

FROM OUR PASTOR'S DESK



Now what are we going to do?

These are the words that are sometimes used when a big event that we were anticipating is over...we wonder how we will keep busy, what will occupy our time and our minds, what the focus of our lives will now be. I was amazed to see the Christmas decorations out in stores in September, many begin Christmas shopping around that time, we begin to prepare, to decorate, to buy, months ahead of time...but the day is over. Life goes back to normal. Now what are we going to do?

Now, my friends, is the time to LIVE Christmas...to live what we celebrated yesterday, the incarnation of Jesus. Now is not the time for us to allow the spirit of Christmas to die, to allow the joy in our hearts to subside, to allow the generosity and reaching out to end. We should commit ourselves to bringing Christ to birth in our world each day by loving in His ways and by doing what Mary did 2000 years ago, namely, to selflessly share Jesus with her world, no matter what the cost.

The celebration of the birth of Christ in our world should continue to challenge us to love more deeply, to forgive more freely, to give more generously, to live more holy lives, to help others who are less fortunate than we are to experience the joy and the peace that Jesus brings to us. Our Church even calls us to make the Christmas celebration more than one day. This is why we celebrate the Octave of Christmas, or the 8 days, ending with the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God on January 1.

The Church gives us this Octave of Christmas to allow the faithful to reflect on what we have just celebrated. In our fast paced world, we so often fail to take time to reflect, and so the Church gives us 8 days to do so. To ask ourselves what the incarnation means in our lives, to consider how we might share God's love with others, to consider ways that we will allow God's love in Jesus to change our hearts and minds. It is NOW that we live what we have prepared so long for, by possibly working less, spending more time with family, becoming a part of a parish organization, celebrating charity, and proclaiming by the way that we live our lives that God is with us!

Now what are we going to do? The possibilities are endless.

May you know the depth of God's love for you, and may this Octave of Christmas be a time of blessing and peace.

In Christ's love.....Fr. Sal



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Readings for the Week

- Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Mt 2:13-18
- Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
- Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
- Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
- Saturday: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Sunday: Is 60:1-6; Ps 72; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

LIVING OUR FAITH

CATHOLICISM 101-Have you started making your New Years Resolutions? Why not consider putting at the top of your list our Catholicism 101 Course? We will begin on January 11th and go to March 1st. Topics will include Prayer and Devotions, Mary and the Saints, Sacraments, Trinity and Incarnation and What is it that we profess when we stand together to pray our Creed. You can attend one of these sessions or all of them. Mark those new calendars now!!!

ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASSES - St. John of the Cross will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation on March 5th at the 4pm Mass. If you are over the age of 16 and have never been Confirmed you are welcome to join us. You will need to attend two formation sessions on January 31st and February 7th. We will meet at 7pm in one of the meeting rooms off the gathering area. If you are interested please call Lisa Radey at the parish office.

BAPTISM CLASS: If you are a first time parent and would like to have your child baptized you need to attend a baptism class. The next class will be offered on January 10, 2011 at 7pm. Call Lisa Radey at the parish office to register.

FOLLOW THE STAR

Friday, January 7 – 7:30p.m.

An Evening of Music to Celebrate Christmas and Epiphany

Join the adult and children of our music ministry as we continue to celebrate the season of Christmas through song. Kathy Felong and Janice Wilson of Erie, PA (from the CD *I Heard the Voice*) will be our special guests. You won't want to miss this special evening. A reception will follow.

DAY OF REFLECTION FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, January 15 – 9:00a.m. to noon

This gathering of ministers will allow us the opportunity to reflect on our various ministries in the Church and also to review the procedures that help us best exercise our ministry. **Attendance is required for all Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Altar Servers.** Hospitality Ministers and Ushers as also encouraged to attend. If you are interested in becoming a minister, this meeting will also serve as your orientation and training session. Please RSVP by Jan. 11th to Brandon Vogt in the Parish Office at 216.289.0770, ext. 12 or at bvogt@saintjohnofthecross.org

LITURGY & MUSIC CORNER



Feast of the Holy Family

Holiness is not a misty-eyed, otherworldly way of living. Rather, it is a realistic engagement in the difficulties, struggles, and tensions of human life and relationships. Our own modern families are like the Holy Family in that, we all face challenges in responding to God faithfully and obediently. The holiness of a family is not dependent upon perfection or an easy road. As Mary and Joseph showed us, holiness is dependent on faithfulness and obedience to God's messages.

