

MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, DECEMBER 22ND

*6:30 a.m. Harry Kohrman
8:00 a.m. Robert Wilch

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 23RD

*6:30 a.m. Ken Palmer
8:00 a.m. David Cox

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

CHRISTMAS EVE

8:00 a.m. Ralph Schimmele
4:00 p.m. Mary McCarthy
6:30 p.m. Liv. & Dec. Malcolm Family
11:00 p.m. John Holubes

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

CHRISTMAS DAY

9:00 a.m. Robert Mosshammer
11:00 a.m. For The Parish

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

8:00 a.m. Robert & Michael Miller

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27TH

8:00 a.m. Georgianna Halte
5:00 p.m. Harold Smith

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH

7:15 a.m. Margaret & Martin Braun
9:00 a.m. Maureen Stevens
11:00 a.m. John deVega
6:00 p.m. For The Parish (LifeTeen Mass)

*CHAPEL

SERVERS' SCHEDULE

(It is YOUR responsibility to find a replacement)

Saturday, December 27

8:00 a.m. Johnathan O'Shaughnessy, Stephen Fiacable
5:00 p.m. Tyler Eifert, MacKenzie Mentzer
Maggie Badders, Lauren Wilson

Sunday, December 28

7:15 a.m. Danny Schenkel, Sarah Vanderbosch
Becky Vanderbosch, Joe Voors
9:00 a.m. Justin Martin, Joey O'Daniel
Annie Hunnicutt, Patrick Hunnicutt
11:00 a.m. Adam Pagryzinski, Nathan Pagryzinski
Abby Maxwell, Kelsey Giant

"Please pray for this couple as they
prepare to take their marriage vows".

WEDDING BANNS

III Christopher Reith and Kari Betley



BULLETIN DEADLINE

Please be advised that any articles for publication in the parish bulletin for the weekend of Jan. 3 and 4 is 12:00 noon Monday, December 29.

ATTENTION ROSARY SOCIETY MEMBERS

There will be NO January meeting. Have a Great Christmas and we'll see you next year.

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: \$ _____



ST. VINCENT'S CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve 4:00 and 6:30 p.m.
Our Mass at Midnight 11:00 p.m.
Christmas Day 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.



ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE AT ST. VINCENT'S

Our Advent Penance Service will be on Monday, December 22nd at 7:00 p.m. About 10 priests will be present.

The Sacrament of Penance will also be offered at St. Vincent's on Tuesday, Dec. 23
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.
7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

JOIN THE BISHOP FOR CHRISTMAS MORNING MASS

All are invited to attend the live broadcast of Christmas morning Mass with Bishop John M. D'Arcy presiding at the University of St. Francis Chapel, Fort Wayne, at 10:30 a.m. Please plan to arrive at the chapel no later than 10:15 a.m. The Mass will air on WKJG-TV, Channel 33.

THE GIVING TREE - DEADLINE TODAY!

Bring your gift to the church and place it under the tree by TODAY, 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 have any questions, call Craig or Vicki Welch at 483-7257.



Giving Tree

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR ADORATION OF BLESSED SACRAMENT

There will be NO regular Wednesday Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Christmas Eve Day, December 24th.

Keep in mind that 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. 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.



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.

USHERS SCHEDULE FOR JANUARY

Saturday
5:00 p.m. Mike Scheer, Craig Klinker, Brad Thompson, Mike Meehan

Sunday
7:15 a.m. Bill Poure, Dan Budzon, David Moran, Jim Sarasien
9:00 a.m. Roger Watercutter, Toni Ohlman, Ray Ohlman, John Klingenberg, Don Getts
11:00 a.m. Dave Watercutter, Ann Petrie, Ed Parent, John Tippmann, Jim Leazier





CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP

"Helping my mom." Jeff M.
 "Cleaning room." Pat M.
 "Helping my Mama around the house." Elise M.

Meetings of the Week

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY – Monday, December 22nd, at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel
 SHEPHERDS OF CHRIST – Tuesday, December 23rd, at 6:30 p.m. in the Reservation Chapel

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.

