

St. Mary's Catholic Church

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2014

**BE ALERT
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Dear parishioners,

It's Advent! We get one more time to prepare for Jesus' coming in time to live with us and to prepare for Jesus' coming at the end of time when we go to live with him!

The gospel tells us to "Be watchful! Be alert!" For what? For time for reflection to consider what it means to us for God the Son to have become one of us. Now everything is holy because everything has been shared by the Son of God. It's also the time for opportunities to prepare for Christ's final coming. We do not know the time of Christ's coming so we need to be watchful and alert. Last Sunday's gospel tells us on what bases we will be judged. Did we feed the hungry? Give drink to the thirsty? Clothe the naked? Shelter the homeless? Visit the sick? Visit prisoners? Bury the dead?

At this time of year there are so many requests for money. Sometimes we shut down from overload. If we are truly sincere about our Christian commitment, we will always be watchful and alert for those in need. Jesus told us, "The poor you will always have with you." We will always have opportunity to help them. The sacrifice we need to make might well be to not shut our eyes.

Let's stretch ourselves a little this Advent to see if we can extend ourselves a little more.

Sister Carol



Change As a compromise we are changing the time of the Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception so that it will not get so late for children. **Mass will be at 5:00 o'clock Sunday evening, December 7.**

Weekend Masses

Sat Nov 29	4:00 p.m.	Ellen VonLehmden
Sun Nov 30	10:00 a.m.	Janet Maenle Mr. & Mrs. Charles Hankish Sr.
Sat Dec 6	4:00 p.m.	Jim Alt
Sun Dec 7	10:00 a.m.	For the parish

Communion Services

Tue Dec 2	10:30 a.m.	Richland
Wed Dec 3	10:30 a.m.	Hilty Home

First Friday

Fri Dec 5	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary's
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SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,260.00	Loose	\$422.04
Children	\$ 32.89	Total	\$2,714.93

80 envelopes returned = 38%

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for December 6 & 7, 2014

Money Counters: Chad Wolford, Janet Begg
4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Peg Murphy

Cantor: Becca Schlumbohm

Ushers: Dave and Mary Hoffer

Lector: Deb Garlock

Eucharistic Ministers: Jerry Wehri, Brianna Atkins,
Mark Schumacher

Servers: Zane and Grace Myers

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Logan Welch

Greeter-West Door: Rachel Welch

Cantor: Choir

Ushers: Trent/Todd and Colin Phillips

Lectors: Mel Heitmeyer and Adam Basinger

Eucharistic Ministers: Wes Lovett, Lisa Welch,
Rachel Welch, Basil and Rosemary Meyer

Servers: Drew and Ken Lovett, Brayton Businger

Readings for December 7, 2014

Second Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:8-14

Gospel Reading: Mark 1:1-8

Thank you to John Schlumbohm for repairing the floor in the hallway and the carpet at the parish house.

Thank you to the Ciminillos for hosting the coffee and donuts for Christ the King.

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The Pastoral Council will meet Tuesday, December 2, at 7:00 o'clock, in the library.

There will be Mass on Wednesday evening, December 3, at 7:00 o'clock.

Giving Tree This year we will again be collecting donations for the Giving Tree. We will be collecting items for Appalachia and Heartbeat Lima along with three families from the Bluffton Food Pantry. There are a variety of things needed including food, toiletries, clothes, and monetary donations. These items don't need to be gift wrapped unless noted on the tag. PLEASE BE AWARE OF THEIR DUE DATES. All items need to be dropped off on or before the date noted on the tag. For any items that need to be kept cold, please feel free to put them in the church refrigerator/freezer. Please attach the tag, so it is visible on all donations. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Krystal Giesge at (419) 308-3188.



A Tree of Remembrance Memorial Service will be offered by Chiles-Laman Funeral & Cremation Services on Sunday, Dec. 7th at the Centre in Bluffton. All families in attendance will receive a free glass ornament personalized with the name and dates of their loved one that will be placed on the Christmas Tree. Families may arrive at 1 p.m. followed by a brief memorial service at 2 p.m. At the conclusion of the service, the ornament is yours to take home. If you would like to purchase additional ornaments please call prior to the service. All families are welcome regardless of which funeral home provided the services. Light refreshments will be provided following the service. There is no charge to attend; however, reservations are requested. To make a reservation please call 419-358-2051 or email the funeral home at chilesbl@wcoil.com.

We are hoping to give an opportunity to form small faith-sharing groups for the six weeks of Lent. So that we have plenty of time to accomplish this well we are looking for some of you who might be willing to be small group leaders. If you are interested in finding out about this or in volunteering to do this, please talk to Judy Lester or Shar Dunlap. You may also call the office.

St. Mary's Parish History

DID YOU KNOW?

Throughout its history our parish has been blessed with many wonderful priests. One of the priests most responsible for the early growth of the parish was Fr. Henry Doerner. Coming from Findlay to serve the parish, Fr. Doerner served for 28 years from 1881-1909. During this time he baptized all new members and oversaw the addition of the spire, entrance, sacristies, and sanctuary to the original church building.

The Mustard Seed is pleased to announce their **Christmas Open House** which will be on Wednesday, Dec 3 (12pm to 8pm), Thursday, Dec 4 and Friday Dec 5 (9am to 5 pm). Come and see the wide selection of religious gifts for all your Christmas shopping needs. There will be old favorites and lovely new items. We have something for every age, so come out and put Christ in your Christmas. The Mustard Seed is behind St. John's Catholic Church in Glandorf.

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K-6: Next class is Wednesday, Dec. 3rd, 6:30-7:45 p.m. Mass is at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome!

Confirmation Class: Next class is on **Wednesday, Dec. 3rd** from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. (This class is replacing the class we should have on Dec. 21st.) The next **Sunday class** will be **December 7th** from 11:00 to 1:00 p.m.

SNLY: Next class is Sunday, December 7, 2014 when we will be hosting the St. Nick Breakfast.

Waiting for St. Nick Breakfast

SNLY will host the annual Waiting for St. Nick Breakfast on Sunday December 7. Everyone is invited to a pancake and sausage breakfast after 10 a.m. Mass. A freewill offering will be accepted and donations will be spent on Christmas gifts for SNLY's Adopt-a-Family project. After breakfast St. Mary's will host a magic show at 11:45 for everyone to enjoy.