

PASTORAL STAFF

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FAITH FORMATION**TRINITY SCHOOL at St. Christopher Parish**

Jim Silcott, Principal 488-7650
trinity.cdeducation.org

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Alyce Horwat 486-0457
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Catholics Returning Home

Susan E. Young, Group Coordinator 274-3988
Sooz9168@att.net

Parish Office

486-0457

Daily Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.;
 Friday, Closed

Parish Pastoral Council

Melissa Rumohr-Clark 614-595-6967
labratbyday22820@yahoo.com

The Parish Pastoral Council meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the River Chapel. Visitors are always welcome. To place items on the agenda, please contact Melissa Rumohr-Clark, President.

Mass Intentions for the Week


Third Sunday of Advent**Saturday + Sunday, December 12th & 13th**

4:30 p.m. Louis Viol by Giovina Viol
 9:00 a.m. Elsie Hagan by Francis & Hilda Doyle
 11:30 a.m. Bill Brown, Fred and Lucy Nance by Family
 6:00 p.m. Betty Staley & Jeff Zimmerman by Vince Staley

Weekday Masses**Monday, December 14th**

8:30 a.m. Beth Kidwell
 by Pat Hutchison and Marlene Antolino

Wednesday, December 16th

6:00 p.m. Margaret Bracaloni by Giovina Viol

Thursday, December 17th

8:30 a.m. Eviston-Colburn Family
 by Tom and Norma Eviston

Friday, December 18th

8:30 a.m. Joan Hudock by Regis Hudock

Third Sunday of Advent**Saturday + Sunday, December 19th & 20th**

4:30 p.m. In Memory of Patrick Tweed by Tweed Family
 9:00 a.m. Robert Ruiz by Christine Szczesny
 11:30 a.m. Eric Bohlmann by Bohlmann Family
 6:00 p.m. Dominic Cassini by Mr. & Mrs. Ralph DiPasquale

Weekly Stewardship Report
Weekly Offertory Breakdown – 12/6/2015

Total Envelope Count	131	
Total Envelope \$ Amount		\$ 7,106.00
Loose Checks #	39	
Total Loose Checks \$ Amount		\$ 1,492.00
Total Loose Cash \$ Amount		\$ 1,434.00

Total Collection \$ Amount \$10,032.00

2nd Collections:

Trinity Tuition Assistance \$ 1,070.00

Mass Attendance:

November 21 & 22	966
November 28 & 29	858
December 5 & 6	984

LITURGICAL MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER 19 AND 20

	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	LECTORS	GREETERS	ALTAR SERVERS
4:30 p.m. Saturday	Dave and Kathy Eddy	Matt Tillett	TBA	Amy Doust and Zelma Hutton
9:00 a.m. Sunday	Jeff and Lue Bauer, Patty Spaulding, Liz Elder, Jim Woltz and Dominic Valentino	Jeff Bauer and Justin Reinhart	TBA	Erin Sullivan, Luke Monovich and Joshua Ashmore
11:30 a.m. Sunday	Pat Brown, Sharon Damico, Susie Gershutz and a volunteer	Larry Wilhelm and Tim McCarthy	TBA	Joshua Androsac, Cassandra Androsac and Nicole Bond

ALTAR CARE FOR DECEMBER: Mary Halloran and Susan Reeser; **Linens:** Susan Reeser

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn during the month of December to remind us of the Presence of the Eucharist and for the intentions of Chris Lutmerding.

FROM THE DESK OF MSGR. JOHN CODY

Dear friends and parishioners of St. Christopher Parish:

1. **The Holy Year of Mercy** – Pope Francis is challenging all of us to devote ourselves to the practice of mercy. We tend to be hardhearted a lot, wanting severe punishment for everyone else but ourselves. Our Lord Jesus has said in Luke's Gospel and elsewhere, "Be merciful as your Father is merciful." This involves a change of heart on our part, and a willingness to forgive and forget – especially when there are people who have hurt us. Being merciful does not mean that we let everyone get away with anything. But it is a challenge for us to reconcile with one another and to allow people to learn from their mistakes. The woman caught in adultery, Zacchaeus in the tree, and the other sinners who were outcasts in society found a friend in Jesus. We too should be ministers of reconciliation. One excellent way to observe this Holy Year is to give emphasis to the works of mercy. In case you have forgotten them, here they are:

Corporal Works of Mercy:

Feed the hungry	Shelter the homeless
Give drink to the thirsty	Visit the sick and imprisoned
Clothe the naked	Bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

Admonish sinners	Instruct the uninformed
Counsel the doubtful	Comfort the sorrowful
Bear wrongs patiently	Forgive offenses
Pray for the living and the dead	

If we devote ourselves to practicing these, we will go a long way to observing the Holy Year in a fitting way.

