

Liturgy Schedule

Chapel

Monday, December 3

8:00am - Charles & Josephine Avarello - Charlie & Linda Avarello

Tuesday, December 4

8:00am - Tony Ferritto - Jerry & Lee Severns

Wednesday, December 5

12:00pm - Adoration

7:00pm - All Souls List

Thursday, December 6

8:00am - Al DiVencenzo - Mike & Rose Jaworski

Friday, December 7

8:00am - All Souls List

Church

Immaculate Conception

Saturday, December 8

9:00am - All Parishioners

Second Sunday of Advent

Saturday, December 8

3:30pm - Confessions

4:30pm - Frank Hokes - Pat Hokes

Sunday, December 9

8:30am - Living and Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society

11:00am - Paul Whitman - Pat Whitman

Congratulations to **Scott & Jennifer Wiseman** whose son **Blake Alexander** was baptized last weekend. May he grow as a child of God with the support and witness of our parish community.

Sympathy to the family of **Betty Kuepfer** who died this past week. May she rest in the peace of Christ.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 2:1-5; Ps 122:1-9; Mt 8:5-11
 Tuesday: Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24
 Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 15:29-37
 Thursday: Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1, 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt 7:21, 24-27
 Friday: Is 29:17-24; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Mt 9:27-31
 Saturday: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
 Sunday: Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

DATES TO REMEMBER:

December 16th - Children's Christmas Party
 Holiday Choir Concert
 Giving Tree Gift Wrapping

January 19th - Night at the Races

THE RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS:

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 sister, brothers or religious order priest 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/ Please give next week.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING:

Deceased loved ones can be remembered through the Christmas Flower Offering. An envelope for this offering was in the November packet or you can submit names and donations in a plain envelope and mark "Christmas Flowers" on the outside. Memorial names will be posted on the bulletin board this Christmas. Please submit the names by December 14th to ensure they are listed for Christmas.

THANK YOU!

What a great display in the Gathering Area to honor our veterans! A total of 111 pictures were put on display of family and friends who have served our country. Thank you to all who participated and to Ken Shifferly and the Holy Name Society who organized the display. And thank you to all the veterans who have served our country and all current service men and women.

Pray for the Sick:

David Blackburn, Herb Kuepfer, Jose' Magiste, Sandy Vasbinder, Leon Denomme, Pam Jenkins, Jim Hempfling, David Myers, Kathy Borowy, Shirley Livchak, Jerry & Lee Severns, Carol Cordy, Tami Lynsky, Jeanne Kowalski, Dorothy Pundy, Bille Updegrove, Robert Falatic, Al Machovina, Rick Spinks, Jim & Pat Wracker, Clay Cook, Kathy Buckland, Don Gates, Michele Miller, Rosie Jarven, Nancy Partyka, Laurie Healy, Dan Van Amburgh, Karen Curley, Fred Smith, Don Gargas, Angela Wrege, Harriet Zawie, Joyce Redmond, Bill Livingston, Gregg & Judy Simmerly, Stan & Angie Debro, Carol Mahier, Kathy O'Reilly and Shayne Reisinger.

Please call the Parish Office 440-926-2364, or email us at info@olqppgraston.org to have a name of a friend or relative included in this list.



PASTORS CORNER: Why do we have Advent as a period of time in the Church's liturgical calendar? Last week I had quoted from the *Universal Norms* that Advent is a preparation for the celebration of Jesus' birth as well as a preparation for his coming again. Jesus was born in time and continues to be born in our hearts. But our hearts grow weary. We get tired out by the anxieties of daily life. To deal with the anxieties we distract ourselves by working very hard, or becoming distracted by drink, or food or out of control emotions, or gambling, or golf, or surfing the net, or computer games or.... The Season of Advent challenges us to open our hearts, even if it is just a crack, to let God in.

When we nurture God's presence in our hearts we are able to stand confidently when the world around us is shaken as the gospel for this Sunday describes. There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars and roaring of the sea. The powers of heaven will be shaken. But we can stand erect and raise our hands because our redemption is at hand.

In the 2nd reading from 1Thesalonians we hear 'to strengthen our hearts, so as to be blameless in holiness before our God and Father.' Yes, we need Advent to remind ourselves to strengthen our weary and tired hearts.

The Season of Advent is short, just four Sundays. And it can easily get lost in the midst of all the preparations for Christmas. Rather than adding more things to do, the Liturgy Committee is inviting us to just reflect upon one question or statement each week that we carry around with us in our daily tasks. This week the question is: **What are you doing to welcome Jesus into your heart this Advent week?** As you take a moment of silence in your day or stand in line at the store or run about to rehearsals or concerts or whatever you find yourself doing, invite Jesus into your heart to bring you his strength and peace.

