



ST. MARY STUDENT PARISH

CATHOLIC CAMPUS MINISTRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

DECEMBER 20, 2020
4th Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 27, 2020
The Holy Family

JANUARY 3, 2021
The Epiphany of the Lord

JESUS



“Behold, you will conceive in
your womb and bear a son, and
you shall name him Jesus.”

LUKE 1:31

“Vas a concebir y a dar a luz
un hijo y le pondrás por
nombre Jesús”.

LUCAS 1, 31

Pastoral Perspective

CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

BY FR. MARK MOSSA, SJ - DIRECTOR OF CAMPUS MINISTRY



In my car, waiting to pick up groceries, Joni Mitchell announces herself on the radio. A soft introduction of “Jingle Bells” precedes the opening lines: *“It’s coming on Christmas/They’re cutting down trees/They’re putting up reindeer/ And singing songs of joy and peace/Oh, I wish I had a river I could skate away on . . .”*

A few days before, I had been asked to join a podcast later that week, where we would discuss our favorite Christmas songs. And, I realized at that moment that this would be one of them. Not because this was a long-time favorite of mine (though I’ve always liked it), but because it seems so suited to our moment. How many of us right now wish we had a river to skate away on, despite the spirit of Christmas building around us?

Indeed, as I began to consider the other songs that I might choose, I realized that my list was taking on a somber tone. “Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas” by Judy Garland or “2000 Miles” by the Pretenders came to mind—songs of loss and hope in the Christmas season. To add something more upbeat, I included “Santa Claus is Coming to Town” by Bruce Springsteen, definitely one of my all-time favorites. When I was younger, the Christmas season did not begin, until this one was played on the radio! Adding to that a medley of God “Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen” and “We Three Kings” by Barenaked Ladies and Sarah McLachlan would help lighten the mood, and bring us deeper into the Christmas mystery.

As we recorded the podcast, each of us realized that our choices all included a more somber note reflective of these times. Advent and Christmas are usually times when many feel loss more deeply, and it might be true this Christmas more than ever. And, that’s OK. If you think of that first Christmas story, it is a story fraught with tension and even danger, one in which the major players might even have wondered at times whether the promised miracle and its hopeful consequences might come to pass. “Mary Did You Know?” was another song that came to mind, a song that speaks of uncertainty, even in the midst of wonder.

Among the things that Christmas shows us, I think, is that all these things can co-exist. That we can feel loss deeply at this time, especially when for many of us our time with loved ones has been sacrificed out of concern for their safety, or our own. I can count on one hand the number of times that Christmas or the days surrounding it has not involved time with friends and family. But that will be the case for me this

year. However, this also makes me more grateful for my brother Jesuits, with whom I can share that loss, and Christmas.

We recognize that Christmas, especially after observing the penitential season of Advent, is about mercy. Jesuit theologian James Keenan defines mercy as *“the willingness to enter into the chaos of another.”* Certainly, then, the birth of Jesus, the human incarnation of God, is the ultimate expression of that mercy. This Christmas, we are perhaps more conscious than ever of the precious gift of Jesus’ willingness to enter into our chaos. Especially noting their absence, we are also more appreciative of the gifts of friends and family. And, like that helpless child, born in a manger, maybe we have also been given the gift of humbly accepting our need for help, for human connection, and the fact, as Mother Teresa says, *“that we belong to each other,”* even if we wish we had a river we could skate away on.

During these difficult months of 2020, I have been grateful for the spirit of generosity that all our students and parishioners have shown. You have gone out of your way to express your gratitude, serve others, and to engender hope. In our St. Mary community, you might say the spirit of Christmas is ongoing. That is another thing that we can be grateful for, on Christmas, when Jesus is born anew in our hearts! Have a happy and blessed Christmas!

MIDNIGHT MASS CAROLS

About 30 minutes prior to the Midnight Mass livestream, tune into to hear and sing along to some Christmas carols.

