

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

SATURDAY, December 3-Vigil Second Sunday of Advent*Is 40:1-5, 9-11 / 2Pt 3:8-14 / Mk 1:1-8***3:00 - 4:00** Sacrament of Reconciliation**4:30** Mass [Dolores Shelton]*GIVING TREES in VESTIBULE***SUNDAY, December 4 - Second****Sunday of Advent***Is 40:1-5, 9-11 / 2Pt 3:8-14 / Mk 1:1-8***8:30** Mass [Altar Rosary Living & Deceased Members]**8:30 - 11:00** Credit Union - Fenmont**9:00** RCIA Children - Dayton House**9:45** PREP Classes**9:45** HS PREP Classes-Parish Office**11:00** Mass [For the Parish Family]**1:00** Misa en Español**2:30** Spanish AA Support Group -Fenmont**3:00-5:00** Church tours for "Christmas Walk"*GIVING TREES in VESTIBULE***MONDAY, December 5 - Advent Weekday***Is 35:1-10 / Lk 5:17-26***12:05** Mass [Rita M. Fritsch]**1:00** Altar - Rosary Meeting - Fenmont**TUESDAY, December 6- Advent Weekday****St. Nicholas, bishop***Is 40:1-11 / Mt 18:12-14***8:00** Mass [Patricia Buelter]**7:00** St. Vincent de Paul Meeting - Parish Office**7:00** Advent Holy Hour - Church**WEDNESDAY, December 7-****St. Ambrose, bishop & doctor of the church***Is 40:25-31 / Mt 11:28-30***8:00** Holy Communion Service**7:00** Spanish AA Support Group - Fenmont**7:15** BINGO - Fenmont**THURSDAY, December 8-****The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary***Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 / Lk 1:26-38***8:00** Mass at St. Peter in Chains**12:05** Holy Day Mass [Paul Becker]**1:00** ACES-Fenmont**7:00** Holy Day Mass**7:00** Choir Practice-Church**8:30** Spanish Mass-Church**FIRST FRIDAY, December 9- Advent Weekday****St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin***Is 48:17-19 / Mt 11:16-19***8:00** Mass [Dolores Shelton]**7:00** Hispanic Prayer Group - Fenmont**SATURDAY, December 10-Vigil Third Sunday of Advent***Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 / 1Thes 5:16-24 / Jn 1:6-8, 19-28***3:00 - 4:00** Sacrament of Reconciliation**4:30** Mass [Frances Schwartz]*GIVING TREES in VESTIBULE***SUNDAY, December 11 - Third Sunday of Advent***Is 61:1-2a, 10-11 / 1Thes 5:16-24 / Jn 1:6-8, 19-28***8:30** Mass [For the Parish Family]**8:30 - 11:00** Credit Union - Fenmont**9:00** RCIA Children - Dayton House**9:45** PREP Classes**9:45** HS PREP Classes-Parish Office**10:00** St. Nick at PREP**11:00** Mass [Dolores Shelton]**12:00** Outreach Committee - Parish Office**1:00** Misa en Español**2:30** Spanish AA Support Group -Fenmont**10:00** Our Lady of Guadalupe Spanish Mass followed by Reception

VOCATION VIEWS: John the Baptist stands as a sign of contradiction, calling his contemporaries back to a relationship with the Living God. Perhaps you are being called to follow in John's footsteps today. (Mark 1:1-8)

PASTOR'S CORNER

I am grateful for the work that Mary Ann Accorinti, and before her Donna Weisenberger, have done on the layout and editing of the newsletter. Many people comment how attractive it is. We know that many people look forward to receiving it. In addition, it is the only point of contact the Parish and some people.

I wonder if we could make even better use of this resource. We would like to have more "human interest" stories. This might be opportunities for someone to share the story of his/her faith journey. It might be the opportunity to simply let people know something of one's background. Ideally, we would have a few "reporters" to interview folks and write their stories. It would help follow a similar format. You may remember how Alison Smith did such a great job writing profiles of married couples a few years ago.

Another idea is to have a theme for all or most issues of

the newsletter. Content would flow from the theme. For instance, May could be "the beauty of nature". It would might feature some profiles of parishioners and their gardens, an article about the morality of respecting the environment God created, and maybe an article on upcoming Spring activities for different Parish groups.

So we're looking for "writers" and for ideas for themes. Try your hand at either or both and benefit the whole Parish.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: JOHN THE BAPTIST POINTED TO JESUS. WHO HAS POINTED TO JESUS FOR YOU?



