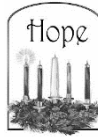


MASSES FOR THE WEEK**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28**4:30 p.m. **DOMINIC & PASQUA PALUMBO**

by Mary Mauro

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 29 ~ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**9:30 a.m. **RUDY LUHANEY** by Ella & Joanne**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18:30 a.m. **PETER RUMAN** by Mary Ruman**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2**

NO MASS

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 38:30 a.m. **GAY KROK** by Dennis & Dorothy Ziegler**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4**

NO MASS

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5**4:30 p.m. **THEODORE DOGODA, SR.**

by Chuck & Mary Nader

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 ~ SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT9:30 a.m. **JIM & HAZEL, DICK & MARGARET TOCK** by Family

NOTE: If you would like to bring up the offertory gifts during a Mass that is scheduled for a family member or friend, please see the ushers before Mass.

PLEASE NOTE: If you need to have communion brought to you at your seat, please notify the ushers **before Mass**.

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP:**ATTENDANCE:**

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Saturday, November 21, 2015 | 4:30 p.m. | Mass 122 |
| Sunday, November 22, 2015 | 9:30 a.m. | Mass 154 |

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| STEWARDSHIP: ~ WEEKLY BUDGETED | \$ 5,788.00 |
| SUNDAY OFFERING | \$ 3,743.38 |
| Surplus/(Deficit) | \$(2,044.62) |
| Envelopes | 151 |
| DEBT REDUCTION | \$ 111.00 |
| RETIRED RELIGIOUS TO DATE | \$ 1,197.50 |
| 1ST STEP FOR CHANGE TO DATE | \$ 1,135.71 |

Thank you for your continued support of your parish.

THEME: OUR DAILY ACTIONS AFFECT THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN THIS WORLD, AND INCREASE THE LORD'S HARVEST IN THE WORLD TO COME. When we reach out in kindness to our family, friends and foes, we express the redemptive love of Jesus and experience, through the Holy Spirit, an increase of the Lord's love in our hearts. This allows us to more fully understand His profound mercy.

LITURGY OF THE WORD: The first reading reminds the Israelites that the Lord would fulfill his promise to raise up a descendant from the house of David, and that this person would establish an everlasting kingdom. The second reading tells us about the many ways our faith in Jesus enriches our lives. In the Gospel, Jesus speaks of the signs that will appear when the Son of Man comes again.

STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT: *"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." (Luke 21:28) We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await His second coming. In this Advent season, use the Sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It's never too late.*

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE At this time of the year, we are very conscious of our family as we make preparations for Christmas. Today's Gospel warns us not to be consumed by all the consumer activity. This Advent, appreciate the gift of people in your life. The best gift this season might be your appreciation of others.

REMINDER...SECOND COLLECTION FOR DEBT REDUCTION. *Any time there is a Diocesan second collection, we will suspend our debt reduction second collection for that week. Of course you may still use your debt reduction envelope at any time.

PARISH NEWS

"MORE THAN JUST THE CHURCH BULLETIN"

Please be sure to visit our website: www.ststephenchurchniles.com.

ETERNAL FLAME INTENTIONS – Week of November 29

IN MEMORY OF RUDY LUHANEY by JoAnne & Ella

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE & YOLANDA WIEDA

by Daughter, Kathy Roberts

SANCTUARY LAMP INTENTION

FLORENCE SCIULLO by Sisters

We have openings for the Eternal Flame and the Sanctuary Lamp intentions. The offering is \$5.00 and they will burn all week of the date you request. Please call the rectory to schedule.

ATTENTION, LECTORS: Lector workbooks for the new liturgical year are now available in the sacristy. Please check your name off the list when you take your copy. Thank you.

MINISTRIES TO THE SICK/HOMEBOUND: Do you know someone who would welcome the opportunity to receive the Eucharist at home? Please call the parish at 330-652-4396 and they will be added to our visitation list.

NEEDED: EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS TO TAKE COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND: Call the rectory if you are able to fulfill this Ministry once or twice a month.

