

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE, DECEMBER 25th, 2021

# Merry Christmas!

AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH



JOHN 1:14

**Parish Staff**

**Fr. Steve Zeigler, Priest**  
330-542-3466  
szeigler@youngstowndiocese.org

**Ed Cerezo, (Inside Out) Groundskeeper/Janitor**  
724-712-4030

**Rosalie D'Angelo, Director of Music**  
330-402-7855

**Bill McMahon, Deacon**  
330-542-3466  
wcmahon@youngstowndiocese.org

**Helen Parry, Parish Secretary/Bulletin Editor**  
330-542-3466  
parish133@youngstowndiocese.org

**Tom Penwell, Sacristan**  
724-674-2197

**Al Pompeo, Director of Rel. Ed.**  
330-542-3466  
albert.pompeo@gmail.com

**Grant Williams, Business/Website Manager**  
330-398-5759  
grantw.williams@yahoo.com

**JoAnn Yaskulka, Rel. Ed. Secretary**  
330-542-3466  
joanny@zoominternet.net

**SUNDAY LITURGIES**

**SATURDAY** 4pm at St. Paul's  
**SUNDAY** 8:30 am at **Holy Rosary**  
**SUNDAY** 10:30am at St. Paul's

**HOLY DAY LITURGIES**  
(Consult Bulletin)

**LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH EUCHARIST**

**WEDNESDAY** 8am

**NO MASS OR LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH EUCHARIST**  
**MONDAY OR FRIDAY**

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

**TUESDAY & THURSDAY** 8am

**CONFESSIONS**

First Saturday of the Month 3-3:45pm or by appointment by calling 330-542-3466

**Pastoral Council Members**

**Grace Burchfield**  
High School

**Frank Dixon** 330-542-3466  
fdixon@zoominternet.net

**Dr. Matthew Gugliotti** 330-542-3466  
mattgug@yahoo.com

**Sam Morocco** 330-542-3466  
sam@gemyoung.com

**Ed & Barb Novad** 330-542-3466  
BJNovadcreations@live.com

**Jan Ricciardi** 330-509-3752  
janetricciardi@yahoo.com



St. Paul the Apostle Parish  
10143 Main Street-P.O. Box 515  
New Middletown, OH 44442  
Parish Office: 330-542-3466  
Parish Hall (Pirohy): 330-542-3525  
FAX: 330-542-2448  
Website: www.stpaulnewmiddletown.org  
Bulletin online:  
<https://www.parishesonline.com/find/st-paul-the-apostle-church-44442>  
Wi-fi: spguest01

**BAPTISM:** Parents are asked to call the rectory to arrange for a Baptism meeting with the pastor. A date for the Baptism will be arranged at your preparation meeting.

**MARRIAGE:** Couples wishing to marry at the parish should contact the parish office as soon as possible to reserve a date for the wedding and to schedule a time to meet with the pastor. Contact should be made no less than six months before your intended date of marriage.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Individuals who will be having surgery or are suffering from a chronic illness should receive the Anointing of the Sick. Please contact the parish office for a time to receive the sacrament.

**VISITATION OF THE SICK:** Visitation, prayer, and Communion are offered to our homebound and/or sick on a regular basis. Simply call the parish office.

**HOSPITAL VISITATION:** If you know of a parishioner who is in a hospital, please contact the parish office to inform us of an admission as no hospital is allowed to contact us. Be sure to specify the location of the hospital.

**JOINING ST. PAUL'S:** Anyone who wishes may join St. Paul's. We are proud of our parish's hospitality, warmth, and friendship. We invite you to become part of our parish family. Once you are comfortable among us, we invite you to join any of our parish organizations or programs. We encourage each single adult in a family to be registered in his or her own name. If you must leave the parish, please let us know. In your journey, we wish you well and thank you for the time you did spend with us.

