



**THE WEEK AHEAD****TUESDAY – DECEMBER 2**

Rosary for the unborn – 11:30 a.m. – church  
 Card Party – 1:00-4:00 p.m. – ed. building  
 Adult Choir – 6:00 p.m. – Church  
 Pre-baptism session/7:00 p.m./office basement

**WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 3**

Religious Education – 6:30 p.m.  
 High School meet in church

**THURSDAY – DECEMBER 4**

RCIC – 5:30 p.m. – office  
 RCIA – 7:00 p.m. – Ed. bldg.

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

**community:** Betty Behlmer, Ron Blanford, Marie Craig, Linda Creamer, Dave Denny, Mary Dickman, Dick Froehling, Mike Green, Matthew Heath, infant, Paul Huber, Patty Huser, Liz Johnston, Susie Loyd, Aaron McCrary, Ralph Meer, Betty Melton, Tom Ogden, Jeremy Phillips, Gish Ray, Dick & Blanche Russell, Don & Anna Marie Schwering, Thomas Shazer, Cortney Snyder, Jeff & Phyllis Turner.

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

**especially for:** Stephen AmRhein, Ben Brancamp, Ben Buening, Joe Davis, Mike Eggleston, Chris Gauck, Jonathan Gibson, Paul Hellmich, Adam Herbert, Kipper Hull, Edward Hurt, Todd Lecher, Jeff McNeal, Joe McCullough, Steve Redmon, Kevin Rohr, Eric Saylor, Victor Tumilty, Brent Wright, & 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.

**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**

***Advent 2008***

**“God became what we are, so we could become what God is.”**

This will be our Advent meditation as we prepare to celebrate Jesus first coming and await his Second Coming at the end of time. Through our prayer each week, we will ask God to “Open Our Eyes” to SEE God’s face, to HEAR God’s voice, and to LOVE like God loves. And, then with God’s grace we will pray to find ourselves becoming... WHAT GOD IS!

**Family Prayer**—Advent booklets “**Tidings of Comfort and Joy**” are available at all the doorways of church. We invite each family to take a copy home as you leave and use this little booklet to help make your Christmas more meaningful for you and your family.—Also, all families with children in the Religious Education program and in St. Mary’s School will receive an Advent calendar “Preparing for Jesus.” The Jr. High and High School Youth are receiving Advent Key Tags for their key chains.

**Advent Candle Lighting Ceremony** – We invite all families of St. Mary’s to take part in the candle lighting ceremony at all weekend masses. Please call the office if your family would like to participate and the mass time you prefer.

**Advent Charity** – We will reach out to those in need through our Parish family “Sharing Tree” and also to our sister parish in New Mexico.—Cards will be placed on the “Sharing Tree.” If you wish to give a monetary gift containers will be at the doorways marked ADVENT CHARITY.—Gift cards are once again suggested for our Navajo friends.—WALGREENS, K-MART, TARGET, WALMART, FAMILY DOLLAR, or BIG LOTS. A special container marked “New Mexico Friends” will be near the Sharing Tree for your gift cards or cash donation.

**Advent Evening Prayer** – We will celebrating Evening Prayer every Sunday evening as a special way of preparing for the celebration of Christmas. Please join us as we pray together Advent Evening prayer beginning at 4:00 p.m.

**Prayers of the Assembly** – Our special book of petitions will be displayed each weekend during the Advent season. Please write your special intentions you wish us to pray for.

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** – December 8<sup>th</sup>

Because it is the patronal feast of the United States, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary is always a holy day of obligation. This year December 8<sup>th</sup> falls on Monday. Masses will be celebrated at 7:00, 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. There will be no Vigil Mass on Sunday evening.

**The rosary** will be prayed before all masses the weekend of December 6/7.

**Needing a Christmas gift for someone special??** We still have a few turquoise rosaries available. These were made by our Navajo friend in New Mexico. Please call Joan if you are interested.

