

**THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY
AND JOSEPH
DECEMBER 30, 2018**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, ST. SYLVESTER

8:15 a.m. Harry Ulrich (Family)
5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, THE SOLEMNITY OF
MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD**

9:00 a.m. Shirley Docs (Bob Docs & Family)
11:00 a.m. Mary Donohoe & John Mellody
(Mellody Family)

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, ST. BASIL THE GREAT
AND ST. GREGORY NAZIANZEN**

8:15 a.m. Ruth Magoulick
(Fred & Norma Davis, Gert Flechler)

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, THE MOST HOLY NAME
OF JESUS**

8:15 a.m. Larry Logsdon (Family)
6:30 p.m. Barbara Yurick (Bud & Marilyn Rodgers)
Anniversary – Micah Roberts

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON

8:15 a.m. Margaret Miskalo (Mr. & Mrs. Mark Fox)
9:00 a.m. Eloise Aberth (Arbogast Family)
6:30 p.m. Bob Buehrle (Helen & Linda Simko)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, ST. JOHN NEUMANN

8:15 a.m. James Eckman, Sr. (Family)
5:00 p.m. Terez Lenart (Family)
Anniversary – Anna Scalise

JANUARY 6, 2019

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. – Pro Populo



Jesus did not plop down out of nowhere from heaven when He came to earth. The Son of God took on flesh in all its messiness, and that means family life. Tradition goes that Joseph had a previous wife with children prior to Mary (thus the brothers and sisters of Jesus). Thus, Jesus would have been the youngest on their new family with all of the struggles of establishing a new family after the loss of another mother. Ponder that for a moment. God chose to enter into grief and sadness, confusion and maturation of the new family of Joseph and Mary. God the Son chose this freely because He wants every moment of our life to be filled with God's presence. God's love can sanctify the less-than-ideal, the complicated, the troublesome, and fill the blessings with joy. Nothing was accidental in Jesus' birth, and nothing accidental in the way He chose to live His life: He wanted to live and grow in the midst of a family to reveal to us what family means in God's design. Family is the first place where life begins. Family is the home where we grow, learn our faith, and become men and women who will spread God's kingdom. God the Father had a plan for Mary and Joseph's family, and He has a plan for yours.

On this Feast of the Holy Family, we draw close to the heart of God, then, seeking that purpose in our own lives and in our own call to live out the Kingdom of God in the welter midst of family life.

Peace,
Fr. Bearer

**SCRIPTURE READINGS
FOR THE WEEK:**



Monday	1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
Tuesday	Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
Wednesday	1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
Thursday	1 Jn 2:29-3:6; Jn 1:29-34
Friday	1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
Saturday	1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
Sunday	Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

**HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING
AROUND THE PARISH THIS WEEK...**

MONDAY, DECEMBER 31

- No School, No PSR
- 5:00 p.m. Vigil Mass for the Solemnity of Mary

TUESDAY, JANUARY 1

- No School
- Solemnity of Mary, Masses at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2

- No School
- AA/Al Anon, 7:30-9:00 p.m. (Refectory)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 3

- School Resumes
- Thursday Scripture Study, 12:30 p.m. (Upper Room)
- Catholics Returning Home, 7:15-8:45 p.m. (Upper Room)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4

- Women of Faith, 7:00-9:00 p.m. (Upper Room)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5

- Men's Scripture Study, 7:00-8:15 a.m. (Upper Room)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

- Boy Scouts 5:00-6:30 p.m. (Refectory)

WOMEN OF FAITH

Ladies! Start your New Year off right! Make a new habit and be a part of the Women of Faith. We are simply a group of women who come together on the first Friday of the month to share our faith and deepen our relationship with the Lord. We have fun! We work on projects together! We learn! We pray! We eat and we grow! Our next gathering will be this Friday, January 4th in the Upper Room following the 6:30 Mass. Can't wait to see you!



Merry Christmas! The day we have been waiting for has finally come! I know our students were excitedly awakened on Christmas morning in anticipation of Santa Claus' visit through the night. After all of the presents are open, however, and the hustle and bustle of the season settles down, we must find some silence in our hearts and in our lives, to revel in the marvelous gift we have been given. It is a time that we should remember that we were given the gift of eternal hope, peace and joy through the Baby Jesus. It is my prayer for all of you that you enjoy this time with family and friends marveling in the gifts that God has bestowed upon you, especially the gift of His only Son. I am looking forward to a new year where students continue to amaze me by living out our Falcon Five each day! God bless you throughout this season.

Katie Buzzelli, Principal

COLLECTION INFORMATION

The collection for the weekend of December 16th was \$19,671.79. Our parish is blessed by your generosity! Due to early deadlines necessary for the timely printing and delivery of our bulletins, the collection information for December 23rd and Christmas will be delayed.



