

MASS TIMES, INTENTIONS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

WELCOME TO ST. MAX PARISH!

Welcome to the St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish community! If you would like to register in the parish, please pick up a packet in the gathering space and return the registration form. Once registered, you will receive our monthly newsletter and emails. Please know our staff and parish leaders are here to be of service to you. Additional information about our parish can be found on our website, www.saint-max.org.

Sunday, December 18**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

8:00 AM † Jim Shearer
 10:00 AM People of the Parish & † Linda Paul &
 † Millie Campanaro
 NOON † Renee LaSance

Monday, December 19

8:30 AM † Victoria Stoltz
 6:00 PM *Mass at St. Susanna, Mason*

Tuesday, December 20

8:30 AM † Nhon Nguyen & † Guse Dao Xuan Think
 7:00 PM *Mass at St. John, West Chester*

Wednesday, December 21

8:30 AM † Father Huan Nguyen &
 † Mr & † Mrs Thomas Staley

Thursday, December 22

8:30 AM † Long Nguyen & † All Souls

Friday, December 23

8:30 AM † Paul & Betty Thompson & † Neil Sackenheim

Saturday, December 24**VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

8:30 AM Souls in Purgatory
 3:00 PM Members of the DeRoussel family &
 † Steve Hazlebeck
 3:00 PM GYM † James F. Cannon Sr.
 5:30 PM † John Kaepfner & † Julia Sanders
 MIDNIGHT* † Frank & † Jane Brinkmann

Sunday, December 25**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD****No 8:00 AM Mass**

10:00 AM* People of the Parish & † Ann Trimbach
 NOON* People of the Parish & the Besl & Friedmann
 families & † Arthur H. Wesselman

Monday, December 26**SAINT STEPHEN, THE FIRST MARTYR**

8:30 AM † Maria Sang Nguyen & † Betty Daugherty
 6:00 PM *Mass at St. Susanna, Mason*

Tuesday, December 27**SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST**

8:30 AM † John Baptist Hien Vu & † Joseph Bui
 7:00 PM *Mass at St. John, West Chester*

Wednesday, December 28**THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS**

8:30 AM † Long D. Nguyen & † Joseph Long Nguyen

Thursday, December 29**THE FIFTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE
NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

8:30 AM † Father Trinh Vu & † Val Schmit

Friday, December 30**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH**

8:30 AM † Girolama "Mae" LaFata

Saturday, December 31**THE SEVENTH DAY WITHIN THE OCTAVE OF THE
NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

8:30 AM † Mr. Vincent
 4:30 PM † Ken & Carol Cook & † Fedora Lupidi

Sunday, January 1**SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER
OF GOD****No 8:00 AM Mass**

10:00 AM People of the Parish & † Anna Luu Nguyen
 & † Nhon Nguyen
 NOON † Jane Brinkmann & † Anna Corkhill

† Deceased

* **Incense used**

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Isaiah 7:10-14
 Psalm 24:1-6
 Romans 1:1-7
 Matthew 1:18-24

DECEMBER 25 READINGS

Varies by Mass
Visit usccb.org

JANUARY 1 READINGS

Numbers 6:22-27
 Psalm 67:2-3, 5-6, 8
 Galatians 4:4-7
 Luke 2:16-21

DEVOTIONS *(all in chapel)*

Perpetual Adoration - Our chapel is open continuously

Exposition - The Blessed Sacrament is exposed on
 Thursdays after Mass, a Holy Hour begins at 7:00 PM

Rosary - One half hour before all Masses

Divine Mercy Chaplet - After all Masses

*Our sympathy to the families of all those
 who have died, especially:*

Randy Evers, uncle of Doug Koesters
Alex Santa, father of parishioner Terri Paulik
Patrick Flynn, brother of Dan Flynn
Michael Herman, brother of Y'vette Cisneros



