



St. Colette  
Catholic Church  
Livonia, Michigan

# St. Colette

December 25, 2018

St. Colette Catholic Church  
17600 Newburgh Road  
Livonia, MI 48152  
734-464-4433  
[www.stcolette.net](http://www.stcolette.net)  
[parishoffice@stcolette.net](mailto:parishoffice@stcolette.net)  
Rev. Gary Michalik, Pastor

**Masses:**

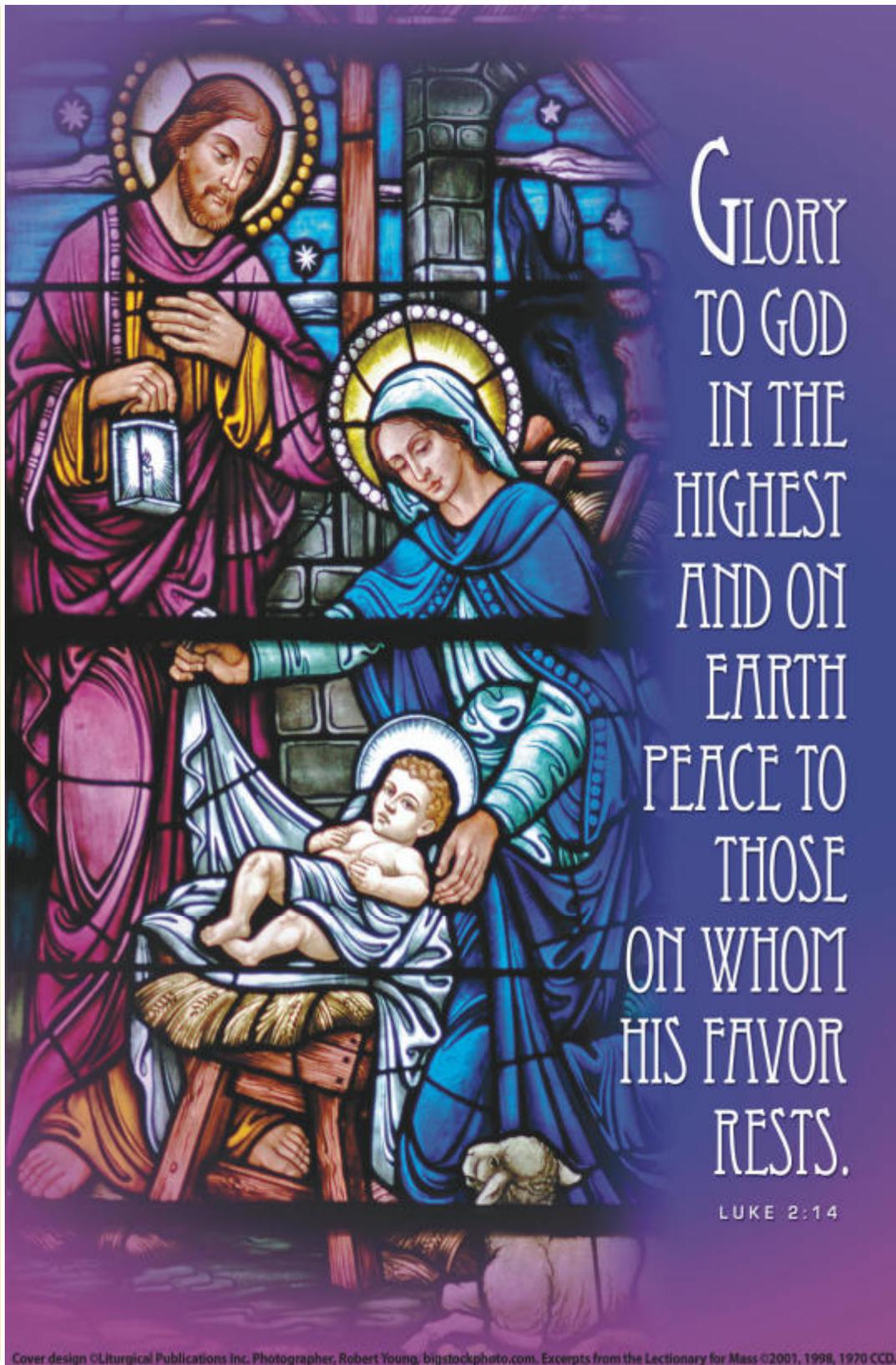
Saturday – 4:00pm  
Sunday – 8:00am, 10:00am  
& 12:00pm  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Fri-  
day at 9:00am

