



“Come,
O come,



Emmanuel”



*Our Lady of Victory Church
73 North Avenue
Tallmadge, OH 44278*

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Advent . . . Christmas . . . beyond . . .

A LOT of information for this important mailing.

- ❖ The great and holy Season of **Advent** begins in just a few short weeks (weekend of December 1st/2nd). While so many will be challenged with preparing for the holidays, **Advent** affords us the opportunity to **begin** anew by preparing our lives for all that the promise of **Christmas** truly means.
- ❖ **Your** parish of Our Lady of Victory is prepared to help each member do just that, adding to the spiritual practices that each household incorporates into their daily lives. Consider adding one, a few, or several NEW spiritual practices and opportunities to your current spiritual practices during the Season of Advent and beyond.

Loving GOD.

As the United States Bishops' wrote in their Pastoral Letter on Stewardship: "For Catholics, stewardship of time should include setting aside periods for family prayer, for the reading of Scripture, for visits to the Blessed Sacrament, and for attendance at Mass during the week whenever this is possible."

Many find it difficult to find a quiet moment to spend with God. Family and work responsibilities sometimes seem to take up every spare second. Without becoming good stewards of our time, prayer just doesn't happen. To become a more prayerful person, consider taking an inventory of how you spend the 168 hours in the week to find which things may be less important than regular time spent with God. **Advent** is a great time to do just that and to find ways to make "first things first".

Mass, Reconciliation, Bible Study, Prayer and more . . .

- Spend time with the Lord
 - ❖ Mass – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 8:30 AM
 - ❖ **NEW** this Advent/Christmas – **WEDNESDAY EVENING MASS – 7:00 PM**
 - ❖ Weekend Masses – Saturday, 5:00 PM and Sunday, 9 and 11:00 AM
 - ❖ Mass on The VIGIL and SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (a Holy Day of Obligation and the 74th Anniversary of the Founding of Our Lady of Victory Parish) - Friday, December 7th – 7:00 PM (Rosary at 6:30 PM) and Saturday, December 8th - 8:30 AM
- Encounter the Lord's mercy and compassion
 - ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation – Saturdays, 9:00 AM
 - ❖ Cluster Communal Reconciliation Celebration - Sunday, December 16th, 4:00 PM (Holy Family Parish in Stow)
- Get to know the Lord
 - ❖ Men's Prayer/Bible Study Group – Wednesdays, 6:30 AM (*Check the Bulletin for location*)
 - ❖ Additional Bible Study - Thursdays, 2:00-3:30 PM (Room 101 of the Parish Center)
 - ❖ Rosary at 6:30 PM (in Church) - Wednesdays (during Advent, facilitated by members of the Parish Respect Life Team)
 - ❖ Sign-up online at Dynamic Catholic for "The Best Advent Ever" (short and to the point daily "spiritual helps". Go to: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-advent-ever>)

- Life Teen Nights – Sundays, December 2nd, 16th, and January 13th – 6-8:00 PM in Room 101 of the Parish Center (9th/10th Grade and other High School Youth!)
- “Stand in the Gap” in prayer, supporting any who may be in need of being strengthened in their relationship with the Lord or reconnecting with our Parish or the Church. This is

Loving GOD. Loving Others. and Making Disciples.
all rolled into one!

Join others in Church who are doing just this:

Mondays – 9:30 AM and 5:00 PM + Tuesdays – 4:30 PM
Wednesdays – 1:00 and 6:00 PM + Thursdays – 1:00 PM
Fridays – 9:30 AM and 3:00 PM

Another opportunity for ALL members to “Stand in the Gap”

FIRST MONDAY of each **MONTH - PRAYER** and **FASTING**

offering these sacrifices to the Lord on behalf of any who may be in need of being strengthened in their relationship with the Lord or reconnecting with our Parish or the Church! Imagine the power of these acts of sacrifice multiplied by 100’s!! (Fast from a meal, your favorite food/drink, certain behaviors/activities). “Stand in the Gap” prayer materials may be found on the Parish Website – www.ourladyofvictory.net.

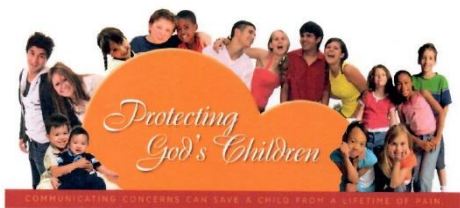
- For all – help in sorting and transporting (to Good Neighbors) Christmas Gifts, etc., Sunday, December 2nd, following the 11:00 AM Mass (12:00 Noon).

Also –

help transport paper products and other items to Good Neighbors, Sunday, December 9th, following the 11:00 AM Mass.

help in stringing lights OUTSIDE, the Church on Saturday, December 15th, 10:00 AM.

- **KNIGHTS of COLUMBUS** “Keep Christ in Christmas” Poster Contest – all school age children/youth, grades K-12 (judging takes place on Saturday, December 15th). Posters displayed in Finnerty Hall the weekend of December 15th/16th for all to see . . .



FOR PARENTS and TEENS

Join us on Sunday, December 2nd, at 2:00 PM, for an important presentation on **Internet** as well as **Social Media Safety**
(check the Bulletin for more details).

Volunteer Recognition - weekend of January 12th/13th - all Masses
(watch for further details in the Bulletin)

An Invitation to

Catholics Returning Home

begins Wednesday, January 16th, 7:00 PM – Parish Center Library

(See the enclosed flyer for further details.)

And the Holy Season of **Christmas** continues to offer us all excellent opportunities to
Love God. Love Others. Make Disciples.

Christmas-Time Masses

December 24th – Christmas Eve/Vigil of Christmas – 4:30 PM (*enjoy the presence of our Youth and Teen's Christmas Choir . . . a great family celebration! Music with the combined choirs begins at 4:00 PM*)

December 24th – Christmas Eve/Vigil of Christmas – 10:00 PM

December 25th – Christmas Day – 10:00 AM

(December 26th – NO 8:30 AM morning Mass)

December 29th – 5:00 PM Mass (Vigil – Feast of the Holy Family)

December 30th – 9:00 and 11:00 AM Mass (Feast of the Holy Family)

December 31st – New Year's Eve - 5:00 PM Mass followed by All-Night Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament (the Church will be open all night)

January 1st – New Year's Day – 9:30 AM Morning Prayer and the Conclusion of All-Night Exposition, followed immediately by Mass at 10:00 AM

(January 2nd – NO 8:30 AM morning Mass)

January 5th – 5:00 PM Mass (Vigil of the Epiphany of the Lord)

January 6th – 9:00 and 11:00 AM Mass (Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord)

January 12th - 5:00 PM Mass (Vigil of The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord/End of the Season of Christmas)

January 13th – 9:00 and 11:00 AM Mass (The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord/End of the Season of Christmas)

As always, to stay current with important Parish information, check the Parish Website at www.ourladyofvictory.net, the Parish Facebook page, or the Church Bulletin (which is also posted on the Website).

May the holy days ahead find us growing in holiness and our relationship with Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary, as together we support one another in our call to “Love GOD. Love OTHERS. Make DISCIPLES”!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Mike

and Our Lady of Victory Staff

Our Lady of Victory *Loving God. Loving Others. Making Disciples.*