



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

— The word advent comes from the Latin word meaning “coming in” or “arrival.” So what what’s coming in during the Advent season? We immediately think of Christmas, the arrival of Jesus as God-made-flesh in our world. We think of mangers and shepherds and the whole scene in Bethlehem. Yet, when we look at the gospel reading for the first Sunday of Advent (Lk 21:25-38,34-36), we get a much different picture.

The scene is anything but a silent, holy night. Instead, it’s a scene of chaos and confusion. The risen Christ returns in glory at the end of time, ready to claim for himself those who have prepared for his arrival. The scene begs our attention, for it asks us to consider our commitment to the gospel and our readiness to embrace the trials that accompany our discipleship. The passage conveys a message of vigilance and spiritual strength as we face the trials and tribulations of being faithful to God.

Much of the popular portrayals of the end of the world depict a kind of doomsday scenario. The movie “2012” is one such example. In it the characters make a last ditch struggle to survive a series of earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, typhoons – the end of the world. The scenario is about as bleak as bleak can get.

Let’s be careful not to confuse Hollywood depictions and biblical depictions of the end times. Advent points to a greater future in which heaven and earth will be renewed in complete unity with one another. In a real way, God will be all in all. Though not without trials that precede its arrival, the Day of Judgment will be the Day of the Lord, a day of joy and welcoming. The coming of Jesus at the end of time is something Christians have eagerly longed for and awaited since the days of St. Paul, and the Church has not changed its outlook since.

This Advent, let’s use our time well. Let’s live in ways that prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ – both now, and at the end of time.

Fr. Mannebach



SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, a holy day of obligation,

will be celebrated on Tuesday, December 8. Mass will be celebrated on Monday, December 7 at 7:00 p.m. and on Tuesday at 12:05 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Because of the holy day Mass schedule, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will not take place on Tuesday, December 8.



GIFT - GIVING TO NEEDY FAMILIES AT CHRISTMAS -

In collaboration with St. Paul, St. Peter, and Faith Alliance Churches, our parish is again working with the United Way of Auglaize County to provide Christmas gifts to local families in need. If you are interested in sponsoring such a family, please contact Deacon Bornhorst or the parish office.



GOT TALENT? Holy Redeemer will be hosting its first-ever ‘Holy Redeemer’s Got Talent’ Christmas contest on Tuesday, December 22 at 6:30 p.m. in the parish hall.

We’re looking for anyone who can sing, dance, play an instrument, do magic, be a comedian or has any other talent. Acts need only last a few minutes in duration and be performed by single, groups, families, friends, young and old. All are welcome. Cash prizes will be awarded for first, second and third place. The audience will determine the winner by placing money in the ballot boxes of the contestants. Money raised will be sent to the Holy Family Hospital of Bethlehem. Got questions? Contact Kathy Pape at 419-629-2543 or 419-629-3130 or email at hrcrc@nktelco.net.

A G A P E UPDATE REMINDER -

Next weekend is A g a p e Sunday. This month, we would like to collect personal care items such as shampoo, liquid soap and deodorant, etc. Baskets to collect these items are placed in the church entrance. A jar for cash

donations will also be available in the church entrance. Agape appreciates and thanks you for any and all donations as it continues to serve the western Auglaize County area.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION AND YOUTH MINISTRY:

Due to early school dismissal on Wednesday, December 2, the early CCD sessions will be from 2:15-3:15 p.m. All other sessions will be at the normal times.

CYO games on Sunday, November 29 will be: boys' team vs. Ft. Loramie at Ft. Loramie at 12:30 p.m.; girls' team vs. Holy Rosary at St. Marys at 4:15 p.m.

HOPE EMERGENCY GIVING TREE items should be returned to the youth ministry office by **Monday, November 30**. Gently used clothing will also be accepted. All items will be delivered to Hope Emergency in Lynchburg OH on Thursday, December 3.



MISSION MINISTRY TEAM will ship a container of items to Grenada in December. They are requesting to include the following items: gym weights of all kinds,

gym/weight machines, barbell and dumbbells, weight bars, skipping ropes, elastic exercise bands, footballs, soccer balls, basketballs, volleyballs and musical instruments. Items can be dropped off at the parish office by Saturday, December 12. Anyone with questions should call Deacon Greg Bornhorst at 419-629-2543.



MONTHLY CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB is forming for those who like to read. It is open to those who

enjoy books that enlighten and want to get more out of what they read. For more information contact Becky Koverman at 419-629-3470 or sissy5@nktelco.net.

