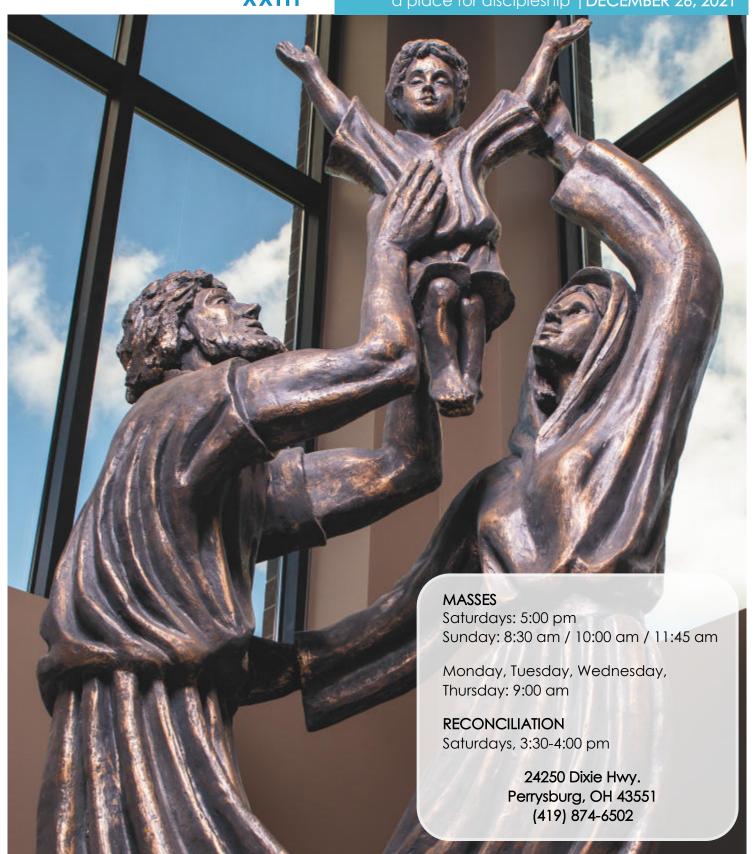


saint john THE DISCIPLES a place for discipleship | DECEMBER 26, 2021



welcome

Many families have visitors during these holidays. If you are among those visitors in church today, we welcome you.

Hospitality means making room for others in our gatherings and in our hearts. It also means tending to each other's needs. If there are some here who are filled with anxiety or doubt, we pray that you will find our gathering to be peace-filled.

Please come back to join us again when you can. If you are looking for a parish to call your own, please continue to check us out.

Again, welcome!



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Saturdays, 3:30-4:00 p.m.

BAPTISM, RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST

For more information on preparation for Baptism, Reconciliation, or First Eucharist, contact Hilary Lemon.

CONFIRMATION

For information about the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact Erin Nagy

MARRIAGE

For Marriage preparation, contact Fr. Herb SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/SICK

Sick or reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, contact Fr. Herb.

RCIA

Please contact Fr. Herb



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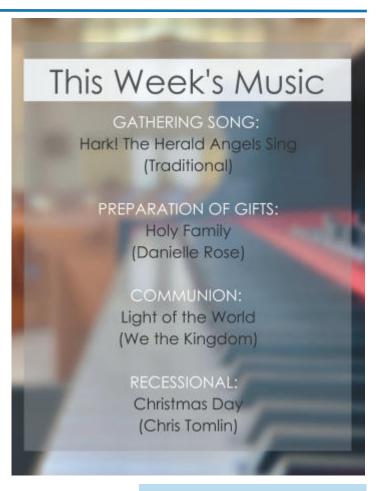
this week_

MASS SCHEDULE

Fri.	12/24	4:30pm 4:30pm 7:30pm 7:30pm 11:00pm	Dale Monnett Parish (Roncalli Hall) Mark Frederick Parish (Roncalli Hall) Parish
Sat.	12/25	10:00am	Anna Morrin
Sun.	12/26	8:30am 10:00am 11:45am	John Bires Family Parish Dave Harn
Thurs.	12/30	9:00am	John Buckenmyer
Sat.	1/1	10:00am	Lavern Swartz
Sun.	1/2	8:30am 10:00am 11:45am	Parish Parish Parish



Because next Saturday is a holiday and many will be tied up with New Year's festivities, we will not have the usual Saturday 5:00 p.m. Mass. Plan to join us at any time on Sunday morning, January 2.



OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

Office hours at the church will be limited this week: Monday (December 27) through Thursday (December 30) from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The office will be closed all day on New Year's Eve, December 31.

Often people want to make an end-of-the-year contribution to the church. We hope that you will be able to stop in during these hours when we are open. Thank you.



NEW YEAR'S DAY

New Year's Day is a **holiday**. The Solemnity of the Motherhood of Mary is a **holy day!** It is also the close of the octave of Christmas.

Two things to keep in mind: normally a holy day comes with its own obligation of Mass attendance. But when that day is on a Saturday or Monday (with exception of Christmas, as in last week's case), then the obligation is lifted. We will have one Mass to observe this day and that will take place at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, November 1.

