

Dec. 2, 2018

First Sunday of Advent



*"There will be  
signs in sun  
and moon  
and stars..."*

### MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

#### Monday, Dec 3

St Francis Xavier, Priest

Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11

8:15 am Barbara Dillhoff (Dillhoff)

#### Tuesday, Dec 4

St John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24

12:00 pm Thanksgiving to Blessed

Solanus Casey (Gambill)

#### Wednesday, Dec 5

Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37

8:15 am Holland & McDaniels Families

#### Thursday, Dec 6

St Nicholas, Bishop

Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27

8:15 am Sp Int Ruby Monnier (Helton)

#### Friday, Dec 7

St Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31

8:15 am Edna Rae Stemple (Stemple)

7:00 pm Jacqueline Trick (Clum)

#### Saturday, Dec 8

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38

8:00 am Sp Int Richard Newburg

5:00 pm Living & Deceased of the Parish

#### Second Sunday of Advent, Dec 9

Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

7:30 am Joseph Bohman (Bohman)

10:30 am Sp Int Jeanne White

Do Not Let Your Hearts Become Drowsy  
With the Anxieties of Daily Life

Luke 21:34

# Fr. Eric's Ramblings

"Today we begin a new liturgical year. Sometimes Christians find this a little strange, that in the Church New Year's Day begins today, rather than about a month from now. But when you think about it, it's today that makes all the sense in the world and January 1st that makes little. Our liturgical year traces the life of Christ, from the time when the Jews anxiously awaited his appearance (Advent proper), to his time in the womb, to his birth, to his being greeted by the shepherds and the angels, to his flight into Egypt and return, to his presentation and finding in the temple, to his forty days in the desert praying and fasting, to his baptism, to his public ministry, to his miracles, to his going up to Jerusalem and entering her on a donkey, to his last Supper, to his agony, trial, crucifixion and death, to his resurrection, ascension, sending forth the Holy Spirit, and ultimately to his return in glory which we anticipated in a special way last week on the feast of Christ the King. This is what the liturgical year means. Jesus said to us 27 times in the Gospel, "Follow me!" and each liturgical year we do just that, tracing his footsteps along the route of salvation history, trying to become more and more like him whom we're following. Compared to this, the civil year means very little. The reason why we celebrate the civil New Year on January 1 is because in 46 BC, Julius Caesar decreed that the year would begin with the month of January, the month dedicated to the pagan god Janus, the deity with two faces heading in opposite directions. Caesar thought it was fitting, because, in a sense, Janus would be facing forward to the year beginning and backward learning the lessons of the year just passed. How much does this tradition mean to you? Yet most of us will make plans to celebrate it, even though it makes no more sense to us than the lyrics of *Auld Lang's Syne*.

In today's Gospel, Jesus talks about the end of the world and how we're supposed to prepare for it. "Beware," he tells us, that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life and that day catch you by surprise like a trap. ... [But] be vigilant at all times and pray that you have the strength to escape the tribulations that are imminent and to stand before the Son of Man."

Are we going to be drowsy or vigilant? Drunk with spirits or filled with the Holy Spirit? Overwhelmed with the anxieties of life or are we going to throw our cares on the Lord in prayer?

Vigilance and prayer are standard Christian attitudes. Jesus gave a parable about his second coming in which he contrasted the faithful and prudent steward who awaited his Master's return and faithfully fed himself and others with the nourishment the Master provided versus the unfaithful and stupid servant who said "My Master is long delayed" and began to get smashed and to abuse the servants under his care.

We know that when Jesus came into the world the first time, some people were vigilant, prayerful and ready, but most people were not. Mary Immaculate was ready and said a hearty "yes" to God's will. St. Joseph was ready and therefore capable of adapting quickly to God's mysterious plans. The shepherds were ready, vigilant at night, and ran to Bethlehem as soon as they heard the good news of great joy. The Magi were ready, so ready in fact that they were able to discern the newborn king's presence through the presence of a star."

