

SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

DECEMBER 11, 2016



Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Matthew 11:11

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419-524-2572 | MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am, 9:30 am, 11:30 am

Monday & Friday 5:30 pm
Tuesday - Thursday 7:00 am

Spanish Mass:

Resurrection Parish, Lexington
Sunday: 6:00 pm

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday: 7:30 am - 8:30 pm
Friday: 7:30 am - 7:30 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday: 8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Pastoral Care Contacts:

Mrs. Vickie Palmer 419-524-2572
*Hospital & Follow-up
Nursing Homes/Assisted Living &
Prayer Pipeline*
Deacon John Reef 419-529-3694
Shut-ins/Homebound

Sacrament of Baptism:

Please contact the Parish Center to begin plans for the baptism of your baby or child.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Other times by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Arrangements should be made at the Parish Center at least six months in advance of the ceremony. A wedding date is confirmed after the initial meeting with a priest.

Sunday Nursery: Sunday Nursery is temporarily unavailable until further notice. Please call the Parish Center for more information.

Bulletin Deadline: Monday, 12:00 noon. All requests must be submitted in writing or email.

Pastoral Staff:

Fr. Gregory R. Hite, *Pastor*
Fr. Jeremy Miller, *Parochial Vicar*
Mr. Bill Johnson,
Director of Music & Liturgy
Ms. Lynne Lukach, *Pastoral Associate*
Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm, *Director of
Religious Ed. & Youth Minister*

Deacons:

Mr. John Reef
Mr. Dennis Striker

St. Peter's School:

Mr. Michael Wasiniak
High School, Jr. High School
Mrs. Madalyn Bauer
Elementary School
Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer *Montessori*

Parish Business Manager:

Mr. Jon Blazak

Director of Development:

Jason Crundwell

A PARISH OF THE SAINT JUAN DIEGO DEANERY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, December 12 *Our Lady of Guadalupe*

5:00 pm Rosary
5:30 pm North Central Ohio Vocations

Tuesday, December 13 *+ Lucy, Virgin and Martyr*

7:00 am Dale Hite
8:15 am Joseph and Marilee Santoro
315 pm Liberty Nursing Center

Wednesday, December 14 *+ John of the Cross, Priest and Doctor of the Church*

7:00 am Delmar and Pauline Oakes

Thursday, December 15 *Advent Weekday*

7:00 am Don Chambers

Friday, December 16 *Advent Weekday*

5:00 pm Rosary
5:30 pm Richard G. Hite

Saturday, December 17 *Vigil of the Fourth Sunday of Advent*

5:00 pm H. Elmer and Jane Berger

Sunday, December 18 *Fourth Sunday of Advent*

7:30 am Parish
9:30 am Angelo & Josephine Taddeo
11:30 am Daniel Rodriguez

LECTOR / COMMUNION MINISTER

Saturday, December 17

5:00 pm L D Falquette, J Riedl **D** C & D Campbell
M Joyce, D & T Hipp, V Zack

Sunday, December 18

7:30 am L B Danuloff, T Mulherin **D** L Simmons, D Renie,
B Marshall, L Danuloff, M Collet, M Hawkins,
J Morvai
9:30 am L F Schuster, R Sliney **D** T Speelman, S Herlihy,
J Brennan, J Kastelic, T Etwiler, L Speelman, T
Baker, B Genter, I Cervinski, B Connolly, C Merle,
M Riggleman, T Frasz, S Weber, K Wehinger

11:30 am L S Rizzo, C Staton **D** K Yockey, J Wendling,
M Selby, S Rizzo, C Becker, K Schreck, L Strauser,
B Riley, F Leitenberger, K Speck, A Randall

MASS SERVERS

Saturday, December 17

5:00 pm A & S Winters, J Westwood

Sunday, December 18

7:30 am M Givens, A Gasper, M Butler
9:30 am A Baldasare, I Annis, J Rose
11:30 am E & J Rizzo, A Pindel

Counters: Sunday, December 18

Paul Weitzel, Jeff & Barb Genter, Pat Lapczenski

Mass Cancelled on Monday, December 26th

Due to the large number of Masses on Christmas, the Feast of the Holy Family and so that the priests can spend some time with family, there will be no 5:30 p.m. Mass or Rosary on Monday, December 26th. Thanks for your understanding.