**Parish Ministry Opportunities**

- 50+ Group
- Adult Faith Formation
- Altar Guild
- Altar Servers
- Bereavement
- Prayer Group
- Church Environment
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Evangelization
- Garden Angels
- Gifting Program
- Homebound Visitation
- Hospitality
- Knights of Columbus
- Lectors
- Liturgy Committee
- Men's Fellowship
- Mission Team
- Music Ministry
- Nursing Home Ministers
- Pastoral Council
- Pirohy
- Prayer Blanket
- Prison Outreach
- PSR (Parish, School, Rel.)

- RCIA/RCIC
- Respect Life
- Rosary Ministry
- St. Vincent de Paul
- Silas Marners
- Sponsor Couples
- STCCC.
- Table of Plenty
- Welcoming Committee
- Women's Bible Study



**We encourage you to prayerfully consider joining one or more of our committees/ministries as a way of offering service to our parish and community.**



**CHRISTMAS MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK**

Dear Parish Family,

I can't believe Christmas 2021 is here and that we are celebrating this most wonderful Feast!! I found this meditation/writing by James Martin, S.J. and I thought it is a good reflection for us to reflect on for this Christmas.

**"Praying with the Holy Family"**

We think of them as nearly perfect, and perhaps they were. After all, Jesus was fully human and fully divine, Mary was conceived without sin, and Joseph was a saint. But we also need to remember that the Holy Family was a human family living in difficult times.

This means they faced many of the same struggles that families do today---worrying about money, to begin with. The Greek word the Gospels use for Joseph's profession (tekton) means not only carpenter but, more precisely, craftsman. That meant working with wood, of course, but also building walls, and often scrounging for work. Mary had to undergo the physical pains of childbirth and, later, mourned the death of Joseph. (He's not present at the Crucifixion, so we can presume that he died by then.) And there were misunderstandings in this family too. When Jesus was "lost" in the temple, his parents were frantic with worry about their young son. "I was in my Father's house," Jesus assures them. "But they did not understand" (Luke 3:48-50). The next time you think your family is the only one that deals with misunderstandings, think again.

Praying with the Holy Family may mean imagining sitting in the presence of the three and remembering that their lives were not without difficulties. In this way, they are more like our own families, than we might think. But they met all their trials with love, hope, and trust. Can we?

In all of my Masses that I celebrate this Christmas, I will be praying for all of you!! Wishing all of you Blessed and Joy Filled Christmas and A Happy, Holy, and Healthy New Year!!

My Love and Prayers,  
~~Fr. Steve



**MASS INTENTIONS:**  
+DENOTES DECEASED

**FRIDAY, December 24th, Christmas Eve**  
4/9pm Members of St. Paul's

**SATURDAY, December 25th, Christmas**  
10am Members of St. Paul's

**SUNDAY, December 26th**  
10:30am Members of St. Paul's

**MONDAY, December 27th**  
No Services

**TUESDAY, December 28th**  
No Morning Mass

**WEDNESDAY, December 29th**  
No Liturgy of the Word With Eucharist

**THURSDAY, December 30th**  
No Morning Mass

**FRIDAY, December 31st, New Year's Eve**  
No Services

**SATURDAY, January 1st, New Year's Day**  
4pm +Carmella Bettoni  
Anniversary  
+Paul Hvizdos

**SUNDAY, January 2nd, 2022**  
10:30am +Vince DiLorenzo  
+Rosalie Kubus



**The Epiphany of the Lord**

**First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6**

The glory of the Lord shines upon you.

**Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6**

Now it has been revealed that the Gentiles are coheirs of the promise.

**Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12**

We saw His star at its rising and have come to do Him homage.

The Regular Collection for Saturday and Sunday December 5th/6th was \$13,942.

The Regular Collection for Saturday & Sunday, December 11th & 12th was \$11,079.

December 18th/19th, 24th/25th/26th will be printed in a future bulletin.