WEDDING BANNS

- III Matthew Jones and Nora Mahoney
- I Chase Sanor and Jessica Blankenship



VOCATION CRUCIFIX

The parish can always use more volunteers to receive the Vocation Crucifix. Vocation prayers are always needed and appreciated! Please call the parish office at 330-644-2225 to have your name added to the list. **The Walter Family** received the Vocation Crucifix this weekend.



COLLECTION OF BABY ITEMS

The collection of baby items for the Embrace Clinic and Care Center in Barberton will continue until January 2nd in the narthex. This is a beautiful way to honor and celebrate the birth of Christ, while helping those in crisis pregnancies – like the unborn baby you may have been praying for all year with the Spiritual Adoption program that began in January of this year. Spiritual Adoption cards will be available in the month of January 2019 on the new bookrack in the narthex to begin praying for a new baby in danger of abortion and his or her parents. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please mail to:

Embrace Clinic and Care Center
180 1st Street, Barberton OH 44203



An Invitation to **CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME**

No matter how long one has been away or for whatever reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic Church. Our faith community misses you and is incomplete without you. Please join us for informal sessions and an update of the Catholic faith. The six-session series will be conducted in a group format:

January 3	Sharing our Stories
January 10	All About the Mass
January 17	Sharing Stories of Faith
January 24	Pope Francis and the Catholic Church Today
January 31	Reconciliation, Why Bother?
February 7	The Creed: What Catholics Really Believe

Come for all or part of the Thursday evening series. Explore the way home! You will find an open door and a warm welcome!

Catholics Returning Home

Thursdays, 7:15-8:45 p.m., January 3-February 7,
St. Francis de Sales Parish, Upper Room
4009 Manchester Road, Akron, 44319

FEARLESS LOVE FOR 2019!

A vibrant group of ladies of varying ages would like to invite you to join them for their exciting book study, ***Fearless*, by Sonja Corbitt**. This is a study aimed at learning to confront the lies and fears that can hinder us so that we can be freed to live in the love of Christ. This Catholic author is a master at sharing personal examples, Scripture, and timeless wisdom to help you to dig deep and allow the Holy Spirit to take you on an amazing adventure! We meet Tuesday mornings and will begin discussing the book on Tuesday, January 8, 9-11am. For meeting place or other details contact Lori at gutbrods@att.net and if you want help with a book order (available new and used on Amazon) you can contact Michelle at mypower36@yahoo.com.

DAVE RAMSEY'S

FINANCIAL *Peace*
UNIVERSITY

Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University begins here in the Upper Room on Sundays from 9-10:30 a.m. for nine weeks beginning January 20th. For more information call Ben Elsass, volunteer facilitator, at 330-807-2511 or email him at elsass.ben73@gmail.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WONDERFUL GENEROSITY THROUGH ADOPT-A-CHILD THIS YEAR!

St. Francis de Sales Parish teamed up with Green Good Neighbors again this year to provide Christmas gifts and gift cards for children and families in our area. The outpour from our Parish was beautiful. We provided 75 personalized gifts for children, over 150 additional toys and gifts, and \$4,350 in grocery gift cards. Our contribution was awesome and truly needed. Thank you again! God bless the little ones.

HELPERS NEEDED AT THE OZANAM CENTER

The St. Vincent de Paul Society of our parish is in need of helpers at the Ozanam Center on Saturday, January 5, 2019. We will team up with Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. Please come if you can – we'll meet at 9:00 at the center, located behind Visitation of Mary Parish, at 93 Kent Street, Akron 44305.

UPCOMING SCRIPTURE STUDY FOR SMALL GROUPS

How close do you feel to Jesus Christ? Do you feel you have met Him? Personally? Intimately? Have you sensed His call to be His disciples, to follow in His steps? Have you felt the joy of knowing Jesus Christ?

The Journey/El Camino is a new resource from Paulist Evangelization Ministries designed to help Catholics today deepen our personal relationship with Christ – it's a simple and direct way to encounter Jesus in our lives.

The main component of The Journey is the faith-sharing groups that meet to reflect each week. Through these small groups, participants come to share their experiences of Jesus Christ with one another and grow together in their faith. Participant booklets are available.

There are three Parts* in The Journey. In Part 1, each session focuses on our personal encounter with Jesus. In Part 2, participants reflect on what it means to belong to Jesus' community, the Church. In Part 3, the sessions explore how we encounter Jesus' way of life as disciples.

In the sessions, participants read from a selected Scripture passage and then watch a powerful video produced by the award-winning OBD Films. Study groups to start the week of January 21st.



THANK YOU FOR CONTINUING TO SUPPORT THE SCRIP GIFT CARD PROGRAM.

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