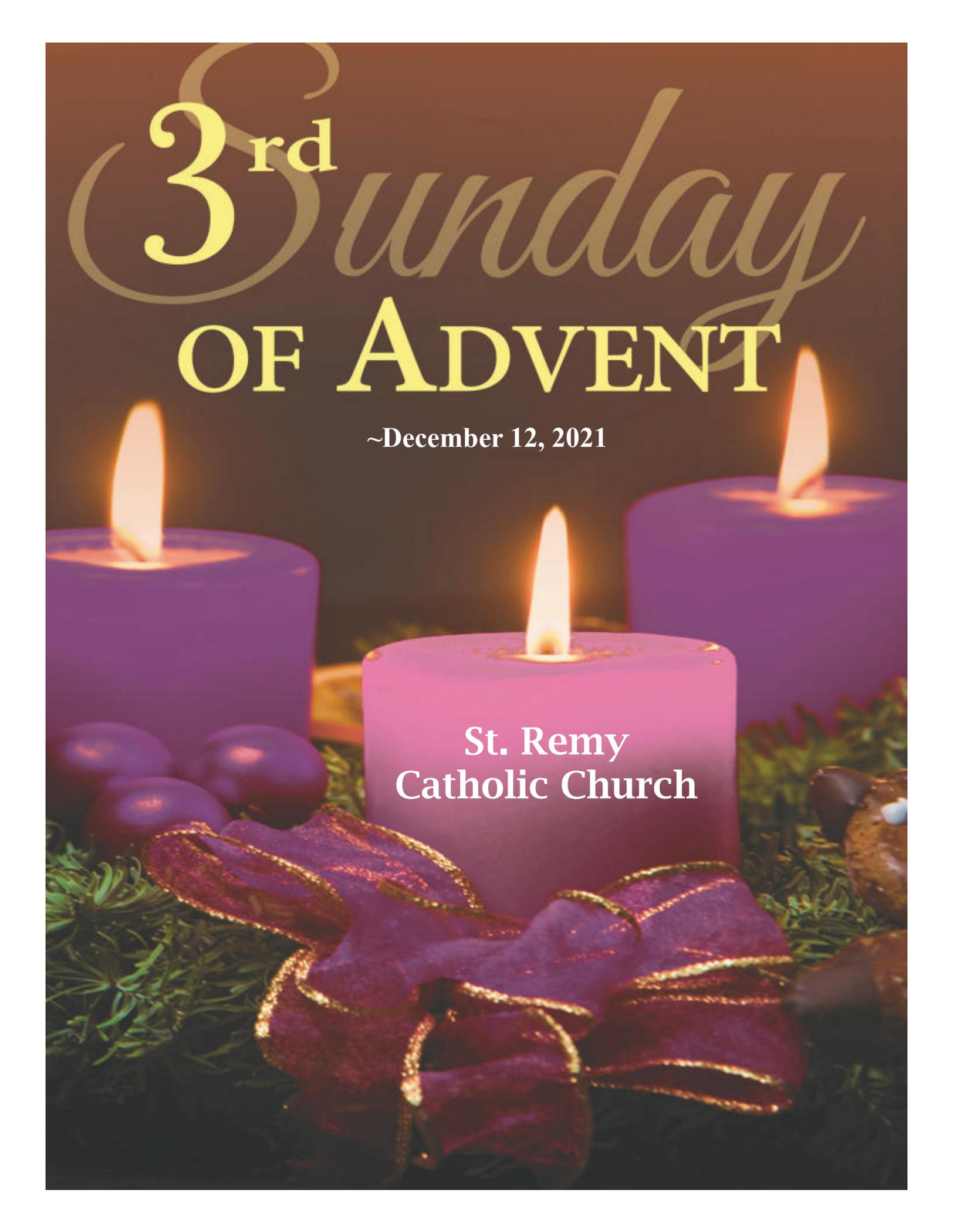


# 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday OF ADVENT

~December 12, 2021

St. Remy  
Catholic Church

The background of the entire page is a photograph of three lit purple candles. The candles are arranged in a triangular pattern, with one in the center foreground and two behind it. They are surrounded by greenery, including what appears to be a sprig of rosemary, and a large, decorative purple ribbon with a gold-colored border. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source being the flames of the candles, creating a warm and intimate atmosphere.