PRAYER REQUESTS

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Your healing prayers are requested for Earl Abeln, Grace Basta, Lisa Bingaman, Bob Bruns, Brian Bruns, Eleanor Budek, Barb Burkett, Scott Burkett, Jennifer Calangi, Maya Collins, Marian Conrad, Cyril Daddieh, Angelique Debets, Henry DeNicola, Shannon Dowling-Schlachter, Jack Easter, Bill Ebben, Jackie Eckles, Cecilia Feltz, Levi Gasner, Robert Ferraro, Jack Finke, Timmy Fischer, Mary Fritz, Chris Giuliano, Karen Gross, Richard Gross, Sol Gross, James Gunselman, Gail Hamilton, Gary Hampton, Al Higgins, Jill Holt, Maureen Imfeld, Kathy Kitts, Ralph Kitts, Jennifer Klenke, Don Klinkhammer, Hank Kluznick, Joey Lakeberg, Michael Lancaster, Pat Langdon, Pam Lawson, Barb Listermann, Beverly Listermann, Tom Lutz, Char McCarthy, Lyla McGlinchey, Andrew Meister, Jacob Meister, Beryl Michael, Judy Michael, Daniel R. Miller, James Moores, Trevor Vincent Munafo, Gene Neltner, Victor Nguyen, George Palmer, Fr. John Porter, Stephanie Pulling, Annie Prather, Agnes Rahman, Kristof Rattermann, Quintin Richardson, Evelyn Robinson, Joseph Romer, James Santos, Kerry Santos, Rose Mary Schaefer, James Schaeper, Julie Schrock, Rose Seibert, Eric Stearman, Debbie Stoeckel, Richard Sunnenberg, Ernestine Tomblin, Tari Torbeck, Kenneth Trimbach, Joan Valentine, George Vesper, Gloria Vesper, Stanley Wadella, Vito Weeda, Kathy Wojciechowski, Charlie Wiedenmann, Christine Zampese, and Annemarie Cannon Zawada.

Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick,

we turn to You in this time of illness. We place our sick under Your care and humbly ask that You restore Your servants to health again. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE MILITARY

Please pray for Scott Archuleta, Daniel Armstrong, Patrick Black, Ben Brink, Nicholas Calangi, Rich Borromeo, Philip DeNicola, Donald Gilbert, David Giuliano, Joseph Hamann, Michael Hazlebeck, Tyler Hollenkamp, Derrick Kamphaus, Stephen Kelczewski, Matthew Koop, Jon Laurin, Derek Morris, Ryan Nikzad, Don Mollis, Jr., Daniel Moore, Alexander J. Pater, Chad Richman, Christopher Richman, Kevin Stetson and Cedric Whitlock.

Almighty God, we stand before You in supplication,

asking Your Divine mercy and protection to envelop with Your invincible armor our loved ones in all branches of the service. Give them courage and strength against all enemies, both spiritual and physical, and hasten their safe journey back to their homes and families.

HOMEBOUND, HOSPITALIZED AND NURSING HOMES

To make arrangements to receive the Sacraments of Eucharist, Anointing of the Sick, Penance and/or visits to the hospitalized or seriously ill parishioners, please call Holly Moran, 777-4322, ext. 116. Please note that if you are in the hospital, privacy regulations prohibit hospital personnel from contacting your parish. Therefore, you or your family members should let us know directly by calling the parish office.

Coffee, Conversations, & Christ
Young Adult Faith Discussions

Sponsored by 

Scripture

"The Word of God Is Living and Active"

7:00-9:00 PM
Wed., Dec. 21st
St. Maximilian Kolbe
Youth Room
Drinks and Snacks Provided

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*The Word of God was made human in order that we might be made divine.
The Word displayed itself through a body, that we might receive knowledge of the invisible Father.*
– St. Athanasius (c.295-373), bishop, doctor of the Church, from “Discourse against the Arians”

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

My dear brothers and sisters in our Lord Jesus Christ,

CHRISTMAS MASSES – INVITING, GREETING AND HOSTING OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS. As I have been sharing with you, and as we look ahead to our Christmas Masses where crowds swell with many guests and visitors present, we need to remember that hospitality to guests and visitors is *everyone’s constant responsibility year-round* – in the building and in the parking lot! This week we focus on **hosting**. In our psalm response today we acclaim, “*Let the Lord enter; he is king of glory!*” Each person with us for Christmas Masses is “Christ in disguise” and we must be prepared to host them, i.e. to “let them enter,” as we would host Christ Himself. Thus, we encourage everyone to consider these three dynamics:

1. *Park farthest away* from the church doors so visitors and guests have the closest parking spots.
2. *Fill the gym first!* If your schedule dictates that you must be at the 3:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass, go to the gym first and park by the gym leaving room in church and in the main parking lot for our visitors and guests.
3. *One family-one car.* Especially on Christmas Eve, fewer cars on our grounds will make for a better “parking lot” experience for everyone.

