Our Christmas Mass Schedule can be found on Page 5.
Scripture Readings for the Week of December 18

Sunday, December 18, The Fourth Sunday of Advent
Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Rom 1:1-7; Mt 1:18-24

Monday, December 19
Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17; Lk 1:5-25

Tuesday, December 20
Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38

Wednesday, December 21, The Memorial of Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Sg 2:8-14; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Thursday, December 22
1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56

Friday, December 23, The Memorial of Saint John of Kanty, Priest
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10, 14; Lk 1:57-66

Saturday, December 24
Daytime Vigil Masses for the Nativity of Our Lord
Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25
Midnight Vigil Mass for the Nativity of Our Lord
Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

Sunday, December 25, The Nativity of Our Lord
Readings for the 8:00 AM Mass
Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20
Readings for the 10:00 and Noon Masses
Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

Saint Paul Adult Choir OPEN REHEARSAL
Do you wish you could hear the St. Paul Adult Choir Concert that will be at our Christmas Midnight Mass yet you'll be attending Mass at another time? The Choir invites you and yours to their final Christmas rehearsal this Thursday evening, December 22 at 7:00 PM. Come and enjoy the beloved music associated with our Savior's birth!
The Pastor’s Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

**Staying informed:** I send a weekly email about upcoming events and parish news to those parishioners who have acquired Flocknote. Flocknote is an easy way to stay connected with our parish family. If you do not have Flocknote, I ask that you please consider obtaining it. It is really quite simple to sign-up for Flocknote; just go to stpacc.org/flocknote.

**Confessions this Wednesday at 7:00 PM:** We will have our final Advent Penance Service this Wednesday evening, December 21. We will begin with Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 7:00 PM. Confessions will also be heard on Thursday, December 22 (from 9:15 until 10:30 AM). (While confessions are also regularly heard on Saturdays at 2:30 PM, confessions will not be heard on Saturday, December 24.)

**Reminders about Masses for the Nativity of the Lord:** On Saturday, December 24, Christmas Eve, Masses will be celebrated at 4:00 PM in the Church and at Westerville North High School. There will also be a 6:30 PM Mass in the Church (the Youth Choir will lead us in carols at 6:00 PM) and a Midnight Mass (music led by our Adult Choir at 11:30 PM) in the Church. On Sunday, December 25, The Nativity of the Lord, Masses will be celebrated at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and noon in the Church. Please note that the North Transept will be reserved for social distancing and the wearing of masks at both the Midnight and 8:00 AM Masses. We will also be livestreaming our 4:00 PM, 6:30 PM and 10:00 AM Christmas Masses for those who are unable to join us to celebrate.

**Our Sunday Offering:** Many have found that WeShare Online is an easy, secure, and convenient platform. Text stpaulohio to the number 800-950-9952 or give online at stpacc.org/donate. For those who prefer to use their offertory envelopes and may be unable to attend Mass, donations can be mailed directly to St. Paul Church, 313 N. State St., Westerville, Ohio 43082. Thank you.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Fr. Wilson*

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**Celebrate the feast of Christmas every day, even every moment in the interior temple of your spirit, remaining like a baby in the bosom of the heavenly Father, where you will be reborn each moment in the Divine Word, Jesus Christ.**

~ St. Paul of the Cross
4th Sunday of Advent – Year A

Worship Hymnal Readings – #1010

Hymns
Entrance - Savior of The Nations Come #388
Offertory - The Angel Gabriel #875
Communion Antiphon - see next column

Hymns for the 10:00 am Mass with the Choir
Entrance - Savior of The Nations Come #388
Communion – The King Shall Come #403
Communion – O Come O Come Emmanuel #386

Eucharistic Acclamations

Communion Antiphon

Be-hold, a Vir-gin will con-ceive and _ bear_ a son;
and his name _ will be called Em-man-u-el.

Choir Anthem Lyrics

Offertory Anthem – The Angel Gabriel
The angel Gabriel from heaven came
His wings as drifted snow his eyes as flame
"All hail" said he "thou lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

"For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee,
Thy Son shall be Emanuel, by seers foretold
Most highly favored lady," Gloria!

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head
"To me be as it pleaseth God," she said,
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."
Most highly favored lady. Gloria!

Of her, Emanuel, the Christ was born
In Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say: "Most highly favored lady," gloria!

