



ST. MARY CHURCH  
HYDE PARK

JANUARY 1, 2023

AMORIS LAETITIA

THE JOY OF LOVE

ST. MARY  
HYDE PARK  
CHURCH



# Worship Aid for the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

## Prayer for Vocations



Almighty Father, You have created for us some definite purpose. Grant us the grace to know the path You have planned for us in this life and to respond with a generous "Yes." Make our archdiocese, parishes, homes and hearts fruitful ground for Your gift of vocations. May our young people respond to Your call with courage and zeal. Stir among our men a desire and the strength to be good and holy priests. Bless us with consecrated religious and those called to a chaste single life, permanent deacons, and faithful husbands and wives, who are a sign of Christ's love for His Church. We commend our prayer for vocations to You, Father, through the intercession of Mary our Mother, in the Holy Spirit, through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Archbishop Dennis M. Schnurr

## Entrance Hymn

## Angels We Have Heard on High



1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing  
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous  
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the  
 4. See him in a man - ger laid Whom the choirs of



o'er the plains, And the moun - tains in re - ply  
 strains pro - long? Say what may the tid - ings be  
 an - gels sing; Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee  
 an - gels praise; Mar - y, Jo - seph, lend your aid,



Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.  
 Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song.  
 Christ the Lord, the new - born King.  
 While our hearts in love we raise.



Gló - ri - a



in ex - cél - sis De - o. Gló - ri - a



ri - a in ex - cél - sis De - o.

Text: *Les anges dans nos campagnes*; French, c. 18th C.; tr. from *Crown of Jesus Music*, London, 1862  
 Tune: GLORIA, 7 7 7 7 with refrain; French traditional

## Penitential Rite

I confess to almighty God  
 and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
 that I have greatly sinned,  
 in my thoughts and in my words,  
 in what I have done and  
 in what I have failed to do,  
*And striking their breast, they say:*  
 through my fault, through my fault,  
 through my most grievous fault;  
 therefore I ask  
 blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
 all the Angels and Saints,  
 and you, my brothers and sisters,  
 to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Kyrie Eleison/Lord, have mercy.  
 Kyrie Eleison/Lord, have mercy.

Christe Eleison/Christ, have mercy.  
 Christe Eleison/Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie Eleison/Lord, have mercy.  
 Kyrie Eleison/Lord, have mercy.

## Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and on  
 earth peace to people of good will.  
 We praise you, we bless you, we adore  
 you, we glorify you, we give you thanks  
 for your great glory,  
 Lord God, heavenly King,  
 O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
 Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the  
 Father, you take away the sins of the  
 world, have mercy on us; you take away  
 the sins of the world, receive our prayer;  
 you are seated at the right hand of the  
 Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you  
 alone are the Lord, you alone are the  
 Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy  
 Spirit, in the glory of God the Father.  
 Amen.



# THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

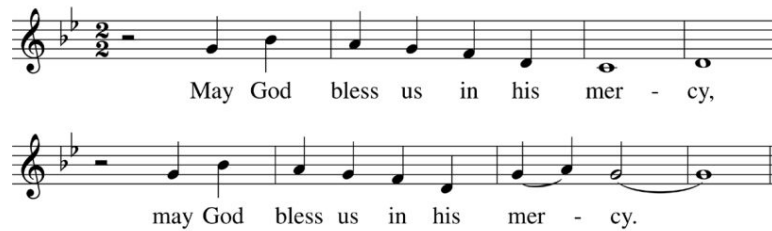
## First Reading

Nm 6:22-27

The LORD said to Moses: "Speak to Aaron and his sons and tell them: This is how you shall bless the Israelites. Say to them: The LORD bless you and keep you! The LORD let his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! The LORD look upon you kindly and give you peace! So shall they invoke my name upon the Israelites, and I will bless them."

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm Response



O God, be gracious and bless us  
and let your face shed its light upon us.  
So will your ways be known upon earth  
and all nations learn your salvation. R.

Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
May God still give us his blessing  
that all the ends of the earth may  
revere him. R.

Let the nations be glad and shout for joy,  
with uprightness you rule the peoples;  
you guide the nations on earth. R.