~ Fr. Hite and Fr. Jeremy

The Third Sunday of Advent has traditionally been called "Gaudete Sunday" in our great liturgical tradition. It means "REJOICE" Sunday! A lighter shade of violet, rose, came into the tradition as a vestment of this Sunday during the Middle Ages as a symbol of rejoicing in an otherwise heavily penitential season.

John the Baptist has taken center stage the last two Sundays in this cycle of readings ("A" Cycle this year). Last Sunday, John appeared at the beginning of Jesus' ministry, preaching in the Judean desert. This Sunday, John cries out from prison, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another? (Matt 11:3)" As great a figure as John was, and mindful of his importance in the history of salvation, Jesus reminds us, "the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

I hope this season helps you and me to appreciate that the best Christmas gifts are those of the heart and spirit. A story to illustrate. One Christmas a boy in an African village gave his teacher an exquisite seashell as a gift. He had walked many miles to find it, to a special bay, the only place such shells could be found. The teacher was quite moved by the boy's gift. "What a beautiful shell. You must have walked many miles for it. I am deeply grateful for your gift," the teacher said. "Teacher," the boy replied, "long walk part of gift."

Often the most beautiful gifts we give are not the seashells but the "long walk" of forgiveness, empathy, love and understanding. Especially at this busy time of the year, we can be overcome with the shopping, the mailing, the addressing, and the decorating. Remember, that "long walk" is as much a part of the love we give and receive as the destination is.

This Advent-Christmas season is also a time when family and friends gather. The holidays can be a time of great renewal and bonding, but they can also be a time of tension and depression. So many things come into play as the holidays prompt social gatherings and family functions. For example, deceased relatives or friends may be brought to memory. And your memories may be happy or sad. Those who have lost a loved one at this time of year may find it difficult to celebrate. On the other hand, the birth of a firstborn may bring "tidings of great joy" to you and yours. Or the return home of a son or daughter from "service" or college may be just the thing mom needs. Whatever these days will bring, offer them to the Lord, whose human condition embraced all life. Whether it be a *joyful* time or a difficult time – bring it to prayer.

A final reflection for the week is found in our second reading today: "Be patient ... you must be patient ... do not complain about one another."

~ Father Gregory Hite

Please Pray for the Sick of our Parish



Don Blank, Aaron Blank, Andy Taracko, Rose Mary Lang-Martin, Gwen Yockey, Anonymous (A private intention), MaKaya Butler, Helen Green, Mary Ann Gibson, Nancy Stanton, Dina Riley, Helen Philpott, Corbin Adams, Sally Linn, Nick and Hilda Schemine, Gail Oxendine, Tom Monza, Ashton Woodrow, Cindy Lassen, Darlene Schmidt, Beverly Strauser, Amy Sanchez, Mike Payton, Harley Steggall, Kathleen Patterson, Sue Judson, Beth Weiland, Paul "Gene" Ludwig, Pat Colarosa, Krista Marshall, Mildred Corbin, Joanne Glowe, Louis Baldasare, David Donley, Andrew Judson, Laura Demarest, Ida Van Loan, Sharon Valdry, Ralph Dillon, Ed Voytko, Mary Anne Voytko, Theresa Schmidt, Bruce Johnson, Allan Galloway

Names will only be listed for 4 weeks. If you wish to have your name appear an additional 4 week period, contact the Parish Center at 419-524-2572.

Auditions for the Parish Musical:
"Seussical the Musical"

Monday 12/12/16 - 6:00 p.m.
Tuesday 12/13/16 - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday 12/17/16 - 9:00 a.m.

Auditions are in the VE Room. Be prepared to read a short monologue and sing a short piece of music. (Even something simple like "Happy Birthday" will do!)

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK



On Friday, December 23, we will begin decoration the church for Christmas beginning at 9:00 a.m. As usual, we need a lot of help! There are things for people of all ages and abilities to do! This is a great project for families to enjoy together! Meet in the church where assignments will be given.

