

PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME!

Sunday, December 11 ♦ Third Sunday In Advent

9:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Cross
 11:00 a.m. Jeanette Rice (Warren & Carolyn Roberts)
 Is 61:1-2, 10-11; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6-8, 19-28

Monday, December 12 ♦ No Mass

Tuesday, December 13 ♦ St. Lucy

11:30 a.m. Martin J. O’Stroske, Jr.
 (Sr. Rith Ann Heider, OSF)

Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday, December 14 ♦ St. John of the Cross

11:30 a.m. Joe & Helen Boldizsar (Rosalie Jahn)
 Is 45:6-8, 18, 21-25; Lk 7:18-23

Thursday, December 15 ♦ Advent Weekday

11:30 a.m. Clifford & Laura D. Guerin
 (Laura M. Guerin)

Is 54:1-10; Lk 7:24-30

Friday, December 16 ♦ Advent Weekday

11:30 a.m. Margaret L. Scholl
 (Mrs. Rose Klott & Family)

Is 56:1-3, 6-8; Jn 5:33-36

Saturday, December 17 ♦ Late Advent Weekday

11:30 a.m. Deceased Members of the Amicon Family
 (Paul & Charlene Pardi)

Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

Sunday, December 18 ♦ Fourth Sunday in Advent

9:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Cross
 11:00 a.m. Marie Driscoll
 (Mary Alice & Larry Rea)

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

+ Please remember in your prayers our homebound parishioners, and those who are ill: Mary Bonner, Mary Cordesco, Marianne Garrison, Jestina Jones, Lauren Jones, Susan Luck, Ellen McMillen, Mary McNellis, Cathy Miller, Mary Montell, Charles Mooney, Bob Scholl, Marilyn Scott, Graham Sowers, Helen Violet, Elizabeth Wanamaker.

St. Lawrence Haven – December 18th

Attention, all our “Lil Larry” sandwich makers. The next opportunity to support St. Lawrence Haven is Sunday, December 18th, following the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Cum Christo Center.

THANKS!

DECEMBER 4, 2011 OFFERINGS

Designated Collections (Funds forwarded directly to the Diocese)	Offertory.....\$2,932.00
	Votives.....40.30
Mass Attendance	Eucharistic Vigil.....10.05
	Repair599.00
9:00 a.m. = 90	Less 5% tax (179.07)
11:00 a.m. = 100	Net to Parish: \$3,402.28

Advent Giving Tree

A “shout out” goes to those who took a tag last Sunday from the Advent Giving Tree. The families who will receive from your generosity will be very happy. There still are a few tags left, so if you have not taken a name yet, please consider doing so. Remember the gift (with name tag on top) needs to be back in church under the tree by Sunday, December 18th.

Liturgical Ministers And Servers

Please check the list in the sacristy to sign up to serve as Lector, Eucharistic Minister and Server for the Christmas Masses. We appreciate your generosity.



We need YOU this Christmas!

We have lost some members to job relocation, illness and college graduation recently and we’d like you to consider helping us to fill in our ranks. Please grant yourself the benefit of choral singing this coming Advent/Christmas season. You’ll be glad you did! Contact Kelly Doman for more information. We practice every Sunday following the 11:00 a.m. Mass through December 18th. No experience necessary!!

Other Benefits of singing in the choir include:

- FREE vocal training for all during rehearsal;
- Fun, laughter and camaraderie with other singers;
- Satisfaction of adding beauty to the liturgy at Holy Cross;
- Weekly exercise climbing the stairs to the balcony;
- And a guaranteed seat for the crowded 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass.

Christmas Flower Donations

Donations toward the altar flowers for the Christmas season in the memory of deceased family members or friends can be put in upcoming Sunday collections with the person’s name you wish to remember. A donation of \$10.00 is suggested. Please utilize the special envelopes available for this purpose.

Repair Fund Collection – Results

Thank you for the generosity and support of the Repair Fund collection last week. \$599.00 was contributed.

Religious Retirement Collection – Today

The second collection will be for Retirement Fund for Religious. There are more than 11,000 Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests who need skilled care or help with tasks of daily living. Please be generous.

