



Little Flower

CATHOLIC PARISH

DECEMBER 16, 2012
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to Mass!

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 8:30am & 11:00am
Second Sundays: Youth Mass, 6pm
Monday - Thursday: 8:15am
Tuesday: 7:00am
First Fridays: 8:15am

RECONCILIATION

30 minutes prior to every Mass
(in the Hospitality Room)

BAPTISM

Baptisms are celebrated the third Sunday of each month. Please contact the Parish Center.

MARRIAGE

Please contact the Parish Center at least six months prior to your wedding date.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

If you or a loved one are seriously ill or facing surgery, please contact the Parish Center.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

First Fridays 8:45a - 8:00p



WHAT SHOULD WE DO?



In the first part of the Gospel this weekend, no less than three different groups of people ask John the Baptist what they must do for the coming of the Lord (Luke 3:10-18). There are “the crowds [of people]”, “tax collectors” and “soldiers” who similarly voice the same question: “**what should we do?**”

Make no mistake about it: John’s answer to the critical question is not found in pious actions or sentimental musings. Instead, the Baptist clearly explains that they will respond to the ways of God by *being whom they were created and called to be to their neighbors*.

Interestingly, neither the tax collectors nor the soldiers are told by the Baptist to abandon their ways of living. Instead, they are to *share surplus with the poor, exact only what is due, inflict no violence and intimidation*. While the world will never be without soldiers and tax collectors, they – together with all people - must *develop a sense of belonging to others and responsibility for others*.

John the Baptist looks back to God’s original plan: men and women made in God’s image are to care for one another. He also looks forward to the person of Jesus whose teaching, life, death and resurrection set a pattern of self-giving love which forms the basis for all Christian life.

With the fire and baptism of the Holy Spirit, a new community has been forged. We belong to this new society. Like the early Christian community, so, too, do we sincerely strive to be emboldened by Jesus’ ways in the midst of the rising tide of hostilities and indifferences. Heed the message of today’s Gospel text: those opposed and apathetic to the Gospel of Christ and His Church liken “chaff” that will be burned eternally by “unquenchable fire.”

+++++

Upon retirement from active priestly ministry, my great-uncle Father Rolland Glass was kindly invited to be a part of a parish. Almost every weekend he celebrated Mass and grew to love the people of that parish, and they grew to love their “retired” helping priest. I witnessed first-hand the affection of the people when I traveled to Fond du Lac (WI) and joined in their beautiful celebration of his 50th priestly anniversary. Ten years later they made sure to make his 60th anniversary in fine fashion.

I have known **Father Tom Landgraff (OSFS)** for many years, and cherish the special friendship we share. Although Father Tom is a priest belonging to the Oblates of Saint Francis De Sales, we lived and served together in a Sandusky parish and Catholic school soon after I had been ordained. He now is “retired” from active ministry. Recalling the retirement experience of my great-uncle, I have invited Father Tom to discover a home with us and to share with us his wonderful priestly presence. Aside from his poor choice of rooting for the Yankees, Father Tom is an outstanding priest and faithful friend to all whom he meets. Kindly join me in welcoming Father Tom whom you will begin to see more regularly. (See more about Fr. Tom on p. 4)

Fr. Dave

TODAY!

Advent Lessons & Carols
Sunday, December 16
7p in church

Day of Grace (Confessions)
Tuesday, December 18
10a-1p & 4p-8p



Christmas Masses
Monday, December 24
4p, 7p & 10:30p
Tuesday, December 25
8:30a & 11a

Weekly Schedule

Saturday, December 15

- 3:45 pm Rosary
- 4:00 pm Reconciliation
- 4:30 pm Mass - David Joseph Ochs,
Edward Kazmierczak

Sunday, December 16 - Third Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am Reconciliation
- 8:30 am Mass - E. J. Bauman
- 9:30 am School of Religion
- 10:30 am Reconciliation
- 11:00 am Mass - Nell & Zeno Wasserman
Children's Liturgy
- 12:15 am Baptism - Marissa Webb
- 7:00 pm Advent Lessons & Carols (CH)