Post Com. Anthem – Ave Maria
Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum, benedicta tu
in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris Tui, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae. Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, blessed are
you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your
womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us
sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Communion Antiphon Music ©2013 John Ainslie. Music reprinted with
permission from Onelicense.net, License no. A-722737.
The 4:00 PM and 6:30 PM Masses on Christmas Eve and the 10:00 AM Mass on Christmas Day will be livestreamed at stpacc.org/livestream.

4 PM at St. Paul Church
incense free
Christmas Eve

4 PM at Westerville North High School
incense free
Christmas Eve

6:30 PM Youth Choir carols at 6 pm with incense
Christmas Eve

MIDNIGHT MASS with incense · St. Paul Adult Choir · music begins at 11:30
social distancing in north transept
12 AM CHRISTMAS DAY

8 AM incense free
social distancing in north transept
Christmas Day

10 AM with incense
Christmas Day

12 PM with incense
Christmas Day
This Week in Our Parish

Sunday, December 18

Last day to donate to the Jesse Tree project!
Knights of Columbus to host Children’s Coat Drive this weekend!
8th Graders to sell “Donuts for DC” after the 8, 10, & noon Masses
Youth Choir Rehearsal, Music Room, 2:30 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous, Room 2 (Parish Office), 6:00 PM
HS Youth Ministry Christmas Party at St. Catharine’s, 6:00 PM

Monday, December 19

Girls’ Bible Study (Grades 6-8), Room 710, 2:45 PM
Divine Mercy Chaplet, Church, 3:00 PM
Rosary, Church, 6:30 PM
Nar-Anon, Room 1 (Parish Office), 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 20

Divine Mercy Chaplet, Church, 3:00 PM
Boy Scouts, Gym, 7:00 PM

Wednesday, December 21

Divine Mercy Chaplet, Church, 3:00 PM
That Man is You, St. Peter Room, 5:30 PM
Advent Parish Penance Service, Church, 7:00 PM
Overeaters Anonymous, Room 2 (Parish Office), 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 22

That Man is You, St. Peter’s Room, 6:30 AM
Confessions, Church, 9:15 AM
Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament, 9:15 AM until Noon
Divine Mercy Chaplet, Church, 3:00 PM
Adult Choir Open Rehearsal, Church, 7:00 PM
Young Professionals SCC, Lower Level Room 1 (Church), 7:00 PM
Al Anon, Rooms 1-2 (Parish Office), 7:30 PM

Friday, December 23

Parish Office to close at noon today.
Divine Mercy Chaplet, Church, 3:00 PM
Alcoholics Anonymous, Room 2 (Parish Office), 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 24

Men’s Bible Study, St. Peter Room, 7:30 AM

Sunday, December 25

Alcoholics Anonymous, Room 2 (Parish Office), 6:00 PM

Monday, December 26

The Parish Office will be closed today.
Divine Mercy Chaplet, Church, 3:00 PM

Please consider sharing this bulletin with a homebound friend or neighbor!

Fiscal Year Offertory Goal per Week* $74,500.00

*2022/23 Fiscal Year Weekly Budget includes the following:
Accelerated Principal Payments on Church Loan $  7,740.00
Building Reserve Fund $  7,910.00
Total $15,650.00

Offertory:
Envelopes $19,130.50
Loose $21,058.40
One Time WeShare contributions $  9,320.00
Avg. Auto Withdrawal (1506 households) $37,931.72
Total $87,440.62
Estimated Weekly Excess/(Deficit) $12,940.62
Church Building Fund Collection* $32,180.17
Church Building Fund Loan $4,154,040.92

Fiscal year July 1, 2022– June 30, 2023

Our sincere thanks to those who regularly give to our parish. Your giving is most essential to our overall operations. If you have questions about your offertory, please contact Parish Accountant Deb Hawking at either 614-882-2109 ext. 229 or dhawking@stpacc.org. May God richly bless you and yours!

If you are not using WeShare Online Giving, please know that WeShare is safe, easy, and indeed most convenient. Simply text stpaulohio to 800-950-9952 from your iPhone or refer to our parish website: stpacc.org/donate. To learn more about WeShare, contact our Parish Accountant Deb Hawking at 614-882-2109 ext. 229 or dhawking@stpacc.org.

Please note that all registered parishioners will receive their annual giving statements by the end of January.
During Advent, we not only are to prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Jesus, but we should also check in to see if we are doing all the things that will keep us ready to receive Jesus when He comes again. Consider talking with your family about how you are doing in attending to your spiritual life as a family unit. Recommit yourselves to praying daily, reading Scripture, and truly staying faithful to God’s commandments. Pray together that this Advent season you and yours will be more prepared to receive Jesus when he comes again!