Thank you to all who donated glass jars for our Christmas luminaries. We have more than 100 now and do not need any more donations at this time.

Pray For Our Military

For those of us who know someone in the military, St. Peter's has a prayer list posted. It is located in the main entrance to the church next to the cry room. There are forms available to fill out and return. These names will then be added to the list. Take advantage of this service that St. Peter's provides by giving our military loved ones and friends the prayer remembrance they need and deserve.

THANK YOU to all who save Box Tops For Education.

Campbell's Soup is no longer doing their cash refund program but we still collect Box Tops and Tyson coupons. We are also collecting pop tabs which we give to Ronald McDonald House in Columbus at Nationwide Children's Hospital. We have a couple of families who are benefitting from this service while their children are undergoing cancer treatments at Nationwide Children's. Box Tops, Tyson labels and pop tabs can be turned in to the school offices or Parish Center. Thank you!

Make sure to pick up your 2017 Herlihy-Chambers Funeral Home calendar after all Masses this weekend.

DID YOU KNOW...



Alpha and Omega: The first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. They appear together on the Paschal candle and signify the eternal presence of Jesus Christ. He is the beginning and the end.



Chi Rho: An ancient symbol for Christ. X (chi) and P (rho) are the first two letters in the Greek word for "Christ."



Triquetra: This interlocking symbol is an early Christian symbol of the Blessed Trinity. Its interwoven arc of equal length signify the equality of the Persons of the Trinity - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. The continuity of the form recalls the unity in the Trinity.

~ From the book: Catholic Quick View. 2nd edition. 2008

PATRON SAINTS & THEIR CAUSES

Bakers: Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, (November 17); Saint Nicholas of Myra, (December 6.)

Parenthood: St. Rita of Cascia, (May 22.)

Race Relations: St. Martin de Porres, (November 3.)

Catholic Schools: St. Thomas Aquinas (January 28.)

Homeless: St. Benedict, (July 11); Joseph Labre (April 17.)

SUNDAY OFFERING



Week of
11/26/16 - 12/02/16

Sunday Collection.....	\$17,771
Total Sunday Collection To Date.....	\$364,005
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date.....	<u>\$365,068</u>
Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit).....	(\$1,063)
School Collection.....	\$1,856
Total School Collection To Date.....	\$68,587
Total Budgeted School Collection To Date.....	<u>\$88,846</u>
School Collection Surplus/(Deficit).....	(\$20,260)



Capital Campaign *Financial Update*

As of October 31, 2016:

Total Pledged \$2,508,945.00

Amount needed to reach challenge goal: \$491,055.00

Payments to Date: \$1,096,958.00

Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

St. Peter's: Confession times at St. Peter are on Saturdays from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Tri-Parish Communal Penance Service at St. Mary's, Mansfield, Thursday, December 15, 5:00 p.m.

Deanery Advent Penance Services

Galion St. Joseph, Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 p.m.

Bucyrus, Holy Trinity, Wed., December 21, 6:30 p.m.

Crestline, St. Joseph and Bethlehem, Sacred Heart, in the Church at St. Joseph Parish, Sun., Dec. 18, 3:00 p.m.

Mansfield St. Mary, Thursday, Dec. 22 at 6:30 p.m.

Lexington, Resurrection, Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 6:30 p.m.

Shelby, Most Pure Heart of Mary, Sun., Dec. 11, 3-5 p.m.

Christmas Season Mass Schedule - St. Peter's

Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24, 2016:

4:00 p.m. (in Church)

4:00 p.m. (held in High School (Frye) Auditorium)

7:00 p.m. (in Church) (Incense will be used)

12:00 Midnight - in Church (Music begins at 11:30 p.m. Incense will be used)

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25, 2016:

8:00 a.m. - In Church

10:00 a.m. - (in Church - Incense will be used)

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Saturday, December 31, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 1, 2017 at 7:30; 9:30; and 11:30 a.m.