Monday, December 17

- 7:45 am Reconciliation
- 8:15 am Mass - Jackie Madrzykowski
- 8:45 am Shepherds of Christ (CH)
- 6:30 pm Parish Finance (PH)
- 7:00 pm Caring Tree (OCR)

Tuesday, December 18

- 7:00 am Mass
- 7:45 am Reconciliation
- 8:15 am Mass (school) - Lori & Andrew Mager
- 9:00 am Women's Bible Study (HR)
- 10am-1pm Reconciliation
- 4pm-8pm Reconciliation
- 6:30 pm Bingo (OCC)
- 6:30 pm Youth Choir (CH)
- 7:30 pm Prayer Group (HR)

Wednesday, December 19

- 7:45 am Reconciliation
- 8:15 am Mass - Gerald Cedoz
- 2:30 pm SVDP Basket Assembly (OCC)
- 6:00 pm Little Flower Girls Club (OCR)
- 7:00 pm RCIA (AR)
- 7:00 pm Bereavement (HR)
- 7:00 pm Choir

Thursday, December 20

- 7:45 am Reconciliation
- 8:15 am Mass - John Rodriguez
- 10:00 am Caring Tree Basket Distribution (OCC)
- 7:00 pm Choir

Friday, December 21

Saturday, December 22

- 3:45 pm Rosary
- 4:00 pm Reconciliation
- 4:30 pm Mass - Michael Flowers & William Mitchell

Sunday, December 23 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:00 am Reconciliation
- 8:30 am Mass - Gladys Althen
- 9:30 am School of Religion
- 10:30 am Reconciliation
- 11:00 am Mass - John & Pearl Urbanski;
Michelle Pisano-Kowalski
Children's Liturgy
- 7:00 pm Youth Group Holy Grounds (OCR)

AR - Art Room
CH - Church
EDC - Ext. Day Care Room
HR - Hospitality Room

OCC - O'Grady Comm. Center
OCR - O'Grady Comm. Room
PH - Parish House
STR - St. Therese Room

Remember in Prayer: Charles Kessinger, Betty Rus-kowski, Laurie Snider, Damien Morales, Eldon Kimmet, Dan Meyer, Dave Donovan, Bonnie Vance, Tom Kress, Alice Resnick, Laverne Nuding, Joanne Coykendal, Aaron Rihacek, Dave Kruse, Richard Snyder, Peggy Keeler, Theresa Mitchell, Elizabeth Przybylski, Georgette Stepan, Rosemary McCann, Rob Wooten, Kevin Boris, Marcia Boris, Eveline Baumgartner, Irene Sobota, Rose Koralewski, Ann Cantrell, Logan Coy, Bonnie Cole, Mary Jane Werner, Joshua Dorsey, Lisa Quinez **Military: All our troops, especially:** Collin Alexander, Ciara (Gentle) Stevenson, Sam Thornton, Corey Browne, Kevin W. Smith, David M. Lambert, David W. Lambert, Steve Barchick, John Marciniak, Chelsea Holmes, James Jagodzinski, Dominique & Nate Davis



Recently Deceased

Please remember in your prayers
Matthew Kruse, Jayne Mikkonen
and Dorothy Staszak

The Arts & Environment Committee is looking for some Christmas helpers to prepare the worship space and new gathering space for Christmas. We plan to transform the worship space from Advent to Christmas after the 11am Mass on Sunday, December 23. If you need service hours or just want to help, we'd be happy to have the extra hands! Please call Sue Madden with any questions, 419.944.8706.



