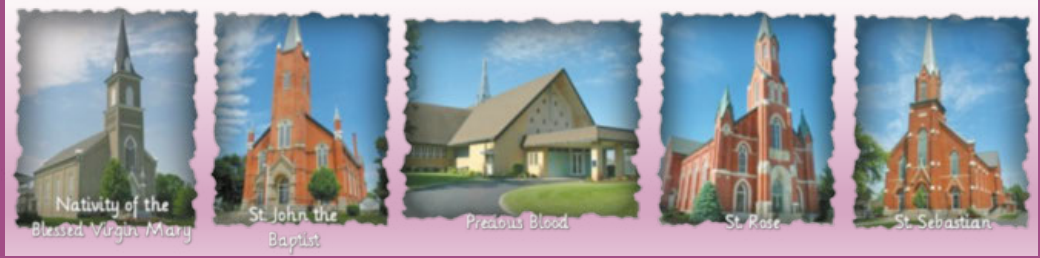


# THE MARION CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

## CHRIST OUR LIGHT FAMILY OF PARISHES



**DECEMBER 17, 2023**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

### CHRIST OUR LIGHT FAMILY OF PARISHES MASS SCHEDULE

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday	5:30pm St. Sebastian
	7:00pm Holy Redeemer
Tuesday	7:15am St. Rose
	7:30am Holy Redeemer
Wednesday	7:15am Precious Blood*
	8:00am St. Augustine
	12:05pm Holy Redeemer
Thursday	7:15am Nativity BVM
	8:00am St. Joseph
	12:00pm St. Augustine
Friday	7:15am St. John*
	8:00am St. Augustine

#### VIGIL/SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday	4:30pm Holy Redeemer
	5:00pm St. John*
	5:00pm St. Augustine
	7:30pm Nativity
Sunday	8:00am St. Joseph
	8:30am St. Sebastian
	9:00am Precious Blood*
	9:00am St. Augustine*
	10:00am Holy Redeemer *
	10:30am St. John
	11:00am St. Augustine
	11:00am St. Rose

\* Livestreamed Masses

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

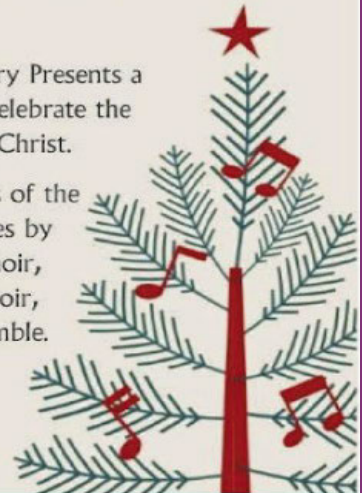
DECEMBER 17 • 7:00 PM

ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

48 N Hanover St. • Minster, OH • 45865

The St. Augustine Music Ministry Presents a holiday musical experience to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Immerse yourself in the sounds of the season with special performances by the Men's Choir, Women's Choir, Mixed Choir, Children's Choir, Folk Group, and Brass Ensemble.



ALL ARE WELCOME!

*I am* the voice of one crying out in the desert, "make straight the way of the Lord."

John 1:4-8, 19-28



# WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL LIFE

## WEDDINGS

Please contact the parish office at least six months prior to the wedding.

## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

For more information, contact Carolyn Stucke at 419-268-8314.

## FOR STEPHEN MINISTRY CONTACT

419-302-2223 OR 419-733-4440

## CALL FOR PRAYER CONTACTS

### Nativity BVM

Phyllis Thobe 419-852-5544

### Precious Blood

Carolyn Homan 419-852-1083

### St. John the Baptist

Mary Eyink 419-733-0743

Lori Brunswick 419-305-2955

### St. Rose

Irene Bruns 419-925-4712

### St. Sebastian

Ruth Bruns 419-268-1948

## LIVESTREAMED MASSES

### On the Web



[marioncatholiccommunity.org](http://www.marioncatholiccommunity.org)

Click on the Live Stream tab in the menu bar.

### On The Church App



View from our app when live.

