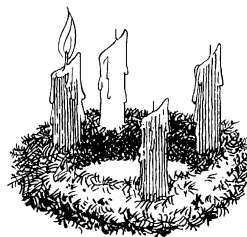


ST. JOSEPH – Monroeville

ST. ALPHONSUS – Peru



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



NOVEMBER 30, 2008
1st 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)

OFFICE – 66 Chapel St.
Monroeville, OH 44847

TELEPHONE: 465-4142

FAX 465-2170

SCHOOL 465-2625

SJ HALL 465-4226

SA HALL 668-6004

OFFICE E-MAIL: stjoseph@neo.rr.com

Stalphonsus@neo.rr.com

WEBSITES

www.stjosephmonroeville.org

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

Dear Friends,

This morning I was thinking about the first time I rode the Magnum XL at Cedar Point almost twenty years ago. I was one of the chaperones for an 8th grade class trip. As soon as the students got through the entrance gates they ran back to where the ride that looked like an erector set creation stood. They were filled with excitement; I was filled with apprehension. We stood in line forever giving me all the more time to worry about the afterlife. Finally we were locked in and began the 200 foot climb into the clouds. Then, boom, down we went at 70 miles per hour twisting, turning and screaming. In three minutes after what seemed like a whole lifetime, the coaster car came to a screeching halt. We were finished and then started running to the next ride, yours truly included.

It was the sudden change from warm weather to freezing temperatures and the abrupt shift from Ordinary Time to Advent that made me think of Cedar Point's roller coasters. We become accustomed to waiting or even take it for granted, there is the big moment, and then we're off to the next line or event.

While we are "in line" during Advent, let us make good use of whatever time we have to prepare us spiritually for Christmas. . In the pews this weekend are little booklets to help guide us on our journey together to Christmas: "The Magnificat Advent Companion." Many of you commented on how much you enjoyed it. Magnificat also puts out a monthly booklet with the daily lectionary readings for mass, prayers for morning and evening as well as lives of Saints and other good articles. If you are looking for a little something to spice up your prayer life, this could be it.

During this time of the year parishioners who would like to somehow help those in need often approach me for suggestions. I would like to suggest our St. Joseph Elementary School Tuition Assistance Fund. It seems tuition always increases to try to keep up with the rising costs of educating a child. Last year over \$13,000 in assistance was awarded to several parish families to help ensure a Catholic education. Our requests were almost double that amount. This is funded in part from the Annual Fund; interest earned on the Endowment Fund; specially designated gifts and from contributions made in the monthly envelope in your collection packets. If you don't receive envelopes, please place your gift in a plain envelope in the Sunday collection or mail it to the parish office. Please include your name if you would like to receive credit for your contribution for IRS purposes. Money received now will be awarded in the Spring for the 2009 – 2010 school year. Our students will be grateful.

Enjoy the time you are waiting.

Fr. Ken Lill

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., Nov. 29

5:00 PM (SJ) Margaret & Walter Schlachter
Ralph & Viola Wangler &
Susan Spinello

Sun., Nov. 30 – 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 AM (SA) James Smith
10:30 AM (SJ) Freda Morman
Paul & Ortrude Smith

Mon., Dec. 1

NO MASS

Tues., Dec. 2

7:00 PM (SA) Ortrude Smith

Wed., Dec. 3 – St. Francis Xavier

8:15 AM (SJ) Robert & Theresa Graham

Thurs., Dec. 4 – St. John of Damascus

8:15 AM (SJ) Fr. Patrick Scharf

Fri., Dec. 5

8:15 AM (SJ) Leonard Martin

Sat., Dec. 6 – St. Nicholas

5:00 PM (SJ) Charles Fitch
George McMahon

Sun., Dec. 7 – 2nd SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 AM (SA) The Reed Family
10:30 AM (SJ) Duane Lonz
Richard Fritz, Edna & Alvin Fritz

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUN-Ez. 34:11-12,1 5-17/1 Cor. 15:20-26, 28/
Mt. 25:31-46

