

**SAINT MARY
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY**

Knowing, Loving, Serving
715 Jefferson Avenue
Defiance, Ohio 43512

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PARISH PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Timothy Kummerer-Pastor
Deacon George Newton-Pastoral Associate
Mrs. Joanne Santo-Pastoral Associate of Administration
Ms. Sandy Herman-Principal Minister
Francisco J. Lloveras-Director Of Music & Worship
Deacon Jeff Mayer-Healing & Youth Ministries
Deacon John Weber-Social Justice and Outreach
Mrs. Pam Barnett-H.S. Youth Ministry
Mrs. Alyce Reinhart-Pastoral Associate of Evangelization

GENERATIONS OF FAITH

Mary Steyer & Marianne Kiefer- Co-Directors

PARISH SUPPORT STAFF

Mrs. Jean Carr-Secretary/Bookkeeper
Mrs. Shelly Shafer- Secretary
Mrs. Barbara Naymik-School Secretary
Mr. Mark Kunesh- Maintenance/Custodian

New Year–New Beginning! The N.W. Men’s Fellowship group would like to invite all men young and old to our season kick-off gathering Jan. 5th at St. John’s Church basement. Our vision of these events is to be common ground for all men of all beliefs and faiths of our community: Where we can all come together in fellowship to support and build up the Body of Christ.

So start the New Year off with some great fellowship with some old friends and meet some new friends. Share with us in praise and song presented by Traveling Word and Song Group. Bring a friend and enjoy the gourmet breakfast by John (the cook master) and St. John’s Men’s Group. Hope to see you there January 5th. Fellowship 7:30 am, breakfast and sharing 8:00. Questions 784-3975 or John at 428-6371.

A Family Perspective: The child born to Jesus and Mary was named **Emmanuel**, which means “God with us.” Christmas reminds us every child is a sign of God’s miraculous presence in our lives. When you look at a child think “*Emmanuel- God is with us!*”

St. Mary Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve:
Mon., Dec. 24 4:00 pm
6:30 pm
Midnight Mass
Christmas Day:
Tues., Dec. 25 9:30 am

Prayer at Christmas: Lord, on this Christmas Day, in the midst of the joy of our celebrations, help us recall what is truly important about this day.

In the midst of opening presents, help us remember the love that each gift represents.
In the midst of Christmas dinner, help us remember that you are the source of all life.

In the midst of family gatherings, help us remember that you are the fullness of all joy.
And in the midst of Christmas Mass, help us remember the supreme act of love, sacrifice, and humility that we celebrate on this Christmas day when your Son came as a helpless, unknown baby and grew to be the life and light of the world.

Amen.



Christmas Gift Suggestions

- To your enemy, forgiveness.
- To an opponent, tolerance.
- To a friend, your heart.
- To a customer, service.
- To all, charity.
- To every child, a good example.
- To yourself, respect.



Parish Finances– Stewardship of Treasure

Last Week You Gave.....	\$6,335.00
Need Weekly	\$10,885.00
<i>Below Budget</i>	(\$4,550.00)
Contributions to Date	\$264,695.55
\$10,885 x 25 Weeks	\$272,125.00
Year to Date <i>Below Budget</i>	(\$7,429.45)

Merry Christmas Family and Friends!

It has been a while since I last saw you and wrote to you, so I thought Christmas would be a perfect time to update you on my journey towards priesthood. Currently I am in the middle of my Winter Quarter at Mt. St. Mary’s Seminary and taking such classes like the history of the American Catholic, Eschatology (Study of Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell) & Mariology (Study of Mary), Catholic Social Teachings, Women in the Scriptures, and Singing III. Needless to say, these classes keep me rather busy with numerous reading assignments, paper writings, and examinations – all of which I hope will make me a better servant for God and God’s people.

Other than class work, I am looking forward to being ordained a Transitional Deacon on April 26, 2008 at Cincinnati’s Cathedral – St. Peter in Chains. Feelings of excitement and anxiety fill me as the day gets closer. As a result, I simply pray that God will direct me and use me so as to give me fulfillment and “life.” I also ask for your continued prayers during this time of discernment for me.

After Diaconate Ordination, I still have 1 year remaining of academics at Mt. St. Mary’s before Priesthood Ordination in May 2009. This last year allows me to practice my diaconate role as well as to further prepare myself for Priesthood through more study and prayer. Even though I desire to be in parish and among the people, I am grateful for this last year and will try to take advantage of it so as to truly and more fully become the person God is calling me.

As I conclude this note, I hope and pray that each and every one of you has a Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Praying for you as you pray for me,
 Jason Kahle
 6616 Beechmont Ave.
 Cincinnati, OH 45230

Wedding Banns

Banns III Molly Newton & Chris McCann

Mass Intentions

Monday, December 24

- 4:00 PM For All Parishioners of St. Mary Parish
- 6:30 PM For All God’s Children
- 12:00 AM Peace On Earth

Tuesday, December 25

- 9:30 AM Souls of the Faithfully Departed

Wednesday, December 26

- 9:15 AM Communion Service

Thursday, December 27

- 8:00 AM Communion Service

Friday, December 28

- 8:00 AM Mary Wannemacher

Saturday, December 29

- 4:30 PM Marsha Shook

Sunday, December 30

- 8:00 AM Herbert Mack
- 9:30 AM Elizabeth Yambor
Deceased Members of Sholl Family
- 11:30 AM Tim Melton
Garrit Nixon

Events For This Week

Monday, December 24

Office Closed at noon

Tuesday, December 25

Office Closed

Wednesday, December 26

Office Closed

Shep of Christ Prayer Grp 6:00 pm Church

Thursday, December 27

Cantor Rehearsal 5:00 pm Church

Friday, December 28

Spanish Bible Study 7:00 pm PMC

Saturday, December 29

Nuptials– Newton & McCann 2:00 pm Church

Daily Readings for This Week

Readings for the Week of December 23, 2007

Sunday:	Is 7:10-14/Rom 1:1-7/Mt 1:18-24
Monday:	Morning: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/ Lk 1:67-79
Tuesday:	Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/ Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
	Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
	Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
	Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Wednesday:	Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
Thursday:	1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Friday:	1 Jn 1:5-2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Saturday:	1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Next Sunday:	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Mt 2:13-15, 19-23