

ST. MARY CHURCH – GROVEPORT, OHIO - SUNDAY, JANUARY 3, 2010

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Daniel Tamburro by John Gentile
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	JoAnn (Watkins) Rachiele by Cecile Yinger
	11:00 a.m.	For the Parish Family
Monday	8:30 a.m.	Novena & Rosary
Tuesday	8:30 a.m.	Tom Flood by Pat Jenkins
Wednesday	8:30 a.m.	Roger Crites by Peig Shackelford
Thursday	8.30 a.m.	Jack & Maryann Vatter by Family
Friday	8:30 a.m.	Ann Cleary by Ethel Morgan
Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Mary Bessette by John Gentile
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	David Hetterscheidt by Family
	11:00 a.m.	For the Parish Family

THIS WEEKEND

SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Brian Ropchock
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Karen Kitchell, Andre Bradley, Jessie Slone
	11:00 a.m.	Kennedy Goldenbagen, Erick Starkey, Alex Seidlertz

NEXT WEEKEND

Brian Ropchock
 Nathan Gawarecki, Luke Dorion, Allison Dorion
 Connie Brown, Seth Brown, Jacqueline Brown

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Al Nehr, Annamarie Carlson
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Colleene Weiser, JoEllen Stebelton
	11:00 a.m.	Patricia Raynak, John Jones

Sandy Crites, Becky DeVillers
 Ken Koebel, Mark Dorion
 Cindy Kinch, John Rose

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 p.m.	Marilyn O'Linn, Phil Feldmeier, Mark Widman, Marty Severino, Sandy Crites	Jeneane Miles, Shawna Gentile, Jerry Miles, Marilyn O'Linn, Mary Miles
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	Carolyn Veit, Pat Jenkins, Mary Slone, Ken Koebel, Karen Kitchell	Pat Jenkins, Nancy Grilli, Irene Fagan, Mark Dorion, Christine Boucher
	11:00 a.m.	Jan Gale, Jean Bobst, Mayellen Fowler, Cindy Kinch, Nancy Scholl	Jean Bobst, Dorothy Carter, Jan Gale, Mayellen Fowler, Nancy Scholl

From The Pastor's Desk

As mentioned before, this weekend we celebrate one of the important Christmas Feasts: the twelfth day of Christmas which is the Feast of the Epiphany. We should all know that the word means “manifestation.” So this is the celebration of the manifestation of Jesus. The guiding star, the light from the heavens, is an important part of the imagery that is used. The Magoi, which we often translate as wise men, found the Christ and paid homage. Our translation calls them “magi from the east.” This helps to leave an open discussion about this tradition. Magoi were like seers who could read the signs of the times by many means, but especially by reading the signs in the heavens, the stars. We will have this tradition today and almost every paper will tell you the astrological signs from the stars. We are to recognize in this Feast that the whole universe is aware that the Christ is born and that the new and final age has begun. This event, however, was not understood by Herod and the Jewish leadership of the time. When I was in Iran, we went to Presepolis, which is a tourist must when visiting Iran. The tomb of Cyrus is there along with the remains of the palaces and the tombs of many in that dynasty. It is one interesting and beautiful place. The reason I mention it here is not only because Cyrus, the Mede, is honored in the Old Testament, but while I was visiting the ruins, what I saw reminded me of our Feast of Epiphany. In one of the many hallways, and up some steps leading to the throne of the king, there are carvings on the wall. They are images of the many representatives of nations who came to pay homage to the king. They could be identified by their dress, looks, beasts of burden, and the gifts they were bearing. As I remember, there were 27 different nations (peoples and tribes) in these images. It was most impressive to know that the peoples from all over the known world came there to pay homage to the great king. I don't know whether Matthew knew of this tradition when he related the story of the Magi and the Christ, but that is what I thought of when I was admiring this ancient artwork in Presepolis. For the record, Cyrus was killed in battle in 529 B.C. On a mountain carving, there were also the images of a Roman Emperor coming to pay homage and subjection to one of Cyrus' descendants. Today, we celebrate that Christ is for all peoples, all nations and for all time. My trip to Presepolis helped me to appreciate this great gift.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 3rd – Is 60:1-6 / Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6 / Mt 2:1-12

Monday, January 4th – I Jn 3:22—4:6 / Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

Tuesday, January 5th – I Jn 4:7-10 / Mk 6:34-44

Wednesday, January 6th– I Jn 4:11-18 / Mk 6:45-52

Thursday, January 7th– I Jn 4:19—5:4 / Lk 4:14-22a

Friday, January 8th– I Jn 5:5-13 / Lk 5:12-16

Saturday, January 9th– I Jn 5:14-21 / Jn 3:22-30

Sunday, January 10th–Is 42:1-4, 6-7 / Acts 10:34-38 / Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

OUR GIFTS TO GOD AND CHURCH

December 19/20: Sunday Offering - \$3900.50 Haiti - \$21.00

Religious Retirement - \$95.00

God bless you for your continued support of St. Mary Church!

