

AMEN!



**AMEN!**

**St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**

## From The Pastor's Desk Fr. Marc Sherlock



On Monday, October 25, our Parish Pastoral Council presented to members of all our parish commissions, organizations, etc. parish priorities and goals for their review and input. This presentation was the fruit of hard work over many months by the Council and for which I am thankful. I had approved this presentation at the August PPC meeting. The three priorities presented were:

- Increase Spirituality
- Increase Stewardship
- Strengthen Youth and Education Programs

Communication was identified as the key parameter in all 3 initiatives. The celebration of the Sunday Eucharist was acknowledged as the center of parish life in keeping with Church teaching. All three priorities "feed and nourish" each other. Increased awareness of all to share our Time, Talent and Treasure allows us to have the resources to increase opportunities for spirituality and to strengthen our youth and education programs. The stronger our spirituality and faith forma-

tion/education becomes the more we realize the need to give back to God first.

The Council identified communication as the key parameter in all three priorities. I could not agree more! In my short time as Pastor here, I have listened during several parish meetings, especially Finance Council, to stories of poor communication in the parish. It seems that there are some in the parish who operate as "lone rangers". Purchases are made without any authorization or even being in the parish fiscal year budget. The purchases land in the lap of our Finance Council. The Finance Council is put in the difficult position to advise me [and my predecessors before me] on how to deal with purchases for which we have no money to cover the cost. When action is taken, feelings get hurt and the morale of the parish suffers.

Our Parish Business Manager, Amy Howe, has been working with me to establish better and clearer policies and proce-

dures to enhance proper communication in this area. I want to encourage parishioners to work together, communicate effectively and follow procedures. I am convinced the parish will benefit and our three priorities will continue to flourish.

### RECONCILIATION DURING ADVENT

Advent is the joyful season of the Church year when we prepare to celebrate Christmas. It is encouraged that all parishioners celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation [Confession] in preparation for Christmas. The sacrament is offered every Saturday from 4:00-4:30 PM. Our Advent Communal Penance Service is Monday, December 20, at 7:00 PM. Several priests will be available for Confession that evening. The sacrament will also be available before Christmas on Wednesday, December 22, from 12:00 Noon-1:00 PM and on Thursday, December 23, from 5:00-6:00 PM & from 7:00-8:00 PM.

**Can you Hear Me Now?**  
St. John's has purchased a listening enhancement device and 4 headsets. If you find it hard to hear at Mass and would like to try using one of these units, please see one of the musicians before Mass begins to help you get set up.

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## The Buck Stops Here by Cindy Griffin, Editor

**And still he calls  
Through the night,  
Beyond the days of old.  
A voice of peace  
To the weary ones,  
Who struggle with the human  
soul.**

**All of us,  
Travelers,  
Through a given time.  
Who can know  
What tomorrow holds?  
But over the horizon,  
Surely you and I will find.**

**Emmanuel, God with us,  
Emmanuel!**

(from the song "Emmanuel, God With Us" by Amy Grant)

Advent is an amazing time of the Church year. Just when the nights are the longest, the days the shortest, we are granted this wonderful gift of hope, a newborn child. Remembering back to when my now full-grown children were on the way, I can relate this season to that time of waiting and wondering what tomorrow would hold. Would the baby be a boy? Or a girl? Would they be healthy? Would labor be easy? Or difficult? Through all of that prenatal wondering and worrying, one theme would repeat. A theme of HOPE. We will soon be blessed with a tiny new soul to love.


As we approach the celebration of the birth of Christ, one theme repeats. A theme of HOPE. God IS with us. No matter our struggles, no matter our worries. GOD IS WITH US. It is on this

premise that our faith rests. I define faith as something we can't see, touch, smell, or taste but we KNOW it's there. Hebrews 11:1 puts it this way "Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

How wonderful that our Church year allows us to recycle this joyful time, year after year. How wonderful that the season of Advent allows us to remember that we are a people of faith and of hope, certain that our God is always there, even in our darkest days.

May you and your families have faith that God is with you at this special time of year and all year through.

Happy Holidays!



**Mark your calendars now!**  
**St. John's Winter Gala and Reverse Raffle**  
 January 15, 2005 from 6:30 to 11:00 pm  
 At St. Pat's in Troy  
 Don't delay, order your tickets today!  
 Call Karen or Bill Beagle at 667-4016



## RAISING OUR ROOF

Construction of our new offices, the Rectory, Religious Education classrooms, and banquet hall is well underway. The site has been rough graded and the foundation has been laid. The next step, framing and roofing, is in process, and the project is slightly ahead of schedule for a May 2005 completion date.