Readings for the Week of December 16, 2012

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18
Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Mt 1:1-17
Tuesday: Jer 23:5-8/Mt 1:18-25
Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Lk 1:5-25
Thursday: Is 7:10-14/Lk 1:26-38
Friday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Lk 1:39-45
Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/Lk 1:46-56
Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

©Liturgical Publications Inc



Stewardship Spotlight

Today's Gospel provides a blueprint for good stewardship. "Let the man who has two coats give to him who has none. The man who has food should do the same."

Sunday Offering

Offertory.....	\$8,315
No. of Envelopes.....	236
Immaculate Conception	\$1,153

This year try giving the gift of giving to someone living with disability. Your gift of kindness will multiply exponentially! Here are some possibilities:

- Take someone who doesn't drive Christmas shopping
- Address Christmas cards for someone who has difficulty writing
- Help a friend bake and deliver Christmas cookies to their neighbors
- Stand beside someone who may have difficulty ringing the bell for the Salvation Army kettle drive
- Accept an offer for assistance, even if it's easier to do it yourself
- Ask someone who cannot attend Sunday Mass to pray for specific parishioners in need
- Invite a parishioner with a disability to volunteer for a parish ministry

You don't know what gifts you have until someone receives them. Henri Nouwen



Meet Father Tom Landgraaf! Father Tom, ordained in 1964, is a retired Oblate of St. Francis de Sales. He worked many years at St. Francis de Sales High School as a teacher, guidance counselor, athletic director and baseball coach. Father worked in parishes in Erie, PA; Denver, CO and St. Mary's in Sandusky, where he met Father Dave. Father Tom will be helping us out periodically with Masses - be sure to welcome him!

Intramural Basketball for kindergarten through third grade begins Friday, January 11. Registrations are due by Friday, December 21 to the school office. Forms (and details) are in the kiosk, and on our website! Any questions call Kelly Hamill, 419.327.0297.

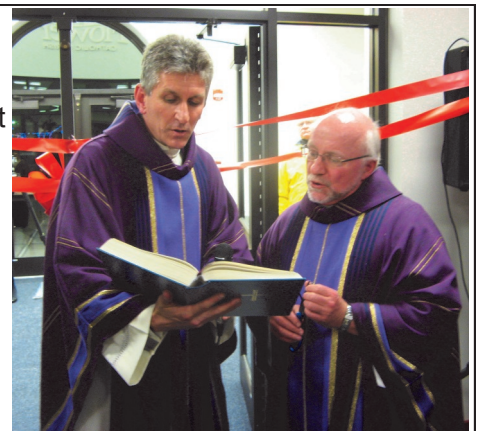


The St. Vincent de Paul Society members would like to thank the boy scouts for collecting food for our Christmas basket distribution! Because of your work, we will be able to fill 130 baskets with enough food for families to make a full Christmas meal, plus extras for their shelves. Also, we were able to restock many food items in the Bob Kertesz Outreach Center that we were running low on. We appreciate the time and work done by the boy scouts to help others who are less fortunate. We also wish to thank the Little Flower parishioners who filled and returned the bags of food. Because of your generosity, many families will have a better Christmas than they thought possible! God's blessings to all of you and your families!



Ribbon Cutting Ceremony December 8

Fr. Dave and Fr. Joe read a blessing at the formal dedication of the new tower entrance and gathering space. The blessing was repeated after each Sunday Mass.



Among dedication speakers were U.S. Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, a lifelong Little Flower parishioner. Sister Pat Gardner, left, who once taught fourth grade at Little Flower School, also said a few words. On Marcy's left is Sylvania Franciscan Sister Ann Francis Klimkowski, president emeritus of Lourdes University, and Little Flower Deacon Doug Bullimore.

YOUTH GROUP ... spending our 86,400 wisely!!!

For the babies at Christmas and the rest of the year! Many of you make donations for special causes at Christmas time. Would you please consider donating something to help members of our youth group get to Washington D.C. to participate in the March for Life for 2013? Many youth would like to attend but cannot financially. Help them be your voice to stand up to the right to life from natural conception to natural death. We will be travelling with the Diocese of Toledo again this year; cost to participate is \$210/person. If you can, please send any offering to my attention at the Parish Center (mark the envelope March for Life) to assist those who want to make a stand for our religious freedoms!

