

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2015

December Parish Stewardship

Underground Railroad
and
Holy Cross Children

Budget amount
needed for each week:
\$7,300.00

December 5 and 6

Stewardship Back to the Lord

Envelopes:\$6,090.00
Youth:\$4.00
Total:\$6,094.00
EFT:\$65.00
Total:\$6,159.00

Thank You

Sunday Contributions YTD \$167,900.00
Actual YTD \$154,534.21

Debt Reduction:

November\$1,570.00
Total for the fiscal year\$2,815.00

Stewardship: Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship: "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."



Holiday Kid's Day: Don't forget to register your kids for the annual Holiday Kid's Day! This year's event is Sunday, December 20th from 12-3 pm in the Faith Center. This free event is for kids ages 3-10. There will be lunch provided, crafts, movies and games. Please register by calling the Faith Formation Office at 845-1797 no later than **Wednesday, December 16th.**

This Week's Events

Sunday, December 13

Youth Ministry Bake Sale

8:00 am Rosary
8:30 am RCIA
9:00 am Pancake Breakfast
11:30 am Individual Reconciliation (Bannister)
4:00 pm High School Youth Group
6:00 pm Faith Formation
6:00 pm Junior High Youth Group

Tuesday, December 15

7:00 pm Individual Reconciliation (Chesaning)

Wednesday, December 16

9:30 am Adult Choir
6:45 pm Commission & Council meet
Pastoral Council meet at 7:30pm

Thursday, December 17

2:30 pm RCIA Team

Saturday, December 19

8:00 am Rosary

Sunday, December 20

8:00 am Rosary
8:30 am RCIA
11:30 am Individual Reconciliation (Bannister)
12:00 pm Holiday Kid's Day

Rosary Devotions: Rosary devotions are prayed every morning from 8:00-9:00 am.

Faith Formation

There will be class on Sunday, December 13th, beginning with family prayer at 6 pm in the church. Please remember your canned good for our CAER Center Advent Project. Doris

Youth Ministry

Both Youth Groups meet on Sunday, December 13th in the Youth Room. High School Youth Group meet from 4-5:30 pm and Junior High Youth Group meet from 6-7:30 pm. We are having a movie night, so bring a friend and your favorite snack!



Pancake Breakfast: Don't forget to join us for breakfast on Sunday, December 13th, from 9-11 am. There will be pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee and juice. This is a free will offering with proceeds going towards World Youth Day.

Liturgy this Week

Sunday, December 13

Third Sunday of Advent

8:30 am Mass

Wednesday, December 16

9:00 am Mass (Bannister)

Thursday, December 17

10:00 am CNCC Mass

Saturday, December 19

4:30 pm Mass

Lectors:

Angie Meder and Pat Walser

Eucharistic Ministers:

Gayle Tufis, Angie Meder, Pat Walser, Lisa Coon, and Paulette Fuoss

Altar Servers:

Helena Czeisperger and volunteer needed

Sunday, December 20

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30 am Mass

Lectors:

Ray Gengler and Mary Memmer

Eucharistic Ministers:

Mary Memmer, Ken Schnell, Shirley Schnell, Michelle Vrable and Karen Hoover

Altar Servers:

Keegan Kalisek and Ken Schnell

Readings for the Week

Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt 21:23-27

Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt 21:28-32

Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21b-25/Lk 7:18b-23

Thursday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17

Friday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25

Saturday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25

Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Lk 1:39-45

Sponsor of the Week



Douglas B. Forsyth M.D.
1600 W. Brady, Chesaning
845-1800

Dedication of the Holy Door at St. Mary

Cathedral: Please join the St. Peter Chime Choir who will be ringing at the dedication of the Holy Door on Sunday, December 13 at 5:30 pm at St. Mary Cathedral in Saginaw. Pope Francis has declared that every diocese in the world will dedicate a Holy Door at their cathedral. The last time a Holy Door was opened at St. Peter Basilica was in the year 2000. The tradition of the holy door is thought to go back to the early Christian practice of sinners being refused admittance to the Church until their public penances were performed. Once completed, they were permitted back in and given absolution. During this Jubilee Year of Mercy, pilgrims in need of God's mercy and forgiveness will enter St. Peter's through the holy door.

Jail Ministry: We are in need of more people ministering with the Jail Ministry program. This ministry is not overly demanding and your service will make a life time of a difference. If you are interested, please call Colleen at 845-1794.

Knights of Columbus Bake Sale: Will be held during the Fish Fry on Friday, December 18th. Proceeds will be going toward Veteran's Hospitals and chaplains in the military. If you would like to donate baked items please call Mary Rombach at 845-2643.



