

First Sunday of Advent

Schedule of Masses, Services and Devotions

November 28 – December 6, 2009

Weekend Masses:

STM

Saturday Nov 28 Vigil: First Sunday of Advent
4:00pm **Nathan Evans Birthday Memorial**
by Mom, Dad & John Michael

Sunday Nov 29 First Sunday of Advent
STM 8:00am **Clara Herbel** by Chase Family
Pro-Populo

SFC 11:00am **Mst. Sgt. Gerald W. Allds** by Betty Allds & Family

Weekday Mass with Morning Prayer:

SFC HALL

Monday Nov 30 St. Andrew, apostle
8:00am **Priscilla Hotchkiss** by daughter, Grace

Tuesday Dec 1 Advent Weekday
7:00pm **John Jasinski** by Wife & Family

SFC

Wed. Dec 2 Advent Weekday
5:00pm **James & Angeline Armeni** by Family
CDofA 90th Anniversary

SFC HALL

Thursday Dec 3 St. Francis Xavier, priest
8:00am **Virginia Bagnall** by Axel & Eleanor Johnson

Friday Dec 4 St. John of Damascus, priest & doctor
9:00am **All Souls**

Weekend Masses:

STM

Saturday Dec 5 Vigil: Second Sunday of Advent
4:00pm **Betty Zappitelli** by Shirley Mirabelli

Sunday Dec 6 Second Sunday of Advent
STM 8:00am **Harold Wiley** by Family

SFC 11:00am **Reverend Patrick Dempster**
Pro-Populo

A Parish Liturgical Environment Committee is being formed to care for the sacred spaces of both parish churches. Parishioners who have interest in church space appointments and/or have creative and artistic talent to share in these appointments, are asked to consider being a part of this committee. As the committee is being formed information on liturgical and sacred space will be studied. Please call Fr. Thomas or Sr. Barbara at the Parish Offices if you are interested or for more information. A formation meeting is being held 9am Saturday, December 5 at the Parish Offices.

Video of this weekend's Mass will be shown on the *Conneaut Cable Access Channel* at 3pm on Sunday and Wednesday afternoons.

Cara Mia Christmas party will be held at Crazy Dave's Restaurant on Thurs, Dec 3 at 5pm. Please bring a \$5 gift exchange and a donation for the Food Pantry. Members are invited to bring a guest.

Scripture Readings Dec 6, 2009

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

Sanctuary Candles

St. Mary Church

In Memory of:

Tom & Loretta Perkoski
by Family

St. Frances Cabrini Church

In Memory of:

James Armeni

by Family

Carmine Bertone

by daughter Marie & Family

For the Health & Welfare of:

Patricia Dubinsky

by Mom & Dad

This Week

Sunday, Nov 29

Retired Religious Fund Collection

Giving Tree

No CCD

Noon-12:30pm

Sacred Heart Gift Shop, SFC Hall

Monday, Nov 30

6:30-8pm

Bible Study, Breezeway

Wednesday, Dec 2

6:30-8:00pm

RCIA, Breezeway

6:00pm

CDofA Christmas Party, SFC Hall

Thursday, Dec 3

4:00pm

Prayer Shawl Ministry – Crochet
and Loom Lessons, Breezeway

Saturday, Dec 5

9:00am

Environment Committee

Parish Offices

10:00am

Prayer Shawl Ministry
Knitting Lessons, Breezeway

10am-Noon

Sacred Heart Gift Shop, SFC Hall

Sunday, Dec 6

8:30-12:30

KofC Buffet Breakfast/ Children's
Christmas Party-

Santa Arrives at Noon, SFC Hall

9:15-10:45

CCD

Noon-12:30pm

Sacred Heart Gift Shop, SFC Hall

Giving Tree

6:00pm

Advent Lessons & Carols, STM



Stewardship Update

Last Week

Budgeted \$6,250 Actual \$4,841.75 237 Env.

Fiscal Year 2009-2010

Budgeted \$131,250 Actual \$127,071.68 (\$4,178.32)

Thank you for your generosity.

Stewardship “Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life,” warns Jesus in today’s Gospel. Let us heed His warning and follow the advice of St. Paul, conducting ourselves in a way pleasing to God, overflowing with the love for one another.

Religious face rising costs. Data submitted to the National Religious Retirement Office reveals that the average annual cost of care for women and men religious age 70 and over has more than doubled since 1989. Current statistics put this figure at \$35,077 per person annually, with skilled care reaching nearly \$55,000. Your donation to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides critical support to religious institutes in meeting the escalating costs of elder care. Please pray for all religious and give generously to today’s second collection.

The Children’s Christmas Party with Santa will be Sun, Dec 6 at Noon at SFC Hall. Sign up sheets are in the back of the churches. Please make sure your child (ages 0-10) is signed up by *this* Tues, Dec 1 so Santa has plenty of gifts for everyone. The party will be during the KofC breakfast so please indicate on the sign-up sheet if your family will be eating breakfast.

