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12969 Chillicothe Road Chesterland, Ohio 44026 stanselm.org

† SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday:
4:00 p.m. Vigil

Sunday:
9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Public WEEKDAY MASSES

Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.
Thursday: 9:00 a.m.

We will live-stream Masses

Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

Monday, Tuesday &

Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Friday at 8:30 a.m.

CONFESSION

Saturday: 2:00—2:30 p.m.
In the daily Mass chapel.

We cannot use the confessionals yet but we will have chairs set so you can go behind a screen or face to face. Please wait outside the chapel until the person in front of you exits.

PASTOR

Fr. Thomas M. Sweany

MISSION STATEMENT

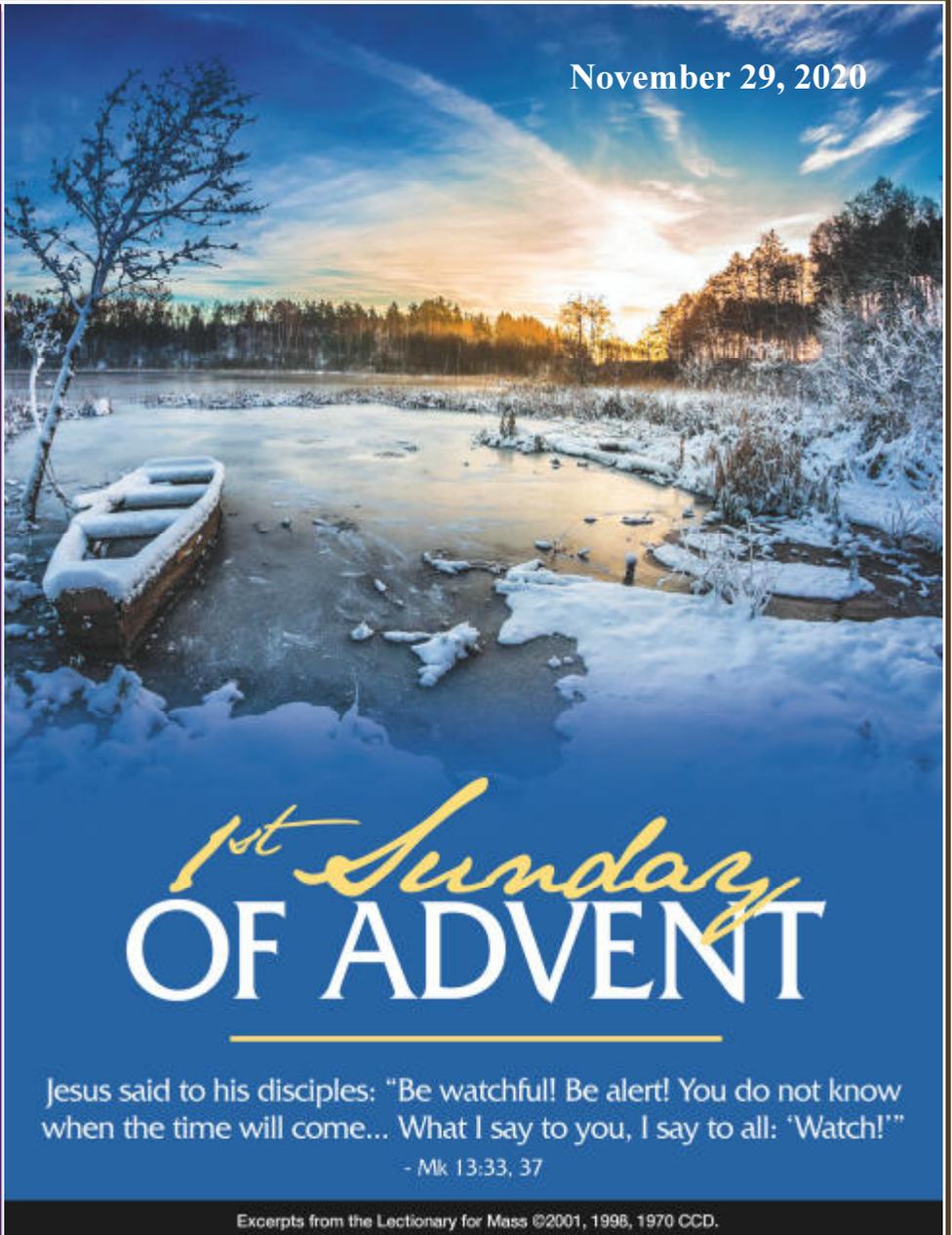
We are a caring, Catholic community called to welcome all people to experience God's love through Jesus Christ by:

Celebrating Mass and
the other Sacraments

Serving those in need

Living and sharing the Word
of God

November 29, 2020



1st Sunday
OF ADVENT

Jesus said to his disciples: "Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come... What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"

- Mk 13:33, 37

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

WELCOME

We are glad you are here!

