

**Brothers and Sisters in Christ,**

As this Fourth Sunday of Advent is **December 24th** and also the start of the Christmas Season this Sunday afternoon, I want to be sure and wish everyone a Blessed Christmas Season. I pray that you have a wonderful experience of God's presence in your life and in our world this season. I pray that you will know that God has closed the distance between us and Him and He wishes to dwell with us. St. Matthew quotes from Isaiah: "the Virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him **Emmanuel**, which means 'God is with us'" (**Mt. 1:23**). St. John says in the Prologue of His Gospel – "the word became flesh and made his dwelling among us" (**Jn. 1:14**). Both Gospel accounts, which we read on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, encourage us to have this faith and hope in God's presence and His promises of a blessed life. God has come to earth to be with His people, to save us and bring us into His family, to know Him and His love. May you and your loved ones be blessed with this knowledge and hope.

I wish to thank all those from both **Sacred Heart** and **St. John the Baptist** parishes who helped decorate the churches. They look very beautiful. It is a wonderful expression of our love of God and our desire to give Him praise.

Merry Christmas,

**May God bless you this week!**

**Fr. Kitsmiller**

**Associate Administrator**

**Sacred Heart and St. John the Baptist**

**MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST**

Sun., 12/24	9:30 a.m.	<b>Delores Di Sabato</b> by Margaret Panico-Harn & Steve Panico
Sun., 12/24	4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil	<b>Don Veri</b> by Donna Veri
Mon., 12/25	10:00 a.m.	<b>Antonio Frissora</b> by Mr. & Mrs. Antonio Caradonna
Tues., 12/26	1:00 p.m. Padre Pio	<b>Adam Carfagna</b> by Antoinette Carfagna
Sun., 12/31	9:30 a.m.	<b>Bruno Masdea</b> by The Masdea Family

***Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:***

**Blessed Sacrament:** Virginia & Dominick Finissi  
by Norma Jean & Bill Finissi Sr.

**Marian Lights:** Armando Gastaldo  
by Andrea Myers

**EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Tues., 12/26	1:00 p.m.	<b>Padre Pio Prayer Group – Rosary &amp; Intentions – Mass at 1:00 p.m. Chapel</b>
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*Please remember in your prayers those who are sick or suffering, especially those who are in Hospitals, Nursing Facilities or Homebound.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS\*\***

MOTHER ANGELINE McCrory: Marie Tarantelli

**\*\*If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input.**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS**

	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Eucharistic Minister</b>
<b>Sun., 12/24 9:30 a.m.</b>	Gabe Bishop Bob Contino	Antonio D'Alberto, Ed Pagnanelli, Margaret Panico-Harn, Judy Pishitelli & Marge Contino
	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Eucharistic Ministers</b>
<b>Sun., 12/24 4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil</b>	Landa Brunetto John Snoad	Margaret Panico-Harn, Pat Rossetti, Bob Contino, Judy Pishitelli & Marge Contino
<b>Mon., 12/25 10:00 a.m.</b>	Nick D'Alberto Ed Pagnanelli	Claudio Pasion, Sharon D'Alberto, Andrea Myers, Leslie Pasion & Ed Pagnanelli
<b>Sun., 12/31 9:30 a.m.</b>	Bob Contino John Snoad	Pete Tamburro, Pat Rossetti, Ed Pagnanelli, Marge Contino, & Claudio Pasion

**The Rosary before Mass on Sunday:** We begin the **Rosary** around **9:00-9:05 a.m.**, and it takes about 15-20 minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact the Men's Faith Sharing group. Leaders for **December** are:

**December 24**

**December 31** Gary Bosco

**January 7** Vincent Davis

**2017 Liturgical Calendar & Mass Readings**

**December 24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent**

2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Rom 16:25-27/Lk 1:26-38

**December 25 – The Nativity of the Lord**

**Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25**

**Night: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14**

**Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20**

**Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18**

**December 26 – Saint Stephen, The First Martyr**

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22

**December 27 – Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist**

1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8

**December 28 – The Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18

**December 29 – Fifth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord – St. Thomas Becket, Bishop and Martyr**

1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35

**December 30 – Sixth Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord**

1 Jn 2:12-17/Lk 2:36-40

**December 31 – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/

Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40

**\*Pray for our Priest and seminarians**



**Office Hours:** The Parish Office will be closed **Monday, Christmas Day** and resume on **Tuesday-Friday**, from **9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S**