Don’t forget our dynamics of **inviting** and **welcoming** from the last two weeks. There are postcards available in the gathering space for you to extend personal invitations to individuals or families to join us at Christmas and we need families to be “door greeters” for Christmas. Remember, we want everyone to have the best possible Christmas experience here – and better balancing out our crowds (i.e. more people coming to Midnight Mass and Masses on Christmas morning since our Christmas Eve Masses are always very, very full) will go a long way accomplishing this goal!

Also, of very special note, we will use our normal Christmas and New Year’s Mass schedules even though December 25 and January 1 fall on Sunday... so there will be no 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, December 25 and no 8:00 AM Mass on Sunday, January 1.

On this Fourth and final Sunday of Advent, we may ask ourselves if we are prepared for Christmas, but that question may focus on the wrong things! Are we thinking more of Christmas decorations, gifts and gatherings or if our souls are ready for Christmas? Is God truly present within me so that I can make God truly present to others? Are we ready to welcome Christ – not only as the infant in Bethlehem or the judge at the end-time – but in all the ways and in all the people Christ is present to us here and now? St. Teresa of Calcutta may have said it best when she stated, “It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you. Yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at someone and offer them your hand.” These are trademarks of purposeful Christian discipleship and authentic Christian stewardship.

We will have additional times for individual confessions on Monday, December 19 from 4:00-6:00 PM and 7:00-9:00 PM. along with our normal morning and evening times on Thursday and our normal Saturday morning time. There are no confessions on Saturday, December 24 at 3:00 PM. Everyone is strongly encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance before Christmas.

Looking ahead, our weekly Holy Hour on Thursday, December 29 will be a Holy Hour for the Sick. And, as we have done that last several years, we will have a Eucharistic Holy Hour on New Year’s Eve starting at 11:00 p.m. with benediction at midnight to “ring in” 2017!

And again, THANKS to everyone for your wonderful response to our annual stewardship renewal. Your willingness to spend time in prayer, to share talents through volunteering and to give treasure in financial support of the parish is amazingly generous and inspiring. Please remember to return your commitment card as soon as soon as possible if you have not already done so.

That’s all for now – God bless one and all!

Fr. Geoff

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2016
7:00-8:00 PM – *Holy Hour for Life*

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2016
7:00-8:00 PM – *Holy Hour for Sick*



WORSHIP

AND THE WORD BECAME FLESH

Among the many aspects of Advent liturgies (purple, the wreath, light, etc.), perhaps the most important is a focus on the Word. We prepare eagerly to hear, during the Mass of Christmas Day, the beginning of the Gospel according to John: “In the beginning was the Word...and the Word became flesh...” One of the greatest achievements of the Second Vatican Council’s liturgical reform – and one of the hallmarks of the new translation of the *Roman Missal* - was its decree that “the treasures of the Bible are to be opened up more lavishly, so that a richer share in God’s Word” may take place at Mass. (*Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, #51) During Advent, we are called to celebrate this Word, the Christ, who dwells in our hearts. Take time to prepare for Mass by reading the scriptures and reflecting upon their meaning in your life. At Mass, truly be open to the Word that is proclaimed – a Word that is living and effective, truly Christ speaking to his Church!



WAIT FOR THE LORD...WITH THE LORD - EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

The last Monday of Advent is December 19. Join us after the 8:30 AM Mass until 5:00 PM for Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel.

Just as we do each Thursday, this liturgy gathers the Church in community to give thanks for the great gift of Christ present in the Eucharist. Including extended periods of silent prayer and punctuated by scripture and prayer, Exposition is a great way to pray for the coming of Christ this Advent.