2. **Gaudete Sunday** – Twice a year, the Church pauses in the midst of a season to REJOICE! As an option, clergy may wear rose colored vestments in celebration of this special Sunday. Also, it is time to light the rose (pink) candle on our Advent wreaths. Gaudete Sunday gets its name from the first word of the entrance antiphon for this Sunday: "Gaudete" which means in Latin, REJOICE!
3. **Donations needed:** Every year at St. Christopher, we try to reach out to the poor and homeless. We have a tradition of collecting GLOVES, MITTENS, AND SCARVES (FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN) for our friends in Vinton County, St. Francis Center. Here at the parish, we collect SOCKS AND MEN'S UNDERWEAR for the homeless. When you're out at the store, you might remember to get some of these items to donate, and help make Christmas and winter a bit more comfortable for those who are disadvantaged. Merry Christmas!
4. **Evangelization – Bring a friend or family member to Church!** – Evangelization is a big word that simply means: "handing on the faith." In the past, we relied on the professionals to do this, the priests, brothers and sisters in religious life. With the diminishing numbers of the clergy and religious, and the increasing number of Catholics, the laity must get involved in this effort. The New Evangelization, much spoken of in today's Church, has to do with outreach to nonpracticing Catholics. All of us know some who, for whatever reason, do not practice their faith. Sometimes, all it takes is an invitation to church with us that gets them back on track. Would that all would know the strength and comfort we receive through the Sacraments of the Church. Issue that invitation to someone you care about today! Come home to the Church in 2015!
5. **Retirement Fund for Religious** – One of the most popular

second collections (if there such a thing?) is the annual Collection for the elderly Religious (sisters, priests and brothers) who need care in their old age. They weren't paid much when they were active, and their orders and institutes are in need of support for their sakes. I know you will be generous.

6. **Penance Service** – After the 6:00 p.m. Mass, some guest priests will be here to help us with confessions. We'll start at about 7:15, and continue till all are heard.
7. **Second Collections:** December 12 and 13: Retirement Fund for Religious; December 24 and 25: Diocesan Charities.
8. **Pray for Our Servicemen and Women** – **Captain Justin Habash, son of Matt and Diane; Captain Brian Borkowski, brother-in-law of Linda Wolfe; Major Shawn Walrath, grandson-in-law of Bill and Betty Tyznik; Pvt. E3 Corey Vail, Army; John Weinheimer, grandson of parishioner Miriam Blanchard, is in the Navy; Cpl. Kevin Kelly; Lt. Evan Kelly; Major Nicholas Joseph Ervin son of Mary Ervin; Staff Sgt. T.J. Grennell (Afghanistan); Andrew Eugene Flowers; Lt. Col. Mark Mauri; Specialist Ryan Geoit, grandson-in-law of Bob & Joanne Girardi; Captain Stephen Hueckel; 2LT Cameron Bowling; Sgt. Robert Russell; Captain William Cahill; Private First Class Tyler Mark Morris, grandson of Angie Morris; Lt. Commander Colin Kane; 2nd LT David Valentino & wife, 2nd LT Melissa Valentino, USAF, grandchildren of Dominic & Flora Valentino.** Please pray for them and forward to us any names of servicemen/women related to or friends of parishioners, so that we may remember them in our prayers.

God bless,
Msgr. John K. Cody, Pastor

Christmas Tree

We are again decorating our Christmas tree by St. Joseph with hats, gloves and scarfs for the children and needy people in McArthur. Also we are collecting new socks and underwear (men's, ladies and children) for the homeless. Please leave them under the tree. – Carole Heinzenberger

TRINITY SCHOOL NEWS

Trinity Catholic Elementary School is accepting registrations for its two full day Kindergarten classes for the 2016-2017 school year. Families who register between now and December 20 will save \$50.00 off the ordinary registration fee of \$250.00. The remaining \$200.00 fee will go 100% towards next year's tuition. Tours available at the school every day. Contact Principal Jim Silcott at jsilcott@cducation.org or at 488-7650 for more information.

Trinity Catholic Elementary School is looking for eighth grade graduation pictures from the old St. Christopher and Our Lady of Victory schools to put on our walls in order to showcase the history of Catholic education in the Tri-Village area since 1922. We will make copies and return pictures to you in a timely fashion. Please contact Principal Jim Silcott at 488-7650 at the school or at jsilcott@cducation.org with your precious photographs. Also looking for sports team pictures, pictures of faculty/administrators or other historical photographs – Thank you!



