

# THE SHAMROCK

St. Patrick Parish, Providence

December 2016

Dear St. Patrick-Providence Parish Family,

I give praise and thanks to almighty God for the gift of His Son, Jesus. Praise God!

I hope and pray that you all had a great thanksgiving. I always enjoy thanksgiving dinner and having leftovers for a couple days. It was terrific. Tom turkey was very tasty and the leftovers disappeared quickly. How is it that I run out of dressing before I run out of leftover turkey? Oh well, turkey chop suey.

December is off and running and if I don't finish this letter soon, it will be January. December is packed full of shopping, decorating and gatherings of all kinds. The year will be ending and a new year will be starting in the blink of an eye. I'm still enjoying the taste of Tom Turkey and now must decide what to eat at Christmas.

Our advent season has begun with the call to "Be vigilant ...and pray!", "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from the anxieties of daily life!" We must be watchful and alert less we miss the opportunity of seeing Jesus and angels in our midst. We must prepare for the second coming of Christ and be prepared to celebrate Christmas with a heart open to love and thanksgiving.

Advent comes just as the pressure begins to build around the holy days. It's a reminder that Jesus is the Reason for the Season and that everything will be okay. Things will get done, at least, those things that are really important. So take a breath of air and whisper a short prayer to Jesus.

This is a busy time for all of us, let us clear our minds and see God in our midst every day. Let us enjoy the Advent and Christmas seasons. Don't work so hard that we take a sigh of relief on December 26<sup>th</sup> and say: Thank God it's over!"

But let us say, "Thank you God for the opportunity once again to see Your Divine Love!" We are blessed and gifted.

I pray that as we continue our Advent season and enter into the Christmas season, we see ourselves as God sees us-His precious, precious children who have been blessed by God in many ways. May we use our time, talent and treasure to touch another's life with God's love within us. It only takes a phone call, a card, or even a visit to make a difference.

December 10/11 is the annual Retirement Fund for Religious collection. This collection helps our religious order men and women who gave unselfishly of themselves in years past with little or no compensation. They have been and are committed to sharing Christ with the world where they are needed. They now stand asking for our assistance in their retirement. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. No gift is too small. Please use the envelope in the offertory collection packet or mark an envelope for Retirement Fund for Religious.

Thursday December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00p.m., help is needed for sorting and boxing items for the "Otsego Christmas Baskets". This will take place in our parish hall. Many hands make less work-please consider coming to help. All ages invited.

Friday December 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00p.m. we will need folks to help with the distribution of the Otsego Christmas Baskets-you must be post high school. We need some strong backs to help-please! We need many volunteers to have this move smoothly.

May the Lord bless you! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2017!!!

Love, Peace & Prayers

## Lectors, Ministers of Communion, Ushers and Servers!!!

### Please sign up for one of the Christmas liturgies.

Many people are needed to make our liturgies so meaningful. The sign-up sheets are on the table in the hall.

### Food/Other Items for Needy:

Regularly we shall deliver your contributions to the Otsego Area and Liberty Center food pantries. As before, you can place your bags on the wood counter at the east end of our hall. Thanks for all that has been done thus far.

### St. Louis Kitchen, Toledo Dessert Drop-Off

If you are willing to make a dessert for the kitchen please have them in St. Pat's kitchen by the weekend of Dec. 17-18 or at the latest Tues. Dec. 20. If you have any questions please contact Rosemarie Scherzer, 533-7714.

Our Advent "Warming Tree" is now under the balcony during the Sundays of Advent. You are invited to bring blankets, mittens, gloves, scarves, hats, etc. Those items arriving by Thurs. Dec. 14 will be distributed with the Christmas Baskets on Fri. Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>.



**Christmas Eve**

### Advent Wreath

Many families and parishes celebrate the start of this season by lighting the first of four candles on their Advent wreath.

Over the years, a popular practice has developed of naming each candle. For instance, the first candle is called the *prophet's candle* and symbolizes hope. "Prophet" refers to Isaiah who foresaw the coming of the Messiah.

The second candle is called the *Bethlehem candle*, and symbolizes faith or preparation, as people prepare for the coming of Jesus.

The candle lit for the third Sunday of Advent is the *shepherd's candle*, and symbolizes the joy which the angels proclaimed when Jesus was born.

The fourth candle in the Advent wreath is called the angel's candle and symbolizes peace or the love for which Jesus came to earth.

In recent years, some parishes have added a fifth candle, which is lit on Christmas Eve. This white candle is known as *Christ's candle*.

