

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK:

Monday, December 17

8:30 a.m. Charles Tenney +

Tuesday, December 18

8:30 a.m. Norval & Cecelia
Wannemacher +

Wednesday, December 19

8:30 a.m. Harold & Betty Moore +
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 20

8:30 a.m. Joseph J. Job +

Friday, December 21

8:30 a.m. Jack & Mildred
Pohlabel +
John Dodge +

Saturday, December 22

8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of
the Jinney Meyer Family
Living & Deceased of
the Tenney & George Families
5:00 p.m. Irene, Ralph, Emma &
Edward Peebles +
Jim Taflinger +
Bill Bourk +

Sunday, December 23

8:30 a.m. James & Nancy Bogner+
Living & Deceased of
the Lamb Family
Rick Jenkins +
11:00 a.m. Laurie Zerante Snider +
Robert Wagner +
Mary Smith
1:30 p.m. Spanish Mass

THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH:

**Sunday, December 16 - Holy Name Breakfast in the Parish Hall
Rosary/Altar Christmas Bake Sale & Raffle in the Parish Hall**

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - RCIA Classes in the Cafeteria
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - Parish School of Religion
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass
3:00 p.m. - City-Wide Penance Service at St. Rose Parish
6:00-7:30 p.m. - Youth Group Meeting in the Parish Hall

Monday, December 17

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
5:00 p.m. - Widows/Widower's Support Group Mtg. in the P. Hall

Tuesday, December 18

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
12:00 Noon - Rosary/Altar meets in church to pray Rosary,
followed by lunch at the Casa Lu Al

Wednesday, December 19

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
1:00 p.m. - OLPH Novena
6:00 p.m. - Rosary/Benediction/Mass at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 20

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
12:00 Noon - 5:00 p.m. - Adoration Cancelled due to decorating
Church for Christmas

Friday, December 21

Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, December 22

Mass at 8:30 a.m.
Mass at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 23

Masses at 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - RCIA Classes in the Cafeteria
9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. - NO Parish School of Religion
1:30 p.m. - Spanish Mass

FINANCIAL REPORT

<u>DATE</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
December, 1st week	\$ 10,370.10	\$ 12,750.69
On-line: \$ 2,268.00		
# of Envelopes	281	278
YTD Totals:	\$ 258,872.72	\$ 250,375.31

ONLINE GIVING: If you would like to give online, visit our website at www.stgerardchurch.org & click on the "On-line Giving tab.



*Be sure to stop over
at the Rosary/Altar Society
Bake Sale & Raffle, as well
as enjoy a delicious
breakfast served by our
Holy Name men today!*



December:
*Month
dedicated
to Advent
and the
Coming of
Christ.*



**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER
INTENTIONS FOR
DECEMBER:**



UNIVERSAL:

EVANGELIZATION ...

That people, who are involved in the service and transmission of faith, may find, in their dialogue with culture, a language suited to the conditions of the present time.

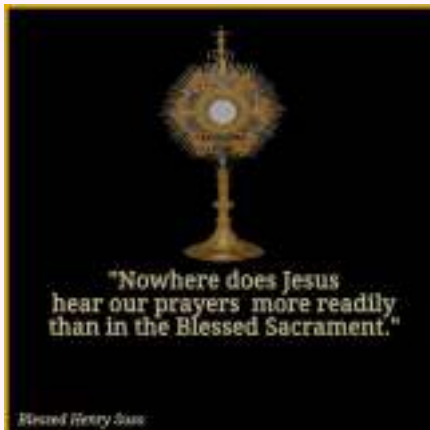
Week 3, Joy

*Dear Jesus,
Help us focus
on you during
this busy
season. May
we stay aware
of the joy you
bring into our lives. We want
to find you in the everyday
moments and come with
hearts of gratitude to your
manager on Christmas.
Amen.*



Gaudete

Rejoice
in the Lord always
again I will say,
Rejoice
Philippians 4:4



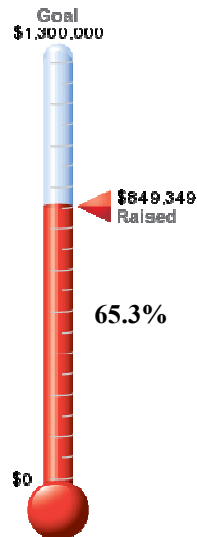
EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Adoration hours at St. Gerard are 12-5pm every Thursday. Come this Advent, refresh yourself with Him, from the hurries of the season.