The Building Steering Committee (BSC) is busy working on details for the project: determining data & equipment requirements, and evaluating options for keeping or selling

the Rectory, Religious Education classrooms, and banquet hall is well underway. After evaluating the various options, the Committee will make a recommendation to the Finance Commission and Pastoral Council about the sale of the houses.

The bulletin board in the narthex is being updated monthly with a current timeline for the project and the latest minutes to our Building Steering Committee meetings. Parishioners are encouraged to check the bulletin board for the latest information from the Building Steering Com-

mittee or contact one of the BSC members with any questions or concerns.

We ask parishioners for their continued support & prayers for our new addition.

### **Phase 2 Building Steering Committee**

*Father Marc Sherlock  
 Steve McCrillis, Bruce Batty,  
 Karen Beagle, Mike Droesch,  
 Viv Wyen and Dottie Zimmerman*

## Reflections of a Newcomer Family

In mid-August 2003, we drove to the downtown area of Tipp City to register as members of St. John's parish. We saw the University of Michigan banner hanging on the back porch of the rectory and could only assume that the priest, Father Rick, was an avid Michigan fan or that he attended that university. At that time, we were unaware of the arch rivalry between Ohio State and the University of Michigan. (It didn't take us long to discover that rivalry!) When we rang the back-door doorbell, we met the parish secretary, Amy Howe, who greeted us warmly and told us about the parish. She was and is St. John's Ambassador of Good Will. After registering and talking with Amy, we left feeling good about the parish that we had just joined.

As we approached our car in the parking lot, a car pulled into a parking space next to ours. A bicycle was attached to a rack on the trunk of the car. We thought it had to be Chris, our new seminarian, and it was. We welcomed him to St. John's and told him that we were the

newest members yet, after him. Chris told us that he had lived and worked in Houston and that his favorite restaurant was near Fort Worth. We "bonded" with Chris immediately because we had spent 35 years of our lives in Dallas, Texas. Yet, we had never eaten at Chris's favorite Mexican restaurant there.

At first, we felt like outsiders when we attended Sunday Mass at St. John's. We missed having kneelers in church. Also, we were unaccustomed to bowing and not genuflecting before the altar. We also missed multiple floral arrangements on the altar because our church, including the altar, in Dallas was so much larger than St. John's, which required more flowers. We have always enjoyed bringing nature indoors.

What did impress us greatly was both the music, because everyone sings at Mass, and the undercurrent of spirituality at St. John's. Volunteering is a way of life among the members of the parish. Even last evening at the groundbreaking, when it was cool, the feeling of unity was strong.

Soon, we began to recognize some of the people at Mass, even though we had not been introduced, and we would not let a Sunday pass without talking with Chris. When Father Gene arrived, we introduced ourselves to him and wouldn't let a Sunday pass without talking with him! We were beginning to have a sense of belonging.

The key to fitting in is participation. When Chris organized a tour to Cincinnati, we jumped at the opportunity to be on that tour to meet fellow parishioners and to see another area of our new state. Then, I asked our daughters to attend the catered dinner for the mothers of the parish in honor of Mother's Day, which was a lot of fun. Later, we attended Father Gene's farewell social and met more parishioners.

Lastly, we volunteered to be Pastoral Council participants. In so doing, we have met the Building Steering Committee members and a host of other parishioners. After a year, we feel that we fit in!

Submitted by Tom & Diane Gullede

## ADVENT : A NEW SEASON, A NEW YEAR

Advent comes from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming". During this season our focus is on waiting and preparation for the birth of Our Lord. Advent begins the New liturgical year in the Church. It starts on the first Sunday which occurs closest to Nov 30, the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle. This year, the first Sunday of Advent falls on November 28.



An advent wreath traditionally contains four candles—three purple and one rose. Purple dyes were one so rare and costly that they were associated with royalty; the Roman Catholic Church has long used this color around Christmas and Easter to honor Jesus. The three purple candles in the Advent wreath symbolize hope, peace, and love. These candles are lit on the first, second, and fourth Sundays of Advent. The rose candle, which symbolizes joy, is usually lit on the third Sunday.

Sometimes a fifth candle is placed inside the Advent wreath. This candle is lit on Christmas Day. It is white, the color associated with angels and the birth of Jesus.