STEWARDSHIP

Share in the Care

Retirement Fund for Religious

TREASURE:



July 2011-June 2012 Weekly Collection Review

Collection Week of November 20, 2011

Adult Envelopes Received	223
Regular Collection Goal:	11,000.00
Regular Collection Received:	7,609.75
Over/Under Goal:	(3,390.25)
YTD Regular Collection Goal:	231,000.00
YTD Regular Collection Received:	206,221.07
YTD Over/Under Goal:	(24,778.93)

Collection Week of November 27, 2011

Adult Envelopes Received	235
Regular Collection Goal:	11,000.00
Regular Collection Received:	8,285.18
Over/Under Goal:	(2,714.82)
YTD Regular Collection Goal:	242,000.00
YTD Regular Collection Received:	214,506.25
YTD Over/Under Goal:	(27,493.75)

Thanksgiving Collection \$100.00 for St. Vincent DePaul

Our **giving tree** presents will be distributed to families through **St. Raphael Social Service Center**. St. Raphael has been a constant presence for the needy of Hamilton for a long time. **Our December make-a-change will help them help others throughout the year.** More information at <http://straphael-hamilton.com/>

JUST TO KEEP YOU INFORMED: We have previously announced that, with the approval of our Parish Pastoral Council, Finance Committee and the Archdiocese, we will be auctioning the entire property that used to be the site of the old St. Veronica Parish. This will happen next Saturday morning, December 10.

CONGRATULATIONS! to the following children in our First Communion Class of 2012. They have completed their studies for the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Justin Albin	Ian Jeffries
Lizbeth Amaya	Alyssa Miller
Anthony Balfour	Daniel Navarez-Iturri
Hilary Batista	Feliz Natividad
Martin Bender	Leslie Natividad
Maura Brown	Elided Ortiz
Yaritzzy Carrillo	Evelyn Ortiz
Alexander Chau	Lucia Ortiz
David Clark	Luis Ortiz
Axel Coronel-Alvarez	Roman Ortiz
Alexa Dania	Jackson Proctor
Thalia Diaz	Jessica Ramirez
Morgan Dixon	Ella Reis
Gabriel Eugenio	Estephania Reyes
Gabriela Eugenio-Luis	Antony Riano
Karla Garcia	Joycelyn Riano
Jose Garcia-Lopez	Joselyn Roa
Cecilia Gaytan	Juan Roa
Alexander Gonzalez	Angel Rodriquez
Oswaldo Gonzalez	Maria Rodriquez
Jenifer Gonzalez-Perez	Sofia Rosales
Zachariah Gorsuch	Denise Salvador
Joseph Heffernan	Julian Vaca-Iber
Bernardo Hernandez-Martinez	Mariano Vaca-Iber
Brigitta Hufziger	Jessica Wenning

SISTERS OF NOTRE DAME DE NAMUR benefit from the Retirement Fund for Religious (December 10-11, 2011). For over 20 years, my ministry, as a **Sister of Notre Dame de Namur** (chief financial officer and now Provincial) has been located at our Provincial House which is adjacent to our retirement and care facility. You cannot walk through our buildings without crossing paths with a Sister who represents 40 or 50 years of service to the Church. Every Sister's life in ministry is an unwritten book of teaching, serving and giving.

Ninety-four year old Sister Mary taught elementary school and served as an elementary school principal in this Archdiocese for over 40 years and then "retired" to library work and parish visiting. When she "retired" from those more active ministries to a ministry of prayer she was near 90 years of age. Sister Mary was already 68 years of age when the Archdiocese began paying a stipend to the religious order for her services. So about 48 years of her teaching and administering were done for no pay. She was 55 years of age when the Social Security laws were changed to allow members of religious orders to participate. That means that Sister Mary receives a very small Social Security benefit. There are no sources of support for retirement or any other costs from any diocese for members of religious orders. So how does the religious order pay for the costs of Sister Mary's support in her retirement?

The Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur rely on investment income from years of saving for members' retirement and the generosity of donors to pay these costs. The expenses for a Sister in Assisted Living range above \$40,000 per year. The order is making use of Medicaid reimbursement to help defray the costs of Skilled Nursing Care. The actuarial studies tell us that we do not have enough saved for retirement to cover the costs for all that will need care and support. We walk with trust in God's providence. And we give thanks that Sister Mary had such a fruitful life bringing God's goodness to the Church of Cincinnati." Sr. Carol Lichtenberg, SNDdeN

Support elderly religious. Please **Share in the Care** and give generously to next week's second collection.