Text: *The Revised Grail Psalms*, © 2010, Conception Abbey and The Grail, admin. by GIA Publications, Inc.;  
refrain tr. © 1969, ICEL  
Music: Michel Guimont. © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Second Reading

Gal 4:4-7

Brothers and sisters: When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to ransom those under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. As proof that you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel

Lk 2:16-21

The shepherds went in haste to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph, and the infant lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed by what had been told them by the shepherds. And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told to them.

When eight days were completed for his circumcision, he was named Jesus, the name given him by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ.**

## The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

**All make a profound bow:**  
**and by the Holy Spirit**  
**was incarnate of the**  
**Virgin Mary,**  
**and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand  
of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father  
and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son  
is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic  
and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the  
resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

## Offertory Hymn

## Once in Royal David's City



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y Stood a  
2. He came down to earth from heav - en Who is  
3. And, through all his won - drous child - hood, He would  
4. For he is our child - hood's pat - tern, Day by  
5. And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his



low - ly cat - tle shed, Where a moth - er laid her  
God and Lord of all, And his shel - ter was a  
hon - or and o - bey, Love and watch the low - ly  
day like us he grew; He was lit - tle, weak, and  
own re - deem - ing love; For that child so dear and



ba - by In a man - ger for his bed. Mar - y  
sta - ble, And his cra - dle was a stall. With the  
maid - en In whose gen - tle arms he lay. Chris - tian  
help - less, Tears and smiles like us he knew. And he  
gen - tle Is our Lord in heav'n a - bove. And he



was that moth - er mild; Je - sus  
poor and meek and low - ly Lived on  
chil - dren all should be - ly Kind, o -  
feels for all our sad - ness, And he  
leads his chil - dren on To the



Christ, her lit - tle child.  
earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.  
be - dient, good as he.  
shares in all our glad - ness.  
place where he is gone.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895, alt.  
Tune: IRBY, 8 7 8 7 7; Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876; harm. by Arthur H. Mann, 1850-1929

# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

## Recessional Hymn Immaculate Mary

### Communion Hymn

### Nativity Carol

#### Verses



1. Si - lent, in the chill of mid - night,  
2. "Fear not," said an - gel - ic voic - es;  
3. Je - sus, Lord of all cre - a - tion,



star - light shines up - on a low - ly man - ger.  
"tid - ings of a won - drous love we bring you.  
sleep now close be - side your moth - er, Mar - y.



Won - der, won - der of the a - ges;  
Go now, find him in a man - ger;  
Bring us light a - mid the dark - ness,



heav - en breaks forth on the earth.  
vis - it God's home on the earth."  
prom - ise of life with - out end.

#### Refrain



For a child is born, the world re - joic - es! Shep - herds and



an - gels pro - claim his birth. This is Je - sus the Lord, our



Sav - ior and broth - er, bear - ing God's peace to the earth.

Text: Francis Patrick O'Brien, b.1958  
Tune: Francis Patrick O'Brien, b.1958  
© 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

1. Immaculate Mary, your praises we sing; You reign now in splendor with Jesus our King.

*Ave, Ave, Ave, Maria.*  
*Ave, Ave, Maria.*

2. Predestined for Christ by eternal decree, God willed you both virgin and mother to be.

3. To you by an angel, the Lord God made known; The grace of the Spirit, the gift of the Son.

4. Most blest of all women, you heard and believed; Most blest is the fruit of your womb then conceived.

5. The angels rejoiced when you brought forth God's Son; Your joy is the joy of all ages to come.

6. Your child is the Savior, all hope lies in him: He gives us new life and redeems us from sin.

7. In glory for ever now close to your Son, All ages will praise you for all God has done.

Text: St. 1, Jeremiah Cummings, 1814-1866, alt.; sts. 2-7, Brian Foley, 1919-2000, © 1971, Faber Music Ltd.

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## Weekend Mass Schedule

**St. Cecilia (Oakley):** Saturday 3:30 PM | Sunday 8 AM, 10 AM, and 8:15 PM

**St. Mary (Hyde Park):** Saturday at 4 PM | Sunday at 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM

**The Oratory of St. John Vianney at St. Anthony Church (Madisonville):** Saturday 3 PM | Sunday 9:30 AM

## Daily Mass Schedule

**St. Cecilia (Oakley):** 9 AM Mass, Monday-Saturday. Communion service, Monday-Saturday 8 AM

All-day Adoration follows the 9 AM Mass on Wednesdays with 7 PM Holy Hour and Confessions from 7-7:50 PM.