### **November Parish Facilities Update**

The Building Design Committee for St. Mary's met again in October to look at floor plan options for our new facilities. The plan is similar to the Master Plan that was shown at the parish picnic and after masses several weeks ago. We are looking at placement of rooms, such as classrooms, specialty rooms, kitchen, gathering space, etc. We also keep in mind easy accessibility for students and parishioners in general for needed spaces.

We looked at cost again at this meeting and the total cost has been decreased considerably. After meeting with various ministry groups the architects were able to scale back in square footage and still meet our needs. Another main factor in cutting the cost is due to the decision to build in phases. Currently pastoral council has decided the first phase will include the church, school, and daycare. Phase two would come several years later and would include parish offices, youth ministry space, and meeting rooms in a community building. Some of the soft costs are not included in phase one total costs.

The Committee will meet again in November to review site plan refinements and continue with floor plan development. Our hope is to have a parish presentation in late January or early February which will show a finalized site and floor plan and a confirmation of budget. We must all realize that as much as we like what we are seeing, the funding is well short of goal. It is felt that substantial support is waiting in the wings and it is time for the finance planners to know of those amounts in order for the plans to be finalized.

### **Adoration Chapel**

This first Sunday of Advent marks the fifth anniversary of the opening of the Adoration Chapel. Our gratitude is owed to Msgr. Knueven for introducing this wonderful devotion to St. Mary's. And, the commitment of each Adorer as well as that of all coordinators, which makes possible perpetual adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, is a blessing to our parish. Monica O'Brien

### **Cemetery**

There has been some confusion as to when all items need to be removed from graves. All flowers etc. should be removed early spring before mowing begins and continue through the entire mowing season. All flowers should be in monument vases or shepherd hooks. Grave blankets must also be removed by early spring. Thank you for helping us keep St. Mary's cemetery beautiful.

### **To Families of all Sick and Shut-ins**

Please call the parish office if a relative or loved one enters a hospital or nursing home or, if they are moved to another facility. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

### **Child Care Provider Needed**

Seeking a child care provider for our daughter who is almost four years old. We desire occasional day care in the provider's home. If interested, please contact Diane Simmonds at 663-3612.

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

### **Dear Community,**

There will be evening prayer in our church this afternoon at 4:00 p.m. Please come and pray with us.

No school commission meeting this Tuesday, December 2.

There will be a reconciliation service this Wednesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 6:45 for over 100 high school kids. Five priests will hear the confessions.

There will be a reconciliation service this Thursday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30 a.m. for the 4, 5 & 6 grade children in our school. Four priests will be available to hear confessions.

There will be an Advent Day of Reflection at the Archbishop's home in Indianapolis for Juniors and Seniors in high school who might be thinking about a vocation to the priesthood. If you know of anybody who might be interested in going, please give me a call. I will take them. The date is December 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Fr. Tom Fox will be offering a Mass in Spanish on the first Saturday of each month beginning this Saturday, December 6, at 6:30 p.m. at our parish church. If you know of any Spanish people who would appreciate this Mass, please inform them. This Mass is open to anybody in our parish who would like to attend. If enough people come, he will have this Mass on the first and third Sundays of the month. We will let you know later on. For the time being it will only be on the first Saturday of each month.

Helen Keller was only 2 when an illness left her blind and deaf. Until age 7, when she learned to communicate, Helen lived in a world of silence and darkness. When her "miracle-working" teacher, Anne Sullivan, spelled: "w-a-t-e-r" on Helen's palm while holding her hand under the stream, Helen understood, and communication opened up the world to her again. She later wrote: "Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn whatever state I may be in, therein to be content."

Today begins the season of Advent. Like the Easter Vigil, Advent begins in darkness. In silence we wait patiently and anticipate this overture to the story of our faith. We wait for the storyteller's first words. Like sentinels on dark ramparts, we look for the dawn.