MON-Rv. 14:1-3, 4-5/Lk. 21:1-4

TUE-Rv. 14:14-19/Lk. 21:5-11

WED-Rv. 15:1-4/Lk. 21:12-19

THU-Rv. 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9/Lk. 21:20-28

FRI-Rv. 20:1-4, 11; 21:2/Lk. 21:29-33

SAT-Rv. 22:1-7/Lk. 21:34-36

CONTRIBUTIONS – NOV 23

St. Joseph-Sunday-5,422 (132 env.) Loose-124, St. VdeP-41, 50/50-40, Bldg Fund-55, Children-4, Fuel-138, School Supp-46, Thanksgiving-212, Flowers-30, Human Dev.-113.
St. Alphonsus-Sunday-2,756 (88 env.) Loose-90, Children-6, Holy Day-9, Christmas-25, Human Dev.-95, Vigil Lights-12, Bell Tower Fund-55.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, Dec. 6– 5:00 p.m. – St. Joseph

L Elaine Finch, Krista Smith
U **Kevin or Kyle Fries**, John Fries, Robert Wilhelm
EM **Tom Runkle**, Charlene Bauer, Sheila Meikle, John Miller, Betty Schafer
S Kendra & Collin England, Breanna Kramer
Sunday, Dec. 7– 8:30 a.m. – St. Alphonsus
L Dan Ryan, Marti Long
U Carl Schnellinger, Bob Wilson, Joseph Lesch, Dennis Smith
EM Diane Schafer, David & Jackie Reed, Robin Welsh, Ron & Barb Chase, Beverly Hipp, Sue Schindley, Ken Wangler
S Hilary & Wesley Fritz, Colton Ott
G Jackie & David Reed

Sunday, Dec. 7 – 10:30 a.m. – St. Joseph

L Lynn Drown, Jackie Schafer
U **Tom Hedrick**, Dan Stieber, Mark Bores
EM **Sandy Lonz**, Barbara Good, Linda Laux, Jennifer Meagrow, Evelyn Ruffing, Rita Stieber
S Ashley Gies, Cooper Pierce

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

DEC 7 – Katie Leber

COUNTERS – DEC. 1

Linda Hales, Susan McKown, Jan Leibold, Catherine Raftery, Alice & Bob Crist

BINGO – DEC. 1

CREW #2: Scott White, John Elmlinger, Deb Pierce, Andrea Smith, Marie bischoff, Marilyn Watt, Mike Palmer

FOOD: Cheryl Seifker, Angela Swanbeck

KITCHEN: Cheryl Seifker, Angela Swanbeck

BAKERS: Diana Brown, Holli Hohler, Linda Hales

SET UP: Becky Gies

WINDOW: Terri Russ

BIRTHDAYS



DEC 1-Kate Bores, Lillian Cesa, Tina Elmlinger, Cindy Houser, Justin Jones, Christine Smith, Aaron Smith, Sandy Walton DEC 2-Bernice Brown, Scott Ruffing, Olivia Ryan DEC 3-Gwen Bores, Judy Gerber, Riley Miller DEC 4-Skyler Brown, Martha Irilli, Helen Moehlman, Claudia Ruffing, Owen Schafer, Faith Schaffer, Hali Sindlinger, Carrie Stang DEC 5-Ruth Adelman, Justin Legg, Dennis Miller, Susan Silcox DEC 6-Joan Cutcher, Ronald Gates, Leonard Martin, Scott Miller, Karli Schnellinger, Robert Smith, Elizabeth Stang DEC 7-Madison Elmlinger, Ann Obringer, Avery Stanley

PARISH CALENDAR

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

PSR next Sunday from 9-10:15 a.m. at St. Joseph and from 9:30-11:00 a.m. at St. Alphonsus.

AREA EVENTS

BREAKFAST & BAKE SALE Dec. 7 from 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at St. Francis Xavier, Willard. Adults: \$6; Children: \$3. Santa will be available for pictures (\$5) from 9 a.m. – noon.

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA Dec. 7 from 9 a.m. – noon at St. Gaspar. Adults: \$6; Children: \$3.

