



December
Month of The
Immaculate
Conception

December 18, 2022

Fourth Sunday of Advent

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

| Date | Observance | Mass Intention | Readings | Event |
|----------------|-------------------------|--|---|---|
| Mon Dec 19 | | 5:30 pm Dorothy Rauckhorst by Bernie Rauckhorst | Jg 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25 | |
| Tues Dec 20 | | | Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38 | Free Store 4 - 7 pm SB |
| Wed Dec 21 | | | Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45 | |
| Thur Dec 22 | | | 1 Sm 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56 | |
| Fri Dec 23 | | 5:30 pm Allen Perry by the Altar & Rosary Society | Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66 | |
| Sat Dec 24 | | 5:30 pm Jerry Hardesty by Family 10 pm Frank C. Smith by Fr. Mike | Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/> Mt 1:1-25 Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14 | No Confessions Free Store Closed |
| Sun Dec 25 | Nativity of the Lord | 10 am Living & Deceased Members of the Ordination Class of 1974 by Fr. Mike | Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 | |
| | | | | |

Sanctuary Lamp - Special Intention

Holy Family Candle - Special Intention

COLLECTION REPORT

| Week Ending | Dec 4 | Dec 11 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Sunday Offering - | \$3,437.00 | \$3,254.00 |
| Daily Offering - | \$20.00 | \$480.00 |
| Holy Day - | \$70.00 | \$728.00 |
| Christmas - | \$160.00 | \$100.00 |
| Total | \$3,687.00 | \$4,526.00 |
| Weekly operating costs | \$3,200.00 | \$3,200.00 |
| (Shortfall) Overage | \$487.00 | \$1,362.00 |
| YTD Over (short) - | \$6,210.50 | \$7,572.50 |
| St. Vincent de Paul - | \$140.00 | \$70.00 |
| Cap. Improvement - | \$3.00 | \$1,070.00 |
| Debt Reduction - | \$270.00 | \$175.00 |
| Other Gifts - | \$10,270.00 | \$2,850.00 |
| Diocese Designated - | \$100.00 | \$234.00 |
| KMA Thanksgiving Dinner - | | \$20.00 |
| Envs used of 240 sent | 59 | 74 |

Stewardship of Treasure: We know that budgets are very tight right now & the rectory budget is the same way. We depend on your stewardship through the use of your envelopes to pay staff a fair wage & pay our bills. Please continue to be good faithful stewards, If you visit another parish, be sure to send or drop off your envelopes here.

Confessions: Please note: there will be **NO Confessions** heard at I.C. on Saturdays, Dec. 24th nor Dec. 31st.

100th Anniversary Events – Mark your Calendars!

- **100 Days of Prayer:** The 100 day countdown to our 100th anniversary has begun and we are observing it through prayer; 100 prayers, 100 days, 100 minutes! We began December 14th, but if you didn't get a copy of the prayers you may find them at the doors of the church. We ask that you spend 1 minute in prayer and reflection for the intention of the day.
- Share your **favorite I.C. Memory** – ½ sheet forms may be found at all doors of the church. We have a great legacy so share a memory that stands out for you. Please return the sheets in the collection basket or to the rectory.
- **Bowling:** January – stay tuned.
- Mark your calendars and be sure to invite family and friends to our **Night at the Races: Saturday, Feb. 18th**. Proceeds will benefit the parish Capital Improvement fund. Fliers are at the doors of the church. **A ticket would make a great Christmas present!**
- Keep **Sunday, March 19th** open and watch for anniversary celebration information!

Christmas morning: the choir will begin Christmas music at 9:45 am

The **rectory will be closed** at noon on Friday, December 23rd and all day on December 26th.

Stay informed, visit www.ickenmore.org.

