

Mass Intentions FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8 – VIGIL

4:30PM - People of the Parish

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9 –

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

+*9:00AM - Carmen Lorenzi

*11:00AM - Keith Panek



MONDAY, DECEMBER 10 –

ADVENT WEEKDAY

7:00AM - Mason Smerdel (Living)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11 – ST. DAMASUS I

7:00AM - Margaret Ketola

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12 – OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

7:00AM - Rev. William G. Bouhall (Living)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13 – ST. LUCY

7:00AM - Dee Marzola

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 – ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

7:00AM - Agnes Kaptein

8:15AM - Deacon Martin Thiel - Student Liturgy

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15 – ADVENT WEEKDAY

8:15AM - Rev. John Juhas

+*4:30PM - Eugene Fodor

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16 – THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:00AM - People of the Parish

+11:00AM - Women's Guild

+Cup Mass

*Mass of Remembrance

Weekly Schedule

Monday, December 10 St. Nick's Fair

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

6:45 PM - 8:00 PM PSR - School

7:00 PM PPC - Rectory

7:00 PM RCIA - School

Tuesday, December 11 St. Nick's Fair

1:00 PM Women's Guild Meeting - UH

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM Children's Choir - Church

7:00 PM Adult Choir - Church

7:00 PM Holy Name - Utopia Hall

7:00 PM Rosary for World Peace - Chapel

Wednesday, December 12

5:00 PM Bingo - Gym & Utopia Hall

Thursday, December 13

4:00 PM - 9:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

7:00 PM Cub Scouts - Utopia Hall

7:00 PM Divine Mercy - Church

Friday, December 14

2:00 PM - 5:30 PM Confessions - Church

4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Basketball Practice - Gym

7:30 PM - 10:00 PM JHYG Dance - Gym

Saturday, December 15 Athletics: Donut Sale

Utopia Rental

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM CYO Basketball - Gym

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Third Order of Mary - Rectory

Sunday, December 16 Athletics: Donut Sale

Utopia Rental

9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Men's Basketball - Gym

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM Spiritual Therap. Grp. - Church

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Youth Ministry - Utopia

Financial Blessings

Collection for December 2nd.....\$8,307.15

Maintenance\$432.00

Votives.....\$69.00

Thank you and God bless you for your generosity.

TRAVELING MADONNA

This week the statue is at the home of **Joe & Dolores Hules**. Please continue to pray for our host families as they share their home with our Traveling Madonna. Remember to send in any pictures that you take to the rectory.

Please call the rectory to sign-up to host the Traveling Madonna in 2019.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSON: Angela LoBue

SECRETARY: Dawn Thomas

REGISTRATION

Persons who live within parish boundaries should be properly registered. This includes all students in high school and college. Register with the priest after Mass. If you move out of the parish, please notify the rectory.

BAPTISMS

Sunday: 12:30 PM or during any weekend liturgy. Prior to baptism of their first child, parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism class. Please call the rectory at 216-749-0414 to schedule an interview.

MARRIAGES

Should be arranged with a priest by calling the rectory 6 months prior to the wedding date. Individual conferences, plus attendance at a pre-marriage program, are required for proper preparation.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Some of you may have noticed that there is a lion and lamb in the middle of the Advent wreath this year. I placed that in the center because in scripture Isaiah chapter 11 (which is our first reading today) talks about the lion and the lamb being a symbol of a new world in which the peace of God will reign and all will live together in harmony. I received that statue as a gift last year and thought how appropriate it would be to bring it into the church this Advent season.

The second week of Advent reminds us of the journey that Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem. The second candle or the "Bethlehem candle" symbolizes faith. Faith is a true and beautiful gift from God. Many people are given the gift of faith, a gift that has been handed down to us from generation after generation of family members who believed in Jesus Christ and the message of the Gospel. This faith that we received reminds us of the faith that Mary and Joseph had when they set out for Bethlehem. They both had faith in God and His plan of salvation. They may not have understood all the details that went with God's plan but they trusted that He would be with them through it all.

The faith that Mary and Joseph had in God did not just start with the message of the angel Gabriel but was handed onto them by their family. Mary received her faith from her parents, Ss. Joachim and Anne while St. Joseph received his faith from his parents. As the census was being called, Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem because he was of the house of David. Mary was ready to give birth at any time. But again, Mary and Joseph placed their faith in God and that He would be with them in their travels. Faith in that they would remain safe and that there would be a place for them to give birth if that time should come, for they did not know when the baby was to be born only that it would be soon.