THE WORD

Certain watchwords are associated with each season of the church year, almost becoming a motto. Advent’s is “Wake up.” It then leads to other words like “Watch,” “Wait,” and “Witness.” But every Third Sunday of Advent, we anticipate the coming Christmas season, whose key word is “Rejoice.” This Sunday was traditionally called *Gaudete* (“Rejoice”) Sunday. Priests continue to wear rose-colored vestments today, signaling joy.

Joy is not only for Christmas time and the occasional Sunday. I remember as an altar boy, before Vatican II, Mass began with the “prayers at the foot of the altar.” The priest would begin: “I will go up to the altar of God.” The server responded: “To god who gives joy to my youth,” or as some translations had it, “To God, my exceeding joy.”

It was a reminder that God is the source of all joy and that joy is one of the great gifts of God, one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. St. Paul reminds us that “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control” (see Galatians 5:22). Now there is a good list for Christmas giving. Tell your loved ones your Christmas gift this year will be to pray throughout the coming year that the Spirit will bring them one of these gifts.

John’s gift to the people who came out into the wilderness was to call them to prepare for the Lord, to give them a sense of heightened anticipation that the One coming to them would fill them with joy.

– from “Living the Word”

Special Parish Dates

Mark your calendars for the following important dates for the parish:

- 1) **Sunday, December 11, 2011 – Deanery Reconciliation Service at 4:00 p.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle.**
- 2) **Saturday, December 24, 2011 – Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 p.m.**
- 3) **Sunday, December 25, 2011 – Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 a.m.**
- 4) **Sunday, January 1, 2011 – The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God – Open House following each Mass.**

Deanery Reconciliation Service – Today!

You are encouraged to participate in our Deanery Reconciliation/Penance Service at St. Thomas the Apostle, 2692 E. Fifth Avenue, at 4:00 p.m. **today**. There will be extra priests from our Deanery Churches to hear confessions. This is a good opportunity for us to pray together as a Deanery community.

Training Session

We need to “build up” our roster of Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors, so if you are interested in serving in either of these roles we have just the meeting for you! Mark your calendars for a training session on Tuesday, January 10, 2012, 6:00 p.m. and/or 7:00 p.m. More details will follow after the New Year. Please contact Sr. Anne at the Rectory Office (614-224-3416).

Nine-Day Novena – Before Christmas!

Come and join us in celebrating the Nine-Day Novena in preparation for Christmas! The Nine-Day Novena will start on Thursday, December 15, 2011 and will end on Friday, December 23. Mass is at 7:30 p.m. at Holy Cross. Our priest presider is Fr. Ramon Owera, CFIC.

Mater Dei Academy’s Christmas Play

The Mater Dei Academy’s Christmas preparations are in full swing, with their traditional Christmas play to be performed on Wednesday, December 21st at 7:00 p.m. As part of the evening’s excitement, the annual raffle drawing will be held, and guests will have the chance to tour a school that has been teaching bedrock Catholic faith and outstanding academics for 41 years. Mater Dei Academy is located between James and Hamilton, one block north of Main Street, off Collingwood Avenue at 3695 Elm Street, Columbus 43213.

St. Gabriel Catholic Radio – AM 820

On December 17, 2011, ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC RADIO will move to AM 820 from 1580 AM. The new AM 820 signal is much stronger and will reach your parish both day and night! So, set AM 820 as your radio preset and enjoy inspirational Catholic programming 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Catholic Radio AM 820 bumper magnets and program guides are available by contacting St. Gabriel Radio at 614-459-4820.

† December 11, 2011 † Third Sunday of Advent	
Gathering Hymn	455 Come, O Long-Awaited Savior
Gloria	NONE
Readings	Missalette p.26
Psalm	My Soul Proclaims your greatness (M. Haugen: Luke 1)
Gospel Acclamation	Worship Aid Mass of St. Benedict
Preparation of Gifts	708 Word of God, Come Down on earth
Eucharistic Acclamations	Worship Aid Mass of St. Benedict
Communion Hymn	Choral meditation “ <i>Holy is His Name</i> ” ... <i>J.M. Talbot</i>
Closing Hymn	463 O Come, Divine Messiah