

# Advent

WATCH FOR  
THE LORD'S  
COMING!

**“Prepare the way of the Lord, make  
straight his paths”**

### Intention for the Week

**Monday, Dec. 7, St. Ambrose**

6:30 AM Fr. Ray Clark

**Vigil Mass Of The Immaculate Conception**

6:00 PM Betty Williams (dec)

**Tuesday, Dec. 8, Holyday—The Immaculate Conception**

9:00 AM School Mass

Noon Daughters of Isabella (L&D)

**Wednesday, Dec. 9, St. Juan Diego**

6:30 AM Bob Cecil (dec)

**Thursday, Dec. 10**

Noon Edith Riney (dec)

**Friday, Dec. 11, St. Damasus I**

Noon Ladies Auxiliary K of C

**Saturday, Dec. 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe**

4 PM Paul Roberts (dec)

**Third Sunday of Advent**

7:00 AM Jerry Blandford Jr. & Sr. (dec)

10:00 AM Dorothy Clem (dec)

5:30 PM Blessed Mother Parishioners

### Family Advent Candle Bearers

**Dec. 5/6**

4 Gary Fauchaux 7 Randy Lee  
10 Marty Cravens 5:30 Dan Thomas

**Dec. 12/13**

4 Jeff Williams 7 Al Thompson  
10 Phil Riney 5:30 Rick Moman

### Liturgical Ministers for Dec. 12-13

#### Eucharistic Ministers

4 PM Edith Johnson, Jack Wilson, Liz Francis, Bonnie Snyder, Mary Ava Jackson, Susan, Pat Hale, Marian Bennett, Lahoma Stinnett

7 AM Don Cecil, Sr. Mary Timothy, Charlene, Harry Baumgarten, Angie, Randy Lee

10 AM Darlene Church, John, Raymunda Calhoun, Phil, Josie Hagan, Mark Church, Kerry, Debbie Riney, Katina Hayden

5:30 PM Katie Mattingly, Olivia Hardesty, Jessica, Lisa Carmon, Deanna Brasher, Rachel Thomas



#### Readers

4 PM Mike Clark

7 AM Harry Baumgarten

10 AM Phil Hagan

5:30 PM Jack Hamilton

#### Servers

4 PM Matthew Johnson, Nicholas Jackson

7 AM Kevin, Tricia Thompson

10 AM Jacob Johnson, Stephen Hyland

5:30 PM Alex Smiley, Sara Brown

#### Families to Take Up Gifts

4 PM Joyce Powers

7 AM Tina Wolken

10 AM Steve Frey

5:30 PM Paul Thompson

#### Children's Liturgy

Preschool: Jennifer Hayden, Beth Young

Kn-3 Grade: Tina Wolken, Jennifer Shultz

#### Vocation Cross Family

Ken Terry, Betty Thompson, Mike Thompson

**Hillcrest:** Judy Coomes, Karen Thompson

#### Ministers of Hospitality for December

4 Tony Fiorella, Jackee Russell, Bill Wathen, Jack Hamilton

7 Jeff, Mary Fenwick, Jack, Nancy Murphy

10 Charlie, Janet, Lacey Kase, John Bell Sr.

5:30 Luke Robertson, Alex Vaughan, Mason, Ben Miller

## Catholic Q&A

### *What is Advent?*

The *Modern Catholic Dictionary*, by Fr. John A. Hardon, tells us that Advent is, "A period of prayer in preparation for Christmas, including four Sundays, the first nearest the feast of St. Andrew, November 30. It is the beginning of the Church's liturgical year (Etym. Latin *adventus*, a coming, approach, arrival.)."

Advent is a time of preparation for and anticipation of the coming of the Lord that we celebrate on Christmas Day. It is an opportunity to place ourselves in the shoes of the Jewish people who waited so long for the coming of the Messiah. It is an opportunity to renew our appreciation for the Incarnation, the moment when the Son of God became man, one like us in all things but sin. Advent takes on a somber tone, similar to Lent, because our minds are focused on what life is like without Christ, without God's entrance into our world. Of course, in waiting for this coming of the Lord, Advent takes on an eschatological tone as well since, as Christians, we also await the Second Coming, when Jesus will come again and make all things new.

