Upcoming Parish Events:

**HOLY ROSARY CHURCH**
**CLEVELAND, OHIO**

**Monday, December 14, 2015**
5:30 p.m.  Calogera Capobianco (Harasty Family)

**Tuesday, December 15, 2015**
12:15 p.m.  Giovanna & Marziale Rossi and Mike & Sabina Forlani (Family)

**Wednesday, December 16, 2015**
12:15 p.m.  Constance Occhionero (Joe & Peggy Mancuso)

**Thursday, December 17, 2015**
7:00 a.m.  Luigi Guerriero (Family)

**Friday, December 18, 2015**
12:15 p.m.  Mike Spuzzillo (Annette & Ray Kristosik)

**Saturday, December 19, 2015**
5:00 p.m.  Robert Fratus (Family)

**Sunday, December 20, 2015**
8:30 a.m.  Clergy & Staff of Holy Rosary
11:00 a.m.  Roger Marinucci (Wife Severina)
8:00 p.m.  Living and Deceased of Holy Rosary

Daily Readings, Feast Days & Observances

**Monday, December 14: St. John of the Cross**
Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9; Mt 21:23-27

**Tuesday, December 15: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23; Mt 21:18-32**

**Wednesday, December 16: Is 45:6c-8, 18, 21c-25; Ps 85:9ab, 10, 11-12, 13-14; Lk 7:18b-23**

**Thursday, December 17: Gn 49:2, 8-10; Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17; Mt 1:1-17**

**Friday, December 18: Jer 23:5-8; Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19; Mt 1:18-25**

**Saturday, December 19: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25**

**Sunday, December 20: Fourth Sunday of Advent**
Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19; Heb 10:5-10; Lk 39:45

Gratitude for our Calendar & Bulletin Sponsors

We are so very grateful for the financial support and loyalty of the merchants who advertise year-round on the back page of this bulletin. It is through their generosity that we are able to publish our bulletin each week free of charge. Please remember to patronize their businesses throughout the year. We also thank the Vitantonio Previte Funeral Homes for their gift of the 2016 Religious Art calendar. Thank you!

With Gratitude & Appreciation

December 5-6: $5,637.69

Thank you for your generosity.

For information about electronic giving through Faith Direct, visit faithdirect.net. The Parish Code for Holy Rosary is OH473.
My Dear Parish Family,

On this third Sunday of Advent, known as Gaudete or Rejoice Sunday, we find ourselves midway in our observance of Advent. The liturgical color for today is rose; the celebrant will wear a rose colored vestment and the rose candle on the Advent wreath will be lighted to remind us that this is a time to rejoice.

What are we rejoicing? Is it the hurried pace of living the Christmas rush that causes us to forget to fill that empty space in our hearts with the presence of Jesus? It’s so easy to get caught up in the whirlwind that so many in our culture experience weeks before Advent even begins. Many believe that this is what makes them happy.

Saint Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, tells us that joy is not just the happiness that we feel from merely enjoying life. Feeling is only temporal. The joy of a Christian is grounded in faith in Jesus Christ. “Joy is prayer; joy is strength; joy is love, a net of which you can catch souls.” (Blessed Mother Teresa, Jesus).

In today’s first reading, Zephaniah’s prophesy of salvation tells the people of Jerusalem that despite their sins, God, in His mercy will spare them and they will enjoy peace. For this reason, Zephaniah calls them to “shout for joy”…“sing joyfully”…to be glad and exult with all their hearts. The prophet’s instructions in this reading apply to us as well. “The best way to show your gratitude to God and people is to accept everything with joy. A joyful heart is the normal result of a heart burning with love.” (Blessed Mother Teresa, Jesus).

John the Baptist continues his call for repentance challenging those who came to him to live their lives caring for the good of others. For those tax collectors and soldiers, he told them to be men of integrity and honesty. John, in all humility, continues to step back, always acknowledging the greatness of Jesus. John’s mission for Christ was intense and yet, he had passion and the strength to preach the inspiration of God to all who came. John was selfless and in union with God. His call to repent is all about humility. Humility is about freedom and freedom leads to inner peace and joy…the joy that can only exist in the presence of Jesus Christ.

The temporal and hurried pace of living the Christmas rush will for certain end in disappointment. It’s not about how many presents we buy or receive. True joy comes from the real love that lives in union with the Holy Trinity in the core of our being and how we share it with others. In the season of Advent we are asked to search our very being and bring the joy that lives within us to the surface. Then we will know the meaning of today’s readings: to freely share the gifts of joy and love with a phone call to someone you haven’t spoken with; to make peace with that estranged friend or family member; to be with someone who needs you; to be a person of hope in a time when so many are hopeless. Pope Francis says that joy is the sign of the Christian. We cannot allow evil and sadness to overshadow goodness and joy. May we live the next two weeks, and the rest of our lives preparing and rejoicing for and in the Lord, the Lord we hope to see one day face to face.