Decorating the Church for Christmas:

We will be decorating the church for Christmas after Mass on Sunday, December 20th. We could use your help! Please call Linda Calandrino at 845-2363 for more information



THOSE ASKING FOR PRAYERS:

Robert Tufts, Charles Guziak, Helen Gasser, Tim Amman, Margaret Bolinger, Matt Coughlin, Geri Sholtz, Eugene Sutter, Jim Meder, Val Perkins, Terry Kennelly, Joann Richardson, Mary Lou Kligar, Bradley Blakeselle, Petrina Workman, George Czeisperger, Chantel Fondren, Tim Apsey, Irene Nietling, Laurie Tufts, Brenda Lienau, Mechelle Kuchar, Vickie Daniels, Sarah (Chernow) Fischer, Mark Zvonek, Wolfgang Franke, Albert & Judy Storch, Sherry Storch, Joe Lane, Fran A. Gross, Joseph Klasek, Ray Tithof, Rose Bonkowski, Bertha Hart, Roger Nietling, Jim Fusina, Esther Lickman, Brady Carroll, Fred Lane, Ernie Newcomb, Rita Amman, Jay & Kay Glover, Susan Addington, Nancy Dennis, Rich Greenfelder, Joey Kligar, Barb Wenzlick, Diane DeVoe, Sue Adams, Roxann Timm, Gayle Shooltz, Judy Wakeman, David and Marianne Sutter, John Sims, Bessie McSwain, Judy (Willitts) Balderrama, Melanie Thiel, Brian Clark, Gloria Bates, Jeannette Somers, Kim Bruder, Gary Cech, Edward List Sr., Virginia Lawton, Gary J. Tanner, Mel Gross, Nichole Horn, Franklin Bates, Henry Huntoon, Will Lucio, Al Hundt, Ruth Vrable, Johannes Vogelaar, Jerry Hoover, Tom & Julia Mahoney, Jennie Hunt, Bob & Jacob Albers, Madeline Klopp, and Joseph Sedlar Sr.



Advent Giving Tree: Please return your gifts with the tag attached. **Gifts should be wrapped.** Gifts should be returned by Monday, December 14th. Thank you!

CAER Center: If you would like to make a monetary donation, please put your gift in a white envelope and place in the collection basket marked "CAER Donation". We have been informed that the CAER Center is in need of monetary donations at this time.



Christmas Poster Contest 2015: Students from Kindergarten through 5th grade are asked to create a drawing of the Christmas story. Faith Formation students will receive the details on Sunday, December 6th. All other students can receive the information in the gathering area. Entries need to be turned into the Parish Rectory by **Monday, December 14th.** If you have any questions, please contact Doris or Shelly at 845-1794.

Christmas Eve/Christmas Day Masses:

Dec. 24th-4:00 pm at Mary of the Immaculate Conception in St. Charles
5:00 pm at St. Peter
6:30 pm at St. Michael in Maple Grove
8:00 pm at St. Cyril in Bannister
11:00 pm at St. Michael in Maple Grove
Dec. 25th-8:30 am at St. Michael in Maple Grove
9:00 am at St. Cyril in Bannister
10:30 am at St. Mary Church, Albee

A Reflection on the Gospel from the 2015

Living Liturgy: In terms of our everyday lives, most of us are too over-scheduled even to think about asking a question such as, "What should we do?" We rush from one thing to the next, just barely squeaking by. Choices seem nonexistent. Ah, to even have the luxury of time to ask the question! At this midpoint in Advent, the gospel calls us to stop, examine our lives and relationships and perhaps prioritize in a different way how we spend our time.

John the Baptist challenged the people who asked him, "What should we do?" by admonishing them to far exceed their present way of acting toward others. When we are so rushed, or don't put others first, or don't have God as the center of our lives, it is very easy to fall into doing only what is minimally required. John is saying that minimum is not enough. Minimum responses in our relationships do not take us beyond ourselves to encounter the goodness that is present to us. Christ, who baptizes us "with the Holy Spirit," will require no less of us than living the Gospel he came to reveal, a Gospel that exacts the gift of our very selves. If we ask "What should we do?" we must be prepared for an answer that challenges us. Are we willing to reorganize our lives so that Christ is truly at the center, so that the magnanimity of our hearts is measured by something other than getting through another hectic day? Just like John, our lives are about others. Like John, we are to give our all—yes, our very lives—so that others can live better and love more deeply. By taking the time to ask the right questions, we define ourselves not in terms of what we do but who we are in relation to Other and others. The *relationship* to others is the key, not what we or they do.