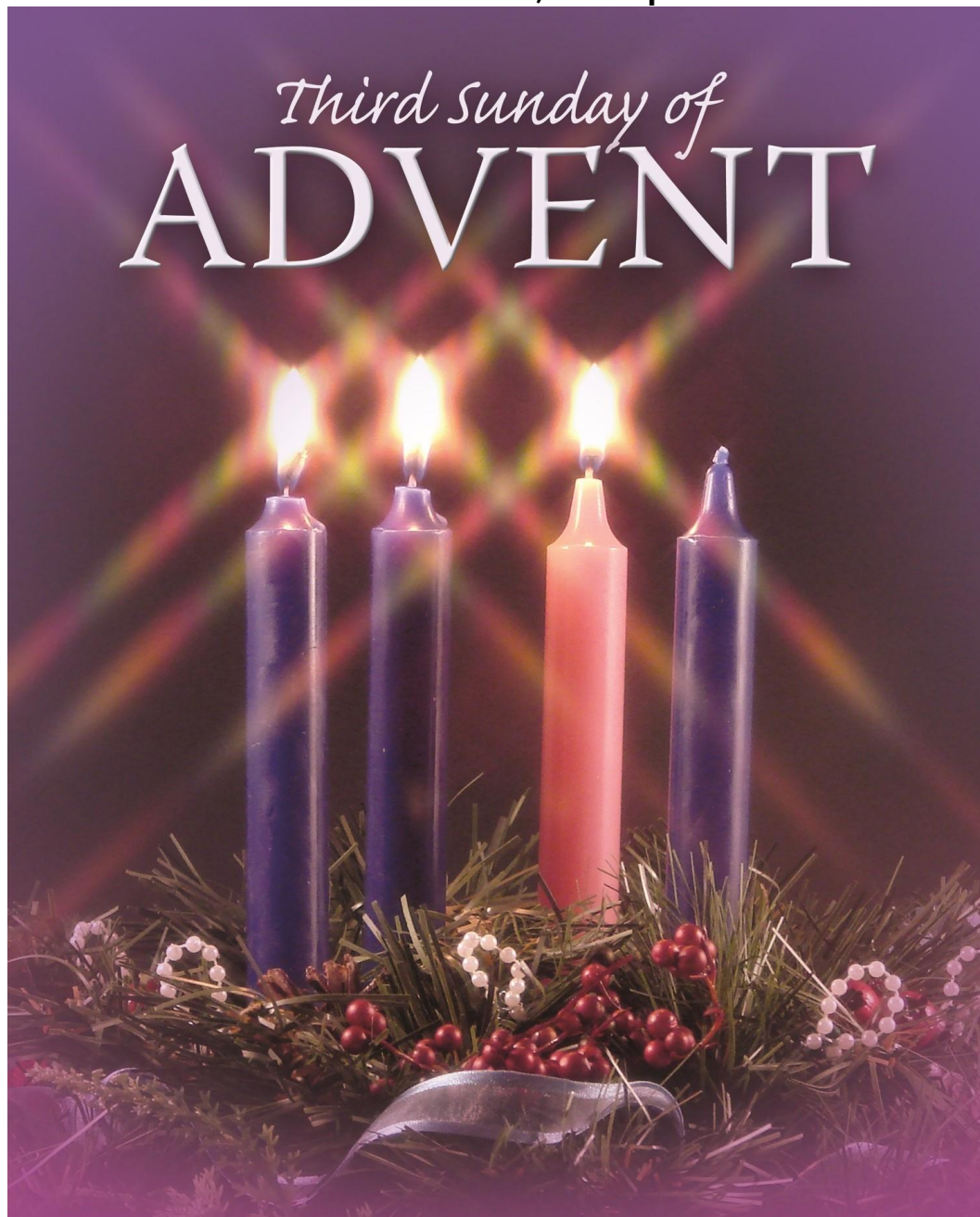


PASTORAL REGION ONE

**United in Faith, Hope and Service to the Community
Rev Francis Tandoh, C.S. Sp Pastor**



St. Augustine Church (SA)
6939 Weaver Road (Church)
Germantown OH 45327
937-855-2289
csaintaugustine@woh.rr.com

St. Benedict the Moor Church (SB)
519 Liscum Dr.
Dayton, OH 45427
937-268-6697
info@unitedinhope.org

St. Mary Church (SM)
310 Allen St
Dayton, Oh 45410
937-256-5633
stmaryparish@stmarydayton.org

Dayton Hispanic Ministry Office
310 Allen St. Dayton OH 45410
937-258-1309

St. Benedict the Moor Catholic School
138 Gramont Ave.: 937-268-6391
www.stbenedictthemoorcatholicsschool.org