Midnight Mass will be live-streamed on our website on Christmas Eve, with carols beginning at 11:30 PM. All are welcome to join this mass live on our website or you may watch a recording of it anytime after the mass has ended: <https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/category/live-mass/>

LESSONS AND CAROLS

If you missed Wednesday’s virtual Lessons and Carols, you can still enjoy the recording on the SMSPP YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/-M6-GhF-Bdg>

2021 CALENDARS

Our 2021 calendars are here. Join us in looking forward to a new year and pick up your copy in the atrium. Please check our office hours. Thank you!

CONNECT WITH US!

 @SMSPPumich  SMSPPNEWMAN  facebook.com/smsp.um  myParish the App for Catholic Life Everyday

stmarystudentparish.org 331 Thompson Street Ann Arbor, MI 48104 734-663-0557 (f) 734-663-2756

Hispanic Ministry & Faith Doing Justice

VIRTUAL ISN POSADAS

DECEMBER 16-24

The tradition of Las Posadas is a reenactment of the eve of the first Christmas, when Joseph and Mary searched for room at the inn, but none was to be found. A group of people travels from house to house singing and seeking shelter until they are welcomed inside to pray, eat, and celebrate.

While many Las Posadas celebrations will be canceled or amended due to the pandemic, the Ignatian Spirituality Network (ISN) invites you to join in Virtual Posadas from the safety of your home. We will not only honor the traditional celebration of Las Posadas, but also invite you into a daily experience of music, art, prayer, reflection, and action as we virtually journey with the migrants on the U.S-Mexico border in search of shelter and protection, just as the Holy Family did on Christmas Eve.

Join us: <https://ignatiansolidarity.net/virtual-posadas/>

Upon signing up, you will receive a short video each day via text or email, with Posadas song, prayer, and a learning or reflection activity. This is available in both English and Spanish.

VIRTUAL ST. MARY MEETS STATE REPS

THURS, JAN 7 | 7:00 PM



The St. Mary Immigration Team invites you to join us virtually in January with next term's State **Representatives Felicia Brabec and Yusef Rabhi.**

Our undocumented parishioners do not have access to a valid Michigan drivers license, so minor traffic violations often lead to deportation. Therefore, we will meet our state reps to discuss next steps in the campaign for driver's licenses for all, an effort supported by the Michigan Catholic Conference.

More generally, this meeting is an opportunity for our reps to get to know our St Mary community better, so we invite you to join us and bring your ideas and concerns to the table as well.

We will have a preliminary meeting with all interested parishioners on January 7 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

Please email Kim Pulka pulkakim@umich.edu or Jack Gagnon rgagniii@umich.edu for more information or to receive the link.

DAYTIME WARMING CENTERS

During the winter months in Ann Arbor, the daytime warming center provides warm spaces for those needing shelter, warmth, and community. It is organized by Mission A2, Washtenaw County, and the collaborative efforts of local faith communities. The warming center will be at the following churches during the winter months:

- December - Journey of Faith (1900 Manchester Rd)
- January - First Baptist (517 East Washington)
- February - Zion Lutheran (1501 West Liberty)
- March - Lord of Light (801 South Forest)

Given this unusual year with Covid we have been asked to participate in the warming center in a different capacity than in previous years. We are invited to help with lunches on Mondays at 11:00AM during the month of January at First Baptist Church this year. We need 4 volunteers to provide lunches.

Please plan on bringing food for 30 guests. There will be someone to greet you in the parking lot at First Baptist Church to receive lunch at 11:00AM .

To volunteer, please email Brian Cerabona at bcerabona@smspnewman.org with the date you can bring lunch and the type of food you will be bringing.

Stay tuned for updates throughout the winter for ways to support and volunteer with the daytime warming center! Thank you for your help and support!

FEAST DAY THANK YOU

Thank you to all of our parishioners for supporting our parish feast day of service on December 5th! Our student interns Cecilia & Kaitlyn led a bilingual parish-wide rosary as part of Las Mananitas in the morning. In the afternoon, we had a food drive in collaboration with St. Thomas! Donations were for both Northside Community Center & Hope Clinic in Ypsilanti. Thank you to all who volunteered and donated! We had over 50 people donate! Thank you again and watch for more info about another food drive soon.



