

ST. MARY, CAUSE OF OUR JOY

8200 N. WAYNE ROAD, WESTLAND, MI | 734-425-4421 | WWW.STMARYCOOJ.ORG

December 10, 2023

What's the story behind the Advent wreath?

During the Advent season, wreaths adorn church sanctuaries and family dining room tables. You may have said Advent wreath prayers in childhood or taken a turn lighting the candles. The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. It always remains fresh and new. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love.

Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colors of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same color for the season of Lent.

On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose color. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation! Whatever the color and whatever the day, the Advent wreath is a beautiful practice to focus our attention on Christ's coming at Christmas.

©LPi

PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS

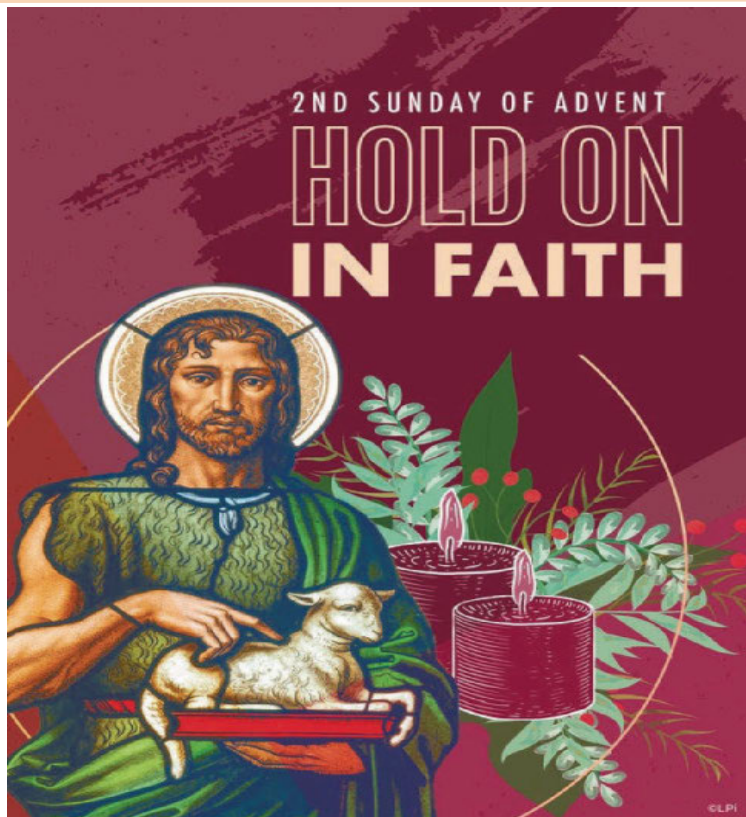
Heavenly Father, Lord of the Harvest, call forth vocations to the priesthood from our archdiocese and families.

Jesus, Eternal High Priest, give us men willing to sacrifice and serve. Make their hearts after your own Sacred Heart.

Holy Spirit, Everlasting Love between Father and Son, strengthen, inspire, and set men on fire with divine charity. Grant them the courage to say yes to their vocation.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, Mother of priests, comfort and protect your sons as they discern their call. With Saint Joseph, may they know your love and companionship as they deepen their relationship with Jesus.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us. St. Anne, pray for us. St. John Vianney, patron saint of priests, pray for us.



NOTES FROM PAUL

The opening line of this week's first reading (IS 40:1-5, 9-11) is, "Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God." I don't know about you, but I could use some comfort this time of year.

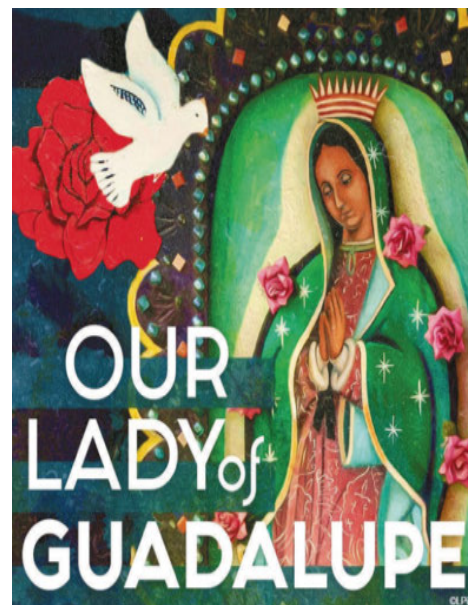
The challenge for me is how do I give comfort to others? I can give gifts to my family and friends, and even to people I don't know by giving Gift Cards to our Advent Collection. But there are many things I can do for free.

