

# Second Sunday of Advent

December 7, 2014

## MASSES OF THE WEEK

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2014

- 9:00 am Rosary Altar Society  
11:00 am Victor F. Guethlein (d)  
7:00 pm For the Parishioners

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2014

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

- 8:30 am Special Intention N. L.  
11:00 am Mary Vilardo (d)  
7:00 pm Deacon George & Mil Kelly (d)

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2014

- 8:30 am Jake Wittich (d)

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2014

- 8:30 am Carol Louis (d)

### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014

- 8:30 am Dan Liming (d)  
3pm-5pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2014

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE (USA)

- 8:30 am Herb Gress (d)

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2014

Saint Lucy, Virgin, Martyr

- 8:30 am Priska Rieke  
3pm-4pm CONFESSIONS  
4:30 pm Deacon Jim Sunderman (d)

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2014

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:00 am Kenny Camp (d)  
11:00 am Jerry Schwager (d)  
7:00 pm For the Parishioners

St. Lawrence is Thinking of You

**ARCHBISHOP LEIBOLD HOME:** Irma Hornback

**BAYLEY PLACE:** Rita Brinker

**TRIPLE CREEK RETIREMENT COMMUNITY:**

Mary Catherine Dittrich

**WESTERN HILLS RETIREMENT VILLAGE:**

Donald Jostworth, Mildred Weber

**WEST PARK:** Ernestine Huber

## SERVERS

### December 13/14

- 4:30 pm M Niangane, M Damico  
9:00 am D Mittermeier, O Hand  
11:00 am I Blake, Y Morales  
7:00 pm E Sweet

## LECTORS

### December 13/14

- 4:30 pm G Rogers  
9:00 am J Gonnella  
11:00 am E Prater  
7:00 pm S Aufermann

## EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### December 13/14

- 4:30 pm B Hornback, L Kreimer,  
M Rogers, C Sunderman  
9:00 am J Brannon, K Brannon,  
C Schneider, M Schneider  
11:00 am S Blake, J Grimm,  
P T. Phan, R Weinheimer  
7:00 pm S Hoffman, MMatt Thompson

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

## OFFERING

NOVEMBER 23, 2014 \$7,008.30  
NOVEMBER 30, 2014 \$9,431.96

**Vocation View:** God calls us to proclaim the  
Good News. Share the Good News with others. Pray  
for the grace to be a faith filled witness of God's love.  
(Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11)

**Thought for the Day:** If we obtained the grace  
of God, none shall prevail against us, but we shall be  
stronger than all who oppose us.

St. John Chrysostom



**Rest in Peace:** Please pray for the repose of  
the soul of Donald Scola who died recently.

PLACE YOUR AD IN OUR BULLETIN AND  
SUPPORT OUR PARISH!

Warsaw Federal Savings & Loan Association  
3533 Warsaw Avenue  
244-6900  
6570 Gracely Drive  
941-7300  
www.warsawfederal.com

# Bingo

**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 7:** N Saylor, T Sellmeyer, K Shazier

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9:** A Smith, J Stephens, A Taylor

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14:** J Thrasher, S Toy, J Tucker

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16:** B Tucker, J Valesquez, A Velasquez-Solic

**Seton-Elder Performing Arts Series** was created in 1969 to showcase the musical talents of students from both schools. For more than 40 years, the Series has offered musical theatre, orchestral performances and vocal concerts to sold-out crowds.

This year's Christmas Concert will be held in the Seton Performance Hall on Saturday, December 13 at 7pm and Sunday, December 14 at 3pm. All tickets are \$8 for Saturday and Sunday.

**Lay Catholic Studies** at the Athenaeum campus and St. Ignatius will begin August, 2015. Is God calling you to something new? The Athenaeum Lay Pastoral Ministry Program helps equip busy adults for missionary discipleship, serving families, parishes and communities more effectively. Evening and Saturday classes fit into your work and family commitments. We offer graduate and non-degreed options in a supportive environment. Come and see how lay formation can enrich your life! For more information or a personal interview call 231-1200.

**Retirement Fund** helps senior religious. As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten our income, we appreciate more and more the help of the Retirement Fund. Your tax-deductible donation to the Retirement Fund for religious supports the day-to-day care of thousands of elder sisters, brothers and religious order priests. Please share in the care and give generously to next week's Retirement Fund collection. There is a special envelope in your packet of envelopes.

## from the Pastor's Desk

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Eucharistic Adoration is on Thursday, from 3pm-5pm. During Eucharistic Adoration, I hear confessions from about 3:15pm-3:45pm. By the way, an excellent help in your preparation for Christmas is to make a good confession and spend some time in Eucharistic Adoration.