# SCHEDULES, EVENTS & DAILY READINGS

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS FOR DECEMBER 11-19

- 11 Sat:** 5:00 p.m. Ernest Monnin, Paul, Iona, Dale, & Doris Gariety
- 12 Sun:** 7:30 a.m. Carl & Esther Gariety  
9:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish  
11:00 a.m. Dan Lachat
- 13 Mon:** 8:15 a.m. Fred, Eileen, Jim, & Darlene (B-day) Drees
- 14 Tues:** 8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Harold & Rita McGreevy Family  
9:00 a.m. Confession (Father Fox)
- 15 Wed:** 5:00 p.m. Confession (Father Fox)  
6:15 p.m. Jerome & Doris Schafer  
**8:00 p.m. Crib Lighting**
- 16 Thurs:** 8:15 a.m. For Vocations  
3:00 p.m. Confession (Father Fox)  
3:10 p.m. Children's Eucharistic Adoration  
7:00 p.m. Confession (Father Fox)
- 17 Fri:** 8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Henry Cordonnier Family
- 18 Sat:** 8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Vern & Norma Philipot Family  
9:00 a.m. Confession (Father Fox)  
3:30 p.m. Confession (Father Fox)  
5:00 p.m. Robert & Florence Schwartz
- 19 Sun:** 7:30 a.m. Melvin, Kathleen, & Steve Heuing  
9:00 a.m. John & Barb Monnier  
10:30 a.m. Confession (Father Fox)  
11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of the Parish

## MINISTRY SCHEDULES FOR THE WEEKEND OF DECEMBER 18-19

### SERVERS

- 5:00 p.m. Jude and Leo Counts  
7:30 a.m. Micah Grieshop & Jonas Magoto  
9:00 a.m. Felix Francis, Vincent & Gabriel Peyton, Ben Traxler, Zane Shappie, Jonah York  
11:00 a.m. Jayden Gaerke & Peter York

### LECTORS

- 5:00 p.m. Roger Borchers  
7:30 a.m. Scott Borchers  
9:00 a.m. Doug Hoying  
11:00 a.m. Becca Miller

### DISTRIBUTORS

- 5:00 p.m. Paul Fullenkamp  
7:30 a.m. Bruce Borchers  
9:00 a.m. Jeff Prenger  
11:00 a.m. Kent Borchers

### COLLECTION COUNTERS

Karen Doseck, Dave Borchers, Jerry Borchers

*Now the people were filled with expectation, and all were asking in their hearts whether John [the Baptist] might be the Christ. John answered them all, saying, "I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."*  
~From today's Gospel



**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** is held every Thursday, beginning at the conclusion of the 8:15 a.m. Mass, and ending with Benediction at 8:30 p.m.

### WEEKLY RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

- Tuesday: 9:00—9:15 a.m.  
Wednesday: 5:00—6:10 p.m.  
Thursday: 3:00—4:00 p.m., 7:00—8:20 p.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 20) at 8:00 p.m. in the parish office basement.
- Children's Adoration—every Thursday from 3:10-4:15.
- Pastoral Advisory Council—4th Tuesday of every other month (January 25) at 7:00 p.m. in the parish office basement.
- St. Vincent de Paul Society—2nd Wednesday of the month (January 12) at 7:00 p.m. at the Russia Library.
- Catholic War Veterans—3rd Wednesday of the month (December 15) 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 (January 7) following the 7:00 a.m. Mass.
- Blessing for Expectant Mothers—will take place in church following the 11:00 Mass on the first Sunday of the month.

## READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

<b>This Sunday:</b>	Zep 3:14-18a Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18	Third Sunday of Advent
<b>Monday:</b>	Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a Mt 21:23-27	St. Lucy
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Zep 3:1-2, 9-13 Mt 21:28-32	St. John of the Cross
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 45:6b-8, 21c-25 Lk 7:18b-23	Advent Weekday
<b>Thursday:</b>	Is 54:1-10 Lk 7:24-30	Advent Weekday
<b>Friday:</b>	Gn 49:2, 8-10 Mt 1:1-17	Late Advent Weekday
<b>Saturday:</b>	Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25	Late Advent Weekday
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Mi 5:1-4a Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-45	Fourth Sunday of Advent

# WHAT DOES FATHER FOX SAY?

***Plans for an addition to the school: Russia Activity Center.*** By now you may have heard about a proposal to build an addition onto Russia School that would serve multiple purposes. It would have sports facilities, as well as classrooms, which could be used by St. Remy Parish for religious education. Parishioner Dan Hoying has worked hard on developing and promoting this idea, despite interruptions caused by Covid.

As Covid seems to be winding down, he is hoping to get things going again. When he formed his committee, he asked me to serve on it, and he's kept me well informed and has been very open to all the input the parish staff and I could offer.

***The hope of this project*** has been that it could be a resource for the school, the parish, and the community. What many people may not realize is that our present facilities for religious education are adequate, but there are many disadvantages. The rooms in the church basement and the Parish Center are cramped, as they really weren't intended for this purpose. They don't give us much flexibility, and we don't have any room to spare.

As this idea seems to be maturing, it seems the time is right to bring it up here and talk about some of the issues at stake.

***What is important is that everyone in this community realize*** that this would be a kind of "fork in the road." If we decide, as a community, to raise something like \$3-4 million to build this, that would most likely foreclose building any newer facilities for religious education on parish grounds. I think if that's how it ends up, that should be something we all decide, as a community, in a very conscious way.

***Here are the pros and cons.*** On the plus side, the proposed "Russia Activity Center" would certainly represent an opportunity to pool financial resources. If the school and the parish were to try to build separate facilities, there might not be enough financial resources for both. And the classrooms that are planned in this new facility would be a major improvement over the much smaller rooms in the Parish Center. This may give us the best "bang for the buck."

***On the other hand, it would be a tremendous advantage for the parish to own its own facilities, on its own property.*** Although there are absolutely no concrete plans for this, it seems most likely, if this ever happened, the desirable location would be right next to church, in place of the existing Parish Center, which is, honestly, not that versatile. If we decided to tear it down and build something new, that could give the parish lots of options, not only for religious education and youth facilities, but with rooms that could be used when we have weddings and other activities before or after Mass.

Moreover, when our children come over for religious education, they are able to make very frequent visits to church, because they are so close to church. The new facility would be across the parking lot, and while that may not seem like such a big deal, it certainly can be when moving lots of children, without even considering issues of adverse weather.

It may be that the proposed "Russia Activity Center" is the best way to go, but I feel strongly that everyone in the community should think long and hard about whether they want to forego the opportunity to build something ON parish grounds, and make this decision with that realization.

***Meanwhile, we have Beacons of Light to contend with.*** I hesitated to write about the proposed "Russia Activity Center" because most of our attention as a parish, for the coming 12-18 months, is going to be on the many, many issues related to the transition as St. Remy becomes part of a "family" of parishes in the future. There will be a LOT of changes and decisions happening very soon, and we do not have any choice about this timetable. But since this proposal for a "Russia Activity Center" is already being discussed, I thought I should share these thoughts with you now.

This whole subject has been discussed several times by the Pastoral Advisory Council. At some point, those advocating the addition to the school will ask if the parish will sign a long-term lease and agree to annual rent payments. That financial commitment is obviously important to the overall plan. At that time, I will ask the members of the Pastoral Advisory Council for their decision. And I think that can't happen until they've heard from you. So this is my way of "starting the conversation," if you will.

