

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

DAILY MASS – Mon - Thurs 8:30 am (except where noted)

Monday, Dec 23	Angelina DiTirro <i>St John of Kanty, Priest</i> <i>Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-10, 14; Lk 1:57-66</i>
Tuesday, Dec 24	(4:30 pm) George Keller Jr & Sr (10:00 pm) Agnes Dahlkemper <i>Vigil of Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas Eve)</i> <i>Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29;</i> <i>Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25</i>
Wednesday, Dec 25	(10:00 am) For the Parishioners (Incense used) <i>Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord (Christmas)</i> <i>Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18</i>
Thursday, Dec 26	(No Mass) <i>St Stephen, First Martyr</i> <i>Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17;</i> <i>Mt 10:17-22</i>
Friday, Dec 27	(No Mass) <i>St John, Apostle and Evangelist</i> <i>1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8</i>
Saturday, Dec 28	(9:00 am) Confessions (5:00 pm) Lois Cardoni <i>Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs</i> <i>1 Jn 1:5—2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7cd-8; Mt 2:13-18</i>
Sunday, Dec 29	(9:00 am) For the Parishioners (11:00 am) Catherine Grohosky <i>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph</i> <i>Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21;</i> <i>Mt 2:13-15, 19-23</i>

In Our Parish – What/Where/When

MONDAY, DEC 23, 2019

Youth Choir Practice/Church/6:00 pm
5:00 Choir Practice/Church/6:30 pm
9:00 Choir Practice/Church/8:00 pm

TUESDAY, DEC 24, 2019 – CHRISTMAS EVE

****OFFICES CLOSE AT NOON**

Luminary Lighting/Grounds/3:00 pm

WEDNESDAY, DEC 25, 2019 – CHRISTMAS DAY

****OFFICES CLOSED**

THURSDAY, DEC 26, 2019

NO Bible Study

FRIDAY, DEC 27, 2019

SATURDAY, DEC 28, 2019

Confessions/Church/9:00 am

****Blessing of Time & Calendars at Mass**

SUNDAY, DEC 29, 2019

Children's Liturgy of the Word/Parish Ctr Rm 100/9:00 am
NO PSR

****Blessing of Time & Calendars at Masses**

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTIONS—Donations received through Tuesday, Dec 31 will go toward 2019; those received Wednesday, Jan 1, 2020 or after must go toward 2020. It does not matter if your check is dated for 2019 – if we receive it Jan 1 or after, it must go toward 2020, per the IRS. **Faith Direct users** - they will be accepting 1-time Checking/Savings account gifts until Dec 26 at 5:30 pm and live 1-time credit card gifts until midnight Dec 31.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION SUNDAY, DEC 15, 2019:

Regular Collection..... \$ 7,134.25
of Children's Envs Rcvd 6
Faith Direct (12/4/19)..... \$ 8,997.00

Like us on Facebook at: **Our Lady of Victory Church**, and our youth page at: **Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church Youth Ministry!**



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM!! Go to **olv1944** and follow!!



DURING THE BUSY CHRISTMAS SEASON AND BEYOND, please consider signing up for our eGiving program through Faith Direct. Pick up a pamphlet in the plastic holder at the end of the pew or sign up on line at www.faithdirect.net using our church code **OH669**. Thank you!

From the Pastor's Desk

As I write these greetings for Christmas this year, I cannot help but recall how this great act of love by our God has been celebrated in this faith community for 75 years! Thousands of individuals have gathered on these holy days of Christmas to mark how, in time and in the person of Jesus Christ, heaven and earth were joined together and, while these 75 years are but a portion of salvation history, they are no less significant. What we do, day in and day out, in our homes, our places of work, our communities, and neighborhoods flows from this great Christmas event. What we do day in and day out, Sunday after Sunday, matters, for our actions bring Christ to the world, in desperate need of hope . . . of joy . . . of promise . . . of continually being transformed. As we look to the beginning of the Christmas Season and the new year ahead, may we hold fast and be ever more committed . . . ever more fervent in "Loving God . . . Loving Others . . . Making Disciples." To each and every person who continues to offer their gifts so we might be faithful to this sacred mission entrusted to us, "THANK YOU!" May each of us, in the days, weeks, months, and year ahead, not only experience anew, God's grace and love, but be bearers of that same grace . . . that same love . . . for others. May our hearts continue to be filled with gratitude for the many blessings God has bestowed on us, and may each of you, and your family, enjoy God's abundant blessings this Christmas and in the year ahead!

Christmas Blessings

Fr. Mike and the OLV Staff

Celebrating Notes

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS: The offices will close at Noon on Tuesday, Dec 24, and reopen at 9:00 am, Thursday, Dec 26. The offices will again close at Noon on Tuesday, Dec 31, and reopen at 9:00 am, Thursday, Jan 2. If you have an emergency during those times, please call the office, dial extension 18 (Fr Mike), and follow the instructions.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (NEW YEAR'S DAY):

We will have Mass on Tuesday, Dec 31 at 5:00 pm, followed by all-night Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in Church, concluding with Morning Prayer on Wednesday, Jan 1 at 9:30 am, which will then be followed immediately after with Mass at 10:00 am.



THERE WILL BE A BLESSING OF TIME AND CALENDARS next weekend, at which time the Calendars will then be made available for distribution (1 per family please). A huge "Thank you" and Christmas Blessings to Donovan-Bagnoli for this donation to our parishioners!



