


# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY PARISH



December  
Month of The  
Immaculate  
Conception

December 8, 2019  
Second Sunday of Advent

HH - Hitch Hall MH - Maher Hall  
SB - School Basement  
R - Rectory CH - Church  
WH - Waldeisen Hall

Date	Observance	Mass Time & Intention	Server(s)	Readings	Event/Meeting
Mon Dec 9	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary	5:30 pm <b>Walter, Christine &amp; Thomas Bandelow</b> by Family	Baker Cline	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38	
Tues Dec 10				Is 40:1-11; Mt 18:12-14	<b>Free Store</b> 4:30 - 7 pm SB <b>Altar &amp; Rosary Society</b> 6 pm HH
Wed Dec 11	Damasus I, Pope	5:30 pm <b>Candi Caruso</b> by Family	Cline	Is 40:25-31; Mt 11:28-30	<b>Contemporary Choir</b> 6:45 pm CH
Thur Dec 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe			Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a, 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47	
Fri Dec 13	Lucy, Virgin & Martyr	5:30 pm <b>Martha Vanca</b> by Mary Jo Bailey & Janet Brown	Cline	Is 48:17-19; Mt 11:16-19	
Sat Dec 14	John of the Cross, Priest & Doctor	5:30 pm <b>Wm. Manning Smith</b> by Fr. Mike	5:30 pm Ortscheid Ortscheid	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Mt 17:9a, 10-13	<b>Confessions</b> 9 - 10 am CH <b>Free Store</b> 9:30 - Noon SB
Sun Dec 15	Third Sunday of Advent  <b>Bambinelli Sunday</b>	8:30 am <b>Emilio Ciccolini</b> by son, Fr. Sam 11 am <b>People of the Parish</b>	8:30 am Baker 11 am Wilson	Is 35:1-6a, 10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11	

## Sanctuary Lamp - Special Intention

**Holy Hours:** Mon. & Tues. 9 am – 5 pm.

Please come to the rectory for entry to the church.

There were 3 Holy Hours made last week.

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools  
spurn wisdom and discipline. Proverbs 1:7

## COLLECTION REPORT

Week Ending	Nov 24	Dec 1
<b>Sunday Offering -</b>	\$2,790.00	\$2,776.00
<b>Daily Offering -</b>	\$220.00	\$100.00
<b>Holy Day -</b>	-	\$60.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,010.00</b>	<b>\$2,936.00</b>
<b>Weekly Budget operating costs</b>	\$3,945.00	\$3,945.00
<b>(Shortfall) Overage</b>	<b>(\$935.00)</b>	<b>(\$1,009.00)</b>
<b>St. Vincent de Paul -</b>	\$25.00	\$205.00
<b>Capital Improvement -</b>	\$1,150.00	\$10.00
<b>Debt Reduction -</b>	\$10.00	\$305.00
<b>Other Gifts -</b>	\$40.00	-
Envs used of 260 sent	71	70
95 households receiving envelopes have not used them in 2019.		

## Holy Family Candle - Special Intention

➤ **The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception**, our parish feast day, falls on a Sunday this year so the holy day of obligation has been dispensed. We will observe this special day at the 5:30 pm Mass on Mon., Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> and we invite you all to come, wear blue to honor Mary and give thanks to our Blessed Mother for her intercession on behalf of her children at I.C.

➤ **Altar & Rosary Society Dinner** – Tues., Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm, Hitch Hall. Please bring bar soap & toothpaste for the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry.

➤ **O Come All Ye Faithful** to decorate our church for Christmas on Tues., Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

**Christmas Across the Pews** - Forms are available at the doors of the church. Please return the forms to the rectory by this Thursday.

**Bambinelli Sunday** – Next weekend on the 3rd Sunday of Advent, children & their families gather in St. Peter's Square for a special papal blessing of the Christ Child, "Bambinelli," figure from their Nativity scene. We invite all households to bring their Bambinelli to Mass Dec. 14 & 15 for a special blessing.

### Advent Reflection

Today's reflection is excerpted from *2020: A Book of Grace-Filled Days* by Amy Welborn. How often do we walk into a room and wonder, *Wait a minute, what is it I came for? Why am I here? What was I looking for?* As Advent begins, we also walk into a room – the room of the rest of our lives that begins anew every day – and we're invited to ask those same questions. And in the very season of Advent itself, we hear the answer. What or whom are we waiting for? The Lord who created us and calls us forward, that's who. Sometimes waiting can be frustrating and seem like a waste of time – until something important comes along. When we know for whom we are waiting – and the promise of glory he holds – that changes everything.

### STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

Advent means "coming" or "arrival" so what exactly are we waiting for? Is it presents, decorations, gathering with family, cookies and treats, Santa Claus? For us as Christians, we await the coming of THE BEST GIFT EVER - the Christ Child, the Son of God, the Anointed One, Jesus. We light our homes to symbolize the light Jesus brings to a world darkened by sin and give presents symbolizing the gifts of the Magi, but how are we preparing our hearts for this precious gift? Stewardship of time refers to time spent in prayer, worship, spiritual reading and reflection. This Advent let us strive to put as much effort into our spiritual preparation as we do holiday preparations, send Christmas cards, not holiday cards, call upon the gifts of the Spirit listed in our first reading and do as John the Baptist preached – repent and then prepare the way of the Lord in our hearts and in the hearts and lives of all we meet.

### STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Free Store** – Won't you consider joining with other parishioners and friends to help sort items? Your stewardship will be greatly appreciated.

**Adventures in Home Safety!** The Fire Marshall has completed inspection of our church, rectory, convent & school buildings. We are required to install illuminated "EXIT" signs at the doors of the church, create dedicated electrical lines for the rectory copy room and in the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry storage room. "Wishing Well" contribution baskets are at the main doors of the church and the door nearest the parking lot to help cover this unanticipated maintenance expense. Please be generous.

**Liturgical Ministers** are needed for all Christmas liturgies. Please see Melissa or call the rectory to share your stewardship:

Christmas Eve 5:30 pm – Need EMHCs, Servers, Mins. of Hosp.

Christmas Eve 10 pm – Need EMHCs, Mins. of Hosp.

Christmas Day 10 am – Need EMHCs, Servers, Mins. of Hosp.

Please do not presume someone else will do the ministry – step forward.

*Due to Christmas and New Year's, the **Anointing of the Sick** for December will be on Mon., Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> at the 5:30 pm Mass.*

**Acme Cashback** - Please place all Acme receipts in the baskets by the doors of the church.

The **Free Store** will be closed Tues., Dec. 24, Sat., Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> and Tues, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Advent Reading** – Stop by our library in Hitch Hall during the week, before or after Mass or see books available for check-out on the tables by the main doors.

**Protecting God's Children** - The Diocese of Cleveland's "Protecting God's Children" program is a continuing effort to instruct & inform everyone about the protection of children from sexual abuse. To report past or present suspected inappropriate behavior toward children by priests, deacons, religious, lay ecclesial ministers or personnel associated with the church, please contact the Diocesan Response Service Office at 216-334-2999 or email [response\\_services@dioceseofcleveland.org](mailto:response_services@dioceseofcleveland.org).

We extend a warm welcome to all visitors to our parish and hope to see you again!

### Other Events

• **Divorced, Separated & Widowed Catholics of Akron:**

Mon., Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 pm, Immaculate Heart of Mary Convent Bldg. The topic for the evening is Gratitude. Bob Bender, Deacon at St. Vincent de Paul Church in Akron will be speaking to the group. This event is open at no cost to single people of all faiths. Refreshments at 7:15. For information call Marlene at 330-607-6284.

• **Advent Retreat For Women: *Advent Evening of Reflection:*** Dec. 17. Join us for a simple supper, spiritual fellowship & sharing as we spend time in quiet prayer with scripture in the spirit of St.. For more information or to register, visit [www.loyolaretreathouse.com](http://www.loyolaretreathouse.com) or call 330-896-2315.

• **Local Advent Reflections from AM 1260 The Rock:**

Fr. Ryan Mann, Parochial Vicar at St. John Neumann Parish in Strongsville, will share his Advent reflections on AM 1260 The Rock with a new reflection each week. Tune in to AM 1260 The Rock to hear Fr. Mann's reflections, daily Gospel reflections, and other great programming to make your Advent a time of prayer and preparation. Visit [www.am1260therock.com](http://www.am1260therock.com) for our program schedule.

• **Grief Support Group:** Sun., Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> 3 - 4 pm; Holy Cross Cemetery main office. The topic for December is: Emmanuel/God With Us: You are Not Alone. If you are interested in participating in our Grief Support Groups, please contact Rhonda at 216-930-4866. A reservation is not required, but is appreciated.