

First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2013

MASSES OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2013

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00 am Paul Meyer (d)
11:00 am Ron Hilvers (d)
7:00 pm For the Parishioners

MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2013

- 8:00 am Dr. Bill Westendorf (L)
9:00 am Hahn Family (L)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2013

St. Francis Xavier, priest

- 8:00 am Kristy Westendorf (L)
9:00 am Dan Liming (d)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2013

- 8:00 am Phillip Kelly (d)
9:00 am Thomas Tierney (d)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2013

- 8:00 am Robert Bedel (d)
9:00 am Paul Louis (d)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2013

- 8:00 am Mary Vilardo (d)
9:00 am Lucile Watkins (d)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2013

Saint Ambrose, bishop, doctor of the Church

- 8:00 am Gresham Family
3pm – 4pm **CONFESSIONS**
4:30 pm John Griffin (d)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2013

- 9:00 am Joan Bedel (d)
11:00 am Victor F. Guethlein (d)
7:00 pm For the Parishioners

St. Lawrence is Thinking of You

ARCHBISHOP LEIBOLD HOME: Irma Hornback

BAYLEY PLACE: Ruth Jean Boschert

MERCY FRANCISCAN AT WEST PARK:

Eileen Meyers

TRIPLE CREEK RETIREMENT COMMUNITY:

Mary Catherine Dittrich

WESTERN HILLS RETIREMENT VILLAGE:

Donald Jostworth, Mildred Weber

PLACE YOUR AD IN OUR BULLETIN AND SUPPORT OUR PARISH!

American Gold buyers
We buy Gold, Silver and Platinum-Cash on the spot
471-GOLD (4653)
6317 Glenway Avenue

SERVERS

December 7/8

- 4:30 pm S Schulz, M Young
9:00 am J Perry, A Barkley
11:00 am T Dao, B Rouse
7:00 pm M Clayton, A Lorenzo-Hernandez

LECTORS

December 7/8

- 4:30 pm C Manegold
9:00 am J Gonnella
11:00 am C Lageman
7:00 pm S Aufermann

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

December 7/8

- 4:30 pm C Hoffman, L Kreimer,
M Rogers, S Sunderman
9:00 am M A Bedel, K Brannon,
C Schneider, M Schneider
11:00 am T Buttelwerth, N Lageman,
E Prater, C Sunderman
7:00 pm S Hoffman, M Thompson

Please be sure to stop in the sacristy before Mass to let
Father know you are present.

OFFERING

NOVEMBER 24, 2013 – NOT AVAILABLE AT
TIME OF PUBLICATION

Vocation View: To prepare for the coming of
the Messiah, we must increase our love for one
another, so that Our Lord will find a welcome guest
when He comes to visit. (1Thess. 3:13)

Thought for the Day: The spirit flows to you
and to all men from the heart of the God-man, Savior
of the world, but certainly, no worker was ever more
completely and profoundly penetrated by it than the
foster father of Jesus, who lived with Him in closest
intimacy and community of family life and work.
Thus, if you wish to be close to Christ, we again
today repeat, "Go to Joseph" (Gn 41:44)

Pope Pius XII

Rest in Peace: Please pray for the repose of the soul
of Hazel Nusselhub who died recently.

The Laurentian



Sunday workers: please report at 11:30

Tuesday workers: please report at 5:30

Parents of the students listed below are asked to work the following Bingo:

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1: J Behanan, I Harper, K Broadnax, A Landers

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3: A Nolasco, M Stewart, L Rodriguez, I Blake

SUNDAY: DECEMBER 8: N Blust, C Groppenbecker, B Dugan, M Ledonne

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10: S Eichhorn, D Perez-Gonzalez, K Bell, K Harper

from the
Pastor's desk 

Advent: An excellent help in your preparation for Christmas is to make a good confession and spend some time in Eucharistic Adoration. Eucharistic Adoration is every Thursday afternoon from 3-5pm, during which I hear confessions from about 3:20pm-3:50pm.

2014 Calendars are in the back of church this weekend. Please take one per family. Thank you to the St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus whose generous donation made it possible for us to have the calendars this year, again. Thank you, St. Lawrence Knights of Columbus.

Sister Helen Julia's Thanksgiving/Christmas holiday collection of food and monetary donations for families is now underway. I know that our St. Lawrence parishioners and friends will be generous so that Sister will be able to assist all those families who are in need. This collection will continue through December. Sister's Ministry envelopes are in the back of church and the food barrels are at the break (next to the pillars) for your food donations. By the way, I would like to thank

Sister for doing this wonderful work of charity for St. Lawrence, and I thank you for your efforts in helping to provide a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas for all those who request our help.

