

Advent

WATCH FOR
THE LORD'S
COMING!

**"He will baptize you with
The Holy Spirit and fire"**

Intention for the Week

Monday, Dec. 14, St. John of the Cross
6:30 AM Simon-Haddad-Meredith Family

Tuesday, Dec. 15
Noon Johnny Payne (ann of death)

Wednesday, Dec. 16
6:30 AM Mr. & Mrs. Josh Griffith

Thursday, Dec. 17
9:00 AM Evette Duke (dec)
Noon Judy Garvin (dec)

Friday, Dec. 18
Noon Paul Roberts (dec)

Saturday, Dec. 19,
4 PM Joe Early (dec b'day)

Fourth Sunday of Advent
7:00 AM Edward J. Payne (dec b'day)
10:00 AM Coy Howard (dec)
5:30 PM Blessed Mother Parishioners

Family Advent Candle Bearers

Dec. 12/13
4 Jeff Williams 7 Al Thompson
10 Phil Riney 5:30 Rick Moman

Dec. 19/20
4 David Jones 7 Steve Payne
10 John Calhoun 5:30 Pete Linn

Liturgical Ministers for Dec. 19-20

Eucharistic Ministers

4 PM Cecelia Hamilton, Jay, Susie Fillman, Jeff Williams, Jennifer, David Jones, Sandra Henry, Janet Ruth, Jan Storm

7 AM , Sr. Mary Timothy, Don Cecil, Mike Thompson, Bill, Joy Bach, Carolyn Taylor

10 AM Carol Goedde, Eric Vaughan, Debbie Ward, Drew, Jeannette Ward, John, Sharon Bell, Mary Howard, Sr. Marie Joseph

5:30 PM Martha Estes, Sam Lilly, Christina Best, Dan, Sandra Thomas, Janice Bumm



Readers

4 PM Judy Coomes
7 AM Charlie Castlen
10 AM Barbara Cecil
5:30 PM Renee Howard

Servers

4 PM Collin, Brendan Higgins
7 AM Brittany, Courtney Estes
10 AM Stephen, Will Hyland
5:30 PM Jacob Linn, Mason Robertson

Families to Take Up Gifts

4 PM Ken Terry
7 AM Mike Wolford
10 AM Kevin Carrico
5:30 PM Jeff Hofer

Children's Liturgy

Preschool: Katie Oborski, Julia Payne
Kn-3 Grade: Barbara Cecil, Ben Howard

Vocation Cross Family

Shelby Thompson, Jim Topper, Lloyd Travis

Hillcrest: Debbie Ward, Donna Powers

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 does Jesus mean when he says that, when the "Son of man" comes, "two men will be in the field; one is taken and one is left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one is taken and one is left" (Mt 24:40-41)?

Tim LaHaye's *Left Behind* books popularized the notion that this passage is a reference to "the rapture," the taking up into the air of all true Christians before the tribulation takes place so that they can dwell in a parallel kingdom in heaven while the rest of us hapless souls struggle against the anti-Christ on earth. But, this is not Catholic teaching, and I think there is another interpretation that fits better.

Immediately before the passage cited above, Jesus makes a reference to Noah and what took place when God drowned the whole world with a flood. In many ways, that was an end-times event for everyone alive at that time. Jesus compares that event to what will take place upon the Second Coming. He says:

"As were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and they did not know until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of man." (Mt 24: 37-39)

These words of Jesus provide the context for what he says next, when he says, "two men will be the field, one is taken and one is left," and so on. This means that, just as the wicked in Noah's time were "swept away," one will be "taken," and just as Noah's family was spared, the other will be "left." This passage you are asking about does not refer to some being raptured and others being "left behind." Instead, it means that, when Jesus comes, some will have their life taken from them, and others will live. This is the effect of the General Judgment, which the Church says all men will experience when the Son of Man finally comes again.

This passage also means that **our** day, our time here, does not always come when we expect it. God may call us home even amid the mundane chores of every day life (working in the field, grinding at the mill, etc.). Jesus' words remind us that we must always be ready, for "of that day and hour no one knows" (Mt 24:36).

