



*December*  
Month of The  
Immaculate  
Conception

# December 15, 2024

## Third 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 16			Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Mt 21:23-27	
Tues Dec 17			Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17	<b>Free Store 4 pm -7 pm SB</b> <b>Church Decorating - 6:30 pm</b>
Wed Dec 18			Jer 23:5-8; Mt 1:18-25	<b>Bingo - Open 9:30 am - WH</b> Games begin at 11:00 am
Thurs Dec 19			Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25	
Fri Dec 20			Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38	
Sat Dec 21	Peter Canisius, Priest & Doctor	5:00 pm <b>JoAnn Morgan</b> & <b>Jerry Krummel</b> by Linda Morgan	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Lk 1:39-45	<b>No Confessions</b> <b>Free Store 9 am - 12 pm SB</b>
Sun Dec 22	Fourth Sunday of Advent	10:00 am <b>Franz &amp; Zimmerman</b> <b>Families</b> by Kathy & Pat Franz	Mi 5:1-4a; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45	

**Sanctuary Lamp - Harry & Dorothy Holtz**

**Holy Family Candle - Special Intention**

### COLLECTION REPORT

<i>Week Ending</i>	<i>December 1</i>	<i>December 8</i>
Sunday Offering -	\$ 1,877.00	\$ 2,487.00
Daily Offering -	\$ 1,060.00	
Christmas -	\$ 105.00	\$ 70.00
Holy Day -	\$ 5.00	\$ 622.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,047.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,179.00</b>
Weekly offertory budget	<b>\$ 3,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,200.00</b>
(Shortfall) Overage	<b>\$ (153.00)</b>	<b>\$ (21.00)</b>
YTD Over (short) -	<b>\$(8,211.25)</b>	<b>\$(8,232.25)</b>
St. Vincent de Paul -	\$ 162.00	\$ 25.00
Capital Improvement -		\$ 5.00
Debt Reduction -	\$ 525.00	\$ 445.00
Diocese Designated -	\$ 50.00	\$ 266.00
Other Gifts -	\$ 893.00	\$ 260.00
Envelopes used of 240 sent	39	45

**Available Mass Dates**

Saturdays: 5:00 pm: Mar 29, Apr 12, May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Sundays: 10:00 am: May 25, Aug 17, 31, Sep 28, Nov 23

**Daily Mass & Confessions:** Because we have no priest, we no longer offer daily Masses nor Confessions. Please use this handy guide: *St. Augustine*: Confessions - Saturdays at 3 pm & Mondays at 6 pm. Daily Mass: M, W, Th, F, 12:05 pm & Tuesdays, 5:15 pm. *St. Francis*: Confessions - Saturdays from 9-9:45 am & Thursdays from 5:30-6:15 pm. Daily Mass: M-F, 8:15 am & Thursdays at 6:30 pm.

**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.

Melissa will be off the property from December 18th thru the 21st, but will be in touch with the office. Office hours December 18, 19, 20 will be from 10 am – 4 pm.

**We Give Catholic:** Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to raise \$1,630 this year for renovation of the space between the school and hall to be named The Fr. Michael B. Smith Memorial Garden. Over the last 3 campaigns we've raised a total of \$6,082.60 and will continue to work on this until we have the funds needed.

**Christmas Greetings Across the Pews:** Your CHRISTmas greetings need to be received at the rectory by THIS Wednesday so that we can put them in the pews next weekend.

**Christmas Remembrance Names** must be received at the rectory by THIS Wednesday for inclusion in next weekend's bulletin.

**Christmas Masses:** Mass on Christmas Eve will be celebrated at 5:00 pm. Mass on Christmas morning will be celebrated at 10:00 am.

**Mary, Mother of God Holy Day:** The vigil Mass on December 31<sup>st</sup> will be celebrated at **5:30 pm**. Mass on the Holy Day, January 1<sup>st</sup> will be celebrated at 10:00 am.

**Decorating:** Mark your calendars for THIS Tuesday, December 17th and come to help decorate the church for Christmas. We will begin at 6:30 pm. Fluff those trees first!!!