Homily by St. Francis Xavier Acushnet

**Liturgical Ministers ---Weekend of December 8-9**

	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>E. Ministers</u>	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Servers</u>
<u>Saturday</u> Dec 8 5:00 pm	K. Kleman K. Serey B. Alsip <i>Volunteer</i>	V. Daum B. Knife R. Burns	C. Serey	M. Schaurer J. Bushong
<u>Sunday</u> Dec 9 7:30am	N. Craport B. Hoffman T. Hartley J. Stutz	M. Desch J. Mergler D. Mergler	G. Mergler	C. McKinney K. Stutz L. Mergler
<u>Sunday</u> Dec 9 10:30am	M.P. Post L. Manson J. Artin S. Bradley	W. Dexter <i>Volunteer</i> D. Miller	N. Dexter	N. Canavan D. Canavan <i>Volunteer</i>

Vocation Views- 'Be watchful! Be alert!' The call towards a vocation can come at an unexpected day and hour, prepare your heart to always say 'yes' to God. (Mark 13:33)



**There will be a collection next weekend Dec. 8-9 for Retired Religious.**



If the weather forecast is calling for snow or ice, Fr. Michael will stay at St. Patrick's for the Mass and I will stay at Transfiguration. Fr. Michael is still not overly comfortable driving in bad winter weather. Fr. Eric

**THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH**

~Sunday, Dec. 2~  
 Shepherds of Christ Prayers for all Priests 9:30 am  
 Rosary 9:50 am  
 Youth Group 'Encounter Dayton' 5:30-8:30  
 Vespers 7:00pm followed by social in parish hall

~Tuesday, Dec. 4~  
 1st Tuesday Luncheon following Noon Mass

~Wednesday, Dec. 5~  
 Advent Penance Service 6:45 pm

~Thursday, Dec. 6~  
 Eucharistic Adoration begins after 8:15 am Mass  
 Closing with Benediction at 7:00 pm

~Friday, Dec. 7~  
 1st Friday Adoration @ Estate 9:30 am  
 Immaculate Conception Mass 7:00 pm

~Saturday, Dec. 8~  
 Men's prayer Group 6:30 am  
 Immaculate Conception Mass 8:00 am  
 Marriage Enrichment 8:00 am

~Sunday, Dec. 9~  
 Collection for Religious Retirement Fund at all Masses

**Your contributions for the month of November 2018**

Nov 3-4 \$7057.00      Nov 10-11 \$5244.50  
 Nov 17-18 \$8790.30      Nov 24-25 \$4858.25  
 Capital Improvements \$2127.00  
 All Saints' Day \$807.25  
 Campaign for Human Dev. \$1343.64  
 Many thanks for your generous support.

**Lector workbooks are in the sacristy now. Sorry for their tardiness.**

Our beloved Deacon Alex will be back for the Christmas holidays on December 14- January 6. Please think of including him in any festive plans you may have just like you did at Thanksgiving time. Thank you again.



**1st Tuesday luncheon is next week, Dec. 4th, after Noon Mass.**



There is a letter from the Archbishop about the USCCB Plenary Assembly concerning abuses in the church on our website where you can read it in full.



St. Nicholas will be at Transfiguration on Sunday Dec. 9th after 10:30 Mass. Make sure stop by to say hi!

Youth Group is selling poinsettias after all the Masses this weekend and next. See our representatives at the back of church.



The envelopes are on the Giving Tree at the back of church. Choose an envelope, follow the directions on the envelope then place it in the offertory basket at Mass. We will do the rest! Thank you for your constant generosity!



**You are Invited!**  
 Come join us, as we decorate the church for Christmas! This is a big job and help would be greatly appreciated! Mark your calendar and plan to come if you can! Refreshments provided.  
 When? Sunday December 23rd at 11:30 AM, directly following 10:30 Mass.



