

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 8TH

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY

- 6:30 a.m. Harry E. Lambert
- 8:00 a.m. Brian Houlihan ALL MASS
- 12:30 p.m. Floyd Carsten
- 7:00 p.m. For The Parish

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9TH

- *6:30 a.m. Vitalis Wise
- 8:00 a.m. Gertrude Cote'

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

- *6:30 a.m. Ann Brenner
- 8:00 a.m. Helen Waikel

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

- *6:30 a.m. Gerard Theriot
- 8:00 a.m. Pamela Beeler

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12TH

- 8:00 a.m. Elaine Underhill
- *5:30 p.m. Robert & Michael Miller

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13TH

- 8:00 a.m. Glenn Schimmele
- 5:00 p.m. Clifford Schlatter

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH

- 7:15 a.m. Mary Beeler
- 9:00 a.m. Beverly Malcolm
- 11:00 a.m. Jerry Phillips
- 6:00 p.m. For The Parish (LifeTeen Mass)

*CHAPEL

SERVERS' SCHEDULE

(It is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement)

Saturday, December 13

- 8:00 a.m. Amanda Tomlinson, Andrew Wyckoff
- 5:00 p.m. Justin Wyss, Matt Thomas
Drew Thomas, Jordan Venderley

Sunday, December 14

- 7:15 a.m. Phoebe Davis, Michael Heimann
Taylor Morken, Philip Gase
- 9:00 a.m. Olivia Norton, Molly Coffee
Stephen Bloom, Sean Weigand
- 11:00 a.m. Annie Gaunt, Drew Giant
Nicole Mullins, Gabrielle Gaunt

NURSERY – Sunday, December 14

- 9:00 a.m. Steven and Susan Merkle

COFFEE AND DONUTS – Sunday, December 14

- 9:00 a.m. Owens, Miller, Daisey

"Let us pray that our brothers and sisters in Christ, who are preparing for the sacrament of marriage, will be lead by the Holy Spirit."

WEDDING BANNS

- III Jay Hamoy and Liza Carpio
- I Christopher Reith and Kari Betley



NEW EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS SCHEDULES READY

All Eucharistic Ministers are asked to stop by the Minister's Sacristy to pick up their new schedule as soon as possible.



CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Once again we are offering you the opportunity to donate Christmas flowers in memory of a loved one. The suggested donation is \$10 a plant. We will remember the deceased at our Christmas Masses. Place the money or check in an envelope along with the form below: *(Please print)*

Name of Loved One: _____
 Your Name: _____
 Your Address: _____
 Your Phone Number: _____
 Donation: \$ _____



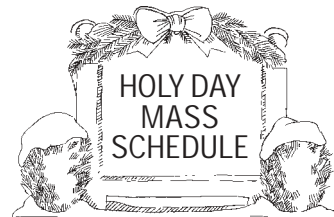
FROM THE PASTOR:

We are grateful to the ladies of WINGS (Women in God's Service) who cleaned the church and the Spiritual Center this past Wednesday, an annual project they schedule on their calendar. WINGS is a parish organization which allows women of the parish, particularly those with small children as babysitting is offered, to get together during the day for spiritual, educational and social nourishment.

Thank you for your generous response to our request for turkeys for needy families. Over 200 frozen turkeys were collected for Christmas dinners which will be provided for the poor of the Fort Wayne community. Suzie Beard is coordinating this wonderful project.

There was a good turn out for the annual Turkey Bingo sponsored by the Men's Club. A fun time was had by all with a good number of the participants going home with a turkey in their arms.

There is a virus going around which leaves the victim feeling miserable. It got me this past week, requiring a trip to the doctor, and it took me several days to recover. I hope you can avoid it. Happy Advent!
Fr. John



HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

Monday, Dec. 8, is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. This is the patronal feast of the Diocese and of the Church in the United States. We honor our Blessed Mother who from the moment of her conception in the womb of her mother was free of original sin, a special grace merited by her Son's redemptive death on the Cross. Our holy day Mass schedule on Monday is: 6:30 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please note: the 6:00 p.m. Mass on Sunday, Dec. 7, is the Mass of the Second Sunday in Advent and not the Solemnity.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

We have Advent Penance Services scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 13 and Saturday, Dec. 20, both beginning at 3:00 p.m. Several priests will be available for individual confessions and sacramental absolution. Our major communal Penance Service is Monday, Dec. 22, at 7:00 p.m. About 10 priests will be present.