Unfortunately, the same world that God so desired to save can often squelch the spirit of Advent that we are called to embrace. If we are somber it is not because we anxiously await the coming of the Lord, it is because traffic to the mall is backed up, Wal-Mart is all out of Nintendo Wii's, and the kids are yelling in the back seat because they want to go see Santa Claus. It's easy in times like this to forget what Christmas is really all about. This is where Advent comes in. Once we understand Advent for what it is truly meant to be, it can be the antidote to the stress that often accompanies the holiday season. Advent calls us to refocus our minds back to what is important and to remember again the true reason for the season.

Over 2,000 years ago, God asked a virgin a simple question: "Will you let me use you to bring my Son to the world? Will you give me your flesh, your life, your time, your entire being?" In a sense, this is the same question that God asks us today, and Advent is a time to prepare ourselves so that when God wishes to come through us, we like Mary, will be able to say "Yes" to Him.

Let us also remember that with Advent's past significance (in the Incarnation) and future significance (in the Second Coming) is also a present reality. Jesus comes, here and now, wherever the Eucharist is celebrated. In a sense, every Mass is a new Advent, and it only makes sense that, during this time of preparation, we should remain close to Christ in the Eucharist. It is in *that* advent that He is preparing us for the advent that awaits the end of time.

Peace of Christ to you,  
Nicholas Hardesty, Director of Religious Education  
nicholashardesty@gmail.com

## Parish Reception for Nicholas and Amy Dec. 13th After 10:30 Mass

All are invited to come with good wishes for Nick and Amy. Cake and punch will be served. We can all meet the beautiful bride!

### Forming Good Stewards

We must be good stewards of God's gifts to us, receiving them gratefully and cultivating them with care. Advent is a time of preparing, a time of giving. Let us share from the heart this Advent Season and we will be prepared to greet the Christ Child this Christmas.

Collection	Budget	MDT	YDT
Nov 22			
\$22,975.	\$21,057.	\$22,010.	\$21,941.
Nov. 29			
\$19,225.	\$21,057.	\$21,453.	\$20,943.

### End of the Year Giving

*We are all busy finding that perfect gift for everyone on our list during this season of joy. Please remember to put your Church on your giving list. Not only is your gift tax deductible, but most important you are helping to spread The Kingdom of God on earth. Parish Christmas Envelopes are in your packets*

### Advent Communal Penance Services

Wed., Dec. 9	St. Anthony, Browns Valley, 6pm
Sun., Dec. 13	St. Mary of the Woods, Whitesville, 3pm
Mon., Dec. 14	Sts. Joe & Paul, 6pm
Tues., Dec. 15	St. Pius X, 6pm
Wed., Dec. 16	St. William, Knottsville, 6pm
<b>Sun., Dec. 20</b>	<b>Blessed Mother, 2pm</b>
Mon., Dec. 21	St. Lawrence, Knottsville, 6pm

### Christmas Flower Memorial

You can honor your loved ones this Christmas by giving flowers in their memory. Envelopes are in your packets. Be sure to write in the names of those you wish remembered. Your loved ones will be remembered at all the Masses during the Christmas Season.



*From Death  
to New Life*

Our prayers and sympathy are extended to: Herman Barr on the death of his sister.

David Howard on the death of his father.

Dorothy Clark and LaVonne Knott on the death of husband and father, Wayne Clark.

The Van Meter, Johnson, and Thompson Family on the death of Jean Van Meter.

May they rest in the love and the peace of the Lord!

## Young Disciples (Grades 7-12)

### Coming Soon...

Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>~ ODYO Talent/Variety Show... We will leave right after mass for Diamond Lakes, and return to the Parish parking lot around 9:00 pm. Cost is \$5 + food money!

Sunday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>~ Youth Group Christmas Party!!

**Those interested in the mission trip need to give a definite answer by Sunday, the 13<sup>th</sup>. For more info. Contact me.**

Parents, if you have not been able to fill out forms, please contact me at the office or catch me Sunday night!

