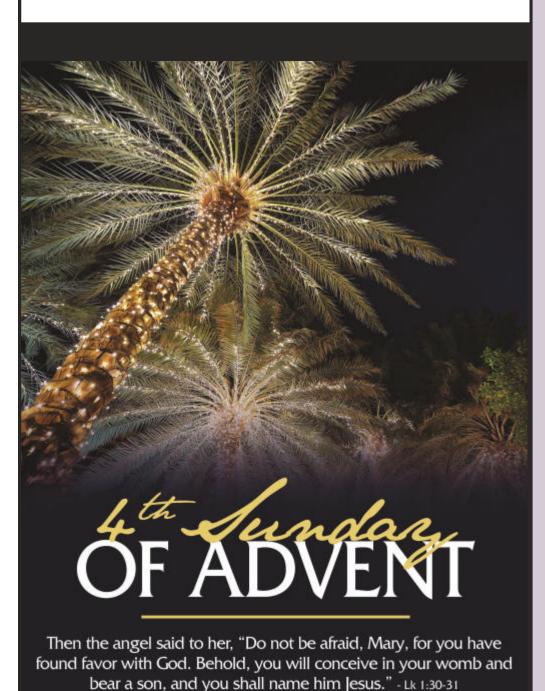
# SACRED HEART CHURCH

400 Nilles Road Fairfield, Ohio 45014 (513) 858-4210 Fax (513) 858-4211

www.sacredheart-fairfield.org



Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass @2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Parish Office Hours Monday-Friday 7:30am-3:30pm

Mass Times Mon-Thursday 7:30am Friday 7:00am Saturday: 8:00am, 4:00pm(Saturday Vigil) Sunday: 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00pm

Holy Days: See bulletin

Infant Baptisms
Pre-Baptism workshop held the
second Monday of every month
in the undercroft of the Church
at 8pm.
No need to register

Anointing of the Sick After weekday Mass or by appointment.

Sacrament of Matrimony Call the pastor, 858-4210, as soon as possible. Marriage preparation required.

New Parishioners/Change
of Address
Welcome! Please
register at the Church
Office. If you are moving,
please call the Church Office.

Communion for the Sick and Shut-Ins Please call Fr. Tharp, 858-4210.

Sacrament of Reconciliation/ Confession Saturdays: 8:35am-9:30am Other times by appointment

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) For those interested in becoming Catholic, call Fr. Tharp, 858-4210

> Eucharistic Adoration Friday 12:00pm Benediction 2:45pm

December 20, 2020

# **MASS INTENTIONS**

Monday, December 21

7:30am Constance Kauwalu (Patrick

Callahan)

Tuesday, December 22

7:30am **Donna Kurtz** (The Morgan Fami-

ly)

Wednesday, December 23

7:30am Richard Hicks (Family)

Thursday, December 24

7:30am For the people

3:00pm For the people

7:00pm For the people

Friday, December 25

12:00am For the people

8:00am For the people

10:00am For the people

12:00pm For the people

Saturday, December 26

8:00am Gene Shafor (Eleanor Narthker)

4:00pm Howard & Betty Staigl (Family)

Sunday, December 27

8:00am For the people

10:00am Thomas Stuard, Sr. (Fr. Roettele

Knights of Columbus)

12:00pm Special Intention for Mary Os-

tendorf



# WEEK OF DECEMBER 21

## Monday, December 21

- Mass (CH) 7:30am
- St. Vincent de Paul (RH2&3) 7:30pm

### Tuesday, December 22

Mass (CH) 7:30am

### Wednesday, December 23

- Mass (CH) 7:30am
- Confession (CH) 6:30pm

# Thursday, December 24 - Parish Office Closed

- Mass (CH) 7:30am
- Mass (CH) 3:00pm
- Mass (CH) 7:00pm

## Friday, December 25 - Parish Office Closed

- Midnight Mass (CH) 12:00am
- Mass (CH) 8:00am
- Mass (CH) 10:00am
- Mass (CH) 12:00pm

# Saturday, December 26

- Mass (CH) 8:00am
- Confession (CH) 8:30am
- Mass (CH) 4:00pm

## Sunday, December 27

12/6/2020

- Mass (CH) 8:00am, 10:00am & 12:00pm
- Baptisms (CH) 1:30pm



| Offering Envelopes    |                            | \$22,232.00       |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Loose Cash            |                            | \$741.00          |
| Online Giving         |                            | <u>\$5,974.50</u> |
| Total Sunday Offering |                            | \$28,947.50       |
|                       |                            |                   |
| All Sai               | nts/All Souls              | \$10.00           |
| Imma                  | culate Conception          | \$438.00          |
| Campa                 | aign For Human Development | \$120.00          |
| Christ                | mas                        | \$1,005.00        |
| Religio               | ous Retirement             | \$440.00          |
| Solem                 | nity of Mary               | \$10.00           |
| Total                 |                            | \$30,970.50       |

Due to an early bulletin deadline, the 12/13/20 collection will be reported next week.

