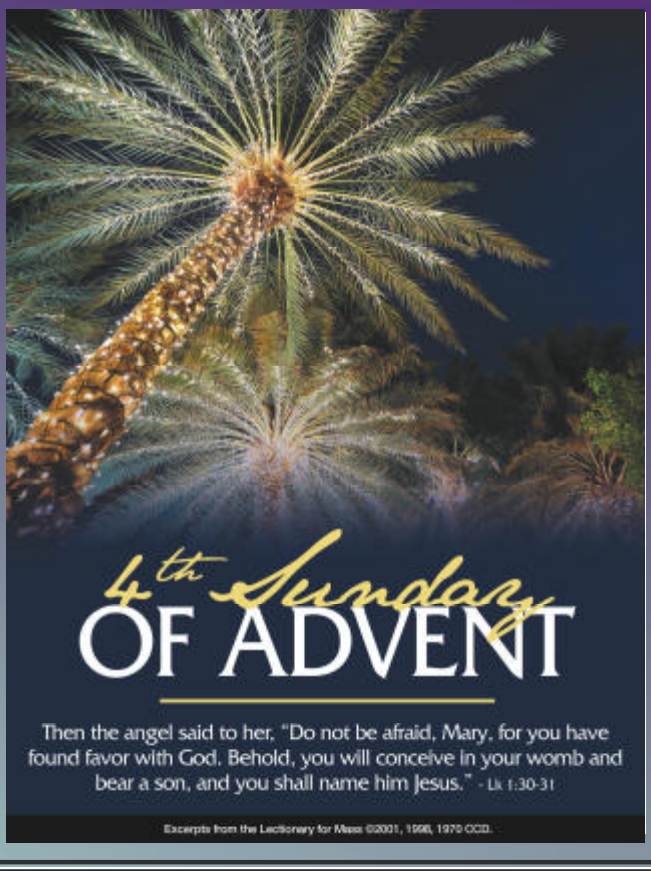
St. Mary OF THE ASSUMPTION Catholic Church

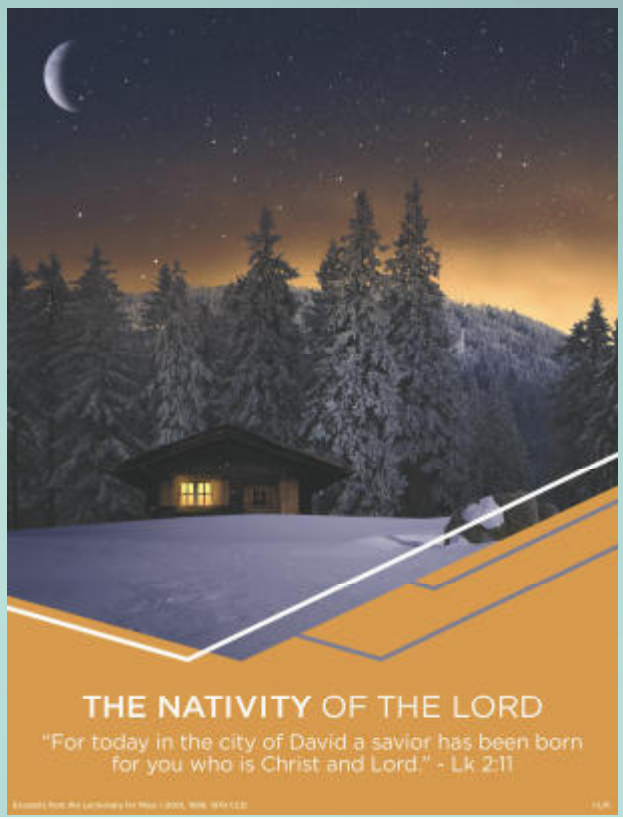
December 20, 2020

601 Jennings Road ~
Van Wert, Ohio 45891

Pastor
Rev. Chris Bohnsack
Deacon
Deacon Andrew McMahon
Principal
Dan Metzger
Coordinator Religious Ed.
Karissa Rutkowski
Office Manager
Angie Renner



Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m., Saturdays at 3:00 p.m. or by appointment
Sacrament of Baptism
Baptisms are celebrated during or after any weekend Mass. Instructions for parents having their first child baptized are held the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Karissa Rutkowski to schedule a date.
Sacrament of Matrimony
Please contact Fr. Chris AT LEAST SIX MONTHS prior to your proposed wedding date to begin preparation for your marriage and to schedule a date.
New to the Parish?
We are glad to welcome you as a member of our Parish Family. Please stop by or call the Parish Office to register. Welcome!



