

## PASTOR'S COLUMN

One of the most profound questions one can ask -- or hear -- is this, "Who are you?" There are days when I look into the mirror of life and am astounded at what I see. I stare curiously at an image I cannot believe is real and ask, "Who are you?"

As I ask the question, I live the answer: "Wait and see!" Wait on a Creator God who is continuing to fashion the marvel of divine image and likeness. Wait expectantly -- always on the alert for calls to change, to be and become. Wait and rejoice always in God's labor of love. "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit, test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:18-21). Wait prayerfully, and see what happens.

We are not the light, but we are called to give testimony to it. If it means crying out in the wilderness, so be it. If it demands testing everything in order to discern what is good and hold fast to it, we'll do it. If it means cataloging all that we are not in order to discover who we really are, we'll take on the task. What remains of prime importance is that we continue to probe as we wait and wait as we probe the depths of God's image and likeness shining forth in each of us.

I find it both consoling and immensely challenging to wait for God. Consolation lies in the fact that I do not have to initiate anything. I am only asked to respond. Challenge lies in the same reality.

Like John the Baptizer, we are called to do what God requires in the face of opposition and lack of credentials. "John confessed and did not deny it...I am not the Messiah. And they asked him, 'What then? Are you Elijah?' He said, 'I am not.' 'Are you the prophet?' He answered, 'No.'

John acknowledged who he wasn't and found who he was. He waited for that discovery. He waited to see. While waiting, he did what God called him to do, trusting that his life would not signal the end of an era but was to mark the beginning of one. With authenticity, he answered questions regarding who he was. Thus he ushered in a new age and gave birth to a new reality.

John did not simply wait to be. He waited to see, and sight was given him. He waited to discover, and his goodness was revealed to him. May we dare to live as John lived, truthfully responding to the most profound question one can ask, or hear, "Who are you?" May we know and believe that the one who asks the question is a faithful God of peace who sanctifies us entirely and keeps us sound and blameless for all time.

excerpts from Awakening to God, The Sunday Readings in Our Lives, Year B.  
Fran Salone-Pelletier. Twenty-Third Publications

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, December 14

9:00 a.m. Walter Joseph Bogden (Dom & Bernie Marino);  
All Parishioners Living & Deceased

11:30 a.m. Marilyn Bates (Larry Prince & Family)

### Monday, December 15

8:30 a.m. Patricia (Pat) Mirto (Larry Mirto)

### Tuesday, December 16

8:30 a.m. Madeline D'Amico (Denny & Luann Rossi)

11:15 a.m. Shepherd of the Valley  
Vincent Airhart (Friends & Family)

### Wednesday, December 17

8:30 a.m. Anna Pack (Don and Melissa Pack)

### Thursday, December 18

8:30 a.m. Rose Burless (Steve & Joann Burless)

### Friday, December 19

8:30 a.m. Communion Service

### Saturday, December 20

4:00 p.m. Dorothy Osborne (Family)

### Sunday, December 21

9:00 a.m. Yolanda Dalessandro (Colleen O'Connell)

11:30 a.m. Paul Heltzel (Hazboun Family);  
All Parishioners Living & Deceased

## SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

2 Sm 7: 1 -5,8b-12,14a,16 / Rom 16: 25-27  
/ Lk 1: 26-38

## IN MEMORIAM

Please pray for the repose of the soul of **Sally M. Fittipaldo**, mother of Darlene Mink-Crouse and Beverly Fittipaldo, and sister of Dorothy Welday; of **Charles E. Hogan**, father of Christine Tvaroch; of **Joanne M. Holko**, wife of George; of **Josephine Musick**, mother of Stephen; of **Despina Skandalariis**, sister-in-law of Patty Tsagaris; of **Francis V. Abraham**, father of Alfred; of **Rev. Joseph S. Czaja** of our diocese; and of **Joseph Salcone**, brother of Harry. May they rest in peace.

**BAPTISM...**This weekend, we welcome **Ethan Alexander Love** and **Milena Maliski Ciuba**, children of Giovane Ciuba and Krystal Love, through the Sacrament of Baptism. Please keep these and their families in your prayers.

**VOCATIONS..."Do not quench the Spirit."** The Holy Spirit works in us to help us understand how best to follow God. Yet, our own cares and concerns can deaden the voice of the Spirit. To find out more about vocations, call Fr. Chris Luoni at 330.744.8451, or email him at [cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org).

