



# DIVINE WORD

CATHOLIC CHURCH

8100 Eagle Road • Kirtland, Ohio 44094

Parish Office Phone Number: 440-256-1412

Fax Number: 440-379-7491

Parish Website: [www.divinewordkirtland.org](http://www.divinewordkirtland.org)

St. Vincent de Paul Assistance Line: 440-547-6718

Shari Allwood  
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Reverend Jim Caddy  
*Retired Priest*

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*Bookkeeper/Membership Coordinator*

Deacon John Grazia  
*Deacon*

Becky Harper  
*Music Director*

Debbie Lokar  
*Pastoral Associate*

Taylor Long  
*Youth Minister*

Kelly McCloskey  
*Parish Secretary*

Gina Rensi  
*Director of Religious Education*

Rachel Scott  
*DRE Admin. Assistant*

Jonathan Withrow  
*Parish Pastoral Council Chairperson*

Reverend Dave Woost  
*Pastor*

#### MASS SCHEDULE:

Monday through Friday: 8:30 AM

Saturday Evening Vigil: 4:30 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

**Rosary:** Monday through Friday: 8:00 AM

**RECONCILIATION:** Saturday from  
3:30–4:15 PM or anytime by appointment.

**BAPTISM:** Arrangements are to be made  
in advance. Parent Baptismal Class and  
Sponsor's Certificate are required.  
Please call the Parish Office to register.

**MARRIAGE:** Arrangements must be  
made at least 6 months before the wedding.  
**Please contact the Parish Office before  
you set your date or reserve your hall.**

#### OFFICE HOURS:

Monday–Friday 8:00 AM–5:00 PM  
Closed Saturday & Sunday

## *Fourth Sunday of Advent* *December 19, 2021*

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

"BLESSED ARE YOU WHO BELIEVED  
THAT WHAT WAS SPOKEN TO YOU BY THE LORD  
WOULD BE FULFILLED."

—LUKE 1:45

<b>MON.</b> DEC. 20	Late Advent Weekday (IS 7: 10-14; LK 1: 26-38) 8:30 AM + Milan Buzdon	<i>Eugenia Isaksen, Paul Spann</i>
<b>TUES.</b> DEC. 21	Late Advent Weekday, <i>St. Peter Canisius, Priest &amp; Doctor of the Church</i> (SG 2: 8-14; LK 1: 39-45) 8:30 AM + Annmarie Hunt	<i>Stanley Kemp, Kenneth Thornicroft</i>
<b>WED.</b> DEC. 22	Late Advent Weekday (1 SM 1: 24-28; LK 1: 46-56) 8:30 AM + Leon Radej	<i>Patricia Gielink</i>
<b>THUR.</b> DEC. 23	Late Advent Weekday, <i>St. John of Kanty, Priest</i> (MAL 3: 1-4, 23-24; LK 1: 57-66) 8:30 AM + David Parent	<i>Kimberlee Bates, Josephine Canitia, Anna Mary Lisy Wolf, Kay Mullally</i>
<b>FRI.</b> DEC. 24	Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord (IS 62: 1-5; ACTS 13: 16-17, 22-25; MT 1: 1-25) 4:00 PM + Deceased Members of the Kaifesh & Klemenic Families and + Paul Hannan 7:00 PM + Eddie White 10:00 PM + Mary & Andrew Rigo, Sr.	<i>Paul Hannan, Mary Kopniske, Frieda Shank</i>
<b>SAT.</b> DEC. 25	The Nativity of the Lord (IS 52: 7-10; HEB 1: 1-6; JN 1: 1-18) 8:30 AM + Mary Potosky 11:00 AM + Michele Pilla & Abbondanza Pilla	<i>Ann Gammel, Marilyn Hoenigman, Paul Melago</i>
<b>SUN.</b> DEC. 26	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph (SIR 3: 2-6,12-14; COL 3: 12-21; LK 2: 41-52) 8:30 AM + Marilyn Young 11:00 AM + Gloria Vitantonio	<i>Edward Kish, Jr., William "Bill" Meegan, Darren O'Brien, Colletta M. Scali</i>

