

Please pray for the health and the healing of our friends and relatives: Joyce Rogers, Stacy Polasko, Billy Adkins, Carolyn Johnson, Angie McKibben, Cullen Rowley, Kathy Means, Doug Gilliland, Mary Buhl, Jim Sheaffer, Lela Rathburn, Ben Montgomery, Dorothy Booth, Adam Calhoun, Jack Hagerty, Colleen Phillips, Barbara Keyes, and all of our Armed Forces serving

Mass Intentions

- Sunday, December 23**
 11:00 a.m. Ulah Wiczak
 - Barbara Periat
- Monday, December 24**
 7:00 p.m. Ray Hayes
 - Ron & Mary Hayes
- Wednesday, December 26**
 5:30 p.m. Jim Wilson
 -Bill & Mary Ellen Nose
- Sunday, December 30**
 11:00 a.m. Bob & Tyler Nose
 -Bill & Mary Ellen Nose
- Monday, December 31—Feast of St. Sylvester**
 6:30 p.m. Doug Lash
 - David & Janet Bollender
- Tuesday, January 1**
 11:00 a.m. Helen Menza
 -Barbara Keyes

(When requesting a specific date for Mass Intentions, please send in at least one month in advance, the sooner the better. Due to print deadlines, intentions requested in less than a week will be placed at the soonest possible date if not already reserved by someone else.)

LITURGICAL ASSIGNMENT

For Sunday December 30 , 2018

Altar Servers	Ryan Megan
Lectors	Charles Cohara Kathleen Bledsoe
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Bill Nose Elaine Rannells

“For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy.” (Luke 1:44)

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading each Sunday, do you “leap for joy?” If not, don’t blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. Do you prepare for Mass each week or do you just show up and expect to be entertained? We are called to be active participants, not passive by-standers.

Learn how you can be active in your Catholic faith by supporting your parish and contact The Catholic Foundation. Visit www.catholic-foundation.org/development for more information.

DUE TO THE HOLIDAYS AND EARLY PRESS DEADLINES, OFFERTORY AMOUNTS WILL BE REPORTED IAFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR.



From the Desk of Fr. Dooley

Happy Fourth Sunday of Advent and/or a Merry Christmas to you! We rejoice that the Lord has arrived and that God has not forgotten us. This week has plenty of meanings for many peoples. It is one where memories of childhood come in the forefront and visiting family takes priority. Many practicing and non-practicing Catholics step inside the church for Christmas. Regardless of where in your faith journey, welcome to St. Sylvester Parish!

While it is good to recall our past, we have to be aware that Christmas is much more than memories. As one theologian wrote: “Advent and Christmas is not about a sentimental waiting for the Baby Jesus.” This arrival of the Lord goes far more than our emotions and memories. We are witnesses of the Lord entering the world and we have to keep making room for the Lord to enter our lives. Jesus has already arrived and we need Christmas to serve for us as a bridge to mystery of God. May this Christmas Season remind us to make that room.

I leave you with a Christmas Prayer from Fr. Henri Nouwen (d. 1996):

Lord Jesus,
*Master of both the light and the darkness,
 send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
 We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.
 We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
 We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
 We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
 We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.
 To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!”*

Merry Christmas!
 Fr. Dooley

St. Sylvester Christmas Mass Schedule

Monday December 24th- Christmas Eve Mass at 7:00pm
 Tuesday January 1st- Mary, Mother of God Mass at 11:00am
 (please note that these are holy days of obligation)

St. Peter Chillicothe Mass Schedule:

Monday, December 24—Children’s Christmas Eve Mass at 5:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, December 25—Midnight Mass
 Tuesday, December 25—10:30 a.m.
 Monday, December 31—Mary Mother of God—5:30 p.m.
 Tuesday, January 1—10:30 a.m.

Wellston Sts. Peter & Paul & Jackson Holy Trinity Schedule:

Monday, December 24 4:00pm – Sts. Peter and Paul
 6:00pm – Holy Trinity
 Tuesday, December 25– Midnight - Sts. Peter and Paul
 9:00am – Holy Trinity
 Monday, December 31 Mary Mother of God-
 5:00pm – Ss. Peter and Paul
 Tuesday, January 1— Noon – Holy Trinity

On behalf of Fr. Hahn, Fr. David, Fr. Dooley, and Fr. Thomas, we pray and hope that you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! We are grateful to be a part of St. Sylvester Parish.