History of Popes

#261 – **St. John XXIII** - Pope from Oct. 28, 1958 – death, June 3, 1963. Angelo Roncalli was the third of 13 children, born in 1881 to sharecroppers in a tiny north-Italian village. He attended seminary on scholarship but interrupted his schooling to briefly serve in the Italian army. After returning and being ordained a priest in 1904, Angelo continued his studies while serving the poor and working class as secretary for the Bishop of Bergamo. He re-entered military service as a chaplain during World War I, then worked as a spiritual director for the Bergamo seminary. Angelo later served in Turkey and Greece as a papal legate, helped with post-war efforts in Paris in 1944, and was made cardinal-patriarch of Venice in 1952, where he expected to live out his days as a humble pastor. Elected at the age of 76, taking the name, Pope John XXIII, he instantly put to rest any confusion about whether the now-Antipope John XXIII was to be considered legitimate. John started his papacy by eliminating the 70-member maximum in the College of Cardinals, boosting the number to 87, proposing a diocesan synod for Rome, creating a new ecumenical council for the Universal Church, and issuing a revised Code of Canon Law. His most notable act was convening the Second Vatican Council. He was the first pope in nearly a century to make pastoral visits in the Diocese of Rome, he made a habit of visiting children's hospitals and prisons, and frequently avoided formal language when interacting with the faithful. John XXIII even earned the nickname "Johnny Walker" for his tendency to sneak out of the Vatican at night to walk the streets of Rome. On the writing front, he commemorated, like Pope Pius XI had done, Pope Leo XIII's encyclical on Catholic Social Teaching, **Rerum Novarum**, with the encyclical **Mater et Magistra** ("Mother and Teacher", 1961). He also wrote the document **Pacem in terris** ("Peace on earth") on human dignity and world unity in 1963, just months after talking America and the Soviet Union from a Cold-War standoff. After his death from stomach cancer in June 1963, John's cause for canonization moved quickly. It was opened by Paul VI in 1965, pushed forward by his 2000 beatification by John Paul II, and culminated in his canonization on the Day of Four Popes, April 27, 2014. Pope St. John XXIII was known to be a bit of a joker. When asked once how many people worked in the Vatican, he replied, "About half of them." Another time, a Vatican official said it would be "absolutely impossible" to open Vatican II by 1963. John responded, "Fine, we'll open it in 1962."

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

As we enter into this last week of Advent, let us not be obsessed with decorations, wrapping, & last minute gift buying, but focus on the wonder that awaits us at Christmas. The prophet Isaiah writes, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you this sign: the virgin shall conceive and bear a son & shall name him Emmanuel." The Gospel gives us an account of the birth of our Lord, Jesus. As we read Matthew's words, we should be in awe of the faithfulness of Mary and Joseph who faced tremendous hardships in their obedience to God. How faithful are we, especially when things don't go the way we planned? Do we complain, pout & get mad at God or do we enter into prayer to our God who is our source of strength & courage? Emmanuel means "God is with us." May we never forget that God is with us always and may we strive to be as faithful and obedient to the will of God as Mary and Joseph were.

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

A parish family is very much like a personal family. There are jobs and chores that need doing & if they don't get done, things are out of sorts and don't run smoothly. Here is a list of "chores/jobs" that need to be addressed here at the parish – everybody can do something!

Liturgical Needs: Please call Melissa at the rectory to share your stewardship

Christmas Eve 5:30 pm *Lector:* B. Langton *EMHC:* L. Woods + NEED *Server:* J. Langton *MofH:* S. Woods + NEED

Christmas Eve 10 pm *Lector:* J. Osolin *EMHC:* J. Osolin + NEED *Server:* M. Keegan, L. Morgan *MofH:* NEED

Christmas 10 am *Lector:* V. Lackney; *EMHC:* NEED *Server:* R. Baker, D. Cline *MofH:* NEED

Liturgical Ministry – We're in dire need of *Lectors, Altar Servers and Contemporary Choir members.* Training provided. Please help. Please call the rectory.

Free Store Help – Have a heart for those in need & like to work with friendly, faith-filled people? Stop by Tuesdays, 4-7 pm or Saturdays, 9 am-12, check it out & join the team!

CareCards – Let our shut-ins know they are not forgotten & are important to us. Buy or create cards of encouragement, add a short note & sign your name. Put the cards into the envelope (do not seal) & place into the basket. Please, no cards from charitable or religious organizations.

Bingo – We are in real need of Bingo help. Do you have even one Wednesday a month to call Bingo, sell Instant Bingo or learn the office from our amazing Bingo Manager, Lorie? We need more people to serve our clientele & to rotate workers. Bingo income is **critical** to our parish finances so come help, be part of a team, meet new people & help your parish.

Masses – To schedule a Mass, please call the rectory; the stipend is \$10. Available dates: Weekdays, 5:30 pm: Jan. 2, 9, 13, 16, 20, 25. Saturdays, 5:30 pm: Jan. 7, 14, 28; Sundays, 8:30 am: Jan 8, 15, 22, 29, 11 am: Jan. 15, 22, 29.

Acme Cashback - Watch the list of items needed for the Community Meal & help them and the parish as well by purchasing the brands that qualify for Cashback – see the fliers at the doors of the church. Thank you.

Other Events

•**Prayer Service:** Every Wednesday at 6 pm, Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church, Brown St., holds a prayer service for Ukraine. The service is about 30 minutes long and is in English. All are welcome.

•**The Bethlehem Cave and Nativity Museum:** Nativity of the Lord Jesus Parish, 2425 Myersville Rd. Akron, will be open for guided tours at 2 pm daily December 26-30. Visit a replica of the cave where Jesus was born & view 500 nativity sets from around the world. There is no cost, but donations are accepted. For info, email tours@nativityofthelord.org or call 330-699-5086 weekdays.