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19**

8:30 AM Mass- Livestreamed  
11:00 AM Mass  
*NO PSR CLASSES—WINTER BREAK*

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 20**

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass  
9:00 AM to 10:00 PM Adoration  
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Confessions  
6:30 PM Advent "Talk on Faith" / HH  
7:00 PM Cancer Support Group / GA

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21**

8:00 AM Rosary followed by 8:30 AM Mass  
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Confessions  
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Confessions  
*NO PSR CLASSES—WINTER BREAK*

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22**

8:00 AM Avilas followed by 8:30 AM Mass  
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Confessions  
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Confessions  
*NO PSR CLASSES OR RCIA—WINTER BREAK*

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23—Parish Office Closed**

8:00 AM Avilas followed by 8:30 AM Mass  
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM Confessions  
11:00 AM Baptism: Carter Joseph Iademarco  
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM Confessions

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24—Parish Office Closed**

4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass  
7:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass  
10:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25**

8:30 AM Christmas Mass  
11:00 AM Christmas Mass

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26**

8:30 AM Mass—Livestreamed  
11:00 AM Mass  
*NO PSR CLASSES—WINTER BREAK*



**Besides the Wise Men, what is significant about the Epiphany?**

Epiphany means "manifestation," or public display. The feast is usually celebrated January 6. In the US, it is celebrated on the Sunday nearest to January 6. It originates from a story unique to Matthew (2:1-12). Magi from the East come to offer homage to the newborn King, presenting him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

This part of Matthew's infancy narrative differs from Luke's account of the birth of Jesus. In Luke there are no Magi, star, nor gifts. Luke has Jesus being born in a stable after Mary and Joseph's long travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem. Matthew seems to have the family living in a house in Bethlehem, where the Magi find them.

Why these differences? They stem from the needs and concerns of the audience the authors were addressing, as well as the theological stance of each author. Knowing the original intention helps get at the correct interpretation of the text.

Since Matthew was writing primarily to a Jewish community, his concern was to show that Jesus did not come just for Jews, but for Gentiles as well. From his very birth, Jesus not only manifests himself to Jews, but also to Gentiles, who are prominently included in the manifestation, symbolized by the Magi and their journey. This is the most significant aspect of the feast of Epiphany. How do you manifest Jesus to all with whom you come into contact?





## *This week's message from Fr. Dave....*

This is one of those mystical encounters between Mary and Elizabeth that makes us ponder the power of God's presence in our world. These two women are sharing in the joy of new life, yet the possibility of this happening goes beyond our human reasoning. God has intervened in a woman too old to bear children and the other pregnant without any relations with a man. What do we make out of this situation? I believe most people today would simply write this moment off as impossible or just false. However, the attraction that Mary and Elizabeth feel towards each other is too powerful to place into words.

Elizabeth is so overwhelmed with joy when Mary visits that her child in the womb leaps for joy. At the same time, she cries out in a loud voice. She does not greet Mary in a customary way or say the words expected of her, but she cries out loudly. This helps us understand that Elizabeth has great love for Mary, and she has made that incredible connection that she is carrying her Savior. The realization of this understanding caused her to go beyond a simple pleasantry and produces a voice crying in love for Mary and the child she is carrying.

What causes me to sit back and ponder this moment of two lives effected by the intervention of God is the love they are filled with for one another. Could it be that the seemingly impossibilities of their lives were confirmed by this present moment? Sharing impossibilities gave Mary and Elizabeth greater hope and trust that God was doing incredible wonders in their lives. This is a moment of beauty between these two relatives. I cannot begin to fathom an explanation that would satisfy anyone who has no faith. All I can do is rely heavily that God can make the impossible a reality. These events often happen in scripture when the situation has a direct effect on the entire world.