I can try to be friendlier to people I meet (even those drivers who cut me off). I can also just listen to people who need to talk. Last but not least, I can give time to the people who need it. In this busy season, try to comfort others, and be open to others trying to comfort you.

God bless,
Paul Zbytowski,
Pastoral Associate,
Evangelization and Christian Service Coordinator

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. Dec. 11	12 Noon	+Judy Touhey Req. by Graziano Canini For Holly Ann Evans Req. by Family
Thurs. Dec. 14	9:00am	+Judy Touhey Req. by Grziano Canini
Sat. Dec. 16	5:30pm	+Don Niemiec Req. by Maryann & Jerry Regula +Sgt. David Babb Req. by Mother & Sons
Sun Dec 17	9:00am	+Domenic Breda Req. by Family +James Hejka Req. by Family +Daniel, Nicholas & Angela Hejka Req. by Grandma
	11:00am	Michael Macari Req. by wife, Anna & Family



PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Nancy Abramson	Alisa Gardner	Lillian & Sienna Lombardi	Wayne Pringle
Helen Adams	Judy Gardner	Ken Macko	Kim Quinn
Sean Armstrong	Julia Gardner	Barbara Martin	Shelly Rizzo
Pat Bader	Sonia Gee	Rob Martin	Debbie Robarge
Kelly Beaudry	Emily Gnacke	Dennis & Kathy McCann	Bill Rodriguez
Fr. Jerry Bechard	William Gnacke, Jr.	John Meconi	Ann Sanregret
Joan Bischoff	Patricia Godvin	Joanne Meister	Jean Schmuck
Al Boglarsky	Ora Gomez	Irene Melady	Tom Shafer
Jerry Borycz	Viola Janus	Ann Merchant	Jack Shea
Don Brune	Jacqueline Hamrick	Andrew Merchant	Kathy Sielaff
Angela Bunio	Susan Hancock	Tony Micallef	John Socia
Dan Burke	Eileen Harris	Selena Montez	Anthony T.
Hope Carew	Lauren Hahn	Debbie Moore	Natalie Tanana
Ricky Canini	Becca Hoffman	Ashley Murphy	Frank Tierney
Jannisse Chesney	Tony Hollis	Jim Murphy	George & Jackie Tindall
Evan Costello	Christine Humphrey	Liam Murphy	Lillian Theisen
Christina Cowell	John Kaminsky	Teresa M. Pardo	Donald Thurston
Bodyn Crince	Chris Karpinski	Keith Pares	Roberta Troher
Barbara Deck	Rose Keena	Eddie Brian Parker	Vasati Tupuani
Ed & Catherine Duff	Susan Kelly	Patrick Patton	Karen Welch
Larry Edick	Gloria Keniz	Geralyn Pawlaczyk	Bill Wendling
Faith Falzon	Marion Kiras	Luke Pawlaczyk	Cathy West
Ashley Aaron Farkas	Joan Klein	Jared Perez	Tamara Wright
Janet & Al Fleis	Bob & Dolly Kluba	Faye Pierson	Walter Wrone
Liam Francis	John Kolar	Damian Pietszak	Nicole Zapinski
Nan Fry	John Krokosky	Deb Pietszak	Sandra Zannis
Mike Fusco	Patricia Lickman	Sandy Popek	
Betty Gable	Julianne Lister	Annette Puczkowski	

If there are any names that can be removed from our Prayer List, please let us know by calling 734-425-4421.

OUR ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE MEMBERS

Capt. Tim Duff, U.S. Army; CPT Joey Saunders, U.S. Marines;
Marine Sgt. Leven Smith; U.S. Marines; PVT Marcus Rodriguez, U.S. Army; William Albright, U. S. Air Force

Parish Mission Statement

The Parish of St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy, inspired by Mary's "Yes" and led by the Holy Spirit, strives to be a faith-filled community, joyfully welcoming all to witness and to celebrate the Gospel.

Queen's Quotes from Religious Formation

Advent Greetings and Salutations,

Today we light the second candle on the Advent wreath. We wait and prepare for Christmas. If you have a manger scene in your house or outside gather with your family and pray; pray for our Priests, pray for peace in our nation and world, pray for one another. Remember the best Christmas gift is spending time with the Lord.

December 6th is the feast day of Saint Nicholas. During Faith Formation sessions tomorrow December 4th; the students will be asked to place one of their shoes outside of the classroom in hopes Saint Nicholas will leave a surprise. This has become one of our annual traditions.

How do you keep your hands clean over the holidays? With Santa – tizer. LOL!

