

ST. JOSEPH – Monroeville

ST. ALPHONSUS – Peru



June 28, 2008 – June 29, 2009
YEAR OF ST. PAUL
The Great Evangelizer
Martyr for the Love of
Christ



DECEMBER 14, 2008
3rd SUNDAY OF
ADVENT

PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR- Fr. Kenneth Lill
DEACON-George Stepanic (663-5155)
PASTORAL ASSOCIATE-
Sr. Nancy Ferguson, OSF (465-2000)
ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH MANAGER
Catherine Raftery (668-5030)
PRINCIPAL-Jim Francis
SCHOOL SECRETARY-Krista Martin
BOOKKEEPER-Elaine Finch
(Office Hours: 8-3:30, Monday-Friday)

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WEBSITES

www.stjosephmonroeville.org
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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

CALL THE RECTORY

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

AT LEAST 6 MONTH NOTICE AND
ATTENDANCE AT ENGAGED
COUPLES CONFERENCE

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

CALL THE RECTORY AT 465-4142

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY AT 4 PM AT
ST. JOSEPH

FINANCE COMMITTEES

BOB SUNDERMAN (SA) 663-8740
TOM HEDRICK (SJ) 465-4532

SCHOOL ADVISORY (SJ)

GERI MYERS 465-2185

PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHARLENE BAUER 668-9636

Dear Friends,

This Sunday is called *Gaudete* Sunday, meaning “rejoice” because of the first words of the Entrance Antiphon for today, from St. Paul’s letter to the Philippians: “*Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice! The Lord is near.*” The prayers for today ask that as we look forward to the birth of Christ we may be filled with “joy”, so that our celebration may be one of *love and thanksgiving*.

In that spirit of joy, we give thanks for **James Adams** who was accepted into the order of catechumens which is for those who are **unbaptized** and for **Corynne Long** who is **baptized** and preparing for reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. The rite of welcoming and acceptance was celebrated this past Sunday, December 7 at the 8:30 a.m. Mass at St. Alphonsus. We offer them our prayer and support as they continue on their faith journey.

In that spirit of joy, we also give thanks for the generosity of Catholics across the United States, who over the past **20 years**, have contributed over **500 million dollars** to the **National Retirement Fund for Religious**. As high as this figure is, in reality it only covers roughly one year of the total cost of caring for the thousands of Religious in skilled nursing and assisted living facilities.

Today, the majority of women and men Religious are past age 60 (myself included)! Many congregations simply do not have the resources to meet the costs of care for their growing populations of elderly.

Last year’s collection in our Diocese totaled **\$184,252**. It should be noted that communities with motherhouses located in the Toledo Diocese (mine included) received approximately **\$385,000** from the national collection as a whole. Your support of this endeavor is vital! You might take a moment to recall a particular Religious man or woman who had an impact on your life, your education, or your vocation.

On behalf of all Religious men and women, I thank you for your continued generosity!

Sister Nancy Ferguson, OSF

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Dec. 13 – St. Lucy

5:00 PM (SJ) Edward Corbett
Margaret Tyler

Sun., Dec. 14 – 3rd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 AM (SA) Chester Wasiniak
10:30 AM (SJ) Bernard & Ruby Gravenhorst
Linda Wilhelm
Anna Wilhelm

Mon., Dec. 15

NO MASS

Tues., Dec. 16

7:00 PM (SA) Jim Smith

Wed., Dec. 17

8:15 AM (SJ) Leonard Martin

Thurs., Dec. 18

8:15 AM (SJ) Thelma Gerber

Fri., Dec. 19

8:15 AM (SJ) Robert & Irene Woodworth

Sat., Dec. 20

5:00 PM (SJ) Walter & Margaret Schlachter
Rosemary Schaffer

Sun., Dec. 21 – 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 AM (SA) The Gies Family
Jim Hohler
10:30 AM (SJ) Frank Ruffing
Michelle Crum
Rex & Doris Hickman

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUN-Is. 61:1-2a, 10-11/1 Thes. 5:16-24/
Jn. 1:6-8, 19-28

