

**Mass Schedule for December 7th – 15th**

- Sat. 7th 5:00 p.m. - Martha Copenhaver (Visn) (Fr.GV)
- Sat. 7th 7:00 p.m. - Parishioners (St. J) (Fr.GV)
- Sun. 8th 8:00a.m. - Nick Bennett (St. M) (Fr. GV)
- Sun. 8th 9:30a.m. - Harry Flieman (St. J) (Fr. GV)
- Sun. 8th 11:00a.m. - Int. of Larry Stone (Visn) (Fr. DD)
- Mon. 9th 9:00a.m. - Int. of David Schwartz (Visn)
- Tues. 10th 9:00a.m. - Pat & Joe, & little Joe Barth (Visn)
- Wed. 11th 12:00p.m. - Mary Anne Reinhart (Visn)
- Thurs. 12th 9:00a.m. - Sick and homebound of our community (Visn)
- Fri. 13th 9:00 a.m. - Fr. Bob Thorsen (Visn)
- Sat. 14th 5:00p.m. - Deceased of Adams Family (Visn) (Fr. DD)
- Sat. 14th 7:00p.m. - Fr. Charles Caserta (St. J) (Fr. DD)
- Sun. 15th 8:00a.m. - Wyatt Clevenger (St. M) (Fr. DD)
- Sun. 15th 9:30a.m. - Parishioners (St. J) (Fr. GV)
- Sun. 15th 11:00a.m. - Matthew Schleich (Visn) (Fr. DD)

**Confessions heard 30 minutes before weekend Masses**

**Stewardship Moments**  
*from 'What Can I Do? 8 Ways to Help Build Community in Your Parish' by Leisa Anslinger*

“When we journey in faith together in community, we hold each other up in time of distress, share in one another’s joys, encourage each other to grow in relation with God, and challenge one another to live as committed disciples.”

<b>Offertory</b>		
<b>November 23/24, 2019</b>		
	<b>Second Collection</b>	
Visitation	\$3,004.00	\$ 459.00
St. John	\$1,022.00	\$270.00
St. Mary	\$ 931.00	\$ 37.00

There will be an Advent Wreath Lighting Ceremony 15 minutes before Mass at the 5:00 p.m. and the 11:00 a.m. at Visitation each Sunday

**Calendar Visitation:**

- Sun. Dec 8 **RCIA** 9:30 a.m.
- Tues. Dec 10 **Faith & Fitness class** 10 a.m.
- Wed. Dec 11 **Children’s Christmas Choir practice** 6 p.m.
- Wed Dec 11 **Parish Penance Service** 7:00 p.m.
- Wed. Dec 11 **CCD** 7 p.m.
- Thurs. Dec 12 **Faith & Fitness class** 10 a.m.
- Sun. Dec. 15 **RCIA** 9:30 a.m.

**Calendar St. John:**

- Tues. Dec 10 **Recitation of the Rosary** at 5:30 p.m.
- Thurs. Dec 12 **Holy Hour** 6:30 p.m.
- Sun. Dec 15 **Gifts presented by Daniel & Cindy Kramer.**

**Calendar St. Mary:**

- Sun. Dec 8 **St. Mary Annual Christmas Party.**
- Mon. Dec 9 **Parish Council** 6:30 p.m.

**ST. ANNE’S SODALITY CHRISTMAS PARTY**

St. Anne's Sodality of Visitation will hold its annual Christmas party on December 16th at noon. Meat and drinks will be provided and each member is asked to bring a dish to share. We'll play bingo and have some more surprises.

<b>Offertory</b>	
<b>November 30/December 1</b>	
Visitation	\$ 3,047.00
St. John	\$ 1,013.00
St. Mary	\$ 1,223.00

**GIVING TREE**

Please be generous with the Giving Tree. Please take a tag, purchase the specified items, and place the gifts (and tag) in the specified areas. All gifts help charities in Preble County. If possible please return gifts by December 21-22. Thank you for your generosity.