**Confessions:**

Saturday – 2:00pm

**Mission Statement**

We, the Family of St. Colette, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit are dedicated to celebrating the Good News of Jesus Christ through Worship, Education, Fellowship and service to others.



GLORY  
TO GOD  
IN THE  
HIGHEST  
AND ON  
EARTH  
PEACE TO  
THOSE  
ON WHOM  
HIS FAVOR  
RESTS.

LUKE 2:14



If you are joining us for the first time or visiting for the holidays, our parish family welcomes you to our church. We're glad you are with us to celebrate this season of peace and joy. May the holiness of this time strengthen and sustain you during the New Year.

In the future you are welcome to join us again for worship. If so inclined, we invite you to become a part of our parish family by becoming a registered parishioner. Please feel free to call the Parish Office at (734) 464-4433 or email at parishoffice at (734) 464-4433 or email at parishoffice@stcolette.net on January 2nd or afterwards for more information.

**UNLEASH THE GOSPEL**

Our world, our region and our Church need to hear the message of the Gospel, now more than ever. God is inviting you to join this mission.

**TAKE THE 6-DAY CHALLENGE**

Just 5 minutes of your day

Discover your role as we Unleash the Gospel

**TEXT GOSPEL TO 484848**

or visit [UTGChallenge.com](http://UTGChallenge.com)

## Christmas Season Mass Schedule

### Feast of the Holy Family

December 29th & 30th  
Saturday Mass at 4:00 pm  
Sunday Masses at  
8:00 & 10:00 am & 12 Noon

### Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God

*A Holyday of Obligation  
for Catholics to celebrate Mass.*  
Mass on Monday, December 31st  
at 4:00 pm  
Masses on Tuesday, January 1st  
at 10:00 am & 12 Noon

### Solemnity of the Epiphany January 5th & 6th

and

### Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

January 12th & 13th  
Saturday Masses at 4:00 pm  
Sunday Masses at  
8:00 & 10:00 am & 12 Noon

## Are You a Catholic Whose Marriage Was Not Witnessed in a Catholic Church?



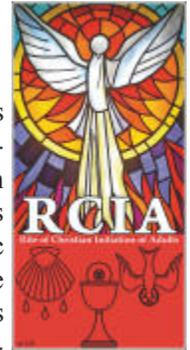
Your marriage is civilly recognized but since the marriage was not witnessed by a Catholic priest or deacon the sacrament of Marriage was not celebrated. All married Catholics should have their marriage witnessed by a Catholic priest or deacon, and thus, celebrate the sacrament of Marriage. Doing so is called "convalidation" which means having a civil marriage validated by the Catholic Church.

Convalidation of a marriage in the Church is not difficult. It includes some preparation as well as gathering in prayer and allowing the couple to exchange their vows in the presence of a priest or deacon and two witnesses (and others if so desired). Interested couples who desire to have their civil marriage convalidated by the Church should contact the Parish Office to make necessary arrangements.

## Religious Education/Adult Formation

### Interested in Learning More About the Catholic Church

The Catholic Faith is rich in so many ways. St. Colette parish offers a class that explores the history, theology and spirituality of the Catholic Church. It will answer your questions and expose you to a better way to face each day. We meet on Sunday mornings from 11 am to 12:30 pm and it is a safe environment to explore questions regarding faith. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith or has expressed interest in becoming Catholic then this class is for you/them. Maybe you practiced as a child and are just now returning to the faith. This class is for you. Maybe you have practiced all your life but were never Confirmed. This class is for you. For more information or to register please contact Theresa Lisiecki at 734-464-4435 or by email at [dre@stcolette.net](mailto:dre@stcolette.net).