St. Mary Student Parish

HOLIDAY

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

- **DECEMBER 20**
Office Open 1:30-5:00PM
- **DECEMBER 21, 22 & 23**
Office Closed—No Mass
- **DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE**
Office Open 3:30-6:30PM
- **DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY**
Office Closed
Church Opens at 9:30 AM for Mass
- **DECEMBER 26**
Office Closed
- **DECEMBER 27**
Office Open 1:30-5:00pm
- **DECEMBER 28, 29, 30 & 31**
Office Closed — No Mass
- **JANUARY 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY**
Office Closed
Church Opens at 9:30 AM for Mass
- **JANUARY 2**
Office Closed — No Mass
- **JANUARY 3**
Office Open 1:30-5:00PM
- **JANUARY 4 & 5**
Office Closed — No Mass

CHRISTMAS 2020

MASS SCHEDULE & RESERVATIONS

DECEMBER 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

- **4:00 PM - Household/Family Seating***
- **6:00 PM - Household/Family Seating***
- 8:00 PM - Individual Chairs
- 11:30 PM - Midnight Mass -
Live-Streamed, No Reservations
About 30 minutes prior to the Midnight Mass livestream, tune into to hear and sing along to some Christmas carols.

Please remember to cancel your reservations if you plans change so others can use your seats.

DECEMBER 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

- 10:00 AM - Individual Chairs
- 12:00 NOON - Spanish - Individual Chairs. Public and live-streamed Sign-up here:
<https://bit.ly/smsp-public-mass-reservation> Masses can be watched live on our website: <https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/>

Midnight Mass will be live-streamed on our website on Christmas Eve, with lessons and carols beginning at 11:30 PM. All are welcome to join this mass live on our website or you may watch a recording of it anytime after the mass has ended: <https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/category/live-mass/>

***Household/Family Seating**

For the 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM masses ONLY on Christmas Eve, we will arrange the chairs in the church according to the number of people in your reservation. Because chairs will be grouped together, we will offer 65 total seats and may be able to offer additional seating depending on the size of reservations received.

To make a reservation for Christmas Mass, please visit our mass reservation link:

<https://bit.ly/smsp-public-mass-reservation>

and click the Christmas Mass tab on the top of the page.

Masks and social distancing are required for all Christmas masses.

St. Mary Student Parish

WOMEN OF THE HEART

“WOMEN - BEARERS OF HOPE”

THURS, JAN 14 | 10:15 AM

Women of every age are invited to connect, be inspired, and celebrate our faith with one another. Using a virtual format, we will gather the second Thursday of each month, from September through May, from 10:15 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Given the state of our world at this time, and also because we had to abruptly bring last spring's program to a halt because of Covid-19, we will return to last year's theme entitled, "Continuing the Journey in Hope."

We will devote the winter/spring semester to exploring the theme: "Women - Bearers of Hope," using Sister Barbara Reid's book, "Wisdom's Feast: An Invitation to Feminist Interpretation of the Scriptures." Sister Carol Johannes, O.P. and Nancy Bordley will be facilitating these gatherings.

Come and join us for what promises to be a rich and rewarding experience. We will be gathering via Zoom on the following dates. Please feel free to join us for as many sessions as your schedule allows; February 11, March 11, April 8, and May 13. Please direct any questions to Julie Mussio at jmussio@smspnewman.org. Julie will be coordinating the Zoom gatherings so please forward to her your email address if you are new to Women of the Heart or have an updated email address.