## Please pray for the following housebound and sick:

**Patricia Cook	**Ed Bump
**Marge Hertzfeld	**Mary Ann Weasel
Mark Karmol	**Marcy Dick
Ruth Hurd	Greg Paul
**Margaret Mockenstrum	**Tony Biesiot
**Denise Krabill	**Steve Hertzfeld
Deborah Page	**Kim Kempf
Jason Henderson	Julia
**Larry Hertzfeld	Susan Ammon
**Mary Ann Kowalik	**Beverly Liske
VJ	Michelle Harting
Robert Bowman	**Jamee Bernthisel
Joe Boyle, Jr.	Sister Carmiltia Stinn
Corey Longenecker	**Jerry Hahn
**Bob Hertzfeld	Galvin Moore
Marie Thomas	**Rich Piasecki
Rita Biesiot	Forest Plotts
Tom Auth	**Ethel Sheeley
**David Durham	Theresa Metzger
Brenda Michaels	**Jean Burt
Susan Stohl	Janice Wade
Mindy Vance	Bob Freeworth
**Evan Simon	**Lillian Mertes
Beau & Brin Beemer	**Georgia Curtis
Stacey Snyder	**Bonnie Piasecki
Audrey H.	**Don Westhoven
Jeannine Garrard	Lois Plotts
Nick Fall	Tim Scheer
**Evelyn Gray	Gaylene McGrath
Mary Rosa	**Malory Beasley
Patrick Crotte	Shannon Jones
Landon Lightle	Steve & Sue Hurst
**Rosemary Biesoit	**Kristy Kitchen
**Dick Mertes	Dave Brennan
Mark Mackowiak	Claire Zbierajewski
Loretta Murano	Dorthy Brennan
Marshal Geiselman	Daryl Chamberlain

\*\* is a member of St. Patrick

If you know of anyone who needs to be removed please contact Cathy in the parish office 419-832-5215.

### Quiet Prayer Before the Blessed Sacrament

Prayer is available 40 hours each month beginning with the first Friday of the month (4:00 a.m. Friday – 10:00 p.m. Saturday). This is an excellent opportunity to pray before the Blessed Sacrament and to listen quietly to God. Many types of prayer aids and other books are available for your use. If you would like to experience this first hand please contact Phil Hertzfeld at 419-787-6811/419-466-2896 or just stop in any time; entrance is by knocking on the south ramp door. **It will be Jan. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>.**

## Christmas/New Year's Schedules of Masses\*

### \*Sat. December 24, 2016

Christmas Eve

- \*4:30p.m. St. Patrick-Providence
- \*4:30p.m. St. Louis-Custar
- \*10:00p.m. St. Louis-Custar
- \*12:00 midnight St. Patrick-Providence

### \*Sun. December 25, 2016

Christmas Morning

- \*9:00a.m. St. Patrick-Providence

---

**Sat. December 31, 2016** New Year's Eve  
World Day of Prayer for Peace/Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God  
4:30p.m. St. Patrick-Providence  
6:00p.m. St. Louis-Custar

**Sun. January 1, 2017** New Year's Day  
World Day of Prayer for Peace/Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God  
8:00a.m. St. Patrick-Providence  
9:30a.m. St. Louis-Custar  
11:00a.m. St. Patrick-Providence

### The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary:

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is Thursday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>. The Blessed Virgin Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception is patroness of the United States and since it is the patronal feast of the United States it is always a "Holyday of Obligation".

Masses for the Feast Of the Immaculate Conception will be as follows:

- Wednesday December 7<sup>th</sup>
  - 7:00p.m. St. Patrick Providence
- Thursday December 8<sup>th</sup>
  - 9:15a.m. St. Louis-Custar
  - 12:00noon St. Patrick-Providence
  - 7:00p.m. St. Louis-Custar



*Silent Night,  
Holy Night*

## Thank you for your contribution for our Christmas Flowers

Frank & Joanne Johnoff  
Tom & Rosie Shine  
Jim Winhoven  
William Westhoven  
Michael Hannewald  
John & Ellie Panning  
Jim & Lucy McCreedy  
Brian & Diane Hertzfeld  
Daniel & Lydia Ellinwood  
Jerry Mohler  
Tony & Wendy Hertzfeld  
Bob & Marge Gyurasics  
Tony & Rosemary Biesiot  
Mary Hernadez in Memory of Chalo Hernadez  
Dianne Bednarski in Memory of Bob Bednarski  
Agosti Family in Memory of Rudy Sr.  
Mary Ann Jones  
Tony & Barb Kleis  
Roy & Rosemarie Scherzer in Memory of  
the Hofbauer & Scherzer Families  
Thomas & Norma Roe  
Don & Barb Majewski  
Robert & Mary Shepard  
Dan & Cindy Balusik in memory of Frank  
Balusik & Gene Williams  
Jack & Marilyn Krueger in memory of  
Paul & Laura Krueger &  
Clarence & Yvonne Schwab  
Rosie Cox  
Sue Hannewald  
Robert & Arlene Bialecki  
Chuck & Brenda Krukowski  
Barb Heier  
Roy & Sharon Gonia  
J.B. & Eleanor Smith  
Mark & Carol Kennedy  
Karl Ott  
Mary Jo Bryska  
John & Dora Feffer  
Bob Bowser