# FROM THE DESK OF FATHER THARP

Next Sunday: The Holy Family
Celebrant for December 27: Fr. Schmitz

#### Christmas Schedule for St. Ann and Sacred Heart

Fr. Tharp will celebrate <u>all</u> Masses on Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve Masses: Sacred Heart: 3:00 p.m. St. Ann: 5:00 p.m. Sacred Heart: 7:00 p.m. St. Ann: 10:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart: 12:00 a.m. (Midnight)

Fr. Tharp will celebrate the three (Sunday Schedule) Christmas Day Masses at Sacred Heart. Fr. Schmitz will celebrate the two Christmas Morning Masses at St. Ann. Please note that there is no "Midnight Mass" at St. Ann.

## **Reconciliation (Confession)**

I will continue during the remaining days of Advent to have regular confessions at Sacred Heart on Saturday mornings (8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.) and regular confessions at St. Ann on Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m. I also hear confessions before Sunday morning Masses on the Sundays I am at St. Ann.

St. Ann: Tuesday, December 22: I will hear regular Tuesday (December 22) evening confessions at St. Ann from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. or until all are heard.

<u>Sacred Heart: Wednesday, December 23:</u> On Wednesday, December 23, I will hear confessions at Sacred Heart from 6:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. or until all are heard.

When I hear individual confessions, I will still require that you go behind the screen (not face to face), that you wear a mask as I will, and that you socially distance in any line formed outside the confessional.

# Donating Stock (disclaimer: the following is NOT tax advice!)

During this time of the year, I always like to remind everyone of the benefit of donating stock directly by transfer to an IRS classified section 501 (c) 3, like St. Ann or Sacred Heart. Some have told me that since the "standard deduction amount" has increased (and thus fewer people are filing Schedule A. Itemized Deductions), the incentive to the taxpayer for stock donations has diminished. But remember that even if you file using the "standard deduction" the relief to you as a taxpayer for giving appreciated equities to an eleemosynary like us, is not just that you can (theoretically) apply it as an itemized deduction if you meet the threshold; but also that if you donate (transfer) the stock directly to us, you

avoid paying taxes on the capital gain.

For example, suppose you bought a stock some years ago as an Initial Public Offering (IPO) at \$10 a share. Suppose it is now trading for \$70 a share (or maybe there has been a "stock split" some time ago and you now hold twice the number of shares) and you want to donate some or all of the holding to charity. If YOU sell those shares, you will get hit with an enormous capital gain calculation on your personal tax return. BUT if you donate (aka transfer) the "actual shares" to Sacred Heart or St. Ann, you do not have to pay the capital gains tax on the donated shares. For St. Ann and Sacred Heart as tax exempt entities, the beauty is we don't have to pay the capital gains when we sell the stock because the church is tax exempt. You can give more dollar value without capital gains cost to you or the church, but remember that this only works on stocks that have "appreciated" in value.

Please understand, I am NOT trying to give "tax advice" but rather want to alert you to possibilities about which you may be unaware. As always, please consult your professional tax adviser for specifics as they may apply to you.

# Plan for Celebrating a COVID Christmas

Remember that the Bishops of Ohio have extended the suspension of (the precept) duty to attend Sunday Mass or Holyday Mass until at least 2021. Therefore, no one is obligated to attend Mass this year on Christmas.

Since it appears that this Christmas, we will still have COVID inspired reduced capacity seating and standing room in both St. Ann and Sacred Heart churches, we are planning to live stream the A/V feed from the Christmas Eve Masses in Church through our youtube page. For the 3:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart, we plan to also set up Fellowship Hall so as to use the projector and smart TV for overflow attendants in Fellowship Hall. When and if this is also full, the remainder of the overflow crowd both at Sacred Heart and later at 5:00 p.m. at St. Ann (because the church is full) will be directed to stay in their cars in the parking lot and watch the live stream on their personal cell phone or pad. After the main crowd leaves, then those in their cars will form a line to receive communion in the Narthex or Vestibule. I had asked for permission to also distribute Communion at other times at both churches outside of Mass, but I have been told by the Archdiocese that it is not permitted. Using every permissible means, I hope to accommodate the needs of as many as possible for Christmas.