**Anointing of the Sick...available immediately following the 4:00 liturgy on Saturday, December 27.**

Those who wish to be anointed should move to the area near the piano after Mass ends. *This sacrament is primarily a sacrament of physical healing and spiritual strengthening. Anointing of the Sick is available after Mass the fourth Saturday of each month throughout the year.*

*"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,  
the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth,  
filled with the holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice  
and said, "Most blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb."*

-- Luke 1: 41-42 (NABRE © 2010 CCD. Used with permission)

**THE WEEK AHEAD****Sunday, December 14**

- 10:10 a.m. Faith Formation Pre-K--Grade 8 (School Rooms)
- 10:10 a.m. Coffee & Donuts (Holy Family Hall)
- 10:15 a.m. Ciuba, Love Baptisms (Church)
- 10:15 a.m. First Reconciliation Parent Mtg I (Chapel)
- 1:00 p.m. Family Choir Practice (Parish Library)
- 3:00 p.m. Advent Communal Reconciliation (Church)
- 4:30 p.m. Youth Ministry Caroling & Bowling (Off site)
- 6:00 p.m. Men's Planning Group (Parlor)

**Monday, December 15**

- 7:00 a.m. Men's Advent Prayer Breakfast (Panera)
- 10:30 a.m. AA Meeting (Providence Center)
- 5:30 p.m. Zumba (Reagan Hall)
- 6:00 p.m. Worship & Spiritual Growth Ad Hoc (Parlor)
- 6:30 p.m. Pasta Cook-Off Planning Meeting (Rm 103)
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Prayer (Chapel)
- 7:00 p.m. Worship & Spiritual Growth mtg (Parlor)

**Tuesday, December 16**

- 8:30 a.m. School Mass (Church)
- 7:00 p.m. Advent Evening Prayer & Study (Chapel/HFH)
- 8:00 p.m. AA Meeting (Providence Center)

**Wednesday, December 17**

- 10:00 a.m. St. Vincent de Paul Society meeting / basket distribution (Providence Center)
- 1:00 p.m. JFKCS-LC Band Concert (Reagan Hall)
- 5:30 p.m. Zumba (Reagan Hall)
- 6:00 p.m. Parish Pastoral Council Christmas (Rectory)
- 6:30 p.m. First Reconciliation Parent Mtg I (Chapel)
- 6:30 p.m. Theology on Tap (Off-Site)

**Thursday, December 18**

- 10:00 a.m. Staff Christmas Day Out (Off-Site)
- 7:00 p.m. Musician Rehearsal (Parish Library)

**Friday, December 19**

- 2:30 p.m. Girl Scouts (Providence Center)

**Saturday, December 20**

- 9:00 a.m. AA Meeting (Providence Center)
- 9:00 a.m. Family Soup Kitchen (SVdP Dining Hall, Niles)
- 10:00 a.m. Eucharistic Bread Baking (Covelli Kitchen)
- 11:00 a.m. AA Meeting (Providence Center)

**Sunday, December 21**

- 9:00 a.m. Spanish Mass (Providence Center)
- 10:10 a.m. Faith Formation Pre-K--Grade 8 (School Rooms)
- 10:10 a.m. Coffee & Donuts (Holy Family Hall)
- 1:00 p.m. Family Choir Practice (Parish Library)
- 4:30 p.m. Taize Prayer Around the Cross (Church)

**Eucharistic Bread Bakers Welcome**

Help in the preparation of our Eucharistic bread! Join with other bakers in the school kitchen any Saturday during Advent. Our next meeting time will be Saturday December 20, at **10 a.m. in the kitchen!**

*Eucharistic Bread Baking will also be baked during the Lenten season...details to follow!*

**ADVENT EVENING PRAYER****CATHOLICISM: SCRIPTURE & TRADITION**

The Word of God at Vatican II: Exploring Dei Verbum  
Join us as we continue to explore Scripture in our Catholic faith life  
Tuesdays of Advent, December 16, 7 p.m....  
Evening Prayer in the Chapel to begin...presentation follows in Holy Family Hall...dessert concludes the evening.