As with every difficult Scripture passage, it is important to utilize the context of the passage, and to always read Scripture with the mind of the Church. During this season of Advent, let's make sure that we are making ourselves ready so that on "the day of Christ Jesus," we will be found fit to live forever with Him.

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

December 13, 2009

Third Sunday of Advent

"Whoever has two cloaks should share with the person who has none . . ."

Luke 3:10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" When he told them to give one of their two cloaks to someone who had none, they probably decided not to ask him any more questions. "He may tell us that if we see two people without cloaks to give them both of our cloaks and trust that the Lord God will supply our needs." Recognizing that everything we know to exist was created by God, belongs to God, and is intended for us to use and enjoy for ourselves and for others is the first step to gratitude to God for all that we are. Gratitude to God is the heart of generosity to others. In His magnificent plan we can become the vehicle that God uses to give to others. We give to others by giving of ourselves. One of our most precious gifts from God is our time. Whatever our length of days, we all have a certain amount of time. But all of it is a gift of God. How we choose to use it for ourselves and others is our gift to God.

Collection	Budget	MDT	YDT
\$27,35.	\$21,057.	\$27,135.	\$21,212.

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

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
Sun., Dec. 20	Blessed Mother, 2pm
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.

Young Disciples (Grades 7-12)

Coming Soon...

1. **Sunday, Dec. 13th~ Youth Group Christmas Party!! Good meal, lots of games & Small gifts/prizes. Hope you can join us!**
2. ***Those interested in the mission trip need to give a definite answer by Sunday, the 13th. For more info. Contact me.***
3. **There will be NO YOUTH GROUP the next 2 weekends (Dec. 20th & 27th)! Have a Blessed Christmas and a wonderful New Year!!**

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: bmcyouth@bellsouth.net or 683-8444 Ext. 28

Cooking Teams up to bat: THANK YOU!!
Sunday, Dec. 13th~~ Diane Hoffman, Michele Linn, Katie Ballard, Sharon McPherson

Laugh for the Week **Desperate Measures**

Dear Jesus, I've been a good boy this year and would appreciate a new bicycle. Your friend, Andrew. Now little Andrew knew that Jesus really knew what kind of boy he was, a brat. So, he ripped up the letter and decided to give it another try.

Dear Jesus, I've been an ok boy this year and I want a new bicycle. Yours truly, Andrew. Well, Andrew knew this wasn't totally honest so he tore it up and tried again.

Dear Jesus, I've thought about being a good boy this year, so can I have a new bicycle? Andrew
He look deep down in his heart and tore up the letter.

Andrew took a walk to church, went inside and knelt down. He finally got up and began to walk out the door and was looking at the Nativity set. All of a sudden he grabbed a small statue and ran out the door. He went home and hid it under his bed.

Jesus, I've broken most of the Ten Commandments, shot spit wads in school, and tore up my sister's doll. I'm desperate! I've got your mama. If you ever want to see her again, give me a bike.

Signed, You know Who



mas!

The Giving Tree

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, Thank you all for your generous spirit and for spreading the love of the Christ Child this Christmas!

Blessed Mother Communal Penance Service Sunday, Dec. 20, 2:00 PM

Catch the Spirit Party!

Our party was a HUGH success! Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to put it together!

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

Bethlehem

Though it was the birthplace of David, Bethlehem was far from notable when compared to the great cities of the ancient world. The Hebrew king's ancestral home, and the site of Rachel's tomb, was no Jerusalem, no Alexandria, no Athens, no Rome. What an interesting portal for the baby Jesus. He left his established heavenly home for an inn's manger, a modest welcome at the end of the Virgin's long journey. The righteous King, he was placed in a manger, born into earthy uncleanness. Into a world torn by war and chaos, he entered a village where even the Church of the Nativity has experienced conflict and death in our day. More than a messenger of peace, though, Christ Jesus is our peace. "He shall be peace," Micah proclaimed, and, as the world celebrates his coming this Christmas season, we await the return of Bethlehem and Heaven's son, trusting his second coming ultimately restores Peace to all mankind.