The Jesse Tree Project

The Jesse Tree facilitates gift giving to the very many who are in need and served by Holy Rosary and St. John, and the Community Kitchen. All gifts are needed by the end of this week end.

Monetary gifts can be made by scanning the QR code or via WeShare stpacc.org/donate. If you prefer to write a check, please make it payable to St. Paul Catholic Church and include a note on the memo line indicating that the donation is for the Jesse Tree Project. Checks can be placed in the offertory bowls at Church or dropped off at the Parish Office.

Thank you for sharing God’s abundant love with others this Christmas!
We give God great thanks for the gift of healing experienced by the hundreds who attended the Healing the Whole Person Conference on December 1-3. More than 800 people attended from 30+ states and from several other countries. We give particular thanks to the dozens of volunteers who made the weekend possible — and a very special thank you to Father Wilson for bringing Healing the Whole Person Conference to Saint Paul!
Why Do We Do That at Mass?

“When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, the Magi saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.” Matthew 2: 11-12

This week we continue our walk through the Mass by focusing on the Offertory. The offertory is a transitional point between what we call the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. We’ve heard the word of God, reflected upon it, and now bring our offerings to the Lord. As I noted in a prior reflection, the sacrifice we offer to God is going to be God Himself, namely, Jesus Christ. Jesus is the one, true, and final sacrifice acceptable to the Father; He is the ultimate ‘fragrant offering’ (Eph. 5:2). The earliest Church catechism (circa 70 AD) the Didache, contains this line: “For this is the offering of which the Lord has said, ‘Everywhere and until always bring me a sacrifice that is undefiled, for I am a great king, says the Lord, and my name is the wonder of nations’.” Thus, mysteriously and sacramentally, we offer bread and wine, but they are returned to us as the unblemished Body and Blood of the Christ. We make our simple offering, the fruit of the earth and the work of human hands, but they are made for us into something lasting and spiritually fruitful. The ephemeral is made into the eternal!

An ‘offering to the Lord’ first appears in the Scriptures with the story of Cain and Abel. The story has the following key lines: So it came about in the course of time that Cain brought an offering to the LORD from the fruit of the ground. Abel, on his part also brought an offering, from the firstborn of his flock and from their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering; but for Cain and his offering He had no regard.

A possible interpretation of this passage is that though Cain made an offering, it was Abel who gave the ‘best’ of what he had. We, too, are called to ‘offer our best’ to the Lord. Though Christ is the best and ultimate offering, there are other ways within that larger paradigm that we are to offer our lives as well.

Jesus talks about offerings in a few places. In the Sermon on the Mount, he says, “Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.” This is why it is appropriate to have the sign of peace before we approach the altar. If there is someone in your family you need to make peace with, do not approach communion until you have reconciled with that person. Thus, our true ‘offering’ to the Lord is inseparable from our love and union with one another. Jesus says in Mark 12:33 that we are “To love God with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

The offertory at Mass includes giving money as well. Mark 12 has this passage: “Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only of a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.’ Money is a symbol of labor and a remuneration for work. We give a portion of that to the Church and the work of the Church as form of gratitude for the gift of work and for all the good gifts God has given us. Recall that “every good and perfect gift is from above” (James 1: 17). We are not our own, and what we have is all a gift. Giving to the offertory is not simply about supporting the Church, but about giving back to God and showing our thankfulness.

Through Christ, we’re built up together like living stones. As a Church we can become a spiritual house and, together, a royal priesthood offering through Christ the one, true, acceptable offering to God the Father (see 1 Peter 2: 5). We, too, should offer our bodies as a ‘living sacrifice’ (Romans 12: 1) to the Lord, making our lives and all that we say and do an offering to the Lord. Like the Magi from the Nativity story, we, too, should bow before the Lord and offer our best gifts. Though, like Saint Peter (see Acts 3: 6), we may not have ‘silver or gold’, our hopes, our dreams, our sorrows, our friends, our family, and our very lives should be offered to the Lord. Let us this Advent season prepare for the Lord by offering Him our very best. Amen.
Turn Your Taxes into Scholarships for Catholic Education

with the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund

It's true! Thanks to a state law passed in 2021, Ohio taxpayers now are eligible to receive a tax credit for qualified donations to our scholarship granting organization (SGO), the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund! Donors receive a dollar-for-dollar credit (not deduction) on their Ohio income tax liability of up to $750 or $1,500 if married, filing jointly.