We do not anticipate overflow crowds at St. Ann or Sacred Heart on Christmas Day. If this would happen on Christmas Day at Sacred Heart, I will immediately set up to live stream and deliver communion to the overflow from the parking lot after Mass in the Narthex. Similarly, St. Ann overflow (should this occur on Christmas Day at St. Ann) could watch an earlier Mass from St. Ann on Youtube while sitting in their car in the parking lot and then come into Church for communion at communion time.

Continued on next page...

Continued from previous page...

The Masses on Christmas Day will be at the same times as the regular Sunday Masses at both parishes.

Important Note: If you end up watching Mass in the parking lot at either church, it is imperative that you NOT tap into the church WIFI, while watching the Mass on your phone or pad! The experts tell us that this would CRASH our WIFI and then no one anywhere could see the Mass! This is the "Achilles Heel" of the whole attempt to provide Mass for everyone!!! While we are live streaming at ether of the two parishes, it is imperative that no one use the church WIFI during live streaming. This would be a catastrophe.

# Communion on the Tongue

Please remember as I stated in recent articles, until the threat of COVID is over; if you wish to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, you must come to me (Fr. Tharp) ONLY and you must be sure you are at the end of my line. Please do not present yourselves to Fr. Schmitz or any of the Lay Eucharistic Ministers for communion on the tongue! If on Sundays, you see that I am going to be at St. Ann, then you must come to St. Ann that Sunday if you want to receive ONLY on the tongue. I am not willing to ask Fr. Schmitz or any of the Lay Eucharistic Ministers to take a risk with which they are uncomfortable. Be assured, I will follow all the protocols necessary to administer on the tongue safely.

# Live Streaming a precept Mass from St. Ann and Sacred Heart each week

# Reflection on Scripture: Fourth Sunday of Advent

The gospel prescribed for the Fourth Sunday of Advent is the story of the Annunciation. The Annunciation story together with the story of the birth of Our Lord (aka Christmas) forms the teaching of the Church regarding the "Incarnation." The Latin word for flesh is "Carnes." Thus the Incarnation references the act of God to become physically tangible in human flesh and blood. As inhabitants of twenty-first century America, we are so familiar with Christmas as a secular celebration, that we fail to recognize the enormity of the reality! God, the omnipotent eternal creator beyond our concepts of time, space, and reality has interjected himself "into a temporal world" in order to reveal God's eternal love for mere humanity. John 3:16-21 makes the point most eloquently with the words, "God so loved the world......"

The foundational truth of Christianity is based on this historical reality; namely that God chose to enter into time and space to become part of his creation. For us as Christians (to quote

Walter Cronkite) "And that's the way it is!" Let's make the "reality" of Christmas what we celebrate this year. We are encouraged by advertisers and the media to embrace the "fantasy" of Christmas. The fantasy is gone by the time the lights come down. The reality transcends time and space and is the reason we say, "I believe in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting."

Next Week: Feast of the Holy Family

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 Col 3:12-21 Lk 2:22-40

Theme: Are you part of the family of the Church?



# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SACRED HEART...

#### COATS FOR KIDS - THANK YOU

Fr. John Roettele Knights of Columbus would like to thank the parishioners of Sacred Heart for their support of the Coats for Kids program. We received \$2,3100.00 in donations. This amount, along with donations from the Fr. John Roettele Ladies Auxiliary and Fr. Butler 4th Degree Assembly, enabled the council to purchase ten boxes of coats for boys and girls this year. We provided 56 coats to our local St. Vincent DePaul Society to help fill their requests from families. Resurrection School in Price Hill (an archdiocese CISE school) received 36 coats. Fairfield schools and the Caring Closet in Hamilton, supporting Hamilton school children, received 14 coats each. All four organizations were extremely appreciative. Thanks again to all for your support of this program.

# **BLOOD DRIVE**

Sacred Hearts January Blood Drive will take place on Thursday January 28th from 3 till 7 pm. Social distancing will be accommodated. In addition, Covid-19 antibody testing will be performed on all donated blood as part of the routine testing.



You register to donate at www.donortime.com and use sponsor code 665. Or if you prefer, by calling 1-800-388-GIVE. Also, there will be an opportunity to register in the Narthex sometime in late January.

Thank you for your many years of participating!

# OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

Bryan Miller, Director of Religious Education
Marianne Fleckenstein, Secretary of Faith Formation &
Safe Environment Coordinator



# Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for December:

# For a Life of Prayer,

We pray that our personal relationship with Jesus Christ be nourished by the Word of God and a life of prayer.