Blessings,
Sabrina Queen



Heavenly Father, welcome home those whom you have called from this world, especially:

Barbara (Betty) Martin
Edna Land
Tony Hollis

and all the souls of our faithful.
May they rest in peace. Amen



It was a JOY to welcome into the family of God:

Alona Milewsky-Basco,

child of Alexandria Milewsky and Denny Calma Basco on Sunday, November 26, 2023.

Godparents are Walter Milewsky and Nikole Milewsky.

CHRISTMAS PENANCE SERVICE

Tuesday, Dec. 19 @ 7pm -
St. Mary in Wayne

Wednesday, Dec. 20 @ 1:00pm
St. Thomas the Apostle

Forever Young Seniors...

Our next meeting will be **Monday, January 8th, 2024 at 10:00am** in the Small Hall. Lunch will be provided by Chef Ann Pape.

Reminder: Anyone going on the Holiday Church Tour bus trip on Thurs, Dec. 14th, please be in the parking lot by 8:45am.

Bianco bus trips:

Thurs, Feb 8th, 2024 Firekeepers Casino \$48 due by Jan 18th

Wed, March 13th, 2024 Solanus Casey Pilgrimage \$79 due by Feb 21st

Sun, April 28, 2024 Meadowbrook Theatre "Route 66" \$127 due by March 25th

Note: the bus trips are open to everyone. See flyers in the Gathering Space for more info.

Maryann Sligay --
734-525-3737

MUSINGS FROM THE MUSED

Christmas is coming and with it many communal celebrations to participate in. I want to extend an invitation to a few events that I am hosting and give you the musical plan for Christmas Masses. This weekend, Sunday the 10th and the next weekend Sunday the 17th my community choir has their Christmas concert. I've been Director of the Novi Choralaires for three years now. My first concert coming out of the covid pandemic, I gave the concert the theme of "Hope Triumphant". The following year began the Ukraine War and our concert theme was "Peace On Earth".

This year my theme is Joy with the title "Ring-a-Ling, Hear Them Sing!" The Concerts start at 4pm, on the 10th it is at Faith Community Presbyterian Novi on Ten Mile Road, on the 17th we will be at Prince of Peace on Twelve Mile Road. The tickets are available at the door!

On the 15th, we begin Simbang Gabi, our 9 day novena before Christmas. This special Filipino tradition starts at 7pm each night. I will be playing piano with Filipino music including guitar and drums. The final night, the 23rd will have an additional special performance and includes a large reception.

Next week, on the 20th at 12:30 in the afternoon, I am doing a short Organ Recital and Prayer Service. After a musical introduction, we will place our petitions before the Lord and pray and sing the divine mercy chaplet with Organ accompaniment.

And Finally, on Christmas Eve, at the 10pm Mass, we will have an extensive Christmas Prelude beginning at 9pm featuring many sacred Christmas favorites that we couldn't fit in the Mass and on Christmas Day, at 10am, the Bell Choir will be performing! Phew, that's quite a lot of music! I am going to need a break after Christmas! But truly, it is my pleasure to celebrate the birth of Our Lord with you. Hope to see you at some of our extra musical events!

Aidan Rickel,
Director of Music Ministry

CSA UPDATE

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy has reached 90 percent of our goal of \$75,818 for the 2023 Catholic Services Appeal. Thank you to the 211 families (out of 722 families) who have made gifts and pledges totaling \$68,500! Our anticipated shortfall today is \$7,318. This amount includes *pledges not yet paid in full*. Our parish will have to make up any shortfall.

If you are considering a gift to our parish for Christmas, please consider giving to the CSA. Please know that our parish will receive **100 percent of any gifts we receive over our target.**

You may mail your completed pledge card in the pre-addressed envelope that was provided you, make your gift to our parish campaign online at givesa.org or call the parish office for help.



**MAKE CHECKS
PAYABLE TO:
ARCHDIOCESE OF
DETROIT - CSA**

Option 1: My Pledged Gift Amount

(Please enclose a check for the initial payment amount)

☐ \$300.00 ☐ \$200.00 ☐ \$100.00

Other: \$ _____

Initial Pledge Payment: \$ _____

Balance: \$ _____

Send my statements:

☐ Monthly ☐ Quarterly

Option 2: My One-Time Gift

(Please enclose a check for the full amount)

☐ \$300.00 ☐ \$200.00

☐ \$100.00 Other: _____

Eucharistic Exposition Mondays, 12:30 - 3:00pm

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Ministry
and the Filipino Community - Westside of Detroit
Invites You to Celebrate**

**SIMBANG GABI (Night Mass) 2023
9-Evening Christmas Novena**

The Filipino Catholic devotional, nine consecutive nights of prayer for spiritual preparation and purification to worthily welcome and receive the Child Jesus in our midst. IHM Ministry is proud to offer this religious and socio-cultural needs of the Filipino American communities in Michigan. Everyone is welcome to attend our liturgy and join us in our worship.