**Advent Reconciliation Service, TODAY,  
Sunday, 12/14 at 3 p.m.**

Join together with other members of the Warren Catholic churches for the Advent Communal Reconciliation Service. We join together for prayer, individual confession (where we receive Penance), and come together to end the service, lifted up by the support of the presence of other believers. Father Eisweirth and other area priests will be available to hear confessions. Here we have the opportunity to join in prayer with others. In this way we

*"obtain from God's mercy pardon for having offended him and at the same time reconciliation with the Church, which we have wounded by our sins and which by charity, example, and prayer seeks our conversion."* Lumen Gentium, Vatican Council II, no. 26 (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church 4, no. 146)

If you have been away from the sacrament for a long period, take this opportunity to revisit the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join with the community in the service even if you do not wish to take advantage of individual confession and absolution. All are welcome! The service is open to people from all area parishes.

**Taizé Prayer around the Cross**

Steal a few quiet moments on the shortest day of the year! During the craziness of the preparations for Christmas, set aside a few minutes to center mind and heart in calming prayer in the style of the Taizé community. This prayer will take place **Sunday, December 21 at 4:30 p.m.** in the church. Taizé Prayer includes singing, psalms, a scripture reading, intercessory prayer and silence.

**Stewardship Thought for the Week**

Today, the Church celebrates **Gaudete Sunday** -- a day of joy, knowing that the celebration of Christmas is not far off. Have we truly invited the joy of the Lord into our daily lives? Are we joyful, both in our giving and in our receiving? Let us work to put on the joyful spirit of the Lord, Jesus Christ -- today and every day.

**Parish Sacrificial Giving Summary**

*In gratitude for the gifts we have received from God, parishioners and visitors made a joyful return to the Lord of \$13,259.20 in the Offertory for the weekend of December 6 & 7, 2014.*

**Fiscal Year-to-date Information (7/6/14--6/28/15):**

Goal for Fiscal Year-to-date:	\$ 342,474.00
Amount Collected:	\$ 318,702.81
Amount short of needed goal:	\$ 23,771.19
Children's Stewardship:	\$ 17.00
First Step for Change Campaign:	\$ 1,331.63

**Thanks for Giving First Fruits & Taking a Step!!**

**SPECIAL MINISTERS' SCHEDULE**

**Saturday, December 13 4:00 pm**  
**Readers:** T. Lowman, L. Machin  
**S.M.H.C.:** T. & A. Hostetler, D. Bokone, S. Campbell,  
 R. Fenstermaker, J. & L. Sanders  
**Servers:** B. Freeman, L. Wilson, M. Wilson  
**Greeters:** I. Ruiz, M. Lorenzi, S. DeLeo

**Sunday, December 14 9:00 am**  
**Readers:** J. Dalessandro, S. Battison  
**S.M.H.C.:** D. & M. Lazor, M. Lytle, R. Green, M. Bugos,  
 T. D'Amico, L. Stirling, K. Clark, S. Letson  
**Servers:** A. Lytle, A. Birmingham, J. Martuccio  
**Greeters:** J. & D. Laux  
**CLOW:** N. Barker  
**Baptism Assistant: 10:15am:** B. Steines

**11:30 am**  
**Readers:** D. Elston, C. Shaker  
**S.M.H.C.:** C. Hooks, P. Orsinelli, D. Timko, M. Schaefer,  
 A. Shaker, A. Kemble, J. Sabat  
**Servers:** A. Litton, C. Delliquadri, S. Brown  
**Greeters:** Maiorca Family; J. DeSalvo, M. Rossi, M. & S. Shader  
**CLOW:** M. Gintner

**Saturday, December 20 4:00 pm**  
**Readers:** S. DeLeo, M. Shader  
**S.M.H.C.:** R. Fenstermaker, S. & J. Delaquila, R. Green,  
 P. Mangiarelli, A. Klotz, D. Bokone  
**Servers:** D. Falcione, R. Lubert  
**Greeters:** J. & D. Bokone

**Sunday, December 21 9:00 am**  
**Readers:** J. Laux, D. Laux  
**S.M.H.C.:** S. & K. Bungo, M. Bugos, R. Green, J. Gabele,  
 T. & K. Lazor, D. Woolensack, T. Lussier-Hurlbert  
**Servers:** C. Faulk, M. Menci, T. Patchen  
**Greeters:** R. Crowe, L. Maloney, C. Riffle  
**CLOW:** A. Birmingham