### Listen to Mass on Annunciation Radio

"Listen to the Sunday Mass from EWTN on Annunciation Radio each Sunday at 8 a.m. Tune in to one of our five stations: WNOC 89.7 FM in the Toledo area; WHRQ 88.1 FM in the Sandusky area; WRRO 89.9 FM in the Bryan area; WSHB 89.5 FM in Willard, or WFOT 89.5 FM in the Mansfield area. You can listen live online at [www.AnnunciationRadio.com](http://www.AnnunciationRadio.com). Annunciation Radio, a listener-supported station, has "Faith with Frequency!"

**Visit [toledodiocese.org](http://toledodiocese.org) for Current News and Events:**

Stay current with news, information and events of the Diocese of Toledo by visiting [www.toledodiocese.org](http://www.toledodiocese.org). In addition, you can follow the Diocese of Toledo on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DioceseToledo](http://www.facebook.com/DioceseToledo)), Twitter ([www.twitter.com/DioceseToledo](http://www.twitter.com/DioceseToledo)) or Instagram ([www.instagram.com/DioceseToledo](http://www.instagram.com/DioceseToledo)).

**Support the Elderly Retired Religious Dec. 10/11**

Give to those who have given a lifetime. Senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests worked for many years for little, if any, pay. Their sacrifices now leave their religious communities without adequate savings for retirement. Your gift helps to provide prescription medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous.

**NEWS FROM RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

December is a wonderful time of expectation and celebration. You can feel the excitement in the classrooms. The youngest of our students are diligently practicing for singing at the Christmas Eve mass. Many of our older students are planning on helping out with the Otsego Christmas baskets. The spirit of Christmas is everywhere!

Our hope is that the focus on the Incarnation of Jesus will continue from the classrooms into the home. Some suggestions on how to do this are below.

- \* Put an Advent wreath on your dining room table or mantle. Say a prayer as you light the candles.
- \* Bless your Christmas tree. The lights are a reminder of Jesus, the Light of the World. Special ornaments can recall family and friends.
- \* Adopt a family or contribute to the Otsego Christmas baskets and/or Salvation Army – giving thanks for your own blessings.
- \* Spend time at the crib either in your home nativity scene or in church. Notice how our church crib changes each week as we approach Christmas.
- \* Play or sing Christmas carols together.
- \* Attend a reconciliation service.
- \* Pray for those less fortunate – especially refugees remembering that the Holy Family was forced into Egypt as refugees soon after Jesus’ birth until it was safe to return to their home in Nazareth.

As we prepare our hearts and homes for the coming of Emmanuel – let us pray, reflect and hope for peace!

Christine

**Please Note:** We will not hold classes on Christmas Day or New Year’s Day. Grades 5-9 resume class on Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> and K-4 on Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASS SCHEDULE  
2016 – 2017**

GRADES K - 4	GRADES 5 - 9
Sept. 18	Sept. 25
Oct. 2	
Oct 9 – NO CLASS	APPLEBUTTER FEST
	Oct. 16
Oct. 23	Oct. 30
Nov. 6	Nov. 13
Nov. 20	Nov. 27 – Thanksgiving wknd
Dec. 4	Dec. 11
Dec. 18	
Dec. 25 – Christmas (no class)	Jan. 1 – New Years (no class)
	Jan. 8
Jan. 15	Jan. 22
Jan. 29	Feb. 5
Feb. 12	Feb. 19
Feb. 26	Mar. 5
Mar. 12	Mar. 19
Mar. 26	Apr. 2
Apr. 9 – Palm Sunday	
Apr. 16 – Easter (no class)	Apr. 23
Apr. 30	MAY 7

FIRST COMMUNION – APRIL 30  
CONFIRMATION – MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup>

ALL CLASSES BEGIN AT 9:15 AND END AT 10:45 AM

Mark your calendar

**Singers! Musicians! Drivers!**

Join fellow parishioners for  
St. Patrick's  
**Annual Caroling Outing**  
Sunday, Dec. 11th, 2016

Meet at church by 2:00 pm  
to get a route assignment and song sheets.  
We will carol at parishioners homes  
and local nursing homes, then  
meet back at church for a meal together  
Wear your festive clothes!

