

St. Mary's Catholic Church

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2014



Dear parishioners,

Here we are waiting at the door to Christmas—the mystery that is at the heart of our faith. To be a Christian means to believe that Jesus is God come into the world as a human person to reveal to us who God is and to show us how to live. That is an incomprehensible mystery!

The fifth graders made a Jesse tree that recalls the many years over which God promised to send Jesus and the many prophets who foretold Jesus' coming. Actually God in infinite patience prepared for the coming of Jesus 13 billion years ago when God leapt into our history with creation.

Sometimes we minimize the feast of Christmas and think of it only as Jesus' birthday. It is that. It is however much more than that. Christmas is the celebration of the mystery of the Incarnation. God is love. In order to reveal that love, God created the universe so that he might have a place for us to live so that Jesus could come to be with us. God is not a distant, disinterested God. God wants to be in relationship with us. God wants to be close to us. God wants us to know how much we are loved. That is what Christmas is all about.

Everything else is our response to God's great gift of love.

I pray that this holy Christmas season and the coming year might be for you a deepening of that awareness.

Sister Carol

Please remember to pray for the soul of Kate Konst who died this past week. May her soul rest in peace.

Weekend Masses

Sat Dec 20	4:00 p.m.	Teresa Rieman Len & Sally Rieman
Sun Dec 21	10:00 a.m.	Dolores Hermiller and James Trenkamp
Sat Dec 27	4:00 p.m.	For the parish
Sun Dec 28	10:00 a.m.	Dorothy Herrmann

Communion Services

Tue Dec 23	10:30 a.m.	Richland
Fri Dec 26	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,300.00	Loose	\$395.85
Children	\$ 40.50	Total	\$3,736.35

84 envelopes returned = 40%

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for December 27 & 28, 2014

Money Counters: Deb Goldenetz and Chad Wolford
4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Jeanne Parinello

Cantor: Dave Roby

Ushers: Hank and Carol Schroeder

Lector: Jenny Roby

Eucharistic Ministers: Bob Minto, Edna Conkling

Servers: Alyson and Abigail Kettels

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Judy Lester

Greeter-West Door: Deb Buck

Cantor:

Ushers: Gloria Vance and Joseph Schriener

Lectors: Lisa Welch and Jan Schulte

Eucharistic Ministers: Michelle Risner, Betty Gerten,
Tom Schulte, and Linda Kinn

Servers: Brayton Businger, Josh and Nathan Meyer

Readings for December 28, 2014

Feast of The Holy Family

1st Reading: Genesis 15:1-6; 21:1-3

2nd Reading Hebrews 11:8, 11-12, 17-19

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:22-40



*Wishing You A
Merry Christmas!!*

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St. Mary's Parish History

DID YOU KNOW?

Not only was St. Mary's served by priests, from 1932 until 1968 the Sisters of Mercy also came from St. Rita's Hospital when St. Mary's was placed under the care of the hospital chaplain. The Sisters came to teach religion on Saturday mornings. There were always two Sisters and they travelled by bus from Lima. In the summer three Sisters of Mercy who were regular teachers came to teach summer school.



We will decorate the church for Christmas on Monday, December 22, beginning at 9:00 in the morning. All help will be appreciated!

Masses for Christmas

4:00 – Children's Choir will sing

6:00 – Cantor

10:00 – Adult Choir will sing beginning at 9:30



Thank you to Bob and Louise Rieman for putting up the lovely lights at the main entrance to church. **Thank you** to the Bluffton Student Senate (including Josh Garmatter and Adam Basinger) for cleaning out all our closets, preparing the luminaria for Christmas Eve, decorating the tree on the west entrance to church, and putting together the two big trees in church.

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K-6: Class will resume January 7, 2015 from 6:30-7:45 p.m. Mass will be at 7:00 p.m.

Confirmation Class: Classes resume in January, 2015.

SNLY: SNLY will NOT meet Sunday December 21st. We will resume in January 2015.

Here is the schedule for liturgical ministers for Christmas Eve. We still need people to help. If you can serve in one of these capacities, please call the office or text Sr. Carol at 419-890-8050 to let us know.

Christmas Eve liturgical ministers - 2014

4:00 o'clock Mass

Greeters: _____ and _____

Ushers: Dave Siefker and Joel Siefker

Servers: Kaden Reneker, Drew Lovett, Ken Lovett, Brayton Businger

Lectors: Matt Ellerbrock and Bella Ellerbrock, Eli Wenger

Petitions: Cameron Coughlin

Eucharistic ministers: Jenna Kimmel, McKenna Reneker, Wes Lovett, Anna Crisp, Jeanne Parinello

Battery candle bearers: Maggie Ellerbrock, Parker Kimmel, Calin Osting, Anna Honse, Toby Yarnell, Madison Beasley, Hunter Beasley, _____

Crib Candle bearers: Eli Jones, Elizabeth Honse, Nolan Hoffman, Gracie Yarnell

Bring in the Baby Jesus: Brad and Laura Jones family

6:00 o'clock Mass

Greeters: Basil Meyer and Rosemary Meyer

Ushers: Chuck Niese and _____

Servers: Josh Meyer, Nathan Meyer

Lectors: Jenny Roby and _____

Eucharistic ministers: Josh Garmatter, Nathan Garmatter, Edna Conkling

10:00 o'clock Mass

Greeters: Hank and Carol Schroeder

Ushers: _____ and _____

Servers: _____, _____, _____, _____

Lectors: Judy Lester and Phillip Miller

Eucharistic ministers: Julia Miller, Brian Miller, Tom Schulte