ALTAR ROSARY NEWS

Nov. 19th-Dec 11th GIVING TREE: Please pick one or more Christmas tags off the Giving Tree. It is a way to help the less fortunate in our community. **UNWRAPPED Gifts are due by December 11th.** We could also use gift wrap paper and ribbon. Thank you for your generosity.



Mon. Dec. 5) 12 Noon: "Baby Jesus" Potluck luncheon. Please bring an unwrapped baby item which we will donate to Mercy Health Fairfield Hospital's Woman and Children's Services Family Birth Center. They help women who give birth to babies and do not have the supplies they need for the babies to be allowed to be taken home. All babies are required to have a car seat, crib or bassinets, clothing, diapers, food, etc when they are discharged. All parishioners are welcome.

Tues. December 6th: Quilt Raffle Drawing. Thanks to everyone who has already turned in their quilt raffle tickets. We appreciate your support! For more information, please contact Marilyn Vidourek at 894-5851 or at mrv1130@yahoo.com.

It is customary in some countries, when one visits a shrine, to leave behind a ribbon with a written prayer request, or the remembrance of a loved one. We initiated this tradition for the 2010 Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe. The response was terrific - with over 300 petition ribbons being submitted! This year, we invite the entire parish the opportunity to take part in this gesture of love and trust in Our Mother, Mary, the



Patroness of the Americas. Ribbons will be available in the vestibule after the weekend Masses until December 4. Please return the ribbons with your written petitions or words of thanksgiving to the baskets provided no later than December 8 to ensure that they can be properly assembled and presented at this year's celebration of the feast day. Thank you.



An account has been set up at 5/3rd Bank for Chris Brinkman, a member of St. Joseph Parish and Caretaker of St. Mary / St. Stephen Cemeteries in Hamilton. Chris has been hospitalized since October 18th and has a long road ahead of chemo and rehab. His family and friends are asking for donations to help Chris keep his medical coverage up to date. Donations may be made at any 5/3rd location for the Chris Brinkman Fund. Thank you for your consideration. Friends and Family of Chris.

Creighton Model Introductory Session on Infertility, Natural Family Planning, ways to treat Women's Health Problems other than using birth control pills. Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. at Queen of Peace Church in Millville. Call 513-737-2517.

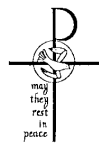
Thanks to all those who donated to the **Holy Father's Society for the Propagation of the Faith** on World Mission Sunday.. Your sacrifice will help to support 1,150 mission dioceses world wide that: Educate young men to become priests and leaders; Have religious sisters serving in schools, orphanages and leprosy centers; Train lay catechists to share the teachings of Jesus and; Rebuild churches devastated by war or natural disasters. For more info visit www.onefamilyinmission.org or www.catholiccincinnati.org/mission



".....Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least brothers of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40
If you baked goods, bought goods, donated food items, or made a monetary donation.....**God Bless You!**
Your generous supports of the **PREP classes bake sale** and donations of canned goods to the pantry at St. Raphael's were greatly appreciated. We were able to provide 18 families with turkey dinners and all of the trimmings as well as provide the pantry with additional food items.

More importantly you provided the children of the parish with the opportunity to put their faith into action and to be of service to others. Special thanks to Ronda Niehaus who organized the bake sales and Thanksgiving Day baskets, and her wonderful helpers; Krystina Scowden, Maria Balfour, and Julie Schwamberger.

St. Nicholas will be here on Sunday, Dec. 11th from 8:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. in the Fenmont's St. Stephen Hall. All the children of the parish are welcome to come and visit. Refreshments are being provided by the Altar Rosary.



Our condolences are extended to Teofil and Ruth Lednik on the passing of their son, Steven. Please remember him and all of the souls of the faithful departed in your prayers.

Second Week of Advent

Gather in the presence of the wreath. A family member lights two purple candles. Begin with the sign of the cross.

- Leader: Father in heaven, may we your people, who look forward to the coming of Christ, experience the joy of salvation and celebrate his coming with love and thanksgiving. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.
- Leader: Lord, help us to treat others in a way that brings out the best in them.
- All: *Come, Lord Jesus!*
- Leader: Lord, Help us trust in your promise of a new life.
- All: *Come, Lord Jesus!*
- Leader: Lord, teach us your kindness and compassion.
- All: *Come, Lord Jesus!*
- Leader: Sharpen our sight, O God, so that we may recognize Jesus in our lives and in the world around us. Help us see the signs of his coming and share in the works of his kingdom.
- Sing: "O come, O come, Emmanuel"