Keep smiling, Msgr. Knueven

## ✚ MASS INTENTIONS

### MONDAY – DECEMBER 1

**7:15 a.m.** John & Mike Krieger

### TUESDAY – DECEMBER 2

**7:15 a.m.** Edmund (Cap) Fry  
Pauline Holtkamp

### WEDNESDAY – DECEMBER 3

**7:15 a.m.** Paul Koors  
**8:30 a.m.** Robert Bruns

### THURSDAY – DECEMBER 4

**7:15 a.m.** Clifford Knueven  
**2:30 p.m.** Mary Artmeier  
(Arbor Grove Nursing Home Mass)

### FRIDAY – DECEMBER 5

**7:15 a.m.** Larry Simons  
Dick Loudon

### SATURDAY/SUNDAY – DECEMBER 6/7

**4:30 p.m.** Walter Moeller  
**7:00 a.m.** Martha Schwering  
**9:00 a.m.** Paul Wolter  
**11:00 a.m.** For all people

## 👤 SERVERS

### WEEKDAY/DEC. 1-5 (Monday-Friday)

**7:15 a.m.** Aaron Moorman - Tristan Land

### SATURDAY/SUNDAY – DECEMBER 6/7

**4:30 p.m.** David & Abby Bokelman  
**7:00 a.m.** Blake Simon – Shane Ploeger  
**9:00 a.m.** Ry Burkert – Tom Lawrence  
**11:00 a.m.** Joe Buening – Brent Bohman

## ✚ EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### SATURDAY/SUNDAY – DECEMBER 6/7

**4:30 p.m.** Ruth Springmeyer – Jim Tebbe  
Kathy Whitmore – Betty Baker  
Mike & Christy Bokelman  
**7:00 a.m.** Helen Wagner – Marge Bruns  
Gabriel & Lydia Abellada  
Art & Ana Alunday  
**9:00 a.m.** Pat Koors – Carol Kramer  
Jean Kramer – Donna Lecher  
Hank Martin – Steve Meyer  
**11:00 a.m.** Diana Robbins – Bev Stiers  
Travis Schebler – Angie Wesseler  
Tom & Jenny Schebler

## 📖 LECTORS

### SATURDAY/SUNDAY – DECEMBER 6/7

**4:30 p.m.** Rosemary Schroeder  
**7:00 a.m.** Dennis Doerflinger  
**9:00 a.m.** Brent Muckerheide  
**11:00 a.m.** Don Wickens



## School Zone

Last month you learned about some of the happenings in our kindergarten. During this season of Advent, we would like to help you get to know our third graders. They are taught by Mrs. Sue (Vierling) Myers. She is married to Hank and they have one son, Tyler, who is in the second grade. Sue attended St. Louis in Batesville and then went on to graduate from the Oldenburg Academy. She earned her teaching degree from Marian College. As you can see, Catholic education has been key in her life. She has taught at St. Mary's for eighteen years, splitting her time between second and third grades.

Sue's hobbies include writing stories, playing volleyball, and collecting snow globes. Her favorite book is *Old Yeller* and her favorite color is green. She likes to go out to eat at Bob Evans. Her favorite elementary school memories include decorating paper sacks in third grade and having red noses to sing *Rudolph* and *Feliz Navidad* at the school Christmas show. She also remembers being a part of the Living Christmas Tree. "They actually had platforms on a real tree that we stood on to sing. You had to be in grades 4-8 to participate." Mrs. Myers enjoys the people of St. Mary's School. She says the teachers are great to work with as a team and the parents are very supportive. But most of all, the students are fun and interesting. You will learn more about them in next week's bulletin.

At St. Mary's School, we realize how much support we receive from the parish and we try to instill in our students the idea that we, no matter our youth, are a part of that parish family and its activities. Just as the Capital Campaign is a three year commitment for the parish, so it is for the students in our school. Last year the students were challenged to earn a stack of pennies equal to their own height and were very successful in that endeavor. This year we are taking a new approach. Since it is roughly one mile from our current location to the site of our future parish campus, we are challenging the students to each walk a mile "toward a new foundation." They will be soliciting pledges over the next few weeks for a school-wide walk-a-thon to be held on Wednesday, December 10. Each grade will have a scheduled time on that day to go to the school gym and walk 20 laps (one mile). Students will then collect the pledged money and donate it to the Capital Campaign. Please consider supporting the efforts of our school children as they work to help our parish "Walk Toward a New Foundation."