Questions, concerns, comments: come by, call, or e-mail me @: Christina Best: [bmcyou@south@bellsouth.net](mailto:bmcyou@south@bellsouth.net) or 683-8444 Ext. 28

### Cooking Teams up to bat: THANK YOU!!

Sunday, Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>~ ODYO...NO TEAM NEEDED

Sunday, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>~ Diane Hoffman, Michele Linn, Katie Ballard, Sharon McPherson

**Attention All Parents of 2nd Graders  
First Reconciliation Meeting  
Dec. 9, 7-8PM, In Parish Hall**

### Laugh for the Week

What a Girl Wants for Christmas  
Santa at the Mall was very surprised when a Emily, young lady aged about 20 years old walked up and sat on his lap. Now, we all know that Santa doesn't usually take requests from adults, but she smiled very nicely at him, so he asked her, "What do you want for Christmas?" Emily sweetly replied, "Something for my mother, please." "Well, that's very loving and thoughtful of you," Santa replied. "What would you like me to bring her?" Without turning a hair Emily replied quickly, "A son-in-law."

**Christmas Masses  
Christmas Eve 5, 8 PM  
Midnight  
Christmas Day, 9 AM**

## The Giving Tree



Our tree went up Thanksgiving Day making our tradition of our Giving Tree 21 years old. We ask that you take a tag from the tree, fill the order and then return the gift with the tag. The tags are coded and let us know what family or organization the gift belongs. We have helped many over the last 20 years and we hope to spread wings again this year. **Please return the gift with the tag no later than Dec. 20th.** The gifts will be delivered on Tuesday, Dec. 22nd. Anyone wishing to help deliver please contact Jan at the Parish Office

**Catch The Spirit Party!  
Today!  
After 10 AM Mass!  
Come Celebrate With Us!**

## Feast of the Immaculate Conception Holyday, Tuesday, December 8th

Vigil Mass, Monday, 6 PM

Masses on Tuesday, 9 AM School Mass and Noon

### Liturgical Ministers

**Vigil Mass, 6 PM Reader:** Joy Bach  
**EM:** Maggie, Joe O'Bryan, Lannie Pearl, Ruth Bittel-Nunez, Pete, Michelle Linn, Janice Bumm, Mike Head  
**Servers:** Emily Linn, Nick Russell  
**Gifts:** Kenny Buckman Family

**Noon Mass Reader:** Lanell Lilly  
**EM** Liz Francis, Sabrina Johnson, Shirley Kent, Mary Ava Jackson, Cecelia Hamilton, Harry, Charlene Baumgarten, Edith Johnson  
**Server:** Cliff Russell



**Remember in prayer those sick in our community:**

Len Bach, Herman Barr, Helen Bellwood, Eva Birkhead, Liz, Logan Brown, Tony Brown, Susan Byars, Frances Car-rico, Maria Castlen, JB Cecil, Vincent Cecil, Joyce, Paul, Paul Jr., Christian, Ann Clark, Clifton Clark, Dennis Clark, Dorothy Clark, George Clark, James Clark, Alice Cole, Jake Conder, Addie Corley, Amy Cox, Hettie Crask, Ben Crump, Leoma Daly, Philip Demarest, Evelyn Denton, An-drew Dotsey, Sheila Duncan, Emma Dunbar, John Dun-can, Kinsey Dunn, Angela Farmer, Matt Gabis, Rita Gabis, Lauren Girten, Lucille Goetz, Brenda Goodman, Luke Gray, Josh Griffith, Janice Goins, Mary Hardesty, Martha Hayden, Martha Faye Hayden, Madalyn Marie Hayden, Janet Haynes, Hayden Head, Mike Head, Beverly Hep-pler,, Mary Elizabeth Hill, Mildred Howard, Margaret Isbell, Mary Ava Jackson, Betty Jo Johnson, Gertrude Jones, Anna Kemper, Joann Knott, Debbie Koenig, John Krusick, Travis Martin, Helen Matheny, Margaret Mattingly, Charlie Mayfield, Mildred McCarthy, Margie Meredith, Mary L. Mil-lay, Virginia Millay, Conner Mills, Dena Montgomery, Mary Morton, Alma Mullican, Carter Wayne Murphy, Nancy Mur-phy, Cindi Neuner, Lee Newton, Shirley Olliver, Joann Ogle, Ethan Payne, Helen Payne, Jerry Payne, Lura Payne, Mary Payne, Paul Payne, Carolyn Pierce, Brenda Pitt, Lawrence Quinn, Paul Raley, Geraldine Ralph, Joyce Rangel, Otto Reisz, Vincent Reynolds, Susan Rice, Paul Robertson, Darla Robinson, Larry Roby, Cecelia Schar-tung, Janet Schartung, Dorothy Schell, Jessica Seymour, Herman, Mary Simmons, Becky Smith, Elizabeth Sosh, Susan Stersman, Onora Stone, Melissa Sullivan, Teresa Taucher, Larry Taylor, Mary Hilary Taylor, Joyce Thomas, Angela, Leo Thompson, Betty Thompson, Charles Thomp-son, Martha Towery, Anita Travis, Tammy Tucker, Glynda Turner, David Vasterling, Dianne Walsh, Kenny Ward, Scott Ward, Teresa Ward, Katherine Whittinghill, Bea Wooldridge, Bill, Flora Yancy, Randy Zaremba

