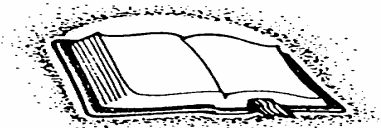


Scripture Readings

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Of Personal Concern . . .



- Mon.:** Songs 2:8-14 or Zephaniah
12/21 3:14-18a
Ps. 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21
Luke 1:30-45
- Tue.:** 1 Samuel 1:24-28
12/22 Ps. 1Samuel 2:1,4-8
Luke 1:46-56
- Wed.:** Malachi 3:1-4,23-24
12/23 Ps. 25:4-5,8-10, 14
Luke 1:57-66
- Thu.** Is 62:1-5
12/24 Ps. 89:4-5,16-17,27,29
Acts 13:16-17,22-25
Matthew 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
- Fri.:** Isaiah52:7-20
12/25 Ps. 98:1-6
Hebrews 1:1-16
John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5,9-14
- Sat.:** Acts 6:8-10;7:54-59
12/26 Ps. 31:3-4,6,8,16-17
Matthew 10:17-22
- Sun.:** 1Sam.1:20-22,24-28
12/27 Ps. 84:2-3,5-6,9-10
1John 3:1-2,21-24
Luke 2:41-52

A Family Perspective

Mary was excited with her first pregnancy and rushed to tell her cousin. Some consider children as a liability, a "mouth to feed" or an obstacle to a career. While Christmas is "for children" it is also "for adults to appreciate the gift children are to us."

Parenting Pointers—Christmas is almost over as far as our culture is concerned. Be counter-cultural. You don't have to be a Grinch about Christmas, but you can steal some moments of quiet prayer in the dark with you children. Light four candles and pause.

In Special thanks to our bulletin sponsor of the week - Creative Cuisine

Letters went out to children in grades 5 through 8 to inform them of an opportunity to serve the Lord and the Church. If your child did not receive a letter and is interested in becoming an Altar server please contact the parish office.

"Yet how many children are neither loved, nor welcomed nor respected! How many of them suffer violence and every kind of exploitation by the unscrupulous! May children always be accorded the respect and attention that are due to them: they are the future and the hope of humanity!"
~Pope Benedict XVI, Greeting at Visit to the Holy Infant of Prague, " September 26, 2009

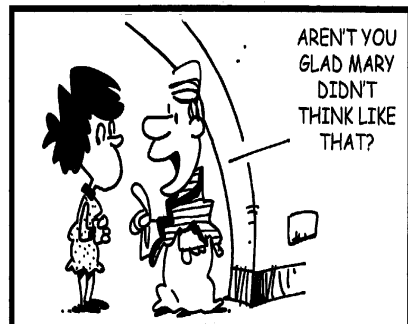
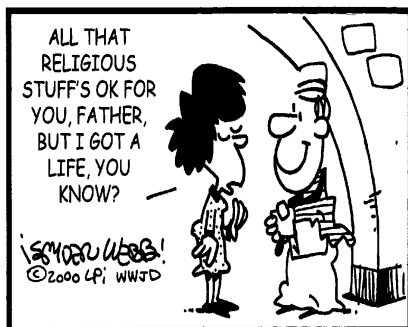
2009 Contribution Statements

Contributions for the tax year 2009 will be accepted up to and including December 31, 2009. Envelopes postmarked or received after January 1, 2010 will be credited for 2010. Hard copy statements are mailed upon request only. If you received a statement last year, you will automatically receive one this year. If you would like to begin receiving annual statements, please let us know by calling 419-625-7465 or email office@stmarysandusky.org.

St.

Mary's Parish Outreach Program: helps parishioners who find themselves in need of some financial assistance during difficult times. If this is you or a family member, contact us at 419-625-7465 or bburch @stmarysandusky.org

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Stewardship Way of Life

Week of 12/13/09

- Envelopes 641
- Weekly - \$16,350.20
- Monthly - \$ 2511.00
- Thanksgiving - \$420.00
- Immaculate Conception - \$2277.80
- Total Collection - \$21,559.00

Team 4 to count on 12/28

RUN SO AS TO WIN! (1 Cor 9:25)*Keep Hope Alive*

This side of heaven we all struggle mightily. Difficulties do not discriminate. There are moments when there seems to be no end to things causing us to lose heart and despair. Life is tough and, at times, very tough.

