

**PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME!**

**Sunday, December 16 ♦ Third Sunday of Advent**

9:00 a.m. Paul & Betty Morbitzer (Family)  
 11:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Cross  
 Zep 3:14-18; Phil 4:4-7; Lk 3:10-18

**Monday, December 17 ♦ No Mass**

**Tuesday, December 18 ♦ Late Advent Weekday**

11:30 a.m. Bonnie J. Henry (Ben & Dora & Child Noah)  
 Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25

**Wednesday, December 19 ♦ Late Advent Weekday**

11:30 a.m. Mary Lou Messmer  
 (MaryEllen & John Logan)  
 Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25; Lk 1:5-25

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

10:00 a.m. Patrick Meers (Helen Meers)  
 Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38

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

11:30 a.m. Emma Welch (Kathy Sako & Tim Brown)  
 Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18; Lk 1:39-45

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

11:30 a.m. Joe Huntzinger (Kurai Muccheche)  
 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

**Sunday, December 23 ♦ Fourth Sunday of Advent**

9:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Cross  
 11:00 a.m. Special Intention for Sue Haninger  
 (Glenn Haninger)  
 Mi 5:1-4; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

**+ Please remember in your prayers** our homebound parishioners, and those who are ill: Jodi Elgin, Sandra Hilbert, Elizabeth and Robert Hackett, Jestina Jones, Lauren Jones, Susan Luck, Ellen McMillen, Mary McNellis, Cathy Miller, Mary Montell, Bob Scholl, Marilyn Scott, Jeanne Sharp, Graham Sowers, Helen Violet, Elizabeth Wanamaker.

**Support to St. Lawrence Haven January 20**

Attention, all our "Lil Larry" sandwich makers. The next opportunity to support St. Lawrence Haven is Sunday, January 20, following the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

<b>THANKS!</b>	
<b>DECEMBER 9, 2012 OFFERINGS</b>	
<b>Designated Collections</b> (Funds forwarded directly to the Diocese) Religious Retirement = \$848.92	Offertory ..... \$1,981.00 Votives ..... \$ 34.00 Immac. Conc.....\$ 765.48 Repair Fund.....\$ 70.00 Less 5% tax .....(\$ 142.52)
<b>Mass Attendance</b> 9:00 a.m. = 106 11:00 a.m. = 99	<b>Net to Parish: .....\$2,707.96</b>



**New Parishioners**

We are pleased to welcome the following who have recently registered in the parish:

- Mr. Sean Brugger
- Mr. & Mrs. Jay (Sara) Cook
- Mr. & Mrs. John (Heather) Jahn
- Ms. Jessica Syverson

**Advent Giving Tree**

This is a reminder 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 \$848.92 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 23rd or 30th. THANKS! –Debi

**We need YOU this Christmas! Starting at noon!**

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. No experience necessary!!

Benefits of singing in the choir include: FREE vocal training for all during rehearsal; Seasonal stress relief by repeatedly taking deep singing breaths; Fun, laughter and camaraderie with other singers; Satisfaction of adding beauty to the liturgy at Holy Cross; Pride in giving of your time/talent in stewardship to the Church; Weekly exercise as you climb the stairs to the balcony; AND a guaranteed seat for the crowded 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass.

The job is easy, the time commitment minimal and the rewards are many. We practice today after the 11:00 a.m. Mass and will continue to do so through December 23rd. Please grant yourself the benefit of choral singing this Advent/Christmas season. You'll be glad you did! Contact Kelly Doman for more information.

# THE WORD

St. Paul’s letters always offer practical advice, flowing from whatever particular teaching he offers. Today’s second reading contains a series of suggestions on how to live joyfully in Christ. They can be heard as independent statements. But consider Paul’s words as offering a program for “rejoicing in the Lord always.”

First, he advises, “Let your kindness be known to all.” This advice reminds me of a bumper sticker: “Commit random acts of kindness.” In today’s Gospel, John the Baptist’s call for repentance offers some concrete forms of living kindly. “If you have two cloaks, share one with someone who has none,” he says to the crowds. He then advises tax collectors not to use their office to gouge the people, and he advises soldiers not to bully or blackmail.

Paul’s second “step” calls us to keep aware that the Lord is near. Our God does not abandon us, even though we have times we might not feel God’s presence. Remember the words of the risen Lord: “I will be with you always, even to the end of time” (Matthew 28:20).

Paul’s third word advises us how to keep aware of Christ by turning to him whenever anxiety threatens to overwhelm us, and uniting our prayers with his as we make our requests known to the Father. When this is done, steps four and five follow, when peace will “guard your hearts and minds,” and out of this peace joy will flow as a gift of the Spirit.

from “Living the Word”

## Special Parish Dates

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

- 1) **Sunday, December 16, 2012 – Deanery Reconciliation Service at St. Dominic, 453 N. 20th Street, 3:00 p.m.**
- 2) **Monday, December 24, 2012 – Christmas Eve Mass at 4:00 p.m. – Children’s Choir at 3:30 p.m.**
- 3) **Tuesday, December 25, 2012 – Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 a.m.**
- 4) **Tuesday, January 1, 2013 – Solemnity of Mary, Holy Day of Obligation – Mass at 11:30 a.m.**
- 5) **Sunday, January 6, 2013 – The Epiphany of the Lord, Open House in the Rectory following each Mass.**

### Deanery Reconciliation Service Today!

You are encouraged to participate in our Deanery Reconciliation/Penance Service at St. Dominic, 453 N. 20th Street, Columbus, **today**, at 3:00 p.m. 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.

### Blue Christmas Mass

St. Thomas More Newman Center will offer Blue Christmas Mass at 8:00 p.m. on December 24. This Christmas Eve Mass is intended especially for people who may not feel joyful during the holiday season or who may be experiencing life challenges. The differences between Blue Christmas and other Christmas Eve liturgies are small but poignant. A clear statement of welcome is offered at the beginning of the Mass and the homily is geared towards the specific audience; the music and entire tone of Blue Christmas is quiet and reflective. If you know of anyone who may benefit from attending, please invite them to join us. While this is a Roman Catholic Mass, we welcome all who are seeking a place of comfort and healing. For more information, please contact Becca Bass at [rbass@buckeyecatholic.com](mailto:rbass@buckeyecatholic.com) or 291-4674, ext. 101.

### 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 & St. Vincent de Paul Society.

### CHRIST IN YOUR MARRIAGE

Marriage is a sacrament – a sign of Christ’s presence in the world – and a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend can help you enhance that presence in your home and in the world. The next two weekends are in the new year on February 22-24 and April 19-21, both in central Ohio. For more information or to register, contact Paul & Marilou Clouse at [www.wmecolumbus.org](http://www.wmecolumbus.org) or 740-746-9003.

### December 16, 2012 Third Sunday of Advent

Opening Hymn	<b>461</b> – Awake, Awake, and Greet the New Morn
Gloria	<b>NONE</b>
Readings	<b>Missalette p 28</b>
Responsorial Psalm	<b>Missalette p 29</b> – Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.
Gospel Acclamation	<b>Missalette</b>
Preparation of Gifts	<b>463</b> – O Come, Divine Messiah
Eucharistic Acclamations	<b>Worship Aid</b> – Community Mass
Communion Hymn	<b>652</b> – Taste and See
Closing Hymn	<b>456</b> – People, Look East