

SUNDAY 12/16	MONDAY 12/17	TUESDAY 12/18	WEDNESDAY 12/19	THURSDAY 12/20	FRIDAY 12/21	SATURDAY 12/22
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 8:30 AM LITURGY 9:45 AM ADULT FORMATION K-5 RELIG. ED. 11:00 AM LITURGY 12:15 PM SOCIAL MINISTRY MTG. 1:00 PM CONFIRMATION PROJECT 7:00 PM 6-10 RELIG. ED.	12:00 PM PRAYER FOR PEACE 7:00 PM BIBLE STUDY		7:00 PM FAITH IN ACTION	8:30 AM LITURGY 9:15 AM SCRIPTURE STUDY 11:00 AM YOUNG-AT-HEART 6:30 PM MUSIC PRACTICE 7:00 PM ADULT FAITH FORMATION MTG.	8:30 AM LITURGY	4:00 PM RECONCILIATION 5:30 PM LITURGY

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR —

I Was A Stranger And You Welcomed Me !

— Indeed this Parish did welcome our homeless brothers and sisters the week of December 2-8. So many parish members participated in such a variety of ways. As one man said, “Tell your Parish thanks!” -- so for each of them, **THANK YOU**. Anne Keatts and Mike Mannen served as coordinators this year, and the Parish thanks them.

Let Advent Be Advent — a time of “joyful expectations.” Make a decorative container and save all your received pre-Christmas cards and gifts -- do not open them until Christmas Eve or Day, and truly enjoy with Christmas music and a glass of eggnog. **Or** use the “12 Days of Christmas” to day by day write and send your Christmas cards. In the Roman Catholic tradition, Christmas is a Season, until January 13th, the Feast of the Baptism of Jesus — it is not just a day. Perhaps give small surprise gifts during the season, like the Magi. Or have an Epiphany party January 6th.

Would You Consider Being Part of a Surprise? — December 20th, Fr. Bob French celebrates his birthday #71, and December 23rd, my mother celebrates her 85th birthday. Would you consider sending either or both of them cards? Fr. Bob French’s address: 7501 River Road - Apartment #15G, Newport News 23607; Mary E. Perkins, 525 Justina Street, Hinsdale, IL 60521.

Christmas Festivity — If you come to celebrate eucharist at 8:00 P.M. Christmas Eve, you are invited afterwards in the Commons to share a cup of eggnog or a glass of wine with fellow-parishioners. Would you consider bringing a few homemade holiday cookies that are a family favorite to share as well?

At Home With The Word — We now have 50 more copies -- \$8.00 apiece.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

If you would like to make a donation toward the purchase of flowers at Christmas in memory of a deceased family member or friend, please enclose a check or cash in an envelope and place it in the offertory basket. Please make certain to put the name(s) of those to be remembered, as well as your name, on the envelope.

NEW YEAR’S EVE PARTY (2007/2008) — Join your fellow-parishioners and friends at ICC/OLMC’s Annual New Year’s Eve Party from 7:00 P.M. on December 31st until 12:30 A.M. on January 1st. The party will be held at St. Michael Hall (144 Harpersville Road, Newport News). The ticket price is \$25.00 per person. Tickets will be available after Masses; tickets will NOT be sold at the door. The party is BYOB (mixers provided), with hors d’oeuvres from 7:00 - 8:00 P.M., and dinner at 8:00 P.M.

ALTAR (RED ROSÉ) WINE — We thank those who regularly provide wine for our eucharistic celebrations. With the coming of the holiday season, additional altar wine is needed. If possible, please bring a 3-liter bottle of Red Rosé wine.

NURSERY FOR CHRISTMAS EVE: The infant and toddler nurseries will be open and available for parents’ use during the 5:30 P.M. and 8:00 P.M. Christmas Eve Eucharistic Liturgies. Children must be accompanied by an adult, as **there will be no scheduled volunteers in the Nursery.**

Msgr. Bob Perkins

Income Budget: \$637,850

July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008

December Financial Information

A Tithe is 10% of one's gross income. That 10% is divided: 5% is placed in the Sunday collection for the ministries and operations of the Parish. The other 5% is donated to diocesan collections, local appeals for the needy, disaster relief, favorite charities, and Catholic school tuition. Above all, Tithing is an act of faith on the part of a believing person.