Hope is God's gift that enables us to look at life a certain way. Hope is God's gift that gives us the ability to look *through* difficulties, to look *beyond* them. St. Paul draws our attention to sterling examples of hope seen in the Old Testament beginning with Abraham and continued throughout in the longing of Israel for a Messiah. Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of all human desire, He is God's Hope-Made-Flesh for us. Whenever we seek to find Christ *in* our struggles their burdens lessen. St. Paul understands the bruising blows of human life and exhorts us to become more hopeful by striving passionately for the greatest spiritual gifts, to set our sights on heaven. Hope is not a mind-over-matter recipe for an easy way of living. Rather, hope had to do with discovering and experiencing a more fulfilling and meaningful way to life in which the deepest desires for eternal life get us through and beyond all that life this side of heaven can throw at us.

Think for a moment about this. The Christians who did the most for this age – the ones whose contributions shaped human history – were exactly the ones who thought most heavenly things while on earth: namely, the saints.

+++++

- A timely reminder for us all: when we leave church we do so always representing our faith and parish. Some people make determinations about our parish and Catholic Faith based on our actions with them – both positively and negatively. Let's all give people cause to want to learn more about the Catholic Faith and even to come to Christmas Mass.
- There is a good chance that your favorite pew and parking spot will be occupied by others during the Christmas Masses. How wonderful it is that people still desire so deeply to come to worship the Newborn King and to do so in our beautiful and historic church!
- In a sense our whole life is a continual Advent, that is getting ourselves ready to meet Christ one day. One of the best ways of getting ready to find Christ in this life and afterwards being with him in eternity is making a well-prepared Confession. We are pleased to provide the following special hour-long Confession times before Christmas: (Mon) Dec 21 - 9:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm (Tri-Parish Penance Service); (Tue) Dec 22 - 9:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm.
- The "Doritos and Little Debbie" drive was so successful for Fr. Jason that I now am looking for an *elliptical machine*. If you are using one as a clothes rack, I promise it will be put to more vigorous use in the rectory. No questions asked about your usage of such an exercise machine – only gratitude for it to be used in the rectory by one or, maybe even, both priests.
- Speaking of our dutiful associate pastor and spirited Buckeye alumnus, Fr. Jason quipped that I have been easier to be around during the 5-game Green Bay Packers winning streak. Should the Packers falter, you just might want to keep the light on for him.

**Mass Intentions****Sun., December 20**

- 7:30 a.m. Paul Manner
John & Louise Stamm
Helen Verock
9:30 a.m. Robert & Teresa Baum
Joanne Dye
Linda Schippel Nixon
11:30 a.m. John & Karolina Novotny
Chuck & Ruth Barker
Jame Biehl
5:00 p.m. For The Parish

Mon., December 21 -

- 8:15 a.m. Anna & Franz Hofstetter
Betty & George Hofstetter
Ethel & Lawrence Keller

Tues., December 22

- 8:15 a.m. Doug Sartor
Sandra Gurnick

Wed., December 23

- 8:15 a.m. George & Dorothy Pfanner
James Mariea
Angelo & Leontine Russo

Thurs., December 24—Christmas Vigil

- 4:00 pm.
4:05 pm.
6:00 pm

Fri., December 25—Christmas

- 12:00 am
7:30 am
9:30 am

Sat., December 26—St. Stephan

- 8:15 a.m. Sam Ulery
Ellen Green
LaVerna Harkness
Cheryl Bakewell
4:00 p.m. Anthony Pfefferle
Milton Fox
Wayne Fairfield

Sun., December 27

- 7:30 a.m. Stephen Neubauer
Johnny & Martha Stamm
Marian Sturginger
9:30 a.m. Brad Rudolph
Don Wagner
George & Eileen Schmidt
11:30 a.m. Clyde & Emily Hofacker
Alice Davie & Michael Davie
Edward & Elizabeth Fitz
5:00 p.m. For the Parish

Confessions 1/2 hour before every Mass.