MON-Nm. 24:2-7, 15-17a/Mt. 21:23-27

TUE-Zep. 3:1-2, 9-13/Mt. 21:28-32

WED-Gn. 49:2, 8-10/Mt. 1:1-17

THU-Jer. 23:5-8/Mt. 1:18-25

FRI-Jdg. 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk. 1:5-25

SAT-Is. 7:10-14/Lk. 1:26-38

CONTRIBUTIONS – DEC 7

St. Joseph-Sunday-4,626, Loose-300, St. VdeP-77,
Holy day-293, 50/50-40, Bldg Fund-55, Fuel-135,
Children-4.50, School Supp-105, Thanksgiving-52,
Flowers-275, Human Dev.-10, All Souls-5, Christmas-
300, Rel. Ret-25.

St. Alphonsus-Sunday-2,937, Loose-70.50, Children-
9, Holy Day-20, Vigil Lights-28, Bell Tower Fund-
200, Christmas-20 Flowers-248, Easter-10.



LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, Dec. 20 – 5:00 p.m. – St. Joseph

L Nancy Alt, Elaine Finch
U **Ken Bischoff**, Marvin Pierce, Bill Stang
EM **John Miller**, Charlene Bauer, Geri Muiers,
Tom Runkle, Betty Schafer

S Alex Darr, Hayley Myers, Logan Myers

Sunday, Dec. 21 – 8:30 a.m. – St. Alphonsus

L Hillary Fritz, John Burrow
U Jim Ott, Bill Brooks, Dennis Foltz, James
Heyman
EM Chuck & Sue Fritz, Ruth Ann Foltz, Marti
Long, Pat Schaffer, Nancy Wilson, Catherine,
John Garcia, 1 Volunteer

S Amanda & Joshua Hanneman, Aaron Gates

G John & Carolyn Garcia

Sunday, Dec. 21 – 10:30 a.m. – St. Joseph

L Mike Adelman, Lynn Drown
U **Joe Brown**, John Fries, Norma Bauer
EM **Sue Rogers**, Diana Brown, Richard &
Marilyn Palmer, Barb Smith, Carol Stieber
S Brent & Bailey Bollenbacher

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

DEC 21 – Diana Brown

COUNTERS – DEC. 15

Kathy Camp, LaDonna Christman, Nancy Alt, Shirley
Kluding, Catherine Raftery, Rose & Denny Perry

BINGO – DEC. 15

CREW #4: John Smith, Jodi Stang, Tom or Jane
Hedrick, Mindy Gies, Steve Kluding, Theresa Leber,
Christie Poths

FOOD: Deb & Jim Workley

KITCHEN: Judi Bollenbacher, Karen Gerber

BAKERS: Barb Mahl, Carol Martin, Beth Fritz

SET UP: Mimi Ott

WINDOW: Annette Schafer

BIRTHDAYS



DEC 15-Matthew Silcox DEC 16-Erin

Fenik, Joseph Lesch, Krista Martin,
Joan Smith, Keith Vitello, Michael

Wasiniak, Zachary Wasiniak DEC 17-Isabella
Adams, Kevin Boehler, Ashlee Kerner, Emma
Kluding, Rosemarie Ott, Jill Stang DEC 18-Nancy
Brown, Molly Doss, Andrew Haughawout, Samantha
Ott DEC 19-Ken Russ, Patricia Schaffer DEC 20-
Patricia Dahm, Raymond Myers, Hayley Myers, Grace
Stang, Matthew Tyler DEC 21-Justin Kramer, Dennis
Lindenberger, Samantha Obringer, Stephanie Rahrig,
William Shawver, Kenneth Silcox

PARISH CALENDAR

HOLY NAME MEETING today at 9:45 a.m.

AREA PENANCE SERVICE today at 3 p.m. at St. Joseph.

CHRISTMAS PLAY & POTLUCK today at 5 p.m. at St. Alphonsus. Meat & table service provided

BINGO Monday night in the Social Center.

Doors open at 5; Bingo starts at 6:45.

NO PSR next Sunday. Next class is Jan. 4, 2009.

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CHRISTMAS SIGN UP SHEETS

Sign up sheets for Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors and Ushers for Christmas & New Year's Masses at St. Joseph are in the back of church.