ANNUAL COOKIE WALK and Homemade Chocolate Candy - Saturday, December 13, from 10 am – 1 pm. at St. Joseph, Plymouth. Christmas Cookies - \$4.00 lb; Candy - \$6.00 lb. Call 419-687-4611 if you wish to order ahead.



PROJECT BETHLEHEM

Many of you have already taken the Christmas gift requests for Catholic Charities (green tags). Because they did not have as many requests this year, we also asked Children's Services for names. The red tags are all foster children. Please read the directions carefully on the tags and return all gifts with the tags secured to the packages no later than Dec. 14th.

Special thanks to all who are able to buy gifts to bring a little extra happiness to those who may not have as bright a Christmas without your generosity.

THANK YOU

Helping Hands would like to thank all those who participated in the 1st Annual Soup Luncheon on Nov. 9. Raffle winners were: Linda Smith, Kara Schafer, Kristine Stieber & Geri Myers.

LADIES OF ST. ALPHONSUS

The December Hostesses are Diane Hicks & Theresa Myers. The Committee is: Betty Gravenhorst, Jackie Morrison, Cristina Myers, Sharon Myers, Nancy Opper, Virginia Opper, Evelyn Ott, Karen Ott, Mary Ann Ott, Monica Ott, Bev Raftery, Catherine Raftery, Elizabeth Raftery, Marie Raftery, Sue Raftery, Ruth Reed, Holly Schaffer, Nancy Schaffer, Marlene Stieber

LADIES OF ST. JOSEPH

The December Chairladies are Nancy Brown, Gladys Hauler, Melodie Adelman. The committee is all ladies whose birthdays are in December.

NORWALK K of C COUNCIL 626

CHRISTMAS TREES for sale at our 254 W. Main St. Club Lot. 6, 7, 8 and 10 foot Blue Spruce and White Spruce trees available.

CHRISTMAS PARTY for the Norwalk Catholic School ECC students on Thursday, Dec. 4 from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. at the Norwalk Conservation Club. On Sunday Dec. 7 at our Club Room the 4th Degree will have our Adult Christmas Party. Please bring a covered dish to share with others. We will provide sliced ham and breads. Our charities are the Abigail Pregnancy Services and The American Cancer Society-Hope Lodge.

MONROEVILLE K of C

200 CLUB WINNERS

Nov. 25: \$50-Doris Bauer

\$25- Theresa Schafer, Charles Bauer

SEND A CHRISTMAS CARD TO A SOLDIER

When doing your Christmas cards this year, take one card and send it to this address. If we pass this on and everyone sends one card, think of how many cards these wonderful special people who have sacrificed so much would get.

A Recovering American Soldier
c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20307-5001

THE SALVATION ARMY will be giving out food baskets and toys to well over 600 families. Please consider helping us help those who have lost their jobs, help those with mental illness, help those who need a hand up, such as our seniors, our children.

No kid should ever go hungry, especially at Christmas time. Items needed are Turkey or Ham, Stuffing Mix, Gravy Mix, Potatoes (Instant or raw), Sweet Potatoes, Cake Mix, Frosting, Tuna, Peanut Butter, Noodles, Soup, Cereal, Toilet Paper, Mac & Cheese, Vegetables, Pudding or Jello.

Items can be left at the back of either church by Dec. 14.

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.

**Fisher-Titus Medical Center
Health Ministry Program**

Healthy Habits Newsletter

Thanksgiving is a good time to remember all the trials, tribulations and good times. Memories can be healing and helpful.

No matter what, remember that the Lord is always with you whether the times are easy or tough.

There are several different ways that you can benefit from the gift of reminiscing. You could consider remembering your own life story, retelling someone else's story, such as your children, or listening to another person's story.

In order to tell your story or another's you only need to follow three simple steps: remember it (looking at pictures, letters or other remembrances), record it and rejoice in life.

May the Lord richly bless your reminiscing and may you experience His peace and joy.

“Look to the Lord and His strength; seek His face always. Remember the wonders He has done, His miracles...” 1 Chr. 16:11-12.