

### LOOKING AHEAD:

<b>TODAY:</b>	5:00 pm	Taizé: is an ecumenical song and silent participatory prayer service designed to achieve a contemplative state through music, song and silence.
December 04(Mon):	6:00 pm	Bible Study.
December 05(Tue):	7:00 pm	SHANO Christmas Party.
December 06(Wed):	7:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Ministry.
December 08(Fri):	9:00 am	Morning Prayer.

***BRRRR! It's getting cold outside.***  
*It's time to decorate the Mitten Tree with **hats, and scarves, and gloves, and mittens.** These items will be collected and given to children who otherwise might not be prepared for our cold winter!*  
*All items will be collected on*  
***Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 A.M.***  
*Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please contact Betsy Limmex (440 449 1699) if you have any questions.*

### EXPLANATION OF ADVENT BLUE

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. 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.

### NOTE:

Church of the Epiphany will host the 2017 Service of Lesson and Carols at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, December 10, 2017. The St. Bartholomew Choir will sing together with the choirs from Church of Epiphany, Christ Church, and Church of the Good Shepherd. This lovely, traditional Anglican service is a peaceful pause in the frenzy of the season. Please join us! Church of the Epiphany is located at 2100 Lake Shore Blvd., Euclid, OH 44123, please see Dorothea Kingsbury (216-978-1312 or [dkingsbury@kingsburylaw.com](mailto:dkingsbury@kingsburylaw.com)).

*Celebrant:* The Rev. Stephen Secaur  
*Eucharistic Ministers:* Betsy Limmex (8:00) Richard Wise (10:30)  
*Lectors:* Diane Bellas (8:00) Joana Rini and Dick York (10:30)  
*Acolyte:* Nancy Nicholls  
*Ushers:* Jack and Betty Rendlesham  
*Teller:* Debbie Kampman  
*Organist:* Aleksandr Leybkind

## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

03 December 2017

*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 season of Advent begins today. The name of the season means "coming," and it celebrates God's coming to us in the birth of Jesus and looks toward Christ's return at the end of history as Savior and Judge.

The first reading from Isaiah reflects the intensity of the prophet's hope for the Messiah. In a period of Israel's history when confidence in the people's own efforts to build God's Kingdom had collapsed, Isaiah expresses that hope in a passage that has been a part of the Advent liturgy since the earliest days of the Church, "O that you would tear open the heavens and come down..."

In the second reading we hear Paul's greeting in his first letter to Corinth. Recognizing the many spiritual gifts of the Corinthian church (a source of their strength, but also a source of the controversy which caused him to write) he says that those spiritual gifts are given to prepare us to greet the return of Christ.

Jesus' message to his followers is an assurance that he will return and that our lives should be lived in preparation for that return. This theme of watching for his return is always central on the first Sunday of Advent. Today's reading from Mark is the parable of the door-keeper. It reminds us that we are always to be on the watch for Jesus' return.

The liturgy is the way the Church lives in the time between Jesus' first coming and his second coming. In word and sacrament he comes to us again and again, veiled, but present to eyes of faith. In the Eucharist and in ministry to others we are continually being prepared to greet him when he comes again in glory.

From *The Rite Light: Reflections on the Sunday Readings and Seasons of the Church Year*. Copyright © 2007 by Michael W. Merriman. Church Publishing Incorporated, New York.

E·P·I·S·C·O·P·A·L·...·C·H·U·R·C·H

**Saint·Bartholomew**

**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:

Dorothy, Richard and Mary, John and Caroline, Steve and Diane, Frank and Liz, Paul and Jane, Al and Marie, Allison and child, Vinton, Nancy, Betty, Fr. Jim, Carol, Harriett, Jean, Judy, Jim, Pat, Brooke, Dee, Lauren, Mary Ellen, Mary Francis, Anastasia, Mary, Greg, Irene, Robert, John, Victoria, Ann, Katie, Earnest, Richie, David, Sylvia, Jeremy, Freddie, Bob, Dolly, Sandy, Shirley, Andrea, Linda, Betsy, Janelle and Jake, Toni, Quasim, Florence, Nancy, Tony, Wendy, Dolores, ...

And we offer our thanksgivings for your many blessings upon us especially for:  
November 26th the offering was \$1,335.00 and the attendance was 58.

The birthdays of : Francys Franco, Russ Tripi, Steve Bellas, ...  
The anniversary of: Joseph and Debbie Kampman, ...

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

Lt. Colonel Dan Knaup, Corporal Jason Thompson, Lt. Col. David Marcinski, Sgt. Mark Ditchman, Pvt 2 nd Class Kyle Lewis, Quartermaster Mike Thoumire, Staff Sgt. Paul Workman, Seaman Kyle Knowlton, Staff Sgt Rebecca Gibson, Staff Sgt. Frank Gibson, Specialist Jack Rolf, Sargent Anthony Worst, Col. Patrick Renwick, Sgt. John Kleeberger.

We also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, especially: ...  
Rob Finnie, Ben Howes, ...

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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 know 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: **The November** selection Red Notice by Bill Browder and the **December** selection **The Heist** by Janet Evanovich. **For more information, see Wendy Charny or call her: 216 291 9235.**

*As you begin receiving calendars for 2018, and know you won't be using some of them, please remember to put them in the Food Bank baskets, as those recipients really appreciate them.*

<b>4</b>	Monday		John of Damascus, Priest c.760
		2:00 pm 6:00 pm	Groovy Garfoose Bible Study
<b>5</b>	Tuesday		Clement of Alexandria, Priest. c.210
		9:00 am	Office Open Franco
<b>6</b>	Wednesday		<b>Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c.342</b>
		9:00 am	Office Open Franco
<b>7</b>			Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, 397
		8:00 am 9:00 am	TMCC Office Open - Boyd
<b>8</b>	Friday		Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
		9:00 am	Morning Prayer
<b>9</b>	Saturday		<b>ADVENT</b>
<b>10</b>	Sunday		<b>THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>
		8:00 am 9:15 am 10:30 am 11:45 am	Holy Eucharist, Rite I Bible Study Holy Eucharist, Rite II Santa's Brunch

**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 3rd through December 10th, 2017**

**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** 119:1-124; 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(8-14); 110:1-5(6-7),  
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 M (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.**