



December
Month of The
Immaculate
Conception

December 3, 2023
First 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 4	John Damascene, Priest & Doctor	5:30 pm George Janky by Don May	Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11	
Tues Dec 5			Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24	Free Store 4-7 pm SB
Wed Dec 6	Nicholas, Bishop		Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37	Bingo: WH - Open 9:30 am Game 11:00 am
Thur Dec 7	Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor Vigil Mass for Holy Day	5:30 pm Special Intention for Kovalchin Family by Kovalchin Family	Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27	AFE - 6:45 pm WH
Fri Dec 8	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary Holy Day of Obligation Our Feast Day	5:30 pm Randy Stebbins by Joe & Beth Langton	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38	
Sat Dec 9	Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin	5:30 pm Larry Stanley by Linda Morgan	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8	Confessions: 9 am - 10am CH Free Store 9 am - 12 pm SB
Sun Dec 10	Second Sunday of Advent	8:30 am Steve Zamesko by Bernie Gnap 11:00 am Bob Doerr by Kathy Doerr	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8	

Sanctuary Lamp - Special Intention

Holy Family Candle - Special Intent

COLLECTION REPORT

<i>Week Ending</i>	<i>November 19</i>	<i>November 26</i>
Sunday Offering -	\$ 2,659.00	\$ 2,032.00
Daily Offering -	900.00	
Holy Day -		
Total	\$ 3,559.00	\$ 2,032.00
Weekly offertory budget	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,200.00
(Shortfall) Overage	359.00	\$ 1,168.00)
YTD Over (short) -	\$ 9,281.85	\$ 8,113.85
St. Vincent de Paul -	\$ 65.00	
Cap. Improvement -	\$ 70.00	\$ 355.00
Debt Reduction -	\$ 350.00	\$ 140.00
Other Gifts -		\$ 30.00
Diocese Designated -	\$ 162.00	\$ 20.00
Envs used of 240 sent	45	42

Available Mass Dates – Weekdays: 5:30 pm: December 18, 22, 27, 29; : **January 1; 10:00 am (Holy Day)**
5:30 pm: January 5, 8, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 31
Saturdays: 5:30 pm: December 30, January 6, 27
Sundays: 8:30 am: January 7, 21, 28, February 4, 11, 25
Sundays: 11:00 am: February 18, March 10, 17, 24

Bambinelli Sunday: December 16th & 17th - Bring the Christ Child figure from your nativity set to Mass to be blessed.

PLEASE NOTE: There will only be 1 morning Mass at 10:00 am on Sunday, December 24th because that evening is Christmas Eve and we have 2 Masses that night. It is unfair and unjust to expect Fr. Mike to celebrate 4 masses in one day.

Adult Faith Enrichment: Our next session will be this Thursday, December 7th at 7pm in Waldeisen Hall. Doors open at 6:45; bring a snack to share. Continuing our study of **David, the King**, our topics will be: *The House of David* and *Absalom, My Son*. Do something spiritual & uplifting this Advent & join us.

This Friday, December 8th is the **Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception - a Holy Day of Obligation** and our **parish feast day!!** We've ordered beautiful blue & white carnations for the altar as well as Marian holy cards for everyone. Masses will be celebrated at 5:30 pm Thursday, December 7th & Friday, December 8th and we encourage you to wear something blue to honor and thank our Blessed Mother who intercedes for our parish to her Son every day. After Mass on the 7th, come over to Waldeisen Hall for AFE.

Church Decorating on Tuesday, Dec. 19th at 6:30 pm. Come and help make our church beautiful for Jesus!

Christmas Greetings Across the Pews fliers are in this week's bulletin. Fill it out and send your personal Christmas greeting to your fellow parishioners.

Journey with the Pope

"Wisdom means knowing how to make room for silence, so as to be capable of listening to ourselves and others. It means knowing how to give up some of the time passed in front of the telephone screen to look at the light in the eyes of others, in one's own heart, in God's gaze upon us. It means not falling into the trap of activism, but devoting time to the Lord, to listening to His Word."

