

LOOKING AHEAD:

TODAY: St. Nicholas Day and Brunch at 11:30 am.
Lessons & Carols at Christ Church: 3445 Warrensville Center Rd., Shaker Heights - 5:00 pm.

December 05:(Mon) Bible Study - 6:15 pm.

December 06 (Tue) Stations of Nativity at 7:00 pm.

December 07(Wed) Prayer Shawl Ministry at 7:00 pm.

December 10 (Sat) Last day to bring in coats and jackets for **Governor's Village**.

December 11: (Sun) Last day to bring in backpacks, mittens, socks, etc. As they will be picked up the next day.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

To be acknowledged in the bulletin as a donor of Christmas poinsettias, we would appreciate your contribution being turned in by Sunday, **December 18**.

Contributions may be in memory of, in honor of, or in thanksgiving for, and there is no set amount to give.

Poinsettias may be removed from altar the January 1, 2017 or the New Year's Service, to go to shut-ins, those ill or convalescing, or into our homes in keeping with the Spirit of Christ.

Outreach – Giving Tree: For the month of **December** we will be collecting **Cleaning products**, such as: wipes, soap, laundry detergent, dishwasher, etc. Thanks so much for the outpouring of gifts to the Giving Tree. *If you are receiving calendars and/or Christmas Cards that you don't need, please deposit them in the Giving Tree basket.*

Pledge cards need to be turned in ASAP, so that the Vestry may set up a budget for next year.

One group of people recently completed the **AED/CPR COURSE**. It is to our benefit to have still more members take the course and become certified. The course is just one evening, 2-3 hours long.

The more certified participants we have, the better response in an emergency. If you are interested (willing) in taking the course, please contact Fr. Steve and he will arrange it with the Mayfield Village Fire Dept.

ITEMS THAT ARE MISSING, AND SORELY NEEDED: BABY JESUS, from the olivewood Nativity Set, brought to St. Bart's from Jerusalem by Father Terry Taylor. There are 2 pieces to this - the crib and the baby itself. Two Cornucopias, used on the Thanksgiving Altar are also missing.

The Second Sunday of Advent

04 December 2016

Welcome! Please enter the nave quietly and reverently as there may be people already in prayer and contemplation.

Thank you for worshiping with us today. Your presence is important to all of us. If you are just passing through, we wish you Godspeed on your travels and hope that you will join us whenever you return. If you live in this area and are new to this parish, we welcome you and invite you to make Saint Bartholomew your church home. If you are a long-time member who has been gone for a while, welcome home---we've missed you! And if you are a member of this parish who generally shows up every week, thank you for your commitment to our parish family---well done, good and faithful servant!

About Today's Lessons

This is the first of the two Advent Sundays in which John the Baptist is the dominant figure. John's ministry as the forerunner of the Messiah is introduced in today's gospel reading by his preaching: a stern call to repentance. John warns that neither reliance on the religious practices of the Pharisees and Sadducees nor descent from Abraham is of any use unless one turns around and repents.

The first reading is one of the visions of Isaiah. From the almost moribund family of Jesse (King David's father) a new shoot will appear, a new David. This Messiah will establish God's universal reign as a time of peace even extending to the natural world.

Paul's message in the second reading also reflects on the character of the Messiah's ministry as one for all peoples: Jews and Gentiles.

Advent calls all people, not just those who are religious, into relationship with God and with each other. Nevertheless, a key element in this new relationship is repentance, entering into the new Way of living brought through the dying and rising of Jesus.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.
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Celebrant: The Rev Stephen Secaur
Eucharistic Ministers: Betsy Limmex (8:00) and Richard Wise (10:30)
Lectors: Diane Bellas (8:00) Joanna Rini and Matt Matthews (10:30)
Acolyte: Nancy Nicholls
Ushers : Matt and West Matthews
Teller: Vinton Christie
Organist: Aleksandr Leybkind

In case of a pastoral emergency, please call the church and leave a message. Messages are checked daily, and someone will get back with you. Please tell the office of any pastoral emergency as soon as possible. Fr. Stephen Secaur may be contacted directly at 440 541 8359 or by email at Fr.Stephen.saintbartohio@gmail.com.

