

St. Joseph Church

December 23, 2012 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
411 E. Second St., Dayton, OH 45402 Telephone 228-9272
www.StJosephDayton.org

St. Joseph Parish Mission Statement

We, the faith community of Saint Joseph Parish, open to the Spirit as disciples of Jesus Christ, proclaim, witness and celebrate the Kingdom of God among us, through service, healing and reconciling love.



Masses for the Week

Monday, Dec 24,	12:00 Noon	Susan Corpec O'Kane
Dec 24,	4:30 pm	Patrick Somers
Dec 24,	8:00 pm	Peg Anderson
Tuesday, Dec 25,	10:00 am	St. Joseph Parishioners
Wednesday, Dec 26,	12:00 Noon	Lawrence Beatty
Thursday, Dec 27,	12:00 Noon	Norman Hinderleider
Friday, Dec 28,	12:00 Noon	Virginia Bauer
Saturday, Dec 29,	12:00 Noon	Timothy Able
	4:30 pm	Steve Kolakowski
Sunday, Dec 30,	10:00 am	Poor Souls

Parish Registration: Call the rectory Monday thru Friday 8:30 am to 2:30 pm

Baptisms: Call the rectory to schedule

Weddings: You must be a registered parish member for six months to set a date. Allow 6 months preparation time.

Confessions: Monday thru Saturday 11:30 am until 11:55 am

Holy Day Mass: Noon on the Holy day

St. Joseph Staff

Rev. Angelo Anthony, C.P.P.S., Pastor
Rev. Ken Pleiman, C.P.P.S. Assoc Pastor
Rita Zimmerman, Business Manager
Bill Baron, Maintenance

Finance Council

Jim Bolton
Lou Homan
Jonathan Spowart

Parish Council

Harry Bossey Michael Landry
Rick Carlile John Ludwig
Mary Doerr Amy Spowart
Gary Gregory Libbie Worley

St. Joseph Update



Merry Christmas!

Christmas Blessings to you
from Fr. Angelo, Fr. Ken,
Rita, Bill, Joni, Joe,
Iryna and Jerry

Correction to Mass Schedule for New Year's Eve and Day

We will NOT have a 4:30 anticipation Mass on
Monday, Dec 31st.

We will have our usual noon Mass.

We will NOT have a 10:00 Mass on Tuesday, Jan. 1st.

We will have our Holy Day Mass at noon.

Christmas Mass Schedule

St. Joseph Catholic Church

Dec 24 4:30 PM Mass

Dec 24 8:00 PM Mass

Dec 25 10:00 AM Mass

Emmanuel Catholic Church

Dec 24 5:15 PM Mass

Dec 24 10:00 PM Mass

Dec 25 8:30 AM Mass

Dec 25 10:30 AM Mass

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

Dec 24 5:00 PM Mass

12:00 Midnight Mass

Dec 25 9:00 AM Mass

Catholics Come Home

Our family is made up of every race; we are young and old, rich and poor, men and women, sinners and saints.

Our family has spanned the centuries and the globe.

We are the Catholic Church, with over one billion in our family sharing the Sacraments and fullness of Christian faith. And in this world filled with chaos, hardship and pain, it is comforting to know that some things remain consistent, true, and strong – our

Catholic faith and the eternal love God has for all creation. If you have been away from the Catholic Church, we invite you to take another look. Visit CatholicsComeHome.org today.

A Prayer for Christmas

*Oh, God, our loving Father,
help us rightly to remember
the birth of Jesus,
that we may share
in the song of the angels,
the gladness of the shepherds,
and the worship of the wise men.
May Christmas morning
make us happy
to be your children
and Christmas evening
bring us to our beds
with grateful thoughts,
forgiving and forgiven,
for Jesus' sake. Amen*

-Robert Louis Stevenson

Financial Information

Collection for Dec 16th \$7012.00

Charity Collection \$159.00

Thank You Frs. Angelo and Ken

Prayer List

Please keep the following people in your prayers. If you are seriously ill or undergoing surgery and would like your name added to the pray list please call the rectory.

Jim Allen

Peg Anderson

Patricia Bornhorst

Tom Bova

Greg Bower

Robert Caulfield

Ralph Chapman

Tim Chapman

Fran Dabrowski

Brian Deckard

Nancy Dolan

Willie Dunson

Mary Fiste

Joseph S. Franchina

Robert Garrity

Clara Garza

Dorothy Grant

Laura Grump

Norma Hickey

Randy Kramer

Cathy Kreitzer

Jane Lewis

Chris Luehrs

Helen Moore

Joe Moretto

Barbara Pacey

Isaiah Ramsey

Pat Somers

Mary Helen Wedig

Betty Wenzel

Pastor's Corner

Our readings today highlight the importance of hospitality. As we prepare to celebrate the Solemnity of Christmas we anticipate that through our Advent and Christmas evangelization project there will be some new faces in the congregation. Please reach out to any stranger, welcome them to our parish church and encourage them to find a home with us.

