

LOOKING AHEAD:

TODAY: (Sun) Last day to bring in backpacks, mittens, socks, etc, as they will be picked up the next day.
December 12 (Mon) Bible Study - 6:15 pm.
December 13 (Wed) St. Bart's Book Club
December 14 (Wed) Cub Scouts - 6:30 pm.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!

Next Sunday, immediately following the 10:30 service, is the
Greening of the Church.
Help is needed to carry boxes, set up hurricane shades, wreaths, etc.
With your help, the church will be beautiful for Christmas.

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 January 1, after 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 Third Sunday of Advent

11 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

The Third Sunday of Advent again has as its central theme the ministry of John the Baptist. Jesus said of him, "Among those born of women there has risen no one greater than John the Baptist..." In today's Gospel, John, who has been imprisoned by Herod Antipas, is facing death and wishes to know before he dies that he was correct in identifying Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus' reply is to quote from the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah, demonstrating that he is indeed fulfilling the Messiah's ministry as Isaiah had foretold.

The Old Testament reading is the passage Jesus quotes in the Gospel reading. The sign of the Messiah is a new order of existence—God's Kingdom—in which health and salvation spring forth. The second reading is a call to patient waiting for the Lord to appear to inaugurate the kingdom of God.

The distinction between John and even the least in the kingdom—ourselves—who are even greater, is that our birth is more than natural—it is the new birth by water and the spirit in Holy Baptism, which has made us members of the Body of Christ. We are commissioned for ministry in Baptism; a ministry like that of Jesus. In Holy Eucharist, we affirm our commitment to that ministry to all people, which is the ongoing sign of Christ in the world.

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: Linda Price (8:00) and Joanna Rini (10:30)
Lectors: Frank Camperchioli (8:00) Tom Robinson and Gloria Knapp (10:30)
Acolyte: Nancy Nicholls
Ushers : Tom and Linda Poelking
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 December 4th was \$3,028.00 and the attendance was 69.

The birthdays of : Vinton Christie, Trent Fumich, ...
 The anniversary of: Tom and Linda Poelking, ...

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: George Boisset, Frances Lee Aubuchon, ...
 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).

12	Monday	2:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:15 pm	The Groovy Garfoose (Music Therapy) Yoga (Betty Rendlesham) Bible Study
13	Tuesday	9:00 am - 12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Lucy, Martyr at Syracuse, 304 Office Opens - Franco St. Bart's Book Club
14	Wednesday	2:30 pm 6:30 pm	Juan de la Cruz, Mystic, 1591 The Groovy Garfoose (Music Therapy) Cub Scouts (Matthews)
15	Thursday	8:00 am 9:00 am 1:00 pm	John Horden, Bishop and Missionary in Canada, 1893 TMCC Office Open - Boyd Office Open - Franco
16	Friday	9:00 am	Ralph Adams Cram, 1942 and Richard Upjohn, 1878, Architects. Morning Prayer
17	Saturday		William Lloyd Garrison and Maria Stewart, Prophetic Witnesses
18	Sunday	8:00 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT Holy Eucharist, Rite I Bible Study Choir Practice Holy Eucharist, Rite II

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 12th through December 18th, 2016

Monday: Psalm 41, 52; 44 Isa. 8:16-9:1; 2 Pet. 1:1-11; Luke 22:39-53	Friday: Psalm 40, 54; 51 Isa. 10:5-19; 2 Pet. 2:17-22; Matt. 11:2-15
Tuesday: Psalm 5; 47, 48 Isa. 9:1-7; 2Pet. 1:12-21; Luke 22:54-69	Saturday: Psalm 55; 138, 139:1-17 (18-23) Isa. 10:20-27; Jude 17-25; Luke 3:1-9
Wednesday: Psalm 119:49-72; 49, (53) Isa. 9:8-17; 2Pet.2:1-10a; Mark 1:1-8	Sunday: Psalm 63:1-8 (9-11), 98; 103 Isa. 13:6-13; Heb. 12:18-29; John 3:22-30
Thursday: Psalm 50; 59, 60 or 33 Isa. 9:18-10:4:2 Pet. 2:10b-16; Matt. 3:1-12	

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.