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Hello Friends in Christ,

I often find myself driving in my truck from place to place. Whether getting to a hospital visit, communion calls, or just the average Sunday travel from church to church, I have tried to use this time more effectively. I have recently been using the “Audible” app that has a voice narrator recite a book out loud to me through the vehicle audio. I have even earned a “stenographer” badge with the total amount of hours that I have logged since becoming your pastor. One book, in particular, intrigued me with its title, “Small Church Essentials,” and it has helped me in learning how to be a good leader and shepherd for each of our small churches in the Preble County Catholic Region.

I learned first and foremost, that we are not alone in facing both the triumphs and struggles of being “small churches”. Matter of fact, the book proposes that most large or mega-churches try to imitate the small church dynamic with “small groups”. From the research cited, the author indicates that small churches already have that feeling of home, knowing everyone, and a sense of belonging. In Chapter 14, the author chooses to reflect upon how a “clique” style of small church community/culture often prevents new people from joining and the existing members

wondering “why are they not at Church” while not examining the way others might feel when they step into such a close knitted small church community. So, to remedy the problem of an enclosed church and to her Christ who gives us the great commission to “go out and make disciples of all nations,” the author reflects on the word, “GIFT”

How appropriate to reflect on “GIFT” as we are probably getting our Christmas cards ready and wrapping gifts for family and friends. The author is trying to empower the people of any small church to not be focused just on those there but who is new to being there. Often during Christmas, we have many visitors to our churches and those who return for many reasons. We can complain that there is less room in the pew, perhaps we find ourselves dragging a chain of sorrow or hurt much like an Ebenezer Scrooge, or we could let Christ welcome through our hands, hearts, and our greeting of “Merry Christmas!” extend God’s love to all his children. That all would feel welcome into our small communities of faith professing our love for the Savior of the World. So, the author breaks down the word “GIFT” in the following ways. G – Greet someone new, learn someone’s name that you don’t know // I – Introduce the visitor to someone else at the Church // F – Follow up with someone you met that was new, whether at Sunday Mass next week or seeing them around the town, say “Hello” // T – Thank those involved in giving so much of their time, talents, and treasure in your Church.

We are all gifted from the Lord and are created to be a gift for God and one another. At some moment, we all were new or beginning and labeled as “guest”. My prayer is that we might engage those around us in our town, in our churches, and in our Parish Region so that they might know they are a gift from the Lord sent to our small church. In return, that we can extend to them by our thoughts, words, and actions that Jesus has the greatest gift for them this Christmas, which is the gift of faith in Christ our Lord.

God Love You,  
Fr. David Doseck

### *Honor Your Loved Ones*

This year, rather than a poinsettia, Visitation St. Anne’s Sodality will offer an angel ornament for our tree in memory of your loved one(s). The cost again is \$5.00. You may pick up your angel after January 6th. See Marcia at Mass or send a check with the name(s) to be honored to: Marcia Hoskins, 1409 Williams Parkway, Eaton, Ohio, 45320. All requests for memorial angels need to be turned in by December 16th.

**2020 Collection envelopes** are available in the hall (Visitation) and in the crying room (St. John). Use of envelopes implies your commitment to the parish; it also helps with the bookkeeping. Please *clearly* print your name, address, phone number and envelope number on the index card provided.

### READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

<b>This Sunday:</b>	Is 11:1-10 Rom 15:4-9 Mt 3:1-12	Second Sunday in Advent
<b>Monday:</b>	Gn 3:9-15, 20 Eph 1:3-6, 11-12 Lk 1:26-38	Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Mother
<b>Tuesday:</b>	Is 40:1-11 Mt 18:12-14	Our Lady of Loreda
<b>Wednesday:</b>	Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30	St. Damasus
<b>Thursday:</b>	Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a;12-1-6a, 10ab Lk 1:26-38	Our Lady of Guadalupe
<b>Friday:</b>	Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19	St. Lucy
<b>Saturday:</b>	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9a, 10-13	St. John of the Cross
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	Is 35:1-6a Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11	Third Sunday in Advent