Thank you to all who contributed to the Annual Collection for the Diocesan Catholic Charities. Your support is very much appreciated!

There is a 2010 flower chart on the bulletin board in the vestibule. Please sign up to donate flowers in 2010 in memory or in honor of a loved one.

We would like to thank Myers-Woodyard Funeral Home for providing us with our 2010 calendars! They are available in the vestibule for each family to take home.

Anyone interested in advertising on the back of the bulletin, please call Dee Printing at 777-8700.

Anyone who made a donation for a poinsettia may take one home **after the 11:00 a.m. Mass next Sunday, January 10, 2010.** Please leave the sleeve that is around the bottom. Thank you!

There is a blessing of homes during the Christmas Season. Father Metzger will be happy to bless the homes of parishioners during this time. The blessing should take about 10 minutes and the family members should be present. **The Christmas Season ends with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which is January 10, 2010**

There is a blessing for the New Year in the Book of Home Blessings. We have this blessing available in the vestibule for those who wish it.

There is an Epiphany blessing that is more popular in some cultures, in the Book of Home Blessing. You use chalk and mark the lintel of the main door of the house (the one used most often) or all the doors. It is marked with the year and crosses and C. M. B., Which in Latin is Christus Mansionem Benedicat, "Christ Bless our Home." Since it is Epiphany some feel that it stands for the initials of the "three" Magi. In the Gospel there is not mention of how many Magi visited Christ, but there were gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh. Most feel that the C.M.B. was the original from the blessing and then later the three Magi were named accordingly. All that being said, we have chalk available in the vestibule with some possibilities of how to do the blessing.

St. Mary Youth Leadership

S.M.Y.L. will hold a pancake breakfast in the Parish Hall on Sunday, January 17, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass. All are welcome!

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Many Thanks to all who helped to prepare and deliver the Meal for the Homeless, and to all who donated fruit, cookies, and other goodies to take to the shelter.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society has a food basket in the vestibule. For the month of **January** we are requesting **small bags of sugar.** **Please put them in an extra bag so they don't leak.**

The SVDP will meet this Wednesday, January 6, at 6:00p.m. in the church. All are invited!

Altar Rosary Society

All Ladies of the Altar Rosary Society: Sunday, January 17, 2010, is our Communion Mass at 8:30 a.m. Please sit in a group on the left-hand side of the church. A meeting and potluck brunch will be held at Patti Leben's Condo Club House immediately following Mass. Please call Patti to register, at 834-0549, by January 10th.

Craft Club will meet Tuesday, January 12, from 10:00a.m.-2:00p.m. Everyone is welcome to share in the fun and potluck! Any questions, please call Rosemarie Watters, 491-6978.

The Forever Young Club will meet this Tuesday, January 5, at 1:00 p.m. in the parish hall for pizza!

Hugs and Prayers – Please remember in Prayer those of our parish family and friends who at this time are hospitalized, ill, or recovering: Rosa Alonzo, Tyler Bodnar, Kelly Brothers, Margaret Devlin, David Elizondo, Giuseppe Fazio, Pete Fowler, Ben Garrison, John Gentile, Dale Henry, Tara Hetterscheidt, Bill & Agnes Hillis, Barb Kellenbarger, Dick Krauss, Jack Krauss, Betty Lucijanac, Maria Mayes, Vince Mennetti, Anthony Neuherz, Bill Schmidt, Bernie Sokolowski, and Olive Stirrop.

St. Mary Prayer Line is always open for new participants and for your special prayer intentions. Please feel free to e-mail prayerline99@hotmail.com or call **Nancy Scholl at 614-836-2537**. You do not have to be online with email to participate in the prayer line. There is a mailing to those without email every week.

Are you missing a food dish? It may be in the parish hall! There are many containers left from funeral luncheons, and other parish activities. **Please check in the parish hall to see if any are yours!** Thank you!

P.S.R. Classes resume this Sunday, January 3, 2010.