ROSARY CAMPAIGN

Thank you for participating in the diocesan Rosary Campaign. St. Vincent's tallied over 8,400 rosaries prayed for the intention of the Holy Father. These Rosary prayers along with those of the other parishes of the Diocese will be sent to Pope John Paul II as a spiritual bouquet. Undoubtedly, it will warm his heart. We are grateful to Rhonda Noll for coordinating this parish project.

MATTHEW KELLY RETURNS FOR A SPECIAL ADVENT PRESENTATION

Please join us as we enthusiastically welcome back popular author and speaker, Matthew Kelly, to St. Vincent de Paul Church on Thursday, December 11 from 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. His talk, "How To Make New Year's Resolutions That Will Change Your Life Forever", will take the listener on an adventure of life-changing proportions.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to hear a powerful and inspiring message filled with practical insights that will deeply impact our daily lives. For more information call 489-3537.



CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP

"Collect food for the poor." Olivia K.
 "Playing with my puppy and helping my Mom bake a cake." Patrick
 "Cleaning the house." Caleb K.
 "Babysitting." Audrey M.
 "I helped with my baby brother." Chelsea S.

MEETINGS OF THE WEEK

SHEPHERDS OF CHRIST – Tuesday, December 9th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Reservation Chapel
RCIA – Tuesday, December 9th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Center
ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT – Wednesday, December 10th, at 8:00 a.m. in the Reservation Chapel
WINGS – Wednesday, December 10th, at 9:00 a.m. in the Spiritual Center
BEREAVEMENT SESSION – Wednesday, December 10th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel
WINGS TOO – Thursday, December 11th at 9:00 a.m. in the Spiritual Center
DIVORCED CATHOLIC SUPPORT GROUP – Thursday, December 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Center

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK FOR HARVEST HOUSE

St. Vincent's Harvest House will have a Christmas Potluck on Monday, Dec. 15, 2003, at the Spiritual Center. Sister Kay will lead a prayer service at 11:15 a.m., followed by dinner. Meat, beverages and table service will be furnished. Please bring a dish to share. We will have a "steal" drawing after dinner. Please bring an inexpensive gift or a nice "white elephant" gift for the drawing. RSVP to 482-2085 or 483-7252 by Dec. 11. JOIN US FOR A FUN AFTERNOON!

DIVORCED CATHOLIC SUPPORT GROUP

Come join us on Thursday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. in the Spiritual Center for our Holiday Potluck. Ham and beverages will be provided. Please bring a vegetable, salad or dessert. For more information, call the church office at 489-3537.

MORE NEEDED TO PRAY AT BLESSED SACRAMENT

On Wednesday's, our parish is privileged to have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for the day until 4 p.m. in the Reservation Chapel. We are required to have at least two people praying as long as the Sacrament is on the altar for this type of adoration. We really need volunteer prayers between the hours of 12 noon and 3 p.m. Please contact Francie McComb at 489-6716 if you would like to do this and be scheduled for a specific hour. Drop-ins are welcome.

NEW SESSIONS OF WINGS!

WINGS (Women in God's Service) is currently registering for our new session which will begin January 7, 2004. The mission of WINGS is to nurture Christian fellowship among women of all ages through faith sharing, scripture, book study, prayer, speakers, and community service. We meet Wednesday mornings from 9:00 – 11:00 a.m. in the Spiritual Center. Childcare is available. Our book study for the upcoming session will be "The Ten Commandment; Covenant of Love" by Alfred McBride, O.PRAEM. Pope John Paul II has stated "To keep the Ten Commandments is to be faithful to God. But it is also to be faithful to ourselves, to our authentic nature and our deepest aspirations." Come join us as we explore this genuine self-help book that answers the question "How shall I live?"

We will be registering new members after all Masses the weekends of December 7th and 14th. For additional information, or to register by phone, please contact Julie Fox (489-0111) or Mary Jo Parrish (637-5285).



Women's Fellowship



Giving Tree

THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is an easy way for you to brighten the Christmas of someone less fortunate. Take an angel ornament off the evergreen tree in the Gathering Space of the church. Purchase the gift request (written on the angel), wrap it securely, and attach the ornament to the outside of the gift. Then bring it to the church and place it under the tree by **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21st**, no later than 2 p.m. and we will be sure it gets delivered to the person in need before Christmas. If you cannot return the gift in time, please refrain from taking an ornament. An evergreen is used as a symbol of our need to be forever giving. If you have any questions, call Craig or Vicki Welch at 483-7257.