### YouTube & Facebook



Search for Marion Catholic Community

## LITURGY OF THE WEEK

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 18

5:30pm—Mass at St. Sebastian ..... †Dale & †Marilyn(Kremer) Bruns—  
Marilyn's Death Anniversary;  
..... †Mark Schwieterman—Birthday

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19

7:15am—Mass at St. Rose..... †Robert & †Erma Brunswick

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:15am—Mass at Precious Blood... †Viola Mescher—Birthday;  
..... †Alice Huelsman—Birthday

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21

7:15am—Mass at Nativity ..... †Paul Goecke

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:15am—Mass at St. John ..... †Johnny Heitkamp

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23

3:00pm—Mass at Precious Blood ... Christ Our Light Parishioners

5:00—Mass at St. John..... †Urban Bertke

7:30pm—Mass at Nativity..... Christ Our Light Parishioners

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24

9:00am—Mass at Precious Blood... †Maurice Grieshop;

..... †Tyler Mescher

10:30am—Mass at St. John ..... †Bob Nieberding;

..... †Lawrence & †Armella Ungruhn—  
Armella's Death Anniversary;

..... †Ernest Poeppelman

3:00pm—Mass at Precious Blood ... Christ Our Light Parishioners

5:00pm—Mass at St. John..... Christ Our Light Parishioners

7:30pm—Mass at Nativity..... Christ Our Light Parishioners

10:30pm—Mass at St. John..... Christ Our Light Parishioners

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

8:30am—Mass at St. Sebastian ..... Christ Our Light Parishioners

8:30am—Mass at Precious Blood... Christ Our Light Parishioners

10:30am—Mass at St. Rose..... Christ Our Light Parishioners

10:30am—Mass at St. John ..... Christ Our Light Parishioners

*The Christ Our Light Family of Parishes Welcomes You*



### Readings for the week of December 17, 2023

Sunday: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11/Lk 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54 (Is 61:10b)/

1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19/Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17/Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 1:26-38

Thursday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45

Friday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14/Lk 1:57-66

Next Sunday: 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

## PARISH POSITIONS / STEWARDSHIP

### Pastor

Rev. Kenneth Schnipke, C.P.P.S.  
frkencpps@gmail.com

### Parochial Vicars

Rev. Matthew Jozefiak, C.P.P.S.  
matthewjozefiak@hotmail.com  
Ph. 419-925-2030

Rev. Kenneth Alt, C.P.P.S.  
altkg5178@gmail.com  
Ph. 419-925-2030

Rev. Mark Hoying, C.P.P.S.  
hoyingmark@yahoo.co.nz

### Deacons

Rev. Mr. Steve Broering  
broersteve56@gmail.com

Rev. Mr. Roger Klosterman  
rogk1@roadrunner.com

Rev. Mr. Ken Wuebker  
kwuebker@roadrunner.com

Rev. Mr. Brad Feltz  
hrtech@nktelco.net

Rev. Mr. Greg Bornhorst  
bornhorst@watchtv.net

### Parish Life Coordinator

Sharon Kremer  
marioncathcom@gmail.com

### Administrative Assistants

Sue Roeckner  
sroeckner@hotmail.com

### Communications Administrator

Chris Wibbenmeyer  
cwibbenmeyer@marioncatholiccommunity.org

### ST. SEBASTIAN

Parish Council President  
Jesse Rose  
Business Manager  
Sue Roeckner  
Coordinator of Religious Education  
Judy Forsthoefel  
jforsthoefel@hotmail.com  
Music Director  
Doris Wilker  
Maintenance  
Tom Wilker & Kyle Koesters  
Basement Rental  
Jodi Knouff 419-305-1570

### NATIVITY BVM

Parish Council President  
Terry Mescher

Business Manager  
Sue Fortkamp  
Coordinator of Religious Education  
Tess Mescher  
dtkka@reagan.com  
Music Director  
Katie Hartings  
Maintenance  
Ron Stucke  
Ryan Schmackers  
CFL Hall Rental  
Carol Hemmelgarn 419-925-4667

### PRECIOUS BLOOD

Parish Council President  
Kylie Moeller  
Business Manager  
Sue Roeckner  
Coordinator of Religious Education  
Missy Moeller  
mis.moe@hotmail.com  
Music Director  
Marian Heitbrink  
Maintenance  
Todd Bruns 567-644-6522/  
Greg Bruns 419-953-5939  
Groundskeeper  
Rick "Buck" Bruns  
Basement Rental  
Joann Liette 567-644-2354

### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Parish Council President  
Mitch Thobe  
Coordinator of Religious Education  
Chris Wibbenmeyer  
cwibbenmeyer@marioncatholiccommunity.org  
Business Manager  
Sue Roeckner & Sue Fortkamp  
Music Director  
Marian Heitbrink  
Maintenance  
Tom Feltz

### ST. ROSE

Parish Council President  
Mark Mescher  
Business Manager  
Sue Fortkamp  
Coordinator of Religious Education  
Carla Hartings  
c\_hartings@yahoo.com  
Maintenance  
Jim Ungruhn  
Basement Rental  
Kathy Buening 419-925-4710

## DECEMBER 10th COLLECTION TOTALS WILL BE IN NEXT WEEKS BULLETIN



### DID YOU KNOW?

You can give securely online!  
[marioncatholiccommunity.org/give](http://marioncatholiccommunity.org/give)

or

Click on **GIVE** on the bottom of  
The Church App

### DOWNLOAD THE CHURCH APP

& search for Marion Catholic  
Community to have easy access to  
the bulletin, liturgical ministry  
schedules, and much more.



**ST. SEBASTIAN MINISTRIES****SERVERS**

Mon. Dec. 18, 5:30pm.....Jack McClurg, Lauren McClurg  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Special

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Mon. Dec. 18, 5:30pm.....Deb Beyke  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Special

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Special

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD**

Mon. Dec. 18, 5:30pm.....Henry Kunkler, Becky Kunkler  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Special

**LECTOR AND COMMENTATOR**

Mon. Dec. 18, 5:30pm.....Jena Hartings  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Special

**USHERS**

Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Special

**OFFERTORY**

Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Special

**PRECIOUS BLOOD MINISTRIES****SERVERS**

Wed. Dec. 20, 7:15am.....Myla Kramer, Gideon Schmackers, Claire Winner  
 Sat. Dec. 23, 3:00pm.....Alyssa Homan, Trevor Homan, Jacob Muhlenkamp  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 9:00am.....Nora Eckstein, Aliya Moeller, Isaac Moeller  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 3:00pm.....Special  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Ashley Brown, Abby Homan, Leah Homan

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Wed. Dec. 20, 7:15am.....Lester Homan  
 Sat. Dec. 23, 3:00pm.....**Beth Arling**, Amanda Brown, Rachel Brown  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 9:00am.....**Nancee Homan**, Mike Osterholt, Linda Homan  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 3:00pm.....**Margo Chappel**, Andrea Eilerman, Clara Homan  
 Basement-Mark Tangeman, Trevor Muhlenkamp  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....**Don Kemper**, Linda Homan, Grace Homan

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD**

Wed. Dec. 20, 7:15am.....Betsy Huelsman, Rose Lochtefeld  
 Sat. Dec. 23, 3:00pm.....Margo Chappel, Don Kemper, Lora Pohl, Nick Thobe  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 9:00am.....Deacon Steve Broering, Betsy Huelsman, Randy Liette, Lori Kemper  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 3:00pm.....Kylie Moeller, Mindy Muhlenkamp, Lora Pohl, Natalie Pohl  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Betsy Huelsman, Lori Kemper, Nick Thobe, Trevor Wynk

**COMMUNION TO THE SHUT IN'S**

Mindy Muhlenkamp — 419-733-2545

**LECTORS AND COMMENTATOR**

Wed. Dec. 20, 7:15am.....Rose Lochtefeld  
 Sat. Dec. 23, 3:00pm.....Nick Thobe  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 9:00am.....Ted Homan  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 3:00pm.....Nicole Homan  
 Sun. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Nick Thobe

**USHERS**

Sat., Dec. 23, 3:00pm.....M-Jeff Pohl, M-Todd Bruns, W-Griffin Bruns, E-Don Kemper  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 9:00am.....M-Alan Brown, M-Dan Bruns, W-Don Kemper, E-Joe Heitbrink  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 3:00pm.....M-Jeff Pohl, M-Bart Homan, W-Scott Rindler, E-Dan Bruns,  
 Basement-Mark Tangeman, Griffin Bruns  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....M-Alan Brown, M-Don Kemper, W-Paul Dahlinghaus, E-Nick Homan

**OFFERTORY**

Sat. Dec. 23, 3:00pm.....Brain and Karla Eckstein Family  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 9:00am.....Vic and Pat Klosterman  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 3:00pm.....Special  
 Sun. Dec. 25, 8:30am.....Don and Amy Kemper

