

St. John, St. Mary, Visitation Churches

Mass Schedule for November 28th – December 6th

Sat. 28 th 5:00 p.m.	Parishioners (Visn) (SUB)
Sun. 29 th 7:45 a.m.	Jerry Gerber (SM) (SUB)
Sun. 29 th 9:45 a.m.	Living & Deceased of the Jim Rossback Family (SJ) (SUB)
Sun. 29 th 11:30 a.m.	Ned Harris (Visn) (SUB)
Mon. 30 th 9:00 a.m.	Living & Deceased of the Bob Gels Family (Visn)
Tues. 1 st 9:00 a.m.	Sue Wirrig (Visn)
Wed. 2 nd 12 noon	Pinky Broermann (Visn)
Wed. 2 nd 6:00 p.m.	Living & Deceased of the Subler/Moore/Hubacher Family (Visn)
Thurs. 3 rd 9:00 a.m.	Holy Souls in Purgatory (Visn)
Fri. 4 th 9:00 a.m.	Living & Deceased of the Vonderhaar Family (Visn)
Sat. 5 th 5:00 p.m.	Doug Smith (Visn) (DD)
Sun. 6 th 7:45 a.m.	Brantley Bo Groh & Family (SM) (GV)
Sun. 6 th 9:45 a.m.	Ruth Fliehman (SJ) (DD)
Sun. 6 th 11:30 a.m.	Parishioners (Visn) (DD)

**Confessions Saturday 4:00 – 4:30pm Visitation
Wednesday 5:00-6:00pm Visitation**

We begin the Advent season this week. Cards with our Advent Mass setting are available at the entrances at each parish. Please take one and keep it throughout the season for use during Mass. At Visitation, we will begin each Sunday of Advent with a Wreath Lighting at the beginning of Mass.

NEW BULLETIN DEADLINE for SUBMISSIONS
Want to have something included in the bulletin? You must submit your item at least 2 weeks before the bulletin date, earlier if possible. Items must be submitted **in writing**, preferably by emailing the item to bulletins@preblecountycatholics.org.

We welcome Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer, Director of the Cincinnati Vocations Office, to Preble County to celebrate our Masses this weekend!

Thank you for your continued support of our parishes through your donations. Collections were not counted by the deadline for the bulletin.

We will have a **second collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious** on December 12 - 13.

Annual Items to Pick Up at/near Church Doors
All parishioners and new members are asked to pick up the following items:

- 1. Collection Envelopes** Please fill out an index card including the Box “#number” so that we can have accurate records for tax purposes.
- 2. FREE Advent Word Among Us booklets.** Daily readings, daily reflections, and a great way to spend every day of Advent preparing for Christ to come again.
- 3. FREE 2021 Calendars** Beautiful images and a calendar connected to our Catholic faith.

December Meetings/Activities
Parish Council meetings
December 7 Visitation 7p.m.
December 14 St. Mary 7:30p.m.
December 21 St. John 7p.m.
Holy Hours
December 3 Visitation 7p.m.
December 10 St. Mary 7 p.m.
December 17 St. John 7 p.m.
St. John news: There will be no St. Ann’s Christmas party due to COVID. Watch the pews for information about ordering poinsettias!

St. Mary Custodial position: We are in need of a custodian for St. Mary parish in Camden. If you are interested in more information and/or applying for this part-time job, please call Kay Hansen at 937-456-3395. Applications will be accepted through Sunday, December 6.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Dear Friends in Christ,

The 3rd part of the Mass is the Liturgy of the Eucharist, where Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is made present by the priest, who carries out the commandment from the Lord to "Do this in memory of me!" This part of the Mass can be further divided into 1) Preparation of the Gifts; 2) Eucharistic Prayer; 3) Communion Rite. In other words, in the Liturgy of the Eucharist we prepare ourselves and the table of Sacrifice, we Behold His True Presence with us, and then we are called to come forward and Receive him into our body and soul.

