

# ST. JOHN FISHER CHURCH • DECEMBER 10, 2017

## SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### PARISH EVENTS OF THE WEEK

#### **Tuesday, December 12**

10:00 am - Tuesdays @ 10

#### **Wednesday, December 13**

8:30 am – 11:30 am - Eucharistic Exposition

#### **Thursday, December 14**

12:00 noon – Forever 50 Christmas Party – Pater Hall

#### **Saturday, December 16**

7:45 am – Catholic Men's Fellowship

Fair Trade Coffee sale after 4:30 Mass

#### **Sunday, December 17**

Fair Trade Coffee Sale after both Masses

8:45 am – 10:45 am – Confirmation Prep

12 Noon – Christmas Pageant Practice (children with speaking roles only)



#### **Readings for the Third Sunday of Advent**

**First Reading:** Isaiah 61:1-2a, 10-11

**Second Reading:** 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**Gospel:** John 1:6-8, 19-28

#### **GIVING TREE**

Just a reminder that all Giving Tree gifts are due back this weekend. Gifts must be returned to St. John Fisher no later than 12:00 pm on Sunday, December 10th. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

#### **CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION**

Anyone wishing to donate toward the beautiful flowers and trees used to decorate our worship space during the Christmas season may do so using the envelopes found in the Gathering Space. All money and remembrances must be received by Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. A list of remembrances will be included in the bulletin on December 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>.

#### **ST. NICK DINNER – NEXT SUNDAY!**

Please join us for the St. Nick Dinner in Pater Hall at 6 pm next Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. We'll have a visit from St. Nick himself! Sign up in the gathering space today!

#### **CHRISTMAS PARTY & LUNCHEON**

The Forever 50 Group invites all parishioners 50+ to the annual Christmas Party & Luncheon on December 14th at noon in Pater Hall. The cost is \$20 per person. Registration deadline is December 10<sup>th</sup>. More details and signup forms are in the Gathering Space. See you on the December 14<sup>th</sup>!

#### **RETIREMENT FUND FOR THE RELIGIOUS**

Please give to those who have given a lifetime. Thank you!

#### **FAIR TRADE COFFEE NEXT WEEKEND**

Be prepared to buy that extra for the holidays.

### FR. Del ... Points to Ponder, Part

#### 12

*For the coming weeks, I will be addressing some topics that people have raised about the Catholic faith, not dogmatic pronouncements, but approaches to lead to a deeper understanding of the riches we hold as followers of Christ. Over the years I think I've gotten reasonably good marks on preaching. Not every homily has been stellar, but I always hope and pray that in some way I am connecting the Scriptures with the real life situations of people. I try to give something that leaves listeners with enough to write the rest of the homily with their lives. I try to challenge and console with the words that I speak, believing that we are all called to wrestle with the word of God as we are able.*

What I can tell you is that negative comments, on rare occasion the angry comments, about preaching are pretty predictable. These comments seem to follow words and phrases like "God's love for the poor," "radical poverty," "justice for those with no voice," "rights for those who live on the periphery," "care for the oppressed," or "equality for the downtrodden." You get the point.

It's always been a mystery to me as to why these words cause such angst in a very few people. Maybe they are ideas too closely-related to partisan politics in some listener's ears. Maybe it has the ring of liberalism, not in the gospel sense of "freedom" (from the Latin for freedom, liber) but, again, with a political agenda attached to it. I've never figured out the dis-ease that those ideas and terms cause.

Advent is a good time to have an honest dialogue with ourselves about Catholic Social Teaching. It's a timely conversation because Advent is a season when the prophets, Mary and Jesus Himself challenge us to further understand that our salvation is not just about ME. We are bound together in relationships of responsibility, of right and just attitudes for living.

My hunch is that Catholic Social Teaching is either not understood by Catholics, or they just don't believe in the principles that the Church teaches regarding the common good. Advent may be a good time to search the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching on the Internet: 1) Life and Dignity of the Human Person, 2) Call to Family, Community, and Participation, 3) Rights and Responsibilities, 4) Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, 5) The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers, 6) Solidarity, 7) Care for God's Creation.

This weekend we hear from the second Letter of Saint Peter in which we hear that according to God's promise "we await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." We experience the new heavens and new earth when our lives here together reflect the life of heaven, where all will be at peace. May our unity with God be the unity for which we strive with others on earth in this season of the Lord's coming. May it be so.