This Week in Our Parish

Sun Dec 20:	Bingo (K of C Hall) Doors open at 4:30	6:15 pm
Mon-Fri Dec	21-25: No School	
Mon Dec 21:	Bible Study (HFR)	9:30 am
Wed Dec 23:	Private Confessions Parish Office Closed	2:00—5:00 pm
Thu Dec 24:	Christmas Eve Parish Office Closed Mass Times	4:00 & 7:00 pm
Fri Dec 25:	Merry Christmas! Mass Times	Midnight & 10:00 am

BULLETIN DEADLINES

Please note the following bulletin deadline due to the Holidays:

**January 3 bulletin due December 22

Liturgical Schedule**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 +FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
8:30 AM Alice Schaufelberger
10:30 AM Dennis and Betty Kinkle

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21 +ST. PETER CANISIUS
No Services

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22
8:00 AM—5:30 PM Adoration
6:00 PM Bill Lippi

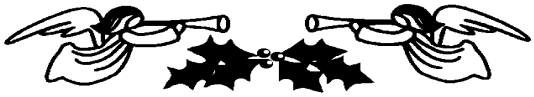
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23 + ST. JOHN OF KANTY
8:45 AM John and Heather Metzger
2:00—5:00 PM Private Confessions

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24
4:00 PM Robert Renner
7:00 PM Mike & Amelia Salinas, B & F Pina

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25 + THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
12:00 AM Don and Irene Friemoth
10:00 AM Bette Krugh

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26
4:00 PM Della Kiehl

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27 + HOLY FAMILY
8:30 AM Pat Jenkins
10:30 AM Jay Laing



Servers, Eucharistic Minister, Lector & Usher Schedules for December 26 & 27, 2020

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 4:00 PM
Servers: Joel Schrader
E. M.: M Ditmyer, G Hirzel, T Reinhart
Ushers: USHER NEEDED
Lector: Matt Krol
Organist & Cantor: Jeanie Bonifas & Mia Keirns

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 8:30 AM
Servers: Kortnie Galloway
E. M.: J Keipper, T Plas, Need 1 EM
Ushers: Frank Minnig
Lector: Jacquie Reinemeyer
Organist & Cantor: Christopher Golliver & Shelby Merkle

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 10:30 AM
Servers: Harper Reindel
E. M.: M Geesey, C Reindel, R Terhark
Ushers: USHER NEEDED
Lector: Kevin Laing
Organist: Julia Miller

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Please come forward immediately when the prayers for extending Peace are offered. This will help substitutes know they are needed and allow sufficient time to be ready at the altar. Also, please watch for a total of 4 with Father, Deacons and yourselves.

@@Fr. Chris would like 1 server on the weekend masses and only 3 Eucharistic Ministers.

***Angie has many opening for Mass Intentions. Contact the Parish Office to schedule an intention for your loved ones.*

Transition Time- From Advent to Christmas!

The Fourth and last candle of the Advent season is lit this Sunday and by Thursday afternoon we will begin the Christmas season. Yes, that's right, not Christmas Day but the Christmas season. The secular world will bring a screeching halt to all the Christmas songs and movies that we have been inundated with since after Thanksgiving on December 26.

The Catholic Church, however, will be just beginning to sing Christmas songs. We tend to be counter-cultural and that is a good thing. The Christmas season begins on Christmas Eve and goes beyond New Year's Day, beyond the feast of the Holy Family, beyond Epiphany, and ends with the feast of The Baptism of the Lord on January 10.

Just like Easter, the Catholic Church knows that the joy of Christmas cannot be contained in one day but requires a season. Our Lord and Savior being born into the world echoes for all eternity and we want to celebrate it to the max!

I hope the Advent season has prepared you well for the season to come and that you will continue singing Christmas songs until January 10. Our faith needs to guide us in all that we do and not just on Sundays. I pray that this time of transition will lift you up, not bring you down. I pray that all people will not look upon Christmas as just time of off work, but as proof of God's love for us. I pray that people will not be prevented from putting up a nativity scene in our country. I pray that people will not be prevented from praying.