Relationships are so important to us as human beings. Our identity is defined by those we live with and those we call friends. This story ranks among the best in scripture to define the importance of relationships. If we ponder long enough on this short, but powerful moment between Elizabeth and Mary, we can see that they are intimately connected to each other. Their experience of friendship helps them see the incredible task they will both have as mothers. What makes this relationship strong is how they allow God to infiltrate their soul and spirit. They can see God working in their lives and because of that they rejoice with each other.

These final days of Advent, as we approach Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, are hectic. One recommendation is to pause before your day begins to

seek a sense of peace throughout the day. There is a liturgical tradition that starting on December 17th we can read the "O" antiphons at the alleluia verse before the gospel reading. These short, but compelling, words help our focus and direct us to the coming of Christ. Each of the seven "O" antiphons gives us titles of Christ as he is anticipated to come into the world. These antiphons are taken from the prophet Isaiah as he prepares his people for the coming Savior. You might notice in the popular Advent hymn the "O" antiphon, "O Come, O Come Emanuel." I often use these simple antiphons to help me focus during the day and be a reminder that Christmas is close.

Please note times for confessions during the week leading up to Christmas: Monday, December 20th 9:00AM-10:00AM; Tuesday, December 21st 9:00AM-10:00AM and 7:00PM-8:00PM; Wednesday, December 22nd 9:00AM-10:00AM and 7:00PM-8:00PM; and Thursday, December 23rd 9:00AM-10:00AM and 7:00PM-8:00PM. If these times do not fit your schedule, please call the parish office to make an appointment.

Mass on Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve, will be held at 4:00 PM (in the church and in Hanson Hall), 7:00 PM, and 10:00 PM and on Saturday, December 25th, Christmas Day, at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM (there is no 4:30 PM Mass on Saturday evening, December 25th). The Feast of the Holy Family is Sunday, December 26th. Masses will be at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM. Mass on Friday, December 31st will be at 4:30 PM on the Eve of the Feast of Mary, the Mother of God. Mass will also be celebrated on Saturday, January 1st, New Year's Day, at 9:00 AM. Mass for the Feast of the Epiphany will be on Saturday, January 1st at 4:30 PM and Sunday, January 2nd at 8:30 AM and 11:00 AM.

Our first Synod Listening Session will be Monday, December 20th at 7:00PM in Hanson Hall. Please sign up in the Gathering Area or call the parish office. A light dinner will be provided at 6:30PM. Your role in the Synod is to offer reflection on the state of the Church. We are interested in hearing your honest assessment of the local and universal church. Please note that we are hoping for both strengths and areas of life in the Church that need to be stronger. I hope you will join us for this night of reflection.

As we wind down to Christmas Day, please know of my prayers for you and your families. I cannot say enough about your generosity and giving to the parish to keep us strong and viable. As always, I am looking forward to a spirited and powerful worship on Christmas.

Enjoy the last days of Advent – and Merry Christmas in advance!

*Fr. Dave*



## "In His Sandals" Walking Group



Join us as we share in prayer, friendships, conversation and enjoy the beauty of God's creation. Please contact Debbie Lokar at the parish office if interested in participating. Our group will meet **Wednesdays at 3:00 PM** at the following parks:

Date	Location
12/22	Gully Brook Park 2100 River Rd., Willoughby
12/29	Penitentiary Glen 8668 Kirtland-Chardon Rd., Kirtland

*The last meeting for "In His Sandals" Walking Group for 2021 will be on 12/29. The group will resume again in March 2022!*

## Divine Word Christmas Project



Christmas gifts were all due yesterday, and I am overjoyed with the generosity of our parish community and am so happy that we all came to be a light to our community this Christmas. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped this year, it means a lot. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and cannot wait to see what 2022 brings for Divine Word.