A Sign up sheet is available in the hall  
(so we can plan the correct amount of food).

Help spread the JOY of the Season

Coordinated by the Sunshine Committee

## Christmas Food Baskets



**Otsego Christmas Baskets:** The parish office is now taking names of people for the Otsego Christmas baskets. Please remember that the person(s) have to know about getting the baskets.

If you would like to donate food or **NEW** toys you can bring them to the Northwest corner of the hall. **Please no clothes.** The only clothes we will be accepting are warm items: gloves, scarfs, hats, etc. The Otsego Christmas Baskets are a 501© 3 non-profit organization.

**2017 March for Life** Interested in attending the 2017 March for Life in Washington, D.C. on January 27, 2017? Join the College and Young Adult bus trip sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Toledo! The trip is only \$129 per person, but college students get a special discounted price of \$99! Our trip includes an overnight stay at the Hyatt Place in downtown Washington, D.C., as well as free time to tour the city. We depart late evening on Thursday, January 26, and return late evening on Saturday, January 28. If you have any questions, contact Respect Life Program Coordinator Peter Range at [prange@toledodiocese.org](mailto:prange@toledodiocese.org) or 419-244-4933. Deadline to register is Thursday, December 15. Please see flyer on our church bulletin boards for more information.

**Snow Emergencies:** If any of our counties (Lucas, Henry, Fulton, or Wood) declare either a Level 2 or 3 we will cancel. We will attempt to put the cancellation on Channel 11 WTOL and Channel 13 WTVG. However, on the weekends television stations have short staffs and so the cancellations may not go up on time for our classes. This is different than the Diocese policy that mass can be cancelled for Level 3. Because our teachers come from a wide area, and road conditions can be different in different counties, we will not wait until a Level 3 to cancel. Any questions call the parish office, 419-832-5215.

## **Retirement Fund for Religious**

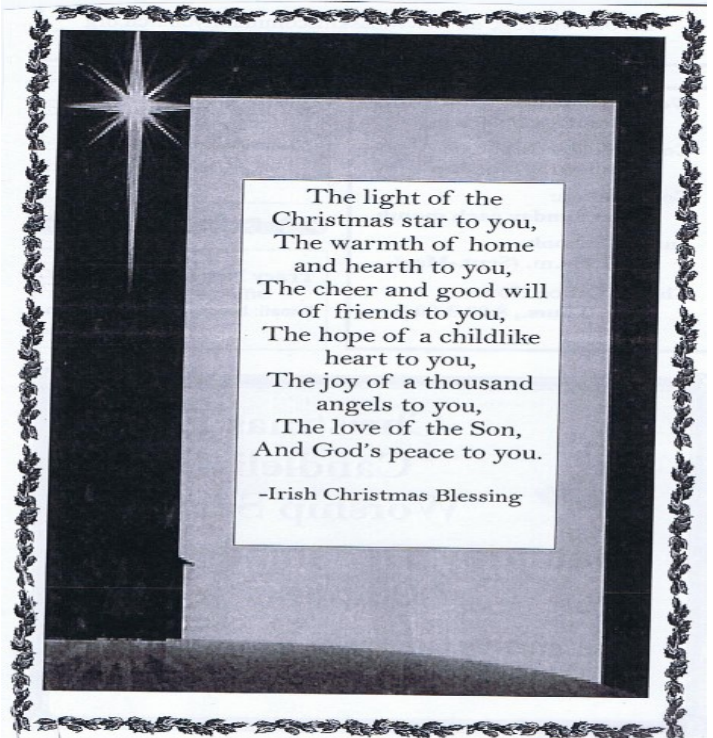
Your donation works for aging religious. Your gift works for elderly religious by helping to furnish medications, nursing care, and more. Please support this week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious, and give to those who have given a lifetime.

## **Candlelight Vigil for Life**

Bring a candle and join members of the pro-life community of Northwest Ohio on Thursday, December 15 at 5:30 p.m. as we gather at Capital Care abortion facility, 1160 W. Sylvania Ave., Toledo, Ohio to pray in honor of the Christ Child whose coming we celebrate this Christmas. If you have any questions, contact Director of Office for Life and Justice, Peter Range at [prange@toledodiocese.org](mailto:prange@toledodiocese.org).

## **Heartbeat of Toledo Baby Bottle Campaign 2017**

We will kick off our Baby Bottle Campaign the weekend of Jan. 7-8, 2017 and wrap it up on the weekend of Jan. 21-22, 2017. More information will be coming to you as this event gets closer. Please contact Kali Wulff, Development Director at Heartbeat of Toledo 419-241-9131 with any other questions.