BIG GIVING TREE REQUESTS

We have a number of Giving Tree requests, which are too large to put on an angel. Items requested are: stroller (3), car seat, high chair (3), booster seat, infant swing, stereo, DVD player, vacuum cleaner. If you feel able to buy or donate a gently used item or make someone's Christmas brighter, please call Vicki Welch at 483-7257.

WOMEN'S AND MEN'S

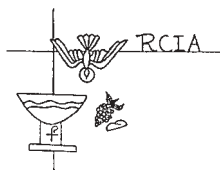
CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH WEEKEND DATES

Are you looking for a way to revitalize your faith and make new friends? Sign up for the next women's and men's Christ Renews His Parish weekend, March 6 and 7 for the men and March 13 and 14 for the women. Don't miss out on this wonderful opportunity for spiritual growth and fellowship. Contact Tom Loogman 490-7158 for the men's weekend and Kathleen Makovic 490-9321 for the women's weekend.

MALE CO-SPIRITUAL DIRECTOR NEEDED

We are in the process of discerning someone to be a male Co-

Spiritual Director for Christ Renews His Parish. If you would like to nominate someone, please send a letter of nomination to Jim Anderson, 8204 Sorrel Lane, Fort Wayne, IN 46825. No self-nominations, please.



RCIA

If you or someone you know would like to know more about the Catholic faith, its teachings and traditions, please call the church office at 489-3537. RCIA is an on-going process and an Inquirer can begin at any time.

IS GOD CALLING YOU INTO COMMUNITY?

Small Christian Community is an adult experience of growing in faith. Yes, there is intellectual growth, but that is only part of the experience. Would you like more information? Maybe chat with someone who has been in community for awhile? You are welcome to call any time: 489-3537 x 207, and I will be glad to connect you with just such folks.

ST. NICHOLAS DAY SALE

The Cathedral Bookstore, located on Cathedral Square at the Cathedral in downtown Fort Wayne, will hold its annual St. Nicholas Day Sale from Saturday, December 6 through Saturday, December 13. If you have any questions or need directions, please call 422-4611 and ask for the bookstore. The sale will run a total of seven days – Saturday to Saturday.

Advertisers of the Week

Please patronize the companies that support our bulletin.

YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR

- Dec. 7 Life Night
Dec. 10 Advent Mass and Breakfast, 6:30 a.m.
Ministry Hour
Dec. 11 Pray at Abortion Clinic
Dinner at Life House, 6:30 p.m.
Matthew Kelly, 7:30 p.m.
Dec. 14 Life Night: Social



COLLEGE FRESHMEN CARE PACKAGES

We will be sending care packages to those who are away at college for the first time. Please e-mail Cindy their addresses by Tuesday, Dec. 9th, so we can get their goodies mailed. If you would like to contribute snacks, candy or such, please bring them to the Life Teen Mass on Sunday, Dec. 7 or contact Cindy.

ADVENT MASS AND BREAKFAST

The first 3 Wednesdays during Advent, we will go to the chapel for 6:30 a.m. Mass and then have breakfast at the Life House before you head to school. The 4th week, we will attend Mass Tuesday at 8:00 a.m. and then have breakfast. Teens, please commit to joining us as part of your advent journey. Parents, if you would be willing to help one of the weeks, please call or e-mail Angie Harber at 486-9852 or Kha4427125@aol.com.

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★ For information about St. Vincent's Youth Ministry, ★
★ contact Cindy Black at 489-3537 Ext. 228 or ★
★ e-mail Cblack@SaintV.org. ★
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR SOUGHT FOR SCHOOL

We are looking for an experienced individual to lead development efforts at the school and to a lesser extent the parish. The part-time position will include alumni relations, annual and planned giving, marketing and grant writing. Requirements are a loyalty and enthusiasm for St. Vincent de Paul parish and school, good verbal and written communication skills, computer literacy and strong organizational skills. Marketing or development background is a plus. Send resume with cover letter to the church office.

