

St. Mary's Catholic Church

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 19, 2017



Dear parishioners,

This is the week of Thanksgiving! What is uppermost in our minds? A big meal? Free days? The Blaze of Lights? Getting our Christmas tree decorated? Football? Black Friday shopping?

It's easy to be distracted from the original purpose of the holiday. I don't need to tell you that the pilgrims gathered with their Indian friends to celebrate that they were alive! With the help of their friends the Indians, the pilgrims had made it through a terrifying year. So the original intent of that first Thanksgiving (even though it wasn't called that) was gratitude.

George Washington proclaimed a national day of thanksgiving in 1789, the year the U.S Constitution was ratified. Abraham Lincoln proclaimed Thanksgiving a national day of thanksgiving in 1864, in the heat of the Civil War when our country was torn apart in bloody conflict over states' rights and over slavery.

Perhaps our day of Thanksgiving will not be surrounded by such noteworthy or heart-rending events. Its intent, however, remains the same. It is a day when each of us is called upon to give thanks to God for the gracious goodness that comes to us in so many every single day.

I hope each of us makes a very conscious effort to make giving God thanks our first priority this week.

Sister Carol

Congratulations to Britny Zwiebel on the celebration of the first Rite of the RCIA journey, the Rite of Welcome. Please do pray for her.

Weekend Masses

Sat Nov 18	4:00 p.m.	Ellen Von Lehmden Ed Murphy
Sun Nov 19	10:00 a.m.	Anna Schroeder
Sat Nov 25	4:00 p.m.	Carolyn Yeagle
Sun Nov 26	10:00 a.m.	Jan Schulte

Communion Services

Fri Nov 24 No Communion Service

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,093.00	Loose	\$800.10
Children	\$30.60	Total	\$2,923.70

64 envelopes returned = 31%

Thank you for your generosity!!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for Nov. 25 & 26, 2017

Money Counters: Tonya Meyer, Courtney Gerten

4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Basil Meyer

Cantor: Dave Roby

Ushers: Mike and Rhonda Maag

Lector: Jenny Roby

E.M.: Bob Minto and Edna Conkling

Servers: Alyson and Abygail Kettels

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Basil Meyer and Deb Buck

Greeter-West Door:

Cantor: Karen Phillips

Ushers: Jeanne and Jerry Wehri

Lectors: Lisa Welch and Shannon Wannemacher

E.M.: Michelle Risner, Betty Gerten,

Tom Schulte, and Linda Kinn

Servers: Julia Mehaffie, Makayla Schweingruber,
Jordan Schweingruber

Readings for November 26, 2017

Feast of Christ the King

1st Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17

2nd Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:31-46

Happy thanksgiving!

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Thanksgiving Mass

Our Thanksgiving Day Mass will be at 9:00 on Thanksgiving, November 23.

Thank you to Nancy Benroth for cleaning out the refrigerators. **Thank you** to the mystery person who straightened up the pantry. Both look so much better! **Thank you** to Dave and Mary Hoffer for hosting the Sunday rolls and coffee.



Save the date! The Waiting for St. Nick breakfast will be on Sunday, December 3, after the 10:00 Mass. See you there! All proceeds go to gifting a family from Adopt-A-Family.

Lectors, the Handbook for Lectors is here for the new Church Year. Please pick up your copy from the table in the main entrance.

Mustard Seed Gift Shop is Keeping Christ in Christmas! They have been asked by many when their Christmas items will be on display. Because they want to take this time to express their Thanksgiving for the many blessings we have all been given, Christmas items will be out on display on and after Saturday, November 25. Happy Thanksgiving from Mustard Seed Gift Shop, located in Glandorf, behind St John the Baptist Catholic Church.

Summer Camp There are envelopes in the pews marked "Make a Difference Today! Help our youth attend Catholic Youth Summer Camp. You may drop the envelope in the collection basket. If you write a check please make it out to St. Mary's and write "Summer Camp" on the memo line.

Evening Song First Mennonite Church, 101 S. Jackson St., Bluffton, invites all to attend an Evening Song and Prayer service in the fellowship hall on Wednesday, Nov. 29 at 8:15 p.m. Evening Song and Prayer is a contemplative service of worship at the end of the day, when we sing our prayers and pray our songs. With song and in silence we will intercede for the world, the church, our community, our loved ones and ourselves. The service lasts about 45 minutes.

The Giving Tree for Christmas is up in the main entrance. This year our gifts will go to Booneville (Appalachia), Heartbeat, and three local families. Our return date for Booneville is early. Please be prompt!



Chiles-Laman Funeral & Cremation Services is offering a **Tree of Remembrance Memorial Service** in Bluffton at the Centre at Bluffton, 601 N. Main Street, on December 3rd. 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 begin arriving at 1:00 PM followed by a brief memorial service at 2:00 PM. At the conclusion of the service, the ornament is yours to take home. Additional ornaments will be available for purchase. If you would like additional ornaments please call prior to the service date to order so that we may have them ready for you. Chiles-Laman Funeral & Cremation Services presents the Tree of Remembrance Memorial Service as a gift to the community. **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 or for more information call 419-358-2051 or email the funeral home at chilesbl@wcoil.com

P.R.E.P

We are still in need of an aide for third grade. Speak to Kelly if you are willing to help.

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

K-6: No classes on November 22nd. Next class is Wednesday, November 29th from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Also, on the 29th there will be Reconciliation for grades 3 through 6 and anyone else who would like to go to confession.

Jr. High: Class is today, Sunday, November 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

God Squad: Class is today, Sunday, November 19th from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.