### Future Adult Education Opportunities

Learning and growing in faith should be a lifetime commitment and St. Colette has many wonderful opportunities to participate in adult education experiences. We offer Bible studies on Tuesday evenings on the Letter to the Hebrews and Wednesday mornings exploring the Book of Revelation, in the spring will add a third on Wednesday evenings, and during Lent on Tuesday nights the parish's five week series on a topic to be determined. Keep your eye on the bulletin for these and other exceptional opportunities.

### Providing Religious Formation or Education for your Children

It is tough work preparing children for the world, especially if you wish them to be men and women of character. Why not let us help you? The more children hear the right messages the deeper it makes an impression. Enroll your children in our Religious Education Program. If you have a child in First through Eighth grade then they should be involved in some ongoing faith formation. Here at St. Colette we offer two opportunities to support and supplement their religious training and growth. We have a Traditional year experience that meets Tuesdays from 5:45-7:45 pm from September through February. We also provide the same curriculum during a summer only experience we call SCAP (Summer Catechetical Alternative Program). One session will run June 17th through 27th meeting Monday through Thursday both weeks from 5:30 to 9 pm. If that doesn't fit into your calendar there is a second experience offered July 15th through 25th meeting Monday through Thursday both weeks from 9 am to 12:30 pm. Please consider giving your children the gift of faith and sign them up for Religious Education. For more information please contact the Religious Education Office at 734-464-4435 or email us at [religioused@stcolette.net](mailto:religioused@stcolette.net).

### Mothers of Preschoolers

St. Colette is very excited and honored to be the host for a MOPS group. They meet every other Friday from 9:30 to 11am and offer not only support for those moms of children of preschool age, but something for the children as well. If you are interested or are looking for more information contact Maria Kustra at 734-306-0781 or by email at [mariakustra@gmail.com](mailto:mariakustra@gmail.com)

### Children's Liturgy



### of the Word

Do you have a child who finds Mass a challenge? Maybe you as a parent or grandparent would like to see your grandchild(ren) getting more out of Mass? Here at St. Colette we provide a wonderful experience that is just right for children. Available at the Sunday 10 am Mass, prepared teachers gather the children after Mass has begun and takes them to our chapel to provide a lesson prepared just for smaller ears. They focus on the same readings the adults are experiencing in the main church. At the time that the Gifts are brought forward your child(ren) will return to you for the remainder of the Mass. All children of school age, Kindergarten through 6th grade are welcome and no registration is required.

We hope you will consider making those Masses a priority so that your child(ren) can receive God's Word into their lives in a way and style that supports a child's learning process. For more information please contact the Religious Education Office at 734-464-4435 or email us at [religioused@stcolette.net](mailto:religioused@stcolette.net)

## Christian Service

Do you like to make a difference in the world? Do you like helping other people? Do you have a little time to spare or do you have a lot of time to give? Do you like to work alone or with a group of people? Do you prefer to work on a project in the comfort of your own home or do you like to get out and be part of a larger group working on a project? If you said "yes" to any of the above questions, St. Colette Parish offers a solution to YOU! There are abundant opportunities for you to participate in acts of Christian Service at St. Colette Parish, which offer all of us ways to live out our Baptismal call of service. As a bonus, you will meet new people, make new friendships and have fun!



Outreach to the poor is accomplished through monthly food drives to Loaves and Fishes, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, All Saints Soup Kitchen/St. Leo's Soup Kitchen/St. Christine Soup Kitchen, Sister Judie's Outreach, and Livonia Cares. Both non-perishable items and monetary donations are collected to support the work at these locations. In November, there is a Pie Fest that provides pies to Our Lady of Loretto Parish who provides a Thanksgiving meal. Any remaining pies are donated to a soup kitchen. The Advent Giving Tree provides gifts for Loaves and Fishes, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, St. Al's, Lennon Pregnancy Center, Capuchin After School Program, St. Leo's, Sister Judie's Ministry, Prison Ministry, and local families in need. During Lent, St. Colette Parish supports Food for the Poor, the Ecuador Project, and several programs in Detroit. School supplies and valentine candy are collected and donated to Christ the King Parish in Detroit. Once a month, peanut butter and jelly sandwiches are assembled and taken to Sr. Judie's Ministry. The lunches are then delivered to "the treasures of the street". Twice a year, following Halloween and Easter, candy is collected for the Veterans and the soup kitchens.