IN-PERSON

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

SUNDAYS | 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Communion will be distributed on Sundays from 11:30 AM-12:00 PM. If you arrive early, please wait in your car. The parish will remain locked until 11:30 AM. Enter through the William Street doors unless you require handicap accessibility through the Thompson side. *Masks and social distancing are required.*

IN-PERSON CONFESSIONS

RESUME WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

MASS INTENTIONS: DEC 20-JAN 9

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:00 AM	Mass for	+Cherian Sonny Matthew
10:10 AM	Mass for	+Burdette Banks
2:00 PM	Mass for	+Stewart White
5:00 PM	Mass for	People of the Parish

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

4:00 PM	Mass for	
6:00 PM	Mass for	
8:00 PM	Mass for	
Midnight	Mass for	+Frances Frisinger & the Frisinger Family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25

10:00 AM	Mass for	
12:00 PM	Mass for	

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

5:00 PM	Mass for	+Ed Manning (Ed & Paulette's 50th Anniv)
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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:00 AM	Mass for	
10:10 AM	Mass for	+Gladys Chiapero de Martinez
2:00 PM	Mass for	People of the Parish
5:00 PM	Mass for	

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

10:00 AM	Mass for	
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

5:00 PM	Mass for	
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SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

9:00 AM	Mass for	
10:10 AM	Mass for	People of the Parish
2:00 PM	Mass for	+Stewart White
5:00 PM	Mass for	+Jessica Hatten-Mexico

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

5:10 PM	Mass for	
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

10:00 AM	Mass for	+Mary Vielharber
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FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

12:10 PM	Mass for	
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

Advent Giving Tree Project

This year our Advent Giving Tree will be done differently. In order to keep everyone safe we are only asking for monetary donations this year. The money we receive will be split between the agencies. The agencies we are supporting are listed below along with a description of their work and the needs they have that your money will help to support.

To make your donation on our website <https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/smsp>. Click "GIVE" the click "Parish Soft Giving" and the under "Fund" select Advent Giving Tree. Please contact Lanette at lemele@smspnewman.org if you have any questions.

VISTA MARIA <https://www.vistamaria.org/>

Vista Maria provides residential and community-based treatment and therapy for children, young women and their families and ensures that children and families within our communities have access to critical services and care. They foster restorative relationships and deliver innovative care, treatment, and education so that vulnerable youth and families believe in their worth, heal and build the skills for success. They have programs and provide abused and neglected youth with emotional, education, psychological and spiritual guidance to facilitate their transition to adulthood as productive, contributing members of society.

Donations will be used to purchase clothing, hygiene products, and craft supplies.

EQUAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE (EJI) <https://eji.org/>

EJI is committed to ending mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the US, to challenging racial and economic injustice, and to protecting basic human rights for the most vulnerable people in American society. EJI documents and challenges abusive conditions of confinement in state jails and prisons. EJI also continues to fight against the prosecution of children in adult court and to obtain new sentences for children who have been condemned to die in prison.

Donated money goes towards legal services for the poor and incarcerated and to protect basic human rights.

CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES/ NURTURING FAMILIES WASHTENAW <https://tinyurl.com/yxfbbk5q>

Nurturing Families Washtenaw is a program of Catholic Charities that provides expanded and specialized services for young parents.

The donated money will be used for adoption and pregnancy counseling, toiletries and food items.

WICIR <http://wicir.org/>

Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights (WICIR) is an organization that aims to walk with our immigrant brothers and sisters, especially in moments of crisis, and defend immigrant rights. WICIR is motivated to action by the God-given rights of all people to live in a safe and just society regardless of documentation. The agency provides legal aid and counseling in rapid responses to raid victims.

The donated money they receive will be used for legal fees for undocumented in our community, groceries and necessities for families.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (IHN) @ALPHA HOUSE www.alphahouse-ihn.org

Alpha House is an emergency shelter for children and their families experiencing homelessness. The impact of their programs is simple – families gain housing and remain together as a family. With ongoing support and advocacy as needed, families remain securely housed, better able to cope with ongoing challenges and more connected to community resources.

They will use the donated money for pantry items for daily meals, welcome baskets and meals for those in transition.