Third Sunday of Advent -



PASTORAL STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Pastor: Fr. Francis Tandoh, C.S.Sp.

pastor@stmarydayton.org; pastor@unitedinhope.org

Hispanic Chaplain: Fr. Clement Uchando, C.S.Sp

Deacons: Kenneth Stewart (SA); William Saluke (SM)

Music Ministers:

[SA] Denise Jasek

denisejasek@gmail.com

[SB] Myrtle Miliner

[SM] Kathy Maresca

kmaresca@twc.com

[SM] Jeff Hecht

Parish Administrators:

[SA] Fran Delegato

[SB] Janice Kwofie

admin@unitedinhope.org

[SM] Mark Bruggeman,

mbruggeman@stmarydayton.org

Admin. Assistants:

[SA] Sylvia Hess

[SM] Anita Wagner

awagner@stmarydayton.org

[SM] **Bookkeeper:** Fran Delegato

Regional Council Presidents:

Chair: Ken Marcellus **Vice:** Bonnie Doepker

Dayton Hispanic Ministry:

Director: Mary Alice Ordoñez

mordonez@catholiccinainnati.org

Admin. Assistant: Maria Leticia Castillo

Prayer Chains, Sacrament of the Sick

Weddings, Baptisms, RCIA/RCIC

Call the offices 937-256-5633, 937-268-6697

REGION ONE LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

[SA] St. Augustine [SB] St. Benedict [SM] St. Mary

Dec 16 6pm [SM] Spanish Mass

Dec 17 6pm [SM] Spanish Mass

6:30pm [SB] Reconciliation for SB & SM

Dec 17 6:30pm [SA] Rosary & Reconciliation

Dec 20 8:30am [SM] SM Parishioners

Dec 21 4:30 [SB] SB Parishioners

4:30pm [SM] Donald Deavers

Dec 22 **4TH Sunday of Advent**

7am [SM] Spanish Mass

8:15am [SA] Jerry St. Jacques

9:45am [SM] Millie Woeste, Pat Gibbons

11am [SB] SB Parishioners

1:15pm [SM] Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS PASTORAL REGION ONE:

[SA] St. Augustine [SB] St. Benedict; [SM] St. Mary

Mon 12/16 11am Prayer Group SB

6:30pm Fellowship of Work SM

Tue 12/17 6:30pm Reconciliation SB

Wed 12/18 6:30pm Rosary & Reconciliation SA

7pm Bible Study SB

Sun 12/22 10:45am Bible Study SMC

My sisters and brothers in the Lord,

Last Sunday the Prophet Isaiah spoke about the image of the peaceable Kingdom of God. This image includes beating swords into plowshares and all creatures living peacefully with one another—including us humans. This Sunday, the Prophet Isaiah adds to that image by stating: “Those whom the Lord has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.” Although this is an image of a kingdom of this earth, it also becomes the image of the Kingdom of Heaven: saved by God alone, crowned with joy, meeting one another with joy and gladness—and finally, no sorrow or mourning.

The second reading today comes from the Letter of James and advise us all to be patient for the coming of the Kingdom of God. It is at hand—and that means that it can come at any time. It is a kingdom for which we must live now, even though it has not yet come. The best advice about how to live now in expectation of the Kingdom is this: “Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged.” What a different world we would have if we all lived that way! This is not a call to inaction, but a call to a clear way of living. I think of the great example of Mohandas Gandhi who showed us how to live the non-violence of Jesus. Who is showing us how to live without complaint? Gandhi was certainly involved in politics and in changing our world—but by peaceful means. Who of us can change the world by not complaining about others?

Today Gospel, from the Gospel of Matthew, brings us back to John the Baptist—developing this image from where we left off last Sunday. Instead of the image of John the Baptist preaching repentance from last week, we have the image of him sending his followers to ask Jesus: are you the one? This is a question that each of us needs to ask from time to time: are you the one? We want our faith to remain full of life and also deeply personal. We never want our faith to become just one other aspect of our lives. We want to give ourselves completely to the Lord because of our knowledge of His deep and personal love for us. Are you the one?

At the end of the Gospel, Jesus makes clear to all who listen: the most important reality in life is to belong to the Kingdom of God. John the Baptist is the greatest born of women but that counts for nothing unless he also belongs to the Kingdom of God. This is a comparison of the reality of this earth with the reality of the heavenly kingdom. In the Kingdom of Heaven, we are all completely in the hands of God and will not be striving to be one greater than the other. We shall be completely ourselves and completely full of the love of God—with only the desire to live in love with God and all God’s creation. Amen.