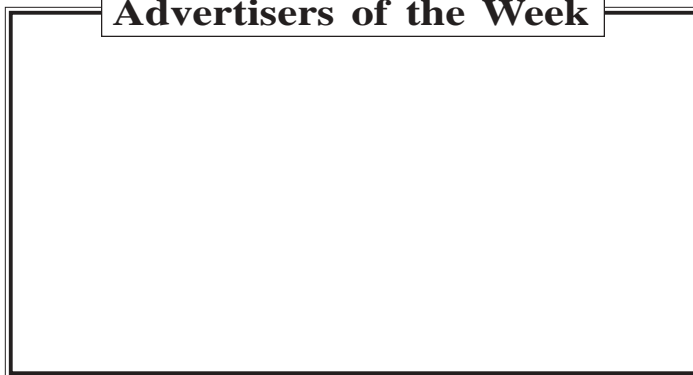
BAPTISMAL PREPARATION CLASS

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

Advertisers of the Week



Please patronize the companies that support our bulletin.

MARDI GRAS HAWAIIAN-STYLE

Please mark Saturday, February 21st, on your calendar for an evening of fun and festivities. The night will include casino games, dinner and the band "Nostalgia". Look for more details in the January bulletin.



ONLY SEVEN STAINED GLASS WINDOWS AVAILABLE

We have only seven clerestory (second level) windows remaining to be purchased. The design complements the lower windows and the architecture of the building. Installation will be in sets of three. The cost of each window is \$3,500. If you are interested in donating a window, please call the church office.

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.

DO YOU HAVE THIS BOOK?

We are looking for the book, "To Serve as Jesus Served" by Clem Walters. If you have a copy a parish team can borrow through April, please call S. Kay asap at 489-3537 Ext. 207 or kjarema@yahoo.com.

LIFETEEN REFLECTION

My love for Mary has grown so strong over the years. This Advent I feel particularly connected to her as I have felt her tenderly watching over me. Our Blessed Mother was only a teen when the angel Gabriel appeared before her and revealed God's plan for her. When Mary says yes, "Be it done unto me according to your word", we call that moment her "fiat." Then imagine her anticipation as she awaits the birth of baby Jesus. During this last week of Advent, join your anticipation with Mary's. We have asked the teens to say a "Hail Mary" each time they think of Christmas this week.

In his Encyclical on the Eucharist, our Holy Father Pope John Paul II, beautifully relates Mary's fiat to the "Amen" which we say when receiving the Body and Blood of the Lord. Just as Mary opened her heart and her body to Jesus, we must do the same. We must offer Him our whole being.

One of Mother Teresa's sisters wrote to me, "May you and all your family members and loved ones have a holy Christmas filled with the joy of giving Jesus whatever He takes and taking whatever He gives with a big smile." You are all "loved ones," so this is also my prayer for you.

Humbly yours, Cindy



YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR

Dec. 21 No Life Night
 Dec. 23 Alumni Mass and Breakfast, 8 a.m.
 Dec. 28 Life Night: Movie Night
 Dec. 30 College Gang Meeting, 8 p.m. at Life House

Prayer & PRAISE

XLT (exalt) – FRIDAY, JANUARY 2 AT 7:30

Come for powerful praise & worship and time with Jesus in Adoration. We're excited that the college group will be home for this one. Again, LIFETEEN encourages everyone to attend: families, young adults, couples, singles, teens, Small Christian Communities.



JR. HIGH LIFE

An Evening of Jazz and Java! Jr. High Life will meet again on Monday, January 5th, 2004 from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall (cafeteria). It's been awhile since we met, so come join in and have a fun evening with friends, jazz and Java!!

STUDENT NEEDS RIDE HOME FROM SCHOOL

Bishop Dwenger student is in need of ride home after school starting January 5. Student lives in Northwest Passage (behind Scott's on Dupont). If you can help, call the Baccari's at 489-5642.



YOUNGADULT LIFE (21-40)

EUCCHARISTIC CELEBRATION FOR ALL YOUNG ADULTS

The Bishop is having a Mass on Friday, January 30 at 8:00 p.m. at the Cathedral. A social gathering in the Cathedral Center will follow the Eucharistic Celebration. Please bring a snack to share, as well as

non-perishable food items to be donated to the Franciscan Center. Watch the bulletin for more info coming in the next few weeks.

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

The Bishop is hosting a retreat for all young adults in the diocese. It will be at the Oakwood Inn on Wawasee. It is scheduled for late March. Watch the bulletin for more info.

Holiday Schedule

CHRISTMAS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VACATION SCHEDULE

No classes will be held during the Christmas holidays. Sunday classes for Pre-school and grades 1 – 8 will resume on January 11, and Wednesday classes on January 14.

