

*For to us a  
Child is born,*



*to us a Son  
is given.*

*-Isaiah 9:6*

*Immaculate Conception of Mary*

2101 17th Street, SW, Akron, Ohio 44314

330-753-8429 · [www.ickenmore.org](http://www.ickenmore.org)

# January 11, 2026

## The Baptism of the Lord

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

Date	Observance	Readings	Event
Mon Jan 12		1 Sm 1:1-8; Mk 1:14-20	
Tues Jan 13	Hilary, Bishop & Doctor	1 Sm 1:9-20; Mk 1:21-28	Free Store 4 pm-7 pm SB
Wed Jan 14		1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20; Mk 1:29-39	
Thurs Jan 15		1 Sm 4:1-11; Mk 1:40-45	
Fri Jan 16		1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a; Mk 2:1-12	
Sat Jan 17	Anthony, Abbot	1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19, 10:1; Mk 2:13-17	Free Store 9 am-12 pm SB
Sun Jan 18	Second Sunday In Ordinary Time	Is 49:3 5-6; 1 Cor 1:1-3; Jn 1:29-34	

### COLLECTION REPORT

Week Ending	December 28	January 4
Sunday Offering -	\$ 2,589.50	\$ 1,300.50
Daily Offering	\$ 1,339.00	\$ 75.00
Christmas	\$ 3,731.05	\$ 560.00
Holy Day -	\$ 335.00	\$ 640.00
<b>Total -</b>	<b>\$ 7,994.55</b>	<b>\$ 2,575.50</b>
<b>Weekly offertory budget -</b>	<b>\$ 3,200.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,200.00</b>
<b>(Shortfall) Overage -</b>	<b>\$ 4,794.55</b>	<b>\$ (624.50)</b>
<b>**YTD Over (short) -</b>	<b>\$ (8,539.18)</b>	<b>\$ (9,163.68)</b>
St. Vincent de Paul -	\$ 10.00	
Capital Improvement		\$ 25.00
Assessments		
Other Gifts	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Diocese Designated		

**\*\*YTD has been adjusted to reflect the new fiscal year which began on 7/1/25.**

Envelopes used of 240 sent 42 23

**Acme Cashback:** You may continue to turn in your Acme Cashback receipts to the rectory through the month of January.

**Contribution statements:** If you would like a copy of your 2025 contribution statements for tax purposes, please call the rectory and let Robbie know so she can put your statement together. Let her know whether you will pick it up at the rectory or whether you want it mailed to you. All requests must be received by January 21st.

**Thank you** to all who came to undecorate the church for Christmas. Your stewardship is greatly appreciated.

### STEWARSHIP 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.*

**St. Vincent de Paul Society** is in need of volunteers on Thursdays from noon - 2:00 pm in our food pantry to distribute food & hygiene items to those in need. If interested and available, please call Lorie Papp at 330-322-7414. Thanks.

**Free Store Help:** Have a heart for those in need, like to work with friendly, faith-filled people? Stop by Tuesdays, 4 pm-7 pm or Saturdays, 9 am-noon, to check it out and join the team! Your help will be greatly appreciated.

**Free Store Sack Lunch needs:** You may continue to support the Kenmore Free Store by dropping off needed items and cash donations only (no checks) at the Store on Tuesdays from 4-7 pm and Saturdays from 9 am-noon by using the door on 16th St. S.W. **What's needed:** individually wrapped snack & cookie packages, small individual bags of chips, snack-size plastic bags and lunch-size brown paper bags (size 6 or larger), cases of water and PB & J.

**Journey with Pope Leo XIV:** “[Jesus] exhorts us not to keep to ourselves the gifts that God has given us, but rather to use them generously for the good of others, especially those most in need of our help...In short, everything in God’s plan that makes each of us a priceless and unrepeatable good, a living and breathing asset, must be cultivated and invested in order to grow.”

### **STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS**

As I write this, I’m thinking back to the days when the church was full on the weekends with one Mass on Saturdays and 3 on Sundays. Over the 43 years, I’ve been a parishioner and staff member here, I remember the festivals, fundraisers, the tent assemblies, an active school, chili cook-offs, soup for the soul meals, dances, international dinners, ice cream socials, pizza and pumpkin decorating fun, large choirs, picnics, bus trips, Bingo and so much more. I remember faith formation opportunities, beautiful Christmas Masses, sacred Holy Week services, Stations of the Cross with Benediction, Eucharistic processions, joyous Easter celebrations – Fr. Mike loved drowning us! Over the 102 years we’ve been in existence, we’ve had wonderful priests and religious who served, taught, laughed and cried with us. So many students were educated and received Sacraments here. So many were married and so many were buried.

With all the wonderful memories also come the not so good memories and difficult times. Through the years, the good times have been able to surpass the bad times, but that’s not the case now; difficulties have overwhelmed the good times. Bishop Pilla used to say that people vote with their feet and that has happened to us. People have left for reasons known only to them. It’s a different world than it was in the days when sacrifice and loyalty meant something and people worked so hard to build and give us this beautiful parish. Also, the practice of the faith across the board and across denominations has also taken a hit and people just aren’t going to church like they used to.

We have a wonderful core of stewards here at Immaculate Conception who’ve stepped forward to try to keep things going, but unfortunately, there are just not enough of us left. The parish has been facing financial difficulty for over 40 years and it’s by the grace of God that we’ve made it to this moment in time. As we all know, the price of everything has gone up and that includes the things that affect the parish most, such as the cost of utilities, insurance, taxes and more and while those numbers go up, the number of worshipers has gone down. When you combine that with the roof, stonework and other repairs needed, what we are facing, financially, is insurmountable.

