

St. William Parish

5411 Mahoning Ave. NW Warren, Ohio 44483-1133

www.stwilliamchampion.org 330-847-8677



December 5, 2021 ~ Second Sunday of Advent



“Together We Wait”

Last Sunday, as we began the season of Advent, the gospel passage announced the advent or “arrival” of Jesus at the end of human history. Today, as watchman and awakener, John announces the advent of salvation and consolation to the people and proclaims that their hope for the dawn of messianic times is near. The desert imagery in today’s gospel may be difficult for us to imagine. Even so, the desert remains an important image in Scripture and today we hear John the Baptist leaving his time of prayer and contemplation to proclaim the words of the prophet Isaiah. For John the desert is an important place. He chooses the place where Israel crossed over from its wilderness wandering into the Promised Land. We are used to heavy equipment and technology that builds roads to speed travelers on their way rather than wondering in the wilderness of the desert. Advent is the season of Christian “road work” with John the Baptist as our overseer. With John’s voice, we are being asked, both personally and communally, to level and straighten out whatever is an obstacle or danger on our journey to God. We might ask what are the potholes in our discipleship? From what do we need to be converted if we are to make the way smoother for others who find it difficult to travel to God? What kind of “road rage” do we have as we try to follow the gospel truths in our own lives? This time before Christmas affords us the opportunity to make straight our paths. To work out the curves and

bends of life that prevent us from living the gospel message. Our readings today are woven with the theme of preparation, most notable being our Gospel in which John the Baptist appears at the Jordan River proclaiming the words of the prophet Isaiah, “*prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.*” As the forerunner of Jesus, John’s work was to prepare the people to receive the one who was coming – “the salvation of God.” May we continue to do all that we can to prepare ourselves for the coming of the Messiah...both at Christmas and at the end of time.

Advent has often been characterized at “*patient waiting.*” The outside world quickly getting decorated with lights and music, hope and anticipation! However, within the Church this season is marked by simplicity, calmness, and quiet – a season in which we can prepare with humble hearts. The challenge of Advent is for us to get in touch with the God who became human for us, who is present in our lives now, and whose future reign we await with joyful hope. Let us all make an effort to spend some quiet time reflecting on how Jesus has made all the difference in our lives so that our hearts can be filled with the wonders of His love this coming Christmas! *Together we wait....*



Have a great week! ~ Fr. Balash



~ December 5-12, 2021 ~
Second Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER 5, 2021

Sat 5:00 p.m. † ANGELA TOMBAR/ John & Lori Kiepper
Sun 8:30 a.m. † CARL & JOANN PETERSON/ Judy Makosky
11:00 a.m. † MURPH GELET/ Theresa & Steve Craiger

Mon 8:30 a.m. † COMMUNION SERVICE
Tues 8:30 a.m. † KAREN BOGAN/ Frank Fordeley
Wed 7:00 p.m. † IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
ROBERT CHURA/ Our Blessed Mothers Rosary
Thur 8:30 a.m. † VIVIAN FLAMINI/ St. William Women's Guild
Fri 8:30 a.m. † IDA MAE SWITTER/ Cindy Hunter & Family

DECEMBER 12, 2021

Sat 5:00 p.m. † THOMAS GROSS/ Marygrace & Ron Clark
Sun 8:30 a.m. † PETE SEXTON/ Brian & Andrea Kochunas
11:00 a.m. † RON SPRAGUE/ Ann Sprague

Scripture that will be proclaimed next weekend:

~ December 12, 2021 ~
Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3: 14-18

Shout for joy, O daughter Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel! Be glad and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem ...

Philippians 4: 4-7

Brothers and sisters: Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! Your kindness should be known to all ...

Luke 3: 10-18

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?" He said to them in reply, "Whoever has two cloaks ...

LITURGICAL MINISTRY

December 11/12, 2021

Lectors

5:00 p.m. _____, _____
8:30 a.m. _____, _____
11:00 a.m. Erin Lee, _____

Servers

5:00 p.m. Therese Tuttle
8:30 a.m. Mike Trunick
11:00 a.m. _____

Eucharistic Ministers

5:00 p.m. Bob Hardman, Karen Hardman
8:30 a.m. Linda Trunick, Dave Lucanski
11:00 a.m. Regina Speaker, _____



OFFERTORY SUMMARY ~ November 28, 2021 (WK 22)

	LAST WK	YTD
Sunday Collection	\$ 7,246.00*	\$ 158,122.00*
Amount Needed	\$ 7,269.00	\$ 159,918.00
Difference	\$ (23.00)	\$ (1,796.00)
Performance	100%	99%

*Includes MyEoffering: \$ 680.00 LAST WK — \$ 18,080.00 YTD
Envelopes ~ 184 out of 531
Children's Envelopes ~ \$ 6.00 (6 out of 40)

POT-OF-GOLD

#255 drawn on 12/1/2021

!!NO WINNER!!