**ADVERTISER
of the week**

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Manfield, Ohio

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SCHOOL NEWS

VISIT OUR SCHOOL ANY DAY
WITH APPOINTMENT



Parents, if you are considering St. Peter's School for your child's education, you are invited to spend part of a school day here at St. Peter's with your child to experience all the activities and classroom instruction that take place.

Please call the school administrators to arrange a visit that is convenient for you and your child.

Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer-Montessori Director [419-524-3351](tel:419-524-3351);
Mrs. Madalyn Bauer-Elementary Principal [419-524-3351](tel:419-524-3351);

Mr. Mike Wasiniak-High School & Jr. High Principal [419-524-0979](tel:419-524-0979).

St. Peter School admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs and athletic and other school-administered programs.

A huge "Thanks" to all who supported our successful Christmas Classic this year. To all who bought, baked, attended or helped in *any* way - we sincerely appreciate your support of this great fundraiser which helps Parent's Club do all those extra enriching opportunities for our school children.

Special thanks to Brenda and her cafeteria crew who graciously accommodate our efforts, the school staff and Mr. Joe Clark and his musical students who so beautifully entertained us. So many make this effort special and bring our community together for a greater good.

Special "Thank you" to all those who baked and made so many kieffels, poticas and butter rings. You worked so hard. You are appreciated very much! You continuously inspire me with your dedication, generosity and kindness. May God bless you always. ~ Ann Brown

GIVING TREE BLESSINGS

All Giving Tree gifts should be returned by today, December 11 no later than the 11:30 a.m. Mass. Thank you for all the love, joy and kindness given to the families and individuals supported by our Parish Giving Tree.

Your thoughtfulness and generosity have given those who have been sponsored true Christmas joy, eased their burdens and shown them love from their fellow neighbor.

May the Lord bless you all for your kindness to our neighbors. Have a wonderful and blessed Christmas!



Attention Parish Lectors, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and all other interested parishioners:

The Adult Faith Formation program will offer a seven week course on *The Spiritual Meaning of the Liturgy*. This course is intended to enhance your understanding of the elements of our liturgy. It will be offered on Tuesday afternoons and again on Tuesday evenings in January and early February. If you are interested in registering for this course please call Bill Johnson, Parish Director of Liturgy, at 419-524-2572 ext. 2113 for details. This is going to be an exceptional course based on the book by the same title by Fr. Goffredo Boselli. This course will deepen your spiritual experience in our liturgy and will be well worth your time.

THE LOOK OF LOVE

What does love look like?
It has feet to go to the poor and needy.
It has eyes to see misery and want.
It has ears to hear
the sighs and sorrows of others.

—St. Augustine

ANTICIPATING THE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS



No Room at the Inn? Mary and Joseph brought their firstborn child into the world in a stable because there was no one to extend them hospitality.

We anticipate many visitors to our parish for Christmas Masses. Let us be sure to show them warm and welcoming hospitality in church by making room for all who come to worship with us! As in past years, *there is no "reserved seating."* Seats may only be "held" for late arriving family members **until the ushers start seating visitors.**

Parking lot safety: Please remember to lock car doors and keep valuables out of sight when you come for weekend Mass.

Also, please do NOT park in "emergency lanes," behind the priests' garage doors or the center aisle lanes in the church parking lot – it makes it impossible for rescue vehicles to help us!



Parishioners and students of Saint Peter's are planning to go to Washington D.C. this January to work towards ending abortion and protecting life from the moment of conception to natural death.

The journey begins on Thursday, January 26 to Sunday, January 29. We will be traveling by coach and there is, in addition to the March itself, a day of sight seeing available.

If you are an adult or high school student who is interested in attending please contact Elizabeth Wurm at wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org before November 15th. If you are younger than a high school student and are interested in attending you must have an adult accompany you.

Christmas Oratorio of Camille St. Saens

You are cordially invited to the St. Peter's Music Series performance of the famed Christmas Oratorio of Camille St. Saens TODAY Sunday, December 11 at 3:00 in the afternoon in St. Peter's Church.

Presented in collaboration with Mansfield's own **Mid-Ohio Opera Company**, the *Oratorio de Noel (Opus 12)* is one of the most famous and widely performed works in the Christmas season's choral repertoire. It truly will be one of the highlights of the Christmas Season in our area!

