

**PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME!**

**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

**Monday, December 19 ♦ No Mass**

**Tuesday, December 20 ♦ Late Advent Weekday**

11:30 a.m. Lydia Greene (Fraternity of St. Dominic,  
 St. Catherine of Siena Chapter –  
 St. Patrick Church)

Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

**Wednesday, December 21 ♦ Late Advent Weekday**

11:30 a.m. Timothy Boldizar (Rosalie Jahn)  
 Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18; Lk 1:39-45

**Thursday, December 22 ♦ Late Advent Weekday**

11:30 a.m. Tom Terry (Patty Stover & Dayna Toliver)  
 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

**Friday, December 23 ♦ Late Advent Weekday**

11:30 a.m. Martha Walsh (Walsh & Burkey Family)  
 Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

**Saturday, December 24 ♦ Vigil Of Christmas**

4:00 p.m. Chris, Luke & Ryan Morbitzer  
 (Betty & Dick Morbitzer)

Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

**Sunday, December 25 ♦ Nativity of the Lord/Christmas**

10:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Cross  
 Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

**+ Please remember in your prayers** our home-bound 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 – Today!**

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



**Advent Giving Tree**

**This is the last call to drop off your gift (name tag on top) TODAY for the Advent Giving Tree!!**

**Religious Retirement Collection Results**

– from Sr. Anne

I would like to thank your generous contributions of \$943.00 to the Retirement Fund for Religious. Our Congregation is one of the many that receives help from this collection and we are deeply appreciative.

**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.

**Sunday School News**

There will be NO Sunday School on December 25 or January 1.  
 THANKS! – Debi

**Parking for Christmas Eve**

Extra parking is available during Christmas Eve Mass at PERS garage, just north of the Rectory (corner of 5th and Town Streets). We have made arrangements for you to enter from the 5th Street entrance for your convenience.

**Diocesan Charities Collection**

A second collection will be taken for the Diocesan Charities during the Christmas Masses. This collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs, directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations, including J.O.I.N., St. Stephen’s Community House, Catholic Social Services, St. Lawrence Haven, St. Vincent Family Center and St. Vincent de Paul Society.

**“Catholicism”**

Fr. Robert Barron’s presents this great series which positively portrays the Catholic faith. Please consider tuning in and sharing this with your family and friends. You can view trailer at <http://www.wordonfire.org/WOF-TV/WGN-Videos/Watch-CATHOLICISM-Series-Trailer.aspx>. The first four episodes of the series will be airing on WOSU-TV on December 18, from 3:00-7:00 p.m.

**THANKS!**

**DECEMBER 11, 2011 OFFERINGS**

**Designated Collections**

(Funds forwarded directly to the Diocese)  
 Religious Retire. = \$943.00

**Mass Attendance**

9:00 a.m. = 86  
 11:00 a.m. = 122

Offertory.....	\$1,910.00
Votives.....	59.62
Immaculate Conception .	728.00
Repair .....	206.00
Less 5% tax .....	(145.18)
<b>Net to Parish:</b>	<b>\$2,758.44</b>

## THE WORD

In today's first reading, King David is settled in his cedar palace, no upcoming battles on the horizon, feeling quite content. Glass of wine in hand, chatting with Nathan, the prophet, about how good life is, when he gets this inspiration: "God should have a house! Certainly more than that old tent we have been dragging around...and I will build it!" Nathan approves.

But that night, God weighs in: "Tell David, 'Thanks, but no thanks. I like the tent.'" We don't know why God said no to David. But it seems that God wanted to make clear not only to who was building God's dwelling place, but also who really was in charge of everything. God was the kingdom builder and God chose to work with very simple material, like a tent. But this was nothing compared to God's decision a millennium later, on the day when the angel Gabriel was sent to a town of Galilee called Nazareth.

God's plan from the beginning was to take up residence among us, closer than any building could be, whether it was as magnificent as Solomon's temple or as humble as the simplest parish church. What God intended was to dwell with us as one of us, taking on human flesh and blood. And in the fullness of time, God came asking if one of us would be willing. We don't know how long it took for Mary to answer. We only remember the important thing: she said "yes."

from "Living the Word"

✠ **December 18, 2011** ✠  
**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

Gathering Hymn	<b>456</b>	People, Look East
Gloria	<b>NONE</b>	
Readings	<b>Missalette p 32</b>	
Psalm	<b>Missalette p 33</b>	Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.
Gospel Acclamation	<b>Worship Aid</b>	Mass of St. Benedict
Preparation of Gifts	<b>978</b>	O Sanctissima
Eucharistic Acclamations	<b>Worship Aid</b>	Mass of St. Benedict
Communion Hymn	<b>652</b>	Taste and See
Closing Hymn	<b>462</b>	O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

## Special Parish Dates

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

- 1) **Saturday, December 24, 2011 –**  
**Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 p.m.**
- 2) **Sunday, December 25, 2011 –**  
**Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 a.m.**
- 3) **Sunday, January 1, 2012 –**  
**The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God–**  
**Open House following each Mass.**

## 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-Days Christmas Novena – Continues!

Come and join us in celebrating the last six days of the Nine-Days Novena in preparation for Christmas! This Novena started 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.

## St. Gabriel Catholic Radio – AM 820

Effective December 20, 2011, ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC RADIO will move to AM 820 from 1580 AM. The new AM 820 signal is much stronger and now reaches 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.

## St. Dominic's 30th Annual Concert

The St. Dominic Traditional Choir will celebrate their 30th Annual Christmas Concert today at 5:00 p.m. at 453 N. 20th Street, Columbus, OH. This event will feature the St. Dominic Youth Choir and the Joy Inspirational Dance Ministry. A freewill offering will be taken. Free and open to the public. For any further information, please contact the Church Office at 614-252-4913.

## Landings: Welcoming Inactive Catholics

Landings, a ministry of the Paulist Fathers and St. Thomas More Newman Center's Reconciliation Team, is an eight-week program geared toward welcoming returning and inactive Catholics. In this program, a group of active Catholics, some of whom are "returnees" themselves, join with participants to share and explore their faith together. A new session of Landings will begin Tuesday, January 10, at the Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Avenue, Columbus. For more information, please contact Ed Orazen at (614) 313-7801.