**11:30 am**  
**Readers:** B. Steines, A. Economos  
**S.M.H.C.:** D. Crockett, J. Sabat, M. Pipino, M. Schaefer,  
 P. Orsinelli, R. Green, C. Hooks  
**Servers:** N. McGee, A. Steines, E. Economos  
**Greeters:** J. & J. Satterfield; T. & C. Belmaggio  
**CLOW:** T. Elisco

*We wait in joyful hope...*

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER  
 ALL THOSE ON OUR PRAYER CHAIN**

**Liturgy Schedule for Christmas Eve  
 and Christmas Day 2014**  
**Wednesday, December 24 --**  
 4:00 p.m. Mass *Vigil of Christmas*  
 6:00 p.m. Mass *Vigil of Christmas*  
 11:00 p.m. Mass *Vigil of Christmas*  
**Thursday, December 25 --**  
 10:00 a.m. Mass **Christmas Day**  
*Each Christmas Eve liturgy is preceded by 20 minutes of  
 seasonal music, including Christmas Carols sung by all.*

**WELCOME!**  
 A warm Blessed Sacrament Parish welcome is extended to  
 our new parishioners, **John and Mary Jane Cuccio**. See  
 you at Coffee and Donuts!  
**NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION**  
 Interested in registering as parishioners of our parish? Stop  
 by the table in the gathering space on the weekend of Dec  
 20/21, and register your family with...  
**4pm Pam Hietikko, Jean Lemaster**  
**9am Diana Seman, JoAnn Tisone**  
**11:30am Rocky & Renee Maiorca**

**ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS  
 PLEASE HELP WITH UPCOMING HOLY DAYS**

**Wednesday, December 24 (Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord)**  
**Thursday, December 25 (Nativity of the Lord)**  
**Wednesday, December 31 (Vigil of Mary, Mother of God)**  
**Thursday, January 1, 2015 (Mary, Mother of God)**

If you could offer your help as a hospitality ministers (greeter, usher),  
 altar server, lector or extraordinary minister of Holy Communion at the  
 Masses you plan to attend, you'd be helping the community a great deal.  
 Please check the gathering space for sign up sheets. These  
 will cover 4, 6 and 11 p.m. liturgies for Christmas Eve, and 10 a.m. liturgy  
 on Christmas morning, as well as the liturgies to celebrate Mary, Mother  
 of God -- Dec. 31 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 1 at 8:30 a.m.

**R.C.I.A  
 CATECHUMEN & CANDIDATE WELCOME**

We welcomed six new adults and five children into our com-  
 munity who are seeking full communion in the Catholic  
 Faith. The adult Catechumens **Abigail Corley, Darryl  
 Douglas, Bryan Kroll, Betty Strawderman**, and children,  
**Jacob Conde, Kamora Hays, Nina Paden, Jenia  
 Rameriz, and Selena Rockenfelder**, will be receiving all  
 three initiation sacraments at the Easter Vigil. Our candi-  
 dates, **Christy Conde and Joe O'Grady**, will be receiving  
 Eucharist and Confirmation.  
 Since September, all of them have been attending inquiry  
 and formation sessions and are now ready to take the next  
 step of their journey into the Period of Catechumenate. As  
 they walk their journey of faith, we welcome them with open  
 arms and continue to keep them in our prayers. *A prayer  
 card that you can use at home is available in the gathering  
 space.*  
*Interested in learning more about our Catholic Faith? Con-  
 tact Deacon Bob with questions!*

**PLEASE NOTE: YOU WILL HAVE TO ARRIVE EARLY FOR  
 THE LITURGY WHERE YOU WILL MINISTER.  
 IF THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE, PLEASE DO NOT SIGN UP.**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel!*

## FAITH FORMATION BAMBINELLI SUNDAY

This year on Sunday, Dec. 21. we are asking children to bring in their baby Jesus figurines from the family nativity set to Mass, to be blessed by Deacon Bob during the Sunday morning CLOW sessions. In Rome the Pope blesses the figures in St. Peter's Piazza and the Sunday is called Bambinelli Sunday! Bob will read the children a story about this custom and bless the figurines.