Amount: \$1,149.00



CONGRATULATIONS CHRISTMAS CASH RAFFLE WINNERS!!!!

November 25: Theresa White
November 27: Thomas Gray
November 29: Gloria Hart
December 1: Dorothy Balash
December 3:



THE WINNING CONTINUES THIS WEEK and the GRAND PRIZE DRAWING IS SUNDAY DECEMBER 19!

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION – DECEMBER 8

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary is this coming Wednesday, December 8. It is the patronal feast day of United States and is holy day of obligation. Mass will be held at 7:00 p.m. on December 8.

PARISH COUNCIL

The minutes of the November 9, 2021, Parish Council meeting are available on the parish website and posted in the vestibule.

CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE!

Many thanks to all who took gift tags from our Giving Tree this year. **The gifts are due back NEXT SUNDAY, December 12. Please attach the tag directly to the gift. Do not wrap or use a gift bag. Thank you for your generous and kind response!**



ADVENT COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated at an Advent Communal Reconciliation Service this Thursday, December 9 at 7:00 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament. This service will include all Trumbull County parishes. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also available every Saturday afternoon at 4:00 p.m. and on Monday, December 20 at 6:30 p.m. for Christmas.

WEEKLY BIBLE REFLECTIONS

First Sunday of Advent

"And this is my prayer: that your love may increase ever more and more in knowledge and every kind of perception, to discern what is of value..." (PHILIPPIANS 1:9-10)

During the Christmas shopping season it is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of buying gifts. But, is that "gift" truly an expression of your love for the other person. Or, are you just fulfilling your "obligation" to give them something? To grow in friendship with someone, you need to spend time with them, learn what is of value to them. Maybe this year, buy less "stuff" and spend more time with those you love.

KOLACHI BAKE

Rescheduled Date!

Kolachi Bake: December 16, 2021 @ 8:00 a.m.

Prep Work - 8:00 am

Rolling - 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Baking - 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Wrapping 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Nut, Apricot, Poppy Kolachi - \$10 each
Available for pick-up from 5:00 - 6:00 pm only

2022 PARISH CALENDARS

2022 Parish Calendars are available after Mass this weekend. Many thanks to Mr. Peter Rossi, Jr. of Peter Rossi and Son Memorial Chapel for providing our parish calendars once again this year.

SECRET PRAYER PARTNERS

Some reminders: If you put the prayer card in an envelope, PLEASE DO NOT seal it. Every prayer card must be checked before distributing them between the children and adults. Also, please remember to print, do not write in cursive. Some of our children, especially the younger ones, cannot read cursive writing. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Timko at ctimko@stwilliamchamion.org.

LITURGICAL MINISTER SCHEDULE

The new liturgical minister schedule is ready today and will begin on the December 18 and 19 weekend. Be sure to pick up your copy!

Power UP → Reconnect

PARKING LOT PROJECT UPDATE

Goal:	\$380,000.00
Parish Funds	\$100,000.00
Total Pledged	\$ 48,500.00 (to date)
Total Collected	\$28,050.00
Goal Balance:	\$231,500.00

THANK YOU
to all who have responded with a commitment to our Parking

Lot Renovation Project. There is still time to make a pledge to this effort. Please turn in your pledge cards as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support and generosity!

THE PARISH CALENDAR

Dec 6 ~ Youth Ministry Craft Show Food Prep 5:00 p.m.

Dec 6 ~ RCIA at Mt. Carmel Niles 7:00 p.m.

Dec 7 ~ Christmas Cash Raffle #7

Dec 7 ~ Quilters 9:00 a.m.

Dec 7 ~ NAIM/Golden Agers Christmas Lunch 12:15 p.m.

Dec 7 ~ Cantor Practice 7:00 p.m.

Dec 8 ~ Youth Ministry Craft Show Food Prep 5:00 p.m.

Dec 8 ~ Immaculate Conception Mass 7:00 p.m.

Dec 9 ~ Christmas Cash Raffle #8

Dec 9 ~ Youth Ministry Craft Show Food Prep 10:00 p.m.

Dec 9 ~ Adult Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.

Dec 9 ~ Advent Communal Reconciliation

@ Blessed Sacrament 7:00 p.m.

Dec 11 ~ Christmas Cash Raffle #9

Dec 11 ~ Women's Guild Christmas Craft Show 10:00 a.m.

Dec 12 ~ PSR 9:30 a.m.

Dec 12 ~ Stories & Scripture 9:30 a.m.

Dec 12 ~ Youth Ministry 12:00 Noon

Dec 12 ~ Instrument Practice 2:00 p.m.

