



Monday, December 23 *St. John of Kanty*
8:00a.m. † Joe & Kate Farrell

Tuesday, December 24
8:00a.m. Final Mass of Advent Mass
Intentions of Helene Depape
4:40p.m. Pageant
5:00p.m. Christmas Eve Mass
7:30p.m. Christmas Eve Mass

Wednesday, December 25 *The Nativity of the Lord*
12:00a.m. Midnight Mass
9:00a.m. Christmas Day Mass
11:00a.m. Christmas Day Mass

Thursday, December 26 *St. Stephen, the first Martyr*
8:00a.m. Intentions of Stephen

Friday, December 27 *St. John, Apostle*
8:00a.m. † Jack Russell Kidd
No Adoration or Benediction

Saturday, December 28 *The Holy Innocents*
9:00a.m. For the Dignity and Protection of all
Human Life

5:00p.m. † Andrew Totok

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES
Tuesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve
4:40 p.m. – Christmas Pageant
5:00 p.m.
7:30 p.m.

Please note: this time is different from past years

Wednesday, December 25
Christmas Day
Midnight Mass
Please note: incense will be used at this liturgy.
9:00 a.m.
11:00 a.m.

**MARY MOTHER
OF GOD**

The Solemnity of Mary Mother of God is a Holy Day of Obligation. As Catholics we are required to attend Mass for this Feast. Mass will be celebrated on December 31st at 5pm and January 1st at 9am and 11am. All are welcome to come and show their love for the Holy Mother of God.



Diocesan Prayer Calendar
Week of the December 22nd, 2019

This week we especially pray for:

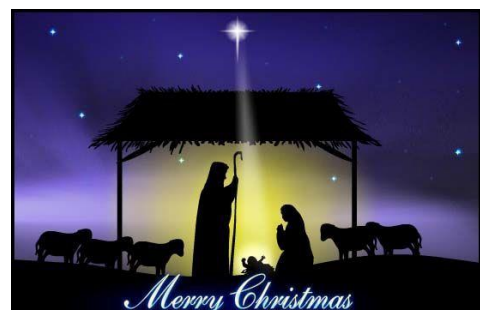
Monday Very Rev. Wojciech Kuzma
Tuesday Rev. James McSharry
Wednesday Christmas Day
Thursday Rev. Martin Mikulski, S.A.C.
Friday Rev. Joseph Okoko, i.v.Dei
Saturday Rev. Franjo Sprajc

God, the source of creation and love, You invite each of us to serve You through the life which is your gift. May Your grace encourage men and women to heights of holiness through service to the Church as priests, sisters, brothers, and lay ministers. Make me an instrument to encourage others to give themselves and challenge me to do the same. Amen



NEW YEARS EVE - ADORATION

On New Year's Eve, there will be Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament beginning at 9pm and ending at midnight with Solemn Benediction. This is a wonderful way to thank the Lord for the blessings of the past year and to begin the New Year with Him and to start it off with His Blessings. Come join Him!



**PARISH OFFICE HOURS
OVER THE CHRISTMAS SEASON**

Monday, December 23 rd	8:30 – 4:30pm
Tuesday, December 24 th	8:30-12:00pm
December 25,26 & 27 th	CLOSED
Monday, December 30 th	8:30-4:30pm
Tuesday, December 31 st	8:30-Noon
Wednesday, January 1 st , 2020	Closed
Thursday, January 2 nd , 2020	8:30-4:30pm
Friday, January 3 rd , 2020	8:30-4:30pm



HOMILIES ON-LINE

Did you like the homily this weekend or were unable to attend St. Ann's on the weekend, but would like to hear how Father Lobsinger or Father Greg unpacked the Gospel. No problem, the weekend homily is now available on the St. Ann website www.stannsparish.ca.



Envelopes for 2020 are now available in the Parish Centre. Please check the box label to ensure we have your correct names and address. Please do not use envelopes from previous years.

SAVE THE DATE: July 24 – 26, 2020

Steubenville – Defending the Faith (Adult) Conference at Franciscan University, Steubenville, Ohio.

There will be an information session that will be held at Regina Mundi Parish Hall, Wednesday, February 26 from 7:30pm - 9:00pm regarding the conference. Approximate cost for the bus is \$125.00 per person. Registration is now open through this link: <http://bit.ly/ReginaMundiDFC20>. If you are interested in attending, please contact Myles D'Arcey at myles.darcey@sympatico.ca. If there is enough interest we will have a separate information session at St. Ann's.

NATIVITY SCENES

According to tradition, Francis of Assisi began the practice of using manger scenes at Christmas time. Sometimes called the Saint of the Incarnation, Francis believed that of all the ways God has revealed His love, none is more total and tangible than the incarnation of His Son. So, it isn't surprising that for the Midnight Mass, Christmas 1223, Francis presented a living reenactment in a cave in Greccio, Italy. This visual and creative – and apparently first – commemoration of Christ's birth has now become traditional: the nativity scene. (Creche is a French word-from Old High German *krippa*, from Italian presepio, from the Latin form of the Greek word for manger.)



ST. BONIFACE AND THE CHRISTMAS TREE

St. Boniface was an eighth-century missionary (praised by Pope Gregory II) who brought Christianity to Germany. Returning to Germany later, he found paganism still alive-and the eldest son of the chieftain Gundhar being readied for sacrifice to the gods. It was Christmas Eve. The place was under the giant oak tree, sacred to their patron Thor. Boniface, in order to prove these gods powerless, felled the tree with the stroke of an ax, to the astonishment of the onlookers. When he was then asked for the Word of God, Boniface pointed to a nearby evergreen and proclaimed, "This is the word, and this is the council. Not a drop of blood shall fall tonight, for this is the birth-night of the Saint Christ, Son of the All-Father and Saviour of the world. This little tree, a young child of the forest, shall be a home tree tonight. It is the wood of peace, for your houses are build of fir. It is the sign of endless life, for its branches are ever gree. See how it points towards Heaven. Let this be called the tree of the Christ-child; gather about it, not in the wild woods but in your homes; there it will shelter no deeds of blood, but loving gifts and lights of kindness."