In Christ,

Anne DeMarco
Pastoral Minister

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Advent Angel Tree Project & Opportunity to Assist Displaced Christians in the Middle East

This year there are two opportunities for you to participate in our Advent Angel Tree project:

1. We will again assist the St. Philip Neri Family Center to collect donations of new toys or clothing for children ranging in age from six months to seventeen years. Please see the information table next to the Angel for gift ideas. There is no set price range. Please bring your gifts to the Church Hall no later than Sunday, December 13 at Noon. Please do not wrap your gifts. Monetary donations or checks may be made payable to “Catholic Charities St. Philip Neri Family Center, memo: Christmas Shop.”

2. The Knights of Columbus are collecting donations to aid persecuted Christians in the Middle East. Christians are being killed and kidnapped, houses destroyed, churches and convents invaded. Those wishing to assist with relief efforts can make a monetary donation in the envelopes provided next to the Angel Tree. Checks can be made payable to “Holy Rosary” and the memo line should read “Christian Refugee Relief.” 100% of all donations directly supports humanitarian assistance of persecuted Christians and religious minorities.

Monetary donations may be placed in the envelopes provided and dropped into the basket in church, placed in the offertory basket or delivered to the Parish Office during business hours. Thank you for your generosity during Advent.

Amahl and the Night Visitors
Cleveland Opera Performance at Holy Rosary Church
Saturday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate the Christmas season with Gian Carlo Menotti’s classic holiday opera, Amahl and the Night Visitors, about a boy, Amahl, who can walk only with a crutch. He lives with his mother in Bethlehem in the first century. They receive visitors, three kings from a far-away land, on a journey to meet a newborn child. What happens next? Well, you’ll have to be there to find out! Admission to this production is free, and monetary donations will be accepted to benefit the City Mission. Our own Holy Rosary Choir will sing in the chorus of this production, so we invite you to please come to hear a FREE performance!
Annual Holy Rosary Christmas Caroling
Friday, December 18th
Friday, December 18th
at 7:00 p.m.
We invite you to gather in the Church Hall for the annual Holy Rosary Christmas Caroling gathering. No special talent is necessary! We sing in the Little Italy neighborhood for the homebound members of our parish – so please dress for the weather!!! We plan to leave at 7:00 p.m. promptly, so please plan to arrive by 6:45 p.m. It’s a lot of fun and is a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas. Take a night off from shopping and gift wrapping! Song sheets are provided and ALL are welcome regardless of singing ability! If you have sleigh bells, bring them along! Afterward, enjoy food, cocoa, visiting with friends, and fun for the children. Please bring a dessert or appetizer to share. We provide the hot cocoa, beverages and songbooks. Questions? Call 216-496-9978.

The Holy Rosary Capital Campaign Continues...
Continuing the Tradition
PARISH GOAL: $1,300,000.00
Pledges Made to date: $1,104,320.46
Payments Made to date: $871,998.03
We are grateful for the sacrificial pledges and payments made by parish families and friends who believe in Continuing the Tradition that is Holy Rosary Parish. If interested in making a pledge or one-time contribution, please call (216) 421-2995. Payments may also be made automatically through Faith Direct. Thank you for your generosity & prayers.

Stitch Ministry
The Holy Rosary Stitch Ministry invites you to drop in at the Church Hall on the second Thursday of the month from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to work on projects. Choose one of our collected patterns or use your own favorite. Whether you drop in on Thursdays or work on your own at home, you can drop off your finished items and yarn donations in the specially marked box in the church hall or at the parish office. Thank you!

Are you interested in the Catholic Faith?
The Holy Rosary Stitch Ministry invites you to drop in at the Church Hall on the second Thursday of the month from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to work on projects. Choose one of our collected patterns or use your own favorite. Whether you drop in on Thursdays or work on your own at home, you can drop off your finished items and yarn donations in the specially marked box in the church hall or at the parish office. Thank you!