Cathy Figliomeni, Youth Minister

Many thanks to all who supported the Positive Alternative wreath sale!

A word or a smile is often enough to put fresh life in a despondent soul.

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux



Please stop at the Altar & Rosary Bake Sale/Raffle after Mass this weekend. We are in the meeting room off the new gathering space. Lots of home-baked goodies to choose from! Oplatki will also be available.

CRHP Chatter - For every matter there is a time and judgment. We need to be reminded that some things take time, God's time. (ref. Ex 13:17-18)

Next Newsletter deadline is Friday, December 28, for the February Newsletter.

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

419.537.6655; Fax 419.537.1469
 Littleflowertoledo.org
 Office Hours Mon-Fri, 8:30-4:30
Pastor, Rev. David W. Nuss, dnuss@littleflowertoledo.org
Parish Liturgist/Music Director, Tom Williams, twilliams@littleflowertoledo.org, 419.537.2885
Pastoral Associate
 Sue VanHersett, svanhersett@littleflowertoledo.org
Youth Minister
 Cathy Figliomeni, cfigliomeni@littleflowertoledo.org
Deacon, Doug Bullimore, dbullimore@littleflowertoledo.org
Parish Business Manager
 Christine Lewinski, clewinski@littleflowertoledo.org
Parish Secretaries
 Lynn Harman and Laurie Fitzpatrick
 parishcenter@littleflowertoledo.org

From the Diocese ...

☼ Central City Ministry of Toledo is selling the cookbook, *Distinctive Recipes from Distinctive Eateries*, featuring dishes served at Main Street Ventures restaurants, including Real Seafood Company, Zia's, Ciao!, the Chop House, Gratz, and Palio. The cookbooks are \$20, \$10 of which will go toward tuition assistance for CCMT schools - Queen of Apostles and Rosary Cathedral campuses. The books are hard cover, coffee table quality. Place your order, cash or check only, payable to CCMT, by calling Deb at 419.244-6711, x155, or email dmarinelli@toledodiocese.org. Books may be picked up at the Toledo Diocese CYO office (1st floor), 1933 Spielbusch, Mondays, Wednesdays or Thursdays between 9a-4p. Shipping available for \$5.

Caring Tree Project

Anyone who would like to help deliver gifts and food on Thursday, December 20, please contact Carol 419.841.6169.



Out and About ...

~ St. Francis High School presents its Christmas Concert featuring The Singing Blue Men's Chorus and the SFS Concert Band Sunday, December 16, 7pm at Gesu Church on Bancroft and Parkside Blvd. Open to the public at no charge.
 ~ For info on St. Francis de Sales winter baseball camps call Brandon Hedges, 419-531-1618, x346.
 ~ Travel to Italy with Fr. Dan Zak May 15-26, 2013. Contact Fr. Zak: 419.450.0268 or zakdan@roadrunner.com.
 ~ Christian Appalachian Workfest Project in Jackson County, Kentucky, March 3-8, 2013 to do home repair with the poor of Appalachia. For more info, contact Fr. Dan Zack, 419.450.0268 or zakdan@roadrunner.com.
 ~ Holy Hour at the Monastery of the Visitation, 1745 Parkside Blvd, 4pm Sunday, December 9.

Bookkeeper

Missy Gillig, mgillig@littleflowertoledo.org
ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM
 419.536.1194; www.stbenedicttoledo.com
 Office open Monday-Friday, 8a-3:30p
School Principal
 Carol Huss, chuss@stbenedicttoledo.com
Secretary
 Diane Spetz, dspetz@stbenedicttoledo.com
 ~~~~~

Little Flower Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
 419.531.5268  
 ~~~~~

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Monday Noon.