## **Christmas Season Mass Schedule**

*Monday, Dec. 24      Christmas Eve*

*5:00 p.m.*

*Midnight with Carols beginning*

*at 11:30 p.m.*

*Tuesday, Dec. 25      Christmas Day*

*10:00 a.m.*

*Monday, Dec. 31      New Year's Eve*

*8:15 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.*

*Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019 New Year's Day*

*10:00 a.m.*



**Friday Dec. 14**

**Pizza @ 6:00 pm**

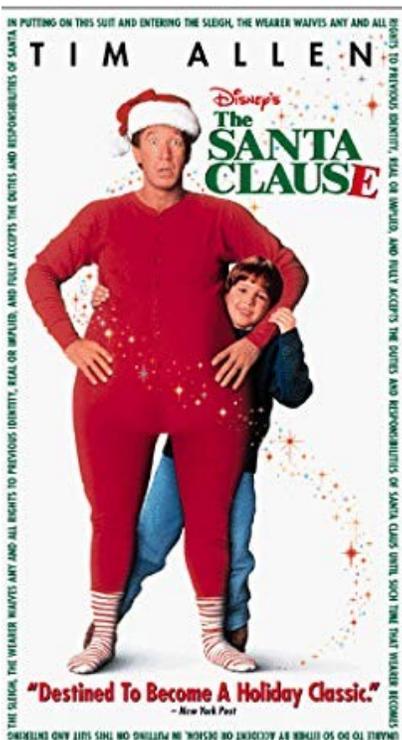
**Movie @ 7:00 pm**

All are welcome to attend our 'Classic Holiday Movie Night' sponsored by Transfiguration parish. Purchase your pizza tickets after the Masses on the weekends of Dec. 1 & 2 and Dec. 8 & 9. Individual ticket- \$5. Family ticket-\$20 for 4 or more. Kids under 5 years old eat free. The movie is FREE!

**Bring your own chair and drink if you wish.**



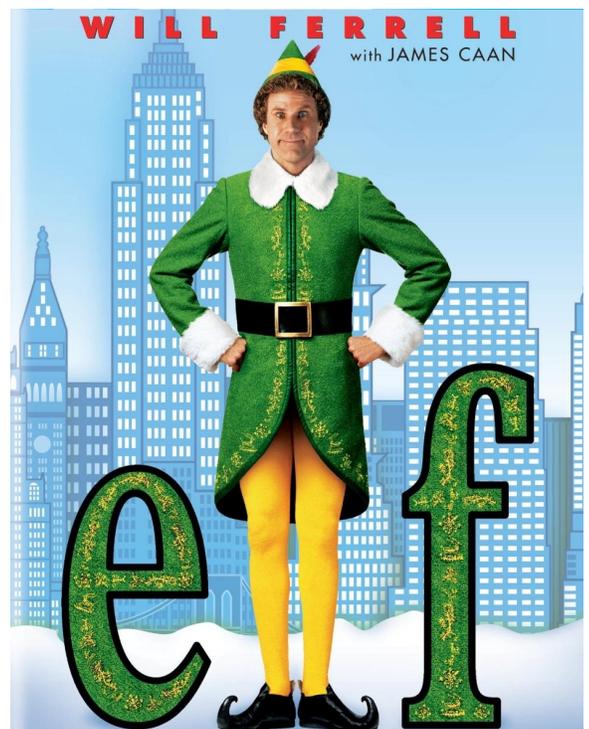
**Purchase your ticket for pizza and vote for your favorite wholesome holiday ha ha movie either...**



← **The Santa Clause**

**Babysitting available**

**Elf** →



# Nativity Scenes from Around the World

## Nativity Scenes from Around the World

The Transfiguration Center for Spiritual Renewal on Calumet Rd will once again be hosting the Creche Displays (Nativity Scenes)

from around the world on loan from the University of Dayton. They will be on display

from November 27<sup>th</sup> to January 4<sup>th</sup>. The

displays will be open from 9-5 Monday through Friday, until 7 pm on Thursdays, and 10-2 Saturdays, with a special Open House on December the 16<sup>th</sup> from 5-8 pm. The Center will be closed December 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup>, and December 31<sup>st</sup> to January 1<sup>st</sup>. If

you would be interested in volunteering for

a two hour slot during these hours, please contact the Center at 937-698-7180.