The **Greensburg Knights of St. John** will have their Santa Breakfast at the Knights of St. John Hall on S. Wilder St. on Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup>. They will serve whole hog sausage, biscuits and gravy, pancakes, eggs, pastries, coffee, juice and from 7:00-11:00 a.m. Free will offering will be taken. Carry-outs available. Santa will be there 9:00-11:00. Everyone is welcome.

## 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.

**Congratulations** to Harold & Bernice Menkedick celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary this Sunday at the 4:30 Mass.



# Youth News

Andi's email: [andmackee44@yahoo.com](mailto:andmackee44@yahoo.com)

**Bible Verse of the Week:** I give thanks to my God always on your account for the grace of God bestowed on you in Christ Jesus ~ I Corinthians 1:4 (today's 2<sup>nd</sup> reading)

## Saint of the Week

St. Nicholas

### RELIGIOUS

- † Died 350?
- † Asia Minor
- † Patron of Greece, Sicily, Russia, bakers, brides, children, merchants, travelers, sailors

About 400 hundred churches in England alone are named for St. Nicholas, a very kind and good bishop who lived in Lycia, which was southeast of Turkey. It is believed he was present at the Council of Nicea. The many legends about his life make it difficult for us to know exactly how Bishop Nicholas helped the people in his diocese of Myra to love and serve God and one another.

St. Nicholas was especially kind to poor people who had no one to help them. One story tells how St. Nicholas freed three unjustly imprisoned officers. Another tells how he brought back to life three innocent boys who were murdered.

One of the best known stories is about a poor man who did not have enough money for his three daughters to get married. At the time, a girl had to have a certain amount of money before she could get married. St. Nicholas felt sorry for the man and his daughters. He planned a way to help them. One night Nicholas took a bag of gold and threw it through an open window into the room where the man was sleeping. St. Nicholas then hurried away, so that the man would not know where the gold came from. Not long after this, St. Nicholas heard that the eldest daughter had gotten married. St. Nicholas tried his secret trick again. Once again it worked. This time there was a wedding for the second daughter. Some time later, St. Nicholas took a third bag of gold and threw it into the man's house. This time, as he was hurrying away, the poor man caught up with him. The man thanked St. Nicholas over and over again for helping him. His youngest daughter was soon married.

All during his life, St. Nicholas showed his love for God by helping people. Even today, in the Netherlands, Germany, and Switzerland, on the eve of St. Nicholas's feast children put out their empty shoes to receive gifts from St. Nicholas.

## BIRTHDAYS

Nov 30<sup>th</sup> – Dec 6<sup>th</sup>

Sun:  
Mon:  
Tues:  
Wed:  
Thurs:  
Fri:  
Sat: Clark Lecher  
Elizabeth Lecher  
Mollie Stephens

I received this in the mail Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>



REBECCA S. SKILLMAN

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Dear St. Mary's Youth:

November 13, 2008

I read in *Greensburg Daily News* about your food collection, and I wanted personally to commend you. What a wonderful thing for you to collect enough food for the Community Bread of Life to feed others for a month! Governor Daniels and I thank you for helping your fellow Hoosiers in their time of need.

Sincerely,

Becky Skillman, Lieutenant Governor

### **The Year of St. Paul 2008-2009**

#### **The Martyrdom in Rome/The Opening of the Covenant to All Mankind**

Paul's first gesture in the capital city of the Empire and also his last word, documented in the Acts of the Apostles, were aimed at launching—once more—an appeal to the Jews. He did so in the same manner as in his earlier Letter to the Romans: "For I am not ashamed of the Gospel. It is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: for Jew first, and then Greek" (Rom. 1:16). In this way, at the conclusion of his mission, the man whom the Lord had chosen as Apostle to the Nations did not want to forget even the "least brothers of mine" (Mt. 25:40), "for it is on account of the hope of Israel that I wear these chains" (Acts 28:20). He launched his final and vibrant appeal to the "conversion" of his people, to the radical change of life he had come to know. In Christ, God's Covenant is now open to all people. His final words did not mean the end of Paul, for on the contrary, Christianity and the Good News spread to all the ends of the earth due to his great witness to the Risen One, in whose image Paul became a "Light of the Nations" (Is. 49:6; Acts 13:47).