Pope Francis

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS - Being Stewards of the Faith - The Eucharist

Jesus instituted the gift of the Eucharist at the Last Supper as a memorial of His death and resurrection and commanded His apostles to celebrate it until he returned; that command has been handed down through the ages to us today and it is our responsibility to hand it down to future generations. We are asked not only to remember Jesus and His sacrifice on our behalf when we come to Mass, but to memorialize Him, His life, death, Resurrection and intercession in the presence of the Father for all of us. (Catechism #1341) To memorialize means to do more than just remember, but to keep what Jesus did for us alive in our memories, to honor and keep it uppermost in our thoughts. God chose to enter our sinful world by sending His Son, who through complete obedience to His Father's will and for the sake of each and every one of us, willingly suffered and ultimately gave up His life so we might have everlasting life. How can we stay away? How can we not come to Mass and honor that? How can we refuse to accept this most precious gift of Jesus Himself?

STEWARDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

A parish family is like a personal family. There are jobs & chores that need doing & if they don't get done, things don't run smoothly. Here are "chores/jobs" that need doing.

Liturgical Ministries: We're in need of students, women and men to step forward and share their stewardship as altar servers and lectors. Training will be provided for both ministries. Please call the rectory to share your stewardship.

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 pm, to check it out & join the team!

Funeral Dinner Ministry can use help. Be part of the team who puts on the meal and ministers to the family or sign up to be called when food is needed. Call the rectory.

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. Your cards are distributed during First Friday Communion Calls. 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 & rotate workers. Bingo income is **critical** to our parish finances so come help, be part of a team, meet new people & help your parish.

Acme Cashback: Purchase Acme Brand, Top Care, etc., save your Acme receipts and place them in the baskets at the doors to help raise funds for the parish.

Church Housekeeping: We're looking for people who want to help keep the church looking clean by vacuuming & dusting and can give a couple hours once a month. Please call the rectory to share your stewardship

In His Name: Trial size toiletry items (things that will easily fit in a backpack) for the Peter Maurin Center may be placed in the basket at the main doors of the church.

Free Store Sack Lunch needs: Our community is hungry and in need. We're asking for individually wrapped snack & cookie packages, cases of individual 8oz. bottles of water, small individual bags of chips, pb&j, snack-size plastic bags & brown paper bags (size 5 or larger). You may also donate cash to be used to buy eggs & cheese sticks. You may put cash donations in an envelope, mark it "Free Store Lunches," & drop it in the collection basket. Please place donated items in the basket behind the last pew. Thank you so much.

Pastoral Council Secretary is needed to take minutes and distribute them to council members. If interested, please call the rectory at 330-753-8429.

Other Things

100th Anniversary memorial cubes & medallions are on sale after Masses. If you're looking for unique Christmas gifts, consider purchasing a memorial cube (\$25) or a medallion (\$10) for family or friends!

The **Altar & Rosary Society** would like to thank everybody for their donations, baked goods & help which made our Bake Sale a great success. Congratulations to all the winners at the raffle!

Debt Reduction: Your generosity in using the special yellow envelope will help us pay our monthly assessment of \$2,701.00 to the diocese. Thank you.

Offsite Events

Prayer for Peace: Join the Dominican Sisters of Peace as we pray for peace in our world through music, scripture, and silent prayer on Tuesday, December 5th at 7 pm at Our Lady of the Elms Convent, 1230 W. Market St., Akron.

Conference on Gender Identity: A pastoral response to Gender Ideology on Saturday, December 9th, 9 am - 4:30 pm at Holy Family Parish, Stow. The conference includes four talks and a Q & A with an expert panel. For cost information & to register go to tobcle.org/conference-on-gender-identity.

Catholic Cemeteries Association's free grief support group in the Akron area will meet on Sunday, December 17th (always the 3rd Sunday of every month) at 3 pm in the main office building of Holy Cross Cemetery on Waterloo Rd. or virtually at 5 pm via Zoom. For more information, please contact Rhonda at 216-930-4866.