Advent Lessons and Carols will be celebrated with the members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church on Sunday, December 6, 6:00pm at St. Mary Church. Refreshments will follow in St. Mary Hall. Please join us for an evening of prayer to celebrate the holy season of Advent. Monetary donations will be given to the Conneaut Area Ministerial Association (CAMA). Volunteer readers, hostesses and bakers are needed. Please call Sr. Barbara at 599-8570 if you are able to help out.

St. Joseph Cemetery: The cost of graves will increase to \$425 as of January 1, 2010. The Perpetual Care fee will remain at \$40.

Want to explore a possible vocation to the priesthood? Join Bishop George V. Murry, S.J. as Retreat Director at a **Vocations Retreat Opportunity** for men ages 18-40. The Retreat begins at 6:30pm, Fri, Dec 18 through noon Sun, Dec 20, 2009 at Loyola of the Lakes Retreat Center, Akron. In addition to the Bishop’s talks, plans include Mass, communal and private prayer and Eucharistic Adoration. A \$50 donation is requested, and there are scholarships available. All participants are asked to have a referral from a priest or religious. FMI or to register call the Vocation Office at 330-744-8451 or email Fr. Chris Luoni at cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.

OUR ‘FEATURED ADVERTISER’ THIS WEEK IS:

H & R BLOCK

Thank you for your support of our weekly bulletin!

Prayer Shawl Ministry – If you would like to learn to make a Prayer Shawl by knitting/crocheting or working on the loom, come to the free lessons in the Breezeway of the Parish Offices. For the loom and crocheting, lessons will be at 4pm Thurs, Dec. 3. Knitting lessons will be at 10am Sat, Dec 5. For supplies needed, call the Parish Offices, check the parish web site, or check the bulletin boards at the back of the church. *All are welcome!*

Attention All Seniors: Our Christmas Luncheon will be at 12 noon on Wed, Dec 16 at St. Frances Cabrini Hall. Reservations are due by Dec 14 for a catered lunch. Cost of the lunch is \$7. Call the Parish Offices at 599-8570 or Carol Tinney at 593-4569 to RSVP. Hope to see you there!

The Giving Trees still have tags to be taken! The St. Vincent de Paul Society selected 42 area children whose parents participated in the HALO Program through the Conneaut Human Resource Center. Keep in mind that all gifts need to be returned to the church by noon on December 13 and for those who are unable to take a gift tag please consider a cash donation. Together we can bring Christ to the children of Conneaut this Christmas.

News from the St. Vincent de Paul Society: Members of SVdP will be at the doors of the church next weekend to accept your tax deductible donation. Please make checks payable to: *St. Vincent de Paul Society*. In November, we received \$1,645.22 in donations, which allowed us to assist twelve families in need. In addition, we purchased food and supplies for “Mary’s Kitchen.” The December collection will be used to purchase food vouchers for the families who are a part of our “Giving Trees.” Thank you for your continued support of our efforts to help those in need in our community!

All high-school students are invited to a non-denominational **Bible Study** led by Nick Iarocci of St. Mary/St. Frances Cabrini Parish and Pastor Frank Gore of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church at 6:30am every Monday at Crazy Dave’s Sugar Bowl Restaurant. *Breakfast, including coffee and orange juice, is provided!*

Habitat for Humanity will be building a home in Conneaut and is looking for a “Partner Family” who will work with Habitat and purchase the home for their family. If you know someone who may be interested please have them call Habitat for Humanity, Ashtabula, 998-0400. Habitat will also be in need of volunteers to assist with the house building. If you are interested, please call the same number or stop in the Parish Offices to see a brochure.

Win a BMW convertible! Saints John & Paul is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a beautiful 2009 BMW 128i convertible. Tickets are a \$100 tax deductible donation to the Herald Foundation and can be purchased online at www.ssjpfundraiser.com or at either school office. For more info, call the school at 997-5531.

Blankets for Babies is celebrating its 20th year! Help us make it glorious! We are in need of quilt batting, acrylic yarns and cotton-poly blend fabrics appropriate for baby quilts. New and expectant mothers all over NE Ohio receive our creations and winter is fast approaching. FMI call Lake County Right to Life at 440-5257. Thank you!

Catholic Charities of Ashtabula County will be hosting the **4th Annual Men Who Cook** on Saturday, Jan 23, 2010 at the Bernard Vacca Mt. Carmel Community Center from 6:30-9:00pm. This event is based upon the premise that local men prepare their favorite dish for our guests and judges to sample. The proceeds benefit the Emergency Assistance Program at Catholic Charities. If you are interested in being a chef for the evening contact Lynn Zalewski at 992-2121. There are also sponsorship opportunities available if you would like to help sponsor the event. Tickets make great Christmas presents and will be on sale in mid December.