MEETINGS THIS WEEK AT ST. STEPHEN

Monday, November 30

6:30 p.m. Joint-Parish Council & Finance Committee Meeting
at Parish Center

Tuesday, December 1

6:30 p.m. Liturgy Committee Meeting at High Point

A MESSAGE FROM FR. KORDA: I had my two full days of pre-op on Thursday and Friday, November 19 and 20. Both days were filled with diagnostic testing, X-rays, blood work, meeting with several doctors and the surgeon, all in preparation for my surgery on Monday, November 30. The surgeon was very pleased with the fact that my symptoms mimic the actual prognosis of the MRI findings. In other words, the back surgery is fairly straightforward. It is called a bi-lateral decompression whereby he trims the herniated disc, along with cutting the ligaments and possible cysts which are pressing on the nerves that have resulted in my leg pains. He believes that the surgery will work well for me. He reminded me, as did all of the other doctors and personnel that I met with at the Laser Spine Institute, to get plenty of rest for a total of eight to twelve weeks post-surgery. That is exactly what I intend to do. I will let you know how my surgery goes in next week's bulletin. Thank you for your cards and prayers for a successful surgery. Fr. Korda.



CHRISTMAS ANGEL GIVING TREE: Our annual tradition of the Christmas Angel Giving Tree begins. Catholic Charities Regional Agency (CRRA) will only list one gift per tag. They suggest that donors try not to exceed \$30.00 and gifts should be consistent, especially in families with multiple children. If one person buys an overly generous gift and that child has siblings who receive a lesser gift from other donors, you can see the problem. That is the reason for the request. The deadline for returning the gifts to

our Church will be Sunday, December 6. Again, they ask that the gifts be returned unwrapped. You can put them in a gift bag or send some wrap with your purchase. Call CRRA at 330-393-4254 with any questions.

REMINDER ~ MEMORY TREE ORNAMENTS: Tree Lighting Ceremony, Wednesday, December 9th at 6:30 p.m. at the Parish Center. "Keepsake Ornaments" form is due by Sunday, December 6th. If you have any questions, please call the rectory at 330-652-4396.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Tuesday, December 15, 7:00 p.m. at Mt. Carmel
Several priests will be available.

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN: As much as we hate to think about it, winter is fast approaching and we will need some volunteers to shovel the walks before our Masses. We are hoping for a few high school boys to step forward, but anyone who is willing to help is asked to call the rectory so we can get organized before the snow flies. Depending on the snowfall, 45 minutes to a half hour before Mass should be plenty of time. Thanks for sharing your time with your parish!

OPLATKY: Beginning next weekend (December 5/6) oplatky (Christmas wafer) will be available in the sacristy for \$2.00 an envelope, that contains four wafers, for those who make this tradition part of their Christmas celebration. You may also purchase it during the week at the rectory.

2016 CALENDARS: Our 2016 calendars have arrived and are available this weekend. We sincerely thank HOLETON YUHASZ Funeral Home and Shaker & Shaker, Attorneys – at Law for sponsoring our calendars once again.

SAVE THE DATE! MARCH 19, 2016 ~ LUCK OF THE IRISH Reverse raffle and dinner at Ciminerio's ~ Please mark your calendar and plan to attend! Suggestion from the Luck of the Irish Committee – While you are doing your Christmas shopping, keep an eye out for sale items that might make a good gift basket for our Irish Auction

EXTRAORDINARY JUBILEE OF MERCY

DEC. 8, 2015 - NOV. 30, 2016



JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY: As you know, the Holy Father, Pope Francis, has declared a Jubilee Year of Mercy beginning on December 8, 2015, and concluding on the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe on November 20, 2016.

Our diocese will open the Jubilee Year

of Mercy with a special Mass on Sunday, December 6, 2015, at St. Columba Cathedral at 2:00 p.m. Please join us in this celebration. In addition, each month all parishes will be asked to focus on a particular Corporal and/or Spiritual Work of Mercy. As the Church enters into the Jubilee Year of Mercy, may God's abiding and loving mercy be the source of all that we do in service to the People of God.

IN THE COMMUNITY

ST. VINCENT de PAUL is in need of items for their thrift store. Any items in good condition. We accept misc. household items, clothing, furniture, and appliances, large and small. Call 330-509-3128 if you have any questions. Free pick-up for large items. Please help us to help others. David Skowron, President. THANK YOU

NILES COMMUNITY SERVICES...DECEMBER.. FOOD COLLECTION – Assorted Food

HARRIET'S CUPBOARD: DECEMBER – Shampoo, Conditioner, Soap, Body Wash. There is a large basket in the vestibule of the church for those who wish to help with this mission of Catholic Charities.

