

LOOKING AHEAD:

TODAY: After 10:30 service Greening of the Church.

December 19 (Mon) Finance (6:00 pm) and Vestry Meeting (6:30 pm) .

December 21 (Wed) Prayer and Shawl Ministry at 7:00 pm

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO TURN IN CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Donations given after today may not be listed in the Announcements.

Poinsettias may be removed from the altar New Year's Eve and after.

On Sundays, Francys is here as a parishioner, not as a secretary. She would appreciate if you have a message for her, you write it down and put it in her box. **Thank you!**

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.

Celebrant: The Rev Stephen Secaur

Eucharistic Ministers: Jo Ann Buckley (8:00) and Wendy Charny (10:30)

Lectors: Diane Bellas (8:00) John Charny and Richard Wise (10:30)

Ushers : Jack and Betty Rendlesham

Teller: Vinton Christie

Organist: Aleksandr Leybkind

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

18 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

On this final Sunday of preparation for the celebration of Christ's birth, the central figures are the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph. The Gospel reading is Matthew's account of Jesus' conception by the Holy Spirit and the Blessed Virgin. It is this Incarnation—becoming flesh—of God the Son that unites things earthly with things heavenly. In the quiet obedience of Joseph and Mary, we find the model for Christian living that enables us to be extensions of Christ's Incarnation.

In today's reading from Isaiah, the prophet foretells the birth of a child in a passage that the New Testament writers, especially Matthew, considered to be fulfilled in Jesus' birth from Mary.

Jesus' descent from David, his birth, his death and resurrection, are Paul's theme in the passage from Romans. That life, death, and resurrection are the source of our new life in Christ, and bring us the grace and power to live in faith and obedience.

The liturgy centers on the fact that God comes to us in and through the material world. He came in the flesh of a human mother and lived within a human family. He comes to us now in bread and wine. He comes to the world in our flesh as we live in faithful obedience to him. The pattern for that obedience is the Holy Family of Nazareth for whom we give thanks today.

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

And we offer our thanksgivings for your many blessings upon us especially for:
 The offering for December 11th was \$4,020.00 and the attendance was 58.

The birthdays of :
 The anniversary of: ...

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:
 December, "Skipping Christmas" by John Grisham
 January, "The Drifter" by Nicholas Petrie
 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).

19	Monday		Lilian Trasher, Missionary in Egypt, 1961
		2:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm	The Groovy Garfoose (Music Therapy) Yoga (Betty Rendlesham) Finance Meeting Vestry Meeting
20	Tuesday	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Office Opens - Franco
21	Wednesday		SAINT THOMAS THE APOSTLE
		2:30 pm 7:00 pm	The Groovy Garfoose (Music Therapy) Prayer Shawl Ministry
22	Thursday		Henry Budd, Priest, 1875
		8:00 am 9:00 am 1:00 pm	TMCC Office Open - Boyd Office Open - Franco
23	Friday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer
24	Saturday	5:00 pm 11:00pm	EVE OF THE NATIVITY Christmas Eve Service with Holy Eucharist Christmas Eve Service with Holy Eucharist
25	Sunday		THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
		8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I - Christmas Day Service Bible Study Choir Practice Holy Eucharist, Rite II - Christmas Day Service

**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 19th through December 25th, 2016

Monday: Psalm 61, 62; 112, 115 Isa. 11:1-9; Rev. 20: 1-10; John 5:30-47 Tuesday: Psalm 66, 67 116, 117 Isa. 11:10-16; Rev. 20:11-21:8; Luke 1:5-25 Wednesday: Psalm 72; 11, 113 Isa 28:9-22; Rev. 21:9-21; Luke 1:26-38 Thursday: Psalm 80; 146, 147 Isa 29:13-24; Rev. 21:22-22:5; Luke 1:39-48a (48b-56)	Friday: Psalm 93, 96; 148, 150 Isa. 33:17-22; Rev. 22:6-11, 18-20; Luke 1:57-66 Saturday: Psalm 45, 46 Isa. 35:1-10; Rev. 22:12-17:21; Luke 1:67-80 Christmas Eve: Psalm 89: 1-29 Isa. 59:15b-21; Phil. 2:5-11 Sunday: Psalm 24, 29; 8, 84 Isa 42:1-12; Eph. 6:10-20; John 3:16-21
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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.