December 17, 2017

Number of Envelopes Used – 46

In Envelopes: \$1,965.00 Loose Money \$136.00

Regular Collection	\$ 2,101.00
Less Diocesan 6% Assessment	(\$ 126.06)
	\$ 1,974.94
<b>Votives</b>	\$ 44.00
<b>Retirement</b>	\$ 20.00
<b>Saint Anthony Bread</b>	\$ 2.00
<b>Capital Improvements</b>	\$ 109.00
<b>Christmas Flowers</b>	\$ 50.00
<b>50/50 Drawing</b>	\$ 10.00
	\$ 235.00

**? \$ ? \$ ? HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING ? \$ ? \$ ?****Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/17-6/30/18)**

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
<b>This Week:</b>	\$ 2,885.00	\$ 2,101.00	-\$ ( 784.00)	-27%
<b>FYTD:</b>	\$72,125.00	\$63,912.00	-\$ (8,213.00)	-11%

**SJB Collection Counters****for Tuesday, December 26, 2017**

Mary Spellacy, Maria Lucchin, &amp; Tom Elliott

**SJB Collection Counters****for Monday, January 1, 2018**

Darlene Rauch, Maruja Paule &amp; Donna Veri

**Employment Opportunity**

Saint John the Baptist/Sacred Heart Parishes

Temporary – 24 hours/week **Position:** Bookkeeper**Practicing Catholic:** Preferred**Date:** December 11, 2017 **Deadline:** December 29, 2017

**Qualifications for the position:** The ideal candidate must be self-motivated to complete the responsibilities of the job with minimum supervision; ability to multi-task and establish priorities; ability to maintain flexible attitude and approach towards assignments and successfully operate under appropriate guidelines; ability to read and comprehend simple instructions, write short correspondence, and memos; ability to effectively communicate with staff, parishioners, and other visitors to the parish; ability to exercise discreet judgment in maintaining all information highly confidential; ability to be flexible but meet deadlines when required; establish good organizational skills and priorities; exhibit initiative and responsibility. To perform this job successfully, an individual should have knowledge of MS Office (Word, Excel, and Outlook) and QuickBooks systems.

**Education/Experience:** A college degree is preferred with a degree in a related field or comparable bookkeeping experience. 2 years of previous accounting experience is required or equivalent combination of education and experience is required. Offer of position is contingent upon successful completion of a mandatory background screening and the VIRTUS "Protecting God's Children" program. Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Benefits are according to Diocesan policy.

For complete job description, please contact parish office or Father Robert Kitsmiller.

Send cover letter, résumé, and references by Friday, **December 29, 2017 to Father Robert Kitsmiller, Pastor (rkitsmiller@columbuscatholic.org).**

**CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

<b><u>December 24th</u></b>		
Christmas Eve Vigil	(SJB)	4:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Vigil	(SH)	5:30 p.m.
<b><u>December 25th</u></b>		
Christmas Day	(SJB)	10:00 a.m.
<b><u>January 1st</u></b>		
New Year's Day	(SH)	10:00 a.m.

**AROUND US**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent:** This year, Advent is very short, Sunday being the only day in the fourth week. In the General Roman Calendar, today is the last day of Advent, Christmas Eve, and also (beginning with the vigil Mass) is the first day of Christmas time. The liturgical texts express wholehearted confidence in the imminent coming of the Redeemer. There is much joyous expectation. Most families have their own observances, customs that are preserved from generation to generation. Today is the last day of our Christmas Novena.

**Christmas Catholic Charities Collection:** This annual collection allows the diocese to meet a variety of basic needs directly and through diocesan agencies and organizations including J.O.I.N. (Joint Organization for Inner-City Needs), St. Stephen's Community House, Catholic Social Services, St. Francis Center, St. Lawrence Haven, St. Vincent Family Center, and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. You can help share in this important work by generously supporting the Catholic Charities collection this year.

**Roe Remembrance at Ohio Statehouse:** Greater Columbus Right to Life will sponsor this event on Monday, January 22, noon to **1:00 p.m.**, at the Ohio Statehouse following the **10:30 a.m.** Respect Life Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral. The program will be held in the Statehouse Atrium. Please allow extra time for new Statehouse security measures. Stickers, signs, and weapons are not permitted inside. For additional information, visit [www.gctrl.org/roe.html](http://www.gctrl.org/roe.html).

***"This Christmas, let us ask Mary, Mother of Jesus and our Mother to help us see in our neighbor the face of Jesus, god made man."***

*~ Pope Francis*



*Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."*

*~ Matthew 1:23*

**Nativity Prayer by St. Augustine**

*Let the just rejoice,*

*for their justifier is born.*

*Let the sick and infirm rejoice,*

*For their savior is born.*

*Let the captives rejoice,*

*For their Redeemer is born.*

*Let slaves rejoice, for their Master is born.*

*Let free men rejoice,*

*For their Liberator is born.*

*Let All Christians rejoice,*

*For Jesus Christ is born.*

*Amen*