Dec 21: Christmas Program, 4yr. Olds & PreK at ECC 9:30am
 Dec 22: Christmas Program, 3 yr olds at ECC 9:30 am
 Dec. 22: Christmas Break Begins

Dec 23-Jan 3: ECC Daycare Closed
 Jan 4: Classes resume for Pre-school—Grade 12
 All SCCS offices will be closed until January 4, 2010

Merry Christmas and Peace to All from the Faculty, Staff and Students of SCCS

SANDUSKY LIFE TEEN

Reflections for the Fourth Week of Advent

The angel announces to Mary, “You shall bear a son whose name will be Emmanuel,” which means, God is with us. As Christmas draws near, let us open our hearts in trust to the power of the Holy Spirit who comes upon us. Let us join Mary in saying, “Be done unto me according to your will.”

The Fourth Candle of Advent: The Candle of Peace

The fourth candle reminds that Jesus comes to bring Peace to both the world and to people’s hearts. Without Christ there is no peace in this world.”

Suggested Scripture and Prayer for the lighting of the candle of Peace


Scripture: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus...Blessed is she who trusted that the Lord’s word to her would be fulfilled.” Luke 1:42,45

Prayer: Jesus, you are the light of the world. Yet you were born in the darkness of night, in a cold stable with only the animals to warm you. Let the light of your love shine on us so we can see you today in all the helpless children, in all who have no home. Teach us how to love you in them.

O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

To Note: Sandusky Life Teen will have Mass on December 20, 2009, however there will be no Life Night following. Join us on Tuesday, December 22nd for our Christmas Movie watch at Holy Angels. The Movie starts at 7:00pm in the Holy Angels Gym. We will be watching Elf.

Enjoy this week of Peace and have a very Merry Christmas!



Other Items of Interest

Do you have a three year old who would benefit from a caring, educational, enriching preschool or day-care? The Early Childhood Center at Holy Angels Campus will be enrolling students beginning in January. Call today at 419-626-3075 for more information. Also, we do have a few openings for four and five year olds.



Please pray for the safety and protection of our policemen and women, area firefighters and all our parishioners serving in the military.

Help Needed: We are in desperate need for Church cleaners on Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings. Please call the Parish Office if you can help out.



Dec. 21 - Tri-Parish Reconciliation 7 p.m. St. Mary's



The Giving Tree is in the Commons with the names and addresses of our **parish seniors over 85 and parish homebound.** Please take a name of one or more and either send them a Christmas card, stop by to visit, send a fruit basket or flowers.

SMCC Hall of Fame Tickets on Sale: Tickets are on sale for the 10th Annual SMCC Athletic & Achievement Hall of Fame banquet in January. The Class of 2009 will be honored at the 2 p.m. ceremony on Jan. 17 at the Sandusky Yacht Club. Tickets, \$25, can be obtained by calling Dave Mehling 419-625-4768 or Gary Erney 419-626-5389. The inductees are Julie Cairelli, Glenn Fairfield, Bob Hart, Ed Naufel, Jared Opfer, Kevin Roth, Ron Weyer and the 1959 golf team of Ron Loeffler, Bob Orshoski, Arnold Schuessler and Paul Windisch.

Parish Owned Property for Rent

Efficiency apartment, second floor, completely remodeled. Available immediately. \$450 per month including all utilities. 412 Fulton Street.

One bedroom apartment, third floor, clean and updated. Available immediately. \$395 per month including all utilities. 412 Fulton Street.

Call Mark at 419-656-1456 for information.

Breakfast with Santa: The Sandusky Knights of Columbus invited Santa to breakfast on Sunday December 20, 2009 from 8:30am until 1:00pm Come join him! All you can eat pancake breakfast \$6.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. All proceeds go directly toward scholarships for local kids.