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

# LIVE YOUR FAITH



The family receiving the **TRAVELING VOCATION CHALICE** this Sunday is Bruce and Carrie Borchers. The family receiving it the week of December 19 is Matt and Melanie Gibson. 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:** Bob and I would like to thank Rev. Father Fox for the beautiful MASS and his comforting words; Carla Meyer for all the heavenly music; Bonnie Paulus and her helpers for the delicious food prepared; all those who brought food to share for the lunch; for the Catholic War Veterans for their last salute in church and the gravesite services; the servers and Eucharistic minister for their assistance at Mass; Joe and Deb Timmerman for praying the rosary before Mass; my granddaughters, who proclaimed the readings; and all the great-grandchildren who brought up the gifts. I so much appreciate all the many visits, prayers, food, gifts, and support from the wonderful people who live in and near Russia and from the Botkins area. Thanks to my wonderful family and friends for being beside me. Bob loved you all.

~Cindy Schaub, Mike and Nancy Wood, and Family

**GRIEF SHARE IS A WEEKLY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** that will be meeting every Tuesday from January 4-March 29 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in the Precious Blood church basement in Chickasaw. These sessions provide a place where you can find help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend. All necessary materials are being donated by Hogenkamp Funeral Home. To register or acquire more information, contact Herb Wilker at hiwilker@mercy.com or (419)953-5398.

**TO THOSE WHO ATTEND THE 70ish AND OLDER MONTHLY LUNCH,** we will not be getting together in December. We will see you again on Tuesday, January 18, 2022!



**IF YOU ARE PARTICIPATING IN OUR GIVING TREE MINISTRY,** please return your gift before 6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 19. All items for the homeless shelter, Shelby County Right to Life, and Rustic Hope do not need to be wrapped and should also be turned in by December 19. Thank you so much for your generous support! If you have any questions, contact Janice Tebbe at janice.tebbe@yahoo.com.

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



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

## Save the date for our annual Valentine's Dinner!

It will be held on  
**Saturday, January 8**  
at St. Remy Hall.  
More information is coming next week.

## Mass Schedule for Christmas and December 31-January 1

Please note adjustments that Father Fox has made since he shared Mass times for Christmas and January 1 in his column on page 2 of the December 5 bulletin. All Masses for Christmas will be as usual: 12:00 a.m., 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 11:00 a.m. (There will be no 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, December 25.) A candlelight Mass will be celebrated on Friday, December 31 at 5:00 p.m. for the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God, as well as at 9:00 a.m. on January 1. The 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, January 1 will be a vigil Mass for the Epiphany.

Please take note of the following details as we prepare for Christmas during this season of Advent:



During the Christmas season and throughout the year, we would like to continue having live flowers on the altar. **YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN OUR ANNUAL FLOWER FUND** by donating money toward the purchase of these flowers in memory of your deceased family members and friends. All those donating to this fund, as well as the loved ones for whom the donations were made, will have their names printed on a special bulletin insert. An envelope for this purpose can be found in your packet of church donation envelopes. You can also create your own envelope by including your name and the people you would like to remember through your donation. Please drop these envelopes in the collection basket, or drop them off at the parish office by **noon on Tuesday, December 14**.



The parents of any child in Kindergarten or first grade who is a registered member of St. Remy Parish and is interested in **PRESENTING BABY JESUS** immediately before Midnight Mass are asked to email Maria at stremy@roadrunner.com or call the parish office at (937)526-3437 by **noon on Tuesday, December 14**. Please leave a voicemail for Maria if the office is closed. Two names, one of a boy and one of a girl, will be pulled out of a hat. These two children will carry the statue of Baby Jesus up the aisle and to the front of church so that His image can be placed in the manger.

# LIVE YOUR FAITH

## Bulletin Sponsor of the Week



This week's featured sponsor is  
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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.