Weekly Income	10%	5%
\$100	\$10.00	\$ 5.00
200	20.00	10.00
300	30.00	15.00
400	40.00	20.00
500	50.00	25.00

	<u>Week of 12/09</u>	<u>Month of Dec.</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Env./checks	\$ 10,961.00	\$ 28,102.50	\$ 270,689.22
Loose	1,586.72	2,483.64	27,959.70
Other	0.00	0.00	2,232.00
YTD Interest			6,412.79
Total	\$ 12,547.72	\$ 30,586.14	\$ 307,293.71

Families using Envelopes/Checks in December: 361 out of 624

STEWARDSHIP

EACH OF US HAS HIS OR HER OWN ROLE TO PLAY IN THE COMING OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD. JOHN THE BAPTIST WAS CALLED TO BE THE HERALD OF THE MESSIAH, PREPARING THE WAY OF THE LORD. TO WHAT IS THE LORD CALLING ME?

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES: Today (Sunday, December 16) is the last class for this year. All Faith Formation classes [Preschool, K-5, Upper Grades and Confirmation] will resume on January 6.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: Part II of the video of Fr. Kevin O'Brien's very informative presentation on the Gospel of Matthew will be shown during the Adult Faith Formation session this morning (December 16) at 9:45 A.M. in the "triple room."

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CPR TRAINING: January 12, 2008 — Should CPR be performed on a person who is unconscious? ... When should CPR not be performed? ... Are there special considerations that must be made in the event that someone who has had bypass surgery requires CPR? ... Can a person kill someone if he/she does CPR incorrectly? ... Come learn the answers to these and other questions at a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training session that will be held on January 12, 2008 from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon. All Ushers, Catechists, Children's Liturgy of the Word and Nursery volunteers who have not yet had this training are strongly urged to attend. Please call Carol Dufresne to register.

NEEDED — NINTH and TENTH GRADE CATECHIST: Please contact Manola at the Parish Office [826-0393 or icc.mjdobbs@verizon.net] if you are interested.

The **SATURDAY BAG LUNCH PROGRAM** is in need of the following items: Cheese and/or peanut butter cracker packages, small boxes of raisins, juice boxes (no sugar added), small cans of fruit snacks (no sugar added), and individual pudding cups.

ANGEL TREE — Thank You to everyone who provided gifts for the "Angel Tree." Gifts were provided for families from Refugee and Immigration Services and Transitions Family Violence Services.

NATIVITY/INFANCY NARRATIVES — The ICC Young Adult Ministry will be hosting a talk on "The Nativity Story" on Wednesday evening, December 19, at 7:00 P.M. All are invited to attend.

BAPTISM SESSIONS: The next baptism dates are January 26/27 and March 29/30, 2008. All parents who are interested in having their children baptized at Immaculate Conception on these dates must attend one of the next two series of baptism preparation sessions. The preparation sessions will be held at 7:00 P.M. on [Thursdays] January 10, 17 and 24 and on February 21 and 28, and March 6. For more information or to register, please contact Carol Dufresne at the Parish Office [icc.caroldufresne@verizon.net or 826-0393].

SCHEDULES — December 22/23

Lectors

- 5:30 P.M. Maria Peterson; Ed Hartman
- 8:30 A.M. Frank Koninski; Izella Ward
- 11:00 A.M. Mike Stefanko; Sherry Behun

Lead Eucharistic Ministers

- 5:30 P.M. Virginia Buck; Charles Buck
- 8:30 A.M. Gayle Fronkier; Jim Fronkier
- 11:00 A.M. Linda Carel; Denny Carel

Children's Liturgy

- 8:30 A.M. Annemarie Amante; Lyndsay Ealey
- 11:00 A.M. Melissa Wright; Jean Paulus