### Family items on sale for Christmas!

These are offered at special prices from the companies! Stop by the parish office or the FFS office on Sundays. (Make checks payable to Blessed Sacrament Parish with the item on the memo line!)

1. Plush Jesus (with a small book of Bible Stories, from Loyola Press) \$14
2. St. Mary's Press Children's Bible, \$20

### HELP THOSE IN NEED THIS MONTH...

During the month of December, we will collect the following...

- Cleaning/personal care items of any kind for Harriet's Cupboard, a Catholic Charities organization located on Laird Avenue in Warren.

## PARENTING POINTERS

With Christmas approaching this is a good time to talk with your child about selecting one or several toys to pass on to other children. It's consistent with the "one in -- one out" principle for keeping a simple home. It doesn't have to be a favorite toy, but it should be something that think will bring joy to another.

## Flu Season and Liturgical Celebrations

The following is from the Worship Office of the Diocese of Youngstown.

During flu season parishes may receive requests from parishioners to make changes to liturgical celebrations in order to prevent the spread of the flu and other viruses. The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, in consultation with the Centers for Disease Control, recommends that the following measures be taken in the celebration of the liturgy:

Priests, deacons, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion should be especially reminded of the need to practice good hygiene. Ministers of Holy Communion are encouraged to wash their hands using an alcohol based anti-bacterial solution before Mass begins and immediately after Mass. Pastors should instruct people who feel ill not to receive from the cup.

Those who are sick should stay home, and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

All should be encouraged to follow good everyday healthy actions:

- of covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing;
- avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth after shaking hands or touching any surface;
- avoid close contact with those who are sick.

At the present time, the Bishop's Committee on Divine Worship of USCCB has not issued directives considering any changes, adaptations or restrictions of options in the celebration of the Liturgy.

## Youth Ministry / E.P.I.C. Teens

Please find our new/revised schedule of events in the gathering space. Call Brooke at the parish office to sign up, or email her for details. Find us on **Facebook** -- search for Brooke Verbosky Steines (become friends!) and request to view our closed/private group pictures by searching for **Blessed Sacrament Parish E.P.I.C. Youth Ministry**. BSP adults can join our Facebook group and support our teens! Brooke also posts on **Instagram** as BROOKLYN-CYM-BSP. Our **Twitter** account is: brooklyn\_cymbssp. (Please send Brooke an email at bsteines@bspcc.org if you want to be accepted on Instagram or Twitter so she knows who to accept.) Please call Brooke in the parish office to inquire about any and all events, 330.372.2215 ext 104.

## IMPORTANT DATES

**Dec. 14, 3pm**, Advent Reconciliation Service;  
Christmas Caroling; Bowling follows!

**Dec. and Jan.** -- Kairos leaders will meet: dates TBA  
*\*please call Brooke with: days off info, and when exams done\**

## Mission Trip for June 29-July 2, 2015

All 8th-11th graders (incoming 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders for the fall of 2015) interested in a mission trip opportunity next summer, please contact Brooke in the parish office for more details. Plans are being made for an iPlunge experience in Cincinnati, OH, with the Jesuit Spiritual Center (who run our Confirmation retreats) for three nights, four days (from 6am June 29 - 8pm July 2, 2015). A \$55 non-refundable deposit is due Feb. 15. Fundraising will take place in March/April/May. The total cost of the trip is \$265/person + fuel. Chaperones needed and will drive their own cars (no buses will be used.) Essays and applications will be used to determine who will have a spot held for the trip.

## YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

**Mahoning Valley Theology on Tap** meets on Wednesday, 12/17, at Avalon Downtown Youngstown. Meet in our parish parking lot by 6:45pm to carpool, program at 7pm. RSVP to Brooke by TU 12/16. *Save the dates...always the third Wednesday, 1/21, 2/18, 3/18, 4/15, and 5/20! Locations change every 3-4 months.*



## FAMILY SOUP KITCHEN

Help prepare and serve a meal at the St. Vincent de Paul dining hall, Niles Road, Warren, **Saturday, December 20** Share your gifts of hospitality & service: meal preparation 9am, shared lunch with the guests who come to us hungry that day, then clean up. *Any provision of baked goods that will complete the Saturday meal is greatly appreciated...please bring your dessert item to the parish office by 1pm Friday!*  
**If you can help make a difference on the 3rd Saturday of every month, contact Dan Goffos Sr., 330.372.6147.**

## BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Are you planning to have a child baptized in the next several months? Our next Baptismal Preparation Session will take place on Sunday, January 11, 2015, at 1 p.m. in the parlor. Please call the parish office to register.