CATECHIST IN-SERVICE

All catechists grades 1 – 8 are required to meet on Wednesday, January 7, for Mass, a carry-in dinner, and an in-service meeting. Pre-school catechists are invited to attend this in-service.

BOOK COLLECTION OVERWHELMING SUCCESS

The eighth graders who worked to collect books for the Martin Luther King Montessori Preschool experienced the generosity of many parishioners. Every pre-school child who attends MLK Montessori will receive a wrapped book for Christmas. Along with the paperbacks, we also collected many hard-bound books which will help establish a library at the school. Thank you for your donations!



FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

Parents of those preparing to make their First Reconciliation in January are reminded to begin the prayer service which includes the examination of conscience and practice the Act of Contrition with the children. The dates for First Reconciliation are January 17 (A-L) and January 24 (M-Z).

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR SOUGHT FOR SCHOOL

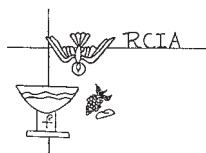
We are looking for an experienced individual to lead development efforts at the school and to a lesser extent the parish. The part-time position will include alumni relations, annual and planned giving, marketing and grant writing. Requirements are a loyalty and enthusiasm for St. Vincent de Paul parish 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.

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.

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 this weekend, but NO sales December 28.



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.



SNOW REMOVAL

The Saint Vincent's Knights of Columbus will again offer snow removal for the elderly and disabled. Please call Jim Cox II, 492-7705, for information and to register for this volunteer service.

COUNT BOX TOPS FOR FRANCISCAN CENTER

The Franciscan Center, Inc. is looking for people who would be willing to help us with the General Mills Box Top Program. We literally have thousands of box tops that need to be trimmed, counted and bundled.

This is a project that you can do at home, and return to us when completed. This would also be a great project for the family to be able to help us, and still stay at home during your busy schedules.

For more information on how you can help, please call Keith Burns at 744-3977 at the Franciscan Center, Inc.

DRIVERS NEEDED TO TRANSPORT COLLECTED ITEMS TO THE FRANCISCAN CENTER

Due to the generosity of St. Vincent's Parish and the neighboring community, Franciscan Center needs persons to volunteer to transport collected items from St. Vincent's Church to their center at 4643 Gaywood Drive, Fort Wayne. For more information, contact Keith Burns at 744-3977.



URGENT APPEAL FOR FOOD – CAN YOU HELP?

The Franciscan Center, Inc. is desperately close to running out of food. If you could help in any way with a food drive, or just a few cans, it would help drastically. You have always been a stable part of our resources and a vital part of our mission of "Lending our Neighbors a Helping Hand". Your help would be greatly appreciated.

If you can help, please drop off your items by the west entrance of the church. Or you may drop these off at the center: 4643 Gaywood Drive (the old Sacred Heart School) on Mon-Thurs 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Front Center Door) and Saturday 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. (Back Door farthest from the Church). Thank you for your support and love of the needy of our great community.

EARLY CHILD CARE ALLIANCE WANTS TO HELP

Looking for child care? Who do you call? What questions should you ask? Want to start a child care business? For answers to these questions, contact Early Childhood Alliance staff at 744-0298 or (800) 423-1498; stop in at 3320 Fairfield Avenue, Fort Wayne; or visit their website at www.ecalliance.org. Hours are 8 – 5 pm Monday thru Friday; 5 – 9 pm Wednesday evenings; and 8:30 am to 12:30 pm the 3rd and 4th Saturdays.



BISHOP DWENGER SAINT'S BASKETBALL SCHOOL

Bishop Dwenger High School will again be sponsoring the Saint's Basketball School for students in grades K-8. The five Saturday series will be held on January 10, 17, 31 and February 7, 14.

Grades K-3 will meet from 9:00 – 10:15 a.m.; Grades 4 – 8 will meet from 10:30 – 12 noon. Instructors are Dave Scudder, Girl's Basketball Coach and Matt Kostoff, Boy's Basketball Coach. Cost of the 5-day series is \$40.00. Each attendee will receive a T-shirt. Checks should be made payable to Dave Scudder and returned to Bishop Dwenger High School. Registration is also available at the door.

FREE MINISTRY TO TRAVELING CATHOLICS

For nationwide Mass times and locations: Call Mass Times (1-410-676-6000) or Internet www.Masstimes.org. Also, (800) 627-7846 – need to find a church.