Because Exposition is a communal liturgy, we need to ensure that all the hours are covered. If you can commit to an hour on Monday, please sign up using the link on the parish website, or e-mail adoration@saint-max.org with questions or to get signed up.

As we pray in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, let us “wait for the Lord whose day is near!”

WELCOME TO BETHLEHEM: BE A GREETER FOR CHRISTMAS

Can you help welcome our parishioners, visitors, and guests for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day? We’re looking for individuals and families who can arrive a bit early for Mass and be the welcoming face of St. Max to everyone who joins us for worship on this holy day. Perfect for families with young children. Please sign up on the website or contact Jeremy Helmes, jhelmes@saint-max.org, 513-777-4322 ext. 103.

DECK THE HALLS - DECORATE ST. MAX FOR CHRISTMAS



Now that you’ve decorated your house for the holiday, can you spare some time to decorate OUR house for Christmas? Join us Thursday, December 22 at 6:30 PM to decorate the church and campus. No experience or artistic ability required: just a willingness to roll a cart full of poinsettias, hang a wreath, move a box, sweep a floor, put lights on a tree, etc. Great for families looking for a way to serve the parish for a few hours and add to their “holiday cheer”! Please contact Christine Guerin, Art & Environment Team Leader, ae@saint-max.org, 513-292-2565 to let her know you can help.

Celebrate the Birth of Jesus Christ with St. Maximilian Kolbe Parish

Christmas Eve, December 24
3:00 PM Mass
5:30 PM Mass
11:30 PM Lessons & Carols
12:00 Midnight Mass*

Christmas Day, December 25
No 8:00 AM Mass
10:00 AM Mass*
12:00 Noon Mass*
**Incense used*

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

New Year’s Eve, December 31
4:30 PM

New Year’s Day, January 1
No 8:00 AM Mass
10:00 AM Mass
12:00 Noon Mass



OUTREACH

**ARE YOU EXPERIENCING THE CHRISTMAS BLUES?**

The joy of Christmas can turn into a time of painful loneliness and emptiness for those who have suffered a loss or who are going through a difficult time. But help is available. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to provide confidential, one-to-one Christian care. They will listen, care, encourage, pray with and for you, and support you through the holidays and as long as your need persists. If you or someone you know is hurting, find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with one of our Stephen Leaders: Call the parish office at 513-777-4322, ext. 218 or email at: StephenMinistry@saint-max.org. Our Stephen Ministers are here to care!

THE CATHOLIC'S DIVORCE SURVIVAL GUIDE

This program covers topics of shock, denial, anger, grief, guilt, forgiveness, money, the courts, the kids, the ex-spouse, annulment, dating, sexuality, spirituality, remarriage or staying single, and much more! Whether you got divorced ten days ago or ten years ago, the program offers valuable insight for everyone. This group starts Wednesday, January 11 and will meet weekly until mid-April from 7:00-8:30 PM in rooms 9&11. For more information or to register, please call the parish office 777-4322, ext. 116, or email divorcesurvival@saint-max.org. For a sneak preview go to: www.CatholicsDivorce.com

SAVE THE DATE - NATIONAL DAY OF PENANCE

Beginning the evening of January 22 through the evening of January 23, St. Max will be observing a particular day of penance on the anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision to legalize abortion in our country. There will be a holy hour, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and adoration through the night. We will end with Benediction on Monday, the 23 at 8:00 PM. Please join us for this very important prayer event! We are looking for adorers to help with the 24 hour adoration. Please direct inquiries to Debbie Sander at sanfam@fuse.net.

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

Thanks to everyone who so generously supported last weekend's collection for the Retirement Fund for Religious. Our support gives comfort and security to consecrated religious across the country who gave their lives in service to the Church. If you did not participate last weekend, you can still place the appropriate envelope in the collection as soon as possible. Thanks again for your generosity.

EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS

GOSPEL FOR ALL AGES

Matthew 1:18-24

It's the fourth and final Sunday of Advent. Over these weeks of Advent, we learned about the tremendous faith that Mary and Joseph had by accepting God's will. They cleared a space for Jesus in their lives, focusing on His arrival with purpose.