Another way to serve the poor or those in need is through the groups who share their time and talent of making things. There are groups for those who enjoy crafty type projects. The Christian Crafters (knitting and crocheting) make lap blankets, chemo caps, scarves, and hats. The Quilter's Circle make lap quilts for Appalachia, nursing homes, the Veterans, the homebound, and the Lennon Center. Haiti's Angels uses pillowcases and sheets to make dresses, skirts, pants, and lightweight blankets for Haiti. The Mat Makers take plastic "grocery type" bags and cut them to make "plarn" to knit or crochet into sleeping mats for the homeless. The Calling Birds make cards with cardstock and decorative materials, which are sent to those who are ill, to families of those who have passed away, or to those who may enjoy a note of cheer. The members of Art Workshop use different "mediums" to create beautiful works. Patterns are available to make arm board covers and doll gowns for children at Motts. Parishioners make these items and drop them off in the office. All of these groups have found and continue to enjoy fellowship with other members in their group and use donations that can be recycled into useful items. All groups come together four times a year to share a potluck meal. There is a lot of talent at St. Colette Parish.



There are still more ways to be involved right here at St. Colette Parish. Twice monthly Sandwich Making supports the outreach program at St. Al's in Detroit. There are opportunities to help with the Altar Linens, Altar Cleaning, and the annual Spring Cleaning of the Church. Parishioners take the Eucharist to nursing homes on a weekly basis. The Homebound Ministry makes visits to homebound during the week and also makes visits for the 1st Friday of each month. There is a committee comprised of two teams for funeral luncheons that help with set up, hosting, and clean up (the food is catered). Monthly coffee/juice/donuts/bagels offers parishioners the opportunity to enjoy some goodies and to visit with friends and to meet new friends. The annual parish family picnic takes place the Sunday after Labor Day and is a great opportunity for fun and fellowship and of course the usual picnic type food is available. A reception is held after the Easter Vigil to celebrate our newest members who are now in full communion with the Catholic Church. Blood drives take place four times a year, March, June, September and December.

Also part of Christian Service is our Lenten Family Service Day, Parish Mission and Mercy in Action Day of Service. All three of these activities offer volunteers many opportunities to use their time, talent and treasure to help those in need. Activities take place on the grounds of St. Colette Parish or in the surrounding area.



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## Christian Service (continued)

We also collect many things at St. Colette either to help out another person, parish or organization. There is a list of acceptable donations! Brown paper grocery bags are collected and given to St. Christine Soup Kitchen. Eyeglasses are given to 3rd world countries. Toiletry samples are given to many organizations. Magazines and calendars are given to assisted living centers and nursing homes. Throughout the year the list changes due to different activities or new requests.

There are three other groups who are a vital part of St. Colette Parish. The Knights of Columbus, The Women's Guild and Daughter's of Isabella; all offer a variety of activities through social activities and outreach to those less fortunate. These groups also extend a welcome to anyone who would like to join them.

Becoming a member of the Christian Service Commission is another way to become involved. Meetings are held monthly, September through June, on the 2nd Tuesday. We are always looking for new people to bring new ideas to the Commission.

As you can see, there are many ways to be involved at St. Colette Parish. You can be involved as little or as much as you like. Most people find out they receive more than they give. How is that possible you may ask... Most people get that feel good feeling after helping, many meet people of like mind who they form a wonderful relationship with, some people like to give back for things that have been given to them, etc. No matter what, you will be in the company of wonderful people doing wonderful things. It is a "win win situation".