NEW MINISTER SCHEDULES

St. Joseph Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Servers and Ushers can pick up their new schedules in the back of church.

MONROEVILLE K of C

200 CLUB WINNERS

Dec. 2: \$50-Betty Myers

\$25- Linda Ryan, Maralyn Long

200 Club Tickets are still available for \$50 each. You have three chances win each week – one \$50 prize and two \$25 prizes. A free appreciation dinner is held each November. Contact Charles Bauer at 419-465-2090 for more information.

K of C BREAKFAST BUFFET



The K of C Breakfast Buffet will be next Sunday from 8 a.m. until noon.

Serving eggs, ham, sausage, biscuits

& gravy, pancakes or French toast. The

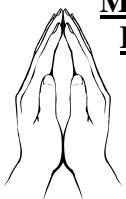
cost is \$6 for adults and \$2 for children; children under 5 are free.

HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE

PROGRAMS (HEAP) can help low income Ohioans with utility bills. For more information or a HEAP application, call 800-522-5680, ext. 1152.

MAY GOD SEND HIS HEALING

BLESSINGS to Bea Feuerstein, Ray and Mary Jane Gerber, Kim Neill, Gary Rasnick, Adam Schafer, George Stepanic, Jim Smith, & Tom V.



INDIVIDUAL CONFESSIONS

DEC 22 – Individual Confessions –

SA – 1 p.m.,

SJ – 4 & 7 p.m.

DEC 23 - Individual Confessions –

SA – 1 p.m.,

SJ – 4 & 7 p.m.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

DEC 24 – Christmas Eve –

St. Joseph - 4 & 11 p.m.

St. Alphonsus – 6 p.m.

DEC 25 – Christmas Day –

St. Alphonsus – 8:30 a.m.

DEC 31 – New Year's Eve –

St. Joseph – 5 p.m.

JAN 1 – New Year's Day –

St. Alphonsus – 8:30 a.m.

Fisher-Titus Medical Center Health Ministry Program

Healthy Habits-Newsletter

At this time of year, we would like to offer some healthy eating tips for the holidays.

- Never skip a meal to conserve calories.
- Eat something before you go to a party or family gathering- best to combine a carbohydrate and a protein (ex. Peanut butter and crackers).
- All foods can fit in moderation. Yes, you can have your favorite treats, just keep an eye on your portion sizes and balance high and low fat options. (1 serving of meat is the size of a deck of cards, 1 serving of potatoes is the size of a computer mouse, 1 oz of cheese is 4 small dice. 1 serving of pasta or fruit is the size of a tennis ball).
- Limit or avoid high calorie beverages. One cup of eggnog has the same calories as a piece of apple pie.
- Drink plenty of water.
- Savor and enjoy food. Use the twenty minute rule.
- Take a walk after a big meal.
- Be realistic. Strive to maintain weight over the holidays. (taken from www.healthlink.mcw.edu)

“Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers.” 3 John 2.

December Saints

St. Francis Xavier – Francis Xavier, a Jesuit, traveled the world to spread the word of God. He was raised in Spain, studied in France, and moved to Italy. Then, after a short time in Portugal, he journeyed to Africa, India, Indonesia, and Japan. He is said to have converted thousands of people to Christianity and is one of the Catholic Church's greatest missionaries. His feast day is December 3.

St. Nicholas of Myra – There are many saints named Nicholas, but Nicholas of Myra is the one who has come to be called Santa Claus. He is said to have performed many miracles. A story from his youth shows his giving nature. A poor man in the village where Nicholas lived needed money so his daughters could marry. Nicholas secretly tossed bags of gold into the man's house to help him. Nicholas is the patron saint of children. His feast day is December 6.

St. Stephen – In the very early years of the Church, the apostles appointed Stephen and six others as deacons. Their task was to look after widows and the poor. Stephen spoke so well about Jesus that many who heard him converted to Christianity. The enemies of Jesus did not like this and brought Stephen before them. Stephen defended his faith and scolded his accusers. They sentenced him to death. Just before he died, Stephen prayed to God not to blame those who put him to death. He was the first Christian martyr. His feast day is December 26.



A Sunday school teacher asked the children just before she dismissed them to go to church, "And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?" Annie replied, "Because people are sleeping."