Fr John

ADVENT: The season of Advent begins today Sunday, December 2nd.

EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTIONS: Wednesdays during Advent (December 5,12,19) there will be Eucharistic Devotions in the chapel from 12:00 noon until 7:00pm. Come spend some quiet time in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. This time of private prayer can put everything that is going on in the preparation for Christmas into perspective.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MASS: In addition to the weekday Masses at 8:00am there will be a 7:00pm Mass on Wednesdays during Advent in the chapel. The Mass will conclude the time of private adoration before the Blessed Sacrament that begins at noon on Wednesdays during Advent.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: There is an opportunity every Saturday to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation from 3:30 - 4:00pm in the church.

ADVENT REFLECTION BOOKLETS: In the Gathering Area there are reflection booklets for each day of Advent for adults, families and children. Use these as a break from your Christmas preparations to help keep the stress level down while growing spiritually for the celebration of Christmas.

SOLEMNITY OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: Saturday, December 8th is the holy day of obligation celebrating the immaculate conception of Mary. The meaning and significance of this day can be confusing, especially when the gospel for Mass is the account of Jesus' conception. There is no narrative of Mary's conception. However, the Church has taught that Mary's character was immaculate from the moment of

conception by a singularly unique gift so that she would be a fitting mother of God's Son. In who she is from the moment of her conception she points to who Jesus is as Savior and Son of God.

The Mass for the Immaculate Conception will be at 9:00am.

BAMBINELLI SUNDAY: Blessing of infant Jesus from family nativity scenes will be all masses on the weekend of December 15/16.

PLANNED GIVING: In this season of giving, consider making a year-end gift to our parish in gratitude for all the blessings you have received in life. Making a gift of appreciated stock may help you avoid capital gains tax and help our parish at the same time. If you are 70 ½ or older, you may be able to reduce your taxable income this year and help us in our ministry with a gift made directly from your IRA to our parish. Talk to your advisors and IRA administrator for more information and to be sure that a gift is made directly from an IRA to a qualified charity such as our parish. Lastly, should this year-end find you creating or updating your estate plan, please consider helping us grow our parish ministry for future generations by including our parish as a beneficiary of your will, trust, retirement plan or life insurance policy. Questions? Contact Jim Andrews in our parish office at (440) 926-2364 or via email at jandrews@olqpgrafton.org. You are also welcome to contact Mary Lou Ozimek of the Catholic Community Foundation at 216-696-6525 x4070 or via email at mozimek@catholiccommunity.org.

Thank you for your generous support of our Parish, and your help with the needs of the community through your ongoing participation in our various ministries.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Sunday, Nov 18:	\$ 13,100.50	\$ 9,800.00	\$ 3,350.50
Sunday, Nov 25:	\$ 7,192.25	\$ 9,800.00	(\$ 2,607.75)
Sunday Y-T-D:	\$202,779.06	\$215,600.00	(\$12,770.94)
Human Dev:	\$ 345.00		



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The Christmas Giving Tree is up, if you wish to participate please take a mitten and purchase that item then return it to the Church by **Noon on December 16**. Gifts

will be wrapped and distributed that day. We have plenty of wrapping paper and gift bags, however if you'd like to include a bag for your item, we'd appreciate that too. Thank you for your generous participation in this project.

COMPASSIONATE FRIENDS: The **WORLDWIDE CANDLE LIGHTING**, unites family and friends around the globe in lighting candles for one hour to honor the memories of the sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, and grandchildren who left too soon, is scheduled to be held on Sunday, December 9th, 2018 at 6:00pm. The Lorain County Chapter will hold a candle lighting ceremony at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church. We invite all friends and families of our children to attend. Contact Terri Zunis for more information: 216-469-5311.

LADY'S GUILD: The Lady's Guild will be hosting their annual Christmas dinner and party on Monday, December 10th at 6:30pm in the Parish hall. Members are asked to bring a side dish, appetizer, or dessert to share. Following dinner there will be games and a raffle. Members should bring a few wrapped USEFUL gifts (under \$5.00) for the games as well as any donations for Haven House. Come celebrate the Christmas season.



