Wednesday, December 30 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. at school. Spread the word and bring a friend!



## Leadership Team

The High School Leadership Team will have a large group meeting on Wednesday, January 6 from 8:00-9:30 p.m. at the St. Joseph Village Centre.



## It's Time to Register for the Steubenville Youth Conference

The 2021 Steubenville Youth Conference will be held from July 9-11. To reserve your spot for this popular, high-energy weekend, please turn in your \$40 down payment to Mark Travis. Spots will be granted on a first come first served basis.



Instagram

## Attention All Parents and Students:

*Be sure to stay up-to-date on everything that is happening with St. Remy Youth Group by following our instgram at stremyyg.*

# LIFE Information For Everyone

## Give the Gift of Faith



The gift of faith may be defined as the special gift whereby the Holy Spirit provides Christians with extraordinary confidence in God's promises, power, and presence so they can take heroic stands for the future of God's work in the Church. The spiritual gift of faith is exhibited by one with a strong and unshakable confidence in God, His Word, and His promises.

As with all spiritual gifts, the gift of faith is given to edify others in the body of Christ. Those with the gift of faith are an inspiration to their fellow believers, exhibiting a simple confidence in God that shows in all they say and do. Extraordinarily faithful people show a humble godliness and reliance on God's promises, often so much so that they are known to be quietly fearless and zealous. They are so convinced that all obstacles to the gospel and to God's purposes will be overcome and so confident that God will secure the advancement of His cause that they will often do far more in the promotion of His Kingdom than the most talented preachers.

How do we nurture this gift of faith in our children? Here are a few ideas:

**Explain to your child why you gave him or her the name you did.** In the Bible, names carry a lot of meaning. Jesus changed Simon's name to Peter (meaning "rock"), which indicated Peter's vocation as the leader of His Church. By telling your child how you chose his or her name, you can highlight the spiritual hopes you have for your child and emphasize his or her connection to the larger community.

**Tell stories about your ancestors.** Explain, for example, how their great-great grandparents came to this country if you know their immigrant heritage. Such stories of the strength, perseverance, and faith of their forebears will help them know they are part of a larger, grander story than just their own.

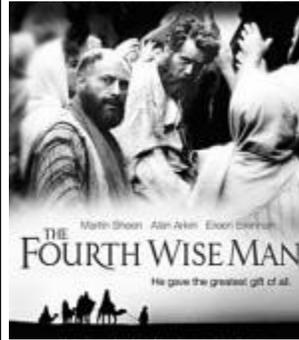
**Share with your child who your favorite saint is and why.** Describe how you receive inspiration from the example or teaching of this saint. Explain to your child the reason you are devoted to this saint and talk about other people whom you admire.

**Offer a story about how your faith helped you in a difficult time in your life.** Think back to a time when you made an important decision and share how your faith shaped the decision. Set aside time to talk about how your faith helps you on a daily basis.

**Give your child your time and attention so you can listen to their hopes and dreams.** The care and concern you express for your child provides a foundation upon which your child can accept God's love and the love of others. Every day you help to shape the attitude your child brings to prayer and worship. The loving attention you share with your child prepares him or her to encounter Jesus in the heart, in the Eucharist, and in other people.

The information for this article was found at [www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com) and [www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org).

## Check out these Seasonal DVD's from our LIFE Library!



### **The Fourth Wise Man**

is a fictional story set in Biblical times. It concerns a Magi named Artaban who studies the prophecies and witnesses a sign in the heavens that he hopes will lead him and his faithful servant, Orantes, to the Messiah. Artaban takes with him three precious gifts to present to the Messiah. For 33 years, Artaban and Orantes pursue Jesus, only to miss

Him at every turn. Along the way, Artaban uses his gifts to help people in dire need. He now has nothing to present to the Messiah when he finds Him. The story culminates on Easter Sunday, when the old and dying Artaban finally encounters the new King, bringing him peace in his final moments of life.



### **Christmas Oranges**

takes place in a town not so far away and a time not so long ago. Baby Rose is left on the porch of Greenwoods Orphanage, where Mrs. Hartley and the children under her tender care become her family. But when tragedy strikes, Rose loses the only home she has ever known and is abruptly shipped to Irongates—a

place that seems as cold and cruel as her previous home was kind. The strict headmaster immediately seems to dislike Rose and makes sure she is punished for any minor infraction of his rules. But Christmas is a time for miracles ~ can Rose find favor with the headmaster and teach him compassion?



### **Stagecoach Santa**

is a heartwarming and compassionate tale, telling the story of the Thompson Family, which heads west for a fresh start after losing the family farm. The father, struggling to provide for his family, is inspired by the childlike faith of his young son who, despite his new environment, helps everyone he meets to consider the true meaning of Christmas. After a mysterious stagecoach rider visits

in the dark hours of Christmas Eve, even father must believe that his troubles are temporary and that miracles really do happen on Christmas.

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