-Taylor Long, Youth Minister

## Virtual Choir Concert



Grab a mug of hot chocolate, some leftover cookies from Santa's dish and join our fabulous Divine Word Choir for a Virtual Choir Concert on **Tuesday, December 28th** at 7:00 PM. The link for the virtual concert will be located on the parish website

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

## Humor from the Caddyshack



Some Parenting Tips:

- When your kid comes and asks you for duct tape, it means something bad has happened.
- Dump half of your toddler's food directly into the trash to save time and sanity.
- If your kids suddenly start getting along and are nice to each other for no reason, be very, very suspicious.

*Father Jim*

## "Taylor-Made" News



Thank you to everyone who came to a youth group event this semester! It was a great start to the year. Praying that everyone has a blessed Christmas with their families and cannot wait to kick things back off on **Sunday, January 16th, 2022** for another semester of faith and fun!

*Taylor*

## Charitable Contributions Reminder



As we near the end of the year, please note that for donations to be counted as 2021 contributions they must be physically in hand at the parish office, or if mailed, POSTMARKED on or

before **December 31, 2021**. Contributions received after **January 1, 2022**, and postmarked in January will be recorded in 2022, regardless of the date of the check. 2021 contribution statements will only be processed by request. If you would like a statement for your records, please do one of the following: drop a note in the collection basket requesting a statement or contact Dee in the parish office via email, [dgermano@divinewordkirtland.org](mailto:dgermano@divinewordkirtland.org) or by phone at 440-256-1412. We will gladly mail or email your statement to you. *Your gift of treasure is greatly appreciated, and we thank you for your continued support!*

### Confession Times

Monday, December 20th 9:00AM to 10:00AM  
 Tuesday, December 21st 9:00 AM to 10:00AM and  
 7:00PM to 8:00PM  
 Wednesday, December 22nd 9:00 AM to 10:00AM and  
 7:00PM to 8:00PM  
 Thursday, December 23rd 9:00 AM to 10:00AM and  
 7:00PM to 8:00PM

### Christmas Mass Schedule

Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve 4:00PM  
 (Church and Hanson Hall), 7:00PM (Church) and  
 10:00PM (Church)  
 Saturday, December 25th, Christmas Day 8:30AM  
 and 11:00AM (no 4:30PM Mass)  
 Sunday, December 26th, Feast of the Holy Family,  
 8:30AM and 11:00AM

## Saint Vincent de Paul



Jesus was born during the night of the year when darkness is the longest. The Savior of the world comes for the people in dark places. The real lasting and deep joy is that the Light shines there.

*Through your gift to the Society of St. Vincent Paul, "Light" has shown, bringing real, lasting, and deep joy to the hearts of the poor who live in dark places in our streets and neighborhood.*

## Year-End Giving



In this season of giving, consider making a year-end gift to our parish in gratitude for all the blessings you have received in life. As you plan to make the most of your charitable donations in 2021, know that we gratefully accept gifts of cash and appreciated assets such as stocks or bonds. We wanted to take this time to remind you of some important CARES Act provisions that are scheduled to expire at year's end. These provisions may affect you— and even make it easier for you to make a gift to your parish. They include:

- *An expanded charitable giving incentive that allows taxpayers who take the standard deduction to make up to \$300 in charitable cash contributions for single filers (\$600 for married couples) to qualified charities like ours this year.*
- *For those who do itemize their deductions, the law allows for cash contributions to qualified charities such as ours to be deducted up to 100% of your adjusted gross income for the 2021 calendar year.*

And, if you are 70 1/2 or older, you may be able to make a gift of a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA that will help us in our ministry and reduce your taxable income. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that your IRA Qualified Charitable Distribution gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish. Questions? Contact Shari Allwood, Business Manager, at 440-256-1412 or via email at [sallwood@divinewordkirtland.org](mailto:sallwood@divinewordkirtland.org).

