



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



**DECEMBER 28, 2008**  
**HOLY FAMILY**

Dear Friends,

On the Sunday in between Christmas and New Years, we always celebrate the feast of the Holy Family. Perhaps in their wisdom, the Church Fathers thought that by scheduling this feast on the Church calendar, it might be a good way for families to regroup in the midst of all the holiday excitement. Since the Word of God came into our world as part of a human family, we want to think about what role God plays in our own families.

Various articles, books and studies I have read confirm what we are experiencing in our own faith community. Namely, young Americans (20-45) are less likely to attend church regularly than did their parents' generation at the same age. A growing proportion declares themselves to be non-religious and, significantly, many more were born and raised outside religion. More teenagers and young adults are sexually active now than in the generation of the 1970's and more are being raised by single parents. A smaller percentage of young adults are active members of congregations (pretty much across the board denominationally) than a generation ago. They feel no commitment to the institutional church. Young adults change jobs more than they did a generation ago and such early job insecurities feed into their postponement of marriage and having children.

This makes the work of priests, teachers, parents and even grandparents all the more important in these changing times. On this day when we think about our families, please know that the staff of our parish and school is ready and available to help.

On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, I estimate that we more than double our average weekend attendance hosting between 1500 – 1600 worshippers. Most of these came on Christmas Eve. We had 4 very different liturgies with 4 different choirs and groups of ministers. Many, many others helped prepare and decorate the churches, they helped clean up after the crowds left while still others assisted in the liturgies themselves. I believe the best way to pass on our faith to the next generation is by our own participation. Thank you to everyone.

Prayers and good wishes for the New Year.

*Fr. Ken Lill*

**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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 Monroeville, OH 44847

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SA HALL 668-6004

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**WEBSITES**

[www.stjosephmonroeville.org](http://www.stjosephmonroeville.org)

[www.stalphonsusperu.org](http://www.stalphonsusperu.org)

**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

## MASS INTENTIONS

### Sat., Dec. 27 – St. John

5:00 PM (SJ) Pete Schafer  
Anna Wilhelm

### Sun., Dec. 28 – Holy Family

8:30 AM (SA) Eldon Smith  
10:30 AM (SJ) Richard Buchman &  
James Limbird Sr.  
Paul Long Sr.

### Mon., Dec. 29 – St. Thomas Becket

NO MASS

### Tues., Dec. 30

NO MASS

### Wed., Dec. 31 – Pope Sylvester I

5:00 PM (SJ) Dorothy Missig

### Thurs., Jan. 1 – Mary, Mother of God

8:30 AM (SA) Mary Ellen Schlachter

### Fri., Jan. 2 – Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

NO MASS

### Sat., Jan. 3 – Holy Name of Jesus

5:00 PM (SJ) Millie Tyler  
Charles Fitch  
Ken Missig

### Sun., Jan. 4 – Epiphany of the Lord

8:30 AM (SA) Vi Baker  
10:30 AM (SJ) Walter & Margaret Schlachter  
Richard, Alvin & Edna Fritz

## READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUN-Sir. 3:2-7, 12-14/Col. 3:12-21/Lk. 2:22-40

MON-1 Jn. 2:3-11/Lk. 2:22-35

TUE-1 Jn. 2:12-17/Lk. 2:36-40

WED-1 Jn. 2:18-21/Jn. 1:1-18

THU-Nm. 6:22-27/Gal. 4:4-7/Lk. 2:16-21

FRI-1 Jn. 2:22-28/Jn. 1:19-28

SAT-1 Jn. 2:29; 3:6/Jn. 1:29-34

## CONTRIBUTIONS – DEC 21

**St. Joseph**-Sunday-3,751 (115 env.), Loose-180.52,  
Holy Day-24, 50/50-55, St. VdeP-25, Children-8,  
Fuel-5, School Supp-80, Thanksgiving-5, Flowers-55,  
Christmas-1,337, Rel. Ret-205, All Souls-2.  
**St. Alphonsus**-Sunday-2,299 (69 env.), Loose-53,  
Children-5, Holy Day-12, Vigil Lights-16, Flowers-80,  
Christmas-25, Rel. Ret.-515, Needy-25