We ask that all parents attend a baptismal preparation session during the third trimester of pregnancy, and that parents attend a preparation session for each child.

## LITURGY CORNER

### Our "Liturgy Corner" takes a journey through the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*

We are now three weeks into our new liturgical year and almost through the season of waiting and preparation. We are jumping into the third chapter of the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* as we attempt to take a closer look at the document which spells out the way in which we celebrate the liturgy. Our hope is that taking a few minutes each week to reflect on how this document of the Church describes what is to take place will help each of us. We can come to find ideas to both challenge and feed us. We can enter into the celebration of the liturgy each week with new ideas and a deeper understanding of how the liturgy can strengthen our relationship with our Lord and with our community.

Section III of this chapter deals with "Particular Ministries." The first is "The Ministry of the Instituted Acolyte and Lector." This is another case of needing to understand the heading before understanding the content. Most of us are familiar with the term "lector" as we use it to describe those liturgical ministers who are entrusted with the proclamation of the Scripture. To many of us the term "acolyte" is simply another term for altar server. Before the *GIRM* explains the ministries of lay people it deals with the "Instituted Acolyte and Lector."

98. The acolyte is instituted for service at the altar and to assist the Priest and Deacon. It is his place principally to prepare the altar and the sacred vessels and, if necessary, to distribute the Eucharist to the faithful as an extraordinary minister.

In the ministry of the altar, the acolyte has his own proper functions (cf. nos. 187-193), which he must carry out in person.

99. The lector is instituted to proclaim the readings from Sacred Scripture, with the exception of the Gospel. He may also announce the intentions of the Universal Prayer and, in the absence of a psalmist, recite the Psalm between the readings.

In the celebration of the Eucharist, the lector has his own proper function (cf. nos. 194-198), which he himself must carry out.

Monsignor Joseph DeGrocco (*A Pastoral Commentary on the General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, ©2011, Liturgy Training Publications, Chicago) tells us that these paragraphs are focusing on the "instituted" nature of the roles: "...articles 98 and 99 refer to the stable of ministries into which men preparing for Holy Orders are installed, although, these are still to be considered lay ministries, not minor orders." This might seem more confusing until we remember that as our Permanent Deacon, Bob Green, was preparing to be ordained, he became an instituted acolyte and lector. Monsignor DeGrocco offers this...

Where such instituted ministers exist, for example, parishes that have a man studying for ordination to the "permanent" Diaconate, or in the case of a seminarian studying for the Priesthood who is in a pastoral assignment in a parish, it is presumed that such an acolyte or lector would exercise his ministry on a regular basis.

Next week we will see our lectors and altar servers described in paragraphs 100 and 101. Stay with us.

## PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL

Our Service Person Board now lists loved ones and parishioners who are presently serving our country – anywhere – at home or abroad. Please keep these men and women in prayer.

### \*\*REMEMBER OUR RETURNING SERVICE PEOPLE IN PRAYER.

There are many difficulties faced by those returning from war and the services they require are not always readily available. Please pray for our returning veterans and for those who do what they can to support them.

If you would like to add a loved one to the list of service people to keep in prayer, please contact Pat Campbell in the parish office.

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### LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE FOR WINTER THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, PART II The first session is Tuesday, January 6, 2015 in the parlor of Blessed Sacrament Church.

The session follows our parish *Evening Prayer at 7 p.m.*  
(session runs 7:30 – 9:00 p.m.).

#### Fundamental Commitment:

Prayer – Presence – Preparation – Participation

THOSE BEGINNING THE STUDY OF MATTHEW ARE ASKED TO LOOK OVER THE FIRST PART OF THE STUDY BEFORE JANUARY 6. FOR CONTINUING PARTICIPANTS, THERE IS NO ASSIGNMENT BEFORE THE FIRST SESSION.

Title of Study: The Gospel According to Matthew, Part II

Number of Sessions: Six

Cost: Those beginning the study of Matthew: \$20.00  
(includes materials) To "Blessed Sacrament Church"

Those continuing from Part I in the fall: \$5.00

Day and Time: Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Follows Evening Prayer (chapel) 7 p.m.