ST. LUKE'S N.E.W. LIFE CENTER-FLINT stlukenewlifecenter.com

St. Luke's North End Women's (N.E.W.) Life Center is situated in North Flint and provides a 3-year program of life change for women who are parenting alone, as well as afterschool and summer programs for children, and basic needs assistance for local families. They also provide GED and literacy classes for men and women as well as computer training.

They will use the donated money for fleece for blankets, sport balls and coats for children.

ARBORWOMAN <https://arborwoman.com/>

ArborWoman supports women in the greater Ann Arbor area who are facing unexpected pregnancies. We provide a trust-based environment in which our programs, including pregnancy testing, limited obstetrical ultrasound, counseling and a wide array of material and spiritual support services, are offered confidentially and free of charge by well-trained personnel.

They will use the donated money for pre-birth resources, newborn gift layettes and postpartum Counseling.

MISSION/MERCY HOUSE www.missiona2.org

Mercy House is a St. Mary parishioner's home that has opened its doors to the homeless. The home is a refuge during the day for Washtenaw County residents who need shelter from the winter weather, as well as companionship, warm meals and use of amenities. This residency seeks to bless others by providing shower facilities, washer and dryer, and emergency housing. *The donations will cover "to go" meals, material needs for those outside of shelter, covid and everyday hygiene supplies, and support of the house which provides longer term and emergency shelter, free laundry facilities, free store of clothes, and free to go food (meals or snacks where possible).*

WARMING CENTER

During the winter months we will work with other churches in the area to help provide a welcoming, safe, and warm environment where people experiencing homelessness can find companionship, food, and rest.

The donated money will be used to purchase coffee, cream, sugar, hot chocolate, cups and other needed supplies.

Advent Giving Tree Project and Other Advent News



HOPE CLINIC

<https://thehopeclinic.org/>

Hope Clinic provides compassionate and practical help to those in need. They offer medical care and dental care to the uninsured, plus a variety of social services to minister to the whole person.

They will support 250 families with Christmas gift cards, Christmas dinner items for food pantry.

SHELTER OF FLINT shelterofflint.org

Shelter of Flint owns and manages hundreds of properties in Flint, Michigan and offers a full range of programs that support families in need of emergency, transitional and permanent supportive housing as well as first time buyer assistance and senior affordable housing.

The donated money they receive will be used to purchase household items and gift cards.

DELONIS SHELTER www.annarborshelter.org

The Shelter Association of Washtenaw County (SAWC) offers those experiencing homelessness in our county an array of services in one central location, all year long. Serving nearly 1500 adults experiencing homelessness each year the SAWC partners with more than 30 community agencies to make services available. Clients are offered temporary shelter and supportive services in a safe, caring environment in three program areas: Residential Program, Non-residential Program and Winter Warming Program.

They currently serve currently serve 170 people nightly and will use the donated money for operational expenses, and warm clothes for those in need.

DR. SISTER PRISCILLA AND HOLY FAMILY VIRIKA CATHOLIC HOSPITAL IN UGANDA

Doctor Sister Priscilla Busingye, friend of St. Mary's, is one of the few obstetricians working in rural western Uganda. She is the Medical Director of Holy Family Virika Catholic Hospital in Fort Portal, where there is about one doctor for every 19,000 people. Born and raised in a nearby village, Sr. Priscilla is committed to improving the health and welfare of the Ugandan people, particularly that of women and children.

The donated money they receive will be used for procuring protective Covid gear, ultrasound machine and oxygen concentrator.

PRAYING THROUGH ADVENT

Praying through Advent – and Christmas

"For nothing will be impossible for God." (Luke 1: 37)

On the final Sunday of Advent we see the faithful example of our Blessed Mother – the young girl who says yes to God's surprising plan for saving the world. Mary shows us what complete trust in God looks like, and the angel sends us an important message, too: God always gives us what we need to accomplish great things.

For further reflection:

You can access the full scripture and more reflections created for our Small Church Communities. Visit our parish website at:

<https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/parish-life/scc/>

Prayer

Holy Mary, Mother of God, I thank you for showing me how to respond fully to God's plan for me, and for the world. I ask you to intercede for me today, to point me on the path that leads to a deeper relationship with your Son.