Why? The Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund was established to help make an authentic Catholic education affordable and accessible for all families in our Catholic Diocese of Columbus.

The law effectively gives you the power to direct your tax dollars to support Our Catholic Schools' efforts to lead children to an encounter with Jesus Christ and change lives.

It's a win-win for all involved if you pay taxes to the State of Ohio – and you probably do!

Can this Tax Credit Benefit You?

Every person's situation is unique but, if your year-over-year tax circumstances haven't changed significantly, you may be eligible to receive the tax credit by making a contribution to the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund. The easiest place to start is by reviewing your most recent Ohio Income Tax Return. Then, follow these three, easy steps.

1. Pull your prior year return

The form you'll need to review is Ohio IT 1040.

2. Review line 8c on page 2

This is your total income tax liability before credits, or what the state says you owe as a taxpayer.

3. Is line 10 greater than $0.00?

If so, you can reduce this liability on a dollar-for-dollar basis with a gift to the Emmaus Road Scholarship Fund, up to $750 or $1,500 if married and filing jointly.

Office of Catholic Schools
197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215
www.emmausroadscholarship.org
December 5, 2022

Dear Parishioners and Parents of the Students:

The Call for Catholic Education
The future of our Church lies with our youth. To that end, we the Church must form and educate them in faith, spirit, mind and body. It has been the mission of Catholic schools to do this very thing. Catholic schools are among the most effective means we have to shape the future with faith, hope, and leadership. Catholic schools in the Diocese are blessed with committed parents and families, visionary leadership, and the prayerful support of many friends and benefactors.

Why are we looking at a new Catholic elementary and high school?
In fulfilling the calling of the Church and its mission for Catholic education, we are investigating the need for a Catholic PK-8 elementary and/or a Catholic 9-12 high school in the Sunbury area. At the present time, there is not a Catholic school in the eastern part of Delaware County, but the area is experiencing significant growth. To better serve this growing area, new schools warrant consideration.

What is involved in studying this need?
Before we can seriously consider undertaking the planning and opening of a new Catholic elementary and/or high school, we need to objectively measure the level of interest among families to determine the enrollment potential. An enrollment study with market research has been commissioned by the Diocese of Columbus and will be conducted in collaboration with St. John Neumann Catholic Church in Sunbury. The nationally recognized firm, Meitler, is partnering with St. John Neumann Catholic Church and the Diocese to conduct this study. Meitler has extensive experience with Catholic schools and new school planning across the country. As part of the study, a market research survey will be available online to parish families with preschool and school-age children to assess parents’ willingness to enroll their children at the proposed new schools.

When would the new school open?
The timing to open the proposed schools has not been determined at this time and will depend on enrollment demand and funding.

What would be the next steps in planning a new school?
If the data and market research study show opening a new PK-8 and 9-12 school is feasible with sufficient enrollment potential, the next steps would involve developing a funding and facilities plan along with a timeline for action.

May God continue to bless your community.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Adam J. Dufault, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Father Daniel Dury, Pastor
St. John Neumann Parish

Parish: 9633 E. State Rte 37 • Sunbury, OH 43074 • www.saintjohnsunbury.org • 740.965.1358
OCS: 197 E. Gay St • Columbus, OH 43215 • www.education.columbuscatholic.org • 614.221.5829
Advent is a time of Hopeful longing, Joyful expectation, Prayerful penance and Spiritual Preparation.
Prepare your heart to celebrate Christmas!

In addition to our regularly scheduled opportunities for confession (Thursdays following the 8:30 AM Mass and at 2:30 PM on Saturdays), we will have an Advent Penance Service this Wednesday, December 21. We will begin with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00 PM. After all confessions are heard, we will have Benediction.
Reflecting on Today’s Gospel…

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, December 18 (Cycle A)

First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-14  Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7  Gospel: Matthew 1:18-24

The Gospel of Matthew tells the story of the birth of Jesus from Joseph’s perspective. The message of the angel of the Lord given to Joseph in his dream tells us much about the child that Mary bears and his role in God’s plan. He is conceived by the Holy Spirit. His name will be Jesus, which in Hebrew means “Yahweh saves.” He will be the fulfillment of the prophecy heard in our first reading from Isaiah: “...The virgin shall be with child...and shall name him Emmanuel [God is with us].

Joseph and Mary are both cooperative with God’s plan; both are models for us of what it means to be faithful servants of God. Who in your life is a faithful servant of God?