Fr. Henri Nouwen finds great meaning in Mary's visit to Elizabeth because these two women gathered in hope and enable each other to wait. "Mary's visit made Elizabeth aware of what she was waiting for. The child leapt for joy in her. Mary affirmed Elizabeth's waiting. These two women created space for each other to wait. They affirmed for each other that something was happening that was worth waiting for."

Nouwen continues, "I think that is the model of the Christian community. It is a community of support, celebration, and affirmation in which we can lift up what has already begun in us. The visit of Elizabeth and Mary is one of the Bible's most beautiful expressions of what it means to form community, to be together, gathered around a promise, affirming that something is really happening." (Watch for the Night, November 28th)

This message takes on greater emphasis as we have witnessed the outpouring of support and love in the aftermath of the senseless murders in Connecticut. The hope and promise we hold in resurrection life as a community of faith gives us courage and strength in the midst of loss and grief. Our joy in the midst of sadness is found in the gift of Jesus and the life we share with Him.

In today's gospel Luke lets us know that Mary didn't wait around to visit her relative, Elizabeth. Given the distance she had to travel Mary would have been on the road about a week. Mary enters the house of Zechariah and Elizabeth and Luke tells us that the infant, John, in Elizabeth's womb leaped upon hearing Mary's greeting. The verb he uses implies "to bounce," "to leap," "to dance," not merely a stir in the womb. At this point John the Baptist was in the womb six months and he reverences the life within Mary's womb that was likely ten days old! This is a beautiful statement to the sanctity of life that is due all human being at the moment of conception. (Dr. John Willke, "Mary's Pregnancy")

In this Christmas season as we celebrate the gift of life given to us in Jesus, the Word made Flesh, may we reverence the gift of life in all people and build a community of faith rooted in the love of God.

Fr. Angelo

Is Your Marriage Hurting in Anyway?

Has your marriage grown cold, distant, unloving or uncaring? Then please consider Retrouvaille—a program designed to help, heal and renew marriages. Retrouvaille is for marriages that have lost some of their spark, for marriages having difficulties in communication and even those marriage on the edge of separation or divorce. The next program begins January 11th, 12th, 13th. For more information call (513) 793-6777 or visit Retrouvaille.org on the internet. Other weekends and locations are available—call for details.

Fr. Demetrius Dumm, O.S.B. once wrote that “there is such a temptation to live off of others and to complain rather than to contribute. Constant griping and blaming others means an empty harvest. By contrast, Mary models for us a life that is wonderfully fruitful through loving concern for the welfare and happiness of others. There is no better way to prepare for and to celebrate the birth of Jesus!”

Elizabeth proclaims on the greatest titles for our Lady “mother of my Lord.” Mary is the Mother of God. We owe our whole existence to God. If God stopped holding us in his heart we would cease to be. God is both the creator and sustainer of all life. “The gift of our life is an act of love on God’s part—that out of nothing and for no reason other than love he brought us into being.” Fr. Alex McAllister

Christmas highlights the gift of life that is given in the birth of a child. Christmas celebrates the sacredness of all human life because the Word became Flesh restoring dignity to life that had been lost through original sin.

At one time or another we have all recognized the hand of God at work in our own lives. Maybe on your wedding day, the birth of a child, the death of a loved one, a moment in prayer, through sacramental grace, wise works from a friend...

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29; Lk 1:67-79
Tuesday: Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 [1-5, 9-14]
Wednesday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
Thursday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday: 1 Jn 1:5 -- 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:22-35
Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-5; Col 3:12-21 [12-17] Lk 2:41-52

World Day of Peace

January 1, 2013

As we continue walking through the Year of Faith, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati will mark the World Day of Peace and the beginning of 2013, by celebrating Mass in two locations:
Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains, at 11 a.m.,
celebrated by Archbishop Dennis Schnurr
St. Francis of Assisi Church (Centerville), at 7 p.m.,
celebrated by Bishop Joseph Binzer

SVdP FOOD DRIVE

Thank you for your overwhelming support of the St. Vincent de Paul food drive to restock the pantry at Emmanuel Parish during the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. Because of your generous donations, we’ve collected over 25 boxes of food and cleaning supplies to date. This will ensure that many people in need who live in the 45402 zip code (and any parishioner needing a helping hand) will be served when the pantry opens to distribute food for Christmas.

We will continue our food collection until December 23. Thereafter we will have a permanent box in the vestibule for nonperishable food and cleaning items that you may occasionally wish to donate to the food pantry in our cluster. Thank you!

Pray for the Men and Women Serving in the Military

Gary Eilers Cody Landers
Greg Marcus Patrick Saltsman

Offertory Envelopes

Please pick up your offertory envelopes in the back of church. We will not be mailing these this year.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: Vigil of Christmas
Tuesday: The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
Wednesday: St. Stephen; First Day of Kwanzaa
Thursday: St. John
Friday: The Holy Innocents
Saturday: Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord; St. Thomas Becket