They trusted in God even when there was no room for them in any of the inns. There was only a stinky stable, but again they trusted and had faith in God's plan. Faith is believing that you can trust in God to take care of everything even when all looks hopeless. Can you have faith in the God who shows us love and mercy every day? Can you have faith like Mary and Joseph in God's plan when you do not understand it? This is faith and this is the faith in which we light the second candle of the Advent wreath.

Peace and Goodness,

Fr. Bill

The facts of this column are taken from *Catholic Living's* article *The Advent Wreath Tradition & Meaning* by Gretchen Fliz.

SAINT THOMAS MORE



Nobody owns anything but everyone is rich - for what greater wealth can there be than cheerfulness, peace of mind, and freedom from anxiety?

"Speak to them of the great mercy of God...Sometimes people are helped by you telling of your own lamentable past."

St. Francis Xavier

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Father: O Lord, stir up our hearts that we may prepare for Thy only begotten Son, that through His coming we may be made worthy to serve Thee with pure minds. Through Christ Thy Son, our Lord.

All: Amen.



COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

The Communal Penance Service is this Sunday, December 9th at 2pm here at St. Thomas More.

PARISH PRAYER

O God, the Creator and giver of all things, bless this parish. Strengthen our faith; grant us the spirit of sacrifice and service so that, with Your grace, we may provide for the needs of our members, glorify You and sanctify ourselves. Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

PRAYER OF THE MONTH - DECEMBER

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

St. Thomas More Church

Brooklyn, OH 44144

MUSIC MINISTRY

In the arms of Your Mercy, we find rest. Please join us on Thursday, December 13th at 7pm in the church for our next Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Join us on the 3rd Friday, December 21st at 7pm in the church for a night of worship and praise of Our Lord. There will be scripture, song & reflection. We will end the evening with a procession and Benediction.

We still have a few Christmas CD's available in the rectory. They make the perfect Christmas gift, so pick one up today!

CHRISTMAS OPLATKI

Packages of oplatki are available in the sacristy or at the rectory. Freewill donations will be accepted.



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Antonio Musto, Florence Zunt, Ethel Whipkey, Nickola Badza, Carol Loy, Vinny Mercurio, George & Martha Kysil, Raymond Kuhar, Jessica Kuhar, Stephen Kuhar III, Alexis Simecek, Gregory Simecek, Heather Hudak, Mary Misch, John Misch, Grayson Wilmot, John Szill, Melissa Korhely, Sean Szill, Joel Gorski, Nancy Butler, Gail Michal, Ashley Meadows, Alice Gruden, Dave Meredith, James Malames, Greg Jakupcik, Bob Smith, Donald Marks, Mary Ellen Popovich, Melissa Horvath, Ann Dloniak, Juliana Turner, Meg Zalar, Stephanie Ziolkowski, Jean Palumbo, Marlene Sutowski, Ida Jean Hopkins, Joy Turner, Jeremy Cheetham, Pam Turner and Ben Purcell. Please call the rectory by noon on Monday to add a name to the list. Names will remain on the list for the month.

Cluster Corner

MARY QUEEN OF PEACE: 216-749-2323

Bingo - Join us for Bingo on Friday evenings beginning at 6pm in the Parish Center. Doors open at 4:30.

ST. CHARLES BORROMEIO: 440-884-3030

Post Cana - Post Cana presents Laura & Peter Range from the Diocese of Toledo on Friday, December 14th from 6:30-8:30pm in the lower parish hall. Please register at www.stcharlesonline.org/post-cana or call the office.

ST. LEO THE GREAT: 216-661-1006

Bus Trip - Join us for a trip to Scioto Downs on Wednesday, January 16th. Cost is \$32/person. Casino bonus: \$20 free slot play & 1/2 off at the buffet. Please call Joanne Todd at 440-526-3505 for more information or to book your trip.



Please remember Joseph Kacala, Anthony Duta and Joseph DeFranco in your prayers.
God grant them eternal rest.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild will hold its annual Christmas Party on Tuesday, December 11th at 1pm in Utopia Hall. Chicken and potato salad will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert. We will join in listening and singing Christmas Carols. Please bring a \$5-\$10 (unwrapped or bagged) gift for our gift exchange.

HOLY NAME SOCIETY

Our regular meeting will be on Tuesday, December 11th at 7pm in Utopia Hall. All the members of the Holy Name Society are welcome.

ANNUAL MEMORIAL CANDLES

In the month of November, we remembered our beloved dead. Why not remember them the whole year round? Memorial Candles for 2019 are now available. The cost is \$200 for the year, \$190 if you return your November candle or \$100 for six months. Forms are available at the rectory.

ST. THOMAS MORE SCHOOL

Are you looking for a way to get into the Holiday spirit? Come and listen to our students sing Christmas songs at our annual Christmas concerts:

Preschool - Monday, December 10 @ 10am

Day School - Monday, December 17 @ 1:15pm & 7pm

Band Concert - Tuesday, December 18 @ 1:15pm & 7pm

Hope to see you there!