**ROSARY LEADERS**

Sun. Dec. 24, 9:00am.....Men's Sodality

## ST. JOHN MINISTRIES

## SERVERS

Fri. Dec. 22, 7:15am .....	Tom Wellman, Nick Schulze
Sat. Dec. 23, 5:00pm.....	Kamden Eifert, Valerie Eifert, Benton Seitz, Jackson Schroeder
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am.....	Paige Stachler, Trey Goettemoeller, Tucker Thobe, Jacob Homan
Sun. Dec. 24, 5:00pm.....	Carson Bruns, Cayden Jones, Mason Jones, Megyn Ashman
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30pm.....	Shegael Huelskamp, Oliver Huelsman, Alex Will, Gavin Will
Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am.....	Adelyn Everman, Daniel Everman, Luke Everman, Caleb Everman

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Fri. Dec. 22, 7:15am .....	Ron Hartings
Sat. Dec. 23, 5:00pm.....	<b>Kristy Eifert</b> , Cindy Eifert, Lindsay Schroeder
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am.....	<b>Lucas Bertke</b> , Devin Francis, Angie Knapke
Sun. Dec. 24, 5:00pm.....	<b>Abby Bruns</b> , Doug Hartings, Ryan Ashman
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30pm.....	<b>Donna Elking</b> , Howie Heitamp, Ben Huelskamp
Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am.....	<b>Carol Keller</b> , Diane Homan, Hayden Kremenr

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD

Sat. Dec. 23, 5:00pm.....	Nancy Billerman, Natalie Evers, Jon Heitkamp, Marcus Rethman
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am.....	Aidan Eifert, Greg Homan, Trent Pleiman, Brian Wolters
Sun. Dec. 24, 5:00pm.....	Addison Bruns, Emerson Bruns, Ava Evers, Kelly Evers
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30pm.....	Karen Broering, Ron Hartings, Karrie Will, Katrina Will
Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am.....	Gary Bertke, Kelley Budde, Kyle Francis, Tyler Francis

## LECTORS AND COMMENTATOR

Fri. Dec. 22, 7:15am .....	Jean Thobe
Sat. Dec. 23, 5:00pm.....	Paul Knapke—Commentator, Anne Thobe—Lector
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am.....	Derek Grieshop—Commentator, Brad Knapke—Lector
Sun. Dec. 24, 5:00pm.....	Julia Everman—Commentator, Jennifer Jones—Lector
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30pm.....	Melanie Gagel—Commentator, Kim Habodasz—Lector
Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am.....	Matthew Homan—Commentator, Kim Poeppelman—Lector

## USHERS

Sat. Dec. 23, 5:00pm.....	Doug Bender, Eric Mueller, Brian Seitz
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am.....	Nathan Bertke, Hayden Poeppelman, Sam Thobe
Sun. Dec. 24, 5:00pm.....	David Albers, Gary Fortkamp, Ted Jones
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30pm.....	Randy Homan, Trent Huelsman, Art Moeller
Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am.....	Leon Bergman, Mike Bertke, Eric Eyink

## OFFERTORY

Sat. Dec. 23, 5:00pm.....	Matt and Kristy Eifert Family
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am.....	Darrin and Kim Poeppelman Family
Sun. Dec. 24, 5:00pm.....	Special
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30pm.....	Karrie and Bob Will Family
Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am.....	Trent and Ashley Fischer Family

## ROSARY LEADERS

Fri. Dec. 22, 7:15am .....	Carl and Linda Koenig
Sat. Dec. 23, 5:00pm.....	Jerry and Ann Everman
Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am.....	Ron and Julie Brunswick

## COMMUNION TO THE SHUT-IN'S

Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am.....	Nancy Luebke 419-305-6782 and Elaine Wolters 419-953-7046
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**ST. ROSE MINISTRIES****SERVERS**

Tues. Dec. 19, 7:15am ..... Kale Ahrens, Karlie Ahrens  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am ..... Alex Hamberg, Elise Hamberg

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am ..... Brad Meier

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD**

Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am ..... Linda Broering, Marlene Gagel

**LECTOR AND COMMENTATOR**

Tues. Dec. 19, 7:15am ..... Janie Luebke  
 Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am ..... Darian Mescher

**USHERS**

Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am ..... Mike Homan, Austin Meier