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



**THE NEXT BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS** will be held on Saturday, January 15 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.

### "RETROUVAILLE" IS A LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGES.

This program helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track and give you the opportunity to rediscover each other, empowering you to examine your lives together in a new and positive way. Instead of "calling it quits," why not make a simple phone call to find out more about the program the weekend of January 7 & 8? Call (513)486-6222 or visit [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com) for more information.

## From the Deacon's Desk

The following article was written by Deacon Mike Meyer.



It's the 3rd Sunday of Advent, also known as *Gaudete Sunday*. The word *gaudete* means to rejoice and be glad. There is joy in looking forward to the annual celebration of Christmas, but there is also joy in recalling the birth of Jesus on the first Christmas. The joy is heightened because He was born to save us from our sins, and in the anticipation of His second coming, either at the end of our physical lives or at the end of the world.

The color rose represents joy and is the color used on Gaudete Sunday. Violet remains the official color for the Season of Advent, as all of Advent has a penitential tone, a time to be absolved of sin and in the state of grace for Christmas. Gaudete Sunday offers a mid-point break from the penitential practices of Advent to focus on the uplifting joyful celebration of the birth of Jesus that we soon will be celebrating. The priest wears a rose colored chasuble, and the deacon may wear a rose dalmatic. Church decorations may include a rose-colored altar cloth. The third candle of the Advent wreath is rose.

The prayers in the *Roman Missal* on Gaudete Sunday convey a joyful message. The immediacy of Christmas is addressed in the Collect that is prayed at the beginning of the Mass: "O God, who see how your people faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity, enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation and to celebrate them always with solemn worship and glad rejoicing." The first reading from Zephaniah begins with, "Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart." The responsorial Psalm continues the joyful message: "Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel." St. Paul reinforces this in the second reading with: "Rejoice in the Lord always, I shall say it again: rejoice!" Gaudete Sunday is an opportune time to examine how free we are to embrace the joy of the Lord's coming into our lives more completely.

# RUSSIA COMMUNITY NEWS



The Russia Music Boosters Organization will once again be holding its annual **CHRISTMAS COOKIE SALE** at the Elementary Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 12 (concert begins at 6:30) and at the Band Christmas Concert on Monday, December 13 (concert begins at 7:00). Cookies will be sold starting 30 minutes before the concert each night, as well as after each concert. Come out and pick up your Christmas cookies while you enjoy some beautiful music! If you would like to donate cookies, please drop them off in the school commons by 5:30 on Sunday and by 6:00 on Monday.

**THE TRAVELING FOOD PANTRY** will be located behind St. Remy Church on Saturday, December 18 from 9:00-10:00 a.m. Volunteers and food donations are always welcome. For more information, please call Marie Daugherty at (937)564-6360.

**THE CLAIR C. NAVEAU GYM IS OPEN TO WALKERS** Monday through Friday from 8:05 a.m.—10:40 a.m., as well as from 12:40 p.m.—1:25 p.m. on these days. Come in out of the chilly weather and stay fit!

# CCD & YOUTH MINISTRY



## CRIB LIGHTING CEREMONY

THE K OF C'S WILL SPONSOR OUR ANNUAL CRIB LIGHTING CEREMONY ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15 AT 8:00 P.M. IN FRONT OF CHURCH. THE PUBLIC IS INVITED. JUNIOR HIGH AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO COME OVER IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THEIR RELIGION CLASSES. DOUGHNUTS AND HOT CHOCOLATE WILL BE SERVED AT ST. REMY HALL BY THE NURTURING NETWORK MOTHERS CLUB FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY.



## You Night

Junior high students will get together for You Night on Wednesday, December 15 from 8:00-9:30 p.m. at school.

