

December 2, 2018
First Sunday of Advent

<u>MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK</u>				<u>Weekday Readings</u>
Mon	Dec 3	(SN)	No Scheduled Mass	Is 2: 1-5/Mt 8: 5-11
Tue	Dec 4	(SN) 8:00am	Marilyn Frederick/Exposition Closing 4pm	Is 11: 1-10/Lk 10: 21-24
Wed	Dec 5	(HF) 8:00am	Tom Deitering & Deitering & Kaple families/Exposition Closing 6pm	Is 25: 6-10a/Mt 15: 29-37
Wed	Dec 5	(HF) 7:00pm	Combined Parish Penance Service at HF	
Thu	Dec 6	(SN) 6:30pm	St. Nicholas Parish Patronal Feast Day Mass	Is 6: 1-8/Lk 10: 1-9
Fri	Dec 7	(SN) 8:00am	Deacon Kenny Klear	Is 29: 17-24/Mt 9: 27-31
Fri	Dec 7	(SN) 5:00pm	Holy Day Mass -Liv & Dec'd of Don Noirot family	
Fri	Dec 7	(HF) 7:00pm	Holy Day Mass – For the Parish	Gn 3: 9-15, 20/Eph 1: 3-6, 11-12/ Lk 1: 26-38
Sat	Dec 8	(SN) 9:00am	Holy Day Mass – For the Parish	
Sat	Dec 8	(SN) 4:00pm	Honey & LouAnn Niese/Liv & Dec Paul Wagner family Liv & Dec'd Harold Niese family	
Sat	Dec 8	(HF) 7:00pm	For the Parish	<u>Sunday Readings</u>
Sun	Dec 9	(HF) 8:30am	Larry & Maryann Siebeneck	Bar 5: 1-9/Phil 1: 4-6, 8-11
Sun	Dec 9	(SN) 10:30am	For the Parish	Lk 3: 1-6

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Parishioners,

“Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man.” These words at the conclusion of today’s gospel narrative from St. Luke may be interpreted as a threat or scare tactic by some, but they are truly a gift of hope for us. Hope is the theme of Advent. These days find us preparing for the anniversary of our Savior’s birth at Christmas and in hopeful anticipation for his return at the end of time.

We are beginning this first week of Advent with a number of scheduled events – all with the intention of nurturing this sense of hope in our hearts. First, on Wednesday evening this week, December 5 at 7:00 PM, Holy Family and St. Nicholas parishioners will have the opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at our Advent Communal Penance Service at Holy Family Church in New Cleveland. I will be joined by Fr. David Ritchie, pastor of St. Anthony Parish, Columbus Grove, Fr. Charles Obinwa, pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Fort Jennings and Fr. Tony Fortman, C.P.P.S., pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish, Glandorf. We are most grateful for the generosity of these priests to join us for this service. I hope many of you will take advantage of this sacramental opportunity.

Thursday, December 6 is the patronal feast day of St. Nicholas and considered a “solemnity” in parish churches that have the honor of taking his name as their title. Since there is no scheduled Mass at St. Nicholas Church on Thursdays, we will be transferring our normally scheduled 6:30 PM Thursday evening Mass at Holy Family to St. Nicholas this Thursday so that a Mass will be offered on the patronal feast of St. Nicholas. There will be no scheduled Mass at Holy Family on December 6.

Saturday, December 8, is yet another solemn feast AND A HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. The

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception happens to be the patronal feast day for the United States of America. All professed Catholics are obliged to attend Mass on this solemn feast, a holy day of obligation. Three Masses will be offered between our parishes for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. On Friday, December 7, a holyday Mass will be offered at St. Nicholas Church at 5:00 PM and a holyday Mass will be offered at Holy Family Church at 7:00 PM. On Saturday, December 8 a holy day Mass will be offered at St. Nicholas Church at 9:00 AM.

Some may be wondering if the obligation to attend Mass for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception might be combined with the Sunday obligation on Saturday December 8 by attending the 4:00 PM or 7:00 PM Masses; in other words, a “two for one” combination. Unfortunately, holydays of obligation don’t work that way, so we will plan on seeing each other several times next weekend.

As we progress through this holy season of hope and readiness, my prayer for each of you is that God’s blessing rests in your hearts and dwells in your homes and workplaces. A blessed Advent to one and all!

Monsignor Singler

WEEKLY OFFERINGS November 24 & 25			
St. Nicholas:		Holy Family:	
Regular:	\$2,878.00	Regular:	\$3,255.00
Fuel:	32.00		
Cemetery Fund:	10.00	Cemetery Fund:	30.00
CCHD:	60.00	CCHD	55.00
Total:	\$2,980.00	Total:	\$3,340.00
That All Children May Eat Collection			
Total:	\$ 956.00	Total:	\$1,188.52
<i>Thank you for your generosity and support of our parishes.</i>			

St. Nicholas Parish Choir will practice Monday, December 10 at 7:00 PM in the church choir loft.