**Please Pray for Our Troops Serving in War. Keep them safe, O Lord, and bring them home soon.**

**Iraq:** SGT Jeremi Bosley, National Guards  
Brandon Mattingly, US Army, Baghdad  
Spec. Daniel Nugent, Iraq  
Sgt. David Farley, US Army  
Bill Boyd, Iraq (husband of Julie, son-in-law of Al & Joan Hofmann)

**Other**

AIC Austin Eckstein, USAF, grandson Henrietta May  
CSSR Justin Mills, Japan, grandson of Dessie Clark

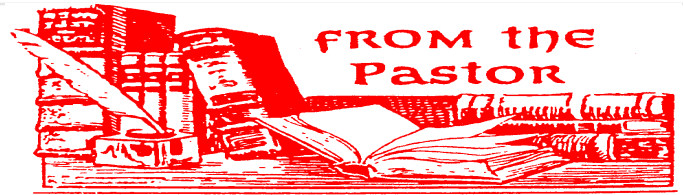
**Daily Bible Reading 683-8524**

**Soup Kitchen Cooks**

Still Needed for 2nd Sat. of each month  
Call Josie Hagan 926-1483

**Visit Our Web Site**

[www.blessedmotherchurch.com](http://www.blessedmotherchurch.com)  
All Q&A's Now online!



I hope you had a good week. Today is the Sec-ond Sunday of Advent. In today's Gospel we are challenged by John the Baptist to prepare the way of the Lord. So we try to make ready for the com-ing of Christ. Advent is not primarily penitential though there is an element of that. To prepare a fitting place for Christ to reign in our hearts we need to repent from time to time and change our lives.

Thanks for the many hands that helped sort and deliver all the food from the food drive. Once again you all were overwhelmingly generous.

The Catch the Spirit party (being held today the Feast of St. Nicholas) took a lot of planning and work. Thanks to Jan and Darlene and the staff and anyone who helped bring that about. A great variety of experiences was had and enjoyed.

**HOLY DAY THIS WEEK.** The feast of the Im-maculate Conception is Tuesday of this week. Please note the Mass Schedule. We will have Mass Monday evening for the vigil of the Holy Day and then School Mass on Tuesday at 9am and then Mass at Noon on Tuesday.

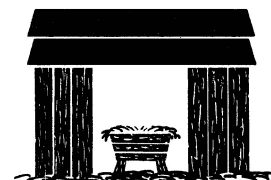
The finance committee meets Tuesday evening at 6:30 and then the stewardship committee meets Wednesday evening at 6:30.

Don't forget your Giving Tree gifts.

Our Advent Penance Service is Sunday afternoon December 20 at 2pm. Please note the other ser-vice times listed in the bulletin.

We continue to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit on the choice of our next bishop.

Have a great week.