Whether we are a traditional family or a single parent family, whether we have biological or adopted or foster children or no children, whether we live in an expensive home or a subsidized rental unit makes no difference for living as a holy family. What does make the difference is hearing God's call and doing His will. Hearing God's message and responded to God's will made the Holy Family holy; it makes our families holy, too.

This, my friends, is called *Paschal Mystery Living*: responding to both hardships (*dying*) and God's wonderful gifts of graces (*rising*) with fidelity. Sometimes it is the very hardships that help us put our priorities straight and realize how dependent on our loving God we really are.

Finally, many words of thanks are due to so many of you who helped make our Christmas liturgies a true celebration of the Word Made Flesh.

THANK YOU...

... to the liturgical ministers: Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality Ministers, and Ushers, who so selflessly and generously volunteer to serve.

...to our Music Ministry: who spent much time and energy preparing and practicing the beautiful music for our liturgies.

...to our Art & Environment and Fiacre Ministries who contributed their time and talent to beautifying our church, both inside and out.

The "holy family" that is our parish is truly blessed. In turn, I feel equally blessed to be here... thanks for all you do.


Christmas blessings to you and yours!

Think about it..... Brandon

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY 7:00 p.m.	St. John, apostle Sharon Matejka	Dec. 27
TUESDAY 8:15 a.m.	The Holy Innocents Laura Campbell	Dec. 28
WEDNESDAY	Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas	Dec. 29
THURSDAY 7:00 p.m.	Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas Katherine Fiorello	Dec. 30
FRIDAY 8:15 a.m.	Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas Frances Gazvoda	Dec. 31
SATURDAY 10:00 a.m.	Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God Past & Present Priests of St. John of the Cross	Jan. 1
SUNDAY 8:00 a.m.	The Epiphany of the Lord Parish Community of St. John of the Cross	Jan. 2
10:00 a.m.	Richard Willkomm	
12:00 p.m.	Alex & Bill Deme	

Christmas Season Mass Schedule 2010



Solemnity of Mary - January 1
10:00a.m.

Solemnity of the Epiphany - January 2
* There is no 4:00pm Vigil Mass on January 1
8:00a.m. — 10:00a.m. — 12:00p.m.

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE SICK AND THEIR CAREGIVERS...



Nicole Carter, Connie Durrah, Theresa Farabaugh, Charlotte Farinacci, George Halgash, Colletta Herchl, Andrew Jarm, Donald Justus, Joe Krakowski, Patti Krakowski, Cindy Kinley, Gloria Kopera, Lucille Kucharski, Ruth Lamm, Dottie Maher, Ronald Maxey, Leo Nale, Fausta Nowosielski, Jim Nolan, Mark O'Bannon, Joan Raddell, Justin Raddell, Martin Risko, Gerald Scarniench, Norma Sedar, Tony Stepec, Edward Slavkovsky, Milton Taisey, John Tarmann, Tom Voldan, Richard Warman, Tina Westlake, Nicholas Zanella, and Jackie Zupan

Please notify the Parish Office when a name can be removed from this list.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Richmond Hts. Hospital-Wed. Dec. 29.....Sandy L.
Grande Pointe-Sun. Jan. 2.....Legion of Mary

COUNTERS

Counters for Monday, Jan. 3”D” Team

MINISTERS SCHEDULE —JAN. 2, 2011

MASS	PRESIDER	HOSPITALITY	LECTOR 1	LECTOR 2	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS	SERVERS
Sun. 8:00am	Fr. Mehok	J. Buda C. Fornal	C. Kinkopf	K. McVoy	F. Buda, M. Cinalli, C. Goodin, C. Hainrihar, P. Reilly, S. Ruggeri, A. Rodriguez, K. Zigman	A. Champa W. Nalepka
Sun. 10:00am	Fr. Sal	A. Linek J. Pesek	L. Bochenek	A. Dean	D. DiMare, P. Gallagher, J. Oberle, S. Hovanscek, R. O'Donnell, E. Perko-Drake, C. Preto, N. Somich	J. Dulaney S. Patterson
Sun. 12:00pm	Fr. Timothy	D. Mallet L. Williams	J. Johnson	W. Knox	J. Berquist, J. Bretz, K. Burke, S. Johnson, K. Musarra, J. Solpa, J. Vajda, L. Zapo	B. Caruso-Taylor C. Chambers

NEWS AT ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS

KidStuff Coupon Books: Support the St. John of the Cross PTU by purchasing your KidStuff Coupon book for \$25.00. Enjoy great savings on clothing, shoes, toys, sporting goods, electronics, activities, food, and more. Books are available at the Parish Office or School. Contact Patti Mayer at 216-481-6181 if you have any questions. Thank you for your support.