Secondly, because that Saturday is a holiday and people are gathered around new year's festivities of food and football, we will not have the usual 5:00 p.m. Saturday Mass on January 1. Our Mass schedule for January 2 will be as usual: 8:30, 10:00, and 11:45.

our community

Pastor's Note: TWO IN ONE

This bulletin is a twofer: a message to help celebrate the wonderful feast of Christmas AND the bulletin for the Feast of the Holy Family, the Sunday after Christmas. And since Christmas is on a Saturday this year, the two events meld into one during this weekend.

That, too, is a message. The celebration of Christmas is so big and so wonderful that we don't want to limit it to just one day. The observance of the Holy Family is a reminder that Jesus was born into a true family and that God became human in all ways of humanity except sin!

We often refer to this mystery as the INCAR-NATION. Literally, that means that God entered flesh (and became fully human). I fear that people fear that in thinking of Jesus as truly human, it will somehow take away from the divinity of our Savior. In the early church there were groups that wanted to proclaim that Jesus was not fully human but merely had the image of human. The church steered away from that notion and called it a heresy just as the church reminded people that Jesus was also fully divine. In other words, Jesus is fully both!

The feast of the Holy Family (the Sunday after Christmas) helps us find images for these theological mysteries. We can picture Jesus as part of a family. We can relate to Jesus growing up with all the challenges of children everywhere.

This weekend, no matter what your family experience is, plan to reach out to those who are an important part of your life. Allow your own 'best form of humanity' to come forward.







SACRIFICIAL COMMITMENT

Our Sunday offering from the weekend of December 11-12 was \$27,401. Thank you. The report for December 18-19 will be printed in next week's bulletin. In order to comply with the Bulletin company schedule in preparation for Christmas, we are going to press early each of the next couple of weeks. Thanks for being understanding.

GIVING DIRECTLY

It's very easy for parishioners to elect to give electronically, transmitting funds from their accounts to the church, using our ACH service. You control the amount and the time of the month for the transmission of funds. There are forms at the Connection Center desk that you can use. Please submit a completed form with a voided check, for routing purposes, to the parish office. Thank you.

CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS

We prayerfully remember the following: Norbert Molyet, father of Sr. Anne Mary; Norman Cook, brother of Theresa Wasserman and Chris Cook; and Dale Monnett, uncle of Steve Monnett. May God bring these loved ones into his eternal home!

faith & family

FAITH FORMATION AT ST. JOHN XXIII

(This is a brief summary of the faith formation process at St. John XXIII)

General Principles

We believe in lifelong learning that also includes the interaction of parishioners with other parishioners, whether these be with other families or with other groupings.

Disciple Groups

This is where 'large church becomes small.' Members of the parish join a group with others and meet at prescribed times, usually in someone's home. Some groups are very specific like Young Adult, Moms, or Men's groups. Most groups are a healthy mix of those who can make the commitment to meet with others, almost always focusing on the upcoming Sunday Scriptures. Watch for more details in early January about how you can become part of a group if you are not already in one.

Family Disciple Groups

This is the basic faith formation process for families with children in elementary, middle and junior high school. Families are grouped with 2 or 3 other families with similar aged kids to journey together. Groups meet twice a month at times decided by the group, either at someone's home or at church. A monthly 'supply box' includes exciting materials for each gathering.

Sacrament Preparation

Building on the Family Disciple Groups, children have special sessions for First Holy Communion (beginning in January) and Confirmation. Details of upcoming gatherings are found elsewhere in this bulletin.

56M, 78M, and HSM

The Ministry for those in fifth and sixth grades (56M) and those in seventh and eighth grades (78M) take place throughout the year. Go to 23.church for a complete schedule.

High School Ministry (HSM) meets regularly on Sunday evenings. There are also special gatherings for retreats, mission trips, and other outreach opportunities.

Young Adults

23Young Adults is a community for those 20-30 somethings who wish to find fellowship and deepen their faith. All young adults are welcome: those that are single, married, married with kids, ect.



CHRISTMAS SEASON CONTINUES

Our celebration of the birth of the Lord continues in the Catholic Church with the following:

- Feast of the Holy Family December 26
- Motherhood of Mary (close of octave) January 1
- Epiphany of the Lord January 2
- Baptism of the Lord January 9

As you can see, we continue to celebrate the significance of the birth of Jesus. Please allow the various upcoming feast days to enrich your own understanding of this holy season.

HOLY HOUR SCHEDULE CHANGE

There will **not** be a Holy Hour on Tuesday, December 28. It will resume on Tuesday, January 4.



IN CASE YOU ARE NEW AND WONDERING "WHAT IS 23.CHURCH?"

We often remind people to go to 23.church to sign up for some activity here at this parish. What is 23.church?

We created a second website, which we refer to as a Parish Hub, for quick referral for anything that is happening here.

Simply type in 23.church on the URL line. Voila! There it is. You will see various 'cards' for any current activity or program. Most have a brief description of what it is about, along with a sign-up.

In addition, like most websites, you can go to the three parallel lines at the top right (an index of sorts) and then also check bulletins, video announcements, or Watch Live and archived material.