Your brother in the Lord, Abbot Philip

**PRAY FOR OUR PARISH
MILITARY MEMBERS**

TSgt Timothy Scott Marcum, USAF; SSgt Justin Bentley, USAF; SrA Matthew Bauer, USAF; CPT Brian Hargis, US Army; SSG Lynn Jones, US Army; Saundra Ann Morrell, USN; Ronald Morrell Pruitt, US Army, Capt. Andrew J. Konicki, USMC.; SSgt Christopher DeWitt, USAF, Sgt Alex Zvakas, US Army, US Army; PFC Michael V. Jackson, US Army, PVT Corey Taylor, US Army, Com. Ryan Jonathan Logan, USN, SGT Stephanie Lewis, US Army, SrA Candice Smith, USAF, EOD3 Aaron R. Gorby, USN; Davion A. Redd, USCG, SSgt Jennifer Wagner, USAF, LCpl Jacob Deis, USMC, Dwight Stout GM1, USN, SHSN Angelica Tomlinson, USN, PFC Mark Rimkus Jr, USMC, Kyle Gerspacher, USAF

MEMBERSHIP IN OUR PARISHES

A "Heartly Welcome" to all new members. Please call the church offices 268-6697 (St. Benedict) 256-5633 (St. Mary) or 855-2289 (St. Augustine) to register. Please notify the offices when moving or of any change in address. This will help us update our census information.

IS YOUR ESTATE IN ORDER?

If so, please remember St. Augustine, St. Benedict and St. Mary Churches. It is through the generosity of individuals like yourself who name our parishes in their will that the parishes continue to thrive and will do so for many years to come. Thank you

ST. AUGUSTINE PARISH NEWS

Thank you to the group who cut all the greens and put together our beautiful advent wreath and streamers with advent candles. Each year it is more breathtaking. Thank you so much!

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Dec 8 \$1236 Cath Ed: \$20 Ret Rel: \$446

ST. AUGUSTINE MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Dec 22 Lectors: JoAnne Vincent, Tim Pheiffer
Eucharistic Ministers: Ken Stewart, Betty & Tim Stueve, Randy & Marie Klotz, Jim Adkins, Fran Delegato, Patrick Barnett
Ushers: Don Hoog, Richard Dillon, Ray Metzger
Servers: Micah & Austin Valenti, Joseph Barnett

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

Please keep in your prayers our shut-ins: Toni Moore, and Robert Schell.

ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL/PARISH NEWS

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Dec 7: \$687 SVDP: \$30 St B School: \$28

Dec 8 \$3484 Maint: \$205 SVDP \$10

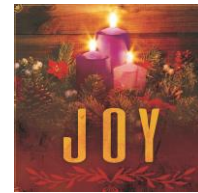
Ret Rel: \$485 St B School: \$60

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR

Parishioners of St. Benedict, we are accepting donations for Christmas flowers for the altar. Please give your donations to Arvilla Crawford or Jackie Glover at the 11am. Mass on Sundays and/or make your check out to St. Benedict the Moor Church with "Flowers for Christmas" in the memo line. Any amount of donations will be accepted. Thank you for contributing to having beautiful flowers on the altar. If you have any questions, please contact Arvilla Crawford at 937-367-8788.

**ST. BENEDICT THE MOOR CATHOLIC
SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

To fulfill the joy of the Christmas season you are invited to attend the school's free Christmas Concert on Thursday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. Hope you'll be able to attend!



**ST. BENEDICT MINISTRY SCHEDULE
DEC 22 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

1st Reader: Christine Brown; 2nd Reader: Kathy Garrison; Petitions: Perry Taylor; Ushers: Robin Bell-Craft, Ed Donaldson, Jackie Greene, Jackie Layne
Extraordinary Ministers: Rita Ellicott, Sharon Hairston, Carolyn Day, Derek Arnold(R); Kim Brown, Hazel Rountree, Mary O'Basuyi, Victor O'Basuyi, Emmett Orr (L)



PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED SICK of SB

In our prayers, let us remember those in need of the Lord's healing mercy, especially: Brenda Lewis, Mae Wilkerson, Kenneth Bronston, Zadie Buckner, Mary Helen Spanish, Lora Singleton, Jessie Campbell, Betty Jones, Pat Bell, Janis Lowery, Myrtle Truitt, Susie Roberts, Marilyn Armstrong, Angelina Martin, Ralph Reid, Clark Taylor, Nancy Green, Gregory Webster, Sr., n, Inell Johnson, Joseph Clements, Jerome Johnson.