Check out the Parish Calendar on our website for more events

WOMEN'S GUILD OF ST. WILLIAM PARISH

Next Meeting:

Meeting: January 5, 2022

6:00 p.m. Social ~ 6:30 p.m. Meeting



Membership in the Women's Guild is open to women 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. If interested in joining, join us at a regularly scheduled meeting.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

COUNCIL #7491



Next Meeting:

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Membership in the Knights of Columbus is open to men 18 years of age or older who are practicing Catholics. If interested in joining, please visit our web site at www.knights7491.org

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Weekend ~ Friday-Sunday December 24-26

Friday, December 24 – Christmas Eve: 5:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 25 – Christmas Day: 10:00 a.m.

Note: No 5:00 p.m. Evening Mass on Saturday, Christmas Day

Sunday, December 26 – Feast of the Holy Family 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

New Year Weekend ~ Saturday – Sunday January 1-2

Saturday January 1 – New Year's Day 10:00 a.m.

Note: New Year's Day is a holy day but the obligation to attend Mass for New Year's is dispensed this year.

No 5:00 p.m. Evening Mass on Saturday, New Year's Day

Sunday, January 2 – Feast of Epiphany 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Power UP→Reconnect with the Word SMALL FAITH SHARING GROUPS

We are excited to begin the next phase of our Power Up→Reconnect with the Word. During the month of January, we will be forming small faith sharing groups.

Why? To connect with Jesus Christ - the Word of God made flesh.

Who? Parishioners of all ages are invited to form groups of 10-12 friends to share their thoughts on the Word of God.

When? Once a week, gather with your group of friends to discuss the upcoming Sunday Gospel and scripture readings.

Where? Groups can meet at St. William on Monday from 9:30-11:00 a.m. or 6:30-8:00 p.m. Groups can meet in your home, at a restaurant, at a park, via zoom – the possibilities are endless.

“A voice of one crying out in the desert.” As we look to John the Baptizer in our Advent journey, we discover that we are called to join that voice, crying out in faith, words that prepare the way for the Lord, and invite others to do the same. *Take some time this week to reflect on your desire to join with a few others in sharing and proclaiming your faith by joining a small faith sharing group here at our parish.*

JOIN THE PRAYER CHAIN MINISTRY

Anyone interested in joining our group of parishioners dedicated to praying for the intentions and concerns of our church family, friends, and community, can do so by contacting the parish office at 330-847-8677 or by emailing parishoffice@stwilliamchampion.org. Prayer requests can be made by calling or emailing the parish office.

FIRST FRIDAY CLUB OF GREATER YOUNGSTOWN

The speaker for January 6, 2022 is Ms. Tina Whitehead, UMC Missionary in the Holy Land. We will carpool from Saint William promptly at 10:45 a.m. Lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. followed by the speaker at 12:00 Noon and ending at 1:00 p.m. Register by Wednesday, December 22. Cost is \$18.00. Please make checks payable to St. William Parish.

St. William Parish Community Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

e-Mail Address: _____

Check One:

- I am interested in membership, please send registration form
- Moving out of the parish
- Change of address / phone number

Drop this form in the collection basket, USPS mail, or send us an email!

~Contact~

Church Office 330-847-8677

www.stwilliamchampion.org
parishoffice@stwilliamchampion.org
Church Building 330-847-7026

Rev. Michael D. Balash, Pastor

Robert Mintus, Deacon

Tina McCue, Pastoral Associate

Patricia Maciejewski, Music Director

Carol Timko, Religious Education

Therese Tuttle, Business Manager

Dan Robinson, Office Manager

Chuck Poponak, Maintenance Manager

~Celebrate~

Mass Times

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Weekdays - 8:30 a.m. Tuesday - Friday

Holydays - Check weekly bulletin

Liturgy of the Word Service - Monday 8:30 a.m.

Reconciliation

Saturday at 4:00 p.m. or by appointment.

Communal Reconciliation Services are held during Lent and Advent.

Baptism, First Eucharist, Confirmation, Anointing of the Sick, Marriage, Holy Orders ~ Contact the Parish Office.

~Christian Formation~

Parish School of Religion (PSR)

Sunday Morning Gr. K-8 ~ 9:30 - 10:45 a.m.

Sunday Afternoon Gr. 9-12 ~ 12:00 - 1:30 p.m.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Sunday Mornings ~ 9:30-10:45 a.m.

Adult and Teen Enrichment

Offered throughout the year. Consult the bulletin.

John F. Kennedy Catholic School

www.warrenjfk.com

~Service~

Please call the Parish Office for Mass and Prayer Intentions, Homebound and Hospitalized Ministry, Funerals, The Catholic Exponent, Family Information Changes, New Parishioner Registration, Hall Rental/Catering, and details about any Parish Organization and Ministry.

Bulletin Deadline: Wednesday 12:00 noon