*The Parish Office will be closed Jan. 1 & 2.*

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

### Wednesday, Dec. 31 – 5:00 p.m. – St. Joseph

**L** Mike Adelman, Nancy Alt  
**U** **Joe Brown**, Volunteers  
**EM** **Tom Runkle**, Geri Myers, Sr. Nancy, Betty  
Schafer, Phyllis Gravenhorst  
**S** Hayley Myers, Gretchen Schafer, George  
Latteman, Breanna or Hayley Kramer

### Thursday, Jan. 1 – 8:30 a.m. – St. Alphonsus

**L** Barb Chase, Sue Moore  
**U** Volunteers  
**EM** Nancy Wilson, Tom Smith, Diane Schafer,  
Ron Chase, Volunteers

**S**

### Saturday, Jan. 3– 5:00 p.m. – St. Joseph

**L** Nancy Alt, Elaine Finch  
**U** **Marvin Pierce**, Bill Stang, Paul Stang  
**EM** **Phyllis Gravenhorst**, Charlene Bauer, Geri  
Myers, Tom Runkle, Betty Schafer  
**S** Taylor Brooks, Logan & Hayley Myers

### Sunday, Jan. 4– 8:30 a.m. – St. Alphonsus

**L** Jeanette & Caleigh Ott  
**U** John Burrow, Donald Schaffer, Clayton Ott,  
Ken Schreiner  
**EM** Diane Schafer, David & Jackie Reed, Robin  
Welch, Ron & Barb Chase, Beverly Hipp, Sue  
Schindley, Ken Wangler  
**S** Matt Silcox, Cody Fannin, George Latteman  
**G** Shelly Fannin, Robin Welch

### Sunday, Jan. 4 – 10:30 a.m. – St. Joseph

**L** Angie Roth, Jackie Schafer  
**U** **Bob Good**, Kevin & Elaine Stieber  
**EM** **Diana Brown**, Barbara Good, Linda Laux,  
Sandy Lonz, Evelyn Ruffing, Rita Stieber  
**S** Kyle England, Tyler Haughawout

## COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

JAN 4 – Barbara Good

## COUNTERS – DEC. 29

Theresa Schafer, Ruth Schaffer, Judy Trushel, Rose  
Fritz, Barbara Schafer, June Ferguson, Catherine  
Rafferty, Alice & Bob Crist, Ann & Fred Roth

## BINGO – DEC. 29

CREW #6: Elaine Stieber, Tina Elmlinger, Mark  
Kramer, Dan or Michelle Stieber, Chris or Leslie  
Opper, Pam Devos

FOOD: Helen & Chip Ilg

KITCHEN: Tracy Palmer, Jenny Martin

BAKERS: Karyn Wilhelm, Helen Hofacker, Sue  
Schafer

SET UP: Annette Schaffer

WINDOW: Ann Darr

## PARISH CALENDAR

BINGO Monday night in the Social Center.  
Doors open at 5; Bingo starts at 6:45.

PARENT RECONCILIATION MEETING

Thursday at 7 p.m. at St. Alphonsus.

PSR next Sunday at 9 a.m. at St. Joseph and at 9:30 at St. Alphonsus.

## AREA EVENTS

ALL YOU CAN EAT Breakfast & Bake Sale  
Sunday, Jan. 4 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier, Willard. Adults: \$6; Children: \$3.



## COFFEE & DOUGHNUTS

To celebrate the feast of St. John Neumann, St. Alphonsus will serve coffee & doughnuts in the parish hall after Mass next weekend.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER & LECTOR training will take place at St. Mary, Norwalk on January 7 from 7-9 p.m. Anyone who is interested in being a part of these important ministries is encouraged to attend.