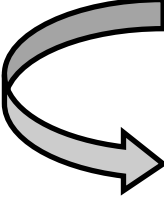
SAVE THE DATE FOR "NITE AT THE RACES"- FEBRUARY 19, 2011 for all the thrills and excitement of being at the track!

UTILITY & REAL ESTATE TAX ASSISTANCE:

St. John of the Cross has a supply of various application forms including an Ohio application form for various energy assistance programs including; Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), Winter Crisis Program (WCP), Summer Crisis Program (SCP), Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP), and Home Winterization Assistance Program (HWAP). We also have an application for a reduced water rate from the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District. Finally, we have a Homestead Exemption Application relating to a reduction in real estate taxes. Please be aware that most of these benefits have some stipulations regarding age and/or income levels.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR GRADUATES AND FORMER STUDENTS OF ST. PAUL SCHOOL (EUCLID) AND ST. FELICITAS SCHOOL.

Whether your memories are fresh or distant, we hope your grade school years hold a special place in your heart. Now that our parishes have come together as St. John of the Cross, we'd love to hear from you. Visit www.saintjohnofthecross.org or e-mail alumni@saintjohnofthecross.org to let us know your most current information and let us know what's new in your life! Join us on Facebook at St. Felicitas/St. Paul/St. John of the Cross Alumni, and save Saturday, April 30, 2011, for our Welcome Back Mass and Open House. Be sure to tell other alumni about our website, Facebook page and Welcome Back Mass as well!





SJOC Youth Cove

Jr. High YM
Next Meeting;
Wed. January 19, 2011
6:30-8:00pm (MR3)

High School YM
Next Meeting;
Wed. January 5, 2011
6:30-8:30pm (MR3)

- We will make final plans for Washington DC bus trip for Pro Life March, Jan. 23-24th.
 - Also we will need a commitment for Franciscan University Summer Conference.





**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS
PRAYER NETWORK HOTLINE**
216-289-0770 ext. 33

Call and leave a short message regarding your request. Let us know when your request has been answered, we can offer prayers of thanksgiving.

EMPLOYMENT NETWORKING

Saint John of the Cross Employment Networking We would like to do whatever we can to help those in our parish who are looking for work. If you are out of work and would like for us to help, just send us a resume that we can keep on file making sure that you give us a one or two word description of your specialty/field/job title. We will then list those job titles (WITHOUT NAMES) in the bulletin alerting potential employers that we have a potential candidate and asking them to contact our office. Once those employers contact us, we will contact you to be sure that we have your permission to forward your name to them. Please forward all resumes and job titles to Anita Linsky at our parish office via collection basket, mail, or e-mail at secretary@saintjohnofthecross.org

- Parishioners Job Candidate Title;**
- Secretary/Clerical/Accounting
 - Teacher/Tutor
 - Receptionist
 - Purchasing Agent

NEWS FROM NEIGHBORS

FEAST OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST: You are invited to join with Bishop Richard Lennon in the celebration of this Feast at the 12:00 Noon Mass and at Solemn Sung Vespers at 7:00pm, Monday, December 27th. Following Vespers there will be a brief tour of the Cathedral. Come and celebrate the *Feast of St. John the Evangelist* in the beauty of the Cathedral. Free secure parking will be available for the evening Vespers service in the Cathedral Plaza Garage on the southeast corner of Rockwell Avenue and East Ninth Street.


DONATE THAT OLD CAR TO THE SVDP SOCIETY: Donate your used car, van or pickup truck to the National St. Vincent de Paul Car Donation Program, and avoid the hassles and headaches of trading it in or selling it yourself. Your vehicle will be sold and the proceeds used by the St. Vincent de Paul Society in the Diocese of Cleveland in their charitable programs that assist the needy and suffering. You may also be eligible for an income tax deduction. To donate your vehicle; call: 1-800-322-8284, St. Vincent de Paul Society, USA or visit www.svdpusacars.com

HOSPICE OF THE WESTERN RESERVE addresses the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the seriously ill people and their families. Committed and passionate volunteers allow us to care for thousands of patients and their families. A few hours of your time will make a world of difference for our neighbors. Our next volunteer education will take place at Hospice of the Western Reserve, 300 East 185th St. on Wednesday, beginning February 2nd through March 16, 2011 starting at 1:00pm until 4:00pm. If you are interested in attending, please register by calling The Volunteer Team at 216-383-3731.