This final week of Advent is a suitable time for us all to do a deep cleaning of the clutter in our busy lives and focus on the One who will come at Christmas. This means, though, that we need to carve out essential time for silence. How can we possibly hear Him whispering to our hearts and souls if we are so preoccupied with everything else? Try this activity with your family...

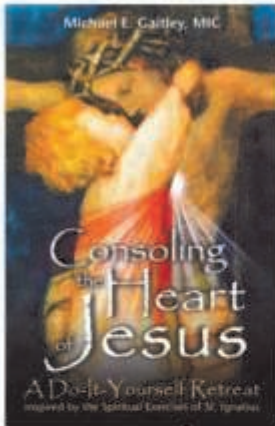
Once or twice this week (or even every day if possible) set a timer for ten minutes. Explain to your kids that they are to be very quiet during that short period of time. You can give the older ones a suggested line of Scripture or information about a favorite saint. Allow them to meditate for ten minutes on something holy (the line from Scripture, the saint, the season of Advent, an idea to help someone, etc.) Younger children can draw pictures. Encouraging your family members to listen for God will certainly prove to be very beneficial as they grow in holiness and are exposed to all kinds of experiences and distractions from the secular world. Carving out quiet time is a simple habit to learn which can be carried throughout life.

EARLY CHILDHOOD NEWS

There will be no early childhood classes over Christmas break. We will resume regular classes in the new year on Sunday, January 8th.

RFY GRADES 1 - 8 NEWS

No classes this week! We will resume classes in the new year, the week of January 8/9.



Consoling the Heart of Jesus

by Fr. Michael Gaitley

10-week retreat - January 9 - March 13

Mondays, 9:15 – 11:00 AM

If you are looking for a simple way to be spiritually renewed, develop a deeper relationship with Jesus, and discover His Divine Mercy, then join us for the Consoling the Heart of Jesus retreat! Discover the joy and peace that come with trusting in a Savior who loves and longs to be loved.

Wisdom and Works of Mercy: The 'One Thing' is Three

by Fr. Michael Gaitley

10-week study - January 13 - March 17

Fridays, 9:15 - 11:00 AM

Discover how knowledge of the Trinity is the key to wisdom! Written simply and clearly, this book brings the profound truths of the faith from head to heart in a way that makes deep theology easy to understand and even easier to live!



Registration

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check all that apply:

Consoling the Heart of Jesus retreat. Please order for me...

— *Consoling the Heart of Jesus* Book (free of charge or \$4 donation*)

— CHJ Workbook (\$20) Note: Workbook also available to print from formed.org

The 'One Thing' is Three group study. Please order for me...

— *The 'One Thing' is Three* book (free of charge or \$4 donation*)

— The 'One Thing' is Three Workbook PLUS *You Did It to Me: A Practical Guide to Mercy in Action* by Fr. Michael Gaitley (\$30). Note: Workbook ONLY available to print from formed.org.

— I do NOT want to order a workbook but please order me the supplemental book *You Did It to Me: A Practical Guide to Mercy in Action* by Fr. Michael Gaitley (\$5)

*Ask about premium edition books and pricing!

Registration closes Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Make Checks payable to St. Maximilian Kolbe Church

Questions? Call Stephanie (759-2722) or Jane (755-0625) or email heartsafire@saint-max.org

EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS

MIGHTY MAX

Our Mighty Max early childhood (ages 18 months-preK, with caregiver) weekday program will begin accepting new registrations for our winter session for all classes, beginning December 19th, 2016. The winter session will run the weeks of January 9th, 2017 to March 17th, 2017. The cost for the session is \$50.00. Class options include Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and **NEW THIS SESSION—FRIDAY** mornings! Check out the Mighty Max page on the parish website for forms and program information or contact Charlotte Flanagan with any questions, at cflanagan@saint-max.org or 777-4322 ext. 129.

NURSERY NEWS

The nursery will be closed on December 25 and January 1, 2017 so that our volunteers may enjoy the holidays with their families. We will reopen on January 8, 2017 for the 8:00 AM and 10:00 AM Masses. Thank you and have a blessed holiday season!