Here is a sample Advent prayer that may be used in your home:

*As we light these candles let us warm our hearts to welcome little Jesus. Let us spend Advent prayerfully. Let us slow down our lives and spend quiet time with the Lord. Oh God, your word makes all things holy. Pour down your blessings on this wreath, May it remind us to slow down our pace and make our hearts ready for the coming of Your Son, Our Lord. Amen.*

## Amy's Anecdotes from the Parish Business Office

To finally see our new facility taking place is very exciting! The men have been working long and hard and we are actually ahead of schedule at this point. On the down side, there are several pledges that have become delinquent, which means we will soon be accessing our loan. As of this writing, we are beginning a follow up for pledges that have not been kept up to date as well as petitioning those who have not yet made a pledge. Please continue to keep up with your commitment! We need your support now more than ever. If you have had a change that is making this difficult for you, please let Father Marc know. Things happen!

Under recommendation of the Archdiocese, our Early Childhood Program has officially become a ministry operating fully under the parish guidelines of St. John's. While they have always been part of St. John's, this new merger makes it official under the tax-exempt requirements. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sally Minnich and the staff of the ECP for their dedication, and generosity for committing \$90,000 to the Phase II Building for the new facility and equipment. It has taken much sacrifice on their behalf for many years to be able to do this. Way to go ladies!!!

Our new envelopes should have arrived in everyone's

homes by now. As we mentioned before, they will now be sent in packets bi-monthly. If you did not receive yours, please call me. If you are moving, please inform the office so we can keep our records up to date.

Welcome to Mike Drosch who joins us part-time to assist with maintenance and janitorial duties. Mike brings many talents (and a great personality too!) and we are pleased to have him here.



Thank you to everyone for your support during my first few months as Business Manager. I am finding out that this is not an easy task! Trying to manage funds when our collections do not meet our requirements is challenging to say the least. The Finance Council has been extremely helpful and I thank each of them for their commitment. It can be a very unpopular office to hold, but they do an outstanding job weighing the issues and determining what we can and cannot do. This is definitely the down side of parish life - having to have funds.

Since Christmas is coming soon, I wish for each of you and your

## Nelda's Notes by Nelda Schwab, DRE

### SERMON ON THE MOUNT and HOLLYWOOD VS. FAITH

Sunday, January 9 at 7:00 pm in the Hyatt Church

Co-sponsored with Troy and West Milton

Few parts of the Bible are as famous as the Sermon on the Mount. It includes the Lord's Prayer, the Golden Rule . . . In this one-man play as Frank Runyeon moves around the church, retelling the sermon, there is surprising humor and very powerful drama. In the end, all those present have the sense that this sermon is about them, in some mysterious way . . . that they, too, must decide, as did the crowd on the mountain, what they will go do now . . . for they have their own part to play in this "story".

The Sermon on the Mount is followed by a half hour in which Frank discusses, with humor, the very different values the media are teaching us, and the choices we face daily as Americans and as people of faith.

brothers, sisters, friends, grandparents, (or older members of our church who love being around children), older youth to help out and be a good role model, etc. **ALL ARE WELCOME!** to join in an evening of fun and service. Mark the First Friday of each month on your calendar!

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08-12-1999

### FIRST FRIDAY FOR KIDS

"All Are Welcome" to join our K-6 children the first Fridays of each month: moms. dads,

WITH ONLY TWO MENU ITEMS, JOHN THE BAPTIST'S FAST FOOD CHAIN FAILED TO LAST LONG

**ECP REGISTRATION NEWS!!**

St. John's Early Childhood Program is a developmental preschool for children ages three to five. We provide a nurturing Christian environment with caring teachers who are qualified to carry out our planned curriculum. Children in the younger classes must be at least three years old by September 30, 2005. Children in the older classes must be four by that date. All children need to be completely potty-trained. Listed below are the classes and times:

Threes and Fours: Monday and Wednesday 8:45-11:15  
 Monday and Wednesday 12:30-3:00  
 Tuesday and Friday 8:45-11:15  
 Tuesday and Friday 12:30-3:00  
 Fours and Fives: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8:45-11:15  
 (2 classes)  
 Monday, Wednesday, Friday 12:30-3:00 (2 classes)

After 25 years at our Broadway location, we look forward to our move to the new center on Hyatt Street before classes begin in the fall. We will begin registration for the 2005-2006 school year on **Wednesday, January 5, at 8:45 a. m.** for parishioners and families who already have children in the program. It is advisable to register as early in the day as possible since some sessions fill very quickly. Even if you have called previously to inquire about the program, you still need to register on January 5. You may come to the center (located at 14 E. Broadway) to sign up in person or you may call the preschool at **667-2629** to receive a registration packet in the mail.

