

LOOKING AHEAD:

December (Mon) 26 Bible Study at 6:15 pm.

December (Sat) 31: New Year's Eve Service at 7:00 pm HE. Rite II.

January (Sun) 01: Taizé from 5:00 - 5:30 pm. Taizé is an ecumenical song and silent participatory prayer service designed to achieve a contemplative state through music, song and silence.

January (Fri) 6: Evening Prayer II with Stations of the Epiphany at 7:00 pm.

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.

Altar Guild will manage watering of Poinsettias. Please, no one else water. Any questions, contact Marge Comella.

Celebrant: The Rev Stephen Secaur
Eucharistic Ministers: Linda Price (8:00) and ... (10:30)
Lectors: --- (8:00) ---- (10:30)
Ushers: ----
Organist: Aleksandr Leybkind

The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ

CHRISTMAS DAY

25 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 Christmas Day our attention is directed by the readings beyond the historical event of Jesus' birth to its cosmic and saving meaning. The Gospel reading is the theological prologue to the Gospel of John. This early Christian poem describes Jesus as the Incarnation (becoming flesh) of the divine Word who is one with God, through whom God creates and redeems the world. It also expresses our unity with God by grace and faith. Thus, the birth of Jesus is not only the beginning of his story but the beginning of our story as well.

The Old Testament reading foretells the coming of God's Kingdom when all peoples will be gathered into God's holy place. The reading from Ephesians tells us that in Christ we have become sons and daughters of God. This Sunday's theme, then, particularly stresses the double role of the Church's liturgy. It celebrates historical events, but in our action together as the people of God, the historical events are also revealed as eternally saving events. In the liturgy, time and space are transcended and the events of history become the events of our own lives as individuals and as a community.

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.

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, Betty, ...

And we offer our thanksgivings for your many blessings upon us especially for:
 The offering for December 18th was \$2,695.00 and the attendance was 51.

The birthdays of : Audrey Cirino, Gloria Knapp,
 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 CHRISTMAS BANNER

No description is needed, for us to witness the Holy Family in humble surroundings.

			SAINT STEPHEN, DEACON AND MARTYR
26	Monday	6:15 pm	Bible Study
			SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST
27	Tuesday	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Office Opens - Franco
			THE HOLY INNOCENTS
28	Wednesday	7:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1170
			TMCC
29	Thursday	8:00 am 9:00 am 1:00 pm	Office Open - Boyd Office Open - Franco
			Frances Joseph-Gaudet, Educator and Prison Reformer, 1934
30	Friday	9:00 am	Morning Prayer
			Samuel Ajayi Crowther, Bishop in the Niger Territories, 1891
31	Saturday	7:00 pm	New Year's Eve, HE Rite II
			THE MOST HOLY NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
			Holy Eucharist, Rite I - Christmas Day Service
01	Sunday	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	Bible Study Choir Practice Holy Eucharist, Rite II - Christmas Day Service Taizé

**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 26th through January 1st, 2017

Monday: Psalm 28, 30; 2 Chronicles 24:17-22; Acts 6:1-7. Psalm 118; Wisdom 4:7-15; Acts 7:59-8:8	Friday: Psalm 20, 21:1-7 (8-14); 23, 27 Isa 25:1-9; Rev. 1:9-20; John 7:53-8:11
Tuesday: Psalm 97, 98; Proverbs 8:22-30; John 13:20-35. Psalm 145; Isaiah 44:1-8; 1 John 5:1-12	Saturday: Psalm 46, 48 Isa. 26:1-9; 2 Cor. 5:16-6:2; John 8:12-19
Wednesday: Psalm 2, 26; Isaiah 49:13-23; Matthew 18:1-14. Psalm 19, 126; Isaiah 54:1-13; Mark 10:13-16	Eve of Holy Name: Psalm 90 Isa. 65:15b-25; Rev. 21:1-6
Thursday: Psalm 18:1-20; 18:21-50 Isa. 12:1-6; Rev. 1:1-8' John 7:37-52	Sunday: Psalm 2, 85; 110:1-5(6-7), 132 Zech. 2:10-13; 1 John 4:7-16; John 3:31-36

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.