Performed by a chorus combining St. Peter's Traditional Choir with choirs from the First Congregational Church and the Ohio State University Mansfield Branch, the program will also feature soloists, **Heidi Kirschenheiter Vega, Abigail Harshbarger, Lori Turner, Joel Vega, and Patrick Clineage, with Dr. David Tovey** accompanying from the St. Peter's *Schantz Christ the King Organ*.

Admission is free and open to the public. A free-will offering will be accepted for the support of the Music Series. Please call [419-524-2572 Ext. 2113](tel:419-524-2572) for more information.

Make sure to invite your friends and family to this amazing program!

Psalm Bible Study



We hear the Psalms read or sung at every Mass between the first and second readings, but do we understand their significance?

The Psalms are at the heart of the Bible. They are prayers from God that help us learn to pray. The Holy Spirit inspired them. Israel sang them. Christ himself prayed them, as did our blessed Mother. Their words captivate the imagination and draw us into a deeply personal encounter with God. Discover a rich school of prayer for all life's circumstances.

Join us for *Psalms: The School of Prayer* beginning January 12, 2017 and continuing every Thursday for eleven weeks until March 23, 2017. We meet in Assisi Hall from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm. For more information and to register for the workbook, call Kelly Cropp at [419-884-8151](tel:419-884-8151).



RECYCLING

January 13, 2016

Franciscan Activity Center parking lot.
10-11 am / 2-4 pm



IMPORTANT: Please honor these drop off times. Do NOT leave your recyclables on the sidewalks or curbs. Thank you.

**BLUE BARRELS:
THIS WEEKEND**

Most Pure Heart of Mary Parish, 29 West St., Shelby Ohio will be hosting a Parish Mission on December 11th and 12th. The host, Kelly Croy, will be the speaker, artist and educator for our Advent Parish Mission. The best speakers are those who entertain, inspire and challenge. Kelly combines a great keynote message with a live art performance. He combines the performance with a powerful musical score and then brings the art to life with computer animation. It is a unique, powerful and entertaining experience for all. "Whether I am in the classroom, speaking on stage, writing, or creating art, my goal is to inspire people to live richer and fuller lives."

Join Fr. Chris Bazar's Holy Pilgrimage to The Vatican Jan. 30 — Feb 7, 2017: 7 nights in Rome, Italy, with a day trip to Assisi. Stay steps the Vatican and the Basilica of St. Peter's; experience a Papal Audience and Blessing from our Holy Father, visit the Sistine Chapel and Vatican Museum, Coliseum, Trevi Fountain, Piazza Navona, Pantheon, San Luigi dei Francesi, the Major Basilica's and much more. In Assisi, we'll explore the Medieval Mountain Town and Home of St. Francis, St. Clare and St. Gabriel. This trip is limited to those members of our diocese on a first-come basis. Contact Chris at Pinnacle Pilgrimages at 419-345-2512 or cdougherty@pinnacletourexperience.com.

Perpetuate The Gift: Support Our Priests' Retirement. Clergy vocations are the cornerstone of our Catholic Church and we are grateful for the service that our priests have given to their local parishes. In the United States, half of all the diocesan priests are expected to retire by 2019. Express your appreciation for those who have faithfully served in the Diocese of Toledo by making a gift to Perpetuate The Gift Appeal. Your gift benefits our diocesan priests and retired diocesan priests and your Parish. Once a priest retires he is responsible for his own personal expenses: medical, housing, car, clothing and food. All funds contributed between October 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016 help reduce the amount the parish contributes to the fund. A gift of cash or check can be sent to Perpetuate The Gift, PO Box 954, Toledo, OH 43697 or placed in the parish collection. A gift may also be made online at www.toledodiocese.org.

ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT SHRINE - The Carey Ecumenical Choir will present a concert of sacred Advent and Christmas music today, Sunday, December 11, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. The concert will be held at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation located at 315 Clay Street, Carey, Ohio. The Shrine Cafeteria will be open for dinner immediately following the concert. For more information, please contact the Shrine at [419-396-7107](tel:419-396-7107) or visit www.olcshrine.com or www.ourladyofconsolationparish.com.