HOLIDAY SCRIP SCHEDULE

Purchase gift certificates from over 100 stores while helping to support our parish grade school. Scrip is sold Sundays 8 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and after Lifeteen Mass at the west church entrance. Holiday sales will be held December 4, 11 & 18. No Sales December 28.

KINDERGARTEN OPEN HOUSE

St. Mary's in Avilla will have a kindergarten Open House on Dec. 12, 2003, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. for anyone interested in learning about our Kindergarten program. Refreshments and a small gift will be given to any child that comes to visit. Please call the school if you have any questions at (260) 897-3481.

CELEBRATE CATHOLIC EDUCATION

We would like to present a Celebrate Catholic Education Award to an outstanding St. Vincent graduate. We are looking for a graduate who has made a significant contribution to the Catholic Church and to the United States and is deserving of this national recognition. We will make this presentation for Catholic Schools Week. If you would like to nominate someone, please send a letter to the school office with the name and the reasons they should be nominated.

CHRISTMAS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VACATION SCHEDULE

No Sunday classes will meet for Preschool or Religious Education on December 21, 28 and January 4. Sunday classes resume on January 11. Wednesday classes do not meet on December 24, 31, and January 7. Wednesday classes resume on January 14.

EXTRA HANDS AVAILABLE TO HELP YOU

Eighth grade students are preparing for Confirmation in the spring. One of their responsibilities is to complete service projects in which they give of their time to help someone else. Are you organizing an upcoming event in the parish for which you could use extra help? Are you aware of possible opportunities for our eighth graders to assist others? If so, please call Beth 489-3537 ext. 204.



SEVEN TACKLE MLK MONTESSORI SERVICE PROJECT

Seven eighth graders in Religious Education have accepted the challenge of helping the Martin Luther King Montessori Preschool during the holiday season. They are Neil Kelty, Ryan Millhouse, Scott

Nil, Natalie Novell, Gus Steigmeyer, Tiana Thomas, and Rachel Waggoner. Please help them with their work.

Until December 14, we eighth grade students will be collecting 125 new or gently used paperback books for the MLK Montessori Preschool for 3 – 5 year olds. These will be wrapped and each child will receive a book as a gift. The preschool is also collecting new and gently used hardback books for its library. A box for these donations will be in the west entry of the Gathering Space and in the Religious Education office. Donations of money can be sent to the Religious Education office.

Thank you, The Book Bunch

FINAL COLLECTION FOR SAVE LIDS TO SAVE LIVES — DECEMBER 14, 2003

WINGS will be collecting the pink "Save Lids to Save Lives" lids located on Yoplait yogurts UNTIL December 14th. Every lid collected will be a 10-cent donation by Yoplait towards the cure for breast cancer. Please look for a donation box near the west entrance of the Gathering Space. Any questions, please call Kellie Stanley at 637-6041.

F.A.I.T.H. (FINDING ANSWERS IN THE HOLY SPIRIT)

This group is a resource and support for couples struggling with infertility. Resources are available regarding information on infertility treatments, the church's teaching on these treatments, and international and domestic adoption. Also this group can be a source of emotional and spiritual support for you and your spouse. Please contact Amy Barte 497-8257 for more information.



STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Having completed the stained glass windows along the ambulatory of the church, we turn our attention to the clerestory (second level) windows. We have decided on a design that will complement the lower windows and the architecture of the building. The cost of each window is \$3,500. Because scaffolding has to be erected to install the windows, installation will be in sets of three. If you are interested in donating a window, please call the church office.

SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS AVAILABLE FOR VISITS

Home visits, family gatherings and business events. Call 489-2473.



FOR THE HOMEBOUND

If you have a family member who is homebound and would like a visit or to receive Holy Communion, please call the church office. Also, if a family member is admitted in the hospital through the emergency room, please call. We are only notified of scheduled admissions. Thank you. Call Deb Andrews at 489-3537.



Christmas Program

CHRISTMAS IN THE CATHEDRAL

The annual "Christmas in the Cathedral" concert will be held Wednesday, Dec. 10, at 7:30 p.m. in the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in downtown Fort Wayne. The free concert features the Cathedral Choir, a brass ensemble, pianist Dyne Pfeffenberger, Harpist Nancy Morse, special holiday music and caroling.