## NON-FOOD BANK

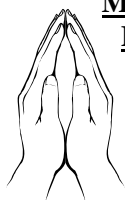
The next Huron County Non-Food Bank will be held Thursday, January 15 from 2-5 p.m. at Congregational Community Church. Donations of the following items would be much appreciated:

Toilet paper	Paper Towels
Bar Soap	Laundry Detergent
Dish Soap	Toothpaste
Trash Bags	Shampoo
Multi-use Cleaner	

Items can be left at the back of church.

## MAY GOD SEND HIS HEALING

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



## MONROEVILLE K of C

200 CLUB WINNERS

Dec. 23: \$50-Tim Simon

\$25- Melvin Martin, Rose Reinbolt

## BIRTHDAYS



DEC 29-Darian Brooks DEC 30- Clara Adelman, Karen Dellinger, Lauren Gies, Jeanne Hartley, Clara Hodorowski, Kyle Smith DEC 31- Theresa Leber, Anthony Montana, Haley Pifer JAN 1-Angela Roth, Olivia Smith, Mary Wilhelm JAN 2- Diane Myers, Matthew Palmer, Monica Underwood JAN 3-Rusty Breitbach JAN 4-Marjorie Fitch, Kurt Leber, Kirsten Schafer, Evan Wadsworth

## CELEBRATE THE SEASON

St. Francis Xavier, Willard will present an evening of fine dining and live entertainment with musical guest Darryl Gatlin on Saturday, Jan. 24. Hors d'oeuvres begin at 5:30 p.m. with Dinner at 6 and musical entertainment from 7-9.

Guests will have their choice of Chicken Cordon Bleu or Roasted Park Loin.

To reserve your tickets now call 419-935-1149. Tickets are \$25 each.

YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue, or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on January 23-25, 2009 call 419-690-0083 or visit the web site at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

## YEAR END CONTRIBUTION REMINDER

Donation statements will be available in January for those who request them for the year 2008. Publication 526 of the Internal Revenue Service, which addresses charitable contributions, states that donations can only be deducted (by the taxpayer) in the year in which they are made. Contribution checks, which are mailed to our parish, are considered to be “unconditionally delivered” on the date they are mailed, not when they are received. This means that checks we receive in January, which are in envelopes postmarked in 2008 are contributions for 2008. Any checks mailed (postmarked) in 2009 are a contribution for 2009, even if the check is dated with a 2008 date. Please call the parish office with any questions at 419-465-4142.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

Subject: The Catholic Code

This information is for Catholics. It must not be divulged to non-Catholics. The less they know about our rituals and code words, the better off they are.

AMEN: The only part of a prayer that everyone knows.

BULLETIN: Your receipt for attending Mass.

CHOIR: A group of people whose singing allows the rest of the Parish to lip-sync.

HOLY WATER: a liquid whose chemical formula is H2OLY.

HYMN: A song of praise usually sung in a key three octaves higher than that of the congregation's range.

RECESSIONAL HYMN: The last song at Mass often sung a little more quietly since most of the people have already left.

INCENSE: Holy Smoke!!

JESUITS: An order of priests known for their ability to find colleges with good basketball teams.

JONAH: The original "Jaws" story.

JUSTICE: When kids have kids of their own.

KYRIE ELEISON: The only Greek words that most Catholics can recognize besides gyros and baklava.

MAGI: The most famous trio to attend a baby shower.

MANGER: Where Mary gave birth to Jesus because Joseph wasn't covered by an HMO. (The Bible's way of showing us that holiday travel has always been rough.

PEW: A medieval torture device still found in Catholic churches.

PROCESSION: The ceremonial formation at the beginning of Mass consisting of altar servers, the celebrant, and late parishioners.

RECESSIONAL: The ceremonial procession at the conclusion of Mass led by parishioners trying to beat the crowd to the parking lot.

RELICS: People who have been going to Mass for so long, they actually know when to sit, kneel and stand.

TEN COMMANDMENTS: The most important Top Ten list not given by David Letterman.

USHERS: The only people in the parish who don't know the seating capacity of a pew