Even when the circumstances seemed unclear, Joseph trusted God. What activities in your life require that you trust other people?

Preparing for Next Sunday…

The Nativity of Our Lord, December 25


The Gospel for Christmas Day is the prologue or beginning of John’s Gospel. It echoes the first line of the Books of Genesis: “In the beginning.” The connection is clear. The Word, the eternal Son of God, already existed at the instant of creation.

Tell of an experience when another person’s words revealed God’s presence to you.

How have you seen light continue to shine in spite of great darkness?

Mary accepted the Word and gave birth to Jesus, the Word made flesh. How do you give birth to Jesus in the world?
Sunday, Dec 18, 2022
Welcome!
Most folks live in the land of their birth. Only one in 30 migrate, and for many reasons. They may marry a non-national and relocate to make a life together. Jobs may move overseas. But most often, people migrate under forces they can't control: military conflicts, natural disasters, extreme poverty, or other dangers. Migration may not be chosen, but it doesn't have to spell doom to those who depart or those who receive them. Migrants have knowledge, networks, and skills to share. U.S. history proves it as does the history of our faith. As Yahweh told the Israelites: “You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt” (Lev. 19:33-34). On this International Migrants Day, O Sacred Lord, give us the spirit of welcome and openness so we may each find our way to you.
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O SACRED LORD)
TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24 (10). “The Lord’s are the earth and its fullness; the world and those who dwell in it.”

Monday, Dec 19, 2022
Cherish your roots
Today’s O Antiphon—“O Root of Jesse’s stem, sign of God’s love for all his people: come to save us without delay!”—invites us to meditate on the theme of Jesus’ genealogy and our spiritual ancestry. Jesse was the father of King David, and God told the prophet Nathan that David’s royal family would last forever. Jesus is the enduring branch that grows out of the root of Jesse, the fulfillment of a hope past and present. When we belong to Christ, we belong to the rest of the tree, too—a family that includes God and humanity. Christmas brings people together, biologically related or not—let the longing of this season bond you closer to all in love.
ADVENT WEEKDAY (O FLOWER OF JESSE’S STEM)
TODAY’S READINGS: Judges 13:2-7, 24-25a; Luke 1:5-25 (195). “He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God.”

Tuesday, Dec 20, 2022
Let’s make some room at the inn
We’re in the middle of two great spiritual traditions that overlap in Advent: The O Antiphons (December 17-23)—recited at vespers for the church’s Liturgy of the Hours—and the celebration of “Las Posadas” (December 16-24), reenacting Joseph and Mary’s search for shelter ahead of Jesus’ birth. Since Las Posadas comes from our Latin American brothers and sisters, each year the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops encourages us to work and pray, in intentional ways, for migrants to our country who—like Mary and Joseph—seek safety and basic biblical hospitality. The Key of David is also the key to our hearts. See Justice for Immigrants for more background and suggested actions.
ADVENT WEEKDAY (O KEY OF DAVID)

Wednesday, Dec 21, 2022
A light of faith from the North Star
On this day in 1892, Saint Peter Claver Catholic Church was founded in Saint Paul, Minnesota, the first black parish in the state of Minnesota. Founded decades before the Great Migration of southern blacks to northern states, the church was the brainchild of hopeful black Catholics (inspired by Josephite founder John Slattery, S.S.J.) and Archbishop John Ireland, a tireless advocate for black liberation in an era of widespread racism. The new church was named for the famed Jesuit missionary, just a few years after his canonization by Pope Leo XIII, and among its first members was Fredrick McGhee, the first black lawyer in state history. May he and his companions inspire our faith and encourage us to witness for justice in our daily lives!
ADVENT WEEKDAY (O RADIANT DAWN)

Thursday, Dec 22, 2022
Picture this
For us, the O Antiphon for today, “O King of All Nations,” might be less than compelling since our incipient nation rebelled against the only king it ever had back in its colonial days. The image of God or Jesus as “king” comes from the prevailing social structures 2,000 years ago. Centuries of church-monarchy unity in Europe and elsewhere kept the tradition going. Contemporary Catholics can understand the power and authority of kingship, but God’s tenderness and mercy can be sidelined by this term, which leads to a good question for any disciple: What is your image of God? What helps you connect with the Divine?
ADVENT WEEKDAY (O KING OF ALL NATIONS)
TODAY’S READINGS: 1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 (198). “The Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is His Name.”