**We await His coming!**

**Calendar for the Week**

**Rosary is prayed Mon.—Thurs, 4 PM**

**Mon. Mass 6:30 AM  
Bunko, 1:00 PM  
Vigil Mass Immaculate Conception 6 PM**

**Tues. Holyday Immaculate Conception  
Mass at 9 am and Noon  
Offices Closed  
Finance Meeting, 6:30 PM**

**Wed. Mass at 6:30 AM  
Stewardship Meeting, 6:30PM**

**Thurs. Noon Mass  
RCIA, 7 PM**

**Fri. Eucharistic Adoration  
Noon Mass**

**Sat. Confessions, 12:30 –2:00 PM  
4 PM Mass**

**Sun. Third Sunday of Advent  
Mass at 7, 10 AM, 5:30 PM  
Religious Ed Classes 11 AM  
Coffee and Donuts, 11 AM  
Youth Group, 3-5 PM  
AA Meeting, 7:30pm, school cafeteria**

**Readings For the Week**

December 6 through December 13, 2009

Sun: Bar 5:1-9 Ps 126:1-6 Phil 1:4-6,8-11 Lk 3:1-6

Mon: Is 35:1-10 Lk 5:17-26

Tues: Gn 3:9-15,20 Ps 98:1-4 Eph 1:3-6,11-12  
Lk 1:26-38

Wed: Is 40:25-31 Mt 11:28-30

Thurs: Is 41:13-20 Mt 11:11-15

Fri: Is 48:17-19 Mt 11:16-19

Sat: Zec 2:14-17 Lk 1:26-38

Sun: Zep 3:14-18a (Ps) Is 12:2-6 Phil 4:4-7  
Lk 3:10-18

**Parish Council Members**

Charlie Castlen	683-3426
Charlotte Cecil	683-0499
Tim Goetz	684-8275
David Graham	683-4665
Troy Haleman	691-0633
David Jarboe	683-5108
Rick Moman	683-6555
Darryl Murphy	683-8437
Phil Riney	926-8945
Darlene Kazlauskas	684-3891
Tony Powers	926-1803
Nancy Byrum	729-4362

**Safe Environment**

Copies of the Diocese of Owensboro's policy dealing with sexual abuse of minors or vulnerable person is available in the Parish Office and on the Diocesan web site ([www.Owensborodio.org](http://www.Owensborodio.org)) The Bishop and Diocesan Review Board want to help anyone who has been abused in the past or is currently suffering from abuse. You may phone the Pastoral Center, 683-1545, to report an allegation of abuse. **If you need to attend a Safe Environment Workshop, contact Jan at the Parish Office. You may now take the training online at [www.shieldthevulnerable.org](http://www.shieldthevulnerable.org) Background checks must also be done before you are eligible to work with the youth of our parish.**

**TV Mass**

Mass will now air on Channel 72 at 10:30 am. If you have Time Warner's digital cable the Mass can also be seen at 11am on Channel 311. It also broadcasts from News 25 (cable chaneel11) at 6am. All those with satellite can get the Mass on local Channel 25 at 6am. **Donations may be made to Gideon Productions., 515 East 22nd St. Owensboro, Ky. 42303**

**Scrap-a-thon**

Put on my Owensboro Mothers of Multiples is Saturday, Jan. 9, 2010 frin 8 am-6pm at Immaculate Parish Hall. Cost is \$30. come create and reflect on your memories while supporting OMOM's! Food and drinks included! Door prizes drawn every hour. Call Mary Katherine Wathen for more info: 859-321-0248 or Christy Hayden: 684-2537

**Catholic Schools News**

**OCMS Drama Club Production "The Toys Take Over Christmas"** Dec. 10, open to parents and the public, Immaculate Parish Hall, 7 pm  
**OCS Elementary Christmas Programs**  
K-3 Campus, Dec. 11 9am  
4-6 Campus, Dec. 18, 10 am  
All are invited

**Pro-Life Corner**

Writing in the *Michigan Law Review* about Oregon's assisted suicide laws, two physicians stated that reasonable sounding safeguards, which proponents said were there to protect patients, do not appear to have achieved that purpose and are easily circumvented. As a result, Oregon physicians appear to have been given great power without being in a position to exercise it responsibly." NRL News