VOCATION VIEWS – Be on the watch! Allow God to lead you in the ways of truth and justice. God is calling you to serve. (Jeremiah 33:14-16)

OUR GIFT IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S GIFT-

November 22 - \$5,924.83 Attendance – 817
Adults - \$5,411.00 High School - \$4.00
Grade School - \$18.05 Anonymous - \$491.78
Catholic Campaign for Human Development - \$2,112.78
Holy Redeemer - \$3,812.05

BUSY (PERHAPS TOO BUSY) with holiday tasks? An Advent reflection day is the perfect spiritual "time-out" to savor the spirit of the Advent season in joyful waiting with Mary. The Sisters of the Precious Blood are hosting "A Woman's Day of Advent Reflection" on Sunday, December 6. The free program is open to all interested women of all ages. It will be held at Salem Heights, the sisters' motherhouse, at 4960 Salem Avenue at Denlinger Road, Dayton. The day begins at 9:30 a.m. and concludes at 4:00 p.m. It will include Sunday Mass, two input sessions, lunch, as well as time for discussion/sharing and personal reflection. There is no cost; free-will offerings will be accepted. Registration is requested by Monday, November 30 to arrange for meals and seating. To register, or for more information, call Sr. Carolyn Hoying at 937-231-1244 or email at Vocations@PreciousBloodSistersDayton.org.

FESTIVAL OF NATIVITIES, presented by Lehman Catholic High School Music Boosters, will take place on Saturday, December 5, from 2:00-7:00 p.m. and Sunday, December 6, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. in the cafeteria at Lehman Catholic High School, located at the intersection of Route 29 and Interstate 75 (exit 93), Sidney OH. Park in the lot on the right side of the school building and enter door #2. Viewing this display of nativity sets will get you in the Christmas spirit as we all prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Take a break from the commercialism of the holiday rat-race and remember the real reason for the season.

CHRISTMAS BENEFIT DINNER AND DANCE, sponsored by the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, will be held on Saturday, December 12 at the Knights of St. Johns Hall, 8608 State Route 119, Maria Stein OH. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m. with dinner served at 7:00 p.m. The Grandmas and the Grandpas will provide music for the evening. There will be an open bar and door prizes. Tickets are \$25 per person with all proceeds benefiting the Spiritual Center Retreat House. Tickets are available from any Spiritual Center Board member or at the Retreat House office, 2365 St. Johns Road,

Maria Stein, Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Tickets can be obtained by mail by sending a check, along with a self addressed stamped envelope, to Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, P.O. Box 95, Maria Stein OH 45860.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

December 5 & 6

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

B. Bertke – B. Feltz – F. Frey – J. Hirschfeld – S. McCollum
D. Pape – L. & R. Rutschilling – D. Stachler

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

W. Albers – J. & S. Elking – L. Holdren
S. Niekamp – C. & S. Wissman

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

L. Ahrns – D. Albers – A. Borger – J. & L Feltz – L. Dwenger
E. & J. Russell – A. Schwartz – M. Subler – A. Wellman

LECTORS:

December 5 & 6

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

G. Topp – M. Sommer

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

C. Killian – D. Dicke

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

J. Eshelman – S. McDaniel

USHERS:

December 5 & 6

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

G. Grevenkamp – T. Howell – K. McGlinch

T. Stachler – M. Varno

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

D. Champagne – L. Dicke – C. Griesdorn

G. Nosek – W. Steineman

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

D. Anderson – S. Dwenger – J. Kremer

R. Niekamp – T. Wentz

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

December 6

Jean Homan

COLLECTION COUNTERS – December 6

D. Bergman – C. Anderson – B. Kruse

ACTIVITIES:

Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist
- CCD for 3's, preschool and kindergarten during 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Children's Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass

Mon. - Ensemble rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. in music room

Tues. - Anointing of the Sick during 8:30 a.m. Mass
- Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Exercise program, 9:15 a.m. in parish hall
- Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA), 7:30 p.m. in conference room

Wed. - CCD classes: Grades 1 through 6: 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.; 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.
Grades 7 & 8: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Grades 9 through 12: 7:45 – 8:45 p.m.

- Handbell choir rehearsal, 7:30 p.m. in church

Sat. - Men's Prayer Group, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in conference room

Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist
- CCD for 3's, preschool and kindergarten during 10:00 a.m. Mass

MASSES:

November 28 to

December 6

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

Mike Heitkamp

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

Holy Redeemer

Parish

10:00 a.m.

Jeannette Philipot

Mon. 7:00 p.m. Steve Flaute

Tues. 8:30 a.m. Newton VanDeMark

Wed. 12:05 p.m. Ben Droesch

Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Rev. Carl Will

Fri. 8:30 a.m. Jan Brockert

Sat. 5:00 p.m. Al Grillot

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Vernon Eyink

10:00 a.m. Holy Redeemer Parish



SERVERS:

November 30 to December 6

Mon. 7:00 p.m.

C. Francis – N. Thobe

Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

M. Kramer – C. Schwartz

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

D. Webster – J. Wellman

Sun. 8:00 a.m.

E. Niekamp – A. Varno

Sun. 10:00 a.m.

C. Russell – D. McClurg

PARISH REPRESENTATIVES:

December 5 & 6

Sat. 5:00 p.m. Linda Fortkamp

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Lowell & Lucille Francis

Sun. 10:00 a.m. Mark & Sharon Francis family

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

Be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man." Lk 21:36

- Ensemble sings during 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Children's Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Baptism of Keira Elizabeth, daughter of James and Amy (Boeke) Wellman;
Brady William, son of Jeffrey and Nicole (Schaefer) Poepelman; and
Ruth Addison, daughter of Mitchell and Lucy (Bowen) Bambauer, 11:00 a.m.