

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:

December 24, 2014, Christmas Eve Services on will be as follows: 5:00 and 11:00 p.m.

December 25, 2014, Christmas Day Services at 10:30 a.m. - there will be organ music, but not choir.

December 31, 2014, New Year's Eve Eucharist at 7:00 p.m.

January 6, 2015, Stations of the Epiphany at 7:00 p.m.

January 18, 2015, Annual Meeting, at 9:30 a.m. with covered dish.

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

Christmas Greens and Poinsettias

To be acknowledged in the bulletin as a donor of Christmas decorations, we would appreciate your contribution be turned in no later than today, December 14. Anything coming in after that, we will try to add to the list, but cannot guarantee 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!

Celebrant: The Rev. Stephen Secaur

Eucharistic Ministers: Betsy Limmex (8:00) and Richard Wise (10:30)

Lectors: Ben Howes (8:00) and Tom Robinson, Matt Matthews (10:30)

Acolyte: Lucy Bailey

Ushers: West and Matt Matthews

Teller: Matt Matthews

Organist: Aleksandr Leybkind

The Third Sunday of Advent

14 December 2014

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

On this Third Sunday of Advent we again are focused on John the Baptist. Today we hear more about John's ministry and his response to questions raised by his message. An important issue for many in the days of the early Church was the relationship between Jesus and John. In response to those who believed that John the Baptist was the Messiah, the early Christians remembered John's own words: "I am not the Messiah...I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord.' "

The first reading is Isaiah's poem of the anointed one and his ministry of peace, healing, and redemption. In his first sermon Jesus applied this passage to himself. In this Advent time we anticipate our celebration of the birth of the anointed one who comes to save.

The second reading is the conclusion of Paul's first letter to the Church in Thessalonica. He wrote this letter to encourage them to persevere in the Way as they waited for the return of Jesus. Paul assures them that the Lord will return but that their lives now are to reflect the nature of God's kingdom rather than to be spent in sitting back and awaiting the End.

The Church's Eucharist is a foretaste of that coming of Christ which is still ahead. In word and sacrament, song and story, we encounter the reign of God in our midst and we reveal that future joy to the world. Like John the Baptist we are sent ahead of the One who is coming and our joy is to see God's presence in the world increase.

From The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year.
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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:

Richard and Mary, Ben and Dorothy, Norm and Shirley, Mindy and Stuart, Annie and Chris, Connie and Mary, Kristen, Ed, and Drew, Betty, Bill, Chris, Fr. Jim, Maisie, Rob, Carol, Terry, Tom, Will, Jan, Kelly, Jane, Tim, Andrea, Jean, Kim, Devin, Val, Annie, Tom, Dick, Dottie, Alice, Ada, Kevin, ...

And we offer our thanksgivings for your many blessings upon us especially for:

December 7th was \$4,277.00 and the attendance was 62.

The birthdays of Trent Fumich, William Heckler, ...

The anniversary of ...

We pray for those serving in the Armed Forces...

Major Dan Knaup, Corporal Jason Thompson, Lt. Colonel Trent Johnson, Major David Marcinski, Sgt. Mark Ditchman, PVT2 Kyle Lewis, Col. Howard Pearce, Quartermaster Mike Thoumire, Lieutenant Joanna Chmielecki, Staff Sgt. Paul Workman, Seaman Kyle Knowlton, Airman 1st Class Rebecca Voigt.

We also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, and those who have given their lives in the Armed Forces the past week:

In Afghanistan: Spc. Joseph William Riley, Sgt. Maj. Wardell B. Turner.

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

The ladies of the Prayer Shawl Ministry are so very grateful to the St. Bart's congregation for spreading our love, prayers and shawls with the greater community.

We would ask that you only remove the shawls in the library area. Shawls in the knitting room have not been blessed or are being set aside for a special project. Please remember to sign in the book how many shawls you are taking and who they are for.

If you have yarn that is not being used or find some stashed away when cleaning, we are always looking for yarn donations that we can put to good use.

The Shawl Ministry meets at St. Bart's the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 to knit and crochet shawls.

Please join us!

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 Week at a Glance

15	Monday		Advent
		6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Yoga with Betty Rendlesham Vestry Meeting
16	Tuesday		ADVENT
		9:00 am 6:00 pm	Office Open Franco Jenny Dance
17	Wednesday		ADVENT
		9:00 am 7:00 pm	Office Open Franco Prayer Shawl Ministry
18	Thursday		ADVENT
		8:00 am 8:00 am 6:00 pm	Thursday Morning Cleaning Crew Office open - York Yoga with Betty Rendlesham
19	Friday		Advent
		9:00 am 9:00 am	Office Open Franco Morning Prayer
20	Saturday		Advent
		1:00 pm	Cub Scouts
21	Sunday		THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	Holy Eucharist, Rite I Bible Study Choir Practice Holy Eucharist, Rite II Kid's Fun Sunday

This Week's Readings

From the Daily Office for the week of December 15th through December 21st, 2014

Monday: 41, 52 & 44 Isa. 8:16—9:1; 2 Pet. 1:1-11; Luke 22:39-53	Friday 40, 54 & 51 Isa. 10:5-19; 2 Pet. 2:17-22; Matt. 11:2-15
Tuesday: 45 & 47, 48 Isa. 9:1-7; 2 Pet. 1:12-21; Luke 22:54-69	Saturday 55 & 138, 139:1-17(18-23) Isa. 10:20-27; Jude 17-25; Luke 3:1-9
Wednesday: 119:49-72 & 49, [53] Isa. 9:8-17; 2 Pet. 2:1-10a; Mark 1:1-8	Sunday 24, 29 & 8, 84 Isa. 42:1-12; Eph. 6:10-20; John 3:16-21
Thursday: 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.