

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:

In today's gospel, Jesus advises: "Stay awake, watch out, and pray for the strength to hold your ground" when "fearful and bewildering signs" appear threatening your family. Resist being "fearful;" fear cripples! Instead, "pray for the strength" to be courageous.

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

Monday, December 4

8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 5

8:30 a.m. Robert Falk +

Wednesday, December 6

8:30 a.m. Joe & Josephine Pike +
6:30 p.m. Tom Gremling +

Thursday, December 7

8:30 a.m.

Friday, December 8 - FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

8:30 a.m. Robert Kohlen +
Living & Deceased of
the Mark Thompson &
Moyer Families

12:10 p.m.

7:00 p.m. Mary Reaman +

Saturday, December 9

8:30 a.m. Katherine M. Job +
5:00 p.m. Vince DeVita +
Jack Wolff, Sr. +
Living & Deceased of
the Alberta & Paul
Tschuor Family

Sunday, December 10

8:30 a.m. Twylah Hoehn+
Bob Good +
11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of
the O'Brien, McGrivey
& Lory Families
1:30 p.m. Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

Sunday, December 3 - 1st Sunday of Advent

12:00 noon - PARISH POT-LUCK IN THE PARISH HALL

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. - RCIA classes in the RCIA Rm. in Cafeteria Bldg.

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Parish School of Religion

1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

6:00-7:30 p.m. - Youth Group Meeting in the Parish Hall

Monday, December 5 - Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Tuesday, December 6 - Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, December 7

Masses at 8:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. - OLPH Novena

6:00 p.m. - Rosary/Benediction/Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 8 - Mass at 8:30 a.m.

2:00-5:00 p.m. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 p.m. - Charismatic Prayer Group Mtg. in the Rectory

7:30 p.m. - Holy Name Meeting in the Parish Hall

Friday, December 9

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Masses at 8:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 10

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 11 - 2nd Sunday of Advent

Rosary/Altar Bake Sale in the Parish Hall

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

9:00 a.m. - RCIA classes in the RCIA Rm. in Cafeteria Bldg.

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Parish School of Religion

1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

3:00 p.m. - Advent Healing Mass

FINANCIAL REPORT:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>
Nov. 4th week	\$ 9,633.04	\$ 11,698.51
On-line: \$ 1,800.00		
# of Envelopes	244	284
YTD Totals:	\$ 225,405.60	\$ 238,357.76

Give online at www.stgerardchurch.org. It's easy!

YOU ARE INVITED TO A CELEBRATION IN HONOR OF



OUR LADY OF Guadalupe

Patroness of all the Americas

CELEBRANT: BISHOP DANIEL E. THOMAS

SCHEDULE	7 a.m.	Mañanitas (church)
	8:15 a.m.	Breakfast
	10:30 a.m.	Bilingual Rosary (church)
	11:15 a.m.	Procession (outside-weather permitting)
	12 p.m.	Mass (church)
	1:30 p.m.	Lunch & Performance by El Corazón de México Ballet folklórico (parish hall / gym)

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 9, 2017
Saint Gerard Parish | 240 West Robb Ave., Lima



Diocese of Toledo

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Help will be needed to set-up the gym and serve the meals. If you would like to help, please call the rectory office at 419-224-3080 and leave your name with Sue Nocera. Thank you.

BOOK REVIEW:

Quotable John Paul II by Mike

Towel: *Quotable John Paul II* is an easy to read book of quotes, of words, of wisdom, faith, solidarity and salvation by St. John Paul II during his lifetime. His many quotes are inspiring, funny, pertinent to our times, and thought provoking, truly showing what an outstanding man John Paul really was. Becoming Pope at just fifty-eight years of age, he was our first celebrity Pope, a great communicator, a sportsman, a poet, a thespian, and also a survivor. You may want to write down a few of the quotes for future reference for yourself and to share with others. Check it out in our parish library.



FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception will be celebrated on Friday, December 8th. Mary, under the title of Immaculate Conception is the Patroness of the U.S.A. **This is a Holy Day of Obligation.** Masses will be offered at 8:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.



HEALING MASS:

There will be a Healing Mass on Sunday, December 10th at 3:00 p.m. invoking the intercession of Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, a Redemptorist Priest who lived and worked in America. He is known for his powerful intercession for the sick. There will be the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and a blessing with the relic of Blessed Seelos. All who need healing of mind, body and spirit are encouraged to attend. Please note this will satisfy your Sunday obligation.