ST. GERARD CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:

The Scope of the Project:

Our parish is proposing a 3-part building proposal to better serve the needs of our parish and local community and to strengthen our long-term financial viability. This proposal is estimated at \$2.4 million. We are asking our parishioners and friends of St. Gerard to donate a total of \$1.3 million.



**\$849,348.96
pledged!**

To help us reach our goal, we are asking every family to participate. Every gift, no matter how large or small, is appreciated.

Pledge cards are available in the church and at the rectory or school offices. You may also give online by visiting our web-site at: www.stgerardchurch.org and clicking on the On-line Giving tab. Please, prayerfully consider supporting this most important project.

Thank you to all who have turned in your pledge card.

ATTENTION USHERS:

We are asking that our ushers sign-up to volunteer for the Christmas Masses. Sign-up sheets are located in the center section near the back of church. Thank you!

ROSARY/ALTAR NEWS:

The ladies of the Rosary/Altar Society will meet in church to pray the rosary on Tuesday, December 18th at noon. They will then go to the Casa Lu Al for lunch following the rosary.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: 5:00 p.m. & 10:00 p.m.

Christmas Day: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.



New Year's Schedule

New Year's Eve: 5:00 p.m.

New Years Day: 8:30 a.m.

ROSARY/ALTAR BAKE SALE AND RAFFLE:

The ladies of the Rosary/Altar Society will be hosting their annual Bake Sale and Raffle



TODAY, Sunday,

December 16th following the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Masses. This will be held in the Parish Hall, along with breakfast that will be served by the Holy Name Men. Hope to see you there!



ADVENT WREATH CEREMONY:

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 Advent Wreath candles. May they remind us that, as Christ gives us those four gifts, we are called to pass them on to each other.

Dec. 15/16 Advent III - Joy

5:00 pm Mike & Abbie Mason
8:30 am The Snow Family
11:00 am

Dec. 22/23 Advent IV - Love

5:00 pm The Mays Family
8:30 am The Rigg Family
11:00 am The Bronstrom Family

GIVE A CHRISTMAS:

If you forgot to bring your food sack with you today, we will be accepting them Sunday (today) until 12:30 p.m. in the St. Charles School gym. The Lima Catholic Community should be very proud of our efforts to help so many families. Last year we were able to fill over 1,100 boxes for the Salvation Army and donated cases of food to the Samaritan House, St. Vincent DePaul, Dominion Building residents, Cross Roads Crisis Center, Mizpah Community Center and Teens for Christ. Thank you for your generous donations.

City-Wide Penance Service:

The City-Wide Penance Service is scheduled for TODAY, December 16th at 3:00 p.m. at St. Rose Church. Please make this a part of your Advent preparations.



WEBCASTING DONATIONS:

It's time for our annual fee to host the "live" broadcast of our Masses at St. Gerard Church. The cost for a year is over \$1,100.00. That does not include the upgrading of software and equipment used to stream our live video. If you are one of the many parishioners who benefit from this and would like to make a donation to help with these expenses, that would be greatly appreciated. Just put "webcasting" in the memo line of your check. Every little bit helps!

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER'S SCHEDULE:

Saturday, December 22:

5:00 p.m. *B. Flynn, L. Makley, B. VonLehmden,
V. Bigelow, M. DeVita, J. Stewart,
W. Peebles, S. Parker, D. Hollingsworth,
J. Hollingsworth*

Sunday, December 23:

8:30 a.m. *S. Ellinger, G. Merkel, J. Sroufe,
T. Sroufe, C. Altenbach, M. Hickey,
N. Jenkins, B. Pinney, M. Meyer,
P. Huffman*

11:00 a.m. *S. Dew, F. Mansfield, R. Vegeles,
D. Vondrell, G. Vondrell, C. Coleman,
R. Karbowski, J. Neville, S. Morrissey,
M. Ayers*

LECTOR'S SCHEDULE:

Dec. 22: 5:00 p.m. - *T. Huffman*

Dec. 23: 8:30 a.m. - *T. Parker*
11:00 a.m. - *E. Truex*

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE:

Dec. 22: 5:00 p.m. - *M. Lewis, H. & N. Chambers,*

Dec. 23: 8:30 a.m. - *D. Martin, E. Martin,
M. Chambers*
11:00 a.m. - *D. Dawson, L. Wreede,
A. Carter*

USHER SCHEDULE:

Dec. 22: 5:00 p.m. - *L. Daley, D. Makley, T. Daley*

Dec. 23: 8:30 a.m. - *J. Ruen, F. Morman, V. Koza*
11:00 a.m. - *R. Stolly, B. Walsh, S. Dackin*

SACRISTY WORKERS - DECEMBER:

*J. Blackburn, J. Wolff, L. Dodge, M. Hickey,
B. Markham, B. Santaquida, M. Taflinger*

KEWPEE DRIVE:

St. Gerard students will kick off the annual Kewpee Coupon Fundraising Drive on Monday, January 7th. Kewpee coupons are in books of 5 coupons for \$5.00.