I ask God to grant me the freedom and openness to say yes to God's surprising ways. I pray that my fears and doubts will never get in the way of a generous response to God.

Mary, gentle and loving, pray for us. Amen

Advent Meditation Materials

This season, we hope you'll take some time to light a weekly Advent candle, remembering with gratitude and hope that Christ is always our light, even in these times of confusion and darkness. To help with deeper prayer and meditation, we've created weekly Advent materials for our Small Church Communities, and made them available for everyone to access.

You'll find reflections and prayers for the Sunday readings on our parish website. <https://www.stmarystudentparish.org/parish-life/scc/>

Other Resources:

Loyola Press offers prayer, information, and family activities: <https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/about-advent/>

Ignatian Spirituality: <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent/>

Busted Halo: <https://bustedhalo.com/video/watch-advent-two-minutes>

Grads & Young Professionals and Undergrads

GRADS/YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

VIRTUAL MASS & DINNER

MON, JAN 4 | 7:00 PM

All grad students and young professionals are welcome to join us for our monthly mass and dinner gathering—Covid style. We will stream mass at 7:00pm. Shortly after mass, we will switch to a Zoom room for an opportunity to eat “together” and share both social and spiritual conversation.

Links to both the streaming mass and the social afterward can be found in the Grad/YP Newsletter.*

VIRTUAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTIONS: MLK DAY PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

MON, JAN 18 | 7:00 PM

This month the Grad/YP Group welcomes Clarisa Piecuch, who will give a talk entitled “Who Do You Say That I Am?” Clarisa will speak as a Catholic Afro Latina on her experience of prejudice and first-hand rejection from white Catholics. She is a spiritual director and catechist with a degree in Pastoral Theology from Sacred Heart Major Seminary, and she has extensive experience working with the Hispanic community, and with immigrants and refugees throughout the Greater Detroit area.

For more details on Clarisa Piecuch's talk, and for the Zoom link to join us, please see the Grad/YP Newsletter.

If you are a grad student or young professional but are not receiving our newsletter, please contact us at smsp.grads.lead@umich.edu.

VIRTUAL NIGHT PRAYER (COMPLINE)

RESUMES THURSDAY JANUARY 7 AT 10:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEN'S DISCERNMENT GROUP

Any adult man over the age of 18 from the Diocese of Lansing who has graduated from high school and desires to join a group of men who are not afraid to talk about priesthood and be open to God's call - whatever it is.

Peer support and prayer are the main focus of the group, along with diving into topics surrounding priestly discernment and Catholic identity.

All meetings are centered around a discussion about the chapter of the day from the book *To Save a Thousand Souls*. Books will be mailed to you.

The Group meets virtually Saturdays from 11:00 am-12 noon on the following dates: January 9, February 6, March 6, and April 3.

Contact Fr. Whitlock jwhitlock@dioceseoflansing.org.

Mini Retreat

UNDERGRAD STUDENTS

VIRTUAL MINI-RETREAT

SAT, JAN 9 | 10:00 AM

Undergrads, please join us as we explore the trust and faith the Holy Family had as they traveled to a foreign land, with foreign customs. We will be looking at how, like the Holy Family, we too can trust in our generous, merciful, and trustworthy God to lead us into 2021.

The retreat will be from 10:00 AM-12 noon, giving us time to hear from a member of the parish and reconnect with other students in small groups.

Email Felicia Hinojosa at fehinoj@umich.edu if you are interested in participating for the zoom link and additional information.

St. Mary Student Parish

FR. CHARLIE IRVIN

Many of you may remember Fr. Charlie Irvin, who is an Ann Arbor native and graduated from the University of Michigan's Law School. After a brief career as an attorney, he entered the seminary and was ordained a priest in 1967. Shortly thereafter he began an eleven-year ministry at St. Mary Student Chapel in Ann Arbor. He returned to celebrate his Silver Anniversary in the priesthood at St. Mary Student Chapel.