DONATIONS ACCEPTED:

As many of you have noticed, we offer free rosaries, pamphlets and holy water bottles at the Blessed Virgin Mary's alcove. We are happy to offer these items for free, however, it is an added expense for the parish. Sometimes we have parishioners that would like to donate for "extras" that we need. If this is something you feel called to help with, please feel free to do so.

POTLUCK:

See you at the Potluck dinner, TODAY, following the 11:00 a.m. Mass.



LADIES OF THE PARISH:

We will be hosting "**Advent by Candlelight**" on Monday, December 4th beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the parish hall. Come share faith and fellowship as we take time out of our busy schedules to remember the true meaning of the season. Invite your family and friends. If you would like to host a table, please call the rectory at 419-224-3080. Hope to see many of you there!



Advent by Candlelight

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SICK OF ST. RITA'S:

Visiting the sick is one of the corporal works of mercy, and bringing Holy Communion to people in the hospital is a great way to practice this. St. Rita's Medical Center is looking for volunteer Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist to share the sacrament with patients, and are especially in need on week-ends. The Medical Center would provide orientation and training. If you are interested in serving the sick, please contact Deb Miller, Spiritual Care Office Coordinator at 419-226-9481. Thank you.



ROSARY ALTAR BAKE SALE:

The ladies of the Rosary/Altar Society will be hosting their annual Bake Sale and Raffle on Sunday, December 10th following the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses. This will be held in the Parish Hall. Baked goods may be dropped off before the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, or before any of the Masses on Sunday. Look for raffle tickets in the bulletin today. Now would be a great time to start getting your baked goods ready for the sale.

"GIVE A CHRISTMAS - TO A FAMILY IN NEED":

Joining the other Catholic parishes of Lima, you are invited to take one of the bags near the Angel tree, fill it with groceries and return it on December 10th or 17th. All of the groceries will be taken to a centralized location, and prepared for distribution to families through Samaritan House, St. Vincent de Paul, and the Cheryl Allen Community Center. This joint effort by the entire Catholic Community of Lima will be a great witness of our faith.



ADVENT WREATH CEREMONY:

Advent starts on December 3rd. Again this year, we will have the lighting of the Advent Wreath, with four candles signifying four gifts that Christ brings to us: Hope, Peace, Joy and Love.

The following families of the parish will process in with the Celebrant at each weekend Mass and will light the candles. May they remind us that, as Christ gives us those four gifts, we are called to pass them on to each other.

Dec. 2/3 - Hope

5:00 p.m. ~ The Tim & Shandra Parker Family
8:30 a.m. ~ Sanna and Dan Rohrbach
11:00 a.m. ~ The Josh & Jennifer Szimpl Family

Dec. 16/17 - Joy

5:00 p.m. ~ Barb & Mike Flynn
8:30 a.m. ~ The Kevin & Lisa Rigg Family
11:00 a.m. ~ The Chris & Paige Fay Family

Dec. 9/10 - Peace

5:00 p.m. ~ The Tom & Kelly Huffman Family
8:30 a.m. ~ The Steve & Louise Martin Family
11:00 a.m. ~ The Mike & Sue Dew Family

Dec. 23/24 - Love

5:00 p.m. ~ The Brent & Heather Dawson Family
8:30 a.m. ~ Jennifer Inskeep & Family
11:00 a.m. ~ The Matt & Rachel Spencer Family



RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):

RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults into the Catholic faith. RCIA is for anyone who:

- Is a non-baptized adult.
- Baptized in another Christian Church and is interested in knowing more about the Catholic Church, with or without the intention of becoming a member.
- A baptized Catholic who never received Reconciliation, Eucharist, or Confirmation.

Call the rectory office if you are interested in joining.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTER'S SCHEDULE:

Saturday, December 9:

5:00 p.m. *K. Canavan, D. Hollingsworth,
B. Flynn, J. Hollingsworth, L. Makley,
B. Peebles, B. VonLehmden,
S. Tschuor, J. Wolf, M. Hinegardner*

Sunday, December 10:

8:30 a.m. *M. Hickey, T. Sroufe, J. Sroufe,
M. King. C. Altenbach, J. Inskeep,
T. Martin, G. Merkel, S. Ellinger,
J. Korzan*

11:00 a.m. *M. Ayers, R. Carder, S. Dew,
R. Karbowskiak, S. Morrissey, J. Neville
D. Vondrell, G. Vondrell, C. Wreede,
J. Kahle*

LECTOR'S SCHEDULE:

Dec. 9: 5:00 p.m. - *C. Schmenk*

Dec. 10: 8:30 a.m. - *M. Kleffner*
11:00 a.m. - *K. Wreede*

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE:

