

Liturgies and Mass Intentions ~ Week of December 20, 2009

Sunday, December 20 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 am – Tom & Joan Gorman and Kathleen Rurak
(Gorman Family)

11:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Monday, December 21

NO MASS

Tuesday, December 22

6:00 pm – Gary Hillyer (Steven Hillyer)

Wednesday, December 23

6:00 pm – Louis & Mary Ann Volpe (Roseann Volpe)

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve

5:00 pm – Evelyn Seabright (Karen Hottinger)

Midnight – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

10:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Saturday, December 26

NO MASS

Sunday, December 27 – Feast of the Holy Family

9:00 am – Jean Reed (Barbara & Mike Betts)

11:00 am – Parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi

Schedule of Liturgical Ministries

Ministers of Hospitality (Greeters)

Dec 20 – 9 am – Tina Mohn, Michael Loutzenhiser

11 am – Gretchen Rivera, Sandy Glasner

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Phyllis DeVictor, Frank Schneider

Midnight – Lorri Kuczynski, Tom Main

Christmas 10 am – Kathleen Dancey, Maggie McCoy

Dec 27 – 9 am – Tina Mohn, Rick Miller

11 am – Jim Gremling, Ariana Gremling

Servers

Dec 20 – 9 am – Susan Kyanko

11 am – Sam Callison, Jack Cotting

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Sophia Brown, Jordan Griffith

Midnight – Steven Hillyer; **Christmas 10 am** – Chris Paisley

Dec 27 – 9 am – Linda Wolfe; 11 am – Isabel Tonneman

Crucifers (Cross Bearers)

Dec 20 – 9 am – Sam Hulett; 11 am – Pat Cassidy

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Sam Hulett

Midnight – Dan Tonneman; **Christmas 10 am** – N Booth

Dec 27 – 9 am – Frank Schneider; 11 am – Julie Byrne

Lectors

Dec 20 – 9 am – Lorri Kuczynski, Katherine Kriedermann

11 am – Jean Cotting, Sue Cruickshank

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Sue Cruickshank, ME O'Shaughnessy

Midnight – Louise Celebrezze, Ben Gibbons

Christmas 10 am – Carolyn Jurkowitz, Larry Charles

Dec 27 – 9 am – Leslie Main, Sue Cruickshank

11 am – Larry Charles, Ben Gibbons

Eucharistic Ministers

Dec 20 – 9 am – Carolyn Jurkowitz, Steven Hillyer, Nancy Booth

11 am – Joanna Nunn, M O'Shaughnessy, Barb Schmitzer

Christmas Eve 5 pm – Joanna Nunn, Judy Petrou, Julie Byrne

Midnight – Linda Wolfe, Mary Ann Kerscher, Dan Kerscher

Christmas 10 am – Jan Rosenfield, Nancy Booth, Barb Finan

Dec 27 – 9 am – Jaime Capestany, Dan Kerscher, Mary Ann Kerscher; 11 am – Judy Petrou, Marilyn Smith, Dan Tonneman

Calendar of Events at St. Francis of Assisi Parish

Next Sunday, December 20

- Church Decorating for Advent, after 11 am Mass

Wednesday, December 23

- NO SESSION for RCIA

Thursday, December 24, Christmas Eve

- NO Bible Study at Westminster Thurber
- NO Bible Study

Friday, December 25, Christmas Day

- Parish Office Closed

Next Sunday, December 27

- Christmas Caroling

Looking Ahead ...

Monday, December 28

- Parish Office Closed (except for collection counting)

Tuesday December 29

- Parish Office Closed

Wednesday, December 30

- Assemble Epiphany Chalk, 10:30 am

- RCIA, 7 pm, hall

Thursday, December 31

- NO Bible Study at Westminster Thurber
- NO Bible Study

Friday, January 1

- Parish Office Closed

Christmas / Year End Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)
5 pm and Midnight (carols begin at 11:30 pm)

Friday, December 25 (Christmas Day)
One Mass only at 10 am

Note: No evening Mass or Confessions on Christmas Day

Sunday, December 27 (Feast of the Holy Family)
Regular Sunday Mass Schedule - 9 am and 11 am

NO 6 pm Weekday Mass on Tuesday, December 29

Mass for the Solemnity of Mary
Vigil Only - Thursday, December 31, at 5 pm
No Mass and No Confessions on January 1

Sunday, January 3 (Epiphany)
Regular Sunday Mass Schedule - 9 am and 11 am

Save this date! The annual Mardi Gras Pasta Dinner will be held in the parish hall on **Saturday, February 13, 2010** from noon to 7 pm. Please invite your friends to this day of great food and great fun. We'll be looking for volunteers to help decorate the hall, cook and serve the food, donate raffle prizes, sell tickets, and more. If you've helped before, you already know that we'll have a great time. If you're a newcomer, you'll find out what makes this dinner one of the best days of the year for our parish. You'll be hearing more from us soon. Your partners in pasta: David Burgess / gvguy65@hotmail.com and Therese Terndrup / terndrup00@hotmail.com