RAFFLE WINNER



Congratulations to Kim Dressel, our winner of the **Week #11 PTU Weekly Raffle**. Kim Dressel was also the seller winner. **Congratulations** to Scott Sieg, our winner of the **Week #12 PTU Weekly Raffle**. Scott Sieg was also the seller winner.



**ST. JOHN OF THE CROSS PARISH
BEREAVEMENT CORNER
NEW YEARS DAY**

While you will always be entitled to honor and respect your grief, focus on how it can become a positive influence in your life. Those who are able to transcend their grief do so by ultimately recognizing the lessons and wisdom that have been gleaned on their grief journeys. Many people feel a heightened sense of compassion and may even find themselves reaching out to others who are also in need. Reaching this point takes patience and determination. It is based on a tiny flame of hope that lies deep within all of us. *Try sending New Year cards. Think of the joy that comes with receiving an uplifting card during the post-Christmas letdown!

LITURGICAL TRIBUTE FUND

Sincere thank you for your donations to our Liturgical Tribute Fund.....

Joseph & Irene Klemens...In Memory of John Grieco
 Ralph & Joanne Plavac...In Memory of John Grieco
 Glenn & Nancy Sippola...In Memory of John Grieco
 Bocce Group.....In Memory of Milan Pezerovic
 Bocce Group.....In Memory of Maria Lynn
 Joan Raddell.....In Memory of Deceased Family
 Bocce Group.....In Memory of Toni Zabokovec

YOUR FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

12/12/2010 Week's Giving.....	\$13,194.37
12/12/2010 Week's Children's Giving.....	\$25.15

12/19/2010 Collection will be posted in next week's bulletin.

**God bless you for your generosity.
Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.**



St. John of the Cross

January, 2011

C-Church P-Parish Office
 S-School G-Gym
 MR1-Meeting Room #1
 MR2-Meeting Room #2
 MR3-Meeting Room #3

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 10:00am Mass Parish Office Closed
2	3 Parish Office Closed	4 6:45pm Boy Scout Mtg 7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2)	5 School Resumes 6:30pm (MR3) High School YM 7:00pm Social Justice (MR1)	6 6:45pm Bingo Team #1 7:30pm Liturgy Meeting (MR2)	7 8:15am All School Mass	8 7:00-8:30am Men's Prayer Group(S) 6:45pm Bingo Team A(G)
9 <i>Donut Sunday</i> 1:15pm Art & Environment(C)	10 6:30 PSR(S) 7:00pm Baptism Class (MR1) 7:00pm School Advisory Mtg(S) 7:30pm (S) Fr. Mehok Scripture Study	11 6:45pm Boy Scout Mtg 7:00pm Catholicism 101(MR3) 7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2)	12 2:45-4:00pm(C) Kids of the Cross Rehearsal 7:00pm (MR2) Women's Group 7:00pm(MR3) Confirmation 7:30pm(C) Adult Choir Rehearsal	13 6:45pm Bingo Team #2	14	15 9:00am- 12:00pm Liturgical Minister Retreat
16 9:00am- 12:00pm Booster's Pancake Breakfast (G)	17 Parish Office Closed No School 7:30pm (S) Fr. Mehok Scripture Study 7:30pm Finance Meeting	18 6:45pm Boy Scout Mtg 7:00pm Catholicism 101 (MR3) 7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2)	19 2:45-4:00pm(C) Kids of the Cross Rehearsal 6:30-8:00pm Jr. High YM (MR3) 7:00pm Boosters (S) 7:30pm(C) Adult Choir Rehearsal	20 6:45pm Bingo Team #3 7:30pm Parish Council Meeting (MR1)	21 8:15am All School Mass	22 7:00-8:30am Men's Prayer Group(S) 8:30-9:30am Market Day Pick Up (G) 6:45pm Bingo Team B(G)
23	24 6:30 PSR (S) 7:30pm (S) Fr. Mehok Scripture Study	25 6:45pm Boy Scout Mtg 7:00pm Catholicism 101 (MR3) 7:00pm Legion of Mary(MR2)	26 1:30pm School Dismissal 7:00pm (MR3) Confirmation 7:00pm (MR2) Women's Group 7:30pm(C) Adult Choir Rehearsal	27 6:45pm Bingo Team #4 7:00pm Respect Life (MR1)	28	29
30 Catholic School Week 11:00am- 1:30pm Open House at School	31 6:30 PSR(S) 7:00pm Adult Confirmation Class (MR1) 7:30pm (S) Fr. Mehok Scripture Study					