WEEKLY PARISH CALENDAR

SUN., Dec. 20	Fourth Sunday of Advent		
	9:30 am	Childrens Liturgy of the Word (Grades K-2)	Parish Commons
	9:30 am	Good Shepherd Program (program FULL)	(Atrium) Parish Center
	10:30 am	Parish School of Religion 7th Grade	Lower Room
	10:45 am	Childrens Choir Practice	Choir Room
	11:30 am	Childrens Liturgy of the Word	Parish Commons
	11:30 am	Good Shepherd Program (program FULL)	(Atrium) Parish Center
	3:00 pm	Brass Rehersal	Church
	5:00 pm	Sandusky Life Teen Mass	Holy Angels Church
	6:00 pm	Parish School of Religion 8th Grade	Holy Angels School
MON., Dec 21	9:00 am	Confession	Church
	9:00 am	Church Cleaners Team #2 & 3	Church
	12:00 pm	Confession	Church
	5:00 pm	Bulletin Deadline	Office
	7:00 pm	Tri Parish Penance Service	Church
TUE., Dec. 22	9:00 am	Confession	Church
	12:00 pm	Confession	Church
	6:00 pm	Holy Hour	Church
	7:00 pm	Confession	Church
	7:00 pm	RCIA	St Peter and Paul Faith Formation Center
	7:00 pm	Women's Bible Study	Lower Room
WED., Dec. 23	12:00 am	Office Closed For Christmas	Office
	4:00 pm	Community Supper Team 5	First Congregational Church
	5:45 pm	No Parish School of Religion (PSR)	Sandusky Central Catholic School
	7:00 pm	Contemporary Choir Practice	Church
THU., Dec. 24	Office Closed		
	4:00 pm	Vigil Mass	Church
	4:05 pm	Pre School Mass	Catholic Grade School Gym (Multipurpose Room)
	6:00 pm	Vigil Mass	Church
	11:30 pm	Carols Begin	Church
FRI., Dec. 25	Office Closed		
	12:00 am	Solemn Mass at Midnight	Church
	7:30 am	Mass At Dawn	Church
	9:30 am	Mass During the Day	Church
SAT., Dec. 26	7:00 am	Men's Bible Study	Lower Room

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR Dec. 26 & Dec. 27

	4:00 PM	7:30 AM	9:30 AM	11:30 AM	5:00 PM
Servers	T. Fitzthum A. Hurlburt G. Puckrin	M Coulter A. Lynn	C. Gallagher M. Gallagher H. Holliday	A. DeRiso C. DeRiso N. DeRiso	B. Bauman M. Bauman M. Bauman
Extra Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	D. Gerold J. Hippler D. Kennedy T. Puckrin*	L. Brown Deacon B. Burch J. Fenton* R. Fox	A. Boros M. Boros R. Icsman R. Jeffrey*	K. Bush J. Gennari K. Killingsworth B. Kromer	T. Biehl J. Daniel J. Lawrence* M. Maltese*
	K. Schmiesing K. Schmiesing L. Smith*	P. Killingsworth S. Kriedler* C. McGuire	G. Jeffrey* Z. Kromer J. Windisch C. Stookey J. Stookey	J. Matthews* J. McClain R. Wahl*	J. Mavros
Lector	A. Puckrin	D. Geason	C. Wellington	M. Chimera	A. Daniel
Mass Coordinator	M. Deubel	J. Claar L. Ulery	A. Geason	J. Kustec	L. Bedee

Christmas and Jan. 1 Holy Day Masses: Sign up sheets for all Ministers for all Holy Days are in the Servers Sacristy. Please look at the schedules and see where you can help out. Thank you.

St. Mary's Catholic Church
429 Central Avenue, Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 625-7465—Phone
(419) 621 - 2834—Fax
office@stmarysandusky.org
www.stmarysandusky.org

Office Hours:
Monday 8:00 am—5:00 pm
Tuesday through Thursday 8:00 am—8:00 pm
Friday 8:00 am—5:00 pm
Closed 12:30 pm—1:30 pm for lunch

PRIESTS **Ext.**
Fr. Dave Nuss - Pastor 14
dnuss@stmarysandusky.org
Fr. Jason Kahle - Assoc. Pastor 20
jkahle@stmarysandusky.org

DEACONS
Deacon Jeff Claar 11
jclaar@stmarysandusky.org
Deacon Bill Burch 15
bburch@stmarysandusky.org

ADMINISTRATION
Deacon Jeff Claar - Bus. Mgr.
11
jclaar@stmarysandusky.org

Mary Riesterer - Parish Sec.
10
office@stmarysandusky.org

Ruth Guendelsberger - Bookkeeper 30
ruth@stmarysandusky.org

BUILDING AND GROUNDS
Mark Fitzthum 16
mark@stmarysandusky.org

CHRISTIAN FORMATION
Deb Geason - Catechetical Leader
24
dgeason@stmarysandusky.org

Marty Klupp - RCIA Coordinator

EVENT COORDINATOR
Mickey Linden - Event Coordinator
mlinden@stmarysandusky.org

MUSIC MINISTRY
Tim Claubaugh - Organist/Director 18
music@stmarysandusky.org
Heather Gerber - Contemporary Choir
hgerber@stmarysandusky.org