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY EVENTS

HomeLife meets tonight, December 18 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM. Check with your leader for details. This is the last HomeLife until January 15.

FRESH high school youth group meets January 8 from 7:00 - 9:00 PM in the lounge and gym. All are welcome!

MARCH FOR LIFE St. Max Youth Ministry is joining the Archdiocese of Cincinnati bus trip on January 26-28. Please contact Ally Wheeler awheeler@saint-max.org for information and registration. We still have a few spots available!

STEUBENVILLE TRIP St. Max High School Youth Ministry is going to next summer's Franciscan University Youth Conference July 21-23, 2017. Participants must be entering grades 9-12 in the fall of 2017 or be a 2017 high school graduate. Total cost is \$300. Fundraising opportunities are available. Registration and deposit of \$50 due by December 18th, 2016. Please contact Ally Wheeler awheeler@saint-max.org or 513 777 4322 ext 128 for registration information.

For any questions regarding HS Youth Ministry contact Zack Hinger, highschool@saint-max.org or 513-777-4322 ext. 107

Save the Date!
High School Youth Ministry
Summer Conference Fundraiser
FLOWER SALE

After Mass on January 28/29 and February 4/5

COLLEGE SOCIAL AT THE RECTORY

Fr. Geoff would like to try to catch up with everyone over their Christmas break. To make this happen we are inviting you to join us on Saturday, January 7 at 6:00 PM for food and appetizers at the rectory. We look forward to seeing you all.

WEST CHESTER CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS

Faith Discussion - December 21: Ask and ye shall receive! We heard your feedback and WCCYA is pleased to announce that we will now be hosting faith discussions on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Meet in the youth room at St. Max from 7:00-9:00 PM for this month's offering, "*Coffee, Conversations, and Christ*". Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Adoration & Applebee's - January 5: Join us for the last hour of adoration (Holy Hour). Location: St. Max chapel @ 7:00 PM. Afterwards meet up at Applebee's at Union Center for some food & socializing – 1st Thursday of each month



For any questions regarding young adult events, contact Zack Hinger, zhinger@saint-max.org or 513-777-4322 ext. 107

A Marriage Moment

“A husband always prefers his wife's mother-in-law to his own.” (Anonymous) Think of one trait or talent that your mother-in-law or father-in-law passed on to your spouse for which you are grateful.

By Susan Vogt, www.SusanVogt.net

FAITH LESSONS FOR WOMEN

We're starting a great adventure in January, *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation* by Jeff Cavins, Tim Gray, and Sarah Christmyer! This is the foundational study in The Great Adventure Bible Study Series that has helped hundreds of thousands of Catholics learn to read the bible. *The Bible Timeline* is a fascinating study that takes participants on a journey through the entire bible. We will go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of scripture. Using a unique color-coded system, we will learn the major people, places, and events of the bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. *The Bible Timeline* has been granted the imprimatur. Please join us on Wednesday mornings in the large conference room as we journey through the bible. If you have questions or to let us know you are interested in attending an evening session, please email us at AffWomen@saint-max.org.

SAVE THE DATE - SOULCORE WOMEN'S FITNESS RETREAT



SoulCore is a prayer experience that pairs core strengthening, stretching and functional movement with the prayers of the rosary; a sensory experience that combines candlelight, music, scripture, reflections and movement to nourish body, mind & soul and encourage deeper meditation on the mysteries and virtues of the rosary. Our fitness retreat will be held Saturday, January 21 in the St. Max gym. From 9:00-10:00 AM we will have our first session including a short talk introducing SoulCore followed by a basic class which can be done on the mat or seated on a chair, 10:00-10:30AM Q & A, coffee, tea and snacks, 10:30-11:30 AM we will hold a second session including a short talk and an intermediate class. For more information, please go to www.soulcore.com. Join us for one or both sessions.

Suggested donation: \$10.00 per session. Bring an exercise mat and water bottle and dress in comfortable clothing. There will be a few extra mats and blocks available. For questions or to register please call or email Marlene at 513-777-4322 ext. 118, mdoughman@saint-max.org, this will help us plan refreshments.