**St. Mary (Hyde Park):** 5:30 PM evening Mass, Monday-Thursday with Holy Hour on Tuesdays following the 5:30 PM Mass.

**The Oratory of St. John Vianney at St. Anthony Church (Madisonville):** 11:45 AM Mass, Monday-Friday.

## Confession Schedule

Confessions begin immediately after all daily Masses and one hour before weekend Masses, ending 30 minutes before Mass.

*For information on weddings, baptisms and funerals, please visit [eastsidefaith.org](http://eastsidefaith.org) or call the appropriate parish office.*

## St. Cecilia (Oakley)

Office: (513) 871-5757  
[www.stceciliacincinnati.org](http://www.stceciliacincinnati.org)  
[facebook.com/stceciliacincinnati](https://facebook.com/stceciliacincinnati)  
[instagram: stceciliaparish](https://instagram.com/stceciliaparish)

## St. Mary (Hyde Park)

Office: (513) 321-1207  
[www.smchp.com](http://www.smchp.com)  
[facebook.com/SMCHP](https://facebook.com/SMCHP) and [facebook.com/St-Mary-School](https://facebook.com/St-Mary-School)  
[instagram: stmaryhydepark](https://instagram.com/stmaryhydepark)

**Priest Emergency Line: (513) 815-5038**

For a complete listing of ministries and staff, visit [eastsidefaith.org](http://eastsidefaith.org).

## Mass Intentions (St. Mary)

**MONDAY, JANUARY 2 Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianen**  
 5:30 PM Marian Leonard by Margie Wimberg

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 3 The Holy Name of Jesus**  
 5:30 PM Carol Knappenberger by Carla Romanelli

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4 Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton**  
 5:30 PM For the People of the Parish

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 5 Saint John Neumann**  
 5:30 PM Catherine Butler by The Butler Family/Theresa Hammonds

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 6 Saint André Bessette**  
 5:30 PM No Mass

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 7 Saint Raymond of Peñafort**  
 4:00 PM Susan Jeanette Punch by Cole & Jenemann Families

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 The Epiphany of the Lord**  
 8:30 AM Marian Leonard by Jim & Beth Frey  
 10:30 AM Anne Marie Gieske by Abbie Sumbrum

The following Mass intentions were left out of the bulletin by mistake:  
 Tuesday, December 20: Judy Wickert by William Wickert  
 Wednesday, December 21: Lore Schlecht by Jonas Family  
 Thursday, December 22: Jim Kelly by Family



## Wedding Banns

No banns this week.

## Pastoral Leadership

**PASTOR:** Fr. Jamie Weber  
 (513) 871-5757, ext. 201 | [jweber@eastsideregion.org](mailto:jweber@eastsideregion.org)  
**PAROCHIAL VICAR:** Fr. Ken Schartz  
 (513) 321-1207 | [kschartz@smshp.com](mailto:kschartz@smshp.com)  
**PAROCHIAL VICAR:** Fr. Anthony Marcelli  
 (513) 871-5757, ext. 205 | [amarcelli@eastsideregion.org](mailto:amarcelli@eastsideregion.org)  
**PERMANENT DEACON:** Dcn. John Schuler  
 (513) 321-1207 | [schuler.john.a@gmail.com](mailto:schuler.john.a@gmail.com)  
**REGIONAL DIR. OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:** Cody Egner  
 513) 871-5757, ext. 215 | [cegner@eastsideregion.org](mailto:cegner@eastsideregion.org)  
**REGIONAL DIR. OF FACILITIES:** Joe Grote  
 (513) 871-5757, ext. 204 | [jgrote@eastsideregion.org](mailto:jgrote@eastsideregion.org)  
**REGIONAL DIR. OF OPERATIONS:** Shannon Benvenuti  
 (513) 321-1207, ext. 8105 | [sbenvenuti@smshp.com](mailto:sbenvenuti@smshp.com)  
**ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR:** Marta Misleh  
 (513) 871-5757, ext. 207 | [mmisleh@stceciliacincinnati.org](mailto:mmisleh@stceciliacincinnati.org)  
**COORDINATOR OF YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY:** Haley Wolfe  
[hwolfe@eastsideregion.org](mailto:hwolfe@eastsideregion.org)





# The Joy of Love

January 1, 2023

We celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family right during the Christmas season — a time when we are gathering with our own families. We can look and pray around the Nativity scenes and emulate the Holy Family as the model for all of our Catholic families. When we bring our families to Church and live out our faith in our homes, we are sanctified.

