

^BULLETIN COPY – ST. MARY CHURCH – GROVEPORT, OHIO - SUNDAY, December 18– USE CUT # 2-B

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	For the Parish Family
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Carrie & Tracy Billiter’s Birthday by Their Parents
	11:00 a.m.	Jack & Rosemarie Shinoskie by the Family
Monday	8:30 a.m.	Novena & Rosary
Tuesday	<b>6:30 p.m.</b>	Maureen Jajczyk by the Altar Rosary Society
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Tiffany Lyn Dials by Laura Bradford
Thursday	8:30 a.m.	Joe Flowers by Frank & Sandy Trammer
Friday	8:30 a.m.	George Martini by Phil & Jeanne Feldmeier
Saturday	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	For the Parish Family
	<b>9:00 p.m.</b>	Jerry Jenkins by the Jerry Jenkins Family
Sunday	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Donna Otto Elzey by Judi & Dick Matz

**THIS WEEKEND**

**NEXT WEEKEND**

**SERVER SCHEDULE**

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Brian Ropchock, Frank Trammer	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	Brian Ropchock, Frank Trammer, Macie Sporleder, Easter Valentine
			<b>9:00 p.m.</b>	Sharon Merritt, Todd Lutz, Brian Ropchock, Frank Trammer
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Jazlyn Winski, Deven Winski, Marita Surry	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Branson Cline, Sandro Nuakey, Eli Nuakey, Blair Williams
	11:00 a.m.	Matthew Hambrick, Todd Lutz, Connie Brown		

**LECTOR SCHEDULE**

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Sandy Trammer, Sandy Williams	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	<i>See Schedule in Sacristy</i>
			<b>9:00 p.m.</b>	
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Ken Koebel, JoEllen Stebelton	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	
	11:00 a.m.	Noreen Reeves, Jim Raynak		

**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER SCHEDULE**

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Pam Gerardi, Shawna Gentile, Sandy Williams, Marilyn O’Linn, Sandy Trammer	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	Christine Boucher, Tammy Dorion, Pat Jenkins, Phil Feldmeier, Pam Gerardi
			<b>9:00 p.m.</b>	Cindy Kinch, Rosemarie Watters, John Kinch, Jean Bobst, Sandy Trammer
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Pat Jenkins, Mary Slone, JoEllen Stebelton, Carolyn Veit, Rosemarie Watters	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Sandy Williams, Ken Koebel, Dorothy Carter, _____, _____
	11:00 a.m.	Jean Bobst, Nancy Scholl, Dorothy Carter, John Kinch, Mayellen Fowler		

**CANTOR SCHEDULE**

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Debra Smith	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	Debra Smith
			<b>9:00 p.m.</b>	Debra Smith
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Dave Solack	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>	Dave Solack
	11:00 a.m.	Susan Howell		

*From Father John . . .*

***Emmanuel – “God with Us”***

We find comfort that God is watching over us and near by ... readily available to us by prayer. And if this were all “Emmanuel – God with us” meant, it certainly would be something. After all some folks view “God” as a distant and somewhat disinterested super-being. Perhaps this “grand wizard” put the universe in motion but is hardly interested in how things are turning out. So, our notion that God *cares* about his creatures is wonderful.

If we go further and say that our God loves us and takes personal interest in us individually, that would be much better! Such were the relationships God had with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. It was the close involvement God had with Moses, David and the Prophets.

But, “Emmanuel – God with us” means *much more* ... and here we come the central claim of the Christian religion. God is “with us” because ***he became one of us!*** He knew human joys and struggles not as a distant observer nor as a benevolent friend, but as a loving participant. This is the startling and thrilling truth of the Incarnation. God did not hold onto his divinity as an exclusive privilege; instead, he assumed our human life so we might share his divinity.

Jesus’ Incarnation began in the mind of God with Mary’s Immaculate Conception, preparing her to be the vessel by which our human nature would be imparted to the Son. His Incarnation was realized as the Holy Spirit overshadowed Mary and Jesus was conceived in her virginal womb. The Incarnation shapes the Sacraments in which the matter of bread and wine, water and oil are imbued with Divine life for us. The ultimate promise of the Incarnation is Christ’s Resurrection of Body and Soul ... the Resurrection that we will share.

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, December 18** – Is 7:10-14 / Rom 1:1-7 / Mt 1:18-24

**Monday, December 19** – Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a / Lk 1:5-25

**Tuesday, December 20** – Is 7:10-14 / Lk 1:26-38

**Wednesday, December 21** – Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a / Lk 1:39-45

**Thursday, December 22** – 1 Sm 1:24-28 / Lk 1:46-56

**Friday, December 23** – Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 / Lk 1:57-66

**Saturday, December 24** – Christmas Vigil – Is 62:1-5 / Acts 13:16-17, 22-25 / Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25

**Mass During the Night** – Is 9:1-6 / Ti 2:11-14 / Lk 2:1-14

**Sunday, December 25** – Christmas Day – Is 52:7-10 / Heb 1:1-6 / Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

## OUR GIFTS TO GOD AND CHURCH

**December 11** – Sunday Offering – \$3,976.25

Christmas Flowers - \$150.00; Immaculate Conception - \$881.25

Retirement Fund - \$1,288.00; Diocesan Charities - \$35.00

Christmas - \$30.00; Solemnity of Mary - \$10.00

**God bless you for your continued support of St. Mary Church**

**Thank you** to all who contributed to the Retirement Fund for Religious collection last weekend!

**The Annual Collection for Diocesan Catholic Charities** will be taken up on Christmas. This second collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations, including J.O.I.N., St. Stephen's Community House, Catholic Social Services, St. Francis Center, St. Lawrence Haven, St. Vincent Family Center, and the St. Vincent De Paul Society. You can help share in this important work by generously supporting the Catholic Charities Collection this year. Please use the envelope provided in your packet or mark you check or envelope Catholic Charities.