Any non-parishioner who is interested in the program may call at any time to get on the waiting list. They will be contacted during open registration in mid-January. If you would like more information about the program or would like to schedule a visit, please call Sally Minnich at 667-2629.

**Check This  
Out!**

Would you like to sing in one of our choirs or play an instrument for Christmas services this year? We welcome you to be active participants in this joyous season. All persons are invited, especially teenagers. Call Bill Griffin at 698-5590 or Jim Wolf at 667-4034 for more information, or talk to either of them after Mass. Who knows? If you like doing this for Christmas, maybe you'd like to continue during the year! Why not give it a try?

**Chris' Corner** by Chris Coleman, Seminarian

First of all, I wish to thank the parish once again for all their prayers and support over the last year and especially recently with your "spiritual" gifts that I received from you last August as I returned to the seminary. Your prayers are being answered because I have had a very good first quarter with regards to academic classes and my journey towards deaconate ordination in April.

Life at the seminary has been extremely busy. This year we welcomed eight new men, all from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, who are discerning a call to the priesthood, we welcomed 38 men who are studying for the permanent deaconate, we closed the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary year for the seminary with an open house, we had graduation and installed our new rector/president, and we celebrated the Rite of Candidacy for Holy Orders on October 31<sup>st</sup> at the Cathedral – all in the last 10 weeks.

The next ten weeks don't get any easier. When we return to the seminary from

Thanksgiving break, we prepare for our patronal feast day – the Immaculate Conception of Mary where we will have a beautiful Advent Lessons and Carol service on the night before and then on December 8<sup>th</sup>, we will have an ordination to the diaconate at our morning Eucharist with our Archbishop. Mr. Jeffrey Bacon, a 5<sup>th</sup> year seminarian, who was on his internship year last year, will be ordained. Jeff will then be ordained a priest next May with his classmates.

Next May the Church plans on ordaining three men to the priesthood for service to the Archdiocese.

Most people want to know what type of classes that I am taking so I decided to list them here. Last quarter I had a scripture course on the book of the Psalms. I took a theology course on the theology and history of Holy Orders, a course on Church History dealing with the Protestant Reformations, a moral theology course in Modern Moral problems where we studied the Just War Theory as well as Genetic Engineering. Lastly, I took a language course in Spanish.

Next quarter the course load gets heavier. I will be taking a course in Catholic Social Teaching, Mariology and Eschatology (Mary and the 'end of time'), a church history course called the American Catholic Experience, a scripture course on the Gospel of John, and a career counseling course on advising people on careers within the church. With that in mind, I can't wait for Christmas break where I will be back at St. John's to enjoy the holidays.

As we enter into the season of Advent, it is my prayer that while we don't ignore our daily responsibilities to our families and to our jobs, let's not forget about our daily responsibility to prepare the way of the Lord in our own hearts. At the seminary, we gather once a day for the Eucharist and once a day for the Liturgy of Hours (Morning Prayer or Evening Prayer). By coming ten to fifteen minutes before to the liturgy gives me time to quiet my mind and allow the Lord to speak to me. Maybe you could carve some special time into your day to allow the Lord to speak to you? Try it, you will like it!

## Building God's Kingdom Here On Earth Begins With Me!

Submitted By Steve Barno

On October 25, 2004, Pastoral Council (PC) and representatives of the ministries of St John participated in a Ministry Town Hall Meeting. (The presentation is posted on our web page for your 'on-line' review: [www.stjohnthebaptist.cc](http://www.stjohnthebaptist.cc). If you require a hard copy, please contact the parish office or Steve Barno 667-6329). The purpose of the evening was to share Pastoral Council's vision developed from the three workshops which PC members participated in since the February 2004 parish town hall, when we came together to address three insightful questions:

Question #1: In regards to St. John's Parish, what are you most proud of?

Question #2: In regards to St. John's parish, what areas of parish life need to be worked on?

Question #3: What are your dreams/visions for St. John's parish in the next 10-15 years?