December 15-23 at 7:00pm

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy

8200 N Wayne Rd., Westland, Michigan 48185

IHM Ministry is a parish member-organization at St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy. Fr. Enno Dango, C.P. is our mass celebrant.

FLOCKNOTE

Are you new to the parish? Do you ever feel like you are missing out on “up to the minute” news? Have you missed the news of a funeral that happened during the week but wished you had known sooner? Or a weather related closing for our parish?

You can sign up for Flocknote by going to: <https://app.flocknote.com/StMaryCauseofOurJoy> or text "COOJ" to 84576

Will You Answer the Call?

The Wayne-Westland Schools are in need of food to send home with children over the Christmas break. Boxes are **due next weekend**. You can make a difference. Here's how:

Step1: Find a cardboard box and decorate it for the holidays.

Step 2: Each day, place the item from the list below in the box.

Step 3: drop off your box at the social hall, Dec. 16/17, 30 minutes before or after mass. Volunteers will be standing by to collect your food donation.

Dec. 1	Spaghettios		Dec. 7	Chicken Noodle Soup
Dec. 2	Applesauce cups		Dec. 8	Spaghetti 16oz
Dec. 3	Tomato Soup		Dec. 9	Spaghetti Sauce 24oz
Dec. 4	Capri Sun pouch 100% juice		Dec. 10	Oatmeal packets
Dec. 5	Macaroni & Cheese		Dec. 11	Raisins
Dec. 6	Corn 15oz		Dec. 12	Pork & Beans

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, December 11

Mass 12 Noon
Eucharistic Adoration 12:30-3pm
Faith Formation 6pm
High School Youth Group 7pm

Tuesday, December 12

Forgotten Harvest 9am-11am

Wednesday, December 13

Advent Study Group 10:30am
Rosary 7:00pm

Thursday, December 14

Mass 9:00am
Bible Study 6-7:30pm
K of C meeting 7:30pm

Sunday, December 17

Pancake Breakfast 8:30am-
12:30pm

ADVENT STUDY GROUP



Our parish is having an Advent Study every Wednesday through December. 20. The class will begin at 10:30am and last about an hour.

We will meet in a room in the Parish Office. Please bring your bible and rosary. All are welcome to attend.

OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS

The traditional Christmas Wafer, Oplatki, are now available in the back of church. They will also be available at our Parish Office. A donation of \$2 is requested for each package.

FORGOTTEN HARVEST

The Forgotten Harvest pantry will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 12 from 9am-11am (or until all food runs out).

A BIG THANK YOU to all the volunteers who came out on Nov. 28. It was such a cold day, but we served 205 households accounting for 614 individuals.

REMINDER — No pantry on Tuesday, December 26, due to the Christmas Holidays.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENT RAFFLE FOR NEW HVAC

Grand Prize - \$5,000

2nd place - \$1,000

3rd place - Smart TV

Ticket Donations \$10 each.

Drawing will take place on
Sunday, December 24th at 12:30pm in social hall

Need not be present to win.

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy is in need of a new HVAC (heating and cooling system). We will have a Raffle drawing to help with the cost.

Each family is asked to sell a minimum of 10 tickets. Tickets will be available in the Gathering Space. Please look for your name in the boxes. If more tickets are needed please call the parish office. They would make great stocking stuffers!

Christmas Mass Schedules

Saint Thomas the Apostle:

December 23rd, 4:00pm.
December 24th, 10:00am, 4:00pm,
6:00pm, Midnight.
December 25th, 9:00am and
11:00am.
December 30th, 4:00pm.
December 31st, 10:00am Only.
January 1st, 10:00am.

Saint Mary, COOJ:

December 23rd, 5:30pm.
December 24th, 11:00am and
4:00pm, 10:00pm.
December 25th, 10:00am.

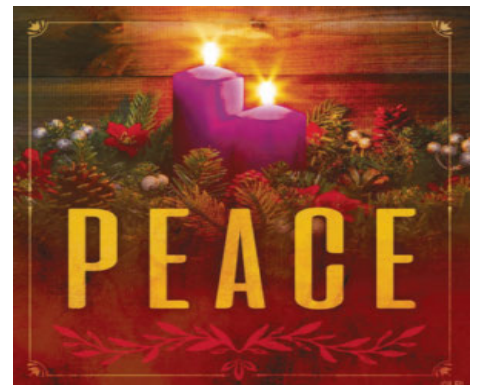
Saint Mary Wayne and Saint Richard:

December 23rd, 4:00pm.
December 24th, 8:30am, 10:00am
@ Saint Richard, 4:00pm, and
6:00pm (Spanish) Midnight.
December 25th, 10:00am both
Parishes.