This weekend we kick off a wonderful new ministry, *The Commission of St. Louis and Zelig*. These saints were the parents of St. Therese of Lisieux and were a great example of marriage. They were always striving to imitate the holiness of the Holy Family. Although they went through the regular struggles that parents and families go through, their faith never wavered. Please read the bulletin for more information and to sign up.

Let us also continue to live like the Holy Family with Christ as our center. Try each day to start with a prayer. Make it a point to attend Mass and invite family members. Find rich spiritual reading, and share what you've read with your family. If you make it part of what your family talks about, they will feel more comfortable sharing a verse in Scripture that they've read or quoting a saint that they found inspiring. How can you pull your family together this Christmas season and share the faith as a family unit?

Amen? Amen!

*Fr. Jamie*




## Pastor birthday alert!

Fr. Jamie's birthday is next Friday, January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany. Help him celebrate his big day by dropping off or mailing a birthday card!

JOIN THE EASTSIDE FAMILY

# YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

From men's and women's small groups to recreational outings and Candlelight Mass, come find authentic friendships, Faith, and fun.

Learn more by visiting [eastsidefaith.org/young-adults](https://eastsidefaith.org/young-adults)



## ARCHDIOCESE OF CINCINNATI SCHOLARSHIP GRANTING ORGANIZATION

**SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS!** A donation to the Archdiocese of Cincinnati Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO), directing the funding to **St. Cecilia** and **St. Mary** schools, is a great opportunity to direct state funding that would otherwise be paid in taxes, to St. Cecilia or St. Mary. There is no cost to your family individually, as the donation generates a dollar-for-dollar tax credit of \$750 per donor (up to \$1500 for a couple)

to be used against Ohio tax liability. Contact your tax advisor, but in general any family with an expected tax for 2022 of \$1500 or greater can fully participate. This fund will help create additional scholarship funding for St. Cecilia and St. Mary that would otherwise be funded through the general fund. **Participate and learn more at [catholicbestchoice.org/sgo/](https://catholicbestchoice.org/sgo/)**



### From the Desk of Fr. Ken

Happy New Year to you! Today we celebrate Mary, Mother of God. We tend to forget that she was no more than 14 or 15 when she was found to be with a child. She didn't know what all this meant. But the moment she said Yes to the Lord, her Yes never wavered. Can we say the same thing?

*Fr. Ken Schopf*

### From the School Office

Thank you to St. Mary Parishioners for your gifts to the Giving Tree. Students filled three trucks to the brim with Christmas cheer for the children at our partner Catholic parish. A big box of Kroger Gift Cards was also presented to Mercy Neighborhood Ministries. *Thank you!*



### Christmas Joy

Thank you to this group of young adults, children and their families for decorating our church for the Christmas Season!



Join the St Mary  
**HOSPITALITY TEAM**

We are seeking volunteers to help organize monthly, after mass Fellowships!

To Learn more, contact Terri Knappenberger  
tknappenberger@smshp.com  
513-321-1207 ext: 8400

#### Dear 65+ Parishioners,

**Let's Get Connected!** EPIC offers a hands-on, in-person connection which is vital to our well-being. Isolation, loneliness, and lack of social interaction cause seniors to become withdrawn and depressed.

Your **St. Mary EPIC** group offers an easy, monthly way to connect with other senior parishioners and your parish community. You can enjoy activities, programs, entertainment, dining, and conversation in a familiar, safe environment. We also open two events each year to include family, friends, and all parishioners to mix and be a part of the larger community!

Intergenerational events are such a great way to remain in touch. Did you know that we have been entertained by our very own Paul Chiappone and his music group? We have also been blessed by Zac Mills and the SMS children's choir! There is so much talent in our parish, and people are so willing to share that with us. We are grateful.