Friday, Dec 23, 2022
Rejoice, rejoice!
The “O Emmanuel” antiphon heralds the conclusion of Advent. It also conveys a powerful truth about how we experience the divine. Yes, God is awesome and transcendent—and God is the one who draws close to us, takes on our humanity, and is truly Emmanuel, “God with us.” As we prepare to enter into the mystery of the Incarnation, let us take a moment to pray “O Emmanuel!” and reflect on how we experience God with us in our day-to-day life.
And as a church let us sing together, “Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel / Shall come to thee, O Israel.”
ADVENT WEEKDAY (O EMMANUEL)

Saturday, Dec 24, 2022
Forgiveness under the tree
If you haven’t finished your Christmas shopping by now, you’re toast (at least according to consumer culture). The best you can hope for now is forgiveness. Which is exactly what this day and this night are all about. Zechariah’s Benedictus in today’s gospel (which takes its name from the first words in Latin—Benedictus Dominus Deus Israel, “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel”) reflects God’s eternal plan of deliverance: “To give his people knowledge of Salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.” The best present you can give anybody, tonight or ever, is the forgiveness of their sins.
Today is the perfect day to give this perfect gift!
ADVENT WEEKDAY
TODAY’S READINGS: Morning: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79 (200). “To give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.”

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time
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The Fourth Sunday of Advent • December 18, 2022
Parish Office Hours
Our Parish Office is open Monday – Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM.

Parish Registration
Welcome to St. Paul the Apostle Parish! If you will regularly be worshiping with us, we encourage you to register at stpacc.org/register.

Baptisms
Families wishing to have their child baptized should please contact Annette Ramos in the Parish Office at aramos@stpacc.org.

Confessions
9:15 AM on Thursdays; at 2:30 PM on Saturdays. The confessional are in the Church.

Marian Gift Shop
Our Marian Gift Shop is located in the Church and has new Holiday Hours. The shop is open on Sundays from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM; from 9:15 AM to 12:30 PM on Mondays and Fridays; 2:00—7:00 PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM on Saturdays. The shop is closed on Wednesdays. Please call Ellen Sullivan, the shop manager, if you have any questions or are looking for a special gift: 614-882-5257.

Bulletin
Articles for the bulletin must be submitted two weeks in advance to our Bulletin Editor, Dee Shomo, at dshomo@stpacc.org. Thank you!

Parish Office ........................................ 614-882-2109
St. Paul School ..................................... 614-882-2710
Preschool ............................................ 614-394-9731
Parish School of Religion ..................... 614-882-5045
Prayer Line ............................ stpaulprayerline@stpacc.org
St. Vincent DePaul Helpline................... 614-973-9772

Women: Plan now to attend the Columbus Catholic Women’s Conference entitled, Light Shines in the Darkness, on Saturday, February 18. The conference will again be held in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center from 8:00 AM—4:30 PM. Enjoy inspiring speakers, music by contemporary Christian artist Hanna Shaefer, lunch, fellowship with other women in the diocese, and Mass with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes. Learn more and register online at columbuscatholicwomen.com.
Nominations Now Open for the 2023 Catholic Man of the Year!

The Catholic Men’s Luncheon Club is currently accepting nominations for the Diocese of Columbus 2023 Catholic Man of the Year. The annual award will be presented by Bishop Earl Fernandes on Friday, February 3, at the Men’s Luncheon at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus. The Catholic Man of the Year is awarded to a layman who, through his daily actions, words, and prayers, exemplifies the “good and faithful servant.” The recipient will have the opportunity to share his personal testimony during the ceremony. Nominations will be accepted through December 31. For more information, and nomination instructions, go to www.catholicmensministry.com/catholic-man-of-the-year. Submit your nomination and please indicate why your parishioner, husband, father, son, uncle, brother, or friend is the Catholic Man of the Year!

Called to be Saints: Catholic Men’s Conference

Men: Don’t miss the 26th Annual Catholic Men’s Conference, an in-person event in Kasich Hall at the Ohio Expo Center that will be held on Saturday, February 25. Plan now to invite a friend and/or encourage your son to join you!

Guest speakers include John Sablan, Deacon Charlie Echeverry, and Bishop Earl K. Fernandes. Enjoy Catholic organizations and a variety of vendors; breakfast and lunch; Adoration; Mass; and Reconciliation in a powerful day-long event. Register online at www.catholicmensministry.com/catholicmensconference before December 31 to receive $5 off the admission price!