

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018



Dear parishioners,

First of all, thank you for all the birthday cards, wishes, and gifts! Thank you to all who came to the party. It was wonderful!

Today is Gaudete Sunday. The name comes from the first word of the Introit of the Mass. It means "Rejoice!" If you listen carefully to the rest of the readings you will hear the word several times.

I used to think we were rejoicing because Advent is half over. (Actually, this year we only have a week and a day left. It's a very short Advent. Advent is counted by Sundays, not by actual days as Lent is.)

Our reason for rejoicing is that Christ is near, and all the good that has been promised will be here because of him. "The Lord has removed the judgment against you.... Your God is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear.... He will rejoice over you with gladness and renew you in his love.... Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."

Rejoice! Because God's kingdom is coming and is already here.

Sister Carol

Congratulations to Nick and Julie Recker on the baptism of their son Dyson Gray. Welcome to the parish family, Dyson!

The parish extends its sympathy to the family of Lou Barth. May he rest in peace.

Weekend Masses

Sat Dec 15	4:00 p.m.	Richard & Angela Knott
Sun Dec 16	10:00 a.m.	Fr. Cleo Schmenk Dolores Hermiller & James Trankamp
Sat Dec 22	4:00 p.m.	Jim Badertscher Leonard & Sally Rieman
Sun Dec 23	10:00 a.m.	Jan Schulte

Communion Services

Fri Dec 21	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary's
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SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$4,250.00	Loose \$1,023.25
Children	\$20.75	Total \$5,294.00
80 envelopes returned = 38%		

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for December 22 & 23, 2018

Money Counters: Janet Begg and Deb Goldenetz

4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Basil Meyer

Cantor: Kevin Vance

Ushers: Hank and Carol Schroeder

Lector: Jenny Roby

E.M.: Bob Minto and Edna Conkling

Servers: Addison Businger and Jenna Downey

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Basil Meyer and Deb Buck

Cantor: Choir

Ushers: Jeanne and Jerry Wehri

Lectors: Lisa Welch and Shannon Wannemacher

E.M.: Michelle Risner, Betty Gerten,
Tom Schulte, Linda Kinn

Servers: Kendal Giesige, Makayla Schweingruber,
Jordan Schweingruber

Readings for December 23, 2018

Fourth Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Micah 5:1-4a

2nd Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel Reading: Luke 1:39-45

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RCIA This week our RCIA gathering is on Thursday, December 20, at 7:00 o'clock.

Help needed! Please check the shelf in the main entrance to see if you can help with carrying an Advent candle in the entrance procession at Mass next weekend. Please also, if you are a liturgical minister, sign up to help with the Christmas Masses. That sign-up sheet is also on the shelf in the main entrance.



If you signed up to help deliver poinsettias to our sick and homebound, remember that the poinsettias are arriving on Monday, December 17.

Please be sure to deliver them on Tuesday or Wednesday so that they are at their prime when they are received.



Don't forget!! We will be decorating the church for Christmas on Friday, December 21, beginning at 8:30 a.m. All are welcome! Many hands will make light work. When there are a lot of us, we have finished in an hour or so.

There will be a children's choir singing at the 4:00 Mass on Christmas Eve. Any child wanting to sing with this choir is welcome. We will practice on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 to 7:45.

Religious give thanks. "This money is pure gift," writes a religious sister of the support made possible by the Retirement Fund for Religious. "It enables us to continue providing care for our elderly sisters." Your gift to last week's collection helps hundreds of religious communities meet pressing retirement needs while continuing to serve the People of God. Thank you for your generosity!

You're invited to a free performance of the **Cathedral Concert Series** today, Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 3:00 P.M. Join us for Christmas Carol Sing featuring The Cathedral Choir with Paul Monachino, director. Sing

favorite Christmas carols in Rosary Cathedral accompanied by the historic E. M. Skinner organ, choir, strings, and brass. The evening light filters through stained glass as the cathedral is filled with the joyful sounds of Christmas!

Please consider a year-end gift for the ACA! Your generosity will help support our Seminarian formation, life-saving services at Catholic Charities and valuable Parish ministries through our Discipleship & Family Life Department. Because of many of you, the ACA needs only \$32,000 to reach our \$2.8 million goal! Send in your gift today to the Diocese of Toledo, 1933 Spielbusch Ave., Toledo, OH 43604. Thank you for your love, prayers, care, and support. May God bless you and your families this upcoming Christmas season! ~

Is your marriage going down the right road . . . or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help and offers hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is Christian-based, and Catholic in origin, but welcomes couples of all faiths as well as non-religious couples. Retrouvaille can help get your relationship back on track. For more information about our January 25-27th Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, contact registration team: **Robin & Jeff @ 419-481-1116** or visit our website: **HelpOurMarriage.com**.

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K-6: Class is Wednesday, December 19, 6:30 to 7:30.

Jr Hi Class is today, Sunday, December 16th, 11:00 to 1:00 p.m.