**OFFERTORY**

Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am ..... Greg and Holly Wuebker Family

**NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY MINISTRIES****SERVERS**

Thurs. Dec. 21, 7:15am ..... Abraham Schmackers, Isaiah Schmackers  
 Sat. Dec. 23, 7:30pm ..... Alan Wendel, Emily Wendel  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 7:30pm ..... Brody Otte, Kyle Otte

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Sat. Dec. 23, 7:30pm ..... Damon Bertke  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 7:30pm ..... Julie Koesters

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD**

Sat. Dec. 23, 7:30pm ..... Kathy Broering, Kendra Wendel  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 7:30pm ..... Sara Hess, Larry Reichert

**LECTOR/COMMENTATOR**

Thurs. Dec. 21, 7:15am ..... Lori Homan  
 Sat. Dec. 23, 7:30pm ..... Julia Tuente  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 7:30pm ..... Carl Koesters

**USHERS**

Sat. Dec. 23, 7:30pm ..... Adam Koesters, Carl Koesters  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 7:30pm ..... Don Mescher, Tess Mescher

**OFFERTORY**

Sat. Dec. 23, 7:30pm ..... Rick and Tracy Schmitz  
 Sun. Dec. 24, 7:30pm ..... Glenn and Jo Schwieterman

**ROSARY LEADERS**

Sat. Dec. 23, 7:30pm ..... Mike and Kathy Broering

**CLUSTER NEWS**

## HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office will be closed Monday, December 25th and Monday, January 1st, in observance of Christmas & New Year's Day.

**WEDDING****CONGRATULATIONS TO:**

Alicia Everman, daughter of Kenneth and Lisa and Alex Roher, son of Ernie and Rose Ann, united in marriage, December 16th.

## **WELCOME THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF CHRIST** **Baptized December 10th**

Neil Brian Bohman, son of Trent and Kayci, with sponsors, Kaitlin Lefeld and Alexander Schmitmeyer.

**CONFESSIONS AT NATIVITY AND ST. JOHN**—There will be confessions on some Thursday and Friday mornings after the 7:15pm Mass. This will generally be twice a month at each parish. Please see the bulletin for future dates.

December 22nd—St. John

December 28th—Nativity

**REMINDER! - MONDAY, DECEMBER 25TH AND JANUARY 1ST**—we will NOT have the 5:30pm Mass at St. Sebastian. Also there will not be Adoration those days.

## CLUSTER NEWS

**RCIA News**

On December 9th, our RCIA Catechumens celebrated the Rite of Acceptance which made them official members of the RCIA. Now Tyler Priest of Nativity Parish and Molly and Blaire Mickels of St. John Parish are preparing to receive Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion at the Easter Vigil. You can find their photos on each church's bulletin board. Please give them your prayers and when you see them, your encouragement and support.

**MEMORIAL POINSETTIA**—Parishioners of the Marion Catholic Community are invited each Christmas to offer a Christmas poinsettia in memory of a departed family member, relative or friend. The cost of the memorial poinsettia will be \$15.00. Please place parish name, memorial name and money in the envelope provided for this or use a plain envelope. You can drop off at the parish office or in the collection basket at Mass.

**RETIRED RELIGIOUS**—Our women and men religious offer gratitude. A sister shares, "I thank the Lord for all who give. I don't think we would make it without them." Thank you for giving to the Retirement Fund for Religious last week. Your donation makes a difference in the lives of elderly women and men religious. To learn more about how your gift helps, visit [retiredreligious.org](http://retiredreligious.org).

## ADVENT-&amp;-CHRISTMAS

## Christ Our Light Family of Parishes

**Fourth Sunday of Advent****Saturday Vigil Masses**

Saturday, December 23rd

3:00 pm Precious Blood  
 3:00 pm St. Augustine  
 4:30 pm Holy Redeemer  
 5:00 pm St. Augustine  
 5:00 pm St. John the Baptist  
 7:30 pm Nativity BVM

**Fourth Sunday of Advent****Sunday Masses**

Sunday, December 24th

8:00 am St. Joseph  
 9:00 am Precious Blood  
 10:00 am St. Augustine  
 10:00 am Holy Redeemer  
 10:30 am St. John the Baptist