If you would like to join the parish,
or if you are not Catholic and have questions
and would like to learn about the faith, please call the parish office.

Notes from Father Tom...

I hope you are enjoying Thanksgiving weekend and also staying safe. We still need to be very careful and gatherings that always seemed so comfortable in the past are dangerous during the pandemic.



This weekend the holy season of Advent begins. Deacon Cameron is writing some Advent reflections for each weekend in the bulletin.

We will be mailing you a post card to explain the Christmas Mass situation. The card will explain that each year we have a huge number of people at 4:00 p.m. Masses on Christmas Eve and that just will not work during the pandemic, but we do have plans for those who wish to celebrate Christmas here. The dispensation is still in place so there is no obligation to be here.

Thanks to all who have responded to my letter. People have been very generous. We need to be good stewards. Helping the parish to accomplish its mission is still one of the most important things we can do. I really appreciate what you are doing.

A parishioner has suggested a very creative idea for the nativity sets this year (see the details in this bulletin to join in the fun). So many people have great ideas. Some of the things we are learning to do during the pandemic will not only help us now but I'll bet many ideas will last even after the pandemic.

As we start Advent, try to make it a holy season.

Father Tom



† FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; 1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37
NOVEMBER 29, 2020



READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Monday, November 30, 2020 *LiveStream @ 9am*

Delio Ianiro

Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 4:18-22

Tuesday, December 1, 2020 *LiveStream @ 9am*

Cameron Perry

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

Wednesday, December 2, 2020 *@7pm* ~ Public & Streamed

Sally Straka

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37

Thursday, December 3, 2020 *@9am* ~ Public & Streamed

Vincent G. Pompili

Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27

Friday, December 4, 2020 *LiveStream @ 8:30am*

Ron Politi

Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31

Saturday, December 5, 2020 *@4pm* ~ Public & Streamed

Claudia Gabriel

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2020

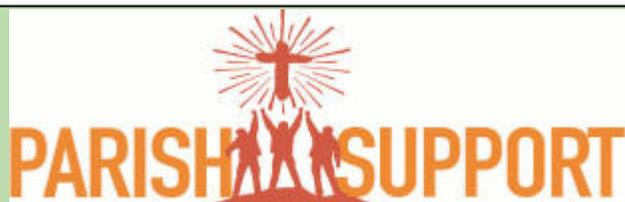
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-14; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29, 2020

Monday: St. Andrew, Apostle

Thursday: St. Francis Xavier, Priest



Collection will be in next week's bulletin.

St. Anselm Christmas Giving Tree

The holidays will soon be upon us and Christmas, as we know it, will be different this year. However, the financial need of families within the St. Anselm Parish Community is still great. The Assistance Ministry would like to ask for your generosity, once again, in helping our parishioners in need.

Because of Coronavirus concerns, we are requesting donations of local gift cards; or if you prefer to make a donation of cash or checks, members of the Assistance Ministry will purchase gift cards to be given to families. Gift cards can be dropped off in the baptistery collection box, dropped off at the parish office (9 to 5 M-F), or mailed to the Parish Office, 12969 Chillicothe Road, Chesterland 44026.

Please place your gift in an envelope marked "Giving Tree". We would like to have all gifts received by December 6, 2020 so gift cards can be distributed to families in time to make purchases before Christmas. Our hope is to provide each family with gift cards to purchase food, a gasoline gift card, a drug store gift card and gift cards to purchase a clothing item and a toy for each child.

Thank you in advance, for your overwhelming generosity. Your gift helps bring joy during this Christmas Season to many of our parish families. May God bless you this holiday season.

