

**PRAYER REQUESTS****Please pray for the sick and suffering and their families of our parish and community:**

Betty Behlmer, Rick Blair, Danny Burgmeier, Bret Dwenger, Linda Dwenger, Paul Huber, Jacob Johnson, Rob Karmon, Clifford Knueven, Paul Koors, June Laudsburg, Jerry Mann, Aaron McCrary, Tim McNeal, David Miller, Larry & Nellie Pfeister, Gish Ray, Dottie Ricke, Lawrence Schoettmer, Delores Simon, Tom Striecker, Dona Thomas, Amy Tonges, Clarence Veerkamp, Andy & Regina Weaver.

**Please pray for all of our armed forces serving both abroad and in the U.S. especially for:**

Joe Davis, Chris Gauck, Adam Herbert, Jeff McNeal, Daniel Padgett & Francis Young.

If you have a friend or loved one that you would like to add to our prayer list, please call the parish office @ 663-8427. They will remain on our list for 4 weeks.



*Christmas*

**WEBSITE**

www.stmarysgreensburg.com

**BULLETIN DEADLINE**

All bulletin articles will need to be in the office (e-mailed or written) no later than 11:00 a.m. on Monday.

[ddavis@stmarysgreensburg.com](mailto:ddavis@stmarysgreensburg.com)

**Bulletin Deadline for the January 5/6 Bulletin**

All information by e-mail or in writing *must* be in the parish office no later than December 26 at 11:00 a.m.

**Advent 2007 – “Thy Kingdom Come”**

**The Lord's Prayer – As our Advent season ends we pray that each time we pray the Lord's Prayer it will continue to challenge each of us to sow seeds of peace and justice as we work to build a kingdom of “peace on earth, as it is in heaven.”**

**Advent Charity:** Our “Sharing Tree” is bare. Once again because of your overwhelming generosity many families, including our New Mexico friends will be touched through your response to this Advent Charity. THANK YOU one and all.

**Prayers of the Assembly:** We will pray for the special intentions mentioned in this Advent Book of Petitions.

**No Advent Evening Prayer** – There will be no Advent Evening Prayer on December 23 due to preparing the church for Christmas.

**Adoration Chapel** - We need **permanent adorers** for the following hours: *Saturday/1:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.* Please call Monica O'Brien at 663-2514 if you can take one of these hours or on a rotation basis. Also, adorers should plan in advance so that during the holidays you can cover your hour, or check with your hourly coordinator, if you are unable to find a substitute. Thanks!

**Parish Mission- February 24 – 28, 2008** - Friar Justin Belitz, OFM will lead our parish mission focusing on relationships. Relationships bring us great joy BUT can also bring pain and sorrow. This statement is true for us today as it has been for centuries. However, we all have free will. That means we can choose to enjoy all of our relationships, whether they are with ourselves, with others, with things, with life-experiences, or with God. The key is knowing how you relate and Understanding 7 principles that govern all relationships. Join us for our parish mission to learn more about strengthening your relationships. ***“Relationships are essential to life. Use them to create a Full Life!”***

**Confirmation Date** - Archbishop Buechlein will be here Sunday May 4 at 5:00 p.m. to celebrate. More information and practice times to be announced.

**Holiday Parish Office Hours**

The parish office will close at the end of the day on December 21, and will reopen January 2 with regular office hours. However, if you have an emergency or something that needs immediate attention, the answering machine in the parish office will be checked daily.

**Christmas Mass Schedule**

**Monday, December 24** –Christmas Eve/4:30, 7:30 & Midnight

**Tuesday, December 25** – Christmas Day/9:00 a.m.

**Dear Parishioners,**

**“A Mass Prayer for Families”** Lord, Jesus Christ,

Your gift of Eucharist is beyond us. It is beyond our senses, beyond our ability to comprehend. Increase in us, Your family, our desire to receive You, that we may know You, love You, serve You; may it be where You find us, always seeking to show You our commitment to live life as Your children. Amen

*Anita Navarra*

**Lasting Impressions**

Anyone that missed the opportunity to have their hand impression placed on a clay tile previously will have another opportunity to do so the weekend of December 29/30 after all Masses in the gym.

**Appreciation Dinner**

We, the Parish Staff at St. Mary's are proud of our volunteers! In appreciation, we cordially invite the volunteers and their spouses to a social hour on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5:00 p.m. followed by a dinner to be served at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP by January 11 to 663-8427.

**Time to Sign-up**

*Christ Renews His Parish* (CRHP) is a process designed to bring members of a parish together in Christ. All of our commitments, including our commitment to Christ, need continued renewal if we are to be faithful. CRHP is an effective spiritual renewal process, which calls together the members of the parish in order to experience personal conversion and Christian community in the environment of our own parish.