REMEMBER OUR SICK AND HOSPITALIZED IN YOUR PRAYERS – Paula Bassett, Jaime Berry, Billy Jo Brink, Miriam and Danny Casey, Becky and Tommy Colcord, Margaret Dawson, Henry Drayer, Betty and Mark Evans, Frances Fitzgerald, Pauline and David Hawkeye, Patty Human, Sue Johnson, “Jonesy,” Mary Elizabeth Koehl, Anna Belle Marshall, Jean Montenaro, The Moore Family, Theresa J. Nardone, Mila Orbovich, Teddy Petry, Antoinette Pratsinakis (Daughter of Nancy Figliola and Granddaughter of Pat Brown), Anna Reed, Danny Reeds, Amanda Rich, Denise Schumaker, Jacob Timms, Isabelle Whitley, Whitmore Family, Fred Wilcox and Mary Yingst.

LastCall Mass

Sunday, December 20th • 6 o'clock

Celebrant
Fr. Metzger

Lector
Kathy Hobson

Sacristan
Kathy O'Neill

Eucharistic Ministers
*Greg Bergmann, Kathy and Rachel O'Neill,
Alex Phillips, Lisa Boehm,
Rita Morgan and Louise Thoma*

Servers
Kyle MacLaughlin and Ryan Ferguson

Time, Talent and Treasure+++ We Thank you for sharing



Please visit our Christmas Tree by the west side door. It is decorated with a general wish list for the Columbus Women's Shelter. The shelter provides care to over 200 homeless women and families. **Are you able to donate a few of these items?: Shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, perfume, lotion, nail polish, polish remover, candy, gloves, inexpensive hats, emery boards, magazines (used or new), socks, \$1.00 reading glasses, mouthwash, washcloths, lipstick, skin conditioner, chap stick.** Please place donations under the Christmas tree or in the vestibule (back entrance to the church), marked “Women's Shelter.” We will collect items up to and including the 11:30 Mass on December 20th. Thank you!



Christmas Eve Mass
9:00 p.m. Mass – Choir & Instrumentals
Prelude begins at 8:30 p.m.

Christmas Day Mass
10:00 a.m.
Theresa Cincione along with Cathy Cincione
string trio and trumpet
Prelude begins at 9:30 a.m.

Religious give thanks. “We cannot begin to repay all who contribute,” writes a Catholic sister. “So we pray to God, who is never outdone in generosity, to reward you.” Heartfelt thanks for your donation to this week's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. May God bless you for your goodness!

Promise Fulfilled – Jesus stood up in his hometown synagogue and read aloud from the scroll of the prophet Isaiah a description of the Messiah. He startled listeners by saying, “Today the prophecy is being fulfilled in your hearing!” This is sensational news handed on to us in the Gospel of Luke. Even better is the news that the Messiah's work is handed on to all of us, parts of his body. In so many ways, we receive the teaching handed on to us and hand it on, in turn, to family members, neighbors, friends, and strangers.



Adult Education on Sunday, in the library of Trinity School, 10:00-11:25 a.m. Suggestions or questions? Please contact any one of our committee members:

Barbara Fink	BFink@optometry.osu.edu
Susan Haninger	shaninge@gmail.com
Bernie Losekamp	fulge83@aol.com
Blanche Luczyk	bluczyk@yahoo.com
Marlene Yeldell	myeldell@columbus.rr.com

This Week:

December 13, 2015, Book Discussion *Walking with Mary* by Edward Sri: Mary appears only a few times in the Bible, but those few passages come at crucial moments. This very readable, short book discusses key Bible passages concerning Mary and offers insights to apply to our lives. **Dr. Edward Sri** is a nationally known Catholic speaker who appears regularly on EWTN and is the author of several well-loved Catholic books. He also was the keynote speaker at the 2015 Catholic Women's Conference in Columbus.

Looking Ahead:

January 10, 2016, Mercy: Healing for the Modern Family: During this Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy we will discuss the current crisis in family life as well as the Church's call to reach out to those in our families in need of God's mercy. We will reflect on the World Meeting of Families and Ordinary Synod on the Family, discovering ways to invite all people to live out the truth of God's design for marriage and family life with joy and hope. **Dan Thimons** is the director of the diocesan Office of Marriage and Family Life. He is a graduate of the Franciscan University of Steubenville and the Pope John Paul II Institute for Studies in Marriage and Family in Washington.

WOMEN'S CLUB NEWS

Women's Club Christmas Dinner
 Tuesday, December 15, 2015
 6:30 p.m.
 Champps – Lenox Center

All are welcome to celebrate with us. We will be collecting winter gear – hats, coats, gloves and scarfs for St. Francis in McArthur, Ohio.