St. Nicholas Altar Rosary has adopted two families for Christmas through the Putnam County Crime Victim Services. There are several remaining gift tags on the Giving Tree in the back of St. Nicholas Church. Please help us bring the joy of the Christ Child to a family in need. Take a gift tag, purchase the item, gift wrap, and attach your gift tag to the wrapped gift. Your wrapped gift can be placed by the Blessed Virgin Mary altar. In lieu of cash donations, please give in the form of a gift card. The deadline for collection is next Sunday, December 9. Thank you and God bless you for your kindness.



CHRISTIAN FORMATION/YOUTH GROUP

All Junior High Christian Formation students meet this week on Wednesday, December 5.

Juniors meet today Sunday, December 2, at St. Nicholas from 8:30-10:15. Seniors meet today Sunday, December 2, at Holy Family from 9:30-11:15. Freshmen and Sophomores meet next Sunday, December 9.

St. Nicholas/Holy Family Youth Group is hosting this year's St. George Deanery Winter Fun Day on December 27, 2018. Registration forms are available from any Youth Council Officers, Deb Wehri or the parish website (stnicholasholyfamily.org).

Please continue to send in your order forms for our Holiday Candy Sale. Additional order forms are in the back of each church or on our combined parish website.

The annual Youth Group Christmas Caroling at The Meadows of Ottawa is today Sunday, December 2. All who wish to participate should meet at Holy Family at 5pm. We will eat at Wendy's after caroling.

Youth Group Members: Please let Abby Niese know when you can help with making Buckeyes these next two weeks, beginning tomorrow Monday, December 3 from 3-6pm. We will not be making Buckeyes on Friday, Dec. 7 as originally announced. Please turn in your order forms as soon as possible.

Holy Family CLC/Altar Rosary Christmas Party will be held on Monday, December 10 at 6:00pm at Holy Family Parish Hall. The cost of the meal is \$6.00 and includes chicken breast, California blend vegetables, cranberry salad, and peppermint ice cream with a wafer. Sign-up sheets are on the back table in the vestibule at Holy Family Church. Deadline to sign up is tomorrow, December 3. Donated baked items for prizes for the BINGO game are appreciated.

Kindly remember in prayer all priests serving in the Diocese of Toledo, as they gather tomorrow, December 3 for the annual Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey. Through our prayers, may the Lord grant them grace, peace, renewed fidelity, and the consolation of his presence.

Holy Family Cemetery Annual Fall Cleanup is underway. Please remove any items you want to keep by December 15. After this date any items still in the cemetery will be discarded.

CANCELLATION

The evening reflection on the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas originally scheduled on Thursday, December 13 at Holy Family Parish has been cancelled.

St. Nicholas Parish RECTORY HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE is Sunday, December 16 from 2:00pm-5:00pm. Invite your family and friends from neighboring parishes to this holiday treat! Anyone wishing to donate cookies for the open house please call the Parish Office.

Support the Retirement Fund for Religious. A donor writes, "Your flyer touched my heart—seeing the retired religious, such memories surfaced." Do you remember the sisters, brothers, or religious order priests who made a positive difference in your life? Today many are elderly and need assistance. Their religious communities struggle to meet retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. This collection will be taken the weekend of December 15 & 16. Your box of contribution envelopes contains an envelope for this annual collection.

2019 March for Life



Interested in attending the March for Life in Washington D.C. on January 18, 2019? Join the College and Young Adult bus trip sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Toledo! The trip is only \$192, but for college students there is a special discounted price of \$132! Our trip includes two nights in the Marriott Hotel in Downtown Washington, D.C., as well as free time to tour the city. We depart Thursday, January 17, at 3pm and will return Saturday evening, January 19. Payments by check can be made out and mailed to Catholic Charities, 1933 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo with "March for Life" in the memo line. Be sure to include name, email, cell phone and rooming preferences. If you have any questions, contact Peter Range, Director of the Office for Life and Justice, at prange@toledodiocese.org or call 419-214-4933. Deadline to register is Friday, December 14.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter. Husbands and wives...there was a time when you would have put aside anything for a weekend alone with your spouse. It's time again! A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend provides a chance for couples to spend time together, apart from the distractions and tensions of everyday life, with your focus on each other and your relationship. The two of you deserve it! The next weekend in the Toledo Diocese is January 18-20, 2019 in Perrysburg. For more information or to apply for a weekend, go to www.wwme.org or contact Brian & Chris Schroeder at 419-538-7210 or bcschroeder@bright.net.

BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK:
COMPLIMENTS OF THE BUCKEYE CLUB: Beer and liquor, wings and made to order pizza. Call 419-876-3201