

PLEASE TAKE THIS BULLETIN HOME!

Sunday, December 9 ♦ Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Parishioners of Holy Cross
 11:00a.m. Special Intention for Sue Haninger
 (Glenn Haninger)

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

Monday, December 10 ♦ No Mass

Tuesday, December 11 ♦ Advent Weekday

11:30 a.m. Joe Huntzinger (Al Roehrenbeck)
 Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14

Wednesday, December 12 ♦ Our Lady of Guadalupe

11:30 a.m. Patrick J. Meers (Paul & Suzanne Butler)
 Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19, 12:1-6, 10;
 Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

Thursday, December 13 ♦ St. Lucy

10:00 a.m. John Schultheis (Al Roehrenbeck)
 Is 41:13-20; Mt 11:11-15

Friday, December 14 ♦ St. John the Cross

11:30 a.m. Mary Lou Messmer (Al Roehrenbeck)
 Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19

Saturday, December 15 ♦ Advent Weekday

11:30 a.m. Joe Huntzinger (Kurai Muccheche)
 Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9, 10-13

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

+ 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 – Today!

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

THANKS!		
DECEMBER 2, 2012 OFFERINGS		
Designated Collections (Funds forwarded directly to the Diocese)	Offertory	\$ 2,250.01
	Votives	\$ 42.50
	Repair Fund	\$ 616.00
Mass Attendance	Less 5% Diocese tax	(\$ 145.43)
9:00 a.m. = 73		
11:00 a.m. = 114	Net to Parish:	\$ 2,763.08

Sympathy and Prayers

Mary Lou Messmer, parishioner, died last week. Please keep her and the family in your prayers.

Repair Fund Collection Results

Thank you for the generosity and support of the Repair Fund collection held last week. \$616.00 was contributed.

Religious Retirement Collection Today!

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



ADVENT GIVING TREE

We are helping some needy families this Christmas by purchasing gifts for their children. If you would like to participate in this Christmas giving, please take a tag off the tree located in the back of church and purchase the item that is written on the tag. Please return the gift(s) to church on or before Sunday, December 16th, with the tag on top of the gift so we know to whom it goes. In the spirit of Christmas giving, we thank you.

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.

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 coming Advent/Christmas season. You’ll be glad you did! Contact Kelly Doman for more information.

THE WORD

Getting “dressed up” does not seem to happen so much these days. No matter where you go, garb tends to be casual--funerals and weddings excepted (usually). Jeans have replaced the suit, T-shirts and crew necks stand in for the traditional shirt and tie, and sneakers sub for dress shoes. Gone are most occasions when getting dressed up was *de rigueur*.

Today’s readings are as much a “dress-up” call as a wake-up call. Baruch calls on Jerusalem to dress up, replacing her robe of mourning and misery and putting on the splendor of glory: the cloak of justice and the headgear of glory. Her children are returning from exile, “borne aloft in glory on royal thrones.” God will see to arranging the rest of creation: mountains made low, gorges filled in, fragrant trees filling the air with their scent.

And John the Baptist is calling on the children of Israel to dress up their inner selves by undergoing a baptism of repentance, receiving God’s forgiveness of their sins, and thereby providing God a highway into their hearts, a straight path with no obstacles impeding God’s entry in glory. Then, God will dress them with salvation and fulness of life.

Paul’s words bring it home. Advent is a time to prepare for the great feast of God’s incarnate love. God, made visible in Jesus Christ, at work in us since the day we were baptized in Christ, continues to come today, bringing God’s work one step closer to completion.

from “Living the Word”

December 9, 2012 Second Sunday of Advent

Opening Hymn	467 – On Jordan’s Bank
Gloria	NONE
Readings	Missalette p. 23
Responsorial Psalm	Missalette p. 24 The Lord, the Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.
Gospel Acclamation	Missalette
Preparation of Gifts	708 – Word of God, Come Down on Earth
Eucharistic Acclamations	Worship Aid – Community Mass
Communion Hymn	647 – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
Closing Hymn	455 – Come, O Long- Awaited Savior

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.
- 3) **Tuesday, December 25, 2012** – Christmas Day Mass at 10:00 a.m.
- 4) **Sunday, January 6, 2013** – The Epiphany of the Lord, Open House in the Rectory following each Mass.

Year Of Faith

In this Year of Faith, we are invited to grow more deeply in the precious gift of faith, to renew our conviction, and profess the faith in fullness. This also means we are invited to put our faith into action through love of neighbor. In his apostolic letter on the Year of Faith, *Porta Fidei*, Pope Benedict XVI beautifully writes about the important link between faith and charity:

Indeed, many Christians dedicate their lives with love to those who are lonely, marginalized or excluded, as to those who are the first with a claim on our attention and the most important for us to support, because it is in them that the reflection of Christ’s own face is seen. Through faith, we can recognize the face of the risen Lord in those who ask for our love. “As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me” (Mt 25:40). These words are a warning that must not be forgotten and a perennial invitation to return the love by which he takes care of us. It is faith that enables us to recognize Christ and it is His love that impels us to assist Him whenever he becomes our neighbour along the journey of life.

Silent Retreat – Women

What better time than Lent to join in the Holy Father’s “summons to an authentic and renewed conversion to the Lord” during this Year of Faith? The Catholic Laywomen’s Retreat League invites the women of the diocese to a SILENT retreat March 1, 2 and 3, 2013, at St. Therese’s Retreat Center, 5277 E. Broad Street, Columbus. The retreat begins Friday evening and ends Sunday, at 12:00 noon. Fr. Dan Dury, Parochial Vicar at the Perry County Consortium of Catholic Parishes in Perry County, OH, will be the Retreat Master. His theme will be “Mary the Mother of God, the Model for Women.”

The retreat fee is \$125.00 and assistance is available for those who need it. To request a registration form and for more information, please contact Sharon Gehrlich, CLRL Secretary, at retreatleague@gmail.com or at 614-882-1946. Space is limited and fills quickly. DEADLINE IS JANUARY 15, 2013.