Mike Schmenk - Children's Choir
music@stmarysandusky.org

SANDUSKY LIFE TEEN
Brittany Taylor - Executive Director 26
btaylor@sanduskylifeteen.org

FUNERAL COORDINATOR
Monica Deubel - 419-625-7465

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

PRAYER NETWORK
Pauline or Stephanie (419)626-4373

COMMUNION TO HOME BOUND
Paul and Kathy Wiesler - Coordinator
419-625-7465

PARISH OUTREACH
Deacon Bill Burch 15
bburch@stmarysandusky.org

Teresa Sloma 12
tsloma@stmarysandusky.org

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES
Heather Kromer - Office Manager
419-625-2673
catholiccemeteries@bex.net

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Joyce Dillinger—Co-Chair
Jim McClain—Co-Chair
David Darr
Linda Hohler
Denise Klepper
Judy Matthews
Pam Riggs
Anne Smith
Paul Stanley
Helen Sturbaum
Julie Youskievicz

FINANCE COUNCIL

Don Henry—Chair
Mark Clifford
Juanita Fenton
Tom Sloma
Tim Walsh
Ken Domanski
Kevin Ralofsky
Tim Collins
Gina Vincent
Rose Nath

St. Mary's Parish

Mission Statement

**Inspiring believers to imitate
Jesus Christ,
receive the Holy Sacraments,
and live in the heart of the
Catholic Faith.**

**SANDUSKY CENTRAL
CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

Administration

Dr. Judy Monaghan - Supt.
Fr. Jason Kahle - Chaplain
Janet Runner - Exec. Asst. Supt.
410 West Jefferson Street
Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 627-9718 - Phone
(419) 621-2252 - Fax
www.sanduskycentralcatholic.org

Early Childhood Center

Sally Dwight - Director
Carol Koelsch - Admin Asst. Dir.
1603 West Jefferson St.
Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 626-3075 Phone

Elementary

Ann Whitfield - Principal
Jodi Parish - Admin Asst. Prin.
530 Decatur Street
Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 626-1648 Phone

High School

Mike Savona - Principal
Lois Walsh - Admin Asst. Prin.
410 West Jefferson Street
Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 626-1892 Phone

SCCS Foundation

Michele Gallagher, President
(419) 627-0370

Board of Directors

Jeanne Lawrence, President
Charlie Murray, Vice President
Tim Walsh, Secretary
Michael Claar
Eric Dudenhoefer
Fr. Chris Kardzis
Holly Kromer
Steve May
Fr. Marty Nassr
Fr. Dave Nuss
Julie Roth

Community News

Erie County Red Cross Blood Drive—Sandusky Library

114 West Adams St. Monday, Dec. 21 1:00 pm—6:00 pm
Come to donate and receive an American Red Cross long sleeved gray T-shirt

All you can eat breakfast—Sunday, Dec. 20, 2009. Serving from 8:00 am –12:00 pm. Monroeville K of C Peru Center Rd. Monroeville. Adults - \$6:00, Children: \$2:00 Under 6 free.

St. Mary's Movie Night

Double Feature

*6:00 P.M. The Little Drummer Boy (30 min) *6:45 PM The Nativity Story (1 hr 45 min)
St. Mary's Commons Wednesday Dec. 30th

FREE ADMISSION *FREE POPCORN *FREE DRINKS

Bring your sleeping bag and pillows. Spend time with your family and fellow parish families this holiday season!

The Vermilion Knights of Columbus invite you to join them on a Fall Cruise to New England & Canada. Sail on Sept. 18, 2010 on the Holland America Maasdam. Call Rob Skladan of Choose to Cruise Now at 440-967-5833 for details and pricing. A refundable deposit of \$350 per person holds your cabin.

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY ADULT GROUP:

An adult group of parishioners from all three Catholic parishes have been meeting about once a week for almost a year now, using the Little Rock Scripture Study series. They will be starting a new study called "Introduction to the Bible" on January 19th (They meet Tuesday nights from 7:00 pm to approx. 8:45 pm), and they are open to having new members join the group. If anyone is interested in joining, please call Sr. Joyce Bates at Holy Angels (419-625-3698).