

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 FrStephen.saintbartohio@gmail.com.

LOOKING AHEAD:

St. Luke's West Side Ministry: We will be filling backpacks or duffle bags again this year for St. Luke's. Please refer to the "Stocking Stuffer Lists" provided in your announcement for ideas of items to fill the bags. The bags need to be at the church no later than Thursday, December 10th. If you have any questions please contact **Molly Duffy:** 216 973 6734.

TODAY: St. Nicholas Day Breakfast after 10:30 service.

TODAY: **Advent Lessons and Carols at 5:00 p.m.** The combined choirs and congregations of Christ Church, Shaker Hts., Epiphany, Euclid and St. Bartholomew, Mayfield Village. Please join us to celebrate the beginning of the season.
Please help us see that St. Bart's has a good turnout for this event.

December 13: Sunday at 7:00 p.m. Stations of Nativity

December 20: Sunday at 11:30 am Greening of the Church

December 24: Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

December 25: Friday at 10:30 a.m. Christmas Service Day

December 31: Thursday at 7:00 p.m. New Year's Eve Service

January 6: Wednesday. At 7:00 p.m. Epiphany - Holy Eucharist

NOTE:

All parishioners should turn in pledge cards as soon as possible so Vestry and Finance will have time to make up a budget for Calendar Year 2016.
Thanks for your cooperation!

Christmas Greens and Poinsettias

To be acknowledged in the bulletin as a donor of Christmas decorations, we would appreciate your contribution be turned in by Sunday, December 13. Anything coming in after that, we will try to add to the list, but cannot promise it will get done!

Contributions may be made in memory of, in honor of, or in thanksgiving for.

There is no set amount to give - the extent of decorations will depend upon the amount of contributions!

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). Until recently, purple has been our color for both Lent and Advent. Purple, however, signifies penitence, and is out of place in the season of Advent, which is a season of looking forward, with anticipation.

In the Middle Ages, there was an Old English rite, called the Sarum Rite, on which was based the liturgy of the Anglican Book of Common Prayer. Blue, if affordable, was the color for this rite. Blue has been used for Advent, at England's Salisbury Cathedral, since the 11th Century.

Blue is Mary's color, and Advent is when we look forward, with Mary, to a time of hope, confidence, and expectation. reproduce

This shade of blue is called "Sarum Blue" or "Salisbury Blue" (Sarum being the Latin name for Salisbury). It represents the color of the sky, just before dawn, as we await the arrival of the blessed baby Jesus.

Celebrant: The Rev. Stephen Secaur
Eucharistic Ministers: Betsy Limmex (8:00) and Wendy Charny (10:30)
Lectors: Diane Bellas (8:00) Tom Robinson and Dick York(10:30)
Ushers: Jack and Betty Rendlesham
Teller: Matt Matthews
Organist: Aleksandr Leybkind

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

06 December 2015

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

Thank you for worshipping 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

Today is the first of the two Advent Sundays on which John the Baptist is the central figure. This dynamic prophet marked the beginning of Jesus' ministry. He announced the time of Messiah's arrival and called the people of Israel to repentance in preparation for that coming. The Gospels see him as the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy of one who will prepare the way for God to come to the peoples of the earth.

The writer of Baruch, one of the books accounted as the Apocrypha by Anglicans, is presented as addressing the Jewish exiles in Babylon with words probably borrowed from Isaiah. God's people are called to look forward to the coming of God with joy and gladness, for when he comes God will lead all the peoples to our true home.

The second reading is from Paul's letter to the Philippians. In greeting this congregation, Paul speaks of his affection for them and of his imprisonment. He urges them to continue in faith as they await the day of Christ's return.

The Old Testament and John the Baptist looked toward the coming of the Messiah in history to establish God's Kingdom. The New Testament looks toward the return of Christ at the end of history to bring that Kingdom to fulfillment. We, the Church, gather in Eucharist in the "in-between times" to celebrate the foretaste of that Kingdom and to be equipped by the Holy Spirit to proclaim the Kingdom to the world.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*. Copyright 1998 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

Worship through the Week

A guide for Prayer and Study at Home

We pray for those who are infirm, and for the continued healing of:

Ben and Dorothy, Richard and Mary, Frank, Dottie, Betty, Rob, Fr. Jim, Kristin Ed and Drew, Michelle and Josh, Brigid and Kent, Jennifer and Pat, Niki and Jeff, Liam, Will, Jan, Kelly, Kim, Jean, Alice, Shirley, Lauren, Cathy, Laurie, Brian, Kevin, Jane, Jim, Annie, Tom, Val, Kate, Joey, Lou, Dolores, Jessica, Susan, Matt, Pat, Halle, Mary Ellen, Brooke...