Taking the message of those who participated in the town hall and what they were saying, lead PC to realize where the parish's top priorities, goals and strategies need to be focused on: Spirituality, Stewardship and Strengthen Youth & Education Programs. As a result, PC is working to re-focus

(transform) the roles and responsibilities of PC and it's ministries to coincide with the framework of the constitution, assist the pastor in shepherding the flock and to Minimize the administration and Maximize the gifts and talents of it members. The ability to execute and make this vision a reality will be drive by the many volunteers involved with the active ministries of St. John. A summary of the Goals and strategies are:

Goal #1 - Increasing Spirituality  
Strategy: "To foster a culture that places spirituality at the center of all parish life at St. John the Baptist", recognizing the Holy Mass should be the center of parish life and the heart and soul of spirituality.

Strategy: "To foster a culture that places spirituality at the center of all parish life at St. John the Baptist" to rekindle passion for spirituality so that a broad spectrum of parishioners are motivated to become involved or more involved in the parish and to Recognize and address the spiritual stages so as to speak to and attract (serve) all people.

Goal #2 - Increasing Stewardship  
Strategy: "The realization and celebration of gifts"

Strategy: "Identifying and communicating needs", Specify spiritual needs within the parish with centrality of the

Eucharist to the life of the parish  
Strategy: "Making the request", 1-on-1 communication (from people involved), Personal Invitation, reach out to neighbors

Goal #3 - Youth & Education: To enable our youth to become disciples of Jesus, to develop peer leadership in the youth, to teach the youth to practice our faith.

Goal: "To present the teachings of our faith in such a way as to help our youth to become disciples of Jesus."

Goal: To engage our youth in following the example of Jesus in serving others

Goal: To build community among the children/youth/families

Goal: To help our youth to be prayerful people; to encourage active involvement in liturgical roles

Goal: To support the parents in their role as primary religious educators.

Over the next few months all those involved with ministries are being asked to look at the programs they are involved with, seeking out how their program can tactically achieve these goals and provide feedback to PC at the next 'ministry town hall' in January/February.

Pastoral Council's mission is to serve the needs of all parishioners' and to spread God's Kingdom, here at St. John's, Tipp City and beyond.

## RCIA Celebrates the Rites



On Sunday, November 21st at the 10:30 Mass, the Candidates and Catechumens from St. John's will participate in the Rites of Acceptance and Entry. Assembling publicly for the first time, the Candidates and Catechumens who have completed the period of inquiry declare their intention to the Church and the Church, in turn, carrying out its apostolic mission, accepts them as persons who intend to become its members. God showers his grace on the candidates, since the celebration manifests their desire publicly and marks their reception and first consecration by the Church.

It's important that our entire Church community take an active part in the celebration. From this time on, the Church embraces the Candidates and Catechumens as one of our own. Each Sunday from this point, our Candidates and Catechumens will be leaving us after the Homily to "Break Open the Word" with another sponsor or team member to guide them. Because our RICA members are not yet able to join us at the Table, they use this time to further study the Word.

Please take a moment to introduce yourself and congratulate our Candidates and Catechumens as they take this next big step closer to God and to the Easter Sacraments.

## New Council Members Take Seats

### Steve Herzog

Steve and his wife, Kathy, have been members of St. John's for five years. They have two children, Vince, age 18, who is a freshman in college and Sarah, age 8. They live in Greenville, Oh. In addition to serving on the Pastoral Council, Steve is currently involved with Men's Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) and participates in St. Vincent Hotel monthly ministry. He has also been a sponsor in the RCIA Process. You may contact Steve by phone at 937-547-2276 or by email at: zogs@skyenet.net.

### Guy Monnin

Guy has been a member of St. John the Baptist parish since 1976. He and his wife, Sharon, live at 795 Diahann Dr. in Tipp City. They have 3 children - Mike, Matt (and his wife, Jennifer) and Lori Salyers (and her husband, Mike) and 3 grandchildren - Patrick, Cate and Ashley. Guy is retired from NCR after working there for 33 years. Involved in ushering at Sunday Mass, he also volunteers for Needy Basket and various parish projects. He has served as treasurer of K of C Council 5129 for 4 years and has been on CRHP giving teams. Guy's email address is Gsmonnin@wmconnect.com.