All ministers may check their future schedules at:  
[www.ministryschedulerpro.com?user=stjfvolunteer](http://www.ministryschedulerpro.com?user=stjfvolunteer)

**SERVER SCHEDULE**  
**December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Saturday, 4:30 pm** – Please volunteer, we need 2 servers  
**Sunday, 9:00 am** – Sage Remsen, Lily Sharp, we need 1 more server please  
**Sunday, 11:00 am** – Francesca Damiano, Mary Forte, Zachary Richard

**PRESIDER SCHEDULE**  
**December 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>**

<b>St. John Fisher</b>	<b>St. Veronica</b>
<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	<b><u>Saturday</u></b>
4:30 pm – Fr. Del	4:00 pm - Fr. David
<b><u>Sunday</u></b>	<b><u>Sunday</u></b>
9:00 am - Fr. Pat	8:00 am - Fr. Del
11:00 am - Fr. Pat	9:30 am - Fr. Del
	11:30 am - Fr. David

**PROJECT RACHEL** - Project Rachel is a ministry of the Archdiocese that serves anyone who has experienced a loss of a child due to abortion. There are a variety of ways persons can engage in this ministry for healing from a recent loss or a loss that occurred decades ago: one-on-one conversation with a peer, consultation with a priest (we can accommodate a need for consulting in Spanish), a day of reflection for anyone who has experienced loss (mother, grandparent, father, sibling, friend, etc.) support groups and retreats for mothers who lost their child due to abortion. Check out our website at [www.catholiccincinnati.org/project-rachel](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/project-rachel) or call the Project Rachel Help Line at 513.784.0531 for information. All conversations and emails are confidential. Upcoming dates: Day of Reflection **January 27, 2018** in Cincinnati and a weekend retreat in the Dayton/Northern area **March 9-11, 2018**.

**NOVEMBER 2017 OFFERTORY**

**Weekly Offertory - \$32,742**  
**Electronic Giving - \$9,589**  
**Actual Offertory Received - \$42,331**  
**Budgeted Offertory - \$38,800**

Thank you for your financial support!

**END OF YEAR DONATIONS**

If you are planning on making a donation for the 2017 tax year, please be aware IRS regulations require that the gift must be either postmarked or received by the parish office no later than **December 31, 2017**. This includes gifts of cash and/or stock and mutual fund donations. Checks that are dated before January 1<sup>st</sup> but are not either received or postmarked until 2018 will be processed as a 2018 tax year donation. For important detailed instructions regarding stock donations or for general questions, please contact the parish office at 561-9431 x115. Thank you for your generosity!

**Monday, December 11**  
 8:00 am – Greg Bauke  
**Tuesday, December 12**  
 8:00 am - Communion Service  
**Wednesday, December 13**  
 8:00 am – Robert Schildmeyer  
**Thursday, December 14**  
 8:00 am – Betty Murphy (Her Family)  
**Friday, December 15**  
 8:00 am – Fr. Giles Pater (The Pater Family)  
**Saturday, December 16**  
 4:30 pm – St. John Fisher Community  
**Sunday, December 17**  
 9:00 am – Rosemary Zink (Doug Zink)  
 11:00 am – Nancy Long Hogan (Helen Vogt)

**SJF & STV YOUTH MINISTRY – THIS EVENING – COME!**

All Middle School and High School teens (6-12<sup>th</sup> Grades) are invited to attend our *Advent Youth Group* on December 10, 2017 @ 7pm at St. Veronica Parish Ministry Center. Fun, Faith, and Understanding Advent will be the theme of the evening together. Parents/Guardians must complete the permission form found online at [sjfchurch.org](http://sjfchurch.org) and return it to Fr. David via email/mail/or with child at the registration table on the night of the event. The pickup time and end of the event will be at 9pm. Please encourage our youth in the parish and surrounding area to attend. If you have any questions or want more information, please contact Fr. David at [davidd@sjfchurch.org](mailto:davidd@sjfchurch.org) or 513-527-5244.

**NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

The Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. is home to the Trinity Dome, its central and largest dome. A nationwide effort is underway to fund the completion of a beautiful mosaic which will adorn the dome, depicting the Most Holy Trinity, the Blessed Virgin Mary and a procession of saints. Checks should be made payable to St. John Fisher; please reference the National Shrine in the memo line. Donation envelopes and more information will be available in the gathering space through December 10<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

**PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS...**

...our parishioners who are sick and in need of your prayers: John Collins, Lee Murrell and Mary Roberts. Also, please continue to pray for those parishioners who are homebound, in nursing care facilities, or have chronic illnesses.



**FEATURED ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK**  
**ROBERT W. RYAN, D.D.S.**  
**General Dentistry**  
**6507 Beechmont Ave**  
**513-232-2484**