Dec. 9: 5:00 p.m. - *H. Lamb, N. Chambers,
H. Chambers*

Dec. 10: 8:30 a.m. - *D. Martin, E. Martin,
A. Dackin*
11:00 a.m. - *K. Meyer, L. Wreede,
S. Santaguída*

SACRISTY WORKERS FOR DECEMBER:

*Brenda Santaguída, Melinda Taflinger,
Barb Markham*

PRAYER CLOTH:

In the rectory office, we have "PRAYER CLOTHS" available to anyone wishing to have one. Each cloth is about 4-6 inches square and have been blessed with the relic of St. Blessed Francis Seelos and also comes with a prayer card. Whether you need healing in mind or body, this prayer cloth is a reminder of God's love for each one of us. It is also a reminder that St. Gerard Parish is praying for you too.



ANGEL TREE

Our gift-giving drive for children through the Salvation Army is going on now. You will find two trees decorated with "Angel Tags" in the sanctuary. Please take the entire tag, purchase your gifts and return them to the tree with the tag attached securely to the gift. Please, DO NOT WRAP the gifts.



We have always had a tremendous support and participation in this project, and we hope that we can continue this tradition. Just think of the joy your gifts will bring to many of our area children. If you have any questions, please call the rectory office at 419-224-3080 and we will try to help you.

PARISH MISSIONARY PROJECT:

Beginning today, there will be blank Christmas cards at each of the entrances for you to write notes to inmates at Allen Correctional. Sign your first name and return them to baskets provided before December 14th. The cards will be taken to the inmates December 15th, at their Christmas retreat. They very much appreciated the kind words last year. For some men, the card they get from you is the only card they receive. Thanks in advance for giving them some encouraging words and helping them to experience just a little bit of Christmas spirit.



MUSTARD SEED GIFT SHOP:

Christmas items are now on display at the Mustard Seed Gift Shop. All are invited to shop for the special gift for someone on their list.

***With the holidays upon us, don't forget to purchase **SCRIP** for your shopping needs!
It's available after the Masses.***

2018 MASS BOOK:

The 2018 Mass book is now open. Due to the limited number of Sunday Masses available, we ask that you limit your number of weekend Masses to two. There are plenty of Masses available during the week so feel free to have as many Mass intentions as you would like scheduled through the weekdays. Mass intentions are \$10.00 each. Thank you.

FINANCE COUNCIL:

St. Gerard Parish is looking for additional members for our finance council. Normal meeting times are on the 3rd Thursday of each month beginning at 11:30 a.m. in the rectory. Anyone interested in becoming a member of this council should contact Marta Truex at 419-222-0431. You may also email her with your letter of interest at: mtruex@sgslima.org.

ATTENTION ALUMNI OF ST. ROSE HIGH SCHOOL & GRADE SCHOOL:

On Saturday, Dec. 16th, at 4:00 p.m., you are invited to join us as we celebrate the Restoration of the Church and the Dedication of the new School Gym and Parish Center. A reception will follow. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by December 5th by calling Liz Parker at 419-227-0845.



SPIRITUAL FORMATION COMMITTEE:

St. Gerard Parish is seeking individuals who feel called by the Spirit to minister to this parish in Deepening our faith and spiritual development. Those interested in joining the Spiritual Formation Committee are asked to please call the Rectory at 419-224-3080.

BLESSING OF THE "BAMBINOS":

At the 11:00 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 17th, you are invited to bring the statue of the Infant Jesus (the Bambino) from your Nativity set. The statue will receive a special Christmas blessing. All the children with statues will bring them into the sanctuary and gather around the empty manger for the blessing.

Pope John Paul, II instituted the celebration of Babinelli Sunday . . . The children from Rome bring to St. Peter's Square the figurine of the Christ Child from their families' Nativity sets to be blessed by the Holy Father. The children then take them home to be placed under their Christmas trees.

MARCH FOR LIFE ~ BUS TRIP TO WASHINGTON DC:

- Bus Trip to Washington, D.C. January 18-20th
- Departs from Port Clinton
- Early Bird Rate (by Dec. 12th) \$220 per person
- Regular Rate (after Dec. 12th) \$240 per person
- Includes: Bus, hotel, breakfast, Vigil Mass at Basilica, March for Life Rally, Museum of the Bible
- Sponsored by: ICSJ Respect Life Ministry Port Clinton/Marblehead
- Contact: Judy Geiger to register: 419-3410-1899; jgeiger747@gmail.com