LCC ACT PREP COURSE:

LCC is offering its 11th ACT Prep Class. Classes start January 5, 2019 and will be held each Saturday until February 23, 2019. This class is designed to help students improve their performance when taking the ACT Test. The cost of the course is \$225.00 for LCC students and \$300.00 for non-LCC students. For more specific information, please go to the LCC website at www.lcchs.edu or contact Stephanie Evans at 419-230-5040. Pre-registration is required and forms are due January 2, 2019. The class is open to LCC, as well as non-LCC students.

ELITE TOURS TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE:

Travel with **Fr. Charles Obinwa** of Ft. Jennings St. Joseph's & Lima St. Rita's to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Tlaxcala, Ocotlan, Puebla San Jan Teotihuacan, Acolman. May 11th-17th, 2019. Cost is \$2500.00 (Airfare included from anywhere in the U.S.) For more information and registration, contact: 612-730-2890. Or visit them online at www.proccatholicotours.com. You may also email them with questions at: Office@proccatholicotours.com.

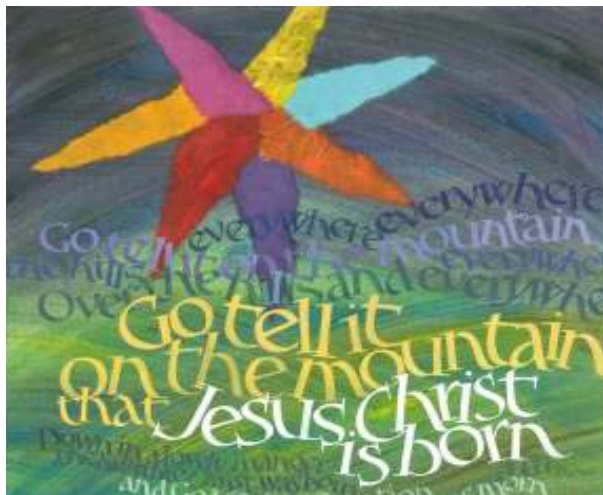
MARCH FOR LIFE:

Interested in attending the March for Life in Washington DC on January 18, 2019? Join the College and Young Adult bus trip sponsored by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Toledo! The trip is only \$192, but for college students there is a special discounted price of \$132! We depart Jan. 17th at 3pm and return Jan. 19th. If interested, contact Peter Range, Director of the Office for Life and Justice at 419-214-4933 or prange@toledodiocese.org. Registration deadline is Dec. 14.

NEEDED!!! ANGELS & SHEPHERDS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE:

At the family Mass (5:00 p.m.) on Christmas Eve, the Christmas Story will be acted out. All children of the parish (up to and including grade 4 of *any* school) are invited to participate by being an angel or a shepherd. If you can, wear an angel or shepherd costume to church and sit with your family. The priest will tell you when to come up into the sanctuary. If you do not have a costume, there will be tinsel halos for the angels and head coverings for the shepherds at each entrance of the church. Please stop and get one and wear it during Mass.

At the close of the Christmas Story, all the angels and shepherds will sing the refrain "Go Tell it on the Mountain". Parents, we ask you to teach your children the words and practice the song. Any questions, call Shandra Parker at (419) 230-2926 or John Christoff (419) 203-7881.



The words are as follows:

*Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born. (Repeat 3 times)*

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE:

Today's gospel tells us to SHARE! This Christmas resist the pressure to give token gifts. Instead, use those funds to give NECESSITIES to the poor. If our impoverished brothers and sisters are not on our gift list, we've missed the point of Christmas.

POPCORN SALE:

St. Gerard Middle School students will be selling Shirley's Gourmet popcorn at all three doors following each Mass on the weekend of December 15th & 16th. The profit will go towards the students trip to Camp Willson. The popcorn makes wonderful gifts for Christmas.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER:

A Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend provides a chance for couples to spend time together, apart from the distractions and tensions of everyday life. The next weekend in the Toledo Diocese is January 18-20, 2019 in Perrysburg. For more information or to apply for a weekend, go to www.wwme.org or contact Brian & Chris Schroeder at 419-538-7210 or bcschroeder@bright.net.

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.