At the offertory or the preparation of the gifts to go on the Altar, we present Bread and Wine. These elements are foundation to the ancient Israelites and to us today. For the ancients, bread and wine were not simply a side dish or beverage but they were the substantial part of the meal. Because these were so important for the one hosting a meal the offering of bread and wine have come to symbolize the offering of one's self. So, in the bread and wine we offer all our worries, concerns, thoughts, doubts, anger, happiness, joy, gratitude, etc. This part of the liturgy is usually when a collection takes place. Putting money in the basket is not simply a contribution to some good cause. Giving generously and sacrificially embodies our desire to give back to God and one another all the many blessings God has given us. After the priest blesses the bread and mixes water into the wine as a sign of Christ, who came to be one with us, he offers the gifts united to each of our own intentions on the Altar. The priest then prays that his sacrifice and "yours" may be acceptable to God. Yes, you are also priests by virtue of your baptism called to offer sacrifice. You are different from the Ordained Priest but united to Christ the High Priest in his manifold gifts at the Altar. We all offer the bread and wine together.

During the Eucharistic Prayer, at the song of the "Holy, Holy, Holy" we join all the angels and saints in adoration and praise. We kneel down at this moment and will not stand until the Great Amen while we carry out the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We are reminded that it is always right and just to give thanks (to give Eucharist) for God's blessings and to everywhere bless his holy name in our lives. The word "memory" used in the Mass is the biblical word for "memorial" (anamnesis), which, means much more than remembering the past. A liturgical memorial brings the past and present together. Thus, at the liturgy of the Eucharist we behold the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, on the Altar of the Cross represented to us in an unbloody manner. What we behold at this part in the Mass is the very passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Eucharistic prayer includes many forms of petitions, praise, and thanksgiving for God's gift of love to us in His Son's redeeming sacrifice. At the end of the Eucharistic prayer

we have the Doxology (through him, with him, in him...) leading us to the Mystery of the Holy Trinity and we all respond: AMEN.

As we stand in the Lord's true presence (Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity) we pray the Lord's prayer together, we share a sign of Christ's peace with one another, and then we break the Bread as a reminder of the lance that pierced the Lord's side and Blood and Water spilled forth for our salvation. We then commingle the small piece of the Host with the Blood symbolizing the reunification of Christ's body and blood in the Resurrection. We should all kneel once again as we hear, "Behold the Lamb of God..." and we see and behold Jesus in the Eucharist as a pledge of the Lamb of God that we are promised to see on the heavenly throne in eternal life. At Communion we are each called to examine our hearts and minds and receive the Lord with good disposition, free from any mortal sin by prior confession, and come to the Altar of God and make our commitment to live in him, through him, and by him. Then we can kneel or sit for the remainder of the time of Communion meditating on such a precious gift of our salvation in this Holy Communion with Jesus. We are transformed into what we consume. We become little by little, if we are willing, like Jesus Christ in our thoughts, words, and actions. Once the priest has placed the remaining hosts in the tabernacle the people can remain kneeling or be seated while he washes the sacred vessels. Then we sit/kneel in silence in wonder of so great a Sacrament of the Eucharist.

God Love you,
Fr. David Doseck

Nominations for Parish Councils due November 29:

Both Visitation (two positions) and St. Mary (one position) are accepting nominations for Parish Council 'at large' positions (three year terms beginning in January 2021). All nominees must be registered, confirmed members of the applicable parish, 18 years or older. Nominations for Visitation, including a resume/biography and photo, should be submitted to Alice Rickard (arickard@woh.rr.com) Dianna Metzger (mmetzger1@woh.rr.com), or Germaine Vonderhaar (gvonderhaar45@gmail.com). At St. Mary, nomination cards are in the pews; please fill one out and leave in the pew. If you are not attending Mass at St. Mary at this time, call or text Dave Kuhbender at 937-849-0427 to make a nomination. Elections will be held December 5/6. Thank you for your consideration to run as a candidate for the future of our parishes.