Seeking new members for the Altar & Rosary Society. Responsibilities include laundering and ironing small purificators and finger towels used during the Mass for one month each year. Another volunteer activity is cleaning the Altar and Sanctuary area (vacuuming, putting out new linens, cleaning holy water fonts, etc.) with another member one month during the year. Please contact Mary Halloran for details at 614-481-0256 or celtic4543212@yahoo.com.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER: St. Christopher's HOMEBOUND MINISTRY will be filling and delivering Christmas Gift Tins to our parish family members who are homebound. Many thanks to all who plan to bake cookies. CHRISTMAS COOKIES should be dropped off at the CHURCH OFFICE ENTRANCE on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon. For your convenience a covered container labeled HOMEBOUND MINISTRY-CHRISTMAS COOKIES will be placed outside the door. If necessary, feel free to contact Beljeania@aol.com or call 614-315-1047.

St. Christopher's MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION wants to remind anyone feeling heavy-hearted during this holiday season that you are personally invited to join Fr. Steven Bell and attend a **BLUE MASS SERVICE**, on Christmas Eve, December 24th, 7:00 p.m. at the St. Thomas Moore Newman Center, 64 West Lane Avenue (614-291-4674, mailbox@buckeyecatholic.com). Parking is Free. Please come, honor yourself, your deceased loved ones and of course your sorrows in the company of others who are also grieving.

St. Christopher's JUSTICE MINISTRY desperately needs your HELP! Last month I attended a meeting with our St. Christopher's Justice Ministry. Presently, we only have five members and one awesome BREAD Team Member who really needs our support and prayers. Please consider attending meetings, volunteering or even making monetary donations to the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) in this much needed fight for equality and justice for ALL. For additional information, contact Bejeania at 614-315-1047.

St. Christopher's next 50+ SENIOR MEETING will be Saturday, January 9th at 10:00 a.m. in the River Chapel. We will be deciding on a ministry name and planning our late winter and early spring outings. All are welcome to attend. Contact Beljeania@aol.com or call 614-315-1047.



St. Vincent De Paul News: We are beginning to collect food for our pantry and the Christmas boxes. We can use all foods but especially needed are: coffee, canned meats, cereal, chunky soups, mac & cheese, canned vegetables and fruits, pancake mix and syrup, spaghetti sauce, pasta beans and condensed soup. Thank you!

A SPRING CHECK-UP FOR YOUR MARRIAGE

Just 44 hours away from jobs, kids, and chores, then 20 minutes a day: take a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend.

The next two weekends are February 19-21 and April 22-24. For more information or to register, contact Paul & Marilou Clouse at 614-834-6880 or visit our website at www.wwmecolumbus.org.

Celebrate the 2015 Advent Season at the Jubilee Museum!

Over 200 Nativity sets from around the world, including artist Lois Algueseva's amazing 3-D, life-size Nativity set made entirely of carved cardboard!

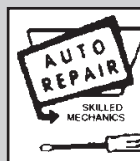
Bring your children and have their pictures taken with a historically accurate St. Nicholas on the following Sundays of Advent: December 13th and 20th. \$10.00 per picture (photo will be placed inside an event photo holder).

ATTENTION, ALL MALE SINGERS!

The Catholic Men's Conference is looking for a few good men to sing in the Men's Conference Choir at the annual Catholic Men's Conference on February 27, 2016 at the Voinovich Building on the Ohio State Fairgrounds. We will hold one or two rehearsals prior to the event at a date, time, and location to be determined. Please consider attending the Men's Conference and singing with us at this exciting event! Contact Christopher Walsh at cwalsh5358@gmail.com or at 614-464-2392 to sign up or for more information.

Nominations now open for the 2016 Catholic Man of the Year.

The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club is accepting nominations for the Diocese of Columbus 2016 Catholic Man of the Year. This annual award recognizes one lay man who, through his daily actions, words, and prayers, exemplifies the "good and faithful servant." Bishop Frederick Campbell will present the award on Friday, February 5, 2016 at the Catholic Men's Luncheon. **Nominations will be accepted through December 28th.** For details and nomination instructions, go to www.pluginCatholicMen.com. Completed nominations and supporting letters should be emailed to catholicmanoftheyear@gmail.com. Submit a nomination and let everyone know that your husband, father, son, uncle, brother or friend is the Catholic Man of the Year!

Sponsor of the Week**Auto Body Specialist**

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Paint & Body

THANK YOU: This bulletin is furnished to the parish without charge. The advertisements that appear defray all publishing costs with which the Church would otherwise be burdened. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank you for their kind generosity.