When we are afraid to talk about God in our culture, then we need to change the culture. Spread some Christmas cheer beyond Christmas Day and 'your reward will be great in heaven.'

Thanks, and God Bless!!!
Fr. Chris

St. Mary's Religious Education

We are all God's Children

As we've been preparing for the coming of our infant Lord Jesus during the season of Advent, I started thinking of all the saints we have been given as role models for our earthly lives. I know All Saint's Day already feels like a hundred miles away and most of us are so focused on Christmas that only the strong smell of peppermint can get our attention and even then only for a few seconds. But I'm asking you to pause for those few seconds and think about those special saints in your life. What can you learn from them? How did they live their lives that is different from how you live your own? How is your life better because you know them? How can they help you get through all the challenges of COVID and ultimately to heaven? That's the whole point, isn't it? Mary's Immaculate Conception, her "yes" to be Jesus' mother, the Wise Men following the star, Joseph moving the Holy Family to Egypt and ultimately, Jesus dying on the cross: they were all necessary to save us from whatever sin we may be struggling with right now. To borrow and paraphrase the title of Father Josh Johnson's book, we're all broken and we're all blessed. We need Jesus every hour of every day, and we need our family in heaven to show us how to pick ourselves up, dust ourselves off and never give up hope: the hope that someday we will be in heaven with Jesus. So as we say goodbye to another Advent season and enter into the Christmas season, I pray that you know you are loved by the one true king of heaven and earth, Jesus Christ.

Have a happy and healthy holiday with your families and may God bless you.

SCHOOL NEWS

On December 7th, our students found a note and treat in their lockers as they were visited by St. Nicholas.

FootballMania Week 6 Winners:

Norma Beining - $25 **Keith Hartoon - $25**

Tom Schmelzer - $25 **CW Harting - $25**

St. Mary of the Assumption School Christmas Program

Due to COVID-19 we are not able to have our annual Christmas Program in the gymnasium this year. However, Mrs. Stokes and our students have been working very hard to be able to spread the Christmas spirit with everyone virtually. You are invited to go to the School Website: www.stmarysroyals.org and click on our YouTube Channel link on our home page.

BINGO

December 20 Neil Smith, BRICKNERS, Matt Krol, Dave Hohman

December 27 Patrick Horstman, Tim Korte, Mark Spieles, Donovan DeLong

KITCHEN WORKERS
Report By 4:30 PM

December 20 Katie Drerup & Allison Harting

December 27 Jen Florence & Family

St. Mary's Bingo—K of C Hall
425 Woodland Ave.
Doors open at 4:00 PM for games-
Warm-Up Bingo at 6:15 PM

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JOIN US DECEMBER 31ST FOR OUR NEW YEAR'S EVE BINGO!

ATTENTION BINGO VOLUNTEERS!

We are in need of volunteers to work bingo on Monday, December 31st (New Year's Eve).
If you can help us out, please call the Joyce Oechsle at 419-203-1545

Has your phone number changed?

Did you switch to a cell phone?

If you no longer have a "land" line, please contact the Parish Office at 238-3979 to update our records.

HAVE YOU SET UP BILL PAY?

Angie has seen an increase in donations she receives through parishioners bill pay accounts. It is so easy to set it up and for her to record. She receives a check in the mail from your bank and records with all the other deposits.

If you have questions regarding bill pay, talk to your financial institution. It's a great way to remember your Parish, especially for our traveling retired parishioners!

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION
FIRST SATURDAY MASS

Due to New Year's Day (Jan 1) on Friday this year, there will not be Adoration on that day.

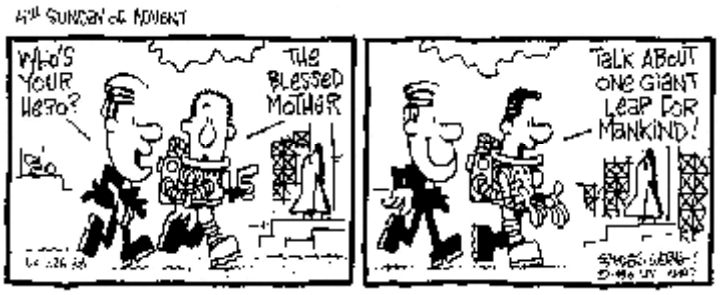
Also no First Saturday Mass (Jan 2)!