**Christmas Eve**

Sunday, December 24th

3:00 pm Holy Redeemer  
 3:00 pm Precious Blood  
 4:00 pm St. Augustine  
 5:00 pm Holy Redeemer  
 5:00 pm St. John the Baptist  
 7:00 pm St. Augustine  
 7:30 pm Nativity BVM  
 10:30 pm St. John the Baptist

**Christmas Day**

Monday, December 25th

8:00 am St. Joseph  
 8:00 am St. Augustine  
 8:30 am St. Sebastian  
 8:30 am Precious Blood  
 10:00 am St. Augustine  
 10:00 am Holy Redeemer  
 10:30 am St. Rose  
 10:30 am St. John the Baptist

**BAPTISMAL CLASS**—Planning a baptism? "Reminder" you need to have taken a baptismal class. Next class is at St. Augustine; Tuesday, January 9th at 7pm. Please call 419-628-2614 to register.

**CANDLELIGHT PRAYER AND BENEDICTION**

—for our Nation, and for the Protection of all Human Life, from conception to natural death. (Also for your written prayer petitions placed in the basket). Led by Deacon Steve Broering on Monday, December 18th after the 5:30pm Mass at St. Sebastian church.

**THANKSGIVING COLLECTION**

—Thank you for your support for our S.O.N. Ministry and also C.A.L.L. Ministries. The Marion Catholic Community Cluster collected another \$600.00.

**CEMETERY DUES**—Cemetery dues for the Marion Catholic Community are changing to \$15 per person over the age of 21 beginning with dues in 2024. If dues are not paid your cost will be \$1,500 per plot.

**ROSARY LEADERS NEEDED**

—The Rosary Ministry is in need of volunteers! Please consider joining this Ministry, which consists of leading the rosary before Mass at St. John's. We especially need volunteers for the Saturday evening Mass. If you, your family, or your organization would like to help, contact Kim Poepelman at 419-733-3447 by December 18th.

**NEED OF USED WASHER AND DRYER**

—Brother Jason Muhlenkamp in Blakely is looking for a good used washer and dryer for a family home. If someone has one, please contact Hank Kaiser at 419-953-0216. Moeller Trucking will be taking items down before Christmas.

CHOOSE 1 MASS  
FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHOOSE 1 MASS  
FOR CHRISTMAS



## CLUSTER NEWS

## Welcome.

Does your life feel overwhelming? Do you sometimes feel like you are facing the craziness alone? Welcome will change that! Welcome is an incredible experience which will help you make sense of life, help you develop lasting friendships with other women in the community and fill you with a new found energy & purpose. Welcome will be held February 10th & 11th at the Precious Blood Church. All women 18 and over are invited to the Welcome Weekend. To RSVP, text or call Andrea Eilerman at 419-564-9935 or Debbie Wenning at 419-733-7463.

**NEEDED**—St. John Church is looking for a church cleaner, this position averages 3 to 4 hours per week. If interested or wish more information please contact the parish office at 419-925-4775.

### **ST. ROSE WINDOW DISPLAY —**

As we near the end of our window project, the St Rose Parish Council would like to thank everyone for their generous donations and faith in the project. We've heard many positive comments on the project! As a result of replacing the frosted window glass, our stained glass will now be visible from the outside! To help celebrate the Advent and Christmas Season, the church will be lit a few evenings to showcase our beautiful church windows. December 24th from 6-11pm. Please consider a church drive-by to see the beauty of our church and feel the wonders of a loving community. Thank you again!

**THANK YOU**—The family of Bertie Bruns would like to thank Fr. Mark Hoying, the Resurrection Choir and Doris Wilker for the beautiful Mass, the wonderful neighbors and Winner's for the awesome food, desserts and help at the hall. Bertie loved her neighbors. She enjoyed her life from being one of the younger families, then growing old and becoming one of the oldest in the small beautiful St. Sebastian. Thanks to all who came to visit mom while at Briarwood and thru the years.

### **FR. MARK'S MESSAGE:**

In my family this was the week to put up the live Christmas tree. Most of the trees had been picked through by the time we arrived to choose our tree. Dad was always in charge of obtaining the tree from one of the local filling stations...usually in Celina. Because our family was usually late in procuring the tree, it was always flawed with bare spots. That was alright as we spun the tree around several times in the corner of the parlor to show the least amount of holes. The smaller holes we could hide with large ornaments and bubble lights that used to be Grandmas.

