

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Heavenly Father, we thank You for the opportunity to once again examine our hearts during this lovely time of Advent, and the faith in Christ Jesus that we confess. Keep our hearts aglow with love for Jesus and help to wonder more and more about how amazing the grace that You have shown towards sinful man, in sending Your only begotten Son to come to earth, as a tiny human baby - so that He could bear the punishment for the sins of the whole world on His holy shoulders. Amen.

Sacraments

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):
Saturdays 3:00 PM and by appointment.

BAPTISMS: To arrange and prepare for the celebration of Baptism, please call the Pastor to schedule an appointment. Baptisms are usually celebrated on Sunday afternoon.

FUNERAL: Please call the parish as soon as possible to make arrangements for the Mass of Christian Burial.

VISITING THE SICK: If you or a family member are sick or in the hospital, please call the parish so that a pastoral visit can be arranged. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick may be celebrated in the parish before hospitalization. Please call also to arrange for a Eucharistic minister to bring Communion to the sick. If you would like to request prayers for someone who is sick, please call **the** parish so that the name may be placed in the bulletin.

MARRIAGES: Preparation must begin at least six months prior to the wedding. **Please** make arrangements with the parish before scheduling the reception.

ANNULMENTS/CONVALIDATION: Please arrange a meeting with the Pastor to begin the process of celebrating your marriage in the Church.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Catholics who would like to be registered as parishioners of Immaculate Conception and receive stewardship envelopes should call the parish secretary or fill out a form in the vestibule of the church.

RCIA: Adults who desire to explore the possibility of becoming a member of the Catholic Church should contact the RCIA (Rite for the Christian Initiation of Adults) team. Preparation usually begins in September and Baptism or Reception is celebrated at the next Easter Vigil.

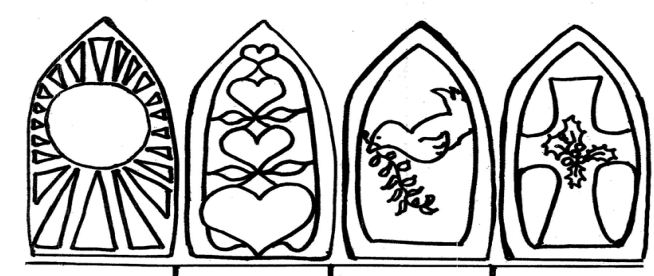
TUITION ASSISTANCE: Some financial aid for tuition assistance to Catholic schools is available to registered members of the parish. This is a one time grant of no more than \$1,000.00 to needy families to assist them during a time of financial crisis. Eligible families should write a letter to the Pastor who will evaluate the request with the

To Whom Do We Go

Adult Formation: Lovenia Watson.....778-1977
 Altar Servers: Bradley DeRouen218-8292 / 284-5970
 Child Protection Coord:.....Andrea Toles
 Eucharistic Ministers: Beulah Decuir.....229-6076
 Gospel Choir/Adult: Daphne Alex.....936-4051
 Gospel Choir/Youth: Tara Winder428-5981
 Hall Rental: Juliet Betts.....775-7067
 Ministry Council/Chair: Georgia Jenkins.....775-5824
 Ministry to the Sick: Gene Decuir.....229-6076
 Pantry/Food and Vouchers:774-3661
 Sacristan: Rogers Jackson, Jr.362-0907
 Traditional Choir: Theresa Carmen..... 921-7315
 Usher's Coordinator: Walter Ennis.....775-7332

This Week's Prayer

Worries are hard to dismiss, Lord. They seem to grow bigger and bigger until they take over my life. Please help me conquer them, one at a time. Your reassurance is welcome. Amen.



Hope | Peace | Joy | Love



Father Thomas F. Clark, S. J.

DAY OF PRAYER-DECEMBER 13



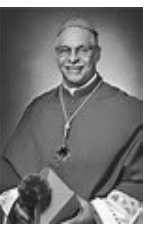
Father Clark is asking that we keep Friday, December 13, the 66th Anniversary of the original Dedication of our church as a Day of Prayer. Morning Mass at 7:30 AM will take place in the church (not at MLK). Following Mass, there will be Adoration until 8 PM in the evening. Father Clark is asking that we sign up to spend an hour with the Lord in prayer thanking him for the vision and dedication of the ancestors who built this church and asking for God's grace that we renovate ourselves as we renovate the church. Please sign up in the book in the foyer and in the Activity Center. Maybe you want to get a group of friends together or your ministry group will want to pray together. Our goal is to have at least two people in the church from 8:00 AM to 8:00 PM.

THANK YOU FOR THE INTERFAITH PRAISE AND WORSHIP



Thank you to all who worked to make the Interfaith Praise and Worship such a Spirit filled celebration. Thank you Nina Gray and our Immaculate Conception Gospel Choir; the SU Gospel Choir, Gerald Berzat, et. al. who worked on the sound; our ushers; and special thanks to Geraldine Duvernay and her crew who provided us with a very beautiful and delicious reception.

WELCOME, BISHOP CHERI, ON FAMILY AND FRIENDS SUNDAY



Today, December 8, we welcome Bishop Cheri as the celebrant of our 10:30 AM Mass on our Family and Friends Sunday. We are always happy to welcome him.

Everyone is welcome to come to the Activity Center following the 10:30 AM Mass to share in our celebration.

CHURCH BLESSING COMMEMORATIVE SOUVENIRS



On the weekend of December 21-22, our commemorative booklet of the Blessing of the Church will be available.