**The Nutcracker**, the classic holiday event, will be presented December 7 at 2:00 p.m. at the Batesville High School Auditorium. Directed by Nigel Burquoine of the Ballet Theatre of Toledo, the ballet features 10 local dancers, guest artists from the Cincinnati Ballet and from the Ballet Theatre of Toledo. Tickets can be purchased at the door.

#### **Annual Live Nativity at St. Maurice**

St. Maurice Church in Decatur County will have its Live Nativity on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:30pm. This event is sponsored by St. Anne, St. John and St. Maurice. Come see the children represent the birth of Jesus. There will be live animals, free refreshments and beautiful music by area choirs. This is a great way to remember what Christmas is all about! Take New Point exit #143 off I-74, go north on County Road 850E to St. Maurice.

**St. Mary's of the Rock annual Whole Hog Sausage and Pancake Breakfast** Sunday, December 7 from 7:00 to noon at Klee Hall. Menu: whole hog sausage, pancakes, biscuits and gravy, eggs, fried apples, homemade coffeecakes and rolls. A free will donation will be taken and the public is welcome. Proceeds to benefit the religious education program.

#### **Messiah**

On Saturday, December 6th, at Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church, 10655 Haverstick Rd. in Carmel, the critically acclaimed, *Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra* (IBO) along with the *Meridian Vocal Consort* (MVC) will perform George Frideric Handel's sacred oratorio, *Messiah*. While there are many different performances of *Messiah* annually throughout the world, this one is truly special in that it features all Baroque-period instruments making it the only historically informed (time-period authentic) performance you will find in the Midwest. This major work will also be performed in its entirety. Because the length of the performance is just under three hours, two intermissions will occur and refreshments will be provided. Tickets are \$20.00 for adults and \$15.00 for students. They are on sale in our church office Monday - Friday and will also be sold the night of the performance. If there are any questions, please feel free to call our parish at 846-3850.

There will also be a performance on Friday, December 5th at Trinity Episcopal Church, N. Meridian at 33<sup>rd</sup> St.. To purchase tickets for that performance, please call 926-1346.

#### **Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House**

**December 5-7, 2008** - "Comfort Ye My People" - An Advent retreat for women only with Fr. Ben Hawley, SJ  
The cost is \$150 per person

**December 11, 2008** - "Advent Dinner and Concert with Tony Avellana" - Join us for this 3rd Annual Dinner and Concert with Christian Music Artist Tony Avellana. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm with the concert to follow in our chapel. The cost is \$35 per person. Single reservations are accepted or reserve your table of 8.

**December 18, 2008** - "Come away and rest awhile" - Silent non-guided reflection day/\$25 per person

**December 31, 2008-January 1, 2009** - "Following the Star: Discovering Christ in our Midst" - Fr. Jim Farrell, Director of Our Lady of Fatima Retreat House and Fr. John McCaslin, Pastor of St. Anthony and Holy Trinity Parishes in Indianapolis will be the presenters for this special overnight retreat. The retreat will begin with check in any time after 4:00 pm and will conclude with brunch on New Year's Day. The cost is \$135 per person or \$250 per married couple and includes the program, overnight accommodations, a festive New Year's Eve dinner, a late night Mass to welcome in the New Year, a New Year's celebration, a guided meditation experience and several conferences.

More information for any program can be found on our website at [www.archindy.org/fatima](http://www.archindy.org/fatima) where you can also register or call (317) 545-7681, fax (317) 545-0095 or contact Sandy Pasotti at [spasotti@archindy.org](mailto:spasotti@archindy.org).

**THANK YOU:** This bulletin is furnished to the parish without charge. The advertisements that appear completely defray all publishing costs with which the church would otherwise be burdened. Please patronize these sponsors as a thank you for their kind generosity.