Please call Nancy Ohman at the Christian Service Office 734-464-4436 or email [christianservice@stcolette.net](mailto:christianservice@stcolette.net) if you have any questions, suggestions, or to volunteer. I always enjoy hearing from YOU!

## St. Colette Parish

### Flocknote

Last year St. Colette Parish launched Flocknote, an email and text messaging tool created for churches, ministries, teams and other community organizations. At our parish, Flocknote is used to communicate general parish information to all who are signed on, and if you desire, information regarding specific parish ministries and groups. One does not have to be a registered member of St. Colette Parish to receive information from the parish via Flocknote. If you would like to sign on please visit our parish's website at [stcolette.net](http://stcolette.net) and click Flocknote Info located in the useful links sidebar on the right side of the home page. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View privacy policy and terms at [flocknote.com/txt](http://flocknote.com/txt).



For those who have signed on to Flocknote, the parish staff hopes you are finding the information useful. If you are having problems, please email the parish office at [flocknote@stcolette.net](mailto:flocknote@stcolette.net) and a staff member will be glad to help you. If you would like to add yourself to more parish groups please visit the parish's website and open Flocknote under useful links. Click the join Flocknote and enter your name and email address (if you've already joined, Flocknote will remember you) and you can add yourself to more groups.

Flocknote is safe and secure for everyone to use!

- ◆ **If you would like to stop receiving emails:** click the unsubscribe button at the bottom of emails.
- ◆ **If you would like to stop receiving texts:** Text STOP to 84576 to stop text notifications at any time.
- ◆ Text HELP for assistance.



You're invited to join Faith Direct, our parish's electronic giving program. Our to-do lists can get lengthy during this season, but Faith Direct's eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week--no more envelopes to find before you go to Mass.

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) and use our church code: MI344

## St. Colette Youth Ministry

“Do not let anyone look down upon you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity.” (1 Timothy 4:12)

### In line with our Archdiocesan “Unleash the Gospel” efforts,

#### Youth Ministry has three main goals:

- ◆ To help teens to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
- ◆ To draw young people to participate in the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith.
- ◆ To encourage personal and spiritual growth of each young person.

### High School Youth Ministry

St. Colette Youth Ministry is by teens, for teens! The Youth Leadership team is responsible for planning all of the meetings and events we offer, with guidance and assistance from a team of adult volunteers.

One key piece of our Youth Ministry program is our High School Youth Group which meets on Monday evenings from 7-9 pm during the school year. Meeting topics and activities are very diverse; no two meetings are exactly alike. We advise our high school aged teens to check out at least three meetings to truly get a sense of what youth group has to offer.

Our Monday night meetings and all non-Monday night activities and events generally fall into one of four categories:

- Justice, Peace & Service
- Community Life
- Pastoral Care
- Prayer & Worship

Some of our favorite overnight or longer activities include lock-ins, weekend retreats in fall and spring, the 30-Hour Famine experience, and the Rainbow Conference. We also offer teens the chance to do more immersive service work over the summer, with our annual Appalachian mission week and the Ecuador Justice Immersion experience.

Every 2-3 years we send a group of teens and adult chaperones to World Youth Day, a worldwide celebration for young Catholics that culminates in a Mass with the Pope. Past World Youth Day events have been held in Rome, Toronto, Germany, Australia, Paris, and Brazil.

Teens who want to get more involved in the parish community but might not be able to make Monday night youth group meetings are encouraged to contact the Youth Ministry Office or to check the Youth Ministry calendar on the parish website to find out about other opportunities. Teens do NOT have to be a youth group member to attend our events. As part of our evangelization efforts, we welcome all high school teens (Catholic

or not) to join us at our meetings and events. The friends of our teens are welcome, too!