## National March for Life



Shelby County Right to Life is sending 2 buses to the March for Life in Washington, D.C. in January. The buses will leave Sidney on Thursday, January 20 at 7:30 p.m. and return on Saturday, January 22 around 5:00 a.m. The cost is \$85 per seat. Registration forms, payment information, and basic itinerary are available at [www.shelbycountyrto.org](http://www.shelbycountyrto.org); you may also email Anne Schmiesing at [director@shelbycountyrto.org](mailto:director@shelbycountyrto.org). Payment by check is preferred, and checks will be held until after the event, in case refunds are needed. Registration deadline is December 10, but register soon, as over half the seats are already taken.

All passengers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult or a chaperoned group. We are looking for adults to fulfill the role of chaperone for students from our parish who may wish to go. If you are interested in this role, please contact Mark Travis at (419)953-0614.



## Soldiers of Christ

All junior high boys are encouraged to participate in the next Soldiers of Christ event on Monday, December 20 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at school.



## Don't miss the High School Christmas Party!

All high school students are invited to join us for dinner and games on Monday, December 27 from 6:00-8:30. The location will be announced next week. Don't forget to wear your Christmas sweater!



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.*

# The Bible Christmas Quiz

Think you know the Christmas story? Think again...



- 1.) The infancy of Jesus is described in these books of the Bible:
  - A. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
  - B. Matthew and Luke only
  - C. Matthew, Luke, and Revelation
  - D. Matthew, Luke, and Ephesians
- 2.) In the Gospel, the coming of Jesus is:
  - A. entirely unsuspected by the authorities.
  - B. expected by the rabbis, but in Nazareth.
  - C. expected by the Magi, but no one else.
  - D. expected by the rabbis, the authorities, and the Magi.
- 3.) Mary and Joseph lived in:
  - A. Caesarea Phillipi.
  - B. Jerusalem.
  - C. Nazareth.
  - D. Bethlehem.
- 4.) How many angels did the shepherds see?
  - A. One: Gabriel.
  - B. Three: the herald angels.
  - C. They heard singing but only saw a star.
  - D. They saw a multitude of angels.
- 5.) Who was king when Jesus was born?
  - A. Caesar Augustus
  - B. Quirinius
  - C. Pontius Pilate
  - D. Herod
- 6.) Who gave Jesus His name (formally)?
  - A. Mary
  - B. Joseph
  - C. John the Baptist
  - D. The angel Gabriel
- 7.) When the Magi visited, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus were:
  - A. in the manger.
  - B. in the inn.
  - C. in a house.
  - D. in Nazareth.
- 8.) The Magi showed respect by:
  - A. kneeling.
  - B. prostrating themselves.
  - C. bowing.
  - D. removing their sandals.
- 9.) All three gifts—gold, frankincense, and myrrh:
  - A. are mentioned in the Old Testament but not the Gospel.
  - B. are mentioned in the Gospel but not the Old Testament.
  - C. are mentioned in both the Gospel and the Old Testament.
  - D. are a pious legend, which tradition considers to be true.
- 10.) How many Christmas Masses are there?
  - A. Two: midnight and Christmas Day
  - B. Four: vigil, midnight, sunrise, and Christmas Day
  - C. Three: vigil, midnight, and Christmas Day
  - D. Seven: one in honor of each sacrament
- 11.) Who invented the crèche?
  - A. St. Francis of Assisi
  - B. Pope Leo the Great
  - C. Cardinal John Henry Newman
  - D. G.K. Chesterton
- 12.) What symbol of Christmas is placed in St. Peter's Square each year?
  - A. a giant star
  - B. the Loreto Christmas Bell
  - C. a Nativity scene
  - D. the Bernini Angel
- 13.) What is Christmas called at the Vatican?
  - A. Solemnity of the Birth of Our Lord
  - B. The Feast of the Nativity
  - C. Solemn Commemoration of the Birth of Jesus
  - D. Ye Olde Yuletide Magic

*\*Information taken from Faith & Family Magazine.*

Answers: 1.) C 2.) D 3.) C 4.) D 5.) D 6.) B 7.) C 8.) B 9.) B 10.) B 11.) A 12.) C 13.) A

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