And we offer our thanksgivings for your many blessings upon us especially for:
The offering for November 29thth was \$1,883.00 and the attendance was 55.

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, Major David Marcinski, Sgt. Mark Ditchman, Pvt 2nd Class Kyle Lewis, Col. Howard Pearce, Quartermaster Mike Thoumire, Lieutenant Joanna Chmielecki, Staff Sgt. Paul Workman, Seaman Kyle Knowlton, Senior Airman Rebecca Voigt, Pvt. Jack Rolf, Lance Corporal Anthony Worst, Robert Register.

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

Outreach – Giving Tree: For the month of **December** we will be collecting laundry soap, soap dish, detergent, bar soap, etc. Thanks so much for the outpouring of gifts to the Giving Tree.

The Shawl Ministry: Do you like to knit, crochet and pray? Please consider joining a group of women from St. Bart's and other surrounding churches as we create prayer shawls. We meet here at St. Bart's at 7:00 p.m. every 1st and 3rd Wednesday. As shawls are created, we share shawl stories and pray over each shawl. If you know of an individual, a group or an institution that may benefit from a shawl blessed with love and prayers, please let one of us know or pick one up in the library.

Liz York: 440-946-3374

Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

If there is an enclosure (envelope or separate sheet) in the announcement folder, and you do not plan to use it at this time, please leave it on the table in back, instead of the trash. We can save a lot of paper that way. Thanks!

*This time of year we all receive 2016 Calendars.
Any you are not going to use, please place in giving free basket. Thanks!*

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

07	Monday	2:00 - 7:00 pm	Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, 397
		6:00 - 7:00 pm	The Groovy Garfoose (Music Therapy) Yoga with Betty Rendlesham
08	Tuesday	3:00 pm	Richard Baxter, Pastor and Writer, 1691
		6:00 pm 7:00 pm 4:30 pm	Office Open Franco Jenny Dance St. Bart's Book Club Office Open - Francys
09	Wednesday	2:00 - 7:00 pm	The Groovy Garfoose (Music Therapy) Cub Scouts (M. Matthews)
		6:30 pm	
10	Thursday		Karl Barth, Pastor and Theologian, 1968, Thomas Merton, writer
		9:00 am 9:00 am 6:00 - 7:00 pm	Office Open - Kay Cleaning Crew Yoga with Betty Rendlesham
11	Friday	9:00 pm	Morning Prayer
		4:30 pm	Office Open - Francys
12	Saturday		
13	Sunday		THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 7:00 pm	Holy Eucharist, Rite I Bible Study Choir Practice Holy Eucharist, Rite II Stations of Nativity

This Week's Readings

From the Daily Office for the week of December 7th through December 13th, 2015

Monday: Psalm 1, 2, 3, 4, 7
Amos 2:6-16; 2 Pet 1:1-11; Matt. 21:1-11

Tuesday : Psalm 5, 6; 10, 11
Amos 3:1-11; 2 Pet. 1:12-21; Matt. 21:12-22
Wednesday : Psalm 119; 1-24; 12, 13, 14
Amos 3:12-4:5; 2 Pet. 3:1-10; Matt. 21:23-32

Thursday: Psalm 18:1-20; 18:21-50
Amos 4:6-13; 2 Pet. 3:11-18; Matt 21:33-46

Friday: Psalm 16, 17, 22

Amos 5:1-17; Jude 1-16; Matt 22:1-14

Saturday: Psalm 20, 21:1-7, 110:1-5, 116, 117
Amos 5:18-27; Jude 17-25; Matt 22:15-22

Sunday: Psalm 146, 147, 111, 112, 113
Amos 1:1-5, 13-2:8, 1 Thess. 5:1-11, Luke 21:5-19

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.