Year of the Family

Living the Liturgical Year
*Celebrating Saints and Feasts to
Enrich Hearts and Homes*



December 26: St. Stephen, first Christian martyr, patron of deacons, horses, masons and casket makers

St. Stephen was one of the seven deacons chosen by the Apostles to help them in their work. He was "filled with faith and with the Holy Spirit" (Acts 6:5). The Acts of the Apostles records that his opponents in debate could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. He was truly a man of God after the heart of Christ. His enemies brought him before the Sanhedrin

accusing him of blasphemy, set up false witnesses against him and, in the end, put him to a cruel death by stoning while he prayed for his executioners, imitating the Master he so lovingly served.

Since St. Stephen's feast is celebrated the day after Christmas, this stew seemed a good idea to use up much of the Christmas leftovers.

St. Stephen's Day Stew

1 to 2 lb leftover turkey and 1 lb leftover ham (if you only have one of these it is ok)
4 tbsp butter
1 large onion, chopped
8 oz mushrooms, sliced
4 cups turkey stock (or use stock and gravy or even just gravy if that is what you have)
3/4 cup sour cream
1 to 2 tbsp chopped fresh parsley (or 2 tsp dried)
1 tsp oregano
6 to 8 potatoes cubed and cooked salt and pepper to taste

Cut up turkey and ham into bite size pieces. Melt butter in large pot, add onions and mushrooms and cook over medium-high heat until onions soften and mushrooms start to sweat. Toss in the meat and cook a couple more minutes, stirring to prevent browning. Add in a cup of stock (or water if using only gravy) to deglaze the pot then add remaining stock and/or gravy and bring to a boil; lower heat and simmer 5 minutes. Ladle a cup of hot liquid into a bowl and whisk with sour cream until smooth then add back to the pot and stir. Lastly add cooked potatoes and seasonings and simmer 5 more minutes. Serve hot with crusty bread or leftover Christmas rolls!

READING:

(family) **St. Stephen's Feast** - by Jean Richardson, **St. Stephen (Saints: Lives and Illuminations)** by Ruth Sanderson, **A Story of St. Stephen** - by Brother Ernest C.S.C.
(high school) Pope St. John Paul II's Angelus Message (2003) for the Feast of St. Stephen - read it here <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=5459>

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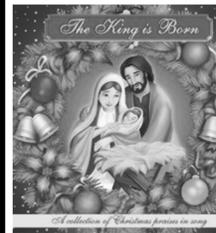
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

PICK OF THE WEEK, December 23, 2018



FOR CHILDREN:

Children will enjoy this heartwarming dramatization that recounts the story of the very first Christmas, as told by Brother Francis. With music, songs, and engaging storytelling, you will experience the wonderful events that led up to the birth of God's Son and the story of redemption.



FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY:

Bask in the warmth and joy of Christmas with a mixture of traditional and new songs that fill the heart with worship and praise. A wonderful way of remembering Who we celebrate during the holiday season.



FOR ADULTS:

Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen's books, tapes, homilies, retreats, and television series have inspired countless souls all over the world. This digitally-mastered presentation combines classic recordings of his timeless reflections on the meaning of the Incarnation of Jesus, mixed with Gregorian chant and seasonal music. It is sure to become a family favorite!

ly favorite!

Find these and more on the formed website. Access Code VZ4F2W or download the free app for your phone!

Consider Making a Year-End Gift to St. Sylvester Church. As the end of the year approaches, we begin to reflect upon the many blessings bestowed upon us. The end of the year also provides a great opportunity to thank God for these blessings by gifting to St. Sylvester's. The benefits of income tax deductions, capital gains savings and other financial benefits are significant advantages that provide an incentive to make a gift at the year-end. There are many different ways of contributing a gift. However, two of the easiest and most direct methods to gift are donations of cash and appreciated stock or other investments. You can also make other financially advantageous gifts such as real estate, life insurance, charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, will/trust bequests and IRA/retirement accounts. Any donations to be included on the 2018 offertory statements need to be into the parish office by Friday, December 28, 2018.

St. Sylvester Feast Day, December 31

Fr. David will be offering Mass on Monday December 31st at 6:30pm. This Mass will be for the Feast of St. Sylvester. Mass will still be held on Tuesday January 1st at 11:00am for Mary, Mother of God.