### From Paula Coleman Black

New to pastoral council this summer, I've taken on the area of "Service". This was previously Barb Westfall's job. I've been a member of the parish for 13 years. My husband, Doug Black, and I were married at St. John's ten years ago. Both he and his son, Bryan, participated in the RCIA/RCIC programs in 1997 and Doug was Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus a few years ago. We have two daughters, LeeAnn (6 yrs old) and Julia (5 yrs old). Both girls were baptized in the parish and have been/are enrolled in the Early Childhood Program. For six of the past eight seasons, I've played in the Couple Duffer's golf league. I'm a member of Team #5 of Women's CRHP (1995) and am an Eucharistic Minister. I'm also interested in learning about clerical vestment design and fabrication. Originally from London, OH, I hold a Bachelor of Arts degree in Zoology from Miami University, Oxford, OH and a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from The Ohio State University in Columbus, OH. Using my maiden name professionally, I am a general dentist with a family practice in Troy

where I have 7 full time and 3 part time employees. I'm also involved in the ownership and management of the office building where my business is located. The Monroe Township Jaycees and Tipp City Rotary Club are two organizations of which I have been a member. I helped my husband chair the Troy Strawberry Festival Parade for several years. I am currently president-elect of the Western Ohio Dental Society.

My brother is Chris Coleman, our parish seminarian. His call to the priesthood is something I've been witnessing for the past twenty-five years.

I value the importance of being Catholic and the importance of a solid Catholic community. My hope is that I can be of some value to pastoral council over the next few years.

Paula can be reached at Paulab@woh.rr.com.

## Women of Spirit...Come Join Us!

Attention Ladies of the Parish! Do you want to enhance your spirituality? Would you like to grow your faith with like-minded women? Would you like to hear speakers concerning our Christian faith as well as women's issues? Would you like to make new friends and have more fun than you ever thought you could? Then come join the St. John's Women of Spirit. We became an active ministry in our parish about 16 months ago and have had a wonderful time and a faith-filled journey. We've offered several programs for women of all ages and walks of life. We started out 2004 with a Winter Weekend Getaway at Deer Creek State Park, this spring we welcomed Sr. Carol Bauer who spoke on "Seeking the Holy". This summer we enjoyed a wonderful day retreat entitled "Exploring Prayer Styles, Celebrate What's Right with the World" which was presented by women of our parish. We just enjoyed another weekend at Deer Creek State Park where we walked in the woods, laughed around a campfire and generally enjoyed the beauty of the fall season.

One of our goals is to offer a program at least once a quarter throughout the year. With that in mind, here are some tentative plans for 2005. For Lent a Labyrinth walk, in the spring a Day Retreat, this summer a Progressive Brunch or Dinner and next fall a Weekend Getaway. The Women of Spirit would like to remind all the women of St. John's parish that we want to know what you think! Please feel free to join us at any time for as little or as long as you can. This women's ministry is open to all women in the parish who enjoys fun, fellowship, and an opportunity to learn more about themselves and their faith. Please contact Kathy McGrath at 667-4932 or the parish office at 667-3419 for information on our next meeting or event. Our mission statement is to support, encourage and empower one another as we travel the spiritual journey, nurturing and celebrating our relationships with God.

**St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**  
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**IMPORTANT DATES TO CLIP 'n SAVE!!**

**THANKSGIVING DAY MASS**

Thursday, November 25, 9:00 am –Please bring non-perishable canned foods for Needy Baskets!

**IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF MARY** [*Patron Saint of the United States*]

Tuesday, December 7: 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 8: 8:30 am & 7:00 pm

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Every Saturday, 4:00-4:30 pm

Monday, December 20, Advent Reconciliation Service, 7:00 pm –Communal service with several priests

Wednesday, December 22, 12 noon-1:00 pm and Thursday, December 23, 5:00-6:00 pm and 7:00-8:00 pm

**CHRISTMAS MASSES**

Friday, December 24, 5:00 pm

Saturday, December 25, 12:00 Midnight and 10:30 am (No 5:00 pm. Mass on Dec. 25)

**FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY MASSES**

Sunday, December 26, 8:00 am and 10:30 am

**NEW YEAR'S DAY, SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD (Holy Day)**

Saturday, January 1, 2005, 10:30 am –*Catholics have the privilege as well as the serious obligation to participate in Mass on Holy Days. When January 1 falls on a Saturday, however, the obligation to attend Mass is lifted.*

**FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY MASSES**

Saturday, January 1, 5:00 pm Sunday, January 2, 8:00 am and 10:30 am

**WINTER GALA AND REVERSE RAFFLE**

Saturday, January 15, 6:30 to 11:00 pm