Allison Singleton has designed a t-shirt to mark the church's blessing. You may see a sample and place an order at the December 8 and December 15 celebrations. T-shirts will be available at a later date. The cost of a shirt will be \$15.00 Youth through Adult XL; \$18.00 2X-4X. Profit from the shirts will go the Church Building Fund.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)

THANK YOU to our youth volunteers for helping with the preparation and distribution of food baskets for the poor in the community during the week of Thanksgiving, November 25 – 26, 2019. Volunteers of 2019-2020 Confirmation class were: Megan Abraham, Morgan Abraham, Anthony Bradford, Layla Johnson, LeAnn Morrison, Dajon Trudell, Jai Washington, Kristian Williams, and Naomi Winder. Other youth volunteers were McKenzie Hawthorne, Trinity Killion, Jacob Turner and Aliyah Wilcox.

PSR REMINDERS

Due to the church renovation celebrations and blessing, there will be no PSR classes in December. Meanwhile, please encourage your child/children to acknowledge the season of Advent as we prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Classes will resume on January 5, 2020, from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM in the Parish Activity Center.

MUSIC FOR THE CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

The Peter Claver Family Choir invites all men and women of the parish to join them for the 4:00 PM Vigil Mass on Christmas Eve. Practices will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6:00 PM in the church starting December 3. For more information contact Gerald Berzat @ 225-276-4674.



THANK YOU

Dear Parishioners, Thank you for your thoughtfulness through cards, food, flowers, phone calls and most of all your prayers. God continues to bless me through my recovery. Please keep praying as you all remain in my prayers. Hopefully I will see you soon.



Elizabeth "Liz" Bellaire - Be Blessed.

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, BLESSING OF THE CHURCH

Next Sunday, December 15, at 2:00 PM is the Mass of the Blessing of the Church with Bishop Ducca. We will have regular Masses at 4:00 PM, 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM---these will be "quiet" Masses without music. The church, I am sure, will be very crowded, but we will accommodate folks as best we can. A reception will follow in the Activity Center. Bishop Muench, Fathers Derrick Weingartner and Jay Hooks will be with us for our celebration.



Happy Birthday



THEA	BURCHELL	12/8
VIOLA	DARGIN	12/8
GLORIA	MEYERS	12/8
DREXELL	FINLEY	12/9
LEOLA	DARGIN	12/9
AKEYLIAH	OLIVER	12/9
CHANZA	VEAL	12/9
ERNEST	COLEMAN	12/10
LAWRENCE	NAVARRE, JR.	12/10
ANGELLE	JENKINS	12/11
D. MARIE	JOHNSON	12/11
AUBREY	JONES, JR.	12/11
JAYLA	PATRICK	12/11
ALFRED	WIMS	12/11
JANICE	ALLISON	12/12
JEFFREY	MOTEN	12/12
ANTHANOR	BRADFORD	12/13
RAHEEM	GRAY	12/13
BARON	ROBERSON	12/13
EDMONIA	CALLAHAN	12/13
OPHELIA	ALCORN	12/14
ALICE	BROWN	12/14
RICHARD	BROWN	12/14
RENEE'	WOODS	12/14
DICKSON	IDUSUYI	12/14
CORNELIUS	HARRIS, JR.	12/14
ANDRE	NEWTON, SR.	12/14

Happy birthday! Happy birthday!

WALKING WARRIORS HEALTH AND WELLNESS MINISTRY

HEALTHY TIDBIT: The Christmas season often brings about stress and depression. You can minimize holiday stress by not "sweating the small stuff" and by remembering the "real reason for the season". It's normal to cry, feel sad or grieve if a loved one cannot be with you this season because of uncontrollable circumstances like distance or death. Volunteer to help others or spend time with your friends and ICCC parishioners to avoid feeling alone or isolated. Realize that the holidays will not be perfect, and accept a change in traditions or plans. Stick to a realistic budget for your menu and gifts. Try to accept people as they are by setting aside grievances during this time and agreeing to discuss grievances at a later time. Learn to say no if you cannot participate in or attend a holiday function. Always practice self-care by trying not to overindulge, by getting adequate sleep, by incorporating "alone time" every day, and by exercising every day. If you continually feel sad, anxious, irritable, or hopeless, do not be ashamed to seek professional or spiritual help. mayoclinic.org



Mass Readings
December 8th - December 15th
Second Sunday of Advent
Is 11:1-10; Psalm 72; Rom 15:4-9
Gospel: Mt 3:1-12

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Not a Holy Day of Obligation

Gen 3:9-15, 20; Psalm 98; Eph. 1:3-6, 11-12
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

Monday

Is 40:1-11; Psalm 96

Gospel: Mt 18:12-14

Tuesday

Is 40:25-31; Psalm 103

Gospel: Mt 11:28-30

Wednesday

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

Zech. 2:14-17; Judith 13

Gospel: Lk 1:26-38

Thursday

Is 48:17-19; Psalm 1

Gospel: Mt 11:16-19

Friday

Sirach 48:1-4,9-11; Psalm 80

Gospel: Mt 17:9a,10-13

Third Sunday of Advent

Is 35:1-6a,10; Psalm 146; Jas 5:7-10

Gospel: Mt 11:2-11



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday, December 24:
Vigil Mass of Christmas at 4:00 PM

Wednesday, December 25:
Midnight Mass at 12:00 AM

Wednesday, December 25:
Christmas Morning Mass at 10:30 AM

Saturday-Sunday, December 28-29:
Holy Family Sunday: 4:00 PM, 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM

Tuesday, December 31:
Vigil of Mary, Mother of God at 4:00 PM

Wednesday, January 1, 2020:
Mary, Mother of God at 10:30 AM

