



SAINT XAVIER CHURCH JESUIT

Inward Reflection. Outward Action.

MUSIC

Opening Hymn:	“On Jordan’s Banks” #344
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 126 “God Has Done Great Things for Us” #69
Eucharistic Acclamations:	Mass of Light #226, 228, 230, 231
Communion Hymn:	“Maranatha, Lord Messiah” #324
Recessional Hymn:	“O Come, O Come Emmanuel” #323 verses 1, 2, and 3

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Monday December 7th

12:00 PM AA, ALANON Meetings
7:00 PM Advent People Program

Tuesday 8th - Immaculate Conception

12:00 PM AA, OA Meeting Meetings
7:00 PM RCIA

Wednesday 9th

12:00 PM AA, OA, Meetings
7:00 PM Hurry Up and Wait- John Brolley

Thursday 10th

12:00 PM AA, Alanon & OA Meetings

Friday 11th

12:00 PM AA Meeting

Saturday 12th

9:00 AM St. Vincent dePaul- at the Cathedral
1:30 PM Johnson/Clark Wedding
5:30 PM Tramonte/Sayer Wedding

Sunday 13th

10:00 AM Religious Ed
Coffee & Donuts/Blood Pressure Checks
1 PM Blue Christmas Service

LITURGICAL LIFE

Third Sunday of Advent December 13, 2009

Zephaniah 3:14-18a	The Lord will rejoice over you with gladness.
Paul 4:4-7	The Lord is near.
Luke 3:10-18	What should we do?

December 13, 2009

4:00 PM

Fr. Eric Knapp, S.J.

Reader: T. Deidesheimer, T. Roderick
EME: T. Deidesheimer, A. Livingston
J. Lovett, R. Schroeder

Server: J. Noonan

7:00 AM

Fr. Cyril Whitaker, S.J.

Reader: L. Reinersman
EME: A. & K. White
Server: K. Stier

9:00 AM

Fr. Joe Casey, S.J.

Reader: B. Hawkins, C. Fogel
EME: A., N. & P. Doppes, M. Lippert
Server: Alexander Spaulding

10:30 AM

Fr. Cyril Whitaker, S.J.

Reader: J. Kron, B. Baron
EME: B. & M. Dwyer, B. Kirby, M. Kron
Servers: B. Howard, B. Santen

12:00 PM

Fr. Eric Knapp, S.J.

Reader: G. Niehaus, S. Anderson
EME: S. Anderson, M. Bonhaus,
ML Kuhnhein, J. Noonan

Server: J. Noonan

5:00 PM

Fr. John Murphy, S.J.

Reader: J. Manigan, C. Scott
EME: M. Fetick, C. Hirsch,
J. Manigan, B. Meridieth
Server: SA Wehrman

Masses for the Immaculate Conception, Tuesday, December 8, will be at 6, 7, 11 AM, 12 & 5 PM.

607 Sycamore Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 • 513-721-4045
www.stxchurch.org

CHURCH NOTES

The **Sunday Collection** for November 22nd was \$8,595.21 and \$493.25 for weekday and the November 29th collection was \$7,903.40 and \$495.87. **November parish Tithing** went to Mary Magdalene House, St. Vincent DePaul, Magis, CISE, Winton Hills Seniors' Computer Project, Su Casa and the Campaign for Human Development. **THANK YOU for your continued generosity to the parish!**

Congratulations to Anthony and Kathryn (Hollstegge) **DeBlasio** and **Casey and Elizabeth** (Rice) **Kreider** who were married here last weekend.

Please remember in your prayers the sick of our parish: Mary Lou Case, Marian Hardy, Dennis Hutzel, Adam Stropko, Jeffrey Neihoff, Pam Kirshner, Rhua Kepferle, Betsey Wilson, Elizabeth Brown, Marge Willis, Diane Gottmer, Lola Davis, Linda Dettmer, Erma McLaughlin, Alice Schutte, Cora Moore and all of our ill and homebound.

Please pray for **Joanne Sanzere** who was buried from St. Xavier this past week. *Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord. And let perpetual light shine upon her.*

MASS INTENTIONS

December 7 - 12

MON	6:00	+Robert E. Owens
	11:30	+Dorothy McHugh Coler
	12:05	+Louis J. Simon (Birth.)
TUES	Immaculate Conception	
	Masses: 6, 7, 11 AM, 12:00 & 5 PM	
WED	6:00	+Tim Meyer (Annv.)
	11:30	+Dorothy McHugh Coler
	12:05	Sp. Int. Rita Simon
THURS	6:00	+Mary C. Bussman
	11:30	+Francis X. Gastright
	12:05	+Dan Wright
FRI	6:00	+Robert Murphy
	11:30	+Philip J. Tillar
	12:05	+Helen and Clifford Pleiman
SAT	7:00	+Alfredo Saldana
	11:00	+John Burns (Birth.)

WEEKDAY PRESIDERS

Week of December 7, 9 - 11

6:00	Fr. Knapp	CONFESSIONS
11:30	Fr. Murphy	11:00-12:00 Fr. Whitaker
12:05	Fr. Whitaker	12:00-12:30 Fr. Murphy

FLOATER: Fr. Casey

X-CETERA

Parishioners are invited to volunteer to light the Advent wreath each Sunday at the Masses. Please call the office to sign-up. Responsibility involves walking in the procession with the liturgical ministers.

2010 Collection Envelopes/Calendars.

The 2010 collection envelopes and calendars will be available in the undercroft after the Masses next weekend.

VOLUNTEERS FOR CHRISTMAS MINISTRIES

(Reader, Eucharistic Minister, Usher/Collector, Server) are needed. Sign-up sheets are located in a binder in the sacristy.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS. If you want to purchase a flower for the church in memory of someone, please use a card located at the back of the church and mail it with your donation or drop both in the collection basket.