What really made the tree come to life was the placement of the tinsel. Mom was in charge of that aspect of decorating. They had to be placed just right with just the right amount. It couldn't be too thick... so each strand had to be placed with care so they could glisten in the light. I used to take an individual strand and with a poof of air from my mouth the tree gradually became adorned with silver streaks. The holes which were so evident when we began were filled and forgotten.

I think somehow that is how God loves us. We are filled with imperfections but that doesn't seem to bother Him as He decorates us...just right. It may take a while to get that perfect look, but the process of loving is part of the fun. Pretty soon those imperfections are forgotten.

Jesus comes at Christmas to embrace our humanity and we get to embrace Him. We get to help decorate also. It is so important to whisper kind words and show God's love to fill in the holes of our world. Just as each individual strand of tinsel helped to show light, each act of kindness could be just what someone needs to show the light of Christ in a dark world. Light candle three.



**BEAUTIFUL EUCHARIST**—Nothing will transform your life quite like a personal encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist. When we encounter Jesus, he changes us in powerful and unexpected ways. He heals us, brings us peace and clarity, models how to relate with others, and teaches us the lessons we need to learn to navigate the everyday situations of our lives. In the Eucharist we meet with the same Jesus who healed the blind, forgave sins, and rose from the dead. Are you ready to discover how he can transform your life too?

*Beautiful Eucharist* is a stunning collection of life-changing reflections about Jesus truly present in the Eucharist and wonderfully present in our lives. The world needs the healing and hope only Jesus can provide. He is waiting in the Eucharist to transform families, Churches, communities, and the culture as a whole. And all of that begins with your own life-changing encounter with him today.

*Beautiful Eucharist* is an invitation to encounter the life-giving presence of Jesus in the Eucharist so you can be a life-giving presence in the world.

We will be gifting a copy of this book to parishioners at all Christmas Masses. Merry Christmas from the Marion Catholic Community.



## Shrine, Spiritual Center, and Area Church News

## CLUSTER NEWS

**EVENING ADORATION**—of the Blessed Sacrament on the first Thursday of each month. Adoration begins at 1pm and will conclude with Benediction starting at 7:30pm, ending at 8pm. This is a great opportunity for those who work during the day to spend time with our Lord in the evening! If you are interested in signing up to be an adorer, please contact Matt Hess at [m.hess@mariasteinshrine.org](mailto:m.hess@mariasteinshrine.org) or call 419-925-4532.

**SUNDAYS AT ST. CHARLES**—A visiting missionary will preside and preach twice a month at the 9am Sunday Mass in the Assumption Chapel. After Mass, the missionary will lead a 40 minute faith formation presentation and discussion session that will help the faithful find new fruits in God's Word. Refreshments will be offered during the presentation.

12/17-Fr. James Smith, C.P.P.S.

**QUO VADIS**—is hosting a Quo Vadis Night on Sunday December 17th at 7pm at the Shrine of the Holy Relics in Maria Stein. The speaker, Jon Holland, will be talking on the Divine Mercy message. They will also have their Christmas party that night. This event is for young adults ages 18-29. This event will be live-streamed on our Facebook page (Quo\_Vadis) if you would like to watch it!

**CHRISTMAS NATIVITIES AT THE MARIA STEIN SHRINE**—now through January 10th, the Shrine will again be hosting a Nativity Exhibit. You will be able to view more than 60 nativity sets and see how the simple scene of Christ in the manger with Mary and Joseph has been interpreted in many cultures over the years. The Relic Shrine's first-floor Gathering Space will be filled with sets from differing time periods, cultures, and artistic mediums. Since the first nativity scene was developed by Saint Francis of Assisi, different people have been putting their own spin on the birth of Christ. This display of nativities showcases the various ways Jesus' birth has been interpreted. Bring the whole family for this wonderful reminder of the reason for the season with this free exhibit. It is open to the public during the normal Shrine Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:30am to 6pm, Friday and Saturday 9:30am to 4 pm, and noon to 4pm on Sundays. They are closed on December 24th, 25th, 31st, and January 1st.