HOLY NAME FRATERNITY

Please mark your calendar and join Holy Name Fraternity for the pancake french toast breakfast on **Sunday, 12/17, 830am until 1230 pm**, in the social hall. Still just \$3. And Santa Claus will be in the building.

HNF will meet at 6pm, Tuesday, 12/19, in the small hall. Meeting at 6pm followed by the HNF Christmas dinner. All HNF members expected.



CARDS AND NOTES TO FR. SHAFIQUE.....

Cards and notes may be sent to Fr. Shafique. The Archdiocese of Detroit will accept cards and letters and forward them to Fr. Shafique. The Archdiocese will NOT open any letters or cards. They will bundle them and send them directly to Fr. Shafique. Please send cards/letters to:

Fr. Shafique
% Clergy & Consecrated Life office
12 State St.
Detroit, Michigan 48226



St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy

8200 N. Wayne Road,
Westland, Michigan 48185
Phone: **734-425-4421**
Email: office@stmarycooj.org
Fax: 734-425-0650

Website: www.stmarycooj.org

St. Mary, Cause of Our Joy



Office Hours:

Monday and Wednesday: 9am-4pm
Tuesday and Thursday: 9am-2pm
Friday: Closed

Please call the office
to make other arrangements

Mass Schedule

MON	12:00 pm
THURS	9:00am
SAT	5:30pm
SUN	9:00 am 11:00 am

Confession

Saturdays: 6:30pm

Baptisms

Please call our Parish Office during regular business hours. Parish membership and preparation class required.

Marriage

Arrangements must be made by registered parishioner at least six months in advance to allow sufficient time for instructions and preparation.

Anointing of Sick and Ministry to Homebound

Our pastor is available to visit upon request.

RCIA

(Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
For those interested in becoming a full member of the Catholic Church. Please call the office.

Hearing Devices are available. Please see our music director in the choir area.

Bulletin Articles due by 4pm on Friday (9 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

DIRECTORY

MODERATOR

Fr. Sean Bonner, Priest in Solidum
pastor@stmarycooj.org Ext. 213
Fr. Larry, Priest in Solidum

FAITH FORMATION (pre-K to year 8)
Sabrina Queen Ext. 217
Squeen333@gmail.com

MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Aidan C. Rickel
music@stmarycooj.org Ext. 218

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE/ CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Paul Zbytowski
paul@stmarycooj.org Ext. 221

YOUTH MINISTRY

Carol Nelius Ext. 215
youthministry@stmarycooj.org

PARISH OFFICE MANAGER

Peggy Fox
peggy@stmarycooj.org Ext. 210

PARISH ACCOUNTANT

Carol Pates
bookkeeper@stmarycooj.org Ext. 214

MAINTENANCE

Sangeeta Safid
maintenance@stmarycooj.org Ext. 220

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Jeff Burden Grand Knight
GK15204@mikofc.org

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

svdp@stmarycooj.org Ext. 219

IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY MINISTRY

Gina Solon 734-865-0999

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

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-Christian Service Rep.

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-Education Committee Rep.

Richard Asher -Alternate

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL QUESTIONS: PPC@stmarycooj.org

Report Sexual Abuse for any child or adult: Call AOD victim assistance 1-866-343-8055 or Call the Michigan Department of Human Services at: 855-444-3911 any time.

NANKIN FAMILY OF PARISHES MASS TIMES

St. Thomas the Apostle, 31530 Beechwood, Garden City, 48135

Tuesday	9:00am
Wednesday	12:00 Noon
Friday	9:00am
Saturday	4:00 pm in Church (and live-streamed)
Sunday	9:00 am and 11:00 am in Church

St. Mary in Wayne, 34530 W Michigan, Wayne 48184

Monday	9:00am
Friday	9:00am (English)
Saturday	4:00pm (English)
Sunday	8:30am (English), 11:30am (English) 2:00pm (Spanish)

St. Richard, 35851 Cherry Hill, Westland, 48186

Tuesday	9:00am
Sunday	10:00am

To know more about our Family please check out our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/NankinFamilyofParishes>.

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15075 Beck Rd.
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Please RSVP to (734) 453-3333 or scan the QR code to register as seating is limited.

SCAN to RSVP

Friday
January 19th
at 11:30am

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