SCRIPTURE STUDY - Encounter JESUS by joining the new "Turning Point-Gospel of John", on Thursday December 13th at 7:00pm in room 2 of the hall. Session six "Hungry Crowds" on pages 91-108 will be our next lesson. Our Scripture Study of the Gospel of John (Jesus' presence) promises to, and has, allowed us to meet Jesus in new ways. Study books are available in the church office for \$13. Contact Rick Gallaher (440) 458-6335 for comments or questions.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER: Our lives are influenced by so many factors in a complex world. Rather than be surprised by the unexpected, maybe we should expect the unexpected. Living in this manner causes us to cherish more deeply the gifts we have been given. It helps us to live in the present and become mindful of those around us. Our relationships deepen. Our sense of responsibility builds. Our stewardship way of life finds new meaning and purpose.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION: The focus of Sunday's Gospel is the Second Coming of Jesus. It contains a strong message for us to not be distracted by problems or our own bad behaviors while we wait. Jesus wants us to be good to others and ourselves while we prepare for his return. Family Prayer: Lord, we want to become the people you created us to be. Give us the grace to work on those things we need to correct or improve.

FAMILY MASS: Our next Family Mass will be on Sunday, December 9th at 11:00. Currently, we need one lector, three Eucharistic Ministers, and two greeters. All parish families are invited to participate. The "Family Mass Sign-Up" link is accessible on the parish website at olqpgrafton.org or call the parish office to sign up. Embrace this opportunity to teach your children about actively participating in Mass through your involvement in these various Mass ministries.

THANK YOU! The Cub Scout Pack #152 collected over five shopping carts of food for our food pantry. Thank you boys and parents and the customers at Sparkle Market who contributed to this successful food drive.

NIGHT TO SHINE: February 8th our parish along with over 500 other churches across the nation and world will be hosting a Tim Tebow Night to Shine. This is a prom experience for those with special needs 14 years of age and older. It is a way of letting those with special needs experience the love of God and community. Registrations are now being accepted. For more information and to register go to our web site, www.olqpgrafton.org.

RIGHT TO LIFE: We will be collecting signatures for the Lorain County Right to Life Signature Ad Billboard Campaign the weekends of December 9/10 and 15/16 in the Gathering Area after all masses. A donation of \$5 per name-line is requested to help cover the cost of the ad. Add your name to those in our Country who **SUPPORT LIFE!!!**

This Week in the Parish:

Monday, December 3

7:00pm - Choir (Church)

Tuesday, December 4

6:00pm - Pack 152 Den Mtg. (Parish Hall)

7:30pm - KOC Mtg. (Parish Hall Rm. 1)

Wednesday, December 5

7:30pm - RCIA (Parish Hall Rm. 2)

Thursday, December 6

9:00am - Matter of Balance (Parish Hall)

7:00pm - Parish Council (Parish Hall Rm. 1)

Friday, December 7

1:30pm - Keystone Pointe

Saturday, December 8

2:00pm - Jr. Choir Practice (Church)

Sunday, December 9

9:30am - GLFF (Parish Hall)

6:00pm - Compassionate Friends (Church)

PARISH INFORMATION

† **Weddings:** Couples need to make arrangements at least six months prior to the wedding date.

† **Baptism:** Baptisms are celebrated at a mutually convenient time. Please call the office to make arrangements.

† **Ministry to the Sick:** Please notify the office for visits to parishioners in the hospital.

† **New parishioners:** Are asked to register as soon as possible at the Parish Office or by phone.

† **Inquiry Classes in the Catholic Religion:** Persons interested in becoming Catholic are asked to contact the Parish Office for information about the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, RCIA.



Saturday, January 19, 2019

**Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish Hall
702 Erie Street
Grafton, OH 44044**

5:30pm Doors Open - 7:00pm Races Start
Admission \$20 per person
(Food and beverages included)

Get your horses today at \$15 per horse.
Tickets and horses on sale in the Gathering Area
after masses or call the parish office at
440-926-2364.

December 1/2nd - January 12/13th, 2019

If you would like to donate a basket for our basket raffle or to sponsor a race please contact the parish office at 440-926-2364.

THE THREE COMINGS OF ADVENT

There are three distinct comings of the Lord of which I know: His coming to humankind, His coming into humankind, and His coming against humankind.

—St. Bernard: *Third Sermon for Advent*



HOLIDAY CONCERT: Holiday Concert featuring the Our Lady Queen of Peace Music Ministries on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 3:00pm in a program of Christmas Songs, Anthems, Spirituals and Sing-alongs. Come celebrate this joyous season with us! The Concert will take place in the Church. Free Admission. Refreshments will be served following the concert.

RETIREE LUNCHEON: As the mature members of our parish, we have been around and seen lots of change; we would like to make one more, but just the name.

We've called it Seniors Lunch and had quite a bunch, but over the years numbers have dwindled. We are now asking all **Retirees** to come and mingle. The food is delicious, and the company the nicest you will meet. You can bring a dish of your choice to share or drop a coin in the basket to help buy the meat.

It is a chance to spend time with old friends and new, and not be home alone feeling blue. We gather the second Thursday of every month and we would love to see a large turn out. Our next luncheon is on Thursday, December 13th at 11:30am. See you then.