## Parish Office Holiday Hours



The parish office will be closed on **Thursday, December 23rd, Friday, December 24th, Monday, December 27th, Thursday, December 30th, Friday, December 31st and Monday, January 3rd.**

**Have a very Merry Christmas and Blessed New Year!**

## Holiday Help for the Divorced & Separated



Are you ready for a new year? Let us help you turn the corner! Join us for this special program intended to offer practical advice, support, and the skills to move forward. We will meet Thursday evening from 6:30-8:30PM on **Thursday, January 6th** at St. John Vianney Church in Mentor. To register or for more information call Karen at 440-352-8282 or email [kjubeck@st-gabriel.org](mailto:kjubeck@st-gabriel.org).

## Support Group for Caregivers



Divine Word has a retired healthcare professional who is willing to assist if we begin a support group for caregivers. We're thinking about starting a monthly meeting on a weekday, either late morning or early afternoon. Before making concrete plans, we want to know if interest exists. If you'd benefit by meeting with other caregivers for some mutual support and personal care, please contact Shari Allwood via email, [sallwood@divinewordkirtland.org](mailto:sallwood@divinewordkirtland.org).

## Did You Notice the Fabulous New Pavers Around the St. Joseph Statue?



Aaron Schulz, of Scout Troop 286 organized the project as part of his Eagle Scout Badge journey. There's also a new Scout Troop 286G (the Kirtland girl's troop) and for the first time in history, the two Troops worked together to create the beautiful access to the benches and our St. Joseph statue. Thank you, Troops! Parishioners Tom Bernot helped to coordinate, Brian Glowe helped to source the materials, and Jim and Cindy Alfieri, owners of Highland Landscape Supply, generously donated all the materials as well as their expertise with the layout and fabrication. Thanks to all for the beautiful outcome!

## Divine Word and Alpha



Please join us for this 11 week program at Divine Word called Alpha. Sessions will be held on Monday evenings (in Hanson Hall) from 6:30PM-8:30PM beginning **January 24th**. Alpha enables people to ask questions, share ideas, build friendships, and experience the love of God through the Holy Spirit. [Sign-ups are available here](#) (also available on Divine Word website), *in the Gathering Area or you can call the Parish Office*. For more information, contact Gina Rensi, Director of Religious Education, at 440-256-1412.



## Stewardship Report Weekend of December 12th, 2021

Weekly Collection (189 donations): \$16,293  
*Weekly Collection Goal: \$12,353*  
 Christmas Collection YTD: \$9,040  
*Christmas Collection Goal: \$17,000*  
 Weekly Collection net surplus/deficit: **\$4,020**

YTD Collection: \$351,347 / *YTD Goal: \$325,825*  
 YTD Collection net surplus/deficit: \$25,522

### Joyfulness!



We have a parishioner who volunteers for a variety of tasks and frequently visits our parish office. I always know when she's present because I can hear her laughter. Her laugh is contagious -- sort of like a baby's laughter or a toddler's giggle. When I recently encountered her in the copy room, I indicated that I knew she was here, as I'd heard her

laughter. She immediately apologized, and I suggested that I LOVE to hear her laugh – it brings joy to my heart. She mentioned that she previously worked at a religious institution where she would be admonished for laughing too much. What? Do we really want to be somber Christians? Can't we show the joy of the Lord and of life? I find the latter far more appealing from an evangelical standpoint, don't you?

I Chronicles 16:26-27 shares that "strength and joy are in his (God's) place." The Book of Psalms states: "in your presence there is fullness of joy." I think joy goes together with Christian life. That doesn't mean we won't face trials and sadness. When those times strike, consider Romans 15:13: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope." Joy is one of the fruits of the Spirit. Nehemiah 8:10 states: "For the joy of the Lord is your strength." You can cling to Lord and the Holy Spirit and seek joy during the difficult and troubling times that we all encounter.

As we near the end of this amazing Advent season, remember that even John the Baptist, while still in his mother's womb "leaped for joy" when hearing Mary's voice when speaking to Elizabeth. (I love that!)