**Christmas Masses:** Please make sure you see the Christmas Mass schedule on the enclosed insert in the Laurentian.

**2015 Calendars** are in the back of church. 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** Christmas holiday collection of food and monetary donations for families in need is 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. Thank you for helping Sister help the needy. And thanks to Sister Helen Julia.

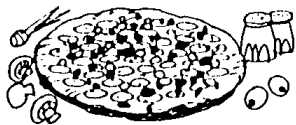
**Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception:** Monday, December 8 is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. It **IS** a **holyday of obligation** because it is the patronal feast for the United States. The obligation may be fulfilled by participating in Mass on Monday at 8:30am, 11am or 7pm. The Sunday evening Mass at 7pm fulfills only your Sunday obligation.

**No More Recycling:** The Abitibi Recycling Company from whom we received money for the school for the recycling of paper has gone out of business. Any of you who brought paper for the recycling bin, please do not do so anymore. The recycle bin will remain but it is now owned by Rumpke and we have to pay for its use. According to the new contract with Rumpke, **the recycle bin is for school use only.**

### *Bus Pilgrimage to the March for Life 2015:*

The west side parishes will once again take a bus pilgrimage to the “March for Life” in Washington D.C., January 21-23, 2015. The cost is very reasonable, and more importantly you will have an opportunity to take a public stand for life. For more information or to sign up call Janet at 451-0331.

*Buddy Card's:* LaRosa's Buddy Cards are available for \$10 through St. Lawrence School. Each card is loaded with 14 money saving deals. Buy one large pizza; get one large cheese pizza free! Cards are good for twelve full months after you activate your card. This feature is especially great if you are planning to give Buddy Cards as gifts: buy now and activate the card later. You may purchase these cards in the school office between 8am -3:30pm every school day. The school gets a profit of \$5 per card. Thanks for all you do to support St. Lawrence School.



### *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

(cont'd from previous column)

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 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 a 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 candlelit 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.

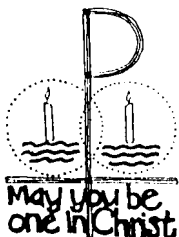
## The Laurentian

**Elder High School Shadow Program:** Elder's shadow program allows a young man to go directly to the heart of the high school experience: spending a day on campus and in our classrooms. The Elder High Shadow Program provides an opportunity for prospective students to ask questions of our students and teachers, to sample the ambiance of the school, and to determine if Elder is a place where he will personally be comfortable. To schedule a shadow day, parents should contact J. P. Owens, at 921-3722 ext 3427 or [owensjp@elderhs.net](mailto:owensjp@elderhs.net) for details.

**DePaul Cristo Rey High School:** Eighth graders are invited to spend a Shadow Day and experience a typical day at DePaul Cristo Rey. Our school is Catholic, college-prep and affordable – every family receives financial aid – and offers the only high school Corporate Work Study Program in Cincinnati. Visit our website at [www.discoverdepaul.org](http://www.discoverdepaul.org) or call Margee Garbsch at 861-0600.

**“The Perfect Storm”:** Prepare for the coming of Christ this Advent by joining popular singer, Mike Davis, for a powerful night of prayer, music and scripture. Bring your storms of life as we await the coming of the One who calms our storms – Jesus Christ! St. Teresa of Avila, corners of Glenway and Overlook Avenues on Wednesday, December 17 at 7pm. Free will offering graciously accepted. For more information call 921-9200, ext. 101.

**2015 is just around the corner!** Schedule time NOW for your relationship! Take your good marriage and make it GREAT with a Marriage Encounter Weekend! The next Marriage Encounter weekends in this area for 2015 are February 6–8 at the Holy Spirit Center in Norwood, OH, March 13-15 at the Holiday Inn Eastgate in Cincinnati, OH and April 17-19 at the Crown Plaza in Dayton, OH. Weekends fill up quickly, so a prompt response is encouraged. For more details or reservations call Dave & Jan Stockelman at 251-1940 or 1-800-547-1251 Code 00 or on the web at [www.esharing.org](http://www.esharing.org).



**Advent Lessons & Carols** will be held on Sunday, December 7 at 7pm in the Chapel of Mount St. Mary's Seminary, 6616 Beechmont Avenue, Cincinnati. The annual service includes the reading of seven scriptures Lessons with Advent Carols sung by the Athenaeum Chorale & the Mount St. Mary's Seminary Schola Cantorum. Admission is free. Doors to the chapel open at 6:30pm.



**Sacred Heart Radio:** “It is fit and proper that we should consecrate ourselves to His most Sacred Heart an act in 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](http://www.sacredheartradio.com).

**In Loving Memory”** In January, 2015, 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, 3680 Warsaw Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45205.

**(Diocesan Publications will bill you.)**

Loved One's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28**