**Late Christmas Day Mass:** If you or someone you know is seeking a late Sunday Mass on Christmas Day because of work or other obligations, St. Joseph Cathedral, 212 East Broad Street, Columbus, will be offering a late Christmas Day Mass at 5:15 p.m. as part of their regular Sunday Mass schedule. For more information call the Cathedral at 614-224-1295 or visit [www.saintjosephcathedral.org](http://www.saintjosephcathedral.org).



**Help is needed to decorate the Church** for the celebration of our Savior's birth. We will be decorating Friday, December 23, beginning at 11:00 a.m. Many hands make light work!

**The Red Cross Bloodmobile** will be here at St. Mary on Monday, December 19, from 2:00-7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet is in the vestibule.

**The Flowers in front of the Altar** this weekend are in honor of Carrie and Tracy Billiter's birthday on December 21 by their parents.



**MARRIAGE ANNOUNCEMENT**  
**Mary Hosfeld and Hugh Dohn**  
**Nuptial Mass - December 28, 2016**

**St. Vincent de Paul**

**The St. Vincent de Paul** has a food basket in the vestibule for the Groveport Food Pantry. December's food items are **Pasta and Pasta Sauce**.

**SVDP will be collecting new Women's and Men's** socks and underwear again this year with all items delivered to JOIN. Please place new items in the box located in the vestibule by this Sunday, December 18.

Our parish will be preparing a **Meal for the Homeless on Thursday, December 29**. Donations of fruit, cookies, and snacks are always greatly appreciated. Anyone who wishes to help prepare the meal, meet in the Parish Hall at 11:00 a.m.. If you would like to help serve the meal, meet at the church at 5:15 p.m.

The next SVDP meeting will be Sunday, January 8, at 12:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall.

**Thank you to all who contributed to the SVDP Collection last weekend!**

**Your support is appreciated!**

**Donations help those less fortunate in our area!**

**Thank you** for the generous donations to the Adopt-A-Family collection and also to the "Support Our Troops" collection!

**Altar Rosary Society's Christmas Party** will be held this Tuesday, December 20, beginning with Mass at 6:30 p.m. followed by a potluck and a \$5.00 gift exchange.

**The Parish School of Religion** students will process and present a Christmas Anthem at the 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve "Family Mass." Students must be at the church by 4:30. We will meet in the Parish Hall to get organized. Please come dressed in "Sunday Best." If you have questions or concerns, please call Alice Doran at 614-497-1437 or 614-595-9962 text.

**There will be no P.S.R. Classes** on Sunday, December 25 and January 1!

**Hugs and Prayers** – Please remember in Prayer those of our Parish family and friends who at this time are hospitalized, ill, or recovering: Rosa Alonzo, Mary Ann Armstrong, Ann Arnett, Virginia Bauman, Margaret Bonner, Mary Jo Borghese, The Brothers Family, Tom Bryan, Chris Burkhart, Catherine Courey, Kathy Daw, Al Elizondo, Dominic Elizondo, Giuseppe Fazio, Mayellen Fowler, Shirley Jo Fraley, Ben Garrison, Mary Getreu, Cody Hetterscheidt, Tara Hetterscheidt, Bill & Agnes Hillis, Austin Hosfeld, Susan & Steve Howell, Jake Jajczyk, Mary Jones, Mary Kampf, Henry Kampf, Barb Kellenbarger, Evelyn Kelley, Tim Leddy, Lisa Leonard, Julie Litsinberger, Rita Martini, Dick Matz, Maria Mayes, Trisha Mentzer, Msgr. Bob Metzger, Wanda Menetti, Mary Jo McKinney, Maxine & Tom McLoughlin, Connie Neuherz, Renee Parlin, Joseph C. Ramsey, Fr. Reichert, Gene Schrader, Lucy Snyder, Mike Sommer, Joe Stewart, Virginia Theado, Howard Watters, Ken Watters, David Wilson, Caroline Weiland, Jeanne West, Virginia Whitemore, and Jim, Cathy Williams & Family.

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**St. Mary Church Christmas Mass Schedule**

***Sat., December 24***  
***Christmas Eve***

5:00 p.m. Solemn Mass & Blessing of Crèche. Our youth are featured with choral music & proclaiming Christmas Scripture & prayers

9:00 p.m. Solemn Mass beginning with a Choral Music program.

***Sun., December 25***  
***Christmas Day***

9:00 a.m. Mass