To make matters even easier, we have two iPads at the Connection Center desk for you to take care of this type of research right after any Mass.

Please ask questions if necessary.

HSM Ministries

Upcoming Events | 6pm-8pm | 9th-12th Grade Students

01/02: NO HSM | Mission Trip Registration Opens Today

01/09: HSM Game Night

01/16: HSM Topic Night: "You Are Distinct"

01/23: HSM Service Night

01/30: HSM Topic Night: "We Are Church"



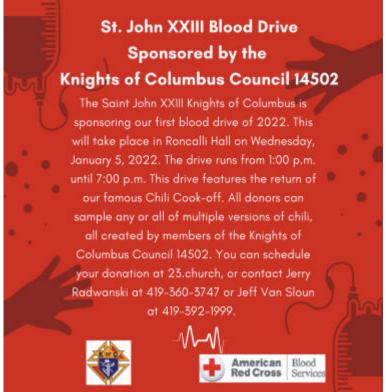


Questions? Contact Bobby | bmoren@stjohn23.org



upcoming events





A LOOK AHEAD

It's good to have a long look to see all that is happening. Here is what is coming up in the next few weeks.

Dec 24 Dec 25	Christmas Vigil (4:30, 7:30, 11:00) Christmas (10:00)
Dec 26	Feast of Holy Family
Jan 1	Mary, the Mother of God
Jan 2	Epiphany of the Lord
Jan 2	HSM Summer Mission Trip
	Registration Opens
Jan 4	Tuesday morning Bible Study
	resumes
Jan 4	RCIA Resumes
Jan 4	56M
Jan 5	Blood Drive
Jan 6	78M
Jan 6	Together Women Rise
Jan 8-9	St. Vincent de Paul Collection
Jan 8-9	Family Disciple Group Box
	Pickup
Jan 9	Baptism of the Lord
Jan 9	Connection Point
Jan 9	HSM resumes
Jan 10	St. V de P meeting
Jan 10	Taking down Christmas
	decorations
Jan 12	First Communion classes begin
Jan 14	Parish Trivia Night
Jan 15	Euchre Night
Jan 17	K of C Meeting
Jan 17	Bible Study
Jan 18	56M
Jan 20	78M
Jan 21	Date Night
Jan 23	Confirmation meeting
Jan 24	Book Discussion
JULIZA	DOOK DISCUSSION

PARENT HELP FOR HSM MISSION TRIP

Is your current 8th-12th grade student heading to our High School Mission Trip this June 19-25th? We need 7 more adults to volunteer for this trip. If you are interested in volunteering this summer, please contact Bobby at bmoren@stjohn23.org.

THE BIG ANNOUNCEMENT

In the spirit of fun and pre-Christmas intrigue, we decided to build anticipation of the great ANNOUNCEMENT that was made at Sunday's Masses two weeks ago. I hope that you were not disappointed when you heard the good news.

For our parish to be out of debt – TOTALLY AND COMPLETELY – within three years of a very major campus expansion of nearly eight and a half million dollars is a testimony to the entire parish. There were so many people involved, supportive, and GENEROUS in the process of raising so much money.

One of the aspects of our parish that I love is the vast expanse of people who have contributed. We did not rely on a small number of people to give in the name of all. Many persons stepped forward. Thank you.

Just so you know, the Parish Building Fund will continue. We will accept gifts and on-going contributions, especially from those finishing their pledges. And the fund will be allowed to grow so we will have funds for repair, replacement, and refurbishing as needs arise.

You can watch the video again on our YouTube channel stjohn23pburg. Look for the video Weekend Announcements (December 12). - hw

MID-WEEK MEDITATION

You can sign up to receive a weekly midweek reflection from Fr. Herb.

These meditations arrive on your electronic device on Wednesday morning. The purpose is to help people tune in to some aspect of faith in the middle of the week while also learning to notice how God is at work on a daily basis.

You can receive this meditation (MWM) in your in-box by simply going to 23.church and signing up.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

As our parish grows larger, we become more and more aware of how many parishioners face surgery, undergo treatment, and are sick because of other causes. Please keep one another in prayer.



this is us

CONNECTION POINT

People often ask how to sign up to become parishioners here at St. John XXIII. Your first step is to join us at Mass on a regular basis. Then we ask that you come to the next Connection Point. At that time you will have a chance to see how this parish functions and what its mission is. Only then, with an awareness of who we are, do we invite you to register if you choose.

If you want to be a member of St. John XXIII, we ask that you attend the next Connection Point, which will take place at 1:00 p.m., Sunday January 9, 2022. Go to 23.church to sign up to be with us at that time.

Want to join our church? Start here. connection point **VP at 23.church** Connection Point is a casual and conversational environment where you can get to know Saint John XXIII, our programs, services, mission and message. This is also where you may take the next step and become a member of our parish. Now taking reservations for January 9 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.



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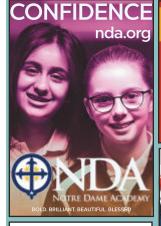
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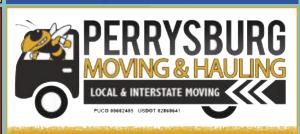




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