With Catholic Charities taking the school building and Waldeisen Hall, the legacy of service to those in need that we have built here will continue and will grow.

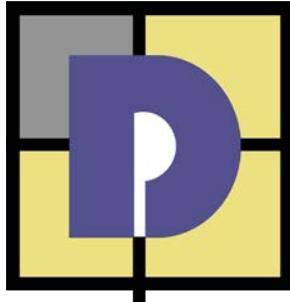
The Free Store and Food Pantry welcome anyone who would like to help and that offers opportunities for parishioners to continue to work together even though their places of worship may differ.

As we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord today, let’s go back to the day of our own baptisms. We became the sons and daughters of God, members of the Church and were claimed for Christ as we were marked with the Sign of the Cross. As you read the words the Father spoke over the Son in today’s Gospel, imagine Him speaking those words over you as you were baptized: “This is my beloved son (daughter), with whom I am well pleased.” May each of us live our lives as sons and daughters of God with joy, continuing to share the faith and using our stewardship to build up the Body of Christ and do great things in our new communities of faith. May we carry with us the memories and the legacy that is and always will be Immaculate Conception of Mary Parish.

It has been my honor to have been a parishioner here for 43 years and to have served and ministered with you as Pastoral Associate and Parish Life Coordinator. May our Blessed Mother intercede for us always. Blessings, Melissa

#### Reminders:

- Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Cleveland will be purchasing both the school building and Waldeisen Hall. It is their intention to continue the outreach ministries we already have at I.C. (the Free Store, Food Pantry, Community Garden, Community Meal) and to offer even more services by creating a Family Center.
- Staff will be on the property in January; how long has not yet been determined, but Melissa will be on site through January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- St. Francis de Sales Parish will be responsible for the territory previously held by our parish. All sacramental records will be moved to and stored at that parish.
- The names along with stipends for Masses paid for and scheduled at I.C. after January 11<sup>th</sup> and all Masses that had been paid for, but not yet scheduled were sent to the Diocesan Mission Office and will be distributed to our missions to be said. Please know that your intentions will be remembered.



**TO PLACE AN  
AD HERE, CALL  
DEE PRINTING  
AT 1-800-292-9020**

**FA-RAY'S  
FAMILY RESTAURANT**  
Proud to  
Support Immaculate  
Conception of Mary Parish  
COME IN FOR A DELICIOUS HOME  
COOKED MEAL!  
115 WOOSTER RD. N  
**330-745-6091**

*VISION Source*  
**LISA M. TESTA, O.D.**  
**Laura M. Knight, O.D.**  
2694 South Main St., Akron OH  
**T: (330) 785-5111**  
**F: (330) 785-5114**  
Caring for your family's eyes  
[www.testavisionsource.com](http://www.testavisionsource.com)

**Beckwith**  
HEATING & COOLING, INC.  
"Your Comfort is Our Only Business"

**330-923-1333**

**Save \$25  
WITH THIS AD**

*PRESENT AT TIME  
OF PURCHASE.  
NOT VALID WITH  
OTHER OFFERS*

**Aprilaire**

Feel Good. Inside.™ OH Lic #14610  
[www.beckwithheatcool.com](http://www.beckwithheatcool.com)  
IMC

**Extraordinary People.  
Exceptional Care.**

  
**FirstLight**  
HOME CARE  
Non-medical Care

For Caregiver Services  
**234.815.0140**

Job Opportunities  
**234.815.0140**

[www.firstlighthomecare.com](http://www.firstlighthomecare.com)

Our bulletin is printed  
at no cost to the parish.  
Our advertisers cover all expenses.  
We thank them and encourage  
you to support their businesses.



**MEDICARE?  
CALL JIM CABLE**  
**(216) 306-1950**  
Independent Agent  
Senior Health Insurance

  
**the K company** inc.  
Heating and Air Conditioning

[www.theKcompany.com](http://www.theKcompany.com)

**KINSINGER  
ELECTRIC**  
Any Electrical Needs  
& New Construction  
**330-785-3473**  
SCOTT KINSINGER

  
**Prentice  
Funeral Home**  
Family Owned Since 1914  
1154 Kenmore Blvd.  
Akron, OH 44314  
**330-753-7721**  
[www.prenticefuneralhome.wix.com/prentice-funeral](http://www.prenticefuneralhome.wix.com/prentice-funeral)



**CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION**  
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND  
*Faith, Hope, and Remembrance*

Burial Planning **+** Memorials **+** Grief Support

[www.clecem.org](http://www.clecem.org)

**216-641-7575**



Donald E. Pucak • Charles Wilson,  
Parishioner  
**The Schlup Pucak  
Funeral Home**  
**745-3131**  
The Home of Sincerity In Service  
788 Kenmore Boulevard  
Akron, OH 44314



Please Patronize Our Advertisers...To Place An Ad Call 1-800-292-9020.

Immaculate Conception, Akron, OH #19052-AG-7/10/25 N/N-#20033-JM-10/23/25

  
**FREE**   
**WATER HEATER**  
with purchase of ac  
  
**Catholic Family Owned**  
**JANDJPLUMBING.COM**  
**330-708-5042**  
HEATING - COOLING - ELECTRIC - PLUMBING