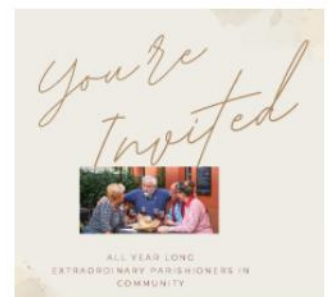
It costs nothing to join us. It does not require a lengthy commitment. IT DOES offer the fantastic opportunity to get together with fellow parishioners, men, and women. IT DOES offer opportunities to be seen and heard and be a vital active part of this community.

A good new year's resolution is to come out and meet and enjoy our vibrant senior group!

P.S. Remember when you were young and how fun it was to go on a road trip? It is not too late to sign up for our "Road Trip to Cape Cod." Talk about an adventure! Talk about feeling vibrant and enjoying the quaint beauty of Cape Cod. Now, this is not your average "senior" event. Visit [smchp.com](http://smchp.com) / Search: EPIC

Come join the fun! Happy New Year,

Mary Landrum EPIC, Chair / [mlandrum@smshp.com](mailto:mlandrum@smshp.com)





“No one eats [His] flesh without first adoring it; we should sin were we not to adore it”

~ ST. AUGUSTINE



**Exciting news! Soon and very soon you will notice a new and permanent guest in our St. Mary’s sanctuary.** Who is this timely edition? The guest is our Lord Himself! That’s right, Jesus present in the Most Blessed Sacrament will now be reserved in the sanctuary at St. Mary’s Church. The tabernacle will be moved

from the St. Joseph side altar to a new beautiful altar of repose behind the main altar in the sanctuary.

Why? This move is in response to our bishops’ plea for a “Eucharistic revival.” We need a revival because there is a crisis of faith in our world — possibly the worst crisis our world has seen in many centuries. The Pew Research study, conducted in February 2019, found that around 70% of Catholics do not believe in Jesus’ real presence in the Eucharist. This is the most disheartening and troubling news as believers and disciples of Christ. The Eucharist is, as Vatican II pronounced, the “source and summit of the Christian life.” Jesus tells us Himself, “My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink” (John 6:55) — not a symbol, but reality. The early Christians in Rome had a mantra that without the Eucharist, “We cannot exist!” We love Jesus’s true body and blood in

Holy Communion, and in response to our world’s crisis of faith, we are going to show Him our faith by giving him the spotlight location in our sanctuary.

The tabernacle is the golden box where Holy Communion is reserved. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal states, “The Most Blessed Sacrament should be reserved in a tabernacle in a part of the church that is truly noble, prominent, conspicuous, worthily decorated, and suitable for prayer...[and] readily noticeable.” Pope Benedict also taught this, “The correct positioning of the tabernacle contributes to the recognition of Christ’s real presence in the Blessed Sacrament. Therefore, the place where the eucharistic species are reserved, marked by a sanctuary lamp, should be readily visible to everyone entering the church.”

What should we do? With the tabernacle in the sanctuary, parishioners now genuflect before entering/exiting their pew in acknowledgement of His presence among us.

When? We hope to bring our Lord into the sanctuary at St. Mary during this Christmas season. This will be a gift to our Child-King by giving him the central space of our Church and in our hearts this Christmas.

“Let the whole world tremble; let heaven exult when Christ, the Son of the Living God, is on the altar in the hands of the priest...The Lord of the universe...so humbles Himself that for our salvation He hides Himself under a morsel of bread.” ~ ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI



### Winter Bible Study: St. Joseph and Authentic Masculinity

Mondays 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM starting January 9 at St. Cecilia Parish (Commons) | Material Cost: \$20  
A 6-week custom class taught by Mr. Colin Kunath

In this study, we will explore St. Joseph’s role in salvation history in the context of major figures from the Old Testament and their struggles to embody the masculine virtues required for their God given missions.

By examining where figures like Adam, Noah and Abraham failed but Joseph succeeded, we will discover ways to better understand what it means to be a man living in Christ’s image. This examination will lead us to the culmination of manhood in Christ’s perfection and, with God’s grace, help us to better understand what it is to be a man. While this study will be focused on masculinity, both men and women are welcome.