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, December 31st—7:00 pm
&
Friday, January 1st—10:00 am

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES READY!

Please pick up YOUR offertory envelopes in the hall between the gym and chapel. If you didn't receive envelopes and would like to, please contact Angie in the Parish Office at 419-238-3979



PENSION PROTECTION ACT
Extended for 2017 and future years.

For those aged 70 1/2 or older, it is once again possible to make tax-favored charitable gifts from traditional and Roth IRA accounts. This act allows individuals to donate up to $100,000 to charitable organizations directly from their IRA.

Qualified Charitable Distributions allow that a portion can contributed to charity (Churches) without any tax and without effecting your Medicare B & D premiums.

Check with your financial advisor with any questions you may have.

Eric Alexander, Alma Biddlecome, Brent Burk, Carole Burnett, Sam Carter, Janet Chambers, Carl Demidovich, Melissa Fallis, Amy Geary, Stacie Golliver, Jon Jarrett, Brent Kinkle, Michael Kirkendall, Megan Klosterman, Kourtney Kohnen, Joan Miller, Rylee Motycka, Marge Price, Cassie Priest, Tyler Priest, J R Reinhart, Bob Say, Mary Say, Barbara Schmitmeyer, Lowell "Bull" Sidle, Denise Smith, Tom Stachler, Eric Thomas, Dick Waters, Dan Williamson

The sick person or a close relative are the only ones who should call to add or remove name(s) to this list.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

Thursday, December 31st—7:00 pm
&
Friday, January 1st—10:00 am

Christmas Poinsettias ORDERS ARE DUE BY MONDAY, DECEMBER 21st

Take this opportunity to remember someone special through purchasing a poinsettia that will be used to decorate the church. You may purchase a 6 1/2" poinsettia for $13.00 or a 7 1/2" poinsettia for $25.00. The 7 1/2" flower is approximately twice as big as the 6 1/2" flower. After January 10th, you may have the size poinsettia you purchased. Your remembrance will also be listed in a special insert the weekend after Christmas. You may put your requests in the collection basket marked Christmas Poinsettias or send it to the Parish Office.

In Memory/Honor of:_____
(circle one)

_____

From:_____

_____

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Thank you to the following who have volunteered to serve at these Masses:

THURSDAY (Dec 24) @ 4:00 pm
Servers: Annie Renner, Elizabeth Rutkowski, Joel Schrader
Eucharistic Ministers: Angie Renner, Karissa Rutkowski, Need 1 Add'l E.M..(with Fr. Chris)
Lector: Erin Terhark
Organist & Cantor: Chris Golliver & Alli Schaufelberger

THURSDAY (Dec 24) @ 7:00 pm
Servers: Joshua & Aaron Reichert, NEED 1 Add'l Server
Eucharistic Ministers: NEED 2 (with Fr. and Deacon)
Lector: Jacquie Reinemeyer
Organist & Cantor: Julia Miller & Mia Keirns

FRIDAY (Dec 25) @ Midnight
Servers: NEED 3 SERVERS
Eucharistic Ministers: Mardeena Merritt, Joe Morman, Nathaniel Shepherd (with Fr. Chris)
Lector: Kevin Laing
Organist & Cantor: Chris Golliver & Janean Steinecker

FRIDAY (Dec 25) @ 10:00 am
Servers: NEED 3 SERVERS
Eucharistic Ministers: NEED 3 MINISTERS (with Fr. Chris)
Lector: Terry Plas
Organist & Cantor: Julia Miller & John Gamble

If you can serve, please call Angie at the Parish Office.

Readings for the Week of December 20, 2020

Sunday:	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29 [2a]/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38
Monday:	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45
Tuesday:	1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd]/ Lk 1:46-56
Wednesday:	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14 [cf. Lk 21:28]/Lk 1:57-66
Thursday:	*Morning:* 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29 [2]/Lk 1:67-79 *Vigil:* Is 62:1-5/Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 2 [2a]/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25. *Night:* Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13 [Lk 2:11]/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14.
Friday:	*Dawn:* Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20. *Day:* Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6 [3c]/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14
Saturday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Ps 31:3cd-4, 6 and 8ab, 16bc and 17 [6]/Mt 10:17-22
Next Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1] or Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [7a, 8a]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

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