



Pastors Pen

When the angel Gabriel encountered Mary, perhaps during her evening walk, he told her of God's plan to birth the "Son of the Most High" into life through her body. It was

an incomprehensible request of preposterous proportion. Mary could have said "no" but instead, she said "May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:338), Three months later, Mary's cousin Elizabeth said to her: "Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled".

In our lives, God speaks to us and we know what he asks of us. May our response be the same as Mary's so that the purpose of our lives could also be fulfilled.

Christmas traditions tell us that Gaspar was a king who made the long journey from India across Persia and Arabia to reach Bethlehem. Melchior was a Persian king and Balthasar was an Arabian king. Ancient prophecies in the Psalms, Daniel and Numbers foretold the coming of a great leader, a messiah. Some modern day astronomers, by running the celestial clock in reverse, suggest that the guiding star was real. The magi no doubt would have brought their own scripture scholars and others who, along with the shepherds, were the first to worship the newborn king.



Christmas List

I have a list of folks I know, all written in a book and every year at Christmas time I go and take a look. And that is when I realize that these names are a part not of the book they're written in, but of my very heart. For each name stands for someone who path touched mine, and left such a print of friendship that I want to touch again. I really feel I am composed of each remembered name. And while you many not be aware of any special link, just meeting you has shaped my life more than you can think. For once you've met somebody, the years cannot erase the memory of a pleasant word or of a friendly face. So never think my Christmas cards are just a mere routine of names upon a Christmas list - forgotten in between. For when I send a Christmas card that is addressed to you it's because you're on that list of folks I am indebted to. For one is but a total of the many folks they've met and you happen to be one of those I prefer NOT to forget. And whether I have known you for many years or few, in some ways you have had a part in shaping things I do. And every year when Christmas comes I realize anew, The Biggest Gift life can give is MEETING FOLKS LIKE YOU. And may the spirit of Christmas that forever and ever endures, leave its richest blessings in the heart of you and yours.

Ask the Pastoral Minister?



Do you have a question about the Catholic faith? If so, email your Pastoral Minister, Lisa Covington,

religiousedrocks1@gmail.com a question you have about anything Catholic, and she will answer it. One question will be selected each week and both the question and answer will appear in an upcoming bulletin. If you would like your first name and last initial to appear with the question, or stay anonymous, let Lisa know.

This week's Q & A...

Q: If Adam and Eve were the first people on earth, and they gave birth to Cain and Able, then where did Cain's wife come from? (Beth F. 2nd Grade ASB Student)

A: Beth, thank you for your question. This is a good question and one that I would get from college aged students when I taught higher education. Here is the answer. While the focus of the creation story in the book of Genesis is on Adam and Eve, God also created other people. As we read in further chapters of Genesis, there are Bible passages regarding Adam and Eve having other children as well. Cain knew his wife before they were married and according to other ancient texts from the Middle East, her name was Awan.



GIVING TREE THANK YOU

The St. Bartholomew parishioners overwhelming response to this years Giving Tree was no less than amazing. The area's poor and needy are grateful for your unselfish giving. Whether you prayed for them or donated to them please know the tremendous impact you have made on our less fortunate brothers and sisters especially during these challenging times. Thank you and may God bless all of you.

Share Your Old Eyeglasses

When you donate your old eyeglasses, they are donated to the Cleveland Sight Center. Please donate any old eyeglasses you may have. The donation boxes are at all entrances of the Church.

Parish Masses

Friday, December 24 Vigil: Nativity of the Lord

4pm ♣ Tom Darmetko *by Family* **6pm** ♣ Leonard Drager *by Family*

12am ♥ Hudak & Kulik families by MaryAnn Hudak

Saturday, December 25

Nativity of the Lord

11am ♣ Joan Pavlescak by Family

Sunday, December 26

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

9am № David Biro by Corinne

11am ♣ Deceased of Karpac & Galeski Familes

Monday, December 27 St. John. Apostle & Evangelist

8am Parishioners of St. Bartholomew

Wednesday, December 29

5th Day within the Octave of the Nativity

8am ■ John Simanella *by Martin & Dolly Hrik*

Friday, December 31

7th Day within the Octve of the Nativity

8am Parishioners of St. Bartholomew

Saturday, January 1

Vigil: Epiphany of the Lord

4pm ♣ Constance Wolski *by Jim Pavlescak*

Sunday, January 2
Epiphany of the Lord

9am 💆 James DeAngelo by Bucceri Family

11 am ♣ Donna Robinson by Carolyn Duprow & family

Monday, January 3 Christmas Weekday

8am ★ Rose Caroscio by grandchildren

Wednesday, January 5

St. John Neumann, Bishop

8am

Jeff Bobincheck by Lori, Jonathan & Joey

Friday, January 7 Christmas Weekday

8am ▶ Paul Hagerty by Ed & Connie Hronek

Saturday, January 8

Vigil: Baptism of The Lord

4pm ♣ Lenore Knerem by husband

Sunday, January 9 Christmas Weekday

11am ♣ George Flak by Family

Prayer Requests...