Are you interested in the Catholic Faith?
We invite you to learn what the Church teaches and be introduced to some of our parish members. These also are opportunities for you, and others that you may wish to invite, to ask those perplexing and difficult questions you may have about the Church. These gatherings are for inquirers and are open to those who are not baptized, as well as those who are baptized Christians from Protestant or Evangelical backgrounds, or baptized Catholic but have not received Eucharist and Confirmation. The sessions are Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Please contact Father Joseph Previte or Anne DeMarco if you have questions or would like further information at 216-421-2995. Tuesday night RCIA meetings resume again on January 12th. Topic, January 12: Sanctity of Life

The Epiphany – Little Christmas in Little Italy
Save the Date! Sunday, January 3
The annual parish celebration of the Epiphany is Sunday, January 3, at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Please plan to join us for a visit from the Befana. Everyone is welcome to attend the reception in the Church Hall following the 11:00 a.m. Mass. We also ask for contributions of pastries and finger foods for the reception. They can be dropped off at the Parish Office on January 2 during business hours or brought to the hall on January 3.

Pray for those in the military, law enforcement & firefighters

- Third District Cleveland Police
- Battalion I Cleveland Firefighters
- City of Bedford Safety Forces
- Firefighter Nicholas Angie, Kirtland
- First Lieut. Timothy Berger, Marines
- Rct. Frank DiPenti, Marines
- SPC Daniel Geraci Elliott
- Lt. Guy Estergall, Cleveland Fire Dept.
- Patrol Officer Christopher Frato, Jr., Shaker Hts
- Firefighter Joseph Frato, Akron
- Cpl. Aaron Gobidas, Marines
- Ryan Gvora, Mayfield Hts Firefighter
- R.J. Harmon, Willoughby Hills Police Dept.
- William Madan, Mayfield Hts Firefighter
- Nicholas Mandato, Air Force
- Sgt. Miles McGreehan, U.S. Army Reserves
- Capt. Jonathan Royer, Marines
- Firefighter Michael Scabbo
- Deputy Rex Smith, Minnehaha County, SD
- Mark Stack, Marine Reserves & Lorain Firefighter
- Patrol Officer Matthew Sustarsic

Jesuit Retreat House – New Year’s Eve Retreat
Retreat Theme: Gratitude
Presented by Matt Roche, SJ. New Year’s Eve is an ideal time to kick back and pray in gratitude for the things I am grateful for. Do I have my health? Are my children and grandchildren doing well? What would I like to thank God for? Let’s come together in a litany of gratitude with discussion on how God has been good to us. The evening will begin with dinner at 6:00 p.m. and conclude at 11:00 a.m. the next morning. Includes Mass and time for reflection and discussion. Fr. Matt Roche, SJ, is a full-time minister at Jesuit Retreat House with 30 years experience in spiritual direction.

Cost: $90.00. To register, contact JRH at (440) 884-9300 or www.jrh-cleveland.org.
Newman Catholic Campus Ministry
Sharon Bramante, Campus Minister

Email: sharon.bramante@case.edu
Phone: (216) 421-9614, x302
Office: Inter Faith Center
11205 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44106
Website: www.cwrunewman.org

***This Week’s Schedule***

Monday, December 14, 5:45 p.m. – Labre Homeless Outreach brings food, supplies, and friendship to those living outdoors. If you can help over the holidays, please contact Labreinfo@case.edu to volunteer!

Tuesday, December 15, 6:15 p.m. – Lectio Divina Prayer Group in the IFC Please contact Peter Liao at pll21@case.edu for more information.

Saturday, December 19, 1:00-5:30 p.m.:
Parishioners and Newman Students Alike: Are you in town over the holidays and looking for a way to share God’s love with others as we begin the Year of Mercy?

We could use some help preparing and serving our monthly Community Connections Meal at Our Family Home Center in East Cleveland. **There are three ways to help on December 19:**

- Cook desserts or a side dish at home
- Come to the Parish Hall from 1:00-3:00 p.m. to help prepare the meal
- Travel to E. Cleveland from 3:00-5:30 p.m. to meet our neighbors and serve the meal.

Please contact Sharon, sxb671@case.edu for more information and to volunteer.

Lost & Found: Have you Lost Something?
We have a collection of eyeglasses, rosaries, hats and gloves, and miscellaneous items that have been left behind in church or dropped in the parking lot throughout the year. If you are missing something, please call or stop by the office. All unclaimed items will be discarded or donated at the end of the year, so please call (216) 421-2995 if you think you may have lost something while at Holy Rosary.

Holy Rosary Men’s Ministry – Meets Monthly
Men of all ages are invited to join for prayer and discussion on Saturday, December 19th – and the third Saturday of each month – beginning with morning prayer and the Rosary prayed in the Church at 8:00 a.m. and then followed by a coffee break and discussion in the church hall. Please join us to discuss The Joy of the Gospel, Evangelii Gaudium, the Apostolic Exhortation by Pope Francis. If you have any questions, please call Fred at (216) 321-4596.