Fr. Charlie is still writing homilies which you can find at:

<https://bigcatholics.blogspot.com/search/label/Fr.%20Charles%20Irvin>

Fr. Charlie is now living at Fairview Grand, an assisted living facility that is located on an active farm.

The owners refer to him as their "priest in residence" and he feels well cared for. But, since Fairview has been on lockdown since spring, he is very isolated.

A friend of Fr. Charlie's has suggested that those of us who know and treasure Fr. Charlie could send him Christmas cards. She suggests that it would be enjoyable to him if we would identify ourselves and/or reminisce so he can place where we were in his life (since he has been so many places and in so many capacities).

Fr. Charlie's address is:

Fr. Charles E. Irvin
Fairview Grand
P.O Box 40
Grand Ledge MI 48837



Financial Update

Year-End Statements will be mailed out mid-January.

Fiscal Year 2020/2021	
Year-to-Date Sunday Offering Report as of 12/6/2020	
	\$0 \$250,000 \$500,000 \$750,000 \$1,000,000
Sunday Offerings Budget Goal	\$969,000
Year-to-Date (YTD) Goal	\$423,750
Amount Collected YTD	\$411,362
Above (Below) YTD Goal	(\$12,388)
Sunday Offering Report as of 12/6/2020	
December Sunday Offerings Weekly Budget Goal	\$28,750
Sunday 12/6/2020 (Week 23)	\$34,117
Above (Below) Weekly Goal	\$5,367

ONLINE GIVING

Many of you have signed up for online giving, which is a great help to us. Thank you. Some of you may be open to doing so. We recently introduced a new "online giving portal" through ParishSoft. This will eventually be the only online giving program that we will use. You can sign up and allocate gifts to particular funds here:

<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/smsp>.

Contact Kristen Gowman with any questions kgowman@smspnewman.org.

DONATE USING VENMO

Give like students give - straight from their smartphone. Venmo is a secure platform designed to allow you to make payments, transfer money, and donate quickly and easily to friends, groups, and businesses. Link your bank account (or debit card), choose the recipient of your choice, and hit pay. It's that easy!

Our Venmo username is @SMSPumich.

St. Mary Student Parish Staff

PASTORAL STAFF

734-663-0557

Rev. James G. Gartland, S.J. Pastor ext 277 jgartland@smspnewman.org
Fr. Patrick M. Casey, S.J. Pastoral Associate ext 234 pcasey@smspnewman.org
Deacon Romolo Leone Pastoral Associate ext 233 rleone@umich.edu

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OUR MISSION

St. Mary Student Parish is a welcoming, inclusive, caring, and diverse Catholic community, uniting residents and students.

We are Christ-centered with the Eucharist as the source of holiness in our vibrant liturgical life.

Inspired by Ignatian spirituality, we live a faith that does justice, reaching out to the marginalized.

As an apostolic parish, we are committed to ongoing formation of Christian witness, discipleship, and leadership.



Sunday Readings

DECEMBER 20, 2020

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Reading I 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14A, 16
 Psalm Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29
 Reading II Rom 16:25-27
 Gospel Luke 1:26-38

The kingdom of David shall endure for ever before the Lord. The mystery kept secret for long ages has now been manifested. Behold you will conceive in your womb and bear a son.

DECEMBER 27, 2020

THE HOLY FAMILY

Reading I Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
 Psalm Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5
 Reading II Col 3:12-21
 Gospel Luke 2:22-40

Family life is rooted in the unconditional love of God as witnessed by the Holy Family.

JANUARY 3, 2021

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Reading I Is 60:1-6
 Psalm Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13
 Reading II Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6
 Gospel Mt 2:1-12

All nations are invited to sing the Lord's praises for they have called to hear the good news and worship the long awaited Messiah and King with the gift of their lives.

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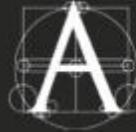
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