We are very excited about being able to offer this program at St. Mary's. **A men's weekend is scheduled for February 16 & 17. And a women's weekend is scheduled for March 1 & 2** and will take place here on the parish grounds. Our number will be limited to 20 for each weekend and is open to men and women who are at least 19 years old. CRHP is for anyone seeking spiritual renewal, desiring to build up the Body of Christ or gain a deeper sense of purpose within the parish community. Praying for guidance is important. If you feel that Christ, through the Holy Spirit is calling you - COME! Call the office to reserve your spot.

**New Year's Eve Mass of Renewal**

Celebrate New Year's Eve with the Renewal communities of Central Indiana—in a Mass of Thanksgiving for the past year and with prayers for blessings and renewal of faith in the coming year. Songs of worship begin at 11:00 p.m., followed by the Eucharistic Celebration of the Mass led by Fr. Glenn O'Connor. Reception with refreshments provided in the rectory following Mass. Private Security at both parking lots: behind the Cathedral and the Catholic Center (Meridian and 14<sup>th</sup> Sts.)

Information: 317-592-1992 or [ccrci@inholyspirit.org](mailto:ccrci@inholyspirit.org).

[www.InHolySpirit.org](http://www.InHolySpirit.org)

[www.cursill.org/Indy](http://www.cursill.org/Indy)



**Dear Community,**

Did you notice the article in the December 14 issue of the Criterion entitled “St. Mary Parishioners Create A New Legacy in Greensburg” by Monty Shields. It was a feature of Legacy for Our Mission. Thanks, Monty, for writing a very informative article.

I will be away from the parish December 26-December 31. I will be back in time for the New Year's Masses, God willing.

There will be a second collection December 29/30 for Habitat for Humanity. This collection will replace the fifth Sunday collection that is taken up to help the needy of the community.

Today's Gospel tells us that God is with us. Before the reading of the Gospel today we heard the familiar words of greeting: “The Lord be with you.” Seven hundred years before Jesus was born, the prophet Isaiah told King Ahaz: “The virgin shall be with child and give birth to a son, and they shall call him Emmanuel, a name which means God is with us.”

The incredible concept that God would become one of us led the Russian writer Leo Tolstoy to spend three decades on his great work *The Kingdom of God is Within You*. These words inspired India's Gandhi to begin practicing the principles of nonviolence, which in turn inspired Martin Luther King Jr. to begin the civil rights movement in this country.

God indeed is with us when we follow the teachings of Jesus.

A Sunday school teacher of preschoolers was concerned that his students might be a little confused about Jesus Christ because of the Christmas season emphasis on His birth. He wanted to make sure they understood that the birth of Jesus occurred for real. He asked his class, “Where is Jesus today?” Steven raised his hand and said, “He's in heaven,” Mary was called on and answered, “He's in my heart.” Little Johnny, waving his hand furiously, blurted out, “I know, I know! He's in our bathroom!!!” The whole class got very quiet, looked at the teacher, and waited for a response. The teacher was completely at a loss for a few very long seconds. Finally, he gathered his wits and asked Little Johnny how he knew this. Little Johnny said, “Well...every morning, my father gets up, bangs on the bathroom door, and yells, “Good Lord, are you still in there?!”

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!  
**Msgr. Knueven**

**MASS INTENTIONS****MONDAY – DECEMBER 24****4:30 p.m.** John & Mike Krieger**7:30 p.m.** For the people**Midnight** James Stagge**TUESDAY – DECEMBER 25****9:00 a.m.** David Koors**WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 26****7:15 a.m.** Communion Service**8:30 a.m.** No School Mass**THURSDAY – DECEMBER 27****7:15 a.m.** Communion Service**2:30 p.m.** Communion Service

(Morning Breeze Nursing Home)

**FRIDAY – DECEMBER 28****7:15 a.m.** Communion Service**SATURDAY/SUNDAY – DEC. 29/30****4:30 p.m.** Paul Striecker**7:00 a.m.** Matthew Meyerrose**9:00 a.m.** Neil O'Brien**11:00 a.m.** For all people**SERVERS****MONDAY – DEC. 24 – Christmas Eve****4:30 p.m.** Brent Bohman – Tommy Colson**7:30 p.m.** Ellen Weigel – Natasha Rather**Midnight** Jeremy Sherman – Josh Chase**TUESDAY – DEC. 25 – Christmas****9:00 a.m.** Lauren & Jamie Reed**SATURDAY/SUNDAY – DEC. 29/30****4:30 p.m.** Samantha/Sabrina McCullough**7:00 a.m.** Jesse Elsner – Tyler Luber**9:00 a.m.** Sara Kramer – Megan Blankman**11:00 a.m.** Jordan Lloyd – Blake Thomas**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS****MONDAY – DEC. 24 – Christmas Eve****4:30 p.m.** Lynne AmRhein – Susie Colson