May you be filled with joy throughout this Christmas season.

### Remember Our Sick & Suffering!



Pat Aquila, Maria Babic, Samantha Bagdasarian, Mary Barresi, Charlie Bartzen, Cecilia Bertha, Jeff Bonfanti, Premo Bonfanti, Joe Borkey, Cristan Smudz-Bregar, John Brown, Father Jim Caddy, Mike Camino, Rachelle Marie Carlson, Michael Cholak, Courtney Clair, Daniel Clair, Izzy Corbin, Susan Daly, Nicole Dixon, Rose Dixon, Vera Draksic, Cindy Evans, Jackie Fatica, Joe Fontana, Christopher Gilbey, Vickie Gilbey, Alice Gilmore, Magdalene Giorgi, Rosemary Giorgi, Lou Godfrey, Judith Gruber, Ida Guest, Richard Guest, Raymond Gullo, Vicki Gullo, George Harchick, Rose Harchick, Lynn Hogye, Michelle Holbury, Gabrielle Holicky, Bill Horton, Donna Horton, Nancy Hummer, Elizabeth Hunter, Allan Jenisek, Shirley Jirousek, Mike Keresman, David Kirek, Kelly Konya, Audrey Kramer, Kallie Kramp, Lynne Kravos, Darlene Kuhar, Ralph Kutcher, Fred Lazar, John Leskovec, Cathy Lombardo, Nicholas Lombardo, Joshua MacDonald Jr., Dave Mekker, Ronald Minadeo, Bob & Judy Morel, Mary Morton, Frank Nannicola, Katy Nicolli, Gwen Novak, Ed Nye, Mollie Oberstar, Lynn Odell, Natalia Rose Ortega, Premo Panzarello, Marty Parent, Father Fred Pausche, Bobby Petruziello, Michael Popovich, Erin Potter, Kevin Powers, Breda Radej, Christian Rassi, Sharon Regovich, Judy Rigo, Kris Ruhe, Steve Sabol, Camille Salerno, Jennifer Sanderson, Elaine Sargi, Rosemary Schaller, Rosemary Scholti, Joseph Seiler, Peter Sussen, Gene Trela, Donald Victor, Jay Vukcevic, Angela Wandle, Bernadette Wasserman, Tammy Webb, Dale White, Michael White, Michael Wojnar, Father Dave Woost

*Please take a moment to lift these individuals up in prayer this week. Notify the parish office when a name can be removed from the list. Thank You.*

## MINISTRY SCHEDULE Dec. 24th, 25th and 26th, 2021

	Extraordinary Ministers	Lector	Servers
Friday 4:00 PM (Church)	P. Andrykovitch J. Kelleher J. Kelleher R. Stimburys VOLUNTEER NOW x 2	M. Raishart	J. Zahn VOLUNTEER NOW
Friday 4:00 PM (HH)	D. Dailey M. Dailey Deacon J. Grazia	K. Aquila	VOLUNTEER NOW x 2
Friday 7:00 PM	VOLUNTEER NOW x 3	M. Jochum	VOLUNTEER NOW x 2
Friday 10:00 PM	VOLUNTEER NOW x 3	D. Trombetti	VOLUNTEER NOW x 2
Saturday 8:30 AM	C. Casey VOLUNTEER NOW D. Trombetti	R. Allwood	VOLUNTEER NOW x 2
Saturday 11:00 AM	Deacon J. Grazia G. Ianetta VOLUNTEER NOW	C.A. Brooks	J. Brooks VOLUNTEER NOW
Sunday 8:30 AM	C. Casey VOLUNTEER NOW x 2	VOLUNTEER NOW	VOLUNTEER NOW x 2
Sunday 11:00 AM	G. Ianetta VOLUNTEER NOW x 2	D. Trombetti	VOLUNTEER NOW x 2

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