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, Rose Stepp, Susan Stersman, Onora Stone, Melissa Sulli-van, Teresa Taucher, Larry Taylor, Mary Hilary Taylor, Joyce Thomas, Angela, Leo Thompson, Betty Thompson, Charles Thompson, Martha Towery, Anita Travis, Tammy Tucker, Glynda Turner, David Vasterling, Dianne Walsh, Kenny Ward, Scott Ward, Teresa Ward, Katherine Whitting-hill, 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

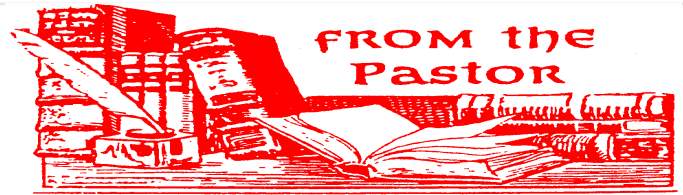
Soup Kitchen Cooks

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

Visit Our Web Site

www.blessedmotherchurch.com

All Q&A's Now online!



I hope you had a good week. Today is the Third Sunday of Advent also known as Gau-dete Sunday. We light the pink candle on the Advent Wreath to signify a lightening of our spirits in joy. Why? Because the Lord is near.

The Catch the Spirit party was a great suc-cess. Thanks to Jan and the staff and all those who helped in any way. And we couldn't have done it without St. Nicholas (Will Wigginton).

The Social justice committee meets Tuesday at 6:30.

Don't forget your Giving Tree gifts due back the 20th of December.

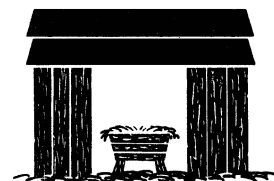
Our Advent Penance Service is Sunday after-noon December 20 at 2pm. Please note the other service times listed in the bulletin.

You will notice in the Christmas Mass sched-ule that we have added a Mass at 8pm. This is an experiment of sorts. I am trying to see if it will lessen the overflow of the 5pm Mass. If not, we will go back to last year's schedule for next year.

As we come to the end of a calendar year many people need ideas for year-end contri-butions. There are a lot of worthy causes. Personally, I would ask you to remember the TV Mass – Gideon Productions in your chari-table giving.

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

Have a great week.



Calendar for the Week

Rosary is prayed Mon.—Thurs, 4 PM

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

Tues. Mass at 6 PM

**Wed. Mass at 6:30 AM
No PC Meeting**

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

**Fri. Eucharistic Adoration
Noon Mass**

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

**Sun. Fourth Sunday of Advent
Mass at 7, 10 AM, 5:30 PM
Religious Ed Classes 11 AM
Coffee and Donuts, 11 AM
Penance Service, 2 PM
Youth Group, 6:30-8 PM
AA Meeting, 7:30pm, school cafeteria**

Readings For the Week

December 13 through December 20, 2009

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

Mon: Nm 24:2-7,15-17a Mt 21:23-27

Tues: Zep 3:1-2,9-13 Mt 21:28-32

Wed: Is 45:6b-8,18,21b-25 Lk 7:18b-23

Thurs: Gn 49:2,8-10 Mt 1:1-17

Fri: Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25

Sat: Jgs 13:2-7,24-25a Lk 1:5-25

Sun: Mi 5:1-4a Ps 80:2-3,15-16,18-19 Heb 10:5-10
Lk 1:39-45

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) 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 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

OCS Christmas Band Concert, Mon., Dec. 14, 7pm,
Blessed Mother Parish Hall

OCS Elementary Christmas Programs

4-6 Campus, Dec. 18, 10 am
All are invited

Pro-Life Corner

Let us pray for all children: That all children, especially the unborn and those vulnerable to abuse, that God may protect them from all forms of harm, and that we too may learn from the example of children and receive Christ with humility, trust and without fear; We pray to the Lord.

Brescia Ham Sale

\$40 for whole Ky. Legend Ham, \$25 for half, \$5 fee for slicing. Order by Dec. 14. Contact Josh Clary, 686-2111 or josh.clary@brescia.edu