MONSIGNOR WHALEN LIBRARY NEWS

Join our team! This ministry serves so many! We sometimes fill a whole sign out sheet in a weekend. Join us on Wednesday, January 4 from 7:00-8:30 PM for our quarterly library committee meeting. No experience needed. We will begin our meeting in the library. Question? Ask us at library@saint-max.org.

- We have a new book shelf! Now, we can expand our collection and include the many wonderful donations! Thank you!
- We have Matthew Kelly's new book *Resisting Happiness*

THE ATHENAEUM OF OHIO ANNOUNCES LAY TUITION REDUCTION FOR SPRING 2017

The Athenaeum, the archdiocesan seminary and school of theology, announces a 50% lay tuition reduction as part of our *One Faith, One Hope, One Love* capital campaign commitment. We offer daytime, evening and Saturday classes, graduate and non-degree options and a supportive environment with campuses in Mt. Washington and Montfort Heights. Earn a Master of Arts Degree in Pastoral Ministry, Theology or Biblical Studies or a certificate in Pastoral Ministry as you discern God's call, prepare for new opportunities, and learn about your faith in a dynamic and enriching environment. There will never be a better time to discover how lay Catholic studies through the Athenaeum can transform your life. Call 513-231-1200 for more information.



THE ATHENAEUM OF OHIO
MOUNT ST. MARY'S SEMINARY

Preparing Priests, Deacons and Lay Ministers to Serve the Church since 1829

EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS



Your children will love the new content we have for them on FORMED — programs, ebooks, movies, and talks that will entertain, engage, and inspire them with the beauty and wonder of their faith

www.FORMED.org
Parish Code: 5d9243

Program: Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree

Based on an ancient legend, Kristoph and the First Christmas Tree is a video production drawn from the family-friendly story written by children's author Claudia Cangilla McAdam and illustrated by Dave Hill.



Movie: Skiff & AJ's Fantastic Voyage

When inanimate objects Skiff (the incense boat) and AJ (the aspergillum) test-drive their homemade time machine, it shrinks them to a gnat size.

Book: Saint Thomas Aquinas

Thomas Aquinas's biographer said that "throughout the entire world Thomas's teachings have spread among the faithful, and the whole Church is instructed by his voice."



Audio: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Juan was a simple peasant widower, trying to go through his daily routines, when Our Lady, heavy with child, appeared over Tepeyac Hill in Mexico and announced other plans for him. Listen to the story of that apparition, which has forever changed the culture in all of North America.



PARISH LIFE

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

1. Sunday & Holy Day Offerings	Sundays	Holy Days
December 4	26,140.68	290.00
December 11	36,226.06	3,072.00
December 12-Faith Direct EFT	56,423.84	5,092.00
December 28		
December 25		
Total December to Date	118,790.58	8,454.00
December budget	152,000.00	60,000.00
2. Sunday & Holy Day Year-to-Date		
Actual	913,238.20	13,597.00
Budget	892,000.00	7,500.00
Difference	21,238.20	6,097.00
Special November Offerings		
Campaign for Human Development	201.00	
Catholic Tuition Assistance	1,587.00	
Charitable Impact	1,155.00	
Drive Down the Debt	6,343.00	
Fund for Religious Retirement	7,395.00	
St. Vincent de Paul	1,762.00	

The Lord will open the windows of heaven according to our need, and not our greed

STEWARDSHIP POINT
"The measure of a life is not its duration, but its donation."
- Peter Marshall

YOUNG AT HEART

Friday, January 6 - Pizza night at Milano's on Tylersville and Cox at 5:00 PM.

Monday, January 9 - Regular Meeting - the speaker will be dermatologist, Dr. Patil .

Sunday, January 22 - Lunch at Stone Creek Restaurant - Mulhauser Road at 1:30 PM.

Young at Heart is a social group for parishioners ages 50 and over. Anyone is welcome, single or couples, widow or widower. Contact Tari Torbeck, 513-678-1247 or youngatheart@saint-max.org if you are interested in attending a meeting or joining.



