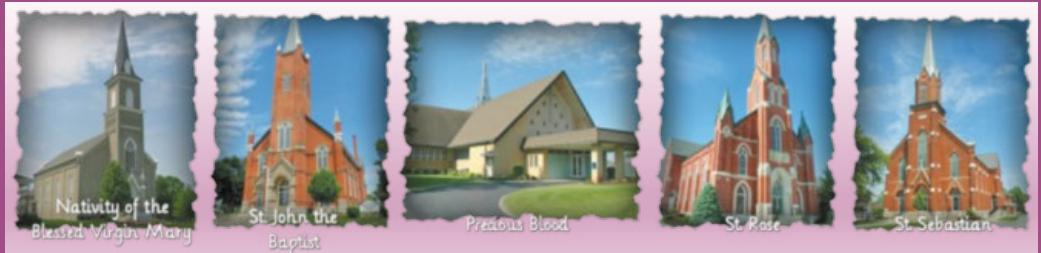


THE MARION CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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

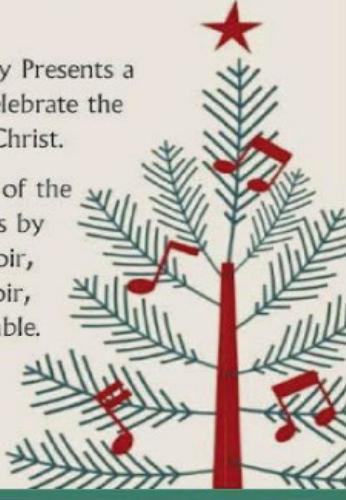
ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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.

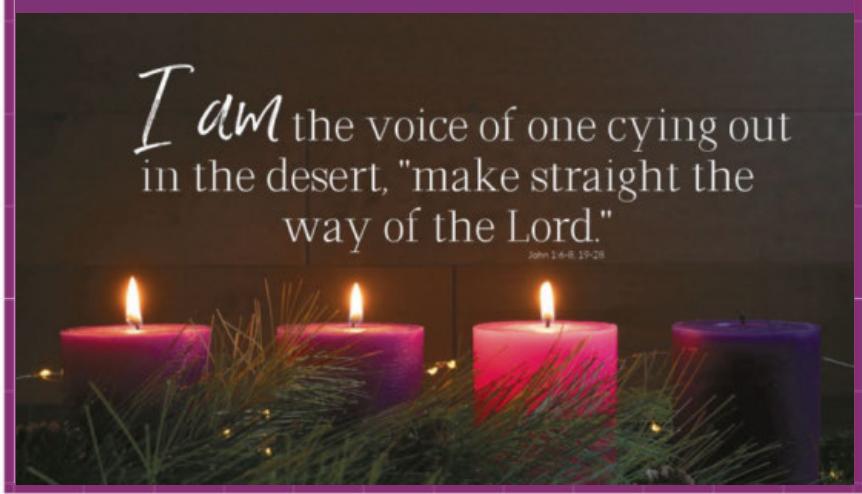
Immerse yourself in the sounds of the season with special performances by the Men's Choir, Women's Choir, Mixed Choir, Children's Choir, Folk Group, and Brass Ensemble.

ALL ARE WELCOME!



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

John 1:6-8, 19-25



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

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

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

SOURCES

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

SOURCES

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 **Kristy Eifert**, Cindy Eifert, Lindsay Schroeder
 Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30am **Lucas Bertke**, Devin Francis, Angie Knapke
 Sun. Dec. 24, 5:00pm **Abby Bruns**, Doug Hartings, Ryan Ashman
 Sun. Dec. 24, 10:30pm **Donna Elking**, Howie Heitamp, Ben Huelskamp
 Mon. Dec. 25, 10:30am **Carol Keller**, Diane Homan, Hayden Kremens

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

ST. ROSE MINISTRIES

SQUIRES

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

SQUIRES

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.

CONFESIONS 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.

ADVENT-‐&-‐ 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

CHOOSE 1 MASS
FOR THE 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

CHOOSE 1 MASS
FOR CHRISTMAS

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 NEED-ED—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 Poeppelman 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.

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 Hoyer, 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 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 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.

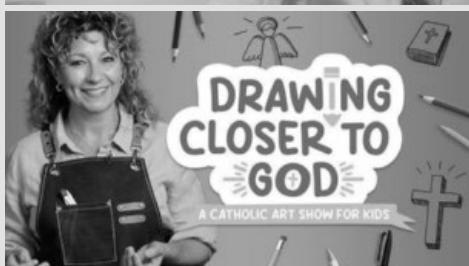
LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS—

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

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**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**

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

Donations to Hand Up Village and Rustic Hope will be gratefully accepted

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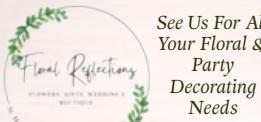
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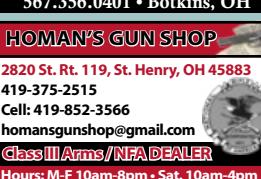
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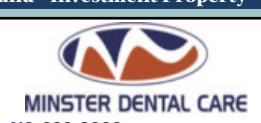
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