*To register, go to [www.eastsidefaith.org](http://www.eastsidefaith.org), click on For Adults, then click on Desiring Formation*

### Financial Peace University

Wednesdays from 7-9 PM starting January 11 in the St. Cecilia School (classroom above the Commons) | Material Cost: \$79

Never worry about money again with Financial Peace University! It’s a proven plan to help you master budgeting, beat debt, and live the life of your dreams. Through nine lessons rooted in biblical wisdom, you’ll learn from Dave Ramsey and his team of financial experts. This course is facilitated by parishioner Brian Sellers.

*To register, go to [www.eastsidefaith.org](http://www.eastsidefaith.org), then click on For Adults, then click on Desiring Formation*

**God speaks in whispers and we live in a loud world.** Hearing God’s voice amidst the noise and busy-ness of our lives can be difficult. But He is always there to guide and help us, and He has given us other people and resources to help us, as well. If you think God may be calling you to religious life and you need someone to talk to, call Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer at 421.3131, ext. 2890.



# "That's Amore!"

A night of fine wine, Italian fare and a culinary twist on speed-dating.

Saturday, February 11th

6:00 p.m.

St. Cecilia Commons

*Drinks will be poured upon arrival, pizza prep is at 6:30, speed-dating starts at 7. Come single and ready to mingle!*

Registration is open to all Catholic young adults and can be completed using the QR code to the right!





# THE WORD IN YOUR HEART | 11

## The Octave Day of Christmas - Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

Luke 2:18-19. *The shepherds...made known the message that had been told them about this child. All who heard it were amazed... And Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart.*



Today marks the beginning of a new year, but in the Roman Catholic Church we celebrate something even more meaningful: the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In our scriptures, we first meet Mary at the Annunciation when she replies to God with her great yes: "May it be done to me according to your word." We hear her sing the *Magnificat* when she visits her cousin Elizabeth. We know well the Christmas story of the birth of Jesus, the songs of the angels, the adoration of shepherds and kings, the presentation in the temple, the flight into Egypt. Years later a worried mother finds her lost twelve-year-old son teaching in the temple. Two decades later a loving mother urges her son to do a miracle at the wedding in Cana. And then not much mention of Mary until we see her weeping at the Cross.

We cannot know all of her story, but Mary is our highest model for a prayerful, faith-filled life – for openness and obedience to God’s will on a daily, unremarkable level. Words I first read in high school, written by Louis Evely in his beautiful book *That Man Is You*, remain for me the best description of who and whose Mary is:

*Mary spent thirty years wondering why she'd had to let the Lord enter into her life in so extraordinary and difficult a way, only to live such a banal, apparently wasted existence. But she remembered all these things and pondered them in her heart... She remained unshaken, sure that all was right and that the Lord knew what He was doing, better than she.*

*Thirty years went by like that—thirty years in which not another thing occurred, thirty years of faith and self-conquest, thirty years during which she must've wondered why all was at a standstill and whether anything was going to happen.*

*God was living there, and she was the only one to watch with Him, the only one to serve as a sanctuary lamp.*

In this New Year, may we all be a sanctuary lamp to God’s presence in our world. ~Janet Buening

Janet Buening was inspired by her service as a lector to establish this weekly column. She invites all Eastside Family parishioners to share a reflection on the Word of the Lord in this New Year. Please contact her at 513-871-9294 or [janetrehlingbuening@gmail.com](mailto:janetrehlingbuening@gmail.com).

## YOUR OFFERINGS *Thank you*

*Christmas Giving will be reported in the coming weeks.*

Weekly Giving	12/18/2022	Sunday Giving thru November	(5 months)
Weekend Collection:	\$6,366	Sunday Giving:	\$378,687
Mailed:	\$32,253	FYTD Budget:	\$429,000
WeShare Online	\$9,545	Over (Under) FYTD Budget:	(\$50,313)
<b>Total Sunday Giving:</b>	<b>\$48,164</b>		
OVER (Under) Weekly Budget:	\$28,664	FYTD Last Year Actual:	\$406,026
		Over (Under) FYTD Last Year:	(\$27,339)
Religious Retirement 2nd Collection:	\$2,885		

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