Suggestions for gift cards: Giant Eagle, Heinen's, CVS, DrugMart, BP, Shell, Sunoco, Target, Walmart, Kohls or Amazon.

If making a monetary donation checks should be made payable to St. Anselm Church.



Notes from Sister Noel...



Advent is here. The season of waiting has come. Haven't we been in the season of consciously waiting since March? We have been waiting for a cure for Covid-19, waiting to see our loved ones in hospitals, nursing homes and in our motherhouse. We have waited for an election and now waiting for an inauguration. Despite all the practice it still is not easy to wait.

The good part of waiting is the call to slow down. As Americans, our culture calls us to speed up, multi-task, eat fast food etc. and so sometimes slowing down may be more difficult than we thought. It sounds good, but in practice, it is more than challenging.

The waiting of the Advent season is part of our faith journey. We may have seen it as a more welcomed time. We identified it as a call for us to be more awake to the Lord's coming. Is it not a part of our religious practice during this time to pray, reflect and serve because we believe that God is near?

God is also near in a pandemic, walking with us, strengthening us, and consoling us. His presence helps us to continue on despite momentary setbacks. We are also asked to wait for the miracles that God can do through scientists, researchers, medical staff, first responders, etc. with the gifts He has embedded in them.

You too, have embedded gifts. Have you not heard someone say through your words or actions their day was better? In those moments we have added beauty or peace to our family, neighbors and co-workers' lives. Those are miraculous moments, too. God is indeed still making it happen. He is continuing to "make all things new".

As the song that borrowed the words from Scripture say, "Stay awake, be ready. You do not know when the Lord is coming." The Lord comes in many ways. So slow down, so you don't miss God and his miracles no matter the size. Happy Waiting!

Sister Noel Marra OSU

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

PRAY THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES OF THE ROSARY

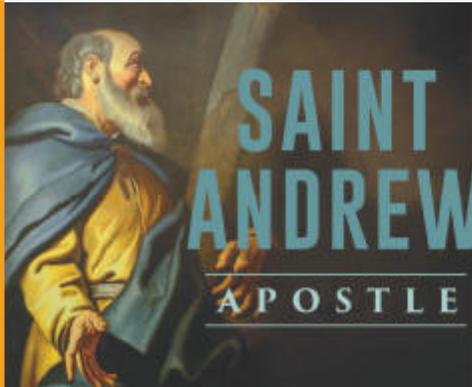
Pray the joyful mysteries of the rosary with Sister Denise Marie and Deacon Cameron on **Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:40 p.m.** before the 7 p.m. Mass. All are welcome to attend in the Church or virtually via Live Stream at stanselm.org or Saint Anselm Church's Facebook Page.



ADVENT MORNING PRAYER

Join us also for **Advent Morning Prayer on Thursday, December 3 at 8:40 a.m.** before the 9 a.m. Mass. All are welcome to attend in the Church or virtually via Live Stream at stanselm.org or Saint Anselm Church's Facebook Page. If you are following via Live Stream and wish to pray along with us, you can find Morning Prayer for December 3 at the following website:

<https://universalis.com/lauds.htm>



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BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS, SPONSOR CERTIFICATES

Please call the parish office.

STAFF

Fr. Thomas M. Sweany, Pastor
440-729-5123

Deacon Bob Kovach 440-729-9575

Deacon Cameron Popik 440-729-9575

Sister Noel Marra, O.S.U.
Director of Religious Education 440-729-5120

Sister Denise Marie Vlana, O.S.U.
Pastoral Associate 440-729-5130

Miss Susan Pohly, Principal
440-729-7806, Ext. 325

Sister Mary Ellen Brinovec, O.S.U.
RCIA Ministry 440-729-9575

Ms. Rosemary Heredos

OPLATKI The Christmas wafer bears an image from the Christmas story and the bread signifies the "Bread of Life," Jesus. This tradition helps us to remember that Jesus is among us in the Eucharist and in our lives.

Due to Covid-19, this year the Oplatki bread is pre-packaged with four wafers in an envelope. You may stop at the desk in the baptistry after Mass, or come to the Parish Office during business hours (Monday-Friday, 9am—5pm) to pick up. Donations are appreciated.

Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion and Helpers for Christmas Masses

If you are willing to assist at a weekend or Christmas Mass (Thursday, Friday, Saturday or Sunday) please let us know. Training will be provided. Further information will be available soon. Please return this tear-off or email anselmst@aol.com. Thank you.



Name _____

Email _____

Phone _____



What is Advent?

The purpose of the Liturgical season of Lent is simpler and more familiar; a time of simplicity, prayer, penance and conversion as if one were going to spend time in a desert-like place. Advent is more complex though. It does not carry with it the three, clear-cut areas to consider; Prayer, Penance and Almsgiving. It does not entail constant devotions like the Lenten Stations of the Cross. What are we supposed to *do* during Advent?

Advent comes from the Latin word "*adventus*", "Coming", reminding us that we look forward to two aspects of Jesus' coming; the Christmas feast of Christ's Incarnation and his Second Coming at the end of time. The Christmas feast of Christ's Incarnation is the reason for our great and joyous celebrations during December and January - we celebrate that God is with us!

So, why four weeks of "Advent" preparing? In order to receive the divine gift that God offers us each year, the gift of God's presence with us, each of us needs to prepare oneself to receive Him anew, in a deeper, more faith-filled way. Each of us is called to on-going conversion, knowing that last year was good and we grew in our relationship with God, but God has much more in store for us this year. In order to receive the many gifts that God has to give us this year, we must prepare our lives to be able to receive them. In the Psalm for the 1st Week of Advent, Psalm 80 helps to guide us into this preparation, "Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved." It gives voice to our need to continue to turn toward God so that we can more fully see God's face. That is, after all, what we desire! To see God through the Feast of Christmas.

If Lent is about spending time in the "Desert," Advent could be thought of as the day or week you spend in preparation for a journey. When you prepare for a journey, considerations include physical shape, mental preparation and the right amount of necessities in your bag. If you are hiking or walking (or skiing!), getting into physical shape is the difference between having the strength to finish the journey (and enjoy the journey) versus turning back. Mental preparation is necessary to ensure you are going in the right direction and will have the fortitude to continue when your strength fails. Finally, carrying too much in your pack will tire, distract and could even derail the journey.

Advent is the beginning of a different kind of journey; the journey of the Liturgical year, including peaks and valleys, good times and tough moments. Most importantly, throughout this journey we have the opportunity to "receive Jesus" into our lives more fully. There will be many moments where we "encounter" Jesus this year! This is an exciting thought! But in order to see magnificent views on a mountain, you have to journey, and in order to journey, you have to prepare. What is your preparation going to look like for these next four weeks of Advent?

Consider emptying your "pack" of an extra thing that distracts you. Examples that come to my mind include what I consume such as food and drink or the ways that I spend my time. Removing one of these extra things from my "pack" demonstrates an active engagement with the season of Advent, becoming a frequent reminder to both myself and God that there is a personal, deep desire to allow Him more space in my life and heart.

In addition, consider choosing some means to help enter into the mysteries of the Season of Advent, such as *The Reed of God* by Caryll Houselander, *The Infancy Narratives* by Pope Benedict XVI, a study of the book of the prophet Isaiah or whatever you feel led toward.

May this season of Advent help us welcome Jesus further into our lives.
Deacon Cam





Nativity Display

For the past ten years we have asked everyone who wanted to participate in our Nativity Display to bring a set to church. We set some out in the Baptistry and others in the hallway to the school to be enjoyed by all.

This year due to the pandemic, we will not be able display these sets for viewing pleasure. However, we will be photographing the sets and sharing a virtual display on the parish website and facebook page. We invite parishioners, school students, and PSR students to submit a picture of their nativity set at their home. Pictures can be emailed to anselmst@aol.com. Pictures will be compiled to be enjoyed by the parish community. Submit your picture by December 14. In your email let us know if we can list your family name with the picture. Until we can enjoy these together in person, let us share and enjoy virtually.



Marriage Banns II Megan Cuthbert
James Palko

In the Unexpected

“What could happen next?” How many times have you asked yourself that question in the past year? Though we most often use that expression when things don’t seem to be going our way, this year it has been an expression of the constant changes to our world which the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought. But we might use the same expression to explain our feelings of being overwhelmed by blessings and good things, when the stars seem to align just right.

No matter what, we can say with certainty that tomorrow will not go exactly as we envisioned. Our lives are influenced by so many factors and the world around us is increasingly complex. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected.

Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

This Advent will not be the same experience as last Advent. It remains to be seen what the coming days and weeks have in store for each of us. However, no matter what happens, Jesus Christ is there to welcome us to the unexpected. He will celebrate with us in joy and he will even feel our pain. You can count on the unexpected, but you can also count on Him to be there with you. He is now and forever, Emmanuel, “God with us.” He is the expected in all things unexpected.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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SPECIAL INTENTIONS

Heavenly Father, we pray that You will lay your healing hands upon all those who are sick. We beg you to have compassion on all those mentioned below, Amen

U.S. Active Military U.S. Veterans Maureen Ahern Patricia Ahern Peter Amato David Anderson LuAnn Anderson Mark Andres Tina Arnold Kevin Austin Kaari Baluja George Bates Victor Bernot Deanna Blair Thomas Bolt Nancy Boutellier Sally Bovineing Bridgette Bright Haley Burgman Kellie Burt Kathleen Burton Mary Lou Burton Children at St. Jude's Hospital Frank Cercek Mark Chambers	Jan Cicchela Judy Colasante Josephine Colitto Colleen Jerry Collette Hank Collette Tom Collins Buddy Craven Leslie (Hubbell) Davis Jackie DeCaro Nick DiCillo Beverly Dietrick Dorothy DiLillo Rocco DiLillo Chris Drost Roselyn Dudash Debbie Edelman Louise Ellis Mark Farley Joan Faudree Mitchell Fink William Fletcher Kim Frost Barrett Gates Joyce Gibb Frank Gigliotti	Jason Graham Joan Gregoric Therese Gregg Miriam Gripp John Gromek Betty Halasz Mary Hall Deborah Hartshorn Susan Heiss Adam Hess Steve Horvath Jeanette Hrisiko Michael Hrisiko Emily Hun Tiffany Hutchinson Incarcerated people Lynn Janowski Shirley Kall Katie Kane Marval Kear Lara Kitko William Knauer Susie Knotts Brian Knotts Shirlee Koren Jack Kotheimer	Luke Kovacs Madeleine LaMarca Bob Lane Paula Lanese Patrick Lazar Anthony Leonard Chris Livers Isabela Maiewski Jutta Manherz Joe Marra Marilyn Martines Bonnie McLaughlin Chuck McLaughlin Bill McNally Marie Melzer Margaret Meyer Donald Mihelcic Eli Mihelcic John Monaco Joe Morek Lisa Morek Joan Morgan Elizabeth Mullins Ginger Nemunaitis John Nolan Laurie Novak	Marilyn Novak Saulius Obelenis Levon Owen Lulu Pawlowski John Peck Lynette Perconti George & Dee Pitko Tony Pizzino Vince Pizzino Carolyn Prikockis Joseph Prikockis Erica Pritchard Jim Podojil Kathleen Roddy Charlie Rogers Flora Romonto Clare Ronnebaum Jack Roznik Marc Sabransky Frank Sak Madeleine LaMarca Schneider Patricia Serf Frances Sichko Clara Sipp Becky Slusarz Edward Smith Frances Snitzky	Renate Socha Shawn Spenze Margherita Spina Eleanore Spisak Ron Spitzer Clara Stenson Bion St Bernard Teri Szucs Barb Tarajcak Beckham Thompson Amelia Tishaus Johanna Townsend Anthony Trivisonno Cindy Trivisonno Pat Turske Chris Tyers Barb Ulizzi Josefina Ventimiglia Kelly Boyd Viezer Leona Vokas Becky Vura Kathy Wanamaker Jason Wardega Shirley Warren Kelsey Watts Alex Wojowicz Bob Wright
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REST IN PEACE ~ SARAH LANG

Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.



Please remember in your daily prayers these individuals, who have been and are called to the priesthood.

Sunday, November 29, 2020 ~ Father Tom Sweany	Wednesday, December 2 ~ Brendan Walsh
Seminarians at Borromeo/St. Mary	Thursday, December 3 ~ Paul Baker
Monday, November 30 ~ Jon Shell	Friday, December 5 ~ Ben Baratian
Tuesday, December 1 ~ Joshua Stecz	Saturday, December 6 ~ Arthur Bodenschutz

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