Father Angelo Caserta will celebrate his "95th" birthday on Thursday, December 5. Father was pastor here at St. Lawrence from 1970-1984 and is well known and loved by many of you and those parishioners who were members of St. Lawrence during his tenure as pastor. Father is still very active assisting at St. Boniface and St. Mary Parishes in Piqua, Ohio. He is the oldest priest in the Cincinnati Archdiocese.

Let's surprise Father Caserta with a "shower of birthday cards" from all of us who are so blessed to know him. Cards can be mailed to:

Father Angelo Caserta
P. O. Box 1636

Piqua, Ohio 45356-1636

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

This, year, The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception falls on a Sunday. But, Sunday December 8 is the Second Sunday of Advent. So, the celebration of the Immaculate Conception - the patronal feast day of the United States - is transferred to Monday, December 9. However, this year it is not a Holyday of Obligation. Masses on Monday, December 9 will be the normal daily Mass schedule: 8am and 9am.

Mary's Soldier's Needed: If you are interested in helping the Church by praying, visiting nursing homes and visiting shut-ins, please call Gayle Doyle at 471-9400 to find out more about joining the Legion of Mary.

Cincinnati Catholic Alumni Club invites single Catholics to its monthly first Friday home Mass and dinner celebration, on Friday, December, 6, 2013 at 7:30pm at 4072 Race Road, Cincinnati. For more information call Larry at 574-7161 or 520-1323



Baptism or Confirmation: If you have a child that you would like to have baptized or received into the Catholic Faith, or if you know of a Catholic adult or older child who would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation this coming March with the 7th and 8th graders, please contact Mrs. Aufermann at 921-4996 or aufermann@stlawrenceparish.org, or contact the rectory at 921-0328.

Sacred Heart Radio: “It is fit and proper that we should consecrate ourselves to His most Sacred Heart an act which is nothing else than an offering and a binding of oneself to Jesus Christ, seeing that whatever honor, veneration and love is given to this divine Heart is really and truly given to Christ Himself.” Pope Leo XIII.

Be more in tune with your Catholic faith by tuning into Sacred Heart Radio every day – 740AM or 89.5FM and online at www.sacredheartradio.com.

Celebrate the Season with Glenmary Home Missioners. A holiday concert will be performed by the Fillmore Wind Band featuring Nancy James on Sunday, December 8, 2013, at St. Monica-St. George Catholic Church, Clifton, to benefit the home mission ministry of Glenmary Home Missioners. The 2pm concert, featuring holiday music, is open to music lovers, young and old.

Glenmary Home Missioners is a Cincinnati based religious society of priests and brothers who, along with lay coworkers, establish a Catholic Church presence in Appalachia and the South. Concert-goers will have the opportunity to support the society’s mission and ministry through a freewill offering. For more information contact Jennifer Snedigar at 881-7498 or jsnedigar@glenmary.org.

Friends of CISE Raffle 33rd annual raffle will have a \$10,000 grand prize plus other cash awards and prizes. Tickets are \$100 each (only 1200 will be sold). For more information call Pete Bushelman at 821-7125 or the CISE office at 421-3131 ext. 2752

This raffle provides tuition assistance to low income students attending eight Catholic elementary schools: St. Boniface, Corryville Catholic, St. Francis de Sales, St. Francis Seraph, Holy Family, St. Joseph, St. Lawrence and Resurrection.

Most Rev. Dennis M. Schnurr, Archbishop will draw the winning tickets at a reception to be held on Saturday, December 14, 2013 at St. Peter in Chains Cathedral. Winners need not be present.