## Journey with the Pope

"We prepare the way of the Lord and make His paths straight when we examine our conscience, when we scrutinize our attitudes, in order to eliminate these sinful manners that I mentioned, which are not from God: success at all costs; power to the detriment of the weak; the desire for wealth; pleasure at any price. May the Virgin Mary help us to prepare ourselves for the encounter with this ever greater Love." *Pope Francis*

### STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

Today we will focus our thoughts on the Stewardship of Treasure. We all know that things are difficult, financially, for everyone and that includes our parish. Our weekly budget is not extravagant by any means, but it's becoming more and more difficult to meet as you can see if you look at the collection report in the bulletin. We've been very diligent and watchful of our spending habits. The staff doesn't receive raises, we've dropped bank fees, signed up for the aggregate program with the diocese for electric, gas & trash pick-up which has saved a lot, combined & lowered the Spectrum bill, dropped our advertising in the phone book, we receive payments from the 12-step groups that use Hitch Hall and the Food Pantry and Free Store to help with utilities and are constantly looking for other ways to cut costs. No one wants to make the "money pitch," but it's something that needs to be done now. Every month we have to pay assessments (about \$2700/month), property insurance (about \$3200/month), utilities and health insurance plus salaries every 2 weeks and property tax twice a year (totaling about \$4,000/year). *Please* think about your donation amount and pray about increasing it. Also, please consider remembering the parish when you make out your wills. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call Melissa.

### 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.*

**Funeral Dinner Ministry:** Be a part of the serving team or sign up to be called when food is needed. Please call the rectory to help with this ministry.

**Free Store Help:** Looking for a fulfilling opportunity? 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 – noon, to check it out & join the team!

**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.

**Snow:** Because we have very limited personnel, if we receive a heavy snowfall, entry to the church will be through Hitch Hall only. We have snowblowers and shovels, so if anyone is able to help with snow removal, please call the rectory.

**St. Vincent de Paul** is in need of volunteers in our food pantry. The pantry is open Thursdays noon – 2:00 pm distributing food & hygiene items to those in need. If interested and available, please call Lorie Papp at 330-322-7414. Thank you!

**Acme Cashback:** The current program runs through February 15th. Please be sure to place any Acme receipts with Cashback Rewards on them in the baskets by the doors of the church.

**Bingo Help!!** Our dedicated group of Bingo workers need some help. Bingo income is critical to our parish finances so will you please share a few hours of your time to help call Bingo, pass out computers, collect money at the door, call back winners, sell instant tickets or work in the kitchen? If you're available Wednesdays, please call parishioner & Bingo manager, Lorie at 330-322-7414. Doors open at 9:30 a.m.; games begin at 11 a.m. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

**Free Store Sack Lunch needs:** You're making a difference! **What's needed:** Individually wrapped snack & cookie packages, cases of water bottles, small individual bags of chips, snack-size plastic bags and lunch-size brown paper bags (size 5 or larger). You may also donate cash which will be used to buy cheese sticks & other supplies. Put **cash donations** in an envelope, mark it "Free Store Lunches," and drop it in the collection basket or write a **check to The Kenmore Free Store**. Please place donated items in the basket behind the last pew. On behalf of those in need, thank you.

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

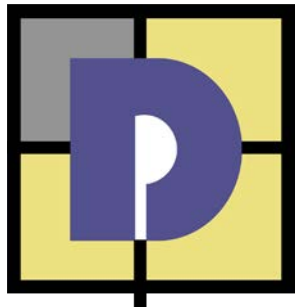
### Offsite Events

**St. Augustine Youth Groups: High School:** "Growing Closer to Christ Together" on Sundays, 3:30-5:15 pm in Room 207 of the school. All are welcome.

**Middle School Youth Program:** "Edge" on Wednesdays, 7-8:30 pm in Room 207 of the school. All are welcome.

**Catholic Charities Counseling** is available to those feeling overwhelmed during the holiday season. Call 1-(800) 860-7373 for info or to schedule an appointment.

**Divorced Educational Support Group:** The diocese will offer a 9-week support group at St. Hilary Parish, 2750 West Market St., Fairlawn. The group will meet on Thursdays beginning January 16<sup>th</sup> through March 13<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 pm and will be limited to 10-12 participants. Contact St. Hilary secretary, Joan Heegan at 330-867-1055 ext. 200.



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