Please remember these in need of your daily prayers...





★ Terri Swingler
★ Lisa Szymanski
★ Betty Tomanek
★ Connie Troncone
★ Rick Trope
★ Betty Vitt
★ Anna Wagner
★ Lisa Weiler

If you would like to have someone added to our parish prayer request list, please call **Kathy Otto @216.676.0144** to have your loved one added.



PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY

*Fr. Joe Brankatelli * Joseph Adams * Christian DiVincenzo * Ryan Kazimer * Cory Kuhn *George Papadorotheou * Eric Rensel * Paul Russo * Sgt. Adam Bettel

Parish Offertory—December 12, 2021

Sunday Offertory	\$16,937.00	
Christmas Flowers	\$	248.00
Religious Retirement	\$	853.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$	118.00
Music	\$	73.00

Thank you for your generosity!



THIS WEEK

Dec. 27 Offices Closed

Dec. 28, 29, 30 Office Open 9am-3pm

Dec. 31 Office Closed

Jan. 1 Donut Sunday

Jan. 3 Offices Closed

Thank you for the Rosary Ministry

A big Thank you to those who have donated to the Rosary Ministry. All the money has been used to purchase supplies. They are beads, crosses and thread needed to make the Rosaries and they are shared among the ladies in the ministry. We have approximately twelve lades who donate many hours of their time to make them. This year alone we have donated over 6600 rosaries. If you have a family member in the military or someone going on a mission overseas, have them contact the Parish Office at 440-842-5400, or leave a message for Barb Sauer to call you direct. We will provide the rosaries to take on their missions. Again, thank you for your donations, they are very much appreciated.

We are in need of Adult Funeral Servers. No experience is necessary, training will be provided. If you are interested please call Vince Avallone at 216-287-7172.



The Presence Candle for the month of January is burning in memory of Mary Charlotte Shur-Slepecky

It has been offered by Joe & Lauren Shur

It's 2022 and a year that is new. Making a resolution that's way too steep? Enrich your mind, body, spirit with one you can keep! Start your New Year off by listening to AM1260 The Rock Catholic radio! AM1260 The Rock makes it easy to learn more about our faith with daily Mass, devotionals, news from a Catholic perspective, apologetics and much more. Listen via radio, the internet, or our mobile app. Visit www.am1260therock.com for a complete program schedule, to download mobile app, or for more information. Glory be to God and your loved ones in the New Year and beyond.



PERSONAL PRODUCTS THANK YOU

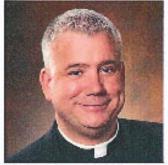
This year Personal Product campaign was extremely successful, well over 1,000 products were donated through your generosity. You put a smile on someone's face. SVDP appreciates all the support you give us. Without you we could not make this possible. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

May God Bless you

Synod 2021-2023: For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission

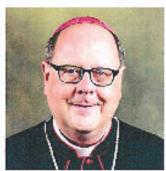
St. Bartholomew Parish will be participating in listening sessions as part of the diocesan synodal process. Synodality means journeying together and gathering in assembly as the People of God to proclaim the Gospel. Pope Francis has invited EVERYONE to participate in a dialogue with one another and with the worldwide Catholic Church. Join us! We hope you will participate in the conversations that will take place in January. Each individual matters and each of our experiences is valid and in need of ears to listen. Nobody is excluded - all are welcome. We are all on this journey of faith together! This is an opportunity to listen to one another in a spirit of prayer and dream about the Church we are called to be. The information gathered from the listening sessions will not only help us discern how we can move forward together as a parish community, but also as a diocese and Universal Church. Dates of parish listening sessions to be announced in an upcoming bulletin. To learn more, please visit the website: dioceseofcleveland.org/synod.

YCMC.US SATURDAY SJANUARY 29th



Father Larry Richards

WALSH JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL



Bishop Malesic

Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio



Father Jacob Boarer



Father Ryan Mann



Father Mike McCandless



Luke Brown



Tommy Dome



Frin Hogen



Jim Hogan



Paul Kopeman



Dean Robinson



Drew Vilinsky

inspiring talks confession opportunity

Each teen chooses several of the 8 offered breakout sessions that pertain to; sports, science, dating,

managing stress, spiritual growth, culture and integrity.

YCMC is an initiative to encourage and strengthen men in their Catholic life and how to live it in today's culture. With cooperation of religious, this event is wholly produced by a group of committed lay Catholics who recognize the vast challenges of Christian manhood.

Space is limited! register: **ycmc.us**

8:00 am Check-in and continental breakfast

9:00 am. Welcome and keynote address

5:00 pm Event concluding Mass

COLTURE

DADS & MENTORS are encouraged to Join us for talks and resources tailored to those that are raising young men.

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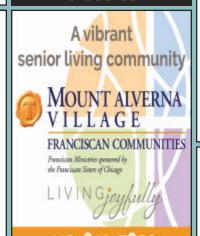
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