ST. LAWRENCE MONTHLY SOCIAL

We will have our December Social, which is our “Christmas” Social on WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4! This is always a day of great celebration for everyone. It begins with a delicious dinner:

FRIED CHICKEN
MASHED POTATOES/GRAVY
CALIFORNIA MEDLEY
TOSSED SALAD/DRESSINGS
ROLLS/BUTTER
HOLIDAY DESSERT
COFFEE/ICED TEA/SOFT DRINKS

Santa Claus telephoned me and said that he would make a special trip to St. Lawrence for this Social since I wrote and told him that everyone who comes to the Social had been “good” all year long! He will have a special treat for all who attend the Social. Dinner is served at NOON, followed by games of bingo and/or cards, split-the-pot, instants and a special Christmas raffle. All who celebrate December birthdays receive a special treat. Our “Cincinnati Belles” telephones all “Regulars” to verify that you will attend the December Social. We welcome all who wish to attend and it is only necessary to make a dinner reservation. All dinners counts must be telephoned to Sister Helen Julia at 244-7376 by Monday, December 2, so that a dinner count can be given to our caterer, A Taste of Class. Cost is \$10.00. Put on all of your Christmas finery and join us for our WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4th Social! You will enjoy the time of your lives!

“In Loving Memory” In January, 2014, a section on the **back of the bulletin** will be available to list a deceased love one’s name. The cost is \$52.00 per name and the name will remain on the bulletin for one year. This will defray the cost of printing our bulletin for the entire year. If interested, please clip and fill out the slip below and put it in the collection basket or mail to: St. Lawrence Church (Diocesan Publications will bill you.)

Loved One’s
Name _____

Your
Name _____

Phone Number _____

(DEADLINE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29)

The Laurentian

The Symbolism of the Advent Wreath

During the time of Advent, many people have an Advent wreath in their homes. While these decorations are certainly festive and add to the holiday spirit, there is also much symbolism in the wreath that people may not recognize.

First, the wreath is always in the form of a circle. Since a circle has no beginning and no end, it is a symbol of God, who is eternal and without beginning or end.

The Advent wreath is always made from evergreens. These branches, as the name indicates, are “ever green” – ever alive. They are symbolic of Christ, who died, but who is alive, never to die again. The evergreen branches also symbolize our soul’s immortality. Christ came into the world to give us never-ending life. Entwined around the circle of evergreens are red berries. They look like large red drops of blood, and symbolize the bloodshed by Christ for mankind. They remind us that Christ came into this world to die for us and redeem us. It is through the shedding of His blood that we have eternal life.

The wreath has four candles, three violet ones and one rose colored candle. These symbolize the four weeks of the Advent season, our time of preparation for Christmas. Each day, the Liturgy tells us of the Hebrew expectation of the Messiah in the Old Testament reading, and the Gospels begin to introduce us to the characters of the Christmas story. At the beginning of Advent a single candle is lit, but each week another candle is lit. As the light from the wreath increases each week as more candles are lit, the wreath reminds us that the birth of the Light of the World is coming closer. So may our souls grow brighter in their love for, and anticipation of, the Christ Child as this season of grace continues.

The color of the four candles also has significance. The violet candles have a penitential appearance, much as we find violet in the church during the penitential season of Lent. The violet is to remind us that Advent is a season of preparation in which we should be spiritually preparing our souls to receive Christ on Christmas. The single rose-colored candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent, which is called “Gaudete “ Sunday. “Gaudete” is the Latin word for “rejoice” and symbolizes an element of rejoicing in the midst of our penitential preparation, for the joy of Christmas is almost here. Mixing violet

Cont’d from last column

with white makes the rose color. It is almost as if the joy we celebrate at Christmas (symbolized by bright white) cannot contain itself during this penitential season (violet) and burst forth a bit into the Advent season. On Christmas, the four candles are replaced with white one – our time of preparation is over and we enter a time of great joy.

The Advent wreath should be placed in a prominent place in our church. Many families have a smaller Advent wreath in their homes. This both reminds families of the wreath in their church and serves as a reminder of their link to the parish church. The candles are lit the main meal of the day, with the new candle lit preferably at the main meal on Sunday, the first day of the week. Joining around the table for a meal should remind the family of the table of the Lord around which they gather each week to celebrate the Eucharistic – the meal of the Lord that nourishes our soul.

So, the next time you see or display an Advent wreath, don’t just think of it as a nice decoration. Remember all the symbolism it has for us as it reminds us of the need for spiritual preparation to fully share in the great joy of the birth of Christ, the Son of God who gave His life for us so that we might have eternal life.

Volunteer Tutors Needed: *Volunteer Tutors Needed* The Literacy Center West of Price Hill is in need of volunteer tutors to help aspiring young adults (17-21) prepare for their GED test. These dedicated individuals are best served in a one-on-one tutoring environment. The GED test is changing to a much more difficult format this January, so please come help these wonderful students better their lives by helping to educate them. If interested, please call Kyle Beck at 859-462-1767 or email kyle@litcenterwest.org.