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE**

<p>Fri., Dec. 24th, 4 &amp; 9pm 4pm</p>	<p>Masses here Mass at Holy Rosary</p>
<p>Sat., Dec. 25th, 10am 10am</p>	<p>Mass here Mass at Holy Rosary</p>
<p>Sat., January 1st, 4pm</p>	<p>Mass here</p>



**A LEGEND OF CHRISTMAS**

Why do people put up Christmas trees?

Long before being associated with a Christian holiday, Christmas trees began as a pagan tradition. Pagans used branches of evergreen plants and trees to decorate their homes during the winter solstice, as a reminder of the spring to come and to bring life and colour to dull winters.

**THERE WILL BE NO ALTAR GUILD MEETINGS** in January, 2022 and February, 2022. The next scheduled meeting will take place at the Golden Rye, 9am, on March 14th, 2022.



**THE FLAG DID FLY** on Friday, December 24th in memory of Edward Colatruglio, (Helen’s other uncle), this being the anniversary of his birth and death. And also did fly on Friday, December 24th in memory of Joseph DiA-mico, this being the anniversary of his death. The flag will fly on Tuesday, December 28th in memory of Joseph Ortenzio and Carl Pechalk, this being the anniversary of their deaths.

**THANK YOU SO MUCH TO OUR PIROHY MAKERS**

Last week they sent Fr. Popovich lots of pirohy. He was so excited and said that made his day. And of course, he ate a few right away. He cannot thank you enough!



**THE ISSUE OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENT**

Executing the guilty does not honor one who was killed, nor does it ennoble the living or even lessen their pain, for only love and forgiveness can do that. State-sanctioned killing affects us all because it diminishes the value we place on all human life. We are called to extend God’s love to all human beings created in his image, including to those convicted of serious crimes.

**THE WEEK AHEAD:**

MONDAY, December 27th  
 Parish Offices Closed

TUESDAY, December 28th  
 Parish Offices Closed  
 6pm Prayer Group in Day Chapel

WEDNESDAY, December 29th  
 Parish Offices Closed  
 9am Women's Bible Study in Church

THURSDAY, December 30th  
 Parish Offices Closed  
 No Pirohy until January

FRIDAY, December 31st, New Year's Eve  
 Parish Offices Closed  
 No Pirohy until January

SATURDAY, January 1st, 2022, New Year's Day  
 4pm Mass (as usual)

SUNDAY, January 2nd, 2022  
 8pm AA Meeting in Lower Hall



**THE CHURCH OFFICES ARE  
 CLOSED FROM FRIDAY,  
 CHRISTMAS EVE, UNTIL MON-  
 DAY, JANUARY 3rd, 2022.**

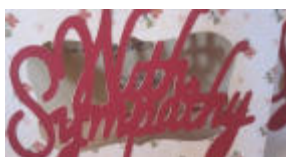
**M**inister's Schedule, January  
 1st/2nd If you are unable to  
 come when scheduled, please  
 arrange for a replacement!

	4pm	10:30pm
<b>Lector</b>	F.May	K.Dalton
<b>Servers</b>	Rolands	T.Penwell
<b>Eucharistic:</b>	B.Bickar T.DeFelice	B.D'Apolito S.Morocco
<b>Hospitality</b>	H.Sherry	Barbers



**This bulletin is furnished to our parish without charge as the advertisements that appear in it, completely defray its cost. Please patronize the sponsors located on the back pages of our bulletin. Thank them for supporting our parish. This week's advertiser is:**

**LaROCCA's**



**IN YOUR CHARITY,** please pray for the soul of Eddie Puz, brother of Dorothy Kursel. Eddie died on December 11th. May his soul and all the souls

of the faithful departed, rest in peace.

*Glory to God in the highest!*

My precious Lord, Jesus,  
 I adore You with profound love and rejoice in the celebration of Your birth.

Your love for us is unfathomable,  
 it is glorious  
 transforming,  
 awe-inspiring,  
 and deeply personal.

You chose to come and dwell among us,  
 being born into poverty, rejection and humility.

Yet Your mother knew whom she bore,  
 Her heart was filled with the tenderest love  
 as she adored her Child and her God.