YEAR OF THE PRIESTS BLESSING

This weekend we will ask God's blessings upon the priests of St. Xavier Church. This short blessing ceremony will take place before the dismissal and be led by a member of the parish liturgy committee.

DO YOU RUN A BUSINESS? As a business leader you may qualify for membership in Legatus, an international organization of Catholic CEOs and their spouses. For more information see www.legatus.com or contact Jane Dugan at 513-561-9715.

Advent Lessons and Carols. Monday, December 7 at 7:30 PM in the Chapel of Mount St. Mary's Seminary, 6616 Beechmont Avenue. Doors to the Chapel open at 7:00 PM.

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

GIFTS OF THE MAGI is a program sponsored by Catholic Charities that assists the real living needs of people in the area. Tags for needed items are on the tree at the back of the church. You are encouraged to collaborate with co-workers and families or are able to make a partial gift.

As we prepare for our "**Little Christmas**" Dinner **January 3, 2010 from 2-4 PM** in the undercroft, we are looking for volunteers for set-up and filling gift bags December 30th at 10:00 AM in the undercroft. We will need volunteers to serve and assist our guests during dinner and to clean up after the dinner. Contact Barbara Westendorf in the church office to volunteer.

For our little Christmas dinner we will collect men's knitted hats (beanies) and packaged white tube socks. Drop off boxes will be at the back of church during Advent.



Thank You Thank you very much for contributing to the Food Drive. Because of your generosity we were able to distribute food to Mercy Franciscan St. John, St. Vincent de Paul and Su Casa. Your donations were greatly appreciated.

PASTOR'S PACE

I learned to read by phonics. This method of instruction involves teaching students how to connect the sounds of spoken English with letters or groups of letters and teaching them to blend the sounds of letters together to produce approximate pronunciations of unknown words. This method worked for me and taught me to love reading.

Today's Gospel refers to reading, or more specifically, comprehension. We hear that the word of God came to John while he was in the desert. It was in that place of solitude and silence where he was able to spend time interpreting and comprehending what the varied communication of God to him meant in real and concrete ways. He pieced together the story of the people of Israel with his own desires and longings prior to participating in the salvation experience of Jesus.

What we hear in today's Gospel is what John understood the word of God to mean for him—his purpose and mission in life: he is to recognize the saving work of God in his midst and to make Jesus known to others. This mission is rarely realized automatically; it requires steps that form a process. For John and us, to make known the Messiah and to see the presence of God in our midst requires us to engage in some form of repentance, that is, a conversion or transformation from the *status quo*, to allow God to take away the obstacles in our lives, like sin, and to participate like John, in pointing to the presence and activity of God in the world. In other words, we need to level those obstacles that are mountainous in our lives and clear away the stuff that hinders us from seeing the presence of the Lord in our midst.

The season of Advent is about process. At the start of every liturgical year we are reminded to enter into a process of recalling the promise of God's presence among us along with our needs and longings in order to know how we too are called to participate in the on-going salvation of the world. The fruit of this process is hope, the foundation of all activity of the Christian life. This all takes time. Making room for God to enter into our lives requires patience and courage. This is probably so because we clutter our lives with noise, material things, and things that are many times unhealthy for our spiritual lives.

We do not always understand the word of God at first hearing and what it will require of us; we also do not always like the truth to which it points; the message catches us off guard and challenges us to do the unexpected. But we must cling to the notion that it leads to a deepening of God's desire to be known and loved by each of us.

Let us remember each other in prayer this week!
+Eric J. Knapp, S.J.

FAITH FORMATION

APOSTLESHIP OF PRAYER – DECEMBER

General Intention: That all children may be respected, loved, and never exploited.

Mission Intention: That during Christmas the peoples of the Earth may recognize the Incarnate Word as the light that illuminates every person, and that every nation may open its doors to Christ, the Savior of the World.

ADVENT PEOPLE

Mondays during Advent, 7-8 PM in the Undercroft.

The evening includes evening prayer, fellowship, and reflection on the characters of Advent: **John the Baptist, Mary, and Joseph**. Each week a speaker will present a reflection on how one of these prominent scriptural figures embraced God's call to an uncertain venture, and what we can learn from their example.

Rosary for the Unborn, Saturday December 5 at 10 AM in the church.

A SPECIAL ADVENT GIFT – Spend a wonderful evening with Dr. Bill Gartig as he presents *Hurry Up & Wait – Finding Hope in the Advent Season*.

Wednesday, December 9, 2009, 7-8:30pm in the Undercroft. Dr. Gartig is an excellent and engaging speaker. He is very down to earth and a very popular presenter. He is also a walking encyclopedia of all things theological. This evening presentation will be a wonderful gift for you personally during this Advent Season. You will find him stimulating, humorous and challenging. Don't let yourself miss this wonderful evening.

BLUE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Do you struggle with how to manage during the upcoming Christmas season? Life events such as personal or family changes, disappointments, losses of people, jobs, income, infertility, dreams, care-giving, etc. can oftentimes create added stress during the holidays. On **Sunday, December 13 at 1 PM** in the church we will have a "blue Christmas" prayer service followed by a program and fellowship in the Undercroft to address this reality. Please call the office to register.

CHARIS SEEKER'S RETREAT: January 8-10, 2010. This Charis retreat is designed for people in their 20s and 30s to explore their faith and discipleship. The retreat is run by people in this age-group. Charis is a Jesuit program aimed at bringing the Spiritual Exercises to people under the age of 40. For more information or to register, call Al Cucchetti at 513.248.3500 ext. 13.

Judas was the first person to leave Mass early...and you know what happened to him!