Coffee and Doughnuts

- 8:30 A.M. Margarita Mercado; Charly Talton; Pat & Steve Uniszkiwicz; Rommy Amadi
- 11:00 A.M. Kim & Norm Kosin; Jean Mahoney

Food Pantry — Debbie Smith; Craig Sorrells

- Morning Ministry** — Marie-Claude David (12/17)
Dee Hoogstraten (12/20)

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sat., 12/15 Sir 48:1-4, 9-11 Mt 17:9-13
Sun., 12/16 Is 35:1-6, 10 Jas 5:7-10 Mt 11:2-11
Mon., 12/17 Gn 49:2, 8-10 Mt 1:1-17
Tues., 12/18 Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25
Weds., 12/19 Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25 Lk 1:5-25
Thurs., 12/20 Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38
Fri., 12/21 Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45
Sat., 12/22 1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56
Sun., 12/23 Is 7:10-14 Rom 1:1-7 Mt 1:18-24

MASS INTENTIONS

5:30 P.M. *Marie Thomas (+)*
8:30 A.M. *Apolinario & Fernando Roy (+)*
11:00 A.M. *Margaret Rita Ruppert (+)*
8:30 A.M. *Lucia Armand (+)*
8:30 A.M. *Veronica French (+)*
5:30 P.M. *Jack Jackowski (+)*
8:30 A.M. *Wilfredo Llamas (+)*
11:00 A.M. *Billy Osterloh (+)*

WHAT IS A GODPARENT? In the Church's understanding, the godparent represents the caring, support and participation of the community in the child's Christian life. For that reason, at least one godparent must be a practicing Catholic over the age of sixteen, who has celebrated Confirmation and who receives the Eucharist regularly. The godparent should be someone whose faith life the parents want to hold up to the child as an example of how to live a good Christian life. The other godparent may be either a practicing Catholic or a baptized, practicing Christian of another faith who serves as a Christian witness.

MAIL PICK-UP THIS WEEK — Schedules for 8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. Coffee & Doughnut Servers and 8:30 A.M. Ushers/Greeters.

WE WELCOME TO OUR PARISH.... Bobbi **Karibian**; Demian & Jenifer **Kelly**, and their sons, Reed, Aaron & Morgen; and John & Linda **Stolze**, and their sons, William & Benjamin.

PLEASE NOTE: Various mobility items such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches and electric (rechargeable) mobility chairs, are available for use by parishioners. These items are located in the office at the end of the nursery hallway.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY [ages 19-39] NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS TWILIGHT RETREAT — Please join Young Adults from around the area for a Twilight Retreat on Friday, January 4, from 6:30 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. at St. Bridget's Church, 6006 Three Chopt Road, Richmond (23226 zip code for MapQuest directions). The guest speaker will be Fr. Michael Renninger. Cost of the event is \$8.00, which includes the retreat, dinner and refreshments. To RSVP or if you have questions, contact Michael at 353-7884 or Michael@Siewers.com.

If you have three hours to share on a Monday or Thursday morning (9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon), consider volunteering for the **PARISH MORNING OUTREACH MINISTRY**. Volunteers handle the requests of those who come to us for financial assistance. This assistance is coordinated with other social service offices of the City and area churches. If you would like to help out, please call Manola Dobbs at the Parish Office (826-0393). Volunteers will be trained in the procedures for recommending that financial assistance be given.

WHEELS OF LOVE — Do you know someone who has been deprived of their ability to walk due to illness or disease? If so, "Wheels of Love" can help your loved ones regain confidence and their independence with a power wheelchair or scooter. "Wheels of Love" help Medicare recipients who suffer from respiratory disorders, arthritis or cardiovascular disease, or who have a mobility limitation and difficulty in propelling a standard wheelchair, to receive a power wheelchair paid for with the assistance of Medicare. For eligibility information on "Wheels of Love," please call 1-866-631-3022.

BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP (for women and men with breast cancer) — Meets the third Tuesday of each month from 7:00 - 8:30 P.M. at the Sentara Cancer Institute, 3000 Coliseum Drive, Suite 100. For more information, call 827-2438.