CARING FOR YOUR AGING PARENTS

Are you dealing with an elderly parent and being forced to make difficult decisions regarding living arrangements and health care? A book has been written by Monica and Bill Dodds entitled "Caring For Your Aging Parent – A Guide For Catholic Families". The authors deal with these issues and more. If you are interested in a copy, please call Deb Andrews at 489-3537.

MEN WANTED

We want to issue an invitation to all eligible men of the parish to join the Knights of Columbus – St. Vincent's Council. The Knights is a service organization of Catholic men which is involved in both our church and our community by helping the less fortunate, supporting our youth programs, our seminarians, and the Right to Life effort. Knights work as volunteers when needed at St. Vincent's and on projects within our community. In addition, we relax and enjoy each other and ourselves at dances, hayrides, dinner theater and other such social events.



You can be as active in the Knights of Columbus as your time allows. You might choose to be an officer in our organization or limit your participation to flipping an occasional pancake at one of our Sunday parish breakfasts.

If you want to join us or want more information first, please call Ray Ohlman, membership director, at 637-5377. We look forward to welcoming you to our council.



MINISTRY OF GREETERS

Last weekend we had greeters before the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. I would like to say thank you to the greeters for helping and to you, the people, for smiling and saying "Hello" to us. I personally could feel a blessing each time I received a smile and a "Hello."

Also, if you would like to help with this ministry, please call me, Karen Bohnstedt, at 637-8328 or the church office. This ministry currently has around 20 people to help at the Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. I would like to have at least 3 people at each Mass. The duties of the greeters are to be ready to greet about 20 to 25 minutes before Mass and to smile and say "Hello" as people enter the church.

MATTHEW 25 BENEFIT

"Two from Galilee," a Broadway-style Christmas musical will be presented Dec. 19-20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Auditorium on Berry Street in Fort Wayne. The production is a collaboration of First Assembly of God and Calvary Temple with proceeds from ticket sales going to benefit Matthew 25 Health and Dental Clinic, Fort Wayne. Tickets are \$10 each, and are on sale at Anchor Room Bookshop and at both above churches. For more information, contact Bob Parrent at 482-3508.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC CHARITIES COLLECTION

Catholic Charities will have their annual Christmas collection this year to support services for children and their families. Last year, Catholic Charities served over 16,000 people, providing a range of services including adoption, pregnancy services, senior services, emergency assistance, child care, refugee resettlement, immigration, Hispanic outreach, and counseling for families. Your financial contribution will help us continue the tradition of caring and service that has been the hallmark of Catholic Charities. Look for the envelope in your December envelope packet.



BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS

Attendance at two Baptismal Preparation Sessions is required before your child is baptized. They are Session I and Session II. You may attend Session II before Session I, if necessary. Each session will begin at 7:00 p.m. It is recommended that you attend before the birth of your child so that there will be no delay in setting a date for the baptism once the baby is born. Godparents, too, are welcome. Please call the church office to register for your sessions.

Session I (East Meeting Room)

No Sessions in December

January 8 February 12

January 22 February 26

Session II (Church Conference Room)

No Sessions in December

January 15 February 19

ST. VINCENT EMPLOYERS-UNEMPLOYED LINK

Realizing that many people in our parish and area have lost their jobs and are looking, we want to help. We are asking you, as owners and managers of businesses in the area to:

— Send by TUESDAY MORNING, IN WRITING OR E-MAIL (stvincentchurch@hotmail.com)

1. An open position you are aware of
 2. The name of the company and address
 3. The contact person and how to reach him or her
- God is in every part of our journey!

PART TIME SALES/OFFICE ASSISTANT

Iasta of Indiana, a provider of exclusive business software, is seeking a part time sales/office assistant. Three days a week, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Applicant must be experienced, professional and proficient in Microsoft Office software including Word, Excel and Powerpoint. Excellent phone skills are a must. Contact: Terry Coonan 492-7350 or terry.coonan@iasta.com.

POSITION IN DONOR SERVICES/COLLECTIONS

Variable days and hours. Includes driving a variety of vehicles to transport supplies, equipment, blood products, etc. Assist in routine donor room activities as needed. Requirements: current valid driver's license and good driving record, effective verbal communications and public relations skills required. Apply by sending a resume or completing an application at American Red Cross, Indiana-Ohio Region, 1212 East California Road, Fort Wayne, IN 46825.

SALES POSITION

For Prudential. Contact Ellona Yoder at (260) 483-3165 Ext. 7125.