Help me, dear Lord,  
 to come to love You with the heart of Your mother.  
 Invite me to adore You with St. Joseph and the poor shepherds.

Reveal to me the glorious power of Your birth  
 and change my life on account of this perfect gift of Yourself.

I love You, dear Lord Jesus.  
 Help me to love You with all my heart.

Newborn Savior of the World,  
 I trust in You.

Mother Mary and St. Joseph,  
 Pray for me and for all.  
 Amen.



**FROM YOUR DRE...**

\*\*\*\*\*

**“Each year Jesus’ parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover, and when He was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom.” ~LUKE 2:1**

Sometimes many of today’s Christians forget that Jesus was Jewish and practiced all of their religious customs. Jesus initiated many practices in His preaching based on His upbringing, so it makes sense that the Church brings those traditions into our Christian faith. Sometimes the Church is criticized for practicing rituals not written in Scripture. Jesus, however, did the same. We are a Scripture-based and Tradition-based Church!

For example, the disciples performed the Eucharist every week after Jesus ascended into heaven, so it became a tradition still performed today. Even though Scripture never mentions how often to partake in the Eucharist, the Church practices the Eucharist every week because the early Disciples consumed the Eucharist every week. Displaying a Nativity scene during the Advent and Christmas season is another example of practicing a custom never written in Scripture.

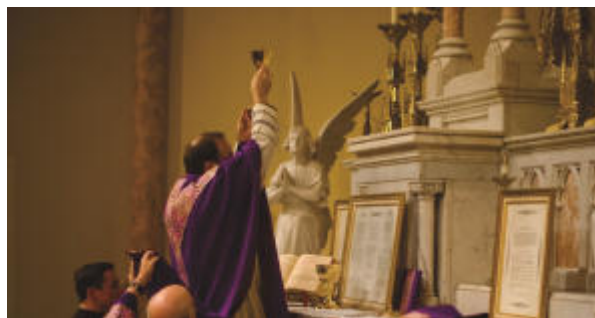
Tradition holds a special place in the Church and we cannot ignore the practices of the early disciples. Just as the Jewish people practiced customs and traditions never written in the Torah, so do the Christians. Hopefully, these examples help explain why the Church is both Scripture-based and tradition-based. Today’s Catholic Christians are simply doing what the disciples practiced.



**May Advent bring you closer to our Triune God's Grace through our traditions and customs both written in Scripture and those that are not!**

**LIVING OUR FAITH:**

1. **ADVENT 2021!** Enjoy a Nativity scene this week by spending some time before one, meditating about the Christ child and the hardships His parents endured so He could be safely born.
2. **PEOPLE MUST KNOW!** Once again, share the birth of Jesus with those who are struggling with their faith.



**Two Masses for Life Scheduled this January 2022**

Each year in January we recall the infamous Supreme Court decisions Roe v. Wade and Doe v.

Bolton that effectively legalized abortion on demand throughout the United States. Our diocese hosts two Masses for Life as a prayerful reminder that we “must protect and nurture human life at every stage of its existence.” Bishop Bonnar will preside at the Masses for Life on:

- Tuesday, January 18, at 6:30 p.m. in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Chapel at Walsh University, North Canton (2020 E. Maple St.) and

- Sunday, January 23, at 4:00 pm at St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown (154 W. Wood St.).

Each Mass for Life will include a Blessing of Children in the Womb and will be followed by a reception. All are welcome - no reservations needed. For more information contact:

dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or 330-744-8451 ext. 272.



**I WISH TO SEND A HEARTFELT THANKS** to the wonderful parish of St. Paul’s for all the prayers, cards, and support I received during my two-month ordeal. I felt prayers and Cleveland Clinic saved my life. ~~Love, Rosalie

**HAPPENINGS ELSEWHERE:**

**CURBSIDE PASTA TAKE-OUT** at Holy Family Parish, Wednesday, January 5th, 2022, 2:30-6pm.

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