Kathie Davis – Pat Koors

Keith &amp; Penny Hipskind

**7:30 p.m.** Claude & Dottie Bilbrey

Karen Dwiggin – Teresa Horan

Rita Hellmich – Rose Hellmich

**Midnight** Art & Ana Alunday

Glenn &amp; Laura Jo Tebbe

Vince Schwering – Karen Conley

**TUESDAY – DEC. 25 – Christmas****9:00 a.m.** Steve & Mary Adam

Rita Burkert – Mary Green

Jean Kramer – Mary Ann Luken

**SATURDAY/SUNDAY – DEC. 29/30****4:30 p.m.** James Tebbe – Bert McQueen

Ed &amp; Brenda Dwenger

Priscilla Kramer - Diane Humpert

**7:00 a.m.** Kathy Nobbe – Sally Koors  
Mary Ellen Menkedick – Mary Ann Luken  
Helen Froehling – Carol Ann Nobbe**9:00 a.m.** Bernie & Janet Hagerty

Dorothy Redelman – Jean Kramer

Donna Lecher – Teresa Horan

**11:00 a.m.** Tom Ricke – Marietta Hagerty

Denny Doerflinger – Kim Meyer

Clare Pratt – Angie Hersley

**LECTORS****MONDAY – DECEMBER 24 – Christmas Eve****4:30 p.m.** Linda Weigel **7:30 p.m.** Linda  
Greiwe**Midnight** Dick Rust**TUESDAY – DECEMBER 25 - Christmas****9:00 a.m.** Ed Dwenger**SATURDAY/SUNDAY – DECEMBER 29/30****4:30 p.m.** Rick Nobbe **7:00 a.m.** Dick  
Glaser**9:00 a.m.** Glenn Tebbe **11:00 a.m.** Theresa  
Schwering**St. Mary's School**

Advent is a time of preparation as well as a time of giving. Thank you for helping St. Mary's School students learn this lesson. The first week of Advent the students collected for the New Mexico Mission. The second week they collected items for the local nursing homes. When these items are delivered to the nursing homes, students will also be singing Christmas carols for the residents. This past week the students have been having a "Baby Shower for Jesus." Items collected will be donated to the local Pregnancy Care Center. Thank you for your generous donations.

St. Mary's School will be closed Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> to begin Christmas Break. Teachers will return on Monday, January 7th and classes will resume on Tuesday, January 8th.

St. Mary's School Staff would like to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

**Fr. Bill Burton's presentation** on Introduction to the Scriptures a few weeks ago was very enjoyable and informative. Fr. Bill is offering a set of 3, two-hour DVD's of his program. Each session provides background information from current Roman Catholic scholarship for understanding both the Old and the New Testaments.

Order forms are available at the back doors of church and at the parish office, with more information about the program.

**Virginia Wood**, a parishioner of our parish will need a ride to the 4:30 Mass on Saturday evenings during the month of January. If you can help please call the parish office – 663-8427.

**Ray Family** - If you would like to help the Ray (Mike, Gish, Courtney & Kristina) Family with a monetary gift an account has been set up at Fifth Third Bank for their benefit.

**Prayer Basket**

Don't forget to put your prayer requests in the basket in the back of church. Prayer group will pray for each one at each meeting.

**New St. Joseph Missals available at the parish office for \$5.00.**

**YOUTH NEWS/**Andi's e-mail:  
[andmackee44@yahoo.com](mailto:andmackee44@yahoo.com)

**Bible Verse of the Week:** "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit."~Luke 1:41

**Random Question:**

*Last weeks winner:* High School – Aaron Hoeing  
Jr. High – Katie Swinford

*Last weeks answer:* Every time a bell rings an angel gets its wings

*This week's question:* **How many angels told the shepherds of Jesus' birth?**

**Leader Board**

Stephanie Hoeing	5
Kelsey Johnson	3
Aaron Hoeing	3
Gina Ricke	3
Sara Welage	2

**Penny War Update:** These are the results as of December 5<sup>th</sup>.

- 1st ~ 7th grade (17,030)
- 4th ~ Sophomores (5,908)
- 2nd ~ 8th grade (11,653)
- 5th ~ Freshmen (5,028)
- 3rd ~ Seniors (7,853)
- 6th ~ Juniors (4,024)

\*The penny war will go on until the end of Religious Ed. this school year.