We pray for those who are infirm, and for the continued healing of:
 Ben and Dorothy, Richard and Mary, John and Caroline, Jimmy and Shirley, Rob, Tom, Mary Ann, Fr. Gary, Fr. Jim, Harriett, Vinnie, Steve, Mila, James, Heidi, Andrea, Anastasia, Diane, Jean, Judy, Delilah, Jane, Burness, Jim, Pat, Brooke, Dee, Dolores, Susan, Lucy, Kevin, Emanuel, Wes, Paul, Lauren, Leslie, Zoe, ...

And we offer our thanksgivings for your many blessings upon us especially for:
 The offering for November 27th was \$1,163.00 and the attendance was 51.

The birthdays of : Steve Bellas, Brenna Robinson, ...
 The anniversary of: Joseph and Debbie Kampman, ...

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces...
 Lt. Colonel Dan Knaup, Corporal Jason Thompson, Lt. Col. David Marcinski, Sgt. Mark Ditchman, Pvt 2nd Class Kyle Lewis, Col. Howard Pearce, Quartermaster Mike Thoumire, Staff Sgt. Paul Workman, Seaman Kyle Knowlton, Senior Airman Becca Voigt, Pvt. Jack Rolf, Lance Corporal Anthony Worst, Col (P) Patrick Renwick.

We also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially: ...
 and those who have died this week in the service of their country.

The Shawl Ministry: Prayer Shawls are always available in the library area. Please feel free to take one for yourself or friends. Sign the book so that we may now where our love and prayers go. The Shawl Ministry meets on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 pm. Join us if you like to knit or crochet. We are always in need of yarn donations if you happen to be cleaning out your stash or someone else's!!! Thank you for your loyal support of this ministry. Liz York: 440 946 3374.

Saint Bart's Book Club meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Gates Mills Public Library at 7:00 pm.
 Selections are:
 November, "Our souls at Night" by Kent Haruf
 December, "Skipping Christmas" by John Grisham
 For more information, see Wendy Charny or call her: 216 291 9235.

THE ADVENT BANNER

Many times in the Book of Revelations, God says "I am the Alpha and the Omega", the beginning and the end. Sarum Blue, our color for Advent, symbolizes hope, expectation, and anticipation. We begin this new Church Year with Alpha, the first letter of the Greek alphabet. As we enter the beginning, we know with certainty, that there will be an end (Omega, the final letter).

05	Monday		Clement of Alexandria, Priest, c.210
		2:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:15 pm	The Groovy Garfoose (Music Therapy) Yoga (Betty Rendlesham) Bible Study
06	Tuesday		Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 342
		9:00 am - 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Office Opens - Franco SHANO monthly meeting
07	Wednesday		Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, 397
		2:30 pm 7:00 pm	The Groovy Garfoose (Music Therapy) Prayer Shawl Ministry
08	Thursday		Richard Baxter, Pastor and Writer, 1691
		8:00 am 9:00 am 1:00 pm	TMCC Office Open - Boyd Office Open - Franco
09	Friday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer
10	Saturday		<u>Karl Barth, Pastor and Theologian, 1955</u>
11	Sunday		THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		8:00 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I Bible Study Choir Practice Holy Eucharist, Rite II Last Day for St. Luke's Christmas Bag Program

Worship through the Week, a guide for Praying and Study at home
This Week's Readings

From the Daily Office for the week of December 5th through December 11th, 2016

Monday: Psalm 25; 9, 15 Isa. 5:8-12, 18-23; 1 Thess/ 5:1-11; Luke 21:20-28	Friday: Psalm 31; 35 Isa 7:10-25; 2 Thess. 2:13-3:5; Luke 22:14-30
Tuesday: Psalm 26, 28; 36, 39 Isa. 5:13-17, 24-25; 1 Thess. 5:12-28; Luke 21:29-38	Saturday: Psalm 30, 32; 42, 43 Isa. 8:1-15; 2 Thess. 3:6-18; Luke 22:31-38
Wednesday: Psalm 38; 119:25-48 Isa. 6:1-13; 2 Thess. 1:1-12; John 7:53-8:11	Sunday: Psalm 148, 149, 150; 114, 115 Isa. 5:1-7; 2Pet. 3:11-18; Luke 7:28-35
Thursday: Psalm 37:1-18; 37:19-42 Isa. 7:1-9; 2 Thess. 2:1-12; Luke 22:1-13	

How to use the Daily Office: For each day, the Psalms are split into AM (morning) and PM (evening) readings by the "&" You may read them this way or together at one time. Optional readings are in [brackets]. Below the Psalms you have an Old Testament, New Testament, and Gospel reading for each day. The entire Bible can be read in two years following this format from the Book of Common Prayer.