COMMUNITY SUPPERS: NOVEMBER – FIRST METHODIST CHURCH – Suppers are free and open to the public on Thursdays, from 4:45-6:00 p.m.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GALA AT St. Luke's Episcopal Church•Robbins Avenue, Niles CREAM CHICKEN and BISCUIT LUNCHEON. Tickets available at the door. December 6th, 2015, 12:30-2:30 p.m. Adults, \$7.00; Children, \$3.00; Under 5 free. Gift Basket Raffle and Bake Sale. All proceeds will be used for Community Outreach Food Program.

CATHOLIC MAN NIGHT

Men Meeting Jesus

MEN MEETING JESUS...Friday, December 11, 2015, 6:00-8:30 p.m. St. Joseph Parish, 322 Third Street NE, Massillon, OH (held in cafeteria of former St. Joseph School). Topic will be St. Joseph...Time To "Man Up" featuring Deacon Randy Smith. Spiritual reflections, Dinner and Beverages. For more info and to register, contact Tom Seesan (330-837-9702 or seesanfm@gmail.com) by December 7. Visit us at www.cmfdoy.org.

PRAY, EAT AND SOCIALIZE WITH OTHER CATHOLIC MEN.

PREPARE FOR CHRISTMAS BY SEEING MARY OF NAZARETH: A free showing of the movie *Mary of Nazareth* will take place on Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 p.m. in the St. Michael Parish Hall (on the south side of the church building) at 300 N. Broad Street, Canfield. *Mary of Nazareth* is an epic new motion picture on the life of Mary, mother of Christ, from her childhood through the Resurrection of Jesus. This full-length feature film, shot in English in High Definition, was filmed in Europe in very authentic locales with outstanding cinematography, a strong cast, and a majestic music score. It is considered appropriate for children age 11 and older. Donations will be accepted. Sponsored by Men and Women United for Life, and the Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family Life. For more information, call 330-744-8451, ext. 272 or contact dschmidt@youngstowndiocese.org or go to www.maryfilm.com.

"LEAD ME LORD, WALKING THE BEATITUDE-PATHWAY THROUGH ADVENT" Saint John Paul II Parish, 420 North Street NW, Warren, will host a guest speaker, Fr. James McKarns, on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2015, from 3:00-4:00 p.m. His topic is entitled "Lead Me Lord, Walking the Beatitude-pathway through Advent."

AN INVITATION: In light of the *Extraordinary Year of Mercy* and the canonical reform of the marriage nullity process ("having your marriage recognized by the Church") please contact the parish office at your earliest convenience to inquire about beginning the necessary steps leading to the validation of your marriage.

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH – PIROHY SALE: December 11th: Four varieties. Cost: \$5.50 dozen. Haluski, \$3.75 1 ½ lb. bag. Call in advance orders on Wednesday and Thursday, from noon-4:00 p.m. at 330-393-0781. Pick up on Friday noon til 4.00 p.m. Kolachi will be sold December 4 at a cost of \$9.00. Order at same number as above. Please leave your name and phone number with your order or it will not be filled!

DISCERNMENT RETREAT: The Vocation Office is offering a weekend retreat to help young men discern God's call for their life. The retreat, which will be held at Villa Maria Retreat Center in Villa Maria, PA, will begin on Friday, December 18 at 6:30 p.m. and conclude by noon on Sunday, December 20. The Most Reverend George V. Murry, S.J. will be the Director for this retreat which is open to men who are 18 to 50. In addition to the Bishop's talks, plans include Mass, communal and private prayer, time for personal reflection, Eucharistic Adoration, and the ability to speak with seminarians and ask questions. **There is no charge for the retreat, but to participate registration is required.** Men can register online at www.youngstownvocations.org. The deadline for registration is Monday, December 14. To get more information, please call the Vocations Office at 330-744-8451 or email Father Christopher Luoni, Director of Vocations, at cluoni@youngstowndiocese.org.