**Freshmen/Sophomore Retreat:** You've been waiting for it...now the time has come...so get signed up. Your retreat will be held here at St. Mary's, **January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>**. Registration forms will come home with you in class or they can be found on the youth happenings bulletin board in the basement. The cost is **\$15** and due by Friday, **December 21<sup>st</sup>**. Hurry only 30 spots available.

**New Game:** Once the new year begins for Religious Ed. you will start the **Bible Challenge**. This will involve Jr. High and High School classes. You will be competing against other classes to win a party with me. Each week you will be working to memorize the Bible Verse of the Week. Anytime and anywhere you see me you can come tell me the whole verse for the week and receive a point for your class. Once your class has five points you receive a bowl, the next five points will earn you a scoop of ice cream. This will continue until your class has built an ice cream sundae. I will then come to your class on a Wednesday night for an **Ice Cream Party**. Start studying those bible verses!!!

**Bible Study:** St. Mary's Ultimate Bible Study (SMUBS) will begin Sunday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the basement. It will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> (if there is one) and 1<sup>st</sup> Sundays of the month. SMUS will still be on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday giving us a break between sessions. The first session will be lead by Kristy Lowe and focus on Old Testament stories and how they relate to your life. This is open to all High School Students.

**Summer Church Camp:** We will be attending *Catholic Heart Workcamp* in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, the week of June 22-28. We will need adults to join us as well. If you are interested there will be a meeting in **January**.

**Can Collection** – We are still collecting aluminum cans – bring yours to Msgr.'s garage anytime! This money collected will go towards helping the youth attend church camp.

**Eucharistic Healing Service**

Fr. Gregory Bramlage and the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Central Indiana invite you to a Eucharistic Healing Service. Will take place Epiphany Sunday, January 6 from 2-5 p.m. at S.S. Peter & Paul Cathedral, 1347 N. Meridian St., Indianapolis, IN. Join us in praising God and calling down His blessing for the New Year!

Parking behind Catholic Center, 14<sup>th</sup> & Meridian Sts.  
Information: 317-592-1992 or [ccrci@inholyspirit.org](mailto:ccrci@inholyspirit.org).  
[www.InHolySpirit.org](http://www.InHolySpirit.org).

[www.HealingThroughThePowerOfJesusChrist.org](http://www.HealingThroughThePowerOfJesusChrist.org)



**LAYPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD!**

This award will be presented at the Annual Appreciation Dinner in January. Nominations must be turned in to the parish office by January 6. Criteria: Person may not be paid for services, through service has given Christian Witness, and has received little or no notoriety for outstanding services rendered to the parish in a specific area or in a variety of service areas. The person may receive this award only once. No one may be nominated who is currently a member of the Parish Council and/or member of their immediate family.

In nominating a person, complete the following information and return it to the parish office by January 6. List various services and activities the person has rendered to the parish and attach a personal recommendation to this form.

Name & Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Service or Activity \_\_\_\_\_

Length of time service Given \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**ADVENT CHARITY**

*During this Advent season remember the sick and shut-ins of our parish with prayers, cards, and visits.*

**Odd Fellows Home – 1021 E. Central**

JoAnn Manning	Jarvis Castner
Pauline Fromer	Rose Powers
Milie Standish	Verda Blank
Richard Hamner	Virgil Zins
Jerry Miller	Paul McAulisse
Bob McFarland	Barbara Allen
Henrietta Sweezy	Catherine Gearhart

**Morning Breeze – 950 Lake View Dr.**

Justin Redelman	Lawrence Schoettmer
Fred Saler	Andy & Florence Sturwold
Margaret Mauer	Leonard Fry
Dorothy Witkemper	Florence Stier
Nettie Grote	Leonard Schoettmer
Robert Shaw	Leonard Welage
Evelyn Metz	Olivia Froehling
Janet Reed	Wilma Hillman
Geri Cyman	Clifford Kneeven
Jack Lux	

**Crown Point – 1034 Crownpointe Blvd**

Beulla Blauvelt	Ed Mauer
Katie Flack	Omer & Martha Fry

**Hickory Creek – 1620 N. Lincoln St.**

Paula Lord	Dorothy Jewell
Albin Wenning	Anna Cook
Josephine Wissel	

**Heritage House – 410 W. Park Road**

Mary Crawley	Mary Artmeier
Mary Maudlin	Alice Johns
Dolores Redelman	Annie Klosterkemper
Rosina Stewart	Martha Doles
Don Redelman	

**Hospital Continuing Care - 20 N. Lincoln**

Dora Waters	Hilda Grote
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**If there are other persons wishing to be on our shut-in list, please call the parish office/6638427.**

**BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

Our bulletin is furnished free of charge because of the generosity of our advertisers. We thank *Mayhugh's Lawn Care* for their faithful support! Please consult the back page of the bulletin for your professional needs and support our sponsors.