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The fourth candle, lit on the fourth Sunday of Advent, is the Angel's candle. As we light this flame, we are reminded of the heavenly hosts that proclaimed

Christ's arrival with "Behold, I bring unto you good tidings of great joy!" The Angel candle is also purple, reminding us that it was a King's birth the angels were announcing.

# SACRAMENTS FOR CHILDREN

# **FIRST RECONCILIATION:**

Please continue to pray for our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders who are receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

# **SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION:**



CONFIRMATION PAPERWORK DEADLINE Monday, DECEMBER 14TH

Sponsor Information form & Sponsor Certificate signed & stamped by their parish priest.

If parishioner at Sacred Heart, we will get Fr. Tharp's signature for you.

For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger." - 1k 2011-12



# CONNECTING CORNER

On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, our Gospel is of the Annunciation. After an angel explains that God has chosen her to bear a king "of his kingdom there will be no end." "Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." Lk 1:38. We marvel at this scene and at Mary's faithful response when she hears her role in God's plan for the Incarnation. We pray that we will understand our Gracious God's plan for us and that He also will always find a dwelling place in us.

December focus for Dorothys' Cupboard is canned goods of all sorts and laundry detergent.

Today, on the 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of her death, we fondly remember Pat Irwin, one of the Founding Mothers of the P&J Commission. Pat's eyes lit up when she talked about Servant of God, Dorothy Day. Recently the Sheen Center, The Dorothy Day Guild and America Media presented "Celebrate the Living Legacy of Dorothy Day". Perhaps you would like to view this video (skip the ads at the beginning):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?

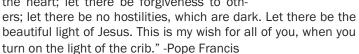
v=nTSg0Vr1jcg&utm\_source=Unknown+List&utm\_campaign=8b088969c7-

$$\label{local_campaign} \begin{split} & EMAIL\_CAMPAIGN\_2020\_09\_30\_11\_26\&utm\_medium=email \\ & \&utm\_term=0 \ -8b088969c7- \end{split}$$

Peace and Justice wishes you a most Blessed Christmas. Our joy in being alive and part of this Human Family, saved by the

birth of Jesus, strengthens our resolve to act with compassion in solidarity with all of our brothers and sisters. "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

"In switching on the light of the Nativity scene, we wish for the light of Christ to be in us. A Christmas without light is not Christmas. Let there be light in the soul, in the heart; let there be forgiveness to oth-



# From Peace and Justice Commission

# Parish Council Members

Joyce Thomas
Arline Argentati
Brian Boyce
Jeff Cadle
Kathy Engel
Billy Guinigundo
Greg LoBuono
Rita Pochard
Jim Schultheiss

jthomas20@mac.com aargent823@aol.com bboyce10@fuse.net cadlejeff@gmail.com kath4irish@yahoo.com guinigbw@gmail.com globuono\_5498@fuse.net joeypochard@yahoo.com jim.schultheiss@yahoo.ca



# KNIGHTS' CORNER Father Roettele Council 8115



https://www.facebook.com/KofC8115/

Knights of Columbus Business Meetings Continue to be Held Virtually – Virtual Business Meetings are being held via use of Webex on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays at our regular meeting time of 7:30 pm. To log in for the meeting, simply use the link found on the Council 8115 web page. Note that the Council 8115 web page link has changed and is now at:

https://sites.google.com/view/KofC8115/

Our next meeting will be December 22 at 7:30 pm. Note due to WebEx limitations, the meetings must conclude within 50 minutes time frame, so we shall start promptly on time.

Youth Free Throw Contest Cancelled – The annual K of C free throw contest at Sacred Heart Gym originally scheduled for Saturday morning of January 9 has been cancelled. We plan to be back again next year. We apologize to the youth who were looking forward to the event.

Helpers Needed for Disinfecting Church Surfaces after Sunday Masses – The K of C along with some other parishioner helpers continue to assist Father with disinfecting church surfaces (pews, etc.) following 8 am and 10 am Sunday masses. Only 3 persons needed following both masses. It only takes 10-15 minutes to wipe down the hard surfaces in the church. Disinfectant and cleaning materials are provided. If able to help, go to the link below using Signup Genius to volunteer. Will be seeking volunteers each Sunday until further notice. https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084eaea82aa4fc1-cleaning

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To learn more about the program please visit the website: www.catholicsdivorce.com For more information please contact the parish office, 513-777-4322 or email surviving divorce@saint-max.org. Next session starts in January 2021.







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