A SEASON OF HOPE

Today we can bask in the imagery that the Mass readings offer us. In particular, Isaiah's vision of a parched land that blooms with abundant flowers holds a message for each of us. Too often we are just like that parched land. We can allow ourselves to become absorbed in the waves of consumerism that grip so many. We look for fulfillment in the things that money can buy. Unfortunately, this leaves us like parched land, thirsting for something that money can't buy. This holy season has much to offer to quench our thirsts. In a word, this season offers hope. We are told that those who are ransomed by God will know joy and gladness. For them, sorrow and mourning will be no more. Let us place our hope in these promises.

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

When the ties of affection and authority that bound Europe's Catholics unraveled in the sixteenth century, many cultures lost time-honored customs of faith. Some customs proved to be especially difficult for the reformers to wrest away from the people, especially those celebrated in the home. This week in Sweden, a country where the Catholic Church was disestablished four hundred years ago, a Catholic martyr from Sicily is the most beloved figure. St. Lucia, Lucy, is celebrated on December 13. The long-story-short is that Lucy was a Christian whose father wanted to marry her off to a pagan fellow, and she rejected her father's authority. To make an example of her, her father had her killed. In the course of the brutal martyrdom, Lucy lost her beautiful eyes, but her vision was miraculously restored. The candles worn today by the eldest daughter of the family are tokens of the fire that refused to harm the saint. So this patroness of light and clear vision is revered on the shortest, darkest days of the Nordic winter. Before the reform of the Gregorian calendar in the sixteenth century, December 13 was the winter solstice.

Today, young girls appear in the morning wearing lighted candles on their crowned heads (battery-operated now after many mishaps), and serve sweet rolls and coffee to everyone in the house. For the Swedes, who are not churchgoers, the "Lucias" are the official heralds of the holiday season and a sign of everyone's yearning for more light in this world. Europe once abounded with customs like this; the survival of this custom in Scandinavia is a sign of God's grace, and how fertile the soil is to receive the true message of Advent.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The barren deserts will rejoice and flower. Tired bodies will receive strength. Aching hearts will be made glad (Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10).

Psalms — Lord, come and save us (Psalm 146).

Second Reading — Be patient, for the coming of the Lord is as sure as the rain (James 5:7-10).

Gospel — Tell of what you hear and see: The blind regain their vision, the crippled their movement, the deaf their hearing (Matthew 11:2-11).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Common of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712
- Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-19, 23; Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday: Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday: Is 54:1-10; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-12a, 13b; Lk 7:24-30
- Friday: Is 56:1-3a, 6-8; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 7-8; Jn 5:33-36
- Saturday: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17
- Sunday: Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Advent Faith Opportunities:



This Advent, we are offering two new faith opportunities. The first is for our early risers! On the four Thursday mornings of Advent, we will be offering a **Men's and Women's Early Morning Bible Study**. It will take place from 6-7am before the morning daily Mass. The women will be studying "How to be Happy" with Matthew chapters 5-7 as the guide. The men will be studying "Joy to the World," which looks at the Christmas narratives from the beginning of Matthew and Luke's gospel. If you are interested in either the men's or women's study, please contact Lynne Lukach at lukach.lynne@myspartans.org or by dialing extension 2109 at the parish office.

On the four Friday mornings of Advent, Fr. Jeremy will be leading a discussion on the upcoming Sunday readings. It will last from 7-8am in the church. Everyone is invited. By spending time with the weekend readings ahead of time, it can be a wonderful way to make Sunday Mass come alive!

A Family Perspective: The question put to Jesus in today's gospel is also put to us today: "Are you the one?" Are you the one who will give guidance to the children in your life or must they look to TV sitcoms, films, videos and music lyrics for direction? Are you the one? Will you be the one? ~ by Bud Ozar



776400 **1200** bulletins

please

St. Peter Church

104 W First Street

Mansfield, OH 44902-2199

419-524-2572

Attn: Claudia/Cindy