Starting Date: January 6, 2015

Winter Ending Date: February 10, 2015

CEU's Available: Nine hours, general

Location: Parlor of Blessed Sacrament, Warren, OH

Materials to Bring: Please bring a bible to each session along with "The Gospel According to Matthew" materials provided at registration

Registration: After all of the Masses on the weekends of December 27/28 and January 3/4. You may also register by calling the parish office or on-line.

**Materials may be picked up when payment is made.**

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## RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Many thanks to the 22 donors at our Monday, December 1 Blood Drive!! We surpassed our goal, and **thank you for the Gift of Life!**

Sincerest thanks to GILMORE'S and BERNARD'S for their donation of lovely table-top poinsettias to gift our donors! **What a wonderful treat** to bring a festive touch to your dining room table! Thank you so much!!

Many thanks to our parish volunteers who hosted the drive, and provided nourishment and support to our donors! Your good deed is **so very much appreciated!!**

**CHARITY FUND COMMITTEE...Please help if you can!!** A family is in need of couches!! If you are of replacing your sofa and would be willing to donate your old one, we have the means to pick up the sofa to be used by a large, loving and local family. Contact Betty at Betty's Angel's 330.646.2011...or contact the parish office with your donation information!

**RELAY FOR LIFE...**Support our parish team with your involvement! Fundraisers currently under way...

- Sale of Cookies & Nut Rolls this weekend!! Dec 13 & 14, near the parlor!
- Trumbull New Theatre on January 25, Comedy, 'Dixie Swim Club' is sure to be a blast!!

**CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK OF YOUNGSTOWN (CTNY)**

"Spotlight" with Fr. Jim Korda -- 10:30am & 8pm Mondays

- "Villa Maria Education & Spirituality Center" with Sr. Jane Marie Kudlacz and Matt Abramowski, Dec. 15

"Scripture 101" with Fr. Jim Korda -- 10:30am & 8pm Wednesdays;

- "Matthew" with Fr. Jim McKarns, Dec. 17

"The Holy Rosary" with Fr. Jim Korda airs Mon-Thurs at 10am and 7:30pm. It also broadcasts Sundays at 8:30am following the Mass for Shut-Ins. The special Fatima Rosary broadcasts each Thursday at 10am and 7:30pm.

**Early 2015 at St. Columba Cathedral...**

**Annual Mass for Life...**Saturday, Jan 17 at 12pm. Expectant mothers, fathers and families to receive a blessing for their unborn child. Lunch follows.

**Holy Hours for Life...**Sunday, Jan 18 after 4pm Mass, concluding with Benediction at 7pm. Refreshments follow.

**Annual White Mass...**recognizing the ministry of health professionals, Sunday, Jan 25 at 10:30am. Reception follows.

**God's Plan for a Joy-Filled Marriage...**Marriage Prep Retreat Day, Saturday, Jan 31. For engaged couples, those in parish marriage ministry. 744-8451.

**IN THE COMMUNITY...**

**St. Luke Church...**Stained Glass Concert Series with Youngstown Symphony, SUN 12/14, 3pm. Free will offering.

**Hospice of the Valley...**(1)Common Bond Christmas Luncheon MON 12/15, 11am-1pm at Vienna UMC. Bring a covered dish. (2)New Horizons Grief Series in Trumbull County begins TU 12/16, 5:30-7pm, 5000 E. Market St. Suite 19. Register with Kim or Karen at 330.549.5901 or 5900. Inquire about the many other bereavement programs they offer, for adults and children.

**At the Villa...**"Receiving the Word-Made-Flesh: A Fresh Look at the Logos of the Gospel of John", TH 12/18, 6:30-8:30pm. Presented by Sr. Lisa Marie Belz, OSU, Ph.D. Insight into historical context & message of the gospel texts, as well as pathways for prayer into an encounter with the Living Word. Bring Bible and questions. Call Eileen at 330.799.4941 for more info.

**St. William Parish, Champion...**Liturgy Day, "Liturgical Ministry - With Hearts, Hands and Voices," SAT 1/31, with Mrs. Rita Thiron, Exec Dir Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions as keynoter. The presentation will focus on how liturgical ministry contributes to the unity of the Church and its evangelizing mission. Further details will be available soon!

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