VOLUNTEER DRIVER WANTED

We are looking for someone to take occasional bulk mailings to the Fairfield Post Office. You would receive about 1 week's notice. This person would come to St Max and pick up the mail trays. Sometimes there are 10 or more trays and they can be heavy. Post Office hours for dropping off bulk mail are: Monday-Friday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. If you are able to help, please contact Cindy Groh in the Parish Office at 777-4322 x101 or cgroh@saint-max.org

Blood Drive

Friday, January 6

12:30 - 2:45 PM & 4:00 - 6:30 PM

drive will be held in the large conference room



To schedule an appointment, email:

blooddrive@saint-max.org

OR call 513-443-4755

One blood donation can save 3 lives!

All Types Welcome.



EVENTS OF THE PARISH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2016

11:00 AM	Youth Room	RCIA
12:00 PM	Lg Conf Rm	Include Me! Mass
1:30 PM	Church	Rite of Baptism
3:30 PM	Lg Conf Rm	Stephen Ministry Continuing Education
5:30 PM	Lounge	Cub Scouts Pack 944 - Den 6
6:00 PM	Gym	Men's Basketball
7:00 PM	Complex	High School HomeLife Open Lounge
7:00 PM	Church	Praise & Worship
7:30 PM	Rms 2 & 3	Booster Monthly Meeting
7:30 PM	Complex	High School HomeLife
7:30 PM	Rm 15	Stephen Ministry Continuing Education

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2016

9:00 AM	Chapel	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
9:45 AM	Nursery	Mother's Rosary
4:00 PM	Church	Sacrament of Penance
4:45 PM	Work Sacristy	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 PM	Rm 17	Adoration Team
7:00 PM	Lounge	Ancora
7:00 PM	Church	Sacrament of Penance

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2016

5:00 PM	Gym	St. Max Boosters
5:15 PM	Church	Children's & Cherub Choir Rehearsal - CHRISTMAS
6:30 PM	Lounge	Cub Scouts Pack 944 - Tiger Den 2
7:00 PM	Church	Handbell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 PM	Youth Room	High School Advent Scripture Study

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2016

8:30 AM	Church	Mass
9:30 AM	Rm 6	Prayer Shawl
6:30 PM	Lg Conf Rm	Music Ministry Rehearsal Dinner
7:00 PM	Rm 6	Light Weigh
7:00 PM	Youth Room	Young Adult Faith Discussion
7:30 PM	Church	Music Ministry Rehearsal for Christmas

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2016

9:15 AM	Church	Sacrament of Penance
9:30 AM	Chapel	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
6:00 PM	Church	Sacrament of Penance
6:30 PM	Church	Art and Environment
7:00 PM	Lounge	Cub Scout Pack 944 - Den 1
7:00 PM	Chapel	Holy Hour/Vespers

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2016**No Parish Events Scheduled****SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2016**

3:00 PM	Church/Gym	Christmas Eve Mass
3:00 PM	Lg Conf Rm	Include Me! Mass
5:30 PM	Church	Christmas Eve Mass
11:30 PM	Church	Lessons & Carols at 11:30 followed by Midnight Mass

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016

10:00 AM	Church	Mass
12:00 PM	Church	Mass



The Parish Office will close at Noon on Friday, December 23
and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3, 2017

Pastor

Fr. Geoffrey D. Drew, Ext.102
gdrew@saint-max.org

Permanent Deacons

John Paul Back, 226-3428

jback@saint-max.org

Mike Hinger, 779-1586

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Mike Lippman, 252-4898

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Pastoral Associates

Lakmé Kodros, Parish Life & Stewardship
Ext.105, lkodros@saint-max.org

Jeremy Helmes, Worship

Ext. 103, jhelmes@saint-max.org

Larry Witsken, Facilities & Maintenance

Ext.110, lwitsken@saint-max.org

Holly Moran, Outreach

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Zack Hinger, Evangelization & Catechesis

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Sarah Merkel, Communications

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Councils & Commissions

Chris Brown, Pastoral Council

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Annie derBoghossian, Outreach

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