Coming Events/News in our Parish

LAST MINUTE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING ONLINE? If you are an Amazon purchaser, your purchase can help OUR parish. Each time you make a purchase through **amazonsmile** (it is the same as Amazon), **.5%** of your purchase is given back to OLV! Go to www.smile.amazon.com, use your usual login credentials, and shop!

SPREAD THE WORD! Once again, Our Lady of Victory Parish is offering a 6-week initiative entitled *Catholics Returning Home* beginning *Wednesday, Jan 15, 2020 from 7:00 to 8:30 pm* in the Parish Center Library. *Catholics Returning Home* is an opportunity for anyone wishing to bring healing to their relationships, whether with God, His Church, others, or within their own hearts. Details coming or call Fr Mike or Linda.

“THANK YOU’S” COMING TO US – Freedom House received 38 Christmas gifts from Our Lady of Victory and says “...You have made it possible for us to continue to provide safety, support, and comfort to our veterans...thank you for thinking of the veterans at Freedom House!” And, it is “with gratitude for your generosity and care for St Bernard Parish and those served in our Hunger Program, (that) we acknowledge receipt of your check in the amount of \$523.00.” Blessings to all who were able to give!

Question of the Week

Reading: *Matthew 1:18-24* 4th Sunday of Advent

Adults: Like Mary and Joseph, we too are called to make a place for Jesus in our lives. Making that place in our hearts and our lives means following God’s will in trust. As you prepare to celebrate His birth, how will you open your heart and your life more to Jesus, and how will you invite others to do the same?

Children: We don’t know much about Joseph, husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus. What do you imagine Joseph to be as a person?

Parish School of Religion (PSR) Notes

ON GAUDETE (REJOICE!) SUNDAY all the students gathered with their catechists for a prayer service. Verses of “O, Come, O, Come Emmanuel” were sung, a reading from Isaiah 40:3-5 was read and petitions prayed. An Advent wreath with (electric) candles was lit and reflected on. After the prayer service, the winners and runners-up in the Knights of Columbus “Keep Christ in Christmas” poster contest were presented certificates and a Handle’s gift card. Then the students and catechists went back to their classrooms to share in games, food and conversation. May God bless all our families, students, and catechists during these closing days of Advent and the upcoming Christmas Season.



OUR ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION benefits our youth ministry, collecting over \$1,000 each year! Please bring your aluminum cans in plastic garbage bags, to the North end of the church parking lot. The gate may be locked, so please just toss the bags over the gate. It is extremely important to **TIE BAGS TIGHTLY SHUT, PLEASE**. Do NOT throw open bags over the gate. No paper bags or boxes, no loose cans, and no other trash should be mixed in such as glass, plastic or other metal. If in doubt, test it with a magnet – IF IT STICKS, DON’T BRING IT. The



holidays are a great time to save those cans. Many thanks to the Henry Bierce Company for donating the truck for use, and to Mike Passarelli and helpers for loading the truck. Christmas Blessings!

CONGRATULATIONS to the 200 Club winner(s) for the weekend of *December 15, 2019*:

#199 – BOB & PEG NORD - \$25.00

ACME COMMUNITY CASHBACK – Bring in your Acme store receipts, dated Aug 8 through Dec 28, 2019, and place them in the containers near the doors of the Church. Please do not cut off the date. 5% of those purchases are CASH BACK to our Youth

News & Notes in our Neighborhood

A CANCER SPIRITUALITY GROUP for those on the cancer journey, those facing diagnosis, or who have faced diagnosis in the past, are welcome to attend meetings twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at St Matthew Rectory, 2603 Benton St, Akron. The next meeting will be held *Dec 26, from 11:00 - 12:30*. This interfaith group is co-facilitated by cancer survivors Pat Flaherty and Linda Herold. For more information, please contact Pat at 628-5725 or everhiker@sbcglobal.net.

FROM THE DIOCESAN VOCATIONS OFFICE: Just a reminder of upcoming events: XLT – *January 16*; Discovery Days – *January 17*; Duc in Altum – *February 7*; Priest vs Seminarian Basketball Game – *January 26*. Visit the Diocese of Cleveland Vocation Office website or email mmcandless@dioceseofcleveland.org for more information.

THE STOW-HUDSON-PENINSULA K OF C FATHER MARUSKIN COUNCIL #10936 is sponsoring a Free Throw Championship on *Friday, Jan 3, 2020 from 6:30-7:30 pm* in the **Holy Family School gymnasium** for boys and girls ages 9-14. For more info, contact John Derrer at 330-217-8569 (preferred) or 330-714-5645.

Caring Commission

Just a reminder you are invited to write prayer intentions/names of sick relatives in the Prayer Notes’ Book located in the foyer as you enter the church. You may also request a prayer shawl for those in need of prayer and support, by stopping in the Parish Office during office hours.

Pray for the Sick: Don Elmerick, Daysha Furtney, Joseph Genaro, Brenden Kidikas, Carol Moyer, Ellie Rich, Angie Sgro, Cheryl Shumaker, Katrina Shunk.



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We pray with the Church that Richard Rockich may share in the peace and joy of the Risen Lord.

**WE THANK, & ASK YOUR SUPPORT FOR, OUR SPONSOR THIS WEEK:**

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