Pastoral Reflections ~ for week of December 20, 2009

For thousands of years, humans have entered into winter with fears and ways of ridding those fears. Our traditions of this season are heirlooms handed down from the long nights of survival by ancestors of long ago. As we enter Winter 2009-2010, we will hear the stories of hope and light, we will decorate our homes with colors, fragrances, and images of life, we will sing and hum melodies and lyrics of God's family, we will dream beyond our fears of the present and future as have our ancestors over and over during thousands of years. As we feel both the chill of fear in our bones and the warmth of hope in our hearts, let us walk into winter knowing God-is-with-us. ~ Fr. Ron

Parish News and Information

"Like incense let my prayer arise" Ps. 141:1

Pray the Prayer of the Church each day with the *People's Breviary*, www.peoplesbreviary.com.

We welcome into our community of faith, **Gary Dean Tober III**, son of new parishioners Gary and Jennie Tober, who was baptized today at the 11 am Mass. CONGRATULATIONS!

Christians For Comprehensive Immigration Reform provided us with the postcards available in the pews. They are directed to our Congresspersons asking for reform. Consider sending one to your representative.

Christmas Caroling! Mark your calendars now for a special night of Christmas caroling, on **Sunday, December 27**. We will meet at the church at 5:45 pm, and then walk and sing our way to Westminster Thurber and Heartland Victorian Village. Afterwards, we'll meet in the church hall for warm beverages and holiday snacks. Please bring a finger food to share. Come one, come all!



FYI, the bulletin for December 27 has already been submitted to the printer, due to the Christmas holidays. If you have information for the January 3 bulletin, please submit it to the parish office by Monday, December 21. Thank you.

Around Town

Blue Christmas Mass: The St. Thomas More Newman Center will offer its 5th **annual Blue Christmas Mass at 8:00 pm on Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24**. This Christmas Eve Mass is intended especially for people who may not feel joyful during the holiday season or who may be experiencing life challenges. The differences between Blue Christmas and other Christmas Eve liturgies are small but poignant. A clear statement of welcome is offered at the beginning of the Mass and the homily is geared towards the specific audience; the music and entire tone of Blue Christmas is quiet and reflective. If you know of anyone who may benefit from attending, please invite them to join us. While this is a Roman Catholic Mass, we welcome all who are seeking a place of comfort and healing. For more information, call (614) 291-4674 ext. 101 or e-mail rschott@buckeyecatholic.com. The Newman Center is located at 64 W. Lane Ave., Columbus, OH 43201.

More Parish News and Information

Collection Counters needed for Christmas collection counting ... on Monday, December 28, we need extra collection counters to help with the Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and Sunday Masses. If you can help, please call or email the parish office for time and place. Thank you!

Epiphany Chalk ... we have a tradition at St Francis of Assisi, of providing parishioners with Epiphany Chalk, to commemorate the Magi's visit to the Christ Child. We need help assembling the chalk and prayer cards that are handed out at Masses on January 3. This is a fun project for children, to participate in the life of the parish. **Project date is Wednesday, December 30, at 10:30 am.** If your child would like to help, please call / email the parish office. 614.299.5781

THE ADVENT

The events of history were controlled for my coming
to this world
no less than for the coming of the Savior.

The time had to be ripe, the place just right,
the circumstances ready,
before I could be born.

God chose the parents of his Son
and endowed them with the personality they needed
for the child that would be born.

I speak to God about those he chose to be my parents
until I see that they had to be
the kind of human beings they were
if I was to become what God meant me to be.

The Christ child comes, like every other child,
to give the world a message.

What message have I come to give?
I seek guidance from the Lord
to express it in a word or image.

Christ comes into this world
to walk a certain path, fulfill a certain destiny.
He consciously fulfilled
what had been "written" for him.

As I look back I see in wonder what was "written"
and has thus far been fulfilled in my own life,
and for each part of that script, however small,
I say, "Thanks"
to make it holy with my gratitude.

I look with expectation and surrender
at all that is to come
and, like Christ, I say, "Yes. Let it be done."

Finally, I recall the song the angels sang
when Christ was born.
They sang of the peace and joy that give God glory.

Have I ever heard the song the angels sang
when I was born?

I see with joy what has been done through me
to make the world a better place
and I join those angels in the song they sang
to celebrate my birth.

*From "Wellsprings: A Book of Spiritual Exercises"
by Anthony de Mello
(Image Books, a division of Doubleday & Company © 1986)*