Third Sunday of Advent - 

**IN THE NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING
FROM ST. BENEDICT AND ST. MARY PARISHES**

Eddie Weaver
Roberta Hickman

Mary Scott
Heartland of Kettering

ST. MARY PARISH NEWS

WEEKLY COLLECTION

**Dec 8 \$3072 Cap Imp: \$145 SVDP: \$210
Rel Ret: \$1130 Holy Day: \$160:
Christmas Flowers: \$120 School \$75**

ST. MARY CARING TREE

The Food Pantry is still asking for donations of \$10 Kroger gift cards to give to our Caring Tree applicants. We need 100 cards. You can still drop them at the parish office **BY TUESDAY DEC. 17.**

ST. MARY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Dec 21 4:30pm

[S] Ginny Himes, John Ebel
[L] Ginny Himes, Phil Doepker
[E] Joe & Bobbie Dues, Helen Jones, Mike Snyder, Barb Wallbrown

Dec 22 9:45am

[S] Leo Campbell
[L] Mary Keferl, Paula Good
[E] Steve Arndts, Bill Borden, Tony Ciani, Rose Eckerle, Maria Taylor

ST. MARY NOVEMBER FOOD PANTRY FATS

November SVdP food pantry report
Food given 204 families = 495 individuals
Clothing vouchers: 3 families = 5 adults, 3 children
Partial payments for utility bills 3 families = \$300
Additional food purchases = \$1256
Non food purchases = \$493
Volunteer hours: 603



CRECHE CONSTRUCTION

The St. Mary Fellowship of Work has begun the process of erecting the Nativity in Church. The work continues each Monday evening at 6:45pm until Dec. 23. We welcome **ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET!!!**



REGION ONE ADVENT/CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Dec 17 Penance Service for St. Benedict & St. Mary 6:30pm **held at SB**
Dec 18 Rosary followed by Penance Service 6:30pm **SA**
Dec 22 Posada held in Beckmeyer Hall following 1:15pm Spanish Mass **SM**
Dec 24 CHRISTMAS EVE
Mass 4pm **SA**
Christmas Carols 4pm followed by Mass 4:30pm **SM**
Spanish Mass 7pm **SM**
Christmas Carols 10pm followed by Mass 10:30pm **SM**
Mass 10:30pm **SB**
Dec 25 CHRISTMAS DAY
Mass 9am **SM**; Mass 10:30am **SB**
THERE IS NO MASS AT ST. AUGUSTINE ON CHRISTMAS DAY. THERE IS NO SPANICH MASS AT ST. MARY ON CHRISTMAS DAY.
Dec 31 Spanish Mass pm **SM**
Jan 1 Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
REGIONAL MASS FOR ALL THREE PARISHES WILL BE HELD AT ST. BENEDICT AT 11am

OTHER AREA HAPPENINGS
LIVE NATIVITY

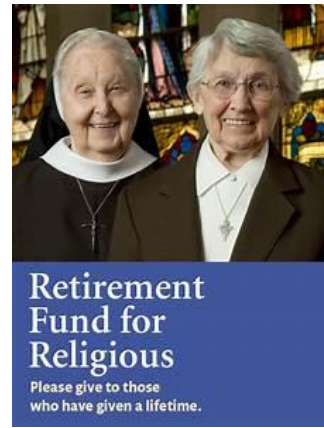
AT THE MANGER: "A LABOR OF LOVE"

At the Manger, the free annual exhibit of Nativity scenes in the University of Dayton Libraries, is a great way to celebrate Advent and the Christmas season. Individuals and families can explore dozens of crèches from around the world, all selected by the volunteers who work year-round to prepare the exhibit.

- **Dates:** Dec. 2-Jan. 12
- **Weekday hours:** 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (closed Dec. 24-Jan. 1)
- **Weekend hours:** 1-4 p.m. (closed Dec. 28-29 and Jan. 4-5)
- **Location:** University of Dayton Roesch Library (first-floor gallery and the Marian Library, seventh floor)
- **Parking, directions and other information:** go.udayton.edu/manger
- **Group tours and special arrangements:** 937-229-4214

CHAIR YOGA AT ST. CHARLES BORROME0

Chair Yoga is an accessible form of yoga for individuals with limited range of motion or for those who find some traditional yoga postures too challenging. Yoga works across multiple systems in your body at one time. According to Harvard Medical School Experts, it can help to: Rev up your immunity by raising levels of natural, disease-fighting antioxidants in your body, Activate areas of the brain that increase joy and diminish emotions linked to stress, Reduce depression, anxiety, and stress and increase energy levels. Instructor Julie Valley is a registered yoga teacher whose classes are designed to help you explore stretching and strengthening your body through movement. Classes can improve flexibility and enhance vitality. The next four-week session begins at St. Charles Borromeo, 4500 Ackerman Blvd. in Kettering, on Tuesday, January 7 at 10-11 a.m. in Borromeo Room. Pre-registration is requested. Cost is \$20 session, payable at first class to instructor. Contact Kim Adkins, parish nurse, to register or with questions at 401-0537 or nurse@stcharles-kettering.org.



RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS,
Religious give thanks. ““Thank you’ hardly seems adequate to convey what it means to us,” says a Catholic sister of the financial assistance her community received from the Retirement Fund for Religious. Prayer-filled thanks for your donation to last week’s second collection.

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS JESUS IS HEADED YOUR WAY LEADING THE WAY

There are many examples of false prophets in history. Some of these gifted charlatans have led people away from family and friends. They have led people to do evil things, like stealing, torture, or even murder. It is amazing how those gifted with charisma can lead others down such a destructive path. In today’s modern world filled with so much technology and sophisticated communication platforms, one must be careful not to buy into a lie or scam so easily.

John the Baptist didn’t have any modern technology in his toolbox as he was preparing the way for the Messiah, Jesus. He moved people with a profound message and by the way he lived his life. People questioned whether he was the One who was to come, but he assured them that he was not the One. Instead, all he did was to prepare people for Jesus’ coming.

You and I can either lead people to Jesus by our words and actions, or we can lead them away from him. Our stewardship can be a powerful witness to how Jesus has changed our lives. Unfortunately, if we are not changed and instead act in ways that are contrary to a mature disciple, we can lead people down the wrong path. During the Advent season, there is much to be done in our homes and with our families to get ready for the celebration of Christmas. However, this is not about a day; it is about Jesus. May our actions and words bear witness to the transformative power of Jesus Christ in our lives, not just during this season, but all year long. *Tracy Earl Welliver*



The tri-state’s largest Catholic Men’s Conference of 2020 is open for registration, featuring Dr. Scott Hahn, Fr. Donald Calloway and Doug Barry! Please join us for the E6 Catholic Men’s Conference, which will be taking place on Saturday, February 22nd 2020, at the East Central High School Performing Arts Center in St. Leon, IN (only 35-50 minutes northwest of Kentucky). Last year, over 1200 men attended the conference and this year we expect to fill every seat in the building. We cordially invite every man to attend this 5th annual event. Please join us for inspiring talks, confession (available all day), celebration of the Holy Mass and fraternity with fellow men of Christ. We pride ourselves on presenting a quality, substance-driven, inspirational and faith-filled event that will change men’s lives and help equip them to be the men Christ calls them to be. **Do not miss this!** Tickets are on sale now at www.e6catholicmensconference.com. **See E6 flyers that may be posted around your parish also.**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION –
ENCOURAGE DEEPER
UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE**

Who did you come to see? A version of this question is posed by Jesus many times in the Gospels. He asks it of Andrew and John when they begin to follow him. He asks it of Mary Magdalene in the garden of the resurrection. He asks it in today's Gospel. "What did you go out to the desert to see?" There is something innately human about "seeing." Animals have eyes — some with much more powerful vision than our own — but that's not the kind of seeing Jesus is talking about. We could phrase the question several other ways. "What are you looking for?" "What are you longing for?" "Whom do you seek?"

It is in seeing for ourselves that our suspicions or hypotheses are confirmed, that our desires discover their fulfillment, and that we can rest for a moment in certainty. John the Baptist sought certainty of Jesus' identity. "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus sends word to him based on the testimony of sight; observations of the mighty deeds Jesus has begun to work. "Go and tell John what you hear and see."

God recognizes our desire to *see*. In the Incarnation, the Word is made flesh. The invisible is made visible. The supernatural is made manifest in an infant who can do little more than the most natural of movements as he feeds, cries, sleeps. We don't need to wait for Christmas to see God. The work of God is all around us. Those blinded by sin "regain their sight." People overcome backgrounds of poverty and violence to make world-changing contributions. Addicts grow and heal. Truth is spoken, and people listen. Let's pray for the grace to see God's movement in our lives this week. How have you seen the work of God?

FALCON FOR A DAY

Bishop Fenwick High School invites all 8th Graders to our Falcon for a Day on Friday, January 10, 2020 from 8:45 am - 1:00 pm. This is an opportunity for 8th graders to further explore all the offerings at Bishop Fenwick. Further details and registration can be found at <http://fenwickfalcons.org/falcon-for-a-day-registration-january-10-2020>. We hope you can join us!

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



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- 2 Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3 Set up your donation or payment. That's it!



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