## **Joke's from Cathy's Desk!**

-As Christmas approached, a grandma gave directions to her adult grandson, who was coming to visit: "You come in the front door of the condo and go to the panel on your left. Push 2B with your elbow. I'll buzz you in. Then get on the elevator, and push the button for floor 2 with your elbow. When you get off the elevator, go to your right and when you find 2B on the door, push the doorbell with your elbow." "Grandma, that sounds pretty easy," replied the grandson, "but why am I hitting all those buttons with my elbow?" "What?" she exclaimed. "You're coming to visit empty-handed?"

-“Life without God is like an unsharpened pencil-no point.”

# January

## THIS MONTH'S birthdays

1	Laura Hertzfeld Margretta Overmier Donald Williams	15	Autumn Mockensturm Bernadette Ford Bradley Vogtsberger
2	Kendra Kern Anne Nathe	16	Rich Brienik Donald T. Hertzfeld Bernadette Weir
3	Todd Brown Fr. Dave Tscherne	17	Lydia Ellinwood Michael Metzger
4	David Bourland Luke Guthrie Julia Howe Nathan Weirauch	19	Nancy Ott Nancy Scott Jonah Bailey Jane May
5	Bryan Kummerer Alyssa Mitchell Denise Neenan	20	Chelsea Tomasello Kevin Scott Shannon Sorosiak
6	Jacqueline Ellis Daniel Raab	21	Michael Brewster Molly Hilfinger Molly Scott Shannon Simon
7	Ed Bump Thomas Hillesheim	22	Erica DiBartolomo
8	Danny Balusik Randy Buckley	23	Brady Badenhop Kevin Eberly Alexander Hertzfeld John Hoffmann Michael Kalisik Brittani Potter Robert Sochacki Frank Weasel Amber Westfall
9	Andrew Coburn		Andrea Watson
10	Amanda Byers Rachel Kahle Carlos Rios	24	Arnold Brown
11	James Clark Maggie Glenn Ethel Sheely	25	Daniel Heinze Jacob Hertzfeld
12	Jodi Cole Nathaniel Kress Ann Hertzfeld Margaret Long Michele Thomas J. B. Smith	26	Angie Bechstein Dora Feffer Katelyn Holtgrieve
13	Cheryl Westhoven	28	Alli Johnson
14	Bonnie Armitage David Delger Evelyn Gray		

	Blake Litz Christina Meeks Mark Nathe Larry Sattler Kathleen Sorosiak Glenn Thomas
29	Claire Atkinson Mary Hernadez
30	Matthew Hertzfeld
31	Peggy Goetz Kristen Lewis Ariana Nagel



Danny & Tammy Sattler – 1/6/09  
 Robert & Jean Brown – 1/9/70  
 John & Miranda Hessler – 1/15/12  
 Rick & Camille Miron – 1/25/74  
 John & Brenda McClory – 1/25/01



Please Pray for Our Priest of the Diocese

# January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pope Francis 1	Bishop Daniel E. Thomas 2	Your Parish Priests 3	Parents of Priests 4	Rev. Richard Szimpl 5	Rev. James V. Szobonya 6	Increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life 7
Rev. Joseph P. Szybka 8	Rev. Stanley S. Szybka 9	Rev. Douglas D. Taylor 10	Seminarian Mr. Jacob F. Livecchi 11	Most Rev. Daniel E. Thomas 12	Rev. David D. Tscherne 13	Rev. Walter E. Tuscano 14
Deacons and Missionary Priests 15	Rev. Msgr. Christopher P. Vasko 16	Rev. Vicente A. Vera 17	Rev. Melvin T. Verhoff 18	Rev. Jeffery J. Walker 19	Very Rev. Dennis G. Walsh 20	Rev. Gary R. Walters 21
Religious Brothers and Sisters 22	Rev. David E. Watson 23	Rev. Mark Weaver 24	Very Rev. Herbert F. Weber 25	Seminarian Mr. Joseph T. Livecchi 26	Rev. Nicholas Weibl 27	Rev. Joseph A. Weigman 28
Rev. George E. Wenzinger 29	Deceased Priests of our Diocese 30	Rev. Thomas Westhoven 31	<b>+++ DIOCESE OF TOLEDO +++</b> Start your New Year with praying for our priests.			

ST. PATRICK CHURCH  
 14010 S. RIVER RD.  
 GRAND RAPIDS, OH 43522-9678

Nonprofit Org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Grand Rapids, Ohio Permit No. 3 Zip Code 43522
--

Address Service Requested
---------------------------