The Christ Our Light Family of Parishes will be offering Grief-Share Sessions to the local communities. The program consists of 13 weekly DVD sessions for people grieving the loss of someone close. It's a place where you can be around people who understand how you are feeling and are able to offer you encouragement. The DVD seminars are combined with support group discussion of the material presented during the DVD. The sessions will be held in the Precious Blood Church Basement, 35 S. Maple St., Chickasaw. Every Tuesday, January 2nd through March 26th from 7:00-8:30pm. All materials are donated by Hogenkamp Funeral Homes. For more information or to register, contact Herb Wilker by email [hiwilker@mercy.com](mailto:hiwilker@mercy.com) or by phone at 419-953-5398.

**MEN OF THE MARION CATHOLIC COMMUNITY AND ST. NICHOLAS, OSGOOD**—

if you are seeking a closer, more spiritual relationship with Christ, please join us for a Welcome Retreat as Christ Renews His Parish on February 3rd and 4th, 2024. For information, call Bob Dippold at 419-305-0128 or Steve Kramer at 937-621-1096.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### K OF C FREE THROW—

Sunday, January 7th at the Minster Middle School. Registration at 6pm with shooting to follow for boys and girls ages 9-14. There will be separate division for boys and girls and separate age groups for each age. Sponsored by Minster Knights of Columbus.

### LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS—

Maria Stein Boy Scout Troop 97 is looking for new members. Troop 97 is starting their winter renewal period so if your son is interested in camping and other outdoor adventures, now is a great time to join. The Boy Scouts is for boys ages 10-18 and their mission is to prepare young men for life by teaching them the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law. For more information, please call Randy Stucke 567-279-3476.

### FOLLOW THE STAR Christmas at St. Charles

Several of our youth ministries will have a tree decorated during this event. Please bring \$1 bills along & vote for your favorite tree/youth ministry.

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### MARION TWP LIBRARY—

- The Marion Twp. Branch Library will be closing at 5pm on Tuesday, December 19th so their employees can attend the staff Christmas party at the main library.
- Story-time with Mrs. Claus on Thursday, December 21st at 10:30am at the Marion Twp. Branch Library. Pictures are encouraged after the stories. Everyone is welcome.
- Lego night will be held at the Marion Twp. Branch Library on Thursday, December 21st from 6:30-7:30pm. No age limit. Parental supervision is required as some pieces are rather small. Lego night is held on the third Thursday of every month.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—**Want to go to Jamaica? We're looking for men and women who would like to volunteer to work for a week at the St. John Bosco Orphanage in Jamaica. The school, hog buildings and chicken buildings are all in need of repair. If interested contact Dennis Siefring at 419-375-4676. Jamaica temperatures 65 -85 degrees.



**December 16-22, 2023**

**CHRISTMAS AT  
SAINT CHARLES**

Bring your family, your neighbors, your friends to Saint Charles Center to celebrate in preparation for Christmas!

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16

**12:30 P.M.—SELF-GUIDED ACTIVITIES BEGIN**

Stations of the Nativity  
Festival of Trees  
Carolers  
Chapel Visits

**1:30 P.M.—MILK & COOKIES WITH ST. NICHOLAS**  
(complimentary refreshments for children only)

**2:30-4:00 P.M.—FAMILY ACTIVITIES**  
Hayrides & The Polar Express

**4:00 P.M.—ADVENT MASS**  
Live Outdoor Nativity

**7:00 P.M.—EVENT ENDS FOR THE DAY**

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

**9:00 A.M.—ADVENT MASS**  
Followed by Faith Sharing and Refreshments

**11:00 A.M.—SELF-GUIDED ACTIVITIES BEGIN**

Stations of the Nativity  
Festival of Trees  
Chapel Visits

**1:00 & 2:00 P.M.—PRAYING THE STATIONS  
OF THE NATIVITY**

**4:00 P.M.—LESSONS AND CAROLS**

An Advent Service of Scripture & Song

**5:00 P.M.—EVENT ENDS FOR THE DAY**

#### MONDAY-FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18-22

**1:00 P.M.—SELF-GUIDED ACTIVITIES BEGIN**

Stations of the Nativity  
Festival of Trees  
Chapel Visits

**6:00 P.M.—EVENT ENDS FOR THE DAY**

**The Stations of the Nativity—**See and pray the Christmas Story in art, from the Annunciation to the Flight into Egypt

**Festival of Trees—**Christmas trees decorated by youth from area parishes

**Hayrides—**Visit the grounds around St. Charles on the back of a hay wagon

**The Polar Express—**See an impressive collection of model trains with our magical conductor

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