Second Sunday of Advent Children's Prayer:

Jesus, you are joy even in the saddest times. Help us to praise you when we are upset or grieving. Shine joy into our hearts we pray. Amen.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

This Sunday, December 9th, all parishioners in grades 7 through 12 are invited to our Time Out Retreat Game Night, an evening of prayer, games and food in Utopia Hall from 6-8pm. RSVP is needed to plan for food and supplies. Visit stmparish.net for the online RSVP form.

Service hours are available next Sunday, December 16th as members of the High School Youth Ministry will be sorting the gifts for the Advent Giving Tree. Please gather in the church at 6pm. The evening usually takes about 2 hours to complete. Many hands will make little work.

ADVENT GIVING TREE

Thank you to those who took tags for the Advent Giving Tree. There are still a few tags available if you haven't had a chance to take a tag or were looking for additional tags. Gifts are due back in the church library by this weekend, wrapped with the tag affixed. If you forgot your gift, they can still be turned in by next Sunday, December 16th.

CHRISTMAS EVE NATIVITY PLAY

We are planning a Christmas Nativity play during the homily this year at the Christmas Eve Mass. Any 1st and 2nd grade children in the day school or PSR can sign up. Two **mandatory** practices will be held on Wednesday, December 19th and Friday, December 21st from 5-6pm. If you are interested, please contact the rectory.

HONOR ROLL

Padua High School honors the following parishioners who have received academic honors for the first quarter: Chloe Amoroso, Erica Marquardt, Stephanie Marquardt, Lindsey Matier, Madison Moran, Kelsey Schloemer, and Kyle Schloemer.

Trinity High School honors the following parishioners who have received academic honors for the first half term: McKenna Patton.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS CONCERT

You are invited to a free Advent/Christmas concert at Blessed Trinity Church on Friday, December 14th at 7:30pm in the church, featuring the Blessed Trinity adult choir, bell choir, and instrumental ensemble joined by professional guest artists. Come join us for holiday classics and a special performance of music from The Nutcracker. The concert is free and open to the public. Freewill offering. A reception will follow.

THEOLOGY ON THE ROCKS

Join us for our next Theology on the Rocks at the Copper Cup at Ironwood Café on Monday, December 10th at 7pm. Cost is \$10-pay at the door. Please register at <https://theologyontherocks.wixsite.com/west>.

Readings *Week* of the


Readings for the Week of December 9, 2018:

- Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/
Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6
- Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13
-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
- Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-
12, 13 [Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14
- Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a,
10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk
1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
- Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-
13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
- Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Jn
8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
- Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-
16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
- Next Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil
4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

Come, see...
and believe.

St. Thomas More Parish welcomes you for Christmas & invites you to return this Spring to see where the Christ child's journey ends and where all HOPE begins. See the vivid musical passion play, *Tetlestai* — HERE: March 22, 23 & 24

LiveThePassion.org



2018 CHRISTMASTIDE SCHEDULE

Monday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Afternoon Vigil

11:30 PM Christmas Carols

12:00 Midnight Vigil

Tuesday, December 25 - Christmas Day

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Monday, December 31- New Year's Eve

4:30 PM Vigil Mass

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 – New Year's Day

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

CHRISTMAS RECTORY HOURS

Please note the rectory hours during the holidays:

12/25/18- Closed

1/1/19- Closed

12/26/18- Closed

1/2/19- Closed



We would like to thank all those who donated to the #wegiveCatholic campaign. We received \$1,220 in donations. We appreciate your generosity to St. Thomas More Parish. Mark your calendar for #weGiveCatholic on Tuesday, December 3, 2019!

Great Gift Idea!

\$15 each

Mini Sweets Centerpiece Assortment



Sold after Masses Dec 8 and 9

ALPINE EUROPE PILGRIMAGE
Featuring the Passion Play of Oberammergau
11 DAYS: SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 1, 2020

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 AND
FR. JOHN MICELI

\$4399 FROM CLEVELAND*
*Air/land tour price is \$3929 plus \$470 gov't taxes/airline surcharges

FOR A MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
 Fr. Bouhall: Tel: (216) 749-0414 // Email: stmore@sbcglobal.net
 Fr. Miceli: Tel: (216) 226-7577 // Email: jmiceli@stmarkcleveland.com

DON'T WAIT FOR 2030!! SIGN UP TODAY!!!



Retirement Fund for Religious

Please give to those who have given a lifetime.



Aging religious need your help. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests ministered for years for little or no pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate retirement savings. Your gift to today's second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for tens of thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.