Pastoral Planning Council has open seats available. Please consider nominating a parishioner or self-nominate to serve the parish in this capacity. Please call the Parish Offices at 599-8570 for more information.

If you wish to **rent tables or chairs** from either church hall, please call the parish offices a week in advance. Rental forms must be completed and signed and the rental fee is to be paid before picking up these items.

Estranged from the Church? If you or someone you know feels estranged from the Catholic Church because of divorce or marital status, consider checking into what is needed to bring you back. It may be the annulment process or simple paperwork, depending on your personal situation. If you would like to talk with someone to find out what is needed please call Father Thomas or Sister Barbara at the Parish Offices, 599-8570.

If you would like a parishioner visited or Communion brought to a loved one who is homebound or confined to a hospital or nursing home, please call the Parish Offices. **The Patient Privacy Act** does not allow information to be given out to the Parish by any institutions. You must contact Father Thomas or the Parish Offices directly.

Labels for Education: Karing Ways Preschool is collecting Labels for Education. Points are earned for each label collected and can be turned in for free items for the school. Collection cans are located in the back of each church for you to donate your labels. **Eligible products include 26 varieties of condensed soups, microwaveable soups, Chunky, Healthy Request & Select soups, Franco American, Pepperidge Farm, Swanson, V8, Market Day & Prego products.**

Parish Participation – As good stewards of all that God has entrusted to us, we all should contribute in some way toward building up the Body and Blood of Christ at St. Mary/St. Frances Cabrini Parish. Our Parish offers many opportunities for service in liturgy, education, outreach and development. Please speak with Father Thomas or a member of the Staff to determine how your talents may best serve the Church.

Volunteers are needed to assist in various areas of the RCIA process as catechists, sponsors, greeters and hospitality, as well as for Pre-Catechumenate, Mystagogia and the Sunday dismissal rite. If you feel called to be of service this coming year, please call Father Thomas or Sister Barbara at 599-8570 FMI.

Catholic Charities of Ashtabula County clothing distribution site at Mother of Sorrows has expanded their hours to Tues from 1:30-4:45pm and Thurs from 9:30am-12 noon. The site accepts gently used clothing, outerwear, shoes, boots, towels, linens, small appliances, cookware, eating utensils, toiletries and other miscellaneous household items. Please make sure items are clean and in working condition. Drop offs are M-F, 9am-2pm or call 992-2121.

Reminder: There is handicapped seating available at the front of both churches. The front pews on both sides have been reserved for those with special needs. They are wheelchair accessible. A handicapped accessible restroom is available at St. Frances Cabrini Church.

Bishop George Murry reminds us that election Day is not the end point of our commitment to living out our faith in the political, social and economic world. He writes: “We should never be idle spectators to the political process. Rather, we are called as Catholics to be active citizens in the world.” Now that the elections are over consider joining the Diocese of Youngstown’s Legislative Advocacy Network to stay informed on the Church’s position on social issues.

FMI contact the Social Action Office at charities@youngstowndiocese.org, visit the website at www.catholiccharitiesyoungstown.org, or call 330-744-8451 ext. 320.

The **Catholic Exponent** invites you to check out its new, interactive Web site. Children may do word searches and have their artwork or original stories posted on the site. Young adults and teens are invited to send (anonymously, if desired) their questions about faith and morality. Take a poll and see how others responded. Read articles. Print out a recipe. Buy photos, a mug or a mousepad. Learn how the U.S. Bishops' Office for Film and Broadcasting rated a movie, DVD, video or TV show. Do all this at www.cathexpo.org.

Counseling Assistance Fund. The Church is committed to helping those who have been harmed as a result of sexual abuse by representatives of the church. According to mental health professionals, counseling is a vital component of the healing process for survivors of childhood sexual abuse. The Church recognizes, however, that there are people who are reluctant to contact the church for help. This new Counseling Assistance Fund can help these individuals. If you would like more information go to the website at www.counselingassistancefund.org

Posted in the back of each of the churches are lists of members of the Pastoral Planning Council, Finance Council and the Worship Committee. Feel free to approach any of the members with any questions or comments.

Due to the dwindling number of **Eucharistic ministers** we will schedule only 3 per Mass – one to distribute Holy Communion in the form of the bread and two ministers for the Sacred Species in the cups.

Bringing up the gifts at Mass: Parishioners who wish to bring up the gifts on the day they have a scheduled Mass intention for loved ones should inform the ushers when they enter church. If no one from the congregation informs the ushers before Mass, the general rule is that the usher will ask someone.

***Optional locations for Mass on Monday** are listed. These are the regularly scheduled Mass times for these parishes. However, *please call* the particular parish to confirm that there has not been a change in their weekly Mass schedule.

Villa Maria Community Center is offering a variety of retreats and programs at their location in Villa Maria PA. Details of these activities scheduled for the next months are posted on the church bulletin board.