### Junior High Youth Ministry

Our Junior High Youth Ministry program is for 7th and 8th graders and offers them a chance to experience their church community outside of religious education. Junior High Youth Group meets once a month for dinner followed by group activities and community building. We also offer one outside activity per month where we gather with junior high students from many other area churches for different events, which have included a hayride/bonfire, service events, movie nights, and more. Last year we offered our first ever Junior High Mission trip experience, Just 5 Days. Our group traveled to St. Joseph, Michigan, where they worked in a soup kitchen for 3 full days, and joined with other young people for prayer and community building experiences. We are looking forward to another great service trip for our young people this year!

Like our high school group, any 7th or 8th grader is welcome to join us, even if they are not a St. Colette parishioner or Catholic. Many junior high students are more comfortable attending events with a friend, so friends are always welcome to join us for meetings or events.



For more information about any of our  
junior or senior high experiences,  
please contact the Youth Ministry Office  
at 734-464-1677  
or [youthministry@stcolette.net](mailto:youthministry@stcolette.net).



## “Is There Anyone Sick Among You?”

This question is from the New Testament Letter of St. James and is used in the introduction to the Church’s celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The answer to the question is to contact the Church so God’s people can pray for the sick person and offer spiritual support.

Here’s what you (or your family members) should do when illness enters your life:

- Contact the parish office so the name of the sick person can be included in the Sick List that is printed weekly in the church paper.
- If the sick person is homebound and cannot come to Mass on weekends, family members or friends may take Holy Communion to them after Mass. See one of the priests or Deacon Gary for instructions on how this is done.
- If family members or friends are not available to take Holy Communion to the sick, contact the parish office, for there are volunteers available who will be happy to visit the sick and offer the Eucharist.
- If the sick person’s illness is serious, he/she should celebrate the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The beginning of serious illness is the best time to celebrate the sacrament. It should be celebrated prior to surgery or medical treatments, in cases of chronic illness, and may be repeated during long illnesses or as the elderly struggle with the infirmities of age. (It may be celebrated with children at least seven years old.) The Anointing of the Sick is not the Last Rites of the Church. The celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated anytime there is a need. A priest is the proper minister for the sacrament so to make arrangements for its celebration, please contact the parish office.
- When the time comes that medicine, surgery and even prayers for healing have done all that can be done – in other words, we accept that the sick person is dying, then the Church celebrates the “Last Rites” beginning with *Viaticum* (food for the journey). This is the reception of Holy Communion by the dying person and it is celebrated as often as necessary even on successive days, frequently if not daily. As the person begins to enter the final months or weeks of life (or when admitted to hospice care) is the time to celebrate *Viaticum*. Family members should not wait until the final days or hours when the dying person may be unconscious or unable to respond. Since *Viaticum* can be given by a family member, friend, deacon, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, as well as a priest, please contact the parish office to make arrangements.

For more information regarding the pastoral care of the sick or dying or to request any of the above, please contact the parish office at 734-464-4433 or at [parishoffice@stcolette.net](mailto:parishoffice@stcolette.net).

## protect.aod.org

The Archdiocese of Detroit stands with the brave survivors who seek to bring the crime of child



sexual abuse by clergy and other Church representatives into the light, where those who sinned are confronted and those who were harmed can find healing. To those harmed by the actions and inaction of Church leaders: It is inexcusable and we are sorry. In an effort to consolidate our resources and respond to the faithful’s questions about clergy sexual abuse, the Archdiocese of Detroit has created a new “mini” website at [protect.aod.org](http://protect.aod.org). This site highlights information about reporting abuse, victim assistance, investigations, training for clergy and lay employees and volunteers, and provides additional resources, including messages from Archbishop Vigneron. Our goal is to make this important information – already available on [aod.org](http://aod.org) – more visible, transparent and clear.

## Adopt a Seminarian with Your Prayers



Our parish provides small prayer cards which include a photo of an Archdiocese of Detroit seminarian on one side and a vocation prayer on the opposite side. These cards are new and represent the seminarians who are in formation for the current academic year of 2018 – 2019. If you participated in this program in previous years those old cards may be obsolete so everyone is invited to receive a new one.

The prayer cards are available in the Gathering Space of the church on the vocations table and on the counter top near one of the bulletin boards as well as on the window sill to the right of the altar. Please receive one (or more) of the cards and “adopt that seminarian with your prayers.

## Are You a Divorced Catholic?

Please know you are a welcomed member of the Catholic Church. You are free to receive Holy Communion and the sacraments as long as you have not remarried in a non-Catholic or civil ceremony.

The Church encourages all divorced Catholics to apply for a Church annulment. There’s no cost and any priest, deacon or pastoral minister can assist anyone who may be interested.



## Age Old Symbols & Practices Enrich the Season

Christians in their celebration of Christmas over the centuries have adopted a variety of symbols and practices from various backgrounds and incorporated them into our observance of Christ's birth. Some of these sources are pagan practices while others are native to a particular part of the world.

**Date for Christmas** For the first three centuries early Christians did not find it necessary to remember and celebrate the birth of Christ. The idea to celebrate Christmas on December 25th originated in the 4th century. The pagan Romans celebrated the birthday of their sun god during this time of the year. Church leaders chose December 25th as the official celebration of Christ's birth to counteract this pagan celebration, even though the actual season of Jesus' birth is thought to be in the Spring!

**Xmas** Contrary to the thinking of some evangelical Christians, the use of this abbreviation is not a secret plan to "cross-out Christ" from Christmas. This abbreviation for Christmas is of Greek origin. The word for Christ in Greek is spelled Xristos. During the 16th century European Christians began using the first initial of Christ's name in place of the word Christ in Christmas as a shorthand form of the word.

**Holiday Season** Again, this term is not some conspiracy to remove the spiritual element of Christmas. For Christians the Christmas Season is an observance of many celebrations: Holy Family on the Sunday between Christmas Day and January 1st, Mary Mother of God on January 1st, Epiphany on the Sunday after January 1st (on January 6th in most parts of the world), the Baptism of the Lord on the Sunday after Epiphany and the observance of many feast days of saints in between. Besides, Christians are not the only ones who observe a holiday during this time of year: Islamic New Year is in November, Jewish Hanukkah is in December as is the African-American celebration of Kwanzaa and New Year's Day on January 1st.

**Manger** St. Francis of Assisi made the first known manger scene on Christmas Eve in 1224 and the idea soon spread. Traditionally the child Jesus is not added to the manger until Christmas Eve and the Wise Men are added on the Feast of the Epiphany.

**Christmas Carols** When St. Francis created the first manger he and others sang the first carols. Most carols were handed down by word of mouth for hundreds of years. Most of the early carols were about Mary, the shepherds, the Magi and the birth of Jesus.

**Santa Claus** The original Santa Claus, St. Nicholas, was a bishop in the 4th century and became widely known for his generosity to the poor, especially for children. He has been revered for centuries in Greece, Russia, Germany and Holland. The Dutch spelled St. Nicholas as Sint Nikolaas, which became known as Sinterklass, and finally, in English, to Santa Claus.

**Christmas Tree** The Christmas Tree originated in Germany in the 16th century because it was common for Germanic people to decorate fir trees with fruit and colored paper ornaments. It is believed Martin Luther, the Protestant reformer, was the first to light a Christmas tree with candles. Eventually glass blowers began making glass balls to decorate the trees. The Christmas Tree custom was brought to America by the Pennsylvania Germans in the 1820's and quickly became a popular custom.

**Poinsettia** These holiday flowers are native to Mexico where they grow as profusely as weeds! Poinsettias were named after America's first ambassador to Mexico, Joel Poinsett, who brought the plants to the United States in 1828. People thought the plants were symbolic of the Star of Bethlehem, thus it became associated with Christmas.

**Candy Cane** In the late 1800's a candy maker in Indiana wanted to express the meaning of Christmas through a symbol made of candy. The plain white peppermint stick symbolized the sinless nature of Jesus. He added red stripes to represent the blood Jesus shed for humanity. The crook at the top looks like a shepherd